CNOSCG

CONSEIL NATIONAL DES ORGANISATIONS
DE LA SOCIETE CIVILE GUINEENNE

CIVICUS
World Alliance for Citizen Participation

ALLIANCE MONDIALE POUR LA SOCIETE CIVILE

UNDP

CIVICUS CIVIL SOCIETY INDEX FOR GUINEA

GUINEAN CIVIL SOCIETY: BETWEEN ACTIVITY AND IMPACT

APRIL 2011

FOREWORD

CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation, derives its name from the Latin word for civility, which was originally 'civitas'. The organisation is a global alliance of non-governmental organisations (NGOs), associations and individuals, all joined by the common mission of strengthening civil society and citizen action worldwide. Among its 300 members are voluntary organisations, foundations, research institutes and individuals.

The CIVICUS Civil Society Index (CSI) is a participatory action-research tool for assessing the state of civil society at a national level, which between 2008 and 2011 was implemented in over 40 countries around the world.

In Guinea, the national implementing organisation, the National Council for Guinean Civil Society Organisations (CNOSCG – Conseil National des Organisations de la Societe Civile Guineenne), carried out the various steps of the Civil Society Index project, in partnership with CIVICUS.

Due to reasons beyond the control of CNOSCG, including significant shifts in the social and political landscape of Guinea, as well as a scarcity of financial resources, these activities did not follow the originally planned timeline of the project and faced numerous delays.

Nevertheless, despite these setbacks, we hope that this report represents a landmark shift in the study of Guinean civil society; that it is an accurate picture of the current state of civil society in Guinea, as well as the challenges it faces today. In conducting this study, we hope it will pave the way for civil society, government, the private sector and donors to strengthen Guinean civil society and work together for the betterment of all, in the future.

Dr Ibrahima Sory CISSOKO
President
National Council for Civil Society Organisations in Guinea

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The National Council for Civil Society Organisations in Guinea (CNOSCG) led the implementation of the Guinean CSI project in a three-way partnership with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Guinea and CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation (CIVICUS).

In this three-way partnership, CIVICUS shared its technical expertise, including the CSI methodology, data-collection tools and ongoing research assistance and guidance. UNDP Guinea was the principle donor and financially supported the research work as well as the completion of the final country report. The UNDP country office also provided human resources to help coordinate the project.

CNOSCG utilised its 'umbrella structure', through its membership base, and its reputation as a leader in the civil society sector, in order to implement the research activities in the field.

We would like to pay a posthumous tribute to Ben Sékou Sylla, without whom the CNSOCG candidature to lead the CSI assessment would not have been successful.

Special thanks go to M'Baranga Gasarabwe, representative for the United Nations system in Guinea, who enabled the CNOSCG to implement this assessment.

We are particularly grateful to Youssouf Diabaté, Adama Dian Barry and Kayoko Dore, UNDP Guinea staff, for their support and availability during the implementation of this project.

We should also acknowledge the assistance of our CIVICUS partners in Johannesburg, in particular Natalie Akstein, Tracy Anderson, Yosi Echeverry Burckhardt, Andrew Firmin, Olga Kononykhina and Mark Nowottny. The relevance of their advice and remarks throughout enabled CNOSCG to accomplish this work, and we are deeply grateful for their technical support and guidance in realising the potential of the CSI project.

Thanks also must go to the members of the National Advisory Group (NAG), as well as to all of the regional representatives who participated in the CSI assessment of Guinean civil society. We are especially grateful to:

- Boubacar Biro Barry: Trade Unions Association
- Mariama Barry, M Youssouf Dioubate and M Kayoko Dore: UNDP Guinea
- Alhassane Camara: National Forum of the Young People of Guinean Civil Society
- Elisabeth Côté: International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES) Chief of Party in Guinea
- Ana Diallo: USAID
- Mamadou Taran Diallo: Publish What You Pay NGO Coalition
- Bangaly Diane: Forum of NGOs for Sustainable Growth
- Alhassane Makanera: Dean at Law School, University of Sonfonyah
- Fofana Nenbourou: Director of SACCO and Representative of the Guinean State
- Salvadore Pappalardo: French Embassy in Guinea
- Bonaberi Vania: European Union
- Ousmane Balde, Mamadou Aliou Barry, Oumar Cherif, Abdoulaye Keita, Mariame Sidibe: CSI Guinea national advisors

We are grateful to the CNOSGC staff who made this assessment possible through providing the required information and documents, and we are also grateful to the survey staff who

gathered data across the whole country and who were happy to go beyond their contractual duties to make the project a success.

