Feet on the Ground:
CSOs weigh in the challenges of the Triple Nexus approach

Today's international development landscape is seeing increasingly complex and compounded crisis situations, demonstrating a call for a human rights-based, people-centered and interdisciplinary approach to global challenges. In addressing these challenges, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation, and Development - Development Assistance Committee (OECD-DAC) adopted the DAC Recommendation on the Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus (HDP or Triple Nexus) for donor countries and development actors to strengthen the coordination of humanitarian, development, and peace actors and synergise their responses.[1,2]

The OECD-DAC emphasises that this approach is especially important in conflict-stricken regions and fragile states. Such a framework, they explain, recognises that organisations and other relevant actors must target an equal weighing of the nexus' pillars in their initiatives to sufficiently prevent conflict and confront inequality. In short, their interventions must be holistically programmed "in a complementary, coherent, and coordinated manner."[3] With the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in the midst of persisting development challenges, the need to operationalise the Triple Nexus and maximise its impact is more pressing than ever.

With this novel approach to fragility and no one standard process and model in place to facilitate implementation of the nexus, there is a need for collaborative learning and capacity development for humanitarian, peace and development actors. Assessment from initial programs must be utilised to inform and advise the implementation of the HDP nexus in fragile and conflict-affected contexts. As such, the DAC-CSO Reference Group's Peace & Security Thematic Working Group conducted a survey in November 2020 to gather initial data on the efforts of Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) in integrating the HDP nexus in their programming. Furthermore, the survey allowed 18 member CSOs of the Reference Group to express any hindrances in employing this approach, opening space for discussion on strategies and recommendations moving forward.

Last May 31, 2021, the Peace & Security Thematic Working Group held a Lessons Learning Webinar to discuss initial findings from the survey. The webinar was attended by members of the DAC-CSO Reference Group and other HDP actors, who participated actively in building upon the survey report's analysis and policy recommendations. Overall, the survey and lessons learning session aimed to observe the compatibility of the nexus with current CSO practices and discover potential ways in which discrepancies may be addressed. The survey report reflects the results from the survey, as well as insights from the lessons learning webinar.

In this regard, the nexus survey has the following objectives: (1) to compile CSO initiatives in implementing the HDP nexus in various contexts; (2) to identify best practices and challenges in the CSO implementation of the nexus; (3) to bridge the gap among the policies, frameworks and on-ground implementation of the HDP nexus; and (4) to formulate policy recommendations from CSO experiences for

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[1] International Council of Voluntary Agencies, "Topic One Briefing Paper: The 'nexus' explained," August 2018, https://www.icvanetwork.org/resources/topic-one-briefing-paper-nexus-explained.

[2] Oxfam, "The Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus: What does it mean for multi-mandated organizations?," https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/dp-humanitarian- development-peace-nexus-260619-en_0.pdf.

[3] DAC-CSO Reference Group, "On Conflict and Fragility and the Importance of Peace in the Triple Nexus," 13 November 2020, https://www.dac-csoreferencegroup.com/post/on-conflict-and-fragility-and-the-importance -of-peace-in-the-triple-nexus.

succeeding implementation of the HDP nexus by donor countries, civil society organisations and other development actors.

This survey report aims to contribute to the body of work tackling the Triple Nexus, providing a CSO perspective on the matter. In the spirit of peer learning on how to join up humanitarian, development and peace initiatives in building resilience, the survey can serve as a reliable source of information for the OECD-DAC, donor countries, and humanitarian, peace and development actors that will be implementing the Triple Nexus, to ensure proper coordination and synergy among the three pillars and the actors involved. Good practices can be built upon, challenges can be solved and recommendations can be heeded in order to maximise efforts to leave no one behind.

