

Civic Participation Interventions in the Civil Society Fund

A case study in Bolivia

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Photo: Mette Kjaertinge

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Introduction

In a well-functioning society, participation is key. A society where people can actively engage in civil society and communities and assert their influence on decisions that affect their lives. Here one can say that the individual person becomes more than oneself - a citizen. In a free society, citizens can think, express and organize freely, and act with awareness of one's own responsibility, and be able to actively participate in society.

In the spring of 2017, CISU launched a new funding modality within the Civil Society Fund; Civic Participation Interventions, which has the priority to *“promote active citizen participation, in which people and organisations together obtain knowledge, take responsibility for and act upon local, national or global challenges. The interventions must bolster popular involvement, volunteering and civil organisation in developing countries as well as in Denmark”* (Guidelines for the Civil Society Fund, p. 24¹).

There are four conditions that needs to be met for citizenships to thrive, which are the underlying assumptions for the abovementioned priority to promote active citizen participation:

- 1) A citizen experiences an affiliation with civil society and the community the citizen is a part of;
- 2) A citizen can understand and relate critically and constructively to the political, religious and social institutions at local, national and global level;
- 3) A citizen can organize with others. To create change, it is crucial that citizens can organize themselves in, for example, digital groups, social movements or through the establishment and development of civil society organizations;
- 4) A citizen has an eye for the connectedness between the near, the common and the distant, and how each of us in everyday life can push the development in a desired direction. Changes rarely come from the individual organization of fellow citizens but require different forms of civic organization to cooperate; often from networking where different forms of civic organization collaborate locally or linking local agendas with national and international contexts².

This is the foundation upon which CISU perceives civic participation and which has informed the idea behind the Civic Participation modality. Another purpose with the modality is to create a more flexible and innovative funding opportunity for CSOs – a fund that promotes creative, experimental and innovative initiatives with a focus on active citizenship.

With the modality's existence in a year and a half, CISU saw a need to establish knowledge and learning about the interventions' opportunities, challenges and successes. Moreover, there was a need to assess whether the purposes of the modality have been met.

¹ <https://www.cisu.dk/puljer-st%C3%B8ttemuligheder/civilsamfundspuljen>

² Read more about CISUs definition on citizenship: <http://www.cisu.dk/puljer-st%C3%B8ttemuligheder/civilsamfundspuljen/begreber-i-civilsamfundspuljen>

Scope of visit

The purpose of the learning visit to Bolivia was to visit three Civic Participation Interventions funded by the Civil Society Fund. The interventions were selected based on their funding source as well as their partnership constellations, which included involvement of other actors such as private sector and academia.

Having the priorities for the Civic Participation Interventions in mind, we wished to explore the extent to which the interventions promote active citizenship, in the sense that public engagement and people's sense of commitment and acting on challenges is changed with the contributions of the interventions. Likewise, the purpose of the visit was to understand how these types of interventions can contribute to changes and results for the beneficiaries as well as communicating these results.

Besides the Civic Participation modality's focus on active citizen participation, another feature of the modality is to *"make it possible to test new methods as well as experimental and innovative approaches, and to incorporate new and untraditional actors in development cooperation. This also encompasses the possibility of exploring innovating and experimental elements in interaction with largescale projects, such as a Development Intervention"*. We were thus also curious to see if we could detect new approaches and alternate ways to address civil challenges and organisation.

Lastly, the purpose was to learn from the partnership constellations – their complexities, opportunities and limitations. We collected stories and testimonies from partners and beneficiaries that we compiled into case stories, which can be communicated to a broader audience to share lessons learned from the interventions.

The visited projects were:

Danish organisation	Main local partner	Other partners	Title of the intervention
DIB	Fundacion Teko Kavi	University of Copenhagen (UCPH) and Technical University of Denmark (DTU)	A participatory and cross-sectorial pilot project to prepare networks and capacities for control of diseases spreading between animals and humans in rural Bolivian Amazon communities
Kooperationen	Federacion de Caficultores y Exportadores de Bolivia "FECAFEB"	Coffee Collective and Instituto Tecnológico Caranavi (ITC)	Capacity building and strengthening of the partnership – FECAFEB and the Kooperation (Kapacitetsopbygning og styrkelse af partnerskabet - FECAFEB og Kooperationen)
Earth Advocates Association	Fundación para la Conservación del Bosque Chiquitano		Strengthening nature resource management and improvement of living conditions for marginalised groups in Bolivia through a locally rooted eco-tourism project (Styrkelse af naturressource-forvaltningen og forbedring af levevilkårene for marginaliserede grupper i Bolivia gennem lokalforankret økoturismeprojekt)

The methodological approach to the visit was semi-structured, qualitative interviews with the Danish CSOs and their partners, as well as interviews and participant observation with the partners, stakeholders and beneficiaries.