Finally, we would like to pay special tribute to the members of the CSI National Implementation Team in Guinea for their involvement in implementing the Civil Society Index. Particular mention goes to: Abdoulaye Diallo, assistant project coordinator, Aziz Diop, CNOSCG Executive Secretary, Bakary Fofana, project coordinator, and Ernest Kamano, CNOSCG Treasurer.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

TABLES AND FIGURES

LIST OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

APEAE	Association of the Parents and Friends of the School
CNC	National Council of Communication
CNOSCG	National Council for Civil Society Organisations in Guinea
CPI	Corruption Perception Index
CPOSC	Prefectural Committee of Civil Society Organisations
CROSC	Regional Committee of Civil Society Organisations
CSI	Civil Society Index
CSO	Civil society organisation
EIBC	Integral Survey of Household Consumption Budgets
EIBEP	Integrated Core Survey for Poverty Assessment
GNP	Gross National Product
IGA	Income Generating Activities
Le LYNX	Guinean satirical newspaper
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
NAG	National Advisory Group
NGO	Non governmental organisation
NIT	National Implementation Team
PACV	Village Communities Support Project
PLWHA	People Living With HIV/AIDS
PRSP	Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper
PUP	Unity and Progress Party
RPG	Rally of the Guinean People
TI	Transparency International
UFDG	Union of Democratic Forces of Guinea
UFR	Union of Republican Forces
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UPR	Union for Progress and Renewal

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 1997, CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation published *the New Civic Atlas*, which described the state of civil society in 60 countries worldwide. This led to the idea of creating the Civil Society Index (CSI) to improve comparative information about and the quality of research into the state of global civil society, as well as tracking national civil society and its trends. Thus, this comprehensive assessment tool on civil society was created; it has been through several stages, including a pilot study between 2000 and 2002, in 14 different countries. Following refinements, a new stage of the CSI was then launched between 2003 and 2005, with the project being implemented by CIVICUS and partner organisations in more than 50 countries (Heinrich and Naidoo, 2001; Holloway, 2001).

In 2008, the National Council for Civil Society Organisations in Guinea (CNOSCG) initiated the CSI in Guinea through a three-way partnership with UNDP Guinea and CIVICUS. CNOSCG is a national umbrella organisation, formed in 2002, that seeks to bring together all the significant forces of Guinean civil society, including NGOs and traditional organisations, that share a common goal of working for economic, social and cultural development, and promoting peace and effective democracy, with the aim of playing an intermediary role between the state, political parties and citizens. CNOSCG was therefore considered well-placed to lead the project, and in this context established a National Implementation Team (NIT), an expert team of five regional advisors, and a National Advisory Group (NAG) composed of 12 advisors.

The NIT carried out the following tasks: secondary data analysis, undergoing CIVICUS training, social capacities analysis, civil society mapping, leading the regional committee, community samplings, and drafting of the country report. Secondary data, combined with data gathered in the field, formed the basis for a depiction of the social forces that are at play in Guinean civil society (in other words, an examination of what forces are dominant and powerful in civil society). This then enabled the completion of the Guinean CSI Diamond, the cornerstone of the CSI project; a physical depiction of the state of a nation's civil society.

Figure 1: Guinean Civil Society Index Diamond
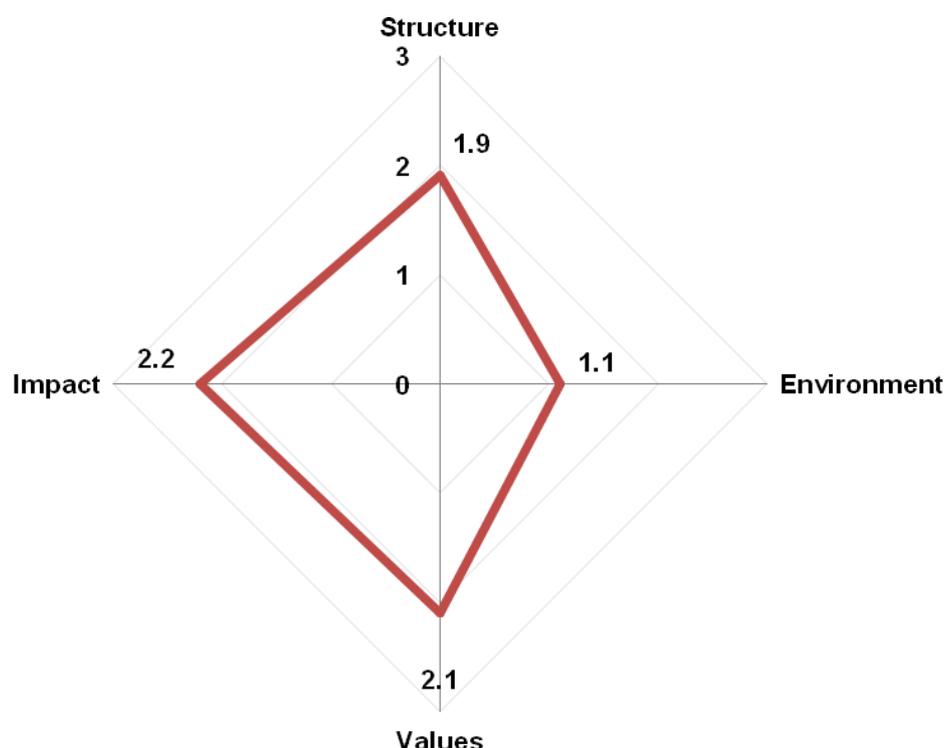
The CSI research suggested several new key findings about civil society in Guinea, including a number of real challenges which civil society will need to confront in the near future. These are explored in full in the following Analytical Country Report, divided per dimension. The state of civil society is examined along four key dimensions, which are graphically plotted on the Guinean CSI diamond (Figure 1): the structure, environment, values and impact.