Survey Results and Analysis

Demographics

As of November 2020, the survey collected information from representatives of 18 CSOs in total. The survey was done within the members of the DAC-CSO Reference Group. While the number of respondents is relatively small, they reveal several insights about CSOs and the nexus -- there is only a handful of CSOs within the Reference Group working on the nexus, the nature of the Reference Group is mostly composed of development CSOs and while some CSOs have interest in implementing the nexus, they lack the capacity, knowledge and experience to do so as of the survey roll out last year.
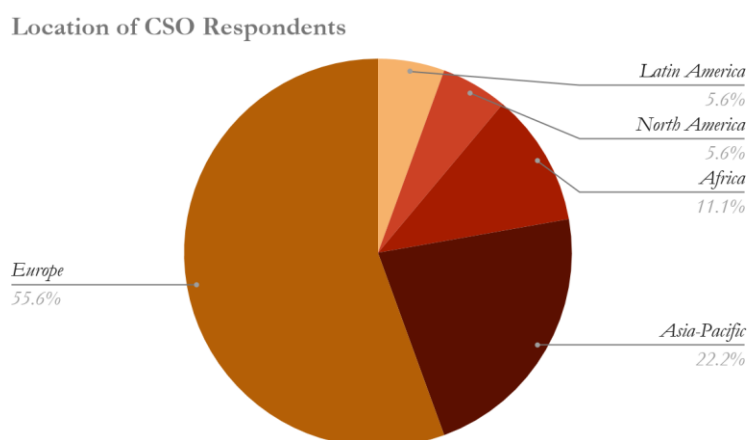

Figure 1. Location of CSO respondents from the survey.

Out of the 18 respondents, ten (10) of these organisations are situated in Europe, four (4) are in Asia, two (2) in Africa, one (1) in Latin America, and one (1) from North America. Thirteen (13) out of the eighteen (18) organisations implement their projects on an international level, while five (5) operate on a national scale. For international projects, the areas of implementation encompass Latin America, Africa and Asia Pacific, specifically the subregions of Southeast Asia and MENA or the Middle East and North Africa.

Is the HDP Nexus a key approach for your organisation's current programming?
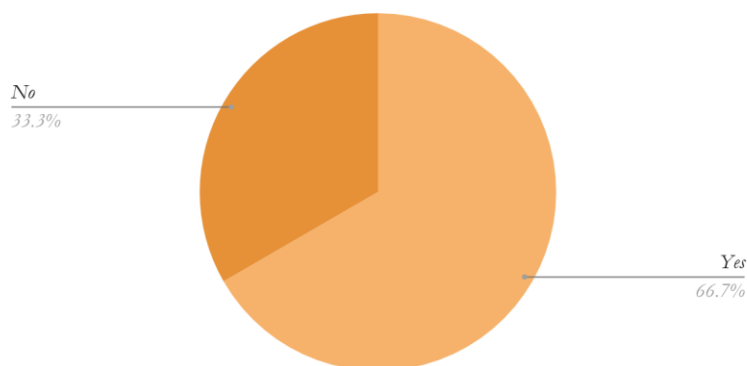
No
33.3%

Yes
66.7%

Figure 2. The experience of CSOs in nexus programming.

Twelve (12) out of the eighteen (18) respondents—precisely 66.7%—answered that their organisation implements the HDP nexus and considers it integral to their programming. A significant trend is that out of those who have experience in the implementation of the recommendation, a majority (83%) are CSOs doing international outreach. Eighty percent (80%) of those who have experience in the nexus are CSOs based in Europe, while the rest are spread across the other continents. Meanwhile, only a third of the respondents (33.3%) do not have nexus experience. However, almost all (86%) of those that do not currently observe the approach expressed their willingness to consider it in the future. Concurrently, a majority (67%) of those with no nexus approaches are CSOs doing national outreach, and are located in Asia Pacific, Latin America and Africa.

