

**DFATD'S INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND HUMANITARIAN
CIVIL SOCIETY PARTNERSHIP POLICY:
MILESTONES TO MEASURE PROGRESS
August 2015**

Issue: In February 2015, the Canadian Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development (DFATD) released the International Development and Humanitarian Civil Society Partnership Policy. It articulates nine objectives and actions it will pursue to support the work of civil society organizations (CSOs) in advancing Canadian development and humanitarian priorities. The government has committed to reviewing the policy's implementation on an annual basis with civil society. This brief lays out a set of milestones and indicators, from a civil society perspective, to measure progress in implementing the policy in the first five years after its adoption.

**1. THE INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND HUMANITARIAN
CIVIL SOCIETY PARTNERSHIP POLICY**

In February 2015, the Canadian Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development (DFATD) launched the [International Development and Humanitarian Civil Society Partnership Policy](#). The policy was a long timing coming. Recent years had seen the deterioration of what was historically a very important partnership both for civil society organizations (CSOs) and the government, for achieving their respective goals for international development. The change in, and drastic reduction of, funding modalities, accompanied by a diminished recognition of the diversity and value of CSO contributions to development, had detrimental impacts on the programs of both CSOs and DFATD. CCIC and the provincial and regional councils for international cooperation have documented these negative impacts and made recommendations on how the relationship between the former Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), DFATD and the sector could be improved.¹

In this context, the consultation process leading up to the policy, and the final policy itself, was viewed as an important first step in an urgently needed process for re-establishing a constructive rapport between DFATD and civil society development actors. The policy was welcomed enthusiastically by the Canadian Council for International Co-operation as "a very positive turning point in the relationship between civil society organizations (CSOs) working in international

development and the Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development.”ⁱⁱ

Highlights of the new policy include the recognition that CSOs are development actors in their own right, and acknowledges the diverse roles CSOs play globally and their needs for realizing their full potential. The policy acknowledges the [Istanbul Principles for CSO Development Effectiveness](#), and the humanitarian principles of humanity, impartiality, neutrality and independence, as the core principles that guide the work of civil society in development and humanitarian response. It reaffirms the fundamental role that governments play in guaranteeing an enabling environment – in particular freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly – for CSOs in developing countries. And to give some life to these principles and commitments, the policy identifies nine key objectives and corresponding actions to support the work of CSOs in advancing Canadian development and humanitarian priorities, and “to ensure that CSOs can function effectively and independently in ways that complement the efforts of governments, the private sector, and multilateral organizations.”ⁱⁱⁱ Finally, and very importantly, the government commits to meeting with CSOs on an annual basis to discuss the policy’s implementation.

This document is intended as a contribution towards preparing the ground for that discussion. It summarizes what civil society would like to see in terms of progress in the first five years of implementation of the policy and identifies some indicators that it will monitor to assess progress. We also hope these milestones will serve as a useful input for DFATD’s own planning around the implementation of the policy, including by civil society, and as a basis for dialogue and discussion with CSOs on the policy and its implementation moving forward.

2. FROM POLICY TO PRACTICE: MILESTONES TO MEASURE PROGRESS

This document intends to signal to DFATD CCIC’s expectations around the implementation of the CSO Partnership policy, and to give a clear indication, in practical terms, of what success might look like in terms of implementation. For each commitment outlined in the CSO Partnership Policy, CCIC has established a milestone that it proposes should be reached in 2016, the year after the policy was adopted.^{iv} To ensure that what we are proposing is also forward-looking, we have also included milestones for most objectives that we expect to be reached within the subsequent years of implementation of the policy. CCIC will periodically review these milestones and indicators so that they best reflect the changing context.

In preparation for the first year review, CCIC will collect data on the proposed indicators on an ongoing basis either from existing publicly available sources, or by setting up tools to collect the data. In some cases, we will rely on DFATD’s collaboration to provide the information or to verify it. In each case, the anticipated source of the data is indicated below. Unless otherwise indicated, the baseline for this exercise will be 2014/15.