The context of Bolivia

Bolivia has a population of approximately 11 million people. Bolivia is listed as a lower middle-income country (GNI per capita, USD 6,714) and is ranked number 118 on UNDP's Human Development Index (out of 189 countries). The population of Bolivia is very diverse, consisting of indigenous peoples (Quecha, Chiquitano, Aymara and Guarani), mestizos, Europeans, and few Asians and Africans. The indigenous population can be divided into two main groups; people from the altiplano and the valleys and people in the lowlands. As with many other countries, Bolivia is experiencing increasing urbanisation and a strong focus on the economic development of the country.

Bolivia has experienced many years of political instability with a range of military coups. In 2006, Evo Morales was elected as president on the promise to establish better conditions of life for the indigenous population, constituting most of the population though, at the same time, also the most marginalised. This has been an enormous step for Bolivia as a whole, and Morales has succeeded in many ways. However, during the past years, exploitation of natural resources and economic development of Bolivia have gained more and more priority from the president and government at the expense of the environment and bio-diversity. With the influx of foreign investors – for example from China – Bolivia's resources are being exploited and exported with little or no benefits to the local population and the country as such. As Bolivia only have limited capacities to extract the resources themselves, only very few Bolivian citizens benefit from the income.

Many NGO's have been very critical of this, which consequently has led to some being deregistered, not permitted to work or even being persecuted. Some critical foreign NGO's have been asked to leave the country. This especially applies for organisations working with biodiversity, fighting deforestation and the rights of indigenous peoples.

Historically, CISU has funded many interventions in Bolivia. Currently, seven Danish CSOs engaged in Bolivia are funded by CISU.

Introduction to the three visited interventions

A general characteristic of the projects visited is that the themes of the projects are new to all partnerships. Likewise, in two of the three projects the partnership was new. Moreover, as mentioned before, the partnerships are somewhat different and innovative compared to many other CISU funded projects, as actors such as academia, socioeconomic enterprises, local educational institutions and local authorities are key partners in the projects. As we shall see in the paragraphs ahead, these factors influence working dynamics and relations in the projects, as great efforts and resources are used to establish connections and solid working relations amongst partners, which is the very foundation for the project interventions.

Teko Kavi partners with the Danish CSO DIB, University of Copenhagen (UCPH) and DTU through a project that focuses on preventing and addressing the spread of zoonotic diseases³. The project has implemented participatory scientific research among indigenous populations in Rurrenabaque district to disclose whether

³ Zoonotic diseases refer to bacteria, viruses and parasites that spread between animals and humans.

there are challenges with zoonotic diseases – in this case Leptospirosis and Hantavirus – and to implement preventative methods to avoid such diseases. The research proved that zoonotic diseases are a problem in the area, and the intervention thus engaged with the local communities and authorities to find strategies to prevent, detect and treat these types of diseases.

FECAFEB (Federación de Caficultores y Exportadores de Bolivia) partners with the Danish organisation the Kooperation, the Danish socio-economic company, Coffee Collective, and the local Bolivian technical school, Instituto Tecnológico Caranavi (ITC)⁴. The project focuses on understanding coffee production in Caranavi District and to create a solid foundation for the partnership. FECAFEB supports their member organisations (coffee cooperatives and associations) with technical support to improve their coffee production, as well as the social dimensions around coffee production so that coffee farmers, their families and communities can improve their living standards and live dignified lives. The project supported by CISU focuses on establishing a solid knowledge foundation about coffee production and living conditions. The respective partners have engaged with the local coffee producers to establish a foundation for collaboration and Coffee Collective has supported with the specialised knowledge in organic and high-quality coffee production.

FCBC (Fundación para la Conservación del Bosque Chiquitano) partners with the Danish organisation, Earth Advocates Association through a project focused on the development of ecotourism in the Province of Santa Cruz. FCBC has worked in the area with the Chiquitano people and biodiversity since 1999. The CISU supported project is focused on establishing ecotourism in the dry forest area of San Ramón to support income-generating activities for the local communities in relation to tourism in the area. The purpose of the project has been to establish an ecotourism committee in San Ramón consisting of different people from the community, authorities and local private enterprises. Initially, 21 potential tourist sites and/or activities have been identified for development among which five to seven are supported by the CISU funded project. A bottom-up approach has been used in the selection of potential tourist sites and/or activities that have been assessed by the ecotourism committee and subsequently selected which sites and/or activities to prioritise for support. The long-term objective is to make these sites a natural part of where tourists go when visiting the area.

⁴ Instituto Tecnológico Caranavi (ITC) has coffee education as one of its areas of education; a three-year technical education encompassing all areas related to coffee production, barista and trade.

Findings and observations

To all CISU funded projects, the themes of the partnerships are fairly new, and thus the interventions are still somewhat piloting in their character. The interventions apply a holistic approach, in the sense that they engage different relevant actors; e.g. local and regional authorities, education institutions at different levels, service providers and communities through already existing structures. This also includes organising parts of civil society in new ways to address the objectives of the projects with different approaches and actors. The interventions are therefore considered experimental and/or exploratory and relevant to the context they are working in, which also the purpose of the Civic Participation Intervention.

