

H2N – CSPM in Cooperation Programmes

This H2N is based on the [SDC Guidance for the Elaboration of Cooperation Programmes \(2021\)](#) and its annexe 8 which highlights key considerations for the elaboration and the monitoring of a Cooperation Programme compulsory in fragile contexts, but relevant in all contexts. The purpose of this H2N is to give orientations to SDC's staff on essential elements that should be taken into account when integrating CSPM at the strategic and operational levels. It complements the institutional advice provided upon demand by the FCHR Unit.

Integrating CSPM in Cooperation Programmes

For the development of a new Cooperation Programme in a fragile context (as defined in the [\(OECD/DAC States of Fragility Platform\)](#) – but also beyond in all contexts marked by factors of fragility – the following specific planning and elaboration steps are recommended.

Chapter 1: Context Analysis

- In order to integrate conflict sensitivity at the context analysis level, main issues and structural causes of fragility, conflicts and violence have to be analysed. Risks and coping capacities, resilience factors, connectors and dividers, are identified in order to facilitate prioritization of interventions. The dimensions of the OECD/DAC fragility framework provide a useful reference reflected in the [Fragility Assessment tool](#) from FCHR tool box.
- Joint analysis across the humanitarian, development and peace pillars both within the Swiss representations as with other donors and agencies, shall be used as basis for joint programming (defining collective outcomes). This is at the heart of the nexus approach as defined in the [OECD/DAC recommendation](#).

Chapter 2: International and Swiss contributions in the country

- Reference to national or international fragility frameworks, as well as to integrated approaches to peaceful, just and inclusive societies (SDG 16+) should be integrated.
- When drafting the donors' mapping, reference to joint analysis / joint programming efforts under a triple nexus approach should be made.

Chapter 3: Results of Swiss contributions in the country

- Integrate an evaluation of previous Swiss contributions to addressing the root causes of fragility, preventing and transforming conflict and violence, and promoting social cohesion and peaceful conflict resolution.
- Assess how CSPM and HRBA have been integrated as a transversal approach throughout all the domains / programs, including in their interrelation with governance, gender and LNOB.

Chapter 4: Implications for Swiss Cooperation Programme

- A description should be integrated of how Switzerland, in the light of the analyses in the previous chapters, can contribute to addressing the root causes of fragility, as well as specifically to the prevention and transformation of conflict and violence and the promotion of social cohesion and the peaceful resolution of conflicts.

- The implications for the new Cooperation Programme have to be explicit: How can the Swiss interventions contribute to Peace and State-building? How can Switzerland contribute to the prevention / transformation of conflict / violence and to the peaceful resolution of conflicts? This can be done via sectoral, specific interventions and/or by integrating conflict sensitivity transversally in all sectors.

Chapter 5: Priorities, objectives and theories of change

- Priorities and objectives are based on the risks and coping capacities, resilience factors, connectors and dividers, levers and pivots identified in the context analysis, taking into account the Swiss comparative advantage and the mix of instruments available. Collective outcomes across the triple nexus pillars should be defined, drawing from the strength of each instrument and combining them for greater impact.
- Impact hypothesis and theory of change (ToC) underline how the selected / prioritised interventions in the different Portfolio Outcomes will contribute to addressing the root causes of fragility and to the prevention and transformation of conflict and violence.
- Poverty reduction and respect of human rights should be considered as an important contribution to the prevention and transformation of conflicts and violence.
- Under transversal themes, the interlinkages of governance, gender and LNOB with the respect and promotion of human rights (HRBA), as well as the explicit reference to preventing conflicts and fostering peaceful mechanisms for the resolution of conflicts (CSPM) should be included.

Chapter 6: Management and programme implementation

- Key elements are to be integrated about how the portfolio mix is aligned with a CSPM approach, and how it allows for Switzerland to stay engaged in all scenarios.
- A sound risk assessment and corresponding mitigation measures are to be outlined, with special attention to security issues. Assessment of options for remote monitoring / third party monitoring could be added.
- The programme implementation should follow an adaptive management logic that should be explained.
- CSPM skills are compulsory in fragile and conflict-affected contexts and should therefore be regularly re-assessed and strengthened, especially with new staff.

Chapter 7: Strategic steering and monitoring

- Integrating CSPM throughout a Cooperation Programme implies more frequent MERVs analyses. Swiss representations abroad have to plan carefully for these collective MERV processes (who is included in the reflection, when, how).
- Adaptation to scenarios: How will the implementation of a Cooperation Programme change along scenarios? Possible adaptations of Portfolio Outcome activities and aid modalities / implementation modalities need to be included in each defined scenario.

Appendix: Results Framework (RF)

Thematic Reference Indicators on Fragility, Conflict and Human Rights (ARI's, TRI's FCHR) are mandatory for Cooperation Programmes in countries categorised as fragile by the OECD/DAC. The binding list of [FCHR ARI/TRI](#) is to be examined and indicators selected if they are relevant in the specific country situation. FCHR ARIs / TRI's should help when preparing scenarios and programme implications. If a country encounters a significant crisis after a period of stability or increased fragility in all dimensions of the OECD/DAC fragility framework, it is strongly recommended to review the Results Framework and adding relevant FCHR ARI's/TRI's.

Efforts towards strengthening the triple nexus approach, as well as towards strengthening CSPM skills within the staff and partners should be included in the RF (under (6) "Management/Performance Results") and indicators or targets to measure the evolution be defined (e.g. in an action plan).

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