Commitment	Milestones
<p>PURPOSE</p> <p>“The Civil Society Partnership Policy sets out the Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development Canada’s (DFATD) approach to enhancing effective development and humanitarian cooperation with international, Canadian, and developing country civil society organizations (CSOs).”</p>	<p>In the first year of implementation, DFATD should:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop an action plan that mainstreams implementation of the policy across the entire Department. <p><i>Indicators: a) existence of an action plan; b) extent to which the plan applies to the entire Department. (Source for a) and b): DFATD to share with affected stakeholders, including CSOs.)</i></p> 2. Organize a number of briefings and practical workshops with staff to generate a broader understanding and mainstream the implementation of the policy across the entire Department, including Foreign Affairs and Trade, at both Headquarters and in the field. <p><i>Indicators: a) number of briefings and workshops conducted at Headquarters and in the field; b) number of participants attending briefings; c) briefings conducted with staff from Foreign Affairs and Trade; d) inclusion of CSO representatives in trainings, where possible. (Source for a) to c): DFATD to provide)</i></p>
<p>OBJECTIVES AND ACTIONS</p> <p>1. Augment the Voice of Poor and Marginalized Peoples, Including Women and Girls</p> <p>“For policies, strategies and services to be effective, the perspectives of poor and marginalized people in developing</p>	<p>In the first year of implementation, DFATD should:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Run workshops with a range of CSOs on the Guidance Notes for the ODAAA, in particular taking into account the perspectives of the poor, to discuss and explore the respective implications and expectations of these Notes for civil society programming, and in the context of the new CSO Partnership Policy. <p><i>Indicators: a) number of workshops and participants participating in workshops;</i></p>

Commitment	Milestones
<p>countries need to be sought and taken into account. The views of marginalized populations such as women, children, seniors, the disabled, refugees, and internally displaced people, as well as indigenous, religious, ethnic, indigenous, and sexual minorities, are particularly germane. Civil society provides a vehicle for the voices of the poor and vulnerable to be heard by their governments, and for people to hold their leaders to account.</p> <p>Aligned with the (Official Development Assistance Accountability Act (ODAAA) legislative requirement to take into account the perspectives of the poor, DFATD will work with Canadian CSOs and other development actors, through civil society programming support and capacity-building measures, to strengthen civil society in developing countries and empower citizens to participate in and assume ownership of their development and stand up for their human rights.”</p>	<p><i>occurrence of dialogue(s) on the respective implications and expectations of the Guidance Notes on civil society programming (Source: DFATD to provide; CSO participants).; b) degree to which CSOs are working in Least Developed Countries or in key sectors for the poor, such as basic health, basic education, agriculture etc. (Source: Project Browser; Historical data sets.)</i></p> <p>2. Sustain current historical levels of financing to civil society programming to reflect the adoption of the new CSO policy.</p> <p><i>Indicator: total historical average levels of funding to civil society is either sustained or funding to civil society as a percentage of total DFATD ODA spending remains steady in 2015/16 (Source: DFATD Historical data sets).</i></p> <p>3. To support the intent of the policy, increase the degree of more responsive programming, in particular from Partnerships for Development Innovation branch, away from directive programming – starting in year one, and fully implemented in year five.</p> <p><i>Indicators: a) Upward shift in funding to civil society from DFATD (Source: Historical data sets); b) number of new funding proposals or mechanisms that are purely responsive or increase the level of responsive programming. (Source: DFATD public realm)</i></p> <p>Over the next two to three years, DFATD should:</p> <p>4. Increase its support to civil society programming with a view to strengthening civil society capacity in developing countries, in particular in the areas of</p>