New approaches and catalytic effects

The three projects visited all attempted to tailor their interventions to the needs of the beneficiaries and local conditions, also applying new and innovative approaches in these attempts.

The One Health Approach

In the Teko Kavi project, the One Health Approach was utilised. The One Health Approach has existed for 15 years with the purpose of *designing and implementing programmes, policies, legislation and research in which multiple sectors communicate and work together to achieve better public health outcomes* (ref. WHO). Through a scientific study in the intervention area of DIB and Teko Kavi's project, zoonotic diseases (Leptospirosis and Hantavirus) amongst humans and animals were initially diagnosed, which informed subsequent tailored cures and awareness campaigns within civil society and amongst central authorities at local, regional and national levels.

To both authorities and beneficiaries, it was "alarming" how widespread Leptospirosis and Hantavirus are in the area, and the fact that the project could produce scientific evidence of the prevalence of the diseases in the area, ensured that both authorities and beneficiaries took the findings seriously. Superstition is widespread in the area, which oftentimes are linked to e.g. illnesses. However, the fact that the project could scientifically explain and provide an adequate cure gave high value and credibility, and thus new "scientific" meanings and solutions to the diseases.

This intersectoral approach has thus contributed to providing significant scientific knowledge, ensuring that it is disseminated to civil society and authorities as well as organising people around finding common solutions to the problem.

Ecotourism

Tourism in the Santa Cruz province, and especially in the Chiquitano area of Bolivia, is widespread. However, the concept of *ecotourism* is new to many – also to FCBC and Earth Advocates Association. Ecotourism entails a focus on linking tourism with strengthening indigenous culture and inheritance, protection of nature, and increasing incomes for locals. It involves taking tourists to local places and activities that supports indigenous culture and nature as well as informing tourists about local conditions and ways of living. The long-term effect is for the local population to increase their living standards. Accordingly, the method of building and strengthening civil society through ecotourism can be considered to have an experimental and innovative character. Establishing an ecotourism committee in close collaboration with the authorities in San Ramón has prompted the municipality to open up for investments in ecotourism in the area, which then inspired

other investors to show their willingness to also contributing to the project with manpower and financial resources.

Moreover, the Bolivian Ministry of Tourism has expressed their willingness to consider including San Ramón on the officially recognised Jesuit Mission Circuit (which has both national and international reputation), which is expected to attract even more tourists to the area. The combination of a relatively small investment and the right partners seem, in this case, to be a good combination in attracting more investors and stakeholders that potentially will pay off for local beneficiaries.

Various shapes and forms of participation

The three projects visited exposed different shapes and forms of civic participation that in one way or another create space and means for local civil society to engage and participate.

In the preparation for the project, Teko Kavi applied a participatory approach consulting beneficiaries and various stakeholders including academia, local communities, as well as local, regional and national authorities in the design of the project to ensure project objectives align with the needs and conditions of the beneficiaries. After the study on Leptospirosis and Hantavirus, the communities that had been a part of the study were invited for meetings together with the municipal authorities to discuss the results with Teko Kavi. Subsequently, Teko Kavi facilitated a process where both civil society and authorities could discuss preventative solutions to the problem. The communities were organised to actively assert their influence on how to address the presence of the diseases – not only within their immediate neighbourhoods, but with the local authorities (see more in section *Results from the interventions*).

The baseline study carried out by FECAFEB, the Kooperation and Coffee Collective has involved a broad range of people from civil society to ensure also their social challenges and conditions are taken into consideration in relation to coffee production. Meetings between different representatives from civil society, educational institutions and local authorities has contributed to an enhanced understanding of the challenges to be addressed. The purpose of the baseline study is to assure in future interventions, that access of organic coffee to international markets not solely is a commercial exercise, but that the improved market access also has a long-term commercial and social benefit to all coffee farmers and citizens in Caranavi, thus allowing greater scope for citizenship to flourish in the area. In this way, the project has created space for civil society to actively assert their influence.

The ecotourism committee supported by FCBC consists of different people from the community, as well as stakeholders, authorities and local private enterprises. This is the centrepiece of ensuring active civic participation in relation to the CISU funded project. A bottom-up approach was used in the selection of potential tourist sites and/or activities that were assessed by the ecotourism committee and subsequently selected which sites and/or activities to prioritise for support. This is e.g. local women groups that produce and sell local handicrafts and trainings to locals about ecotourism (hospitality, food, local customs, guiding, etc.).

Collaboration and partnerships

All three projects provided interesting learnings regarding partnerships with composite partnership/collaborative structures. They are not only the 'classic' one-to-one CSO-to-CSO partnerships but include multiple actors such as regional health and veterinary institutions, academic institutions, vocational

training institutions, private companies, and different types of authorities at different levels. The use of partners with their different capacities and levels of influence is used strategically to address the set objectives with different methods and means to ensure impact and sustainability.

