

CSO's Contribution to SDG Localisation

Recover Better Support Fund



The Challenge

National Cluster of Civil Society Organisations (CSOs): In Benin, civil society has become a major non-state actor in democratic processes. CSOs are structured into eight thematic pools according to the sectors they are active in and the pillars of the 2030 Agenda. These pools are organised at different levels: national, departmental and communal.

SDG Priorities at the Communal Level: According to the Directorate General for Coordination and Monitoring of the SDGs, 60 % of the implementation of the SDGs depends on the local level and context. However, many CSOs are not aware that the SDGs are implemented at the local level and are not informed about SDGs that are prioritized in each commune. According to the 2020 alternative report on monitoring the implementation of the SDGs, eight out of ten CSOs were not aware of the SDGs targeted by their communes.

Project name	CSO's Contribution to the Success of SDG's Localisation in Benin
Commissioned by	Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)
Country	Benin
Implementing Organisation	Maison de la Société Civile (MdSC)
Duration	November 2021 – April 2023

The Objective

The aim of the project is to strengthen CSOs involved in the implementation of the SDGs. By making CSOs actors of citizen watch for the success of SDGs localization in Benin, the monitoring of local development policies can be improved. The influence of CSOs on development issues is strengthened, thus creating a synergy of actions.

The Target Group

The project targets 30 municipalities spread all over Benin. The target group is divided into two categories: the direct target groups are the members of the thematic pools in which the Beninese CSOs are organised. The indirect target groups are the national and local authorities at the local and national levels as well as the population at grassroots level.

The Approach

Capacity Building of CSOs: Initially, CSOs benefit from three training modules: (i) Training on the use of Community Score Cards; (ii) Training on the human rights-based approach; (iii) Training on results-based management to enhance their effectiveness in tracking results.

Introducing Community Score Cards (CSC): The project will implement the CSC methodology to enable feedback to different authorities on SDG implementation and related challenges. CSC form the basis for collecting information in 30 communes to organise advocacy and seek solutions at departmental and national levels. By using CSC, CSOs can increase their knowledge



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and collect data. At the same time, grassroots communities can share give their opinion on the services offered to them in the presence of service providers.

Enhancing Dialogue: In the second phase of the project evaluation sessions are held in the 30 communes before dialogue is initiated at the departmental and national levels. These sessions bring together CSOs, providers at the communal level and the population. In doing so, a feedback mechanism is implemented from grassroots communities to authorities.

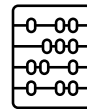
Additionally, multi-stakeholder dialogues at the national level are initiated. The workshops will be held online.

About MdSC

The Maison de la Société Civile du Bénin promotes Civil Society Organisations in Benin to contribute to development actions that can improve the quality of citizens' life.

The vision of MdSC is to establish a society through which non-state actors participate in dialogue processes with the state in the definition, implementation and monitoring of Benin's development programmes and policies.

The Results



30 Municipalities assessed the local SDG implementation via Community Score Cards (CSCs)



Members of 120 CSOs were trained in the use of CSCs, the human rights-based approach and results-based management to monitor local SDG implementation



30 evaluation sessions were conducted at the local level



Several department dialogue sessions and national dialogue sessions were conducted

The Recover Better Support Fund supports efforts designed and implemented in partner countries to recover from the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic with the goal of building more resilient, inclusive, and sustainable societies while advancing the 2030 Agenda. For that purpose, it deploys two funding lines: (1) Sustainable development advisory bodies and (2) leaving no one behind and strengthening socio-economic resilience. Commissioned by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), it supports 23 projects in 16 countries worldwide with up to 180.000 EUR.

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