Commitment	Milestones
	<p>democratic governance, human rights, policy and advocacy.;</p> <p><i>Indicators: a) total amount funding to civil society increases, including direct funding for strategic southern CSOs or southern-led networks, or funding to civil society as a percentage of the total increases; b) increased programmatic focus on capacity building and strengthening of southern civil society (Source for a) and b): DFATD Historical data sets).</i></p> <p>5. Support an increase in focus on empowerment, participation, capacity building and democratic ownership in projects, programs and reporting – also starting in 2016, and growing in subsequent years.</p> <p><i>Indicators: a) Review of CSO projects (top 50) demonstrates increasing reference to empowering citizens, promoting ownership and human rights, and the inclusive nature of projects and programs (Source: DFATD project browser); b) increased support to the thematic priority of advancing democracy, in particular democratic participation, civil society and human rights, and to women’s equality organizations and institutions (Source: Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) Creditor Reporting System (CRS) and DFATD historical datasets).</i></p>
<p>2. Facilitate an enabling environment for civil society in developing countries.</p> <p>“An empowered civil society is a crucial component for advancing democracy, human rights, and development, and the sustainability of development investments depends on the ability of the population to hold governments to account over</p>	<p>By August 2016,^y DFATD should:</p> <p>1. Establish in its embassies specific means to monitor, track and report on the state of the enabling environment for civil society, particularly in countries where there are significant potential threats.</p> <p><i>Indicators: a) Development of a new system, or use of an existing system, to</i></p>

Commitment	Milestones
<p>the long term. In order for civil society to thrive, it must operate in an enabling environment that promotes effective and accountable institutions and respects human rights, and where the rule of law protects and promotes the freedoms of expression, association, and peaceful assembly. Many actors, including governments, have a role to play in creating an enabling environment for civil society to operate effectively and independently.</p> <p>DFATD is committed to supporting an enabling environment for civil society in developing countries, both in law and in practice, leading to more effective policies, equitable and sustainable development, and inclusive growth. To that end, DFATD will work with developing country governments, donors, and a wide array of other actors to protect and promote an enabling environment in developing countries.”</p>	<p><i>monitor shrinking space for civil society; b) increase in the number of embassies using this system in the next three to five years (Source for a) and b): DFATD to provide); c) increased level of support and programs geared towards strengthening civil society organizations in developing countries in the next three to five years (Source: DFATD historical data sets).</i></p> <p>2. Demonstrate continued leadership in the Community of Democracy’s (CoD) Working Group on Enabling and Protecting Civil Society, and active participation in the Task Team on CSO Development Effectiveness and Enabling Environment.</p> <p><i>Indicators: a) Published undertakings of initiatives and interventions taken through the Community of Democracy by Canada, including numbers of CoD calls to action (Source: CoD Working Group; DFATD to provide); b) statements at Ministerial events advocating for civic space; c) support for side events on an enabling environment; d) sustained support for the CSO Partnership for Development Effectiveness, CoD and Task Team, and for DFATD to develop its own enabling environment legal and technical assistance initiative. (Source for b) to d): DFATD public realm)</i></p>
<p>3. Foster Canadian CSO leadership in international development and innovation</p> <p>“Canadian CSOs are recognized leaders on the global stage for their expertise and their role in supporting developing country CSOs to exercise leadership. The great diversity within civil society in Canada is also a significant strength that helps to respond in innovative ways to the needs of those living in poverty. DFATD recognizes this strength, and is committed to</p>	<p>By August 2016, DFATD should:</p> <p>1. Implement initiatives and conditions for funding that promote and support CSO leadership and innovation, including civil society led initiatives that encourage CSO capacity development, knowledge sharing, and networks of best practice; promote a policy environment that reduces the barriers and costs towards fostering such leadership and innovation.</p> <p><i>Indicators: a) Establishment of responsive CSO leadership and innovation initiatives</i></p>