CSO to CSO partnership

FCBC is a major Bolivian CSO with very competent and strong human and financial resources. FCBC has since 1999 worked in Bosque Chiquitano and has a consolidated and long trajectory working with indigenous peoples, biodiversity and conservation. The strong capacities of FCBC was also a consideration for EAA when approaching them as a new potential partner. EAA is a fairly newly established organisation in Denmark (2014), consisting of volunteers with different technical and professional profiles in relation to conservation and biodiversity. Thus, when FCBC showed interest in collaborating, EAA was very pleased and the partners signed a five-year MoU.

Compared to FCBC's annual turnover, the CISU funded project is financially a minor contributor, and yet the selected theme and partnership approach have something unique to offer both in terms of a stronger focus on ecotourism, which FCBC previously has only slightly touched upon, and for the partnership constellation and collaboration. Moreover, this type of partnership – CSO to CSO – was new to FCBC, as they are primarily directly funded through larger donors and foundations. They found great value to this type of partnership where there is a more direct engagement, communication, strategic discussions and opportunities for sparring. It took some time getting used to, but after a while FCBC really valued the inputs from EAA. Discussing other ways of approaching the project than what FCBC normally does has benefitted FCBC and the intervention in general.

A partnership such as the one between FCBC and EAA creates a solid foundation for international development work and confirms the value of CISU's (and many others') approach to partnerships in a time where everyone is discussing and promoting collaboration with other types of actors.

The following two partnerships are based on the CSO-to-CSO partnership but includes other valuable actors.

Collaboration with academia

The link between DIB and Teko Kavi with DTU and UCPH was established through the One Health Approach as mentioned above. The intersectoral One Health Approach makes it possible to combine hands-on civil society interventions with science and research, and legitimised UCPH and DTU to engage with DIB and Teko Kavi. Besides the concrete results on the ground it provided UCPH and DTU with rich data that could be used for research and publications. Besides these actors, the intervention has included the necessary local, regional and national stakeholders in relation to monitoring and health in Bolivia.

For Teko Kavi, the complex setup of this project provided challenges, but is nonetheless important to reach their objective:

These complex partnerships demand a lot more effort in terms of coordination and ensuring that the many different interests are being heard. But it is worth it in the end, as all relevant stakeholders take ownerships of the project – also after the project terminates (Teko Kavi).

Multiple partners are involved in the project, encompassing academia as well as local, regional and national veterinary and health authorities. It was demanding for the partners involved to coordinate and navigate

between different interests, demands and expectations, but also very rewarding, as the multi-stakeholder approach enabled opportunities to genuinely address zoonotic diseases from several angles and with different approaches, expertise and methods. The unique civil society-academia partner setup opened doors that otherwise were difficult to enter, as different competencies and contacts could come into play when deemed necessary.

For Teko Kavi, it was the first time that they implemented research in an intervention. They have previously collaborated with universities and educational institutions, but this project included scientific research by credited academic institutions, which brought an added value to their work and results, as they became able to present scientific facts to beneficiaries and stakeholders involved. Presenting these findings had a convincing effect and meant that local communities and authorities became very engaged. Both civil society and authorities are still working on preventing these types of diseases after the termination of the project.

Besides contributing to concrete results, UCPH has participated in a scientific conference in Vienna sharing data, learning and experiences from the project. During the visit in Bolivia of the involved professor from UCPH, Bolivian universities also took advantage of the visit and invited her to take part in relevant seminars to exchange knowledge.

The major challenge for Teko Kavi and DIB were to balance the research and scientific elements of the project with that of engaging civil society. CISU provided extensive counselling when the partners were initially drafting the proposal to strike this balance. Funding opportunities doing action research combined with scientific research on civil society project implementation are difficult to find, but this project proves that the Civic Participation modality can meet these needs.

As a learning from this intervention, CISU has identified a need to further create frameworks and possibilities for combining development work with academia and scientific research, both in terms of funding opportunities where academia and project implementation can go hand in hand, but also in terms of guidance on how to match needs and conditions from both academia and civil society organisations (see more in the recommendations section).

Collaboration with the private sector

The Kooperation and FECAFEB decided to include Coffee Collective as a strategic partner in their project. Coffee Collective is a socioeconomic company that trades directly with coffee farmers (Direct Trade Model) around the world. They visit the producers once a year and provides them with support to enhance the quality of the coffee and production and purchases the coffee 25 percent above the fair-trade price. Coffee Collective was brought into the project because they are a member of Kooperationen and has tried to enter the Bolivian coffee market for the past four years without being able to find solid partners.

Bolivia is an interesting country due to their potential of high-quality organic coffee. Coffee Collective forecasts their own and other coffee buyers' demand for access to more organic, high-quality coffee in the future, as the global demand on this commodity increases year by year. Their role and added value to the intervention has therefore been to visit the coffee farmers that are part of FECAFEB to discuss how to enhance the quality of production, avoid coffee plague and climate threats, as well as sharing the demands of the international coffee market and how it works. The quality of the coffee in the area is not of a high enough standard yet for Coffee Collective, and the purpose for Coffee Collective to engage in the partnership is also to establish a long-term partnership with the farmers and to support them in making their production more sustainable and prepare them for an international demand for organic, quality coffee. This can,

moreover, bring the company value to their brand and the company, and provide the potential opportunity to buy coffee from Bolivia in the future when the producers meet their standards.