Location of CSOs that have experience in the nexus

North America
8.3%

Africa
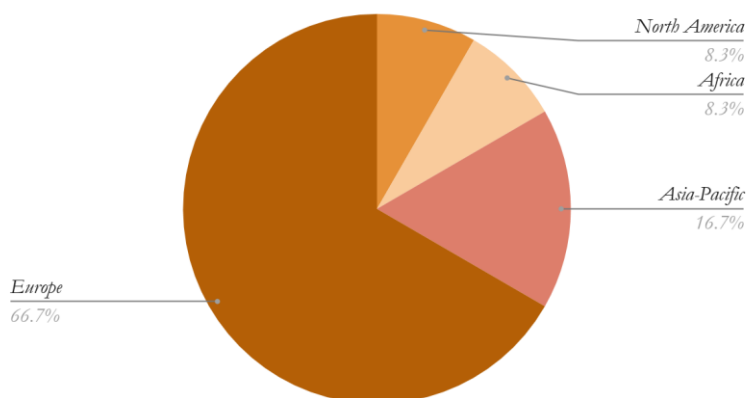*8.3%*

Asia-Pacific
16.7%

Europe
66.7%

Figure 3. Geographical location of CSOs that have experience in the nexus.

Looking at the demographics and trends, it can be deduced that out of the DAC-CSO Reference Group respondents, majority of those who have nexus experience are international, European CSOs. European CSOs also comprise the majority of the respondents, meaning that they are more aware about nexus work in general. While CSOs located in Asia contributed a quarter of the respondents, only half had experience in nexus work. Nexus programming and approach still remains an area to be explored by national, local CSOs located in the global South.

Best Practices: Resilience Programming

On the other hand, the 12 organisations that already introduced the nexus to their programming seem to have aligned the approach with their initiatives. In order to align the approach with their activities, CSOs produced their own frameworks, strategies and toolkits for the implementation, assessment and monitoring of their nexus programs. Guided by these mechanisms, the survey results show an abundance of examples and good practices of the nexus in action. The three most common responses are employing resilience programming on top of humanitarian interventions, collaborating with various institutions for such initiatives, and engaging multi-sectoral partnerships for information exchange and research.

Resilience programming is centered on responding to the multiple dimensions of fragility and capacitating local communities to respond to the wide array of shocks they experience. Resilience programming is an integrated approach that has three key elements: absorptive capacity, adaptive capacity, and transformative capacity. Absorptive capacity focuses on strengthening coping mechanisms of communities to continue delivering basic services despite shocks and negative events. Adaptive capacity has the goal of delivering long-term change in these fragile contexts. Lastly, transformative capacity aims for institutional reforms, when the prevailing systems contribute to further vulnerability and unsustainable development of certain groups. These three capacities mutually affect and reinforce each other in its implementation.[4] While various CSOs have their own manifestations of resilience programming, these key elements are central to the programming as a whole.

For instance, half (50%) of the respondents demonstrated how they enhance resilience in the communities and areas in which they intervene. For example, Cordaid International implemented a resilience approach in Ethiopia, where drought led to the lack of pasture availability. A resilient community action plan was programmed and implemented, leading to the reclamation of 2,200 hectares of rangeland that benefitted 6,570 families.[5]

Another CSO, WeWorld-GVC, complemented the support of various humanitarian actors through long-term solutions to water scarcity for approximately 150,000 Palestinians in the West Bank. Since the communities in the area rely on harvested rainwater transported in trucks and sold by local vendors, the CSO planned for the construction of water infrastructure, implementation of a Water Master Plan with local authorities and councils, and creation of a trucking governance system. This series of initiatives, they say, promoted the nexus approach by "integrating different kind[s] of interventions to transcend the humanitarian-development divide."[6]

Meanwhile, more than half (58%) of organisations responded that they coordinated with various stakeholders for the planning, implementation and monitoring of the nexus programs. A crucial step was aligning and facilitating the joint commitments of the various actors. Several bodies within the United Nations and donors' development agencies serve as collaborators for CSOs in implementing these international policies and recommendations. The same project in the West Bank was able to utilise various stakeholders in its Water

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[4] ActionAid International, "Resilience Handbook: A Guide to Integrated Resilience Programming," September 2016, https://actionaid.org/sites/default/files/2016_reslience_handbook.pdf, 3.