Commitment	Milestones
<p>supporting CSOs of diverse size and scale, sector, and region.</p> <p>DFATD looks to its Canadian CSO partners to create pan-Canadian partnerships with global reach that can tackle major development challenges. DFATD also looks to CSOs to adopt innovative approaches to development and poverty reduction, in developing countries and on the global stage, that deliver results effectively or efficiently. To that end, DFATD will place increasing focus on incubating innovative ideas, testing promising initiatives, and scaling up those with the potential for widespread impact and effectiveness.</p> <p>Through modernized business processes, DFATD will strengthen mechanisms to facilitate innovation.”</p>	<p><i>focused on capacity building, ; b) informal and formal consultation around enabling issues, including overhead costs, cost sharing, etc. (Source for a) and b): DFATD and CSO initiatives).</i></p> <p>Over the next two years, DFATD should:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Increase the diversity of CSOs (in size, scale, sector and region) that it supports through long-term responsive funding through mechanisms such as Sustainable Development Framework Agreements and Thematic or Decentralized Funds. <p><i>Indicators: a) Changes in the profile of CSOs being funded as demonstrated by increases across a range of parameters, such as the number, size, geographical location, and sector (Source: DFATD historical data sets); b) increase in the duration (by year) of responsive and programmatic support. (Source: DFATD historical dataset and project browser).</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Increase opportunities for a broader range of organizations to participate in DFATD/CSO joint learning processes, including learning collaborations with CSO sector specific or geographic networks. <p><i>Indicators: a) increased number of joint learning processes and activities; b) diversity of CSO organizational participants. (Source for a) and b): DFATD to provide).</i></p> <p>(For more details, see CCIC’s Discussion Paper on “An Enabling Environment for Canadian CSOs: DFATD Funding Mechanisms for CSO Partnerships,” forthcoming.)</p>

Commitment	Milestones
<p>4. Integrate the role of CSOs as independent development actors into development programming</p> <p>“DFATD relies upon the resources, expertise, and networks of Canadian and developing country civil society to help achieve development objectives. DFATD considers that Canadian CSOs, as independent development actors, must strive to be both politically and financially independent and seek funding from various sources. This enables them to better reflect the views of their constituents and secure their own sustainability.</p> <p>Canada is committed to deepening, extending, and operationalizing the democratic ownership of development policies and processes. DFATD understands the importance of considering a diversity of civil society perspectives in development programs and strategies. To that end, DFATD will institutionalize regular, predictable and transparent dialogue with Canadian international development and humanitarian assistance CSOs, in addition to engaging with Canadian, international and local CSOs in developing countries.”</p>	<p>By August 2016, DFATD should:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Publish a formal consultation policy consistent with this CSO Policy and the principles of good practice in consultation^{vi} – namely that they are timely and predictable, open, transparent, informed, collaborative, and iterative. <p><i>Indicators: a) existence of a public policy on consultation (Source: DFATD public realm); b) extent to which it integrates the six principles of good practice. (Source: CCIC)</i></p> 2. Establish a calendar of formal consultations with CSOs, following principles of good practice, in addition to existing ad hoc informal meetings with CSOs on key policy issues, and host an annual dialogue with a diversity of CSOs regarding the implementation of this Policy (See also “Implementation” at the end). <p><i>Indicator: occurrence of consultations, and the extent to which they meet the six principles of good practice. (Source: information provided by DFATD and CSO participants)</i></p> 3. Advocate for the institutionalization of civil society in processes within other international fora, as well as in the formation of national development plans in DFATD countries of focus. <p><i>Indicators: a) increase in the number of public statements in international fora that advocate for this principle; b) increase in the number public workshops or side events that support this notion. (Source for a) and b): DFATD to provide; CCIC)</i></p> 4. Include CSOs in government delegations to international summits and meetings.

Commitment	Milestones
	<p><i>Indicator: increase in the number of delegates and frequency of their inclusion in summits and international meetings. (Source: DFATD to provide; CCIC)</i></p>
<p>5. Establish predictable, equitable, flexible, and transparent funding mechanisms.</p> <p>“A variety of predictable and merit-based funding mechanisms allows a wide range of CSO partners from across Canada and in developing countries, new or long established, to plan and develop sustainable initiatives. DFATD understands that access to a mix of short, medium, and long-term funding is required to support a thriving civil society sector. DFATD also recognizes that responsive mechanisms (including unsolicited proposals) can provide the impetus for innovative approaches, and that CSOs require time to plan their programming.</p> <p>To that end, DFATD will provide merit-based, predictable funding opportunities through equitable, flexible and transparent modalities that will support the diverse roles and types of CSOs in Canada and in developing countries.”</p>	<p>By April 2016,^{vii} DFATD should:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Announce the piloting of a Thematic or Decentralized Funding mechanism(s) consistent with the principles established in CCIC’s Discussion Paper on Funding Modalities. <p><i>Indicators: a) announcement of one or several thematic or decentralized funding mechanisms; b) consistency with key principles. (Source for a) and b): DFATD public realm)</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Meet with civil society to develop and test a diverse suite of funding mechanisms within Partnerships for Development Innovation branch, consistent with CCIC’s proposals on funding modalities. This roll out will include the piloting of highly responsive programmatic funding modalities. <p><i>Indicator: Continued discussion in year one between CSOs, DFATD officials and the Minister around funding modalities consistent with the policy commitments (Source: CCIC).</i></p> <p>Over the next two years, DFATD should:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Meet with civil society to develop and test a diverse suite of funding mechanisms across other DFATD branches, which will be implemented in years two and three.