Coffee Collective profiles themselves as being concerned with the social and environmental aspects of coffee production, but they are also a company that is established to profit. A potential challenge for the future collaboration – which was already sprouting at the time of the visit – is that the cooperatives in Bolivia are looking towards Coffee Collective as a potential buyer of their coffee. However, according to Coffee Collective there is some way to go before they would be interested in buying the coffee. At the same time, the cooperatives are under the impression that Coffee Collective would buy coffee from individual coffee farmers, which poses a challenge to their cooperative mindset, structure and solidarity. FECAFEB is very firm on this – that solidarity should supersede expanding/developing in a commercial manner. Despite the promising possibility of selling coffee to a buyer that gives a fair price for the coffee, the associations and cooperatives have their own values and structures that supersedes the requirements from Coffee Collective.

Nevertheless, the intervention has consolidated the partnership between all parties, and it has been possible to get into a dialogue about the further development of their partnership, where the matching of expectations continuously should be in focus. As seen with other NGO/private sector partnerships, it is not without challenges. In this case, the partners seem to be very open towards each other and it seems possible to further develop their engagement through an open dialogue. The partnership constellation with Coffee Collective on board brings added value, as they bring additional knowledge, experience and support to the local coffee farmers, which in the long-term can strengthen their coffee production and sales and, hence, their livelihoods.

Collaboration with local authorities

All three visited projects proved how important it is to maintain a close collaboration with local authorities in both project design and project implementation, both to assure local ownership and legitimacy but also to bolster the scope of stakeholders and investors involved in the intervention.

In the FCBC project, the mayor of San Ramón clearly could see the perspectives on the intervention for his municipality and how citizens could benefit, as it could broaden the scope of income for citizens not only relying on jobs from mining and deforestation, and at the same time protect the local environment and promote local culture and traditions. As the project became approved, the mayor decided to allocate one staff and budget to support the project, as well as using his contacts in the government to lobby for San Ramón can get official recognition being part of the officially recognised Jesuit Mission Circuit. The project with broad representation in the ecotourism committee is very solidly positioned with extensive contacts to influence, funding and knowledge, which assures the work initiated also will continue years ahead.

In the Teko Kavi project, the close collaboration with local, regional and national health authorities was crucial to assure Leptospirosis and Hantavirus diagnoses, cures and awareness campaigns genuinely are embedded in the local health clinics, while regional and national health authorities have the overview of the overall situation and consequently can make necessary decisions on the matter and eventually continue the intervention.

Likewise, the success of the FECAFEB project rely on the good relations with both the local municipality in Caranavi as well as the public technical school, Instituto Tecnológico Caranavi (ITC).

Results from the interventions

The visited interventions all had a strong focus on developing and consolidating the partnerships whilst implementing activities for the target groups. To all three interventions the target groups were fairly new to the partnerships and the interventions were thus explorative in nature with direct involvement and participation from the target groups, with the aim of understanding and working directly with the target groups even further in the long term.

FECAFEB

The intervention with FECAFEB has overall resulted in a substantial contextual understanding through a comprehensive baseline study, and thus a solid foundation for further collaboration and civic engagement. The baseline study provides valuable information about the conditions of coffee farming in the Caranavi area that will be used to shape future interventions. The partners have introduced new strategies to avoid the invasive coffee plague and become more resilient, also to climate change. This has e.g. been done through working on creating model areas to show to other coffee farmers.

With the intervention, FECAFEB, ITC, Coffee Collective and the Kooperation has built up a solid foundation for a partnership. This has been possible through a comprehensive visit to Bolivia that included numerous workshops to discuss coffee quality and sustainability as well as the challenges and needs of the coffee farmers. The intervention has thus provided a platform for sharing of knowledge between coffee farmers and different stakeholders. Whereas Coffee Collective has provided technical knowledge to the farmers, ITC and FECAFEB have contributed with their comprehensive experience with organising coffee producers as well as their close relationship and knowledge of the coffee farmers, the communities and the context they are working in. Kooperation has assisted with their experience with organisation and project management. All in all, these respective experiences and competencies has contributed to establishing a foundation for further strengthening the engagement with the coffee farmers in Caranavi district.

Teko Kavi

The intervention with Teko Kavi has shown concrete results amongst both beneficiaries and health authorities. The local people were pleased to get the information about Leptospirosis and Hantavirus and requested the authorities to follow up, e.g. by investing in the testing kits to be used at the local laboratory so that they do not have to send them far away to Santa Cruz for analysis. People in both Buena Vista and Tumupasa communities have taken own measures to prevent infections, such as more substantial cleaning inside and outside the house, cutting down palm trees and branches nearby the houses the rodents use to access the houses, using rodenticides, making homemade traps and filling up water holes that are at risk of infection. Buena Vista Municipality has sent a request to central authorities to get rodenticides for the whole territory and have had a common meeting with relevant authorities to discuss and implement preventative strategies. After the end of the intervention, civil society in both communities are still in dialogue with the authorities regarding the prevention of these kind of diseases and have in different ways made requests to the authorities to take action.