[5] Cordaid International, "Building Resilient Communities | Cordaid," 11 July 2018, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y8yFgmre9AA.

[6] WeWorld-GVC, "Operationalizing the Humanitarian-Development Nexus in the oPt. Lesson from the Ground," in *Nexus Collection* 4, https://cpainitiative.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Nexus-Collection-Vol.4- Operationalizing-the-Humanitarian-Development-Nexus-in-the-oPt.-Lesson-from-the-Ground.pdf, 77-78.

Master Plan, which included subsidiary bodies from the United Nations and European Union for the financing, assistance and capacity-building of their HDP project.[7]

National and local governments of donor and partner countries are also engaged to streamline the implementation of nexus programs. Caritas Denmark, involved in work for refugees, was able to establish technical schools with the help of the private sector and local authorities, which created jobs for the youth. Other CSOs employed the expertise of other organisations that specialise in humanitarian, peace or development, to aid their work. World Vision has developed a tool called Making Sense of Turbulent Contexts and Good Enough Context Analysis for Rapid Response (GECARR) that is used for joint context analysis of multiple agencies. This tool has been proven useful in aligning theories of change, advocacy strategies and design programming, as well as in quick response and adaptability to fragile and conflict-affected contexts.[8]

In implementing the nexus approach, CSOs have successfully bridged the humanitarian, development and peace pillars in their work. By highlighting the areas where key elements, perspectives and approaches of the pillars intersect rather than where they diverge, CSOs were able to integrate nexus programming in their respective contexts.

Best Practices: Involvement of local organisations and communities

Most importantly, CSOs have noted the effectiveness of coordinating with local organisations and communities in their implementation of nexus programs. In these HDP projects, it is crucial that communities lead the process, from analysing risks, formulating resiliency plans and implementing HDP programs in their respective fragile contexts. Communities have a holistic view of the problems they face, naturally integrating the three pillars of humanitarian, development and peace together. This approach enables them to forward holistic solutions that address issues usually categorised in silos under the three pillars.[9] International actors have also noted that local CSOs presumably have more experience in nexus programming, and thus, are important models for the nexus approach.

To further illustrate, Christian Aid, a Europe-based international organisation, collaborated with a local association in Palestine to support communities in the area in "identify[ing] and implement[ing] their own resilience and protection responses" to their issues.[10] This was done through the Participatory, Vulnerability and Capacity Assessments (PVCA) and a survivor and community-led crisis response approach (SCLR). A community member involved in the Raboud project has noted how "developing the action plan and then taking joint action has been the key to our success,"[11] since they were able to address their collective worries and concerns. Through community cash grants, the communities were able to implement their own resilience and protection programs, which led to the genuine engagement of communities, empowerment of women and heightened accountability of local governments. One local volunteer has noted the effectiveness of including the

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[7] WeWorld-GVC, 80.

[8] World Vision, "A Brighter Future for Children: Our approach to fragile contexts," May 2019, https://www.wvi. org /sites/default/files/2019-05/A%20Brighter%20Future%20for%20Fragile%20Contexts_FINAL.pdf, 10.

[9] WeWorld-GVC, 45.

[10] Sofie Grundin, "Learning from community-led resilience responses in the occupied Palestinian territories," September 2018, https://www.local2global.info/wp-content/uploads/L2GP_Palestinian Territories_Report_2018_WEB.pdf, 2.

[11] Ibid., 7.

communities in these projects, "Now I know that we don't have to wait for some donor to come and solve our problems. We can plan and come up with solutions ourselves."[12]

Likewise, Christian Aid, with the utilisation of PVCA, has enabled the members of the community to communicate, and as one of them mentioned, "we are able to gather as different age groups and identify different problems."[13] Marginalised sectors are empowered to speak up, with a female participant in Burundi saying, "before we would observe but not speak, now we give our ideas and opinions."[14] World Vision's approach included coordination with local religious leaders, paving the way for the resettlement of the Muslim displaced families and enrollment of their children in local schools in Yaloke, where there is a predominantly Christian host population.[15]

Cordaid International also specified how their community-led multi-stakeholder approach has proven to be effective in ten countries, with 550,000 direct beneficiaries.[16] This suggests that interventions which embody a human rights-based, people-centered and interdisciplinary approach such as this, fair well in vulnerable communities.