Commitment	Milestones
	<p><i>Indicators: a) in years two and three, the establishment of new suite of funding modalities accessible to a range of different organizations across different DFATD branches; b) starting in year two, publication of a forward-looking timetable of funding opportunities for CSOs; c) reduced delays between announcement of new funding opportunities and final announcement of projects to be funded (Source for a) to c): DFATD public realm); d) increased level of support and programs geared towards strengthening civil society organizations in developing countries in the next three to five years (Source: DFATD historical data sets).</i></p>
<p>6. Demonstrate sustainability, transparency, accountability and results</p> <p>“Consistent with the principles of the ODAAA, DFATD is transparent about, and accountable for, its expected and achieved outcomes for development assistance. DFATD looks to all of its development partners to uphold similar transparency and accountability standards, and increase the impact of Canada’s development investments. Moreover, DFATD is expecting that through effective partnerships with Canadian CSOs, the results of Canada’s development assistance will be more visible and recognized by Canadians and others around the world.</p> <p>To that end, DFATD will seek partnerships with CSOs that demonstrate, transparency, accountability and results in line with Canadian international assistance priorities and broader foreign policy priorities. DFATD will also support CSO-led initiatives that can produce enduring results that can be locally</p>	<p>By August 2016, DFATD should:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Streamline eligibility, proposal formats, and institutional requirements in its funding mechanisms in ways that improve access for the diversity of Canadian CSOs and their different roles. <p><i>Indicator: existence of proposal requirements that streamline and cater to different types of CSOs in new DFATD funding mechanisms. (Source: DFATD public realm)</i></p> <p>In the next two years, DFATD should:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Support a joint DFATD-CSO initiative that will increase the capacity of Canadian CSOs to improve their level of transparency and accountability, including through the International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI), other internet-based accountability tools, or the CCIC Code of Ethics and Operational Standards. <p><i>Indicators: a) resources invested by DFATD and CCIC in promoting the</i></p>

Commitment	Milestones
<p>sustained when external funding comes to an end. Streamlined and modernized business processes will be used in a standard, coherent and transparent manner to accommodate the different roles and diverse nature of CSOs, and the broad variety of projects funded (e.g. development, humanitarian, public engagement).”</p>	<p><i>transparency of the CSO sector in Canada (Source: DFATD public realm and CCIC); b) increase in the number of organizations publishing to IATI or reporting through other tools. (Source: IATI Register and CCIC)</i></p>
<p>7. Foster multi-stakeholder approaches to development</p> <p>“All development actors, including CSOs, the private sector, multilateral organizations, donors, and local and national governments can contribute to development in distinct and complementary ways. DFATD seeks to foster effective partnerships among these actors.</p> <p>To that end, DFATD will proactively encourage dialogue between and effective partnerships among development actors to foster respect for human rights and gender equality, create decent jobs, and lead to inclusive service delivery in priority areas of focus.”</p>	<p>In the next two years, DFATD should:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Promote and support multi-stakeholder dialogue and collaboration around key and emerging issues (which may or may not translate into partnerships). <p><i>Indicators: a) occurrence of DFATD-convened or supported multi-stakeholder meetings and roundtables on key and emerging issues; b) summaries of these meetings and their implications for DFATD going forward. (Source for a) and b): DFATD public realm)</i></p> Through informal meetings and formal consultations (in 2016), publish (by 2017) clear criteria and indicators for how DFATD supports and assesses multi-stakeholder partnerships and the outcomes of these partnerships. <p><i>Indicators: a) consultations and publication of a DFATD guidance note on multi-stakeholder partnerships drawing on best practices and experiences to date; b) publication of indicators that measure added value or additional impact of such partnerships (Source for a) and b): DFATD public realm).</i></p>

