

# THE DAC RECOMMENDATION ON ENABLING CIVIL SOCIETY IN DEVELOPMENT CO-OPERATION AND HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

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## Why a DAC Recommendation on civil society?

**C**ivil society is a key actor in the implementation of the sustainable development goals (SDGs), as well as in the response to COVID-19 and recovery strategies. Yet civil society faces ever-growing challenges, such as shrinking civic space due in part to COVID-19 restrictions, diminishing respect for human rights and rising autocratisation. Development co-operation and humanitarian assistance providers' support for civil society should be enhanced to address effectiveness gaps and enable civil society actors to strengthen their transparency and accountability towards their own communities.

## What does the DAC Recommendation offer?

The Development Assistance Committee (DAC) Recommendation on Enabling Civil Society in Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Assistance [[OECD/LEGAL/5021](#)] provides the first international framework to guide and incentivise development co-operation and humanitarian assistance providers in advancing their policies and practices to support civic space and civil society actors, at home as well as in partner countries or territories. Adherents to the DAC Recommendation break new ground by committing to its three pillars:

1. **Respecting, protecting and promoting** civic space;
2. **Supporting and engaging** with civil society; and
3. **Incentivising** CSO effectiveness, transparency and accountability.

## What can you do?

### ADHERE AND IMPLEMENT

The DAC Recommendation shows Adherent's strong political commitment to enabling civil society. Development co-operation and humanitarian assistance providers, as well as inter-governmental organisations, can join the DAC's efforts by adhering to the Recommendation and implementing it. CSOs are encouraged to follow the Recommendation and align their practices to its provisions.

### SPREAD THE WORD

Your support is crucial to expand global adherence to the Recommendation and keep the momentum to facilitate its implementation. Share the DAC Recommendation with your network and partners. It is currently available in [English](#), [French](#), and Spanish. Stay updated on the latest developments on its implementation and monitoring on the OECD Development Co-operation Directorate [website](#) and [social media](#).

The OECD Development Assistance Committee (DAC) adopted the **DAC RECOMMENDATION ON ENABLING CIVIL SOCIETY IN DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION AND HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE** on 6 July 2021. The DAC Recommendation was developed through an extensive consultation process with the 30 DAC member countries, within the OECD, and with other stakeholders including the [DAC-CSO Reference Group](#).

→ **DAC Recommendation on Enabling Civil Society in Development Co-operation and Humanitarian Assistance (2021)** [[EN](#), [FR](#), [ES](#)]



## How we can support you

The OECD Development Co-operation Directorate supports your journey towards adherence and implementation of the Recommendation. Contact [DCD.FOR@oecd.org](mailto:DCD.FOR@oecd.org) for additional information on the adherence process. Dedicated toolkits will guide you through the implementation process. Peer learning discussions and sharing of good practices will inspire Adherents to build capacities and develop policies and programmes based on the Recommendation's commitments. To monitor the Recommendation's implementation, we use existing data and processes to gather information on Adherent's experiences, and assess the overall impact and relevance of the Recommendation.

### ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

*[Development Assistance Committee Members and Civil Society](#)*

*[Digital transformation and the futures of civic space to 2030](#)*

*[Aid for Civil Society Organisations](#)*

### CONTACT

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