The CSO-academia constellation in this project is quite unique, as it opened doors and enabled opportunities to genuinely address zoonotic diseases from several angles and with different approaches, expertise and methods, as mentioned earlier in the report. As the partnership constellation is new, it is too early to make bold conclusions in terms of the obtained results directly attributed from this particular partnership constellation and how these are sustained in the long run, but there is no doubt that the multi-stakeholder approach applied had created synergies and enabled opportunities to address complex diseases, that in a “normal” partnership setup would have been nearly impossible. DIB, UCPH and Teko Kavi have made a new and larger project proposal on zoonotic diseases ready for submission, which shall be interesting to follow in the future.

FCBC

The long-term objective of this intervention is positioning San Ramón on the tourist map. The intervention has so far established a well-functioning and dedicated ecotourism committee with representatives of relevant stakeholders from civil society and the private sector within San Ramón municipality, including the mayor, and has strengthened the partnership between FCBC and EAA. It is too early to detect concrete results in the project, but the strategy to obtain the official recognition of San Ramón as part of the Jesuit Mission Circuit, and the development of the 21 identified tourist sites and/or activities, seem all to be relevant pursuing this objective, with the ecotourism committee steering the process as the driving force.

As mentioned above, FCBC is a major and well-consolidated CSO with contributions from major and larger national and international donors, where the CISU funded project is relatively smaller and thus easily could ‘drown’ compared to the other FCBC projects. Yet, the approach and method applied in this project seem wise, as the five to seven tourist sites and/or activities supported by the CISU funding nicely seem to complement and align with other FCBC interventions in the San Ramón area, thus drawing on existing FCBC competences, credibility, resources and networks whereby the effect of the relatively small financial contribution is multiplied. Although this maybe not counts as a result as such, it is a major achievement with great scope for further collaboration between the partners involved in the Sam Ramón area.

Relation to CISU

All three partnerships have been in contact with CISU in relation to the development of the interventions.

When asked, the Danish organisations found that there is a general good connection between CISU’s capacity services, and they value the advice given by advisors in the process up to sending in the application. However, with EAA there was also the perception that there is sometimes a missing link between the advisors and the grant system, which CISU takes into consideration. The first application sent in by EAA was rejected.

The modality has evidently provided the partnerships with the possibilities for being more experimental in methodologies and approaches as well as in their partnerships.

Conclusions and recommendations

The three projects are good examples of interventions that have a catalysing effect, and that the Citizen Participation modality also provides scope for trying out new partnerships, methods and approaches with the possibility of piloting new partnerships and interventions. The following are general conclusions and recommendations for particularly CISU to consider in the future:

- CISU should continue to promote the possibility of the Citizen Participation modality to experiment with methods, approaches and alternative partnership constellations. The visited interventions have shown that these types of interventions seem to hold additional capacities addressing complex societal issues, and moreover can have a catalytic effect in relation to results on the ground as well as consolidating and developing partnerships.
- The Citizen Participation modality has proved to allow for various shapes and forms of civic participation that in different ways create space and means for civil society to engage and participate on topics that matter to them.
- The benefits of combining scientific research with civil society project implementation is evident from this learning visit and CISU should further explore how research and academia can be a part of Citizen Participation interventions and other modalities within the Civil Society Fund, both in terms of funding options, but also how to partner with relevant academic institutions. The extent of possibilities within the Civil Society Fund in relation to this should be clearer and 'promoted' more.
- Recognise the benefits of CSO to CSO partnerships, including other relevant actors with other perspectives can also be valuable to civil society interventions.
- CISU should further explore the opportunities and limitations to involving the private sector in development interventions. This also includes the extent to which these actors can be a part of interventions within the Civil Society Fund. It is important for CISU and CSOs to understand the fundamental differences in interests between commercial and civic motives and explore avenues how both combined can create better conditions and opportunities for the target group of the interventions.
- It is important to advise applicants to engage all partners in the development of the interventions as well as in meetings with CISU so that they are on the same level and equally understand the ideas behind the Civil Society Fund. This will also enable an even more coherent partnership.
- CISU should look more into building advisors' capacities in relation to how to collaborate and include private sector and academic partners. CISU advisors need to be ready to engage with different types of partnership constellations where different discourses, motivations and priorities are in play.
- CISU shall continue the collaboration with the Grant System to make sure that criteria under the Civil Society Fund is understood along the same lines.