The **Structure dimension**, which explores the diversity of civil society, its institutionalisation and the extent of its engagement, is rated 1.9 out of 3. This score suggests that overall, Guinean citizens have a fairly weak level of engagement in civil society actions, and that levels of citizen participation in civil society and the associational life of Guinea remain relatively low. This is due either to a lack of knowledge about the notion of civil society and its role, or a lack of technical and financial resources to enable citizens to actively meet societal needs.

The **Environment dimension** is strongly linked to the country's political and legal context. This scored just 1.1 out of 3, the lowest of the CSI dimensions. This suggests that the Guinean state, although relying on its political, constitutional and economic power, does not create a favourable environment for the development of civil society. It is important to note that during the CSI research process, the change of regime that occurred in 2009 will likely affect the extent to which the Guinean environment enables civil society.

The **Values dimension**, rated at 2.2 out of 3, is derived from research on democracy, gender equality and environmental initiatives. Although this is a fairly strong score, it is worrying to note that the CSI report suggests that both tolerance and non-violence seem to be rare within much of Guinean society. Moreover, poverty in Guinea continues to worsen, with more than half the population continuing to live under the poverty line. This assaults and constrains the potential for society to practice its values.

The **Impact dimension,** valued at 2.1 out of 3, assesses the impact that Guinean civil society's actions have on the country's development. This score suggests that the impact is relevant, but limited, with respect to CSOs' efforts to influence social policies in favour of marginalised people. Simultaneously, civil society actions aimed at holding government and the private sector accountable seem to be almost non-existent. However, CSOs seem to be well grounded in the concerns of the population, and their proximity to everyday concerns can help them to master the most pressing issues in Guinea. As a result of this closeness, CSOs manage to use limited resources to strengthen the ability of communities to mobilise and collectively organise to solve problems.

Between September 2008 and March 2011, the CIVICUS Civil Society Index was implemented in Guinea as part of a broader international project led by CIVICUS. The report presented here, the final result of the project in Guinea, outlines key findings of the study and is broken down into six parts, covering:

1) The CSI project and approach;
2) An overview of civil society in Guinea;
3) An analysis of civil society in Guinea;
4) The key strengths and weaknesses of civil society in Guinea;
5) Recommendations for strengthening civil society in Guinea;
6) Conclusions.

I.THE CIVIL SOCIETY INDEX PROJECT AND APPROACH

Civil society is playing an increasingly important role in governance and development around the world. In most countries, however, knowledge about the state and shape of civil society is limited. Moreover, opportunities for civil society stakeholders to come together to collectively discuss, reflect and act on the strengths, weaknesses, challenges and opportunities also remain limited.

The Civil Society Index (CSI), a participatory action-research project assessing the state of civil society in countries around the world, contributes to redressing these limitations. It aims at creating a knowledge base and momentum for strengthening civil society. The CSI is initiated and implemented by, and for, CSOs at the country level, in partnership with CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation (CIVICUS). The CSI implementation actively involves and disseminates its findings to a broad range of stakeholders including civil society, government, the media, donors, academics, and the public at large.

The following key steps in CSI implementation take place at the country level:

1. **Assessment**: CSI uses an innovative mix of participatory research methods, data sources, and case studies to comprehensively assess the state of civil society.

