

# SCS Global Update

Sharing Resources and Knowledge Among the Global CSO Community

Fall 2018

## CSO Sustainability Index Innovations, 2017 E&E Index Released

In September, SCS conducted a Learning Forum with USAID, International Center for Not-for-Profit Law and Aga Khan Foundation to explore methodology innovations for the Civil Society Organization Sustainability Index. As a result of the forum and feedback from stakeholders in the 71 countries creating the Index each year, refinements in FY 2019 will enhance the scoring and writing guidance, provide IPs with additional data-use guidance, and add topics to the Index, such as philanthropy, crowdfunding, civic technology, informal movements, government-dominated CSOs, disinformation campaigns, and 'uncivil' society groups.

In addition, SCS will pilot three innovations in FY 2019: 1) inviting greater amounts of stakeholder input through an electronic questionnaire; 2) partnering with a local university to conduct a peer review of the report; and 3) recalibrating select scores that either suffered from inaccurate baselines or became inaccurate over time.

The 2017 Index for Central and Eastern Europe and Eurasia was released in September and may be found at <https://bit.ly/2A3TURQ>.

## 2018 Implementation Tips for USAID Partners Released!

We have updated our popular *Implementation Tips for USAID Partners* to reflect recent ADS changes. Implementation Tips are short articles providing practical information about common organizational development questions.



The easy-to-use articles are in question-and-answer format to guide you in effectively addressing frequently encountered implementation issues. For example, learn how to:

- complete USAID's financial status reporting form (SF-425)
- tell success stories to demonstrate impact
- clarify roles for management and board of directors
- use evidence to inform the project cycle
- draft a procurement policy.

You can find all 45 updated *Implementation Tips for USAID Partners* at <https://bit.ly/2A2Vont>.

## “Dramatic” New Approach for Assessing CSO Capacity in Low-Literacy Communities

SCS Global's first Associate Award—focusing on CSO, social enterprise and community engagement in Jamaica (2017-2022)—found that grassroots CSOs struggled to understand the Organizational Performance Index's (OPI) more abstract concepts, even with the support of experienced facilitators and especially when CSO staff have lower levels of educational attainment.

In response, the SCS Jamaica team filmed skits that explain the core OPI concepts in scenarios that CSOs might typically experience. The innovative videos invite participants to identify their organizations in the OPI performance stages in situations performed by local actors. The videos have also been used to facilitate the OPI in group settings.

CSOs of all capacity levels have responded positively to the approach, which capitalizes on Jamaicans' love of dramas and has sparked increased engagement during OPI facilitation, making the OPI more accessible and interesting for CSOs using the tool.

The videos may be found at <https://bit.ly/2ydZjuX>.

## SCS Global Associate Awards

### USAID/AZERBAIJAN

Anti-Corruption, Transparency, Citizen Engagement  
\$2.5 million 2018 – 2023

### USAID/BALKANS

Media and CSO Strengthening  
\$7 million 2017 – 2021

### USAID/BOTSWANA

PEPFAR HIV/AIDS Services, CSO Strengthening  
(\$30 million pending)

### USAID/BURMA

Civil Society and Media Strengthening, Community Peacebuilding  
\$25 million 2018 – 2023

### USAID/DJIBOUTI

CSO Strengthening, Community Development  
\$2.9 million 2018 – 2020

### USAID/DRG

CSO Sustainability Index  
\$9.5 million 2017 – 2022

### USAID/GUINEA

Civic Activism, Strengthening Health Governance  
\$12.17 million 2017 – 2020

### USAID/HONDURAS

Civil Society and Media Strengthening, Anti-Corruption  
\$9.962 million 2018 – 2022

### USAID/JAMAICA

Local Partner and Social Enterprise Development, Youth Engagement  
\$15 million 2017 – 2022

### USAID/KENYA

Governance Reform, Institution Strengthening, Rule of Law  
\$6.35 million 2018 – 2021

### USAID/KYRGYZ REPUBLIC

Media and CSO Strengthening  
\$6 million 2017 – 2020

### USAID/TANZANIA

Media Strengthening, Gender and Youth Integration  
\$9.7 million 2017 – 2020

### USAID/ZAMBIA

Youth Engagement, Civic Leadership  
\$2.818 million 2018 – 2021

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