Appendixes

Terms of Reference (in Danish)

Baggrund

Medborgerindsatser har som ny modalitet under Civilsamfundspuljen eksisteret siden marts 2017. Medborgerindsatser blev etableret baseret på et ønske om at skabe en mere fleksibel og innovativ pulje til civilsamfundsorganisationer – en pulje der gerne skulle fremme de kreative, eksperimenterende og innovative tiltag med fokus på aktivt medborgerskab.

Med modalitetens eksistens i halvandet år, er der behov for at danne et grundlag for viden og læring om indsatsernes succeser og udfordringer – både i forhold til at bidrage til aktivt medborgerskab ude i verden såvel som for de danske organisationers og partners erfaringer fra at søge og implementere medborgerindsatser.

Ifølge Civilsamfundspuljens retningslinjer, er Medborgerindsatsers særlige formål at:

Fremme aktivt medborgerskab, hvor mennesker og organisationer i fællesskab opnår viden, tager ansvar for og handler på lokale, nationale og globale udfordringer. Indsatserne skal understøtte folkeligt engagement, frivillighed og civil organisering i udviklingslande såvel som i Danmark.

Desuden giver Medborgerindsatser mulighed for at:

Afprøve nye metoder, eksperimenterende og innovative tilgange samt at inddrage andre og utraditionelle aktører i udviklingssamarbejdet, herunder også muligheden for at afprøve nye og eksperimenterende elementer i samspil med større projekter, f.eks. Udviklingsindsatser.

Formål

Formålet med læringsrejsen er at indhente viden om en række medborgerindsatser for at skabe læring om selve modalitetens formål og bidrag til meningsfulde resultater samt kommunikationen af disse. Derudover er formålet med rejsen at byde ind med inputs til vores nye tema 'Nye former for samarbejder', som bestyrelsen og Generalforsamlingen har vedtaget at CISU skal arbejde med i 2019/2020. Endvidere er der et behov for at afsøge mulighederne for at indsamle cases fra indsatser støttet af CISU, som der efterspørges af bestyrelsen og Udenrigsministeriet, gennem samarbejde med lokale freelancejournalister samt gennem inputs til guidelines til hvordan CISUs medarbejdere kan indsamle materiale til cases når de er ude i verden.

Fra et organisatorisk perspektiv indhentes viden fra CISUs bevillingshavere og deres partnere om hvordan Medborgerindsatser har bidraget til deres arbejde. Herunder:

- Finder de sammenhæng mellem CISUs kapacitetsydelse og ansøgningsprocessen?

- Har de blik for de muligheder, som er i selve modaliteten?
- Deres vurdering af modaliteten set i forhold til konkrete indsatser, særligt med blik for frembringelse af katalyserende effekt, inddragelse af nye metoder, eksperimenterende og innovative tilgange samt samarbejde med utraditionelle aktører (herunder netværk/samarbejder med andre).
- Organisering og inddragelse af målgruppen samt konkrete forandringer for målgruppen.

Fra et målgruppe perspektiv vil der blive kigget på indsatsernes bidrag til:

- Aktivt medborgerskab (engagement, tager stilling og ansvar for og handler på udfordringer)
- Folkeligt engagement
- Frivillighed
- Civil organisering
- Forandringer for målgruppen

Fra et kommunikationsperspektiv vil der blive udforsket hvilken betydning eller forskel Medborgerindsatserne har haft for partnerne og målgrupperne samt hvordan man kan formidle resultater af indsatser gennem lokale freelancejournalister. Konkret vil der blive kigget på:

- Om og hvordan Medborgerindsatser har styrket mulighederne for andre former for samarbejder
- Om og hvordan Medborgerindsatser har bidraget til den brede folkelige forankring
- Om og hvordan Medborgerindsatser har bidraget til at skabe forandringer i et land som Bolivia
- At påbegynde arbejdet med at tænke kommunikations-case-indsamling, hvor vi i fremtiden vil arbejde på at ansætte lokale freelance-journalister til at besøge CISUs projekter. Her vil Rebecca sætte møder op med 1-2 journalister eller kommunikationsmedarbejdere, for at høre om mulighederne for at sætte samarbejde op, samt fornemme hvad interessen er for de lokale journalisters side af bordet.
- At komme med konkrete inputs til guidelines for CISUs medarbejdere til indsamling af materiale til udvikling af cases.

Lokalitet og metode

Baseret på en analyse af lokaliteter og indholdet i nuværende Medborgerindsatser, er Bolivia valgt som rejsemål, da der er et bredt udsnit af projekter, med en bred spredning af danske organisationer og partnere i forhold til kapacitet og indhold af indsatserne. Vi har særligt kigget på, om der var nogle indsatser som var lidt 'anderledes', eksperimenterende og bød på alternative partnerskaber. I Bolivia er der særligt tre indsatser, som er anderledes end hvad vi normalt ser – særligt i forhold til sammensætning af partnerskabet. Disse indsatser vil kunne være med til at belyse forskellige bud på hvordan CSOer samarbejder og indgår i partnerskaber med 'andre aktører', og også byde ind med inputs til vores nye tema 'Nye former for samarbejder'. De anderledes projekter er også et godt udgangspunkt for cases, da de især kan inspirere andre civilsamfundsorganisationer, der ønsker at nytænke måde at lave indsatser på.