Commitment	Milestones
	<p>In the next three to five years, DFATD should:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Increase the number of multi-stakeholder partnerships with transformative purposes supported by DFATD and which are responsive to CSO priorities and initiatives. <p><i>Indicators: a) initiation of a process to help broker partnerships (Source: information provided by DFATD); b) number of CSO-initiated multi-stakeholder partnerships with transformative goals (e.g. in keeping with the Istanbul Principles, promote human rights, gender equality, decent work, CSO capacity for policy interventions) (Source: DFATD project browser and CCIC).</i></p>
<p>8. Engage Canadians in development.</p> <p>“Canada’s unity is strengthened through the expression of common values both at home and abroad. CSOs have an important role in expressing Canadian values internationally, building support for development cooperation, sharing their expertise, and telling Canada’s international development story.</p> <p>To that end, DFATD encourages Canadian CSOs to undertake public engagement activities in developing countries and in Canada. It is committed to support initiatives that: encourage Canadian volunteers, raise financial resources for development cooperation, and act as a channel for Canadians to personally engage and contribute to development.”</p>	<p>In the next two years, DFATD should:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop, through meaningful informal and formal consultation with civil society, a National Public Engagement Strategy and Action Plan - based on principles of good practice, inclusive of a full range of public engagement programs and activities - which reinstates public engagement as a core component of the government’s international development program. 2. Consistent with parts 5.1 and 5.2 above, establish diverse and predictable multi-year funding windows, which correspond to the range of programs and activities established under the PE Strategy and Action Plan and that cater to the needs of diverse organizations in regions across the country. <p><i>Indicators: a) launching of a process to develop a national public engagement strategy, in close collaboration with civil society; b) adoption of such a strategy. (Source: DFATD information and strategy in the public realm and CCIC)</i></p>

Commitment	Milestones
	<p><i>Indicators: As noted in 5.1 and 5.2 above.</i></p> <p>In the next three to five years DFATD should:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Sustain long-term partnerships with Canadian volunteer sending organizations and support for youth internship programs. <p><i>Indicator: existence of new long-term funding program for volunteer sending organizations and youth internship programs (Source: DFATD public realm).</i></p> <p>(For more details, see CCIC’s Discussion Paper on “Developing an Enabling Environment for Public Engagement in Canada,” forthcoming.)</p>
<p>9. Save lives and alleviate suffering.</p> <p>“DFATD’s humanitarian assistance programming aims to save lives, alleviate suffering, and maintain the dignity of those affected by conflicts, acute food insecurity, and natural disasters by providing appropriate, timely, and effective responses. DFATD recognizes that humanitarian CSOs are an essential element of Canada's response to humanitarian crises around the world, and can support the resilience and preparedness of communities at risk.</p> <p>To that end, in addition to working with humanitarian CSOs as operational partners, DFATD will also work with humanitarian CSOs to promote humanitarian principles collectively and</p>	<p>By 2017, DFATD should:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Improve the timeliness and transparency of decision-making with regard to the allocation, amount and dispersal of funding to particular crises. <p><i>Indicators: a) Clear communication for each major crises documented and available to any agency (Source: DFATD public realm); b) decrease in the average and median time to allocate funds between proposal submissions and approval (Source: CCIC, working with humanitarian organizations); c) rationale for funding decisions, including total funding amounts allocated to agencies, reflects humanitarian principles and other principles of good humanitarian donorship. (Source: DFATD public realm and CCIC; Development Initiatives Humanitarian Assistance Report, as a country comparison.)</i></p>