Best Practices: Research and peer learning

Finally, half (50%) of the respondents mentioned several ways through which they partake in research collaborations and information exchange with other actors. Examples include call-for-abstract events, participation in networks and platforms, and co-authoring policy research to engage opportunities for mutual learning. Research projects are avenues where CSOs echo the concerns, grievances and issues faced by communities in fragile contexts. These researchers are then used as a source by CSOs in engaging with and delivering policy recommendations to local and international policy-making bodies. Capacity-building for their own staff and local partners, focusing on informing them of the work and principles of the three pillars, is also a priority for these organisations.

In light of these examples, it is clear that the 12 organisations have managed to approach the nexus in such a way that it complements both their existing programming and the needs of communities on the ground.

Challenges: Trilingualism

Needless to say, however, these organisations encounter several challenges in applying the approach to their programming. One of the most common challenges, as mentioned by 50% of the respondents, is involving all components of the nexus simultaneously in their work. This challenge is due to the lack of trilingualism among the HDP actors. The nexus requires all of its actors to be fluent in the approach, perspectives and principles of all the pillars involved. However, there is a lack of capacity-building and learning that addresses the lack of trilingualism. The three pillars have various, and sometimes conflicting, principles and approaches when

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[12] Grundin, 10.

[13] Christian Aid, "Integrating Conflict Prevention in Humanitarian Resilience Programmes," May 2019, https://www.christianaid.ie/sites/default/files/2019-05/Integrated%20Conflict%20Prevention%20and%20Humanitarian%20Resilience%20May%202019.pdf, 23.

[14] Ibid., 23.

[15] World Vision, 9.

[16] Cordaid International.

doing their work. The limited understanding of each other's background and approach has led to such barriers in implementing nexus projects.

For example, development organisations have limited understanding of humanitarian principles, while humanitarian actors are very much uncompromising regarding the observance of these. Humanitarian CSOs also find it difficult to engage the peacebuilding component because of its tendency to be "controversial" when their principles are applied. While development actors engage the state as the main drivers of economic and social growth, humanitarian actors view the state as a driver of fragility. Development CSOs are slowly acknowledging that their usual ways of working cannot be applied to fragile states and are trying to rework their approach to fit these contexts.[17]

Furthermore, the nexus recommendation is a product of international aid language that is not utilized by local CSOs. While some local CSOs have been implementing nexus programming long before the DAC Nexus Recommendation, the language used by donors, international institutions and HDP actors is unfamiliar to these CSOs. International aid language then becomes a barrier for local CSOs to participate in nexus activities and programs, excluding them from important dialogues and conversations. There is a need to translate these jargons into a language that can be understood by everyone, which will help facilitate the inclusion of local CSOs and HDP actors into the international aid architecture.

Challenges: Coordination

Additionally, organisations find it difficult to avoid original distinctions between the three elements, due to donor compartmentalisation and complex coordination. Differing priorities of donor governments and institutions, depending on their own interests and agenda, lead to contradicting targets, timelines and funding for CSOs. The various pillars also have particular requirements, like the Humanitarian Accountability Partnership (HAP) Standard for humanitarian actors, which require a significant amount of expertise, money and time. In order to certify the organisation's legitimacy and accountability to work in fragile contexts, the HAP certification entails thorough audit processes and additional expenses for CSOs. There is a "systemic response failure"[18], that fails to link the various actors of the nexus, strengthening the silos. This systemic response failure heavily affects the realities on ground, with the danger of duplicating programs or implementing ineffective projects. Nexus programs must aim for a collective outcome that involves all actors, which can only be achieved through the help of the communities and local organisations, which have a collective understanding of their respective contexts.[19]

