Civil Society and Media Strengthened Together and Advancing in New Directions (CSM-STAND)

GLOBAL HEALTH FACT SHEET

INTRODUCTION TO CSM-STAND

The Civil Society and Media-Strengthened Together and Advancing in New Directions (CSM-STAND) project supports local, regional and cross-regional programming that enhances civic engagement to build resilient societies. Globally, CSM-STAND will support civil society and media actors as engines of social change, strengthening community participation in local structures for social accountability. CSM-STAND partners will collaborate with diverse changemakers, including youth, women, and marginalized populations. CSM-STAND can leverage partners' platforms and networks for community voice, quality services and health system accountability, in rural as well as urban areas and among mobile populations and internally displaced persons. Country-level CSM-STAND activities can partner with civil society organizations (CSOs) — including those representing vulnerable or marginalized communities — while constructively engaging Ministries of Health, Social Welfare, and similar government agencies.

CSM-STAND PROGRAMMING AREAS FOR THE HEALTH SECTOR

CSM-STAND can promote an integrated approach by providing holistic capacity development (CD) and support for grants and networking to civil society and media actors engaged throughout the health system, to improve social accountability for health and to be more effective than siloed sectoral projects. This can include:

CD for individual, institutional and network changemakers

Organizational CD and leadership development for CSOs that represent women, youth, and marginalized groups

Support for "transition" to direct USG and other donor funding

CD for community, religious and traditional leaders to improve the enabling environment

CD for CSOs to counter stigma and violence against priority populations

Engaging media

Supporting journalists to address misinformation, e.g., on COVID-19 vaccines

Building media capacity to advocate for health planning, budgeting, and Human Resources for Health

CD for media to lessen stigma that affects uptake of health and HIV prevention services

Strengthening media to influence social norm changes around gender-based violence

Strengthened journalism on issues such as early marriage and child-bearing

Civic engagement

Strengthen CSOs to implement health accountability approaches, including health budget formulation

Support CSOs representing women, youth and marginalized groups to increase access to health services

Support community participation in health systems and community-led monitoring (CLM) of health services

Collective action and linkages to make service delivery more equitable and effective

Support for CSOs/CBOs to advocate for decentralized policy implementation

Network strengthening and coalition building to improve CSO capacity to hold government health systems accountable

WHAT IS CSM-STAND?

CSM-STAND includes two parallel five-year Leader with Associates (LWA) Cooperative Agreements, delineated geographically: Africa & the Middle East and North Africa and Asia, Europe & Eurasia, and Latin America & Caribbean. The awards are managed by Pact, who co-leads the LWAs with IREX. Each regional program is composed of a "Leader Award" and "Associate Awards."

Leader Award
- Overall management of the global program, including associate awards
- Co-creating and implementing a trans-regional learning agenda and learning system
- Incorporating learning into associate awards and influencing wider DRG practices

Associate Awards
- Contextualized civil society and media activities meeting USAID Mission, Regional Bureau and Operating Unit priorities

WHY CSM-STAND?

CSM-STAND offers USAID Missions and operating units a flexible, worldwide platform for designing and implementing activities that advance civil society, independent media and cross-sectoral objectives. Key benefits using the CSM-STAND includes:

- **Efficient funding mechanism:** As a pre-competed mechanism, CSM-STAND allows for quick and efficient procurement processes, including in sensitive operating environments.

- **Focus on flexibility and adaption**: CSM-STAND prioritizes adaptive technical and management approaches to achieving results, including in post-conflict spaces.

- **Support for co-creation and participatory design**: CSM-STAND partners with USAID and local partners to co-create interventions and approaches at the pre- and post-award stage.

- **Commitment to locally-driven development**: CSM-STAND is aligned with USAID's Local Capacity Development Policy and positioned to advance the New Partnership Initiative.

- **Mainstreaming gender equality and social inclusion (GESI)**: CSM-STAND integrates GESI principles and approaches across all activities to advance equitable outcomes.

CSM-STAND TEAM

GLOBAL PARTNERS

Pact: Global award management, strengthens local partner knowledge and skills for sustainable social impact.

IREX: Empowers youth, and extends access to quality education and information.

Aga Khan Foundation: Improves service delivery, enhances indigenous philanthropy.

ICNL: Improves the legal environment for civil society, philanthropy, and public participation.

The Asia Foundation: Helps societies flourish across a dynamic and developing Asia.

REGIONAL PARTNERS: AFRICA

Sonke Gender Justice: Advances gender justice, prevents gender-based violence and reduces the spread of HIV and the impact of AIDS.

WACSI: Strengthens civil society in West Africa to be responsive, collaborative, representative, resilient.

AfriLabs: Supports the development of the African technology and innovation ecosystem.

MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA

Samir Kassir Foundation: Strengthens the resilience of media by connecting journalists to new ideas, skills and support.

ANHRE: Unifies and coordinates efforts among different civil societies to influence policies.

ASIA

FORUM-ASIA: Strengthens the capacity of civil society in Asia.

EUROPE AND EURASIA

Prague Civil Society Centre: Strengthens civil society and promotes healthy information ecosystems within the Europe and Eurasia region.

European Journalism Centre: Connects journalists and media to new ideas, provides skills development and produces training.

LATIN AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN

The Gabo Foundation: Encourages journalists and promotes the ethical and creative use of power.

Makaia: Strengthens capacities for social development through technology, innovation and international cooperation.

TECHNICAL PARTNERS

Moonshot: Improves use of digital technology and use of data-proven techniques.

Deflect: Digital and information security

TechSoup: Provides access to an online e-learning platform and network of technical assistance for the use of digital technologies.

Omdena: Provides Artificial Intelligence/ Machine Learning tools for development solutions.