Commitment	Milestones
<p>address key humanitarian policy and operational issues.”</p>	<p>2. In informal and formal consultations with civil society, review existing humanitarian funding mechanisms and their operation, to ensure that they are responsive to humanitarian needs and principles, and balanced in their allocation of funding based on needs to different types of emergencies, with a specific focus on developing a new multi-year mechanism or adjusting existing ones to better accommodate disaster-risk reduction (DRR) and early recovery through funding outside of the existing humanitarian funding envelope.</p> <p><i>Indicators: a) establishment of a process to review existing funding mechanisms; b) the creation of new mechanisms for humanitarian organizations working in DRR and early recovery. (Source: DFATD public realm)</i></p> <p>In the next two years, DFATD should:</p> <p>3. Initiate a dialogue with Canadian humanitarian organizations on the implementation of the <i>Principles and Good Practice on Good Humanitarian Donorship (GHD)</i> and begin implementing a domestic plan.</p> <p><i>Indicators: a) occurrence of consultations on, and publication of, a new two year “Domestic Implementation Plan” for GHD, with transparent and measurable objectives and expected results; b) existence of third party assessments of Canada’s GHD performance, funded by DFATD; c) development of a whole-of-government “Humanitarian Action Framework”. (Source for a) to c): DFATD public realm)</i></p>

Commitment	Milestones
<p>IMPLEMENTATION</p> <p>“To meet the objectives outlined in this Policy and make a difference in the lives of the poorest and most vulnerable around the world, the Department will convene CSO representatives on an annual basis to discuss the implementation of this policy.”</p>	<p>In the first year of implementation, DFATD should:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Release an action plan for how it will implement the Civil Society Partnership Policy for both international development and humanitarian organizations, including a list of DFATD’s benchmarks, goals and targets, developed in consultation with civil society. <p><i>Indicators: a) opportunity to comment on the draft action plan; b) summary of comments received; c) disclosure of final action plan (with benchmarks, goals and targets). (Source for a) to c): DFATD information provided to affected stakeholders and particularly Canadian CSOs)</i></p> 2. Host an annual dialogue with a diversity of CSOs regarding the implementation of this Policy, with separate sessions focusing on development and humanitarian organizations. <p><i>Indicators: a) occurrence of consultation, and the extent to which it meets the six principles of good practice; b) evidence of change and meaningful implementation of the policy by both DFATD and civil society. (Source for a) and b): DFATD public realm and CCIC).</i></p>

ENDNOTES

ⁱ Establishing an enabling environment for civil society organizations in Canada. Key issues affecting Canadian international development and humanitarian organizations, Inter-Council Network and CCIC, June 2014, http://www.ccic.ca/files/en/what_we_do/june_2014_final_draft-full_report-establishing_an_ee_for_csos_in_canada.pdf

ⁱⁱ New government policy on partnering with CSOs receives enthusiastic reception, Canadian Council for International Co-operation, February 6, 2015, http://www.ccic.ca/files/en/media/2015_02_06_News%20Release_CS0_Partnership_Policy.pdf

ⁱⁱⁱ Ibid.

^{iv} CCIC is cognisant that the 2015 Federal election will result in some delays in implementing major activities that respond to the Policy. In this context, reference to the “first year” as 2016 is intended to be flexible and responsive to the opportunities presented by a new post-election government and a new Minister for International Cooperation.

^v August 2016 marks 18 months after the adoption of the policy.

^{vi} The five principles of good practice in consultation are 1) Timeliness and predictability – Regular consultations with sufficient notice on timing and content, conducted within relevant timeframes, for key decisions by DFATD/Minister; 2) Openness – Equal opportunity for access and receptivity to a diversity of views, in a format that includes a robust exchange of views and involving relevant decision-makers; 3) Transparency – Clarity of purpose and process of consultation, with dialogue and feedback to those who are consulted; 4) Informed – Preparatory and follow-up documentation received in a timely manner from both DFATD and CSOs in relevant languages for those being consulted; 5) Collaborative – Consultations planned through dialogue between relevant officials in DFATD and a body coordinating CSO participation to identify the agenda and process for the consultation; and 6) Iterative – Consultations as ongoing processes, not one-off events.. (DFATD)

^{vii} April 2016 to mark the start of a new fiscal year.