Meanwhile, initiatives for effective community engagement are hindered by rigid donor requirements for CSOs and local organisations. Communities in fragile contexts are unable to meet tight deadlines and technical requirements that donors require of them. Deadlines limit the capacity of CSOs and local organisations to establish a harmonious relationship with the community, who is responsible for sustaining nexus interventions. Technical requirements burden communities that lack formal training, hindering them from proposing and applying their own solutions in their fragile contexts. Due to these processes, community

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[17] KUNO, "Linking Thinking: Reflections on the Nexus," June 2019, https://www.kuno-platform.nl/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/Report-nexus-meeting_v3_.pdf, 4-5.

[18] Ibid., 5.

[19] Ibid., 6.

participation is limited in nexus projects, delegating much of the work to international or local CSOs that have experience in meeting these requirements.

Since the nexus involves a wide range of actors with different backgrounds involved in different levels, coordination remains a challenge for CSO implementors. CSOs have to be able to communicate with international donors and institutions, as well as build relationships with the communities they are involved in. CSOs also have to deal with institutions that do not have the best interests, with local governments providing insufficient information to the CSOs, purposely limiting consultations and excluding negative impacts of the proposed project.[20]

With these various responsibilities expected of them, CSOs are spread too thin in integrating the pillars and implementing nexus projects on their own. Therefore, there is a need for joined-up analysis of the needs of fragile contexts and holistic programming among the various stakeholders. While CSOs have established their own monitoring and evaluation frameworks, there is also a need for joined-up monitoring and evaluation of nexus projects to ensure transparency and accountability from donors and CSOs alike. Furthermore, measurement of results and outcomes can facilitate improvements to the current nexus programming of donors and HDP actors.

Coordination must be improved among and within institutions, focusing on the capacity-building of the CSO and local staff. Learning a new approach takes time and resources. Each pillar on the nexus requires a unique set of principles, approaches, and objectives that are too complex to integrate into one's expertise within a short period of time. Before going to the communities to implement nexus projects, they have to train their own staff first. CSOs also need to fully capacitate the local organisations and communities in order to "transfer more power and capacity"[21] to them.

Challenges: Localisation

The issue of localisation also remains a challenge in the implementation of the HDP nexus, with the lack of funding and support being extended to local actors and organisations. Localisation can ensure that responses to fragility and programs for resiliency are "contextualised down to a community-level, as different regions [and] areas necessitate different approaches." Localisation entails involving the communities and local organisations throughout the whole process of the nexus project. Localisation can also "synchronize global efforts towards collective outcomes and create an overall framework for comprehensive response."[22] While localisation proves to be an effective method in addressing fragile contexts, donors and other funding institutions are yet to revise their mechanisms to accommodate this approach.

With the weakness of civil society as a strong indicator for fragility, local CSOs in these contexts face numerous threats in doing their work. Local CSOs, especially in the global South, are subjected to shrinking civic spaces, manifested in various human rights violations and militarisation of communities, affecting their work and safety. With the lack of an enabling environment, local CSOs do not have the necessary capacities to respond rapidly to crises and to localise nexus programming in their own contexts.

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[20] Cordaid, "Enhancing resilience in fragile & conflict affected contexts: Cordaid's experiences in linking disaster risk reduction with conflict risk analysis & conflict risk reduction," July 2020, https://www.cordaid.org/en/wp-content/uploads/sites/11/2020/08/VOICE-out-Loud-30-humanitarian-action-climate.pdf, 13.

[21] Christian Aid, 8.

[22] WeWorld-GVC, 106.