Indsatserne CISU vil besøge vil være:

Dansk organisation	Lokal partner	Titel på indsats	Bemærkning
DIB. Danske partnere: Københavns Universitet (KU) og Danmarks Tekniske Universitet (DTU)	FUNDACION TEKO KAVI	A participatory and cross-sectorial pilot project to prepare networks and capacities for control of diseases spreading between animals and humans in rural Bolivian Amazon communities (NETCAP-DIB) (17-2127-MI-okt). Periode: 08.01.18-31.01.19 (ny UI i pipeline).	DIB har et projekt hvor de samarbejder med DTU og Københavns Universitet, hvor der er en fin kobling mellem forskning og mobilisering af civilsamfund.
Kooperationen	Federacion de Caficultores y Exportadores de Bolivia "FECAFEB"	Kapacitetsopbygning og styrkelse af partnerskabet - FECAFEB og Kooperationen (18-2294-MI-sep). Periode: 10.11.18-30.04.19.	Kooperationen samarbejder med en lokal civilsamfundsorganisation, et uddannelsesinstitut (ITC) og virksomheden Coffee Collective.
Earth Advocates Association	Fundación para la Conservación del Bosque Chiquitano	Styrkelse af naturressourceforvaltningen og forbedring af levevilkårene for marginaliserede grupper i Bolivia gennem lokalforankret økoturismeprojekt (18-2206-MI-mar). Periode: 01.08.18-29.02.20.	Earth Advocates Association samarbejder med en lokal civilsamfundsorganisation i et samarbejde med de lokale myndigheder om at udvikle økoturisme i området.

Metoder, tilgange og outputs

Den tematiske rejse vil indsamle viden om medborgerindsatser på forskellige måder:

- Generel statistik over hvordan Medborgervinduet har udviklet sig og hvilke typer af organisationer har fået bevillinger/afslag.
- Interviews med de danske CSOer/bevillingshavere.
- Interviews med de lokale CSOer inklusiv besøg og interviews med deres målgrupper, samarbejdspartnere og interessenter for indsatserne.
- En opsamlende kort rapport med læring og anbefalinger.
- Byde ind med inputs til vores nye tema 'Nye former for partnerskaber / En bredere folkelig forankring'.

Kommunikation

- Kommunikationsmateriale (kommunikation af resultater i form af 3 cases) – om resultaterne fra indsatserne samt de former for samarbejder der er i indsatserne til inspiration for andre medlemsorganisationer, Udenrigsministeriet, politikere, etc. Cases vil også indgå i den efterfølgende tematiske rapport om Medborgerindsatser
- Møde med 1-2 lokale journalister for at høre om mulighederne for at samarbejde i fremtiden om udvikling af cases.
- Bidrag til en separat kommunikations-rapport om mulighederne for at samarbejde med lokale journalister.
- Opsamling gennem bidrag til en guide med råd og anbefalinger til, hvordan en ikke-kommunikationsfaglig medarbejder kan indsamle materiale til cases.
- Billeder fra turen til brug i cases, men også til brug i CISUs fotoarkiv herunder dæk-billeder og dæk-video til en Små Indsatser case om Bolivia (case 2 side 22 i CSP retningslinjer).

Tidsplan

Rejsen vil foregå i perioden 30. april til 12. maj 2019.

Dag 1	30. april	Afrejse til Bolivia kl. 07.15	Billund til La Paz
Dag 2	1. maj	Akklimatiseringsdag	La Paz
Dag 3	2. maj	Formiddag: møde med DIB partner (Teko Kavi) i La Paz Til Caranavi om eftermiddagen	La Paz/Caranavi
Dag 4-5	3.-4. maj	Dage med Kooperationens partner (FECAFEB) og målgruppe i Caranavi Tilbage til La Paz den 4. maj om eftermiddagen	Caranavi/La Paz
Dag 6	5. maj	Formiddag: opfølgning på besøg Eftermiddag: indenrigsfly La Paz til Rurrenabaque (RBQ)	La Paz/Rurrenabaque
Dag 7-8	6.-7. maj	Dage med DIBs partner (Teko Kavi) og målgruppe i Rurrenabaque	Rurrenabaque
Dag 9	8. maj	Formiddag: indenrigsfly Rurrenabaque (RBQ) til Santa Cruz (VVI) Eftermiddag: opfølgning på besøg	Rurrenabaque/Santa Cruz
Dag 10-11	9.-10. maj	Dage med Earth Advocates Associations partner (FCBC) og målgruppe i Santa Cruz og San Ramón Tilbage til Santa Cruz d. 10. om eftermiddagen	Santa Cruz/San Ramón
Dag 12-13	11.-12. maj	Afrejse fra Santa Cruz kl. 13.10	Santa Cruz til Billund