While local organisations are the first responders in fragile contexts, they are not engaged by donors in funding their activities. They also have to face other challenges when coordinating with international actors, such as language barriers and administrative problems. Most of the time, these organisations are 'overburdened', since they are expected to respond to various issues with limited support and funding.[23] While donors and institutions have been echoing the call for more initiatives to localise nexus work, they have yet to translate this into action.[24]

Challenges: Funding

Majority of the CSOs (83%) have noted that a significant barrier that they face is inadequate resources, especially funding. The broader aid architecture that disburses funds for the nexus projects forces CSOs to choose among the pillars their projects will focus on. They noted that short-term and sector-specific funding hamper efforts to execute long-term and nexus-based initiatives. They suggest that donors and other relevant actors must provide more flexible, multi-year funding for better implementation of nexus programs. Integrating the nexus requires time to have a holistic understanding of a specific context and to establish a good relationship with the communities.[25]

Donors must share the risks involved in engaging in fragile and conflict-affected contexts, acknowledging that realities on-ground are unpredictable and HDP actors need flexibility to adapt to these. Flexibility in the funding and donor requirements give the organisations the opportunity to experiment and pilot new approaches in implementing the nexus. Flexible funding also allows the communities to formulate their own solutions and implement projects that would cater to their concerns.[26]

Given that the majority of the respondents that have experience in implementing nexus projects are European CSOs, there is concern that CSOs from the Global South will be left behind in funding prospects. Without the expertise and experience in the nexus that European CSOs possess, Global South CSOs will be awarded with less opportunities to implement their own nexus projects.

Clearly, there is an overall lack of support for organisations with regard to transitioning their programming into one that reflects nexus ideals. There is a need to address these gaps and discuss inclusive implementation policies to engage more CSOs in the approach.

Policy Recommendations

The DAC-CSO Reference Group issued a media release[27] through its Peace & Security Thematic Working Group, which detailed recommendations to the OECD-DAC for nexus programming and implementation last November 13, 2020. These recommendations are further improved through the insights of the CSO respondents of the nexus survey. These policy recommendations serve to inform the OECD-DAC in implementing the HDP nexus in fragile, conflict-affected contexts.

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[23] Christian Aid, 9 & 34.

[24] Grundin, 11.

[25] Christian Aid, 34.

[26] Grundin, 3.

[27] DAC-CSO Reference Group, "On Conflict and Fragility and the Importance of Peace in the Triple Nexus."

The recommendations are as follows:

- *Increasing funding for crisis regions and affected populations, based on nexus goals of collaboration, coherence and complementarity.* Official Development Assistance (ODA) data for 2020 shows that funding for fragile, conflict-affected contexts is decreasing. In 2020, bilateral aid to Least Developed Countries only comprised 0.07% of donors' GNI, less than half of the intended 0.15% to 0.2% of GNI target. ODA for sub-Saharan Africa was also reduced by USD 310 million, which will only see further cuts with the United Kingdom slashing aid. The DAC must increase funding to target marginalised populations and ensure contextualised programming, aligning humanitarian approaches with development goals, by supporting rights-based, people-centered national development plans and local CSOs.

- *Adopting flexible donor policies and requirements to facilitate effective coordination and implementation of nexus work.* Donor compartmentalisation and rigid policies has led to ineffective implementation of nexus work, heavily affecting the engagement of CSOs in communities. Donor priorities must be based on the needs of fragile contexts, and not on their own geopolitical agenda. Allowing flexibility also gives organisations the opportunity to experiment and pilot new approaches for nexus programs. However, proper monitoring and auditing of the use of funds must always be required from national governments, civil society organisations and other HDP actors. Donors, multilateral institutions and organisations can adopt cross-reliance on audits to ensure mutual transparency and accountability.

- *Promoting localisation in the implementation of the HDP nexus by increasing funding and support for local CSOs.* Many local CSOs have been excluded from the planning and implementation of national COVID-19 response plans. Programs for resiliency must be context-specific and applicable to local conditions. The DAC must commit to the sustained financing for local CSOs for them to rapidly respond to crises, adopting human rights- and gender-based programs. Funding should not be limited to project costs, but should apply to core aspects of local CSOs' work to ensure their sustainability between projects so that they are able maintain capacities to urgently respond in times of crisis.

- *International civil society organisations must turn rhetoric into practice, contributing to the capacity-building, financing and localising of nexus work for local, Southern CSOs.* International civil society organisations must undertake certain responsibilities to improve the implementation and adaptation of the nexus approach by local, Southern CSOs. ICSOs and national platforms should lead the call for reforms in the international aid system that serves to hinder local CSOs from participating in nexus programming. In addition to elevating voices of their local partners to policy spaces, ICSOs must further promote localisation by capacitating and funding local actors to implement people-centered and community-led nexus projects.

- *Strengthening democratic systems and local governance in fragile contexts.* DAC Members must align programs to national development and humanitarian objectives. Civic space must be protected in all contexts, ensuring that human rights-based frameworks are respected. In addition, in contexts of international and non-international armed conflicts, where the State is unable or unwilling to discharge its responsibilities for providing the basic needs of civilians under its control, DAC Members must support and protect the leadership of local humanitarians and peacebuilders through political, diplomatic, and financial support, among others, and which are in line with other established

frameworks such as CEDAW (G.R. No 30) and 1325 UNSC Resolution. CSOs and people's organisations must freely and safely participate in democratic processes and hold duty-bearers to account.

- *Institutionalising the engagement of the DAC-CSO Reference Group's Peace & Security Thematic Working Group with the International Network on Conflict and Fragility (INCAF).* Apart from requesting spaces for CSO members in fragile states to join fieldworks, CSOs have much to contribute to the ongoing monitoring and analysis of the implementation and impacts of the Nexus Recommendation in crisis regions. A space must be designated for the various stakeholders, including multilateral institutions, donor countries and civil society organisations to learn from each other, attending to challenges and learning from best practices, in order to leave no one behind.

Moving forward, these challenges must be addressed to efface compounding gaps across the three pillars and their application at the community level. It is crucial that future dialogue presents context-specific and effective nexus strategies in a way that they are able to truly improve lives on the ground.

Appendix 1. Survey Questionnaire.

Respondent Information

E-mail address:
Full name of Contributor:
Complete Name of Organisation:
Organisation's Office Location:
Geographical Outreach of Action:

Questions:

1. Is the HDP Nexus a key approach for your organisation's current programming?
2. If not, is your organisation considering exploring the Nexus approach in any of its future programming?
3. How is your organisation implementing the Nexus approach? What is the project and where?
4. Please share any "good practice" in your implementation of the Nexus approach. Indicate a specific case study and link/s of any communication material to support this.
5. Please mention the main challenges your organisation faces in planning for or implementing a Nexus project.
6. What gaps should donors and other development actors fill in the implementation of the Nexus approach?

Appendix 2. List of Respondents.

Organisation	Office Location	Geographical Outreach
Caritas Denmark	Copenhagen, Denmark	International
Caritas Española	Spain	International
Caritas Uganda	Uganda	National
Christian Aid	United Kingdom	International
Coordinadora de la Mujer	Bolivia	National
Cordaid International	Netherlands	International
Croatian Platform for International Citizen Solidarity (CROSOL)	Zagreb, Croatia	International
Danish Refugee Council	Denmark	International
Indigenous Peoples Global Forum for Sustainable Development (IPGFforSD)	Burundi	International
International Indigenous Peoples Movement for Self-Determination and Liberation (IPMSDL)	Philippines	International
Japan NGO Center for International Cooperation (JANIC)	Japan	National
Karuna Mission Social Solidarity (KMSS)	Myanmar	National
Korea NGO Council for Overseas Development Cooperation (KCOC)	South Korea	National
Mercy Corps	United States of America	International
Norwegian Refugee Council	Norway	International

Oxfam Intermón	Barcelona, Spain	International
WeWorld-GVC	Italy	International
World Vision International	London, United Kingdom	International

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risk reduction with conflict risk analysis & conflict risk reduction." July 2020. https://www.cordaid.org/en/wp-
content/uploads/sites/11/2020/08/VOICE-out-Loud-30-humanitarian-action-climate.pdf

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2020. https://www.dac-csoreferencegroup.com/post/on-conflict-and-fragility-and-the-importance -of-peace-in-
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