2. **Collective reflection**: implementation involves structured dialogue among diverse civil society stakeholders that enables the identification of civil society's specific strengths and weaknesses.

3. **Joint action**: the actors involved use a participatory and consultative process to develop and implement a concrete action agenda to strengthen civil society in a country.

The following sections provide a background of the CSI, its key principles and approaches, as well as a snapshot of the methodology used in the generation of this report in Guinea.

1. PROJECT BACKGROUND

The CSI first emerged as a concept over a decade ago as a follow-up to the 1997 *New Civic Atlas* publication by CIVICUS, which contained profiles of civil society in 60 countries around the world (Heinrich and Naidoo, 2001). The first version of the CSI methodology, developed by CIVICUS with the help of Professor Helmut Anheier, was unveiled in 1999. An initial pilot of the tool was carried out in 2000 in 13 countries.[1] The pilot implementation process and results were evaluated. This evaluation informed a revision of the methodology. Subsequently, CIVICUS successfully implemented the first complete phase of the CSI between 2003 and 2006 in 53 countries worldwide. This implementation directly involved more than 7,000 civil society stakeholders (Heinrich, 2008).

Between 2008 and 2010 a special additional phase of the project was held in four African countries, with the support of UNDP Africa, in Guinea, Rwanda, Senegal and Tanzania, of which this report is one of the outputs. This was followed by a second full phase of a revised CSI, held in 41 countries globally.

---

[1] The pilot countries were Belarus, Canada, Croatia, Estonia, Indonesia, Mexico, New Zealand, Pakistan, Romania, South Africa, Ukraine, Uruguay, and Wales.

2. PROJECT APPROACH

The CSI marries assessment and evidence with reflection and action. This approach provides an important reference point for all work carried out within the framework of the CSI. As such, CSI does not produce knowledge for its own sake but instead seeks to directly apply the knowledge generated to stimulate strategies that enhance the effectiveness and role of civil society. With this in mind, the CSI's fundamental methodological bedrocks which have greatly influenced the implementation that this report is based upon include the following:

Inclusiveness: The CSI framework strives to incorporate a variety of theoretical viewpoints, as well as being inclusive in terms of civil society indicators, actors and processes included in the project.

Universality: Since the CSI is a global project, its methodology seeks to accommodate national variations in context and concepts within its framework.

Comparability: The CSI aims not to rank, but to comparatively measure different aspects of civil society worldwide. Possibility for comparisons exist both between different countries or regions within one phase of CSI implementation and between phases.

Versatility: The CSI is specifically designed to achieve an appropriate balance between international comparability and national flexibility in the implementation of the project.

Dialogue: One of the key elements of the CSI is its participatory approach, involving a wide range of stakeholders who collectively own and run the project in their respective countries.

Capacity development: Country partners are firstly trained on the CSI methodology. After the training, partners are supported throughout the implementation cycle by the CSI team at CIVICUS. Partners participating in the project also gain substantial skills in research, training and facilitation in implementing the CSI in-country.

Networking: The participatory and inclusive nature of the different CSI tools should create new spaces where very diverse actors can discover synergies and forge new alliances, including cross-sectoral levels.

Change: The principal aim of the CSI is to generate information that is of practical use to civil society practitioners and other primary stakeholders. Therefore, the CSI framework seeks to identify aspects of civil society that can be changed and to generate information and knowledge relevant to action-oriented goals.

The CSI uses a comprehensive project implementation approach and a broad range of research methods. At the core of the CSI lies a broad and encompassing definition of civil society, which informs the overall project implementation process. To assess the state of civil society in a given country, the CSI examines the four key dimensions described above, with each of these four dimensions composed of a set of sub-dimensions, which are in turn made up of a set of individual indicators, 74 in all, which are scored on a scale of 0 to 3. These indicators form the basis for the CSI data collection, described further below. The indicators also inform the assessment exercise undertaken by the National Action Group (NAG). The research and assessment findings are discussed at a gathering of key stakeholders, whose task is to identify specific strengths and weaknesses and make recommendations on key priority actions to strengthen civil society.

With the above mentioned foundations, the CSI methodology uses a combination of participatory and scientific research methods to generate an assessment of the state of civil society at the national level. The CSI measures the following core dimensions:

- The *structure* of civil society (e.g. number of members, extent of giving and volunteering, number and features of umbrella organisations and civil society infrastructure, human and financial resources);
- The external *environment* in which civil society exists and functions (e.g. legislative, political, cultural and economic context, relationship between civil society and the state as well as the private sector);
- The *values* practiced and promoted within the civil society arena (e.g. democracy, tolerance or protection of the environment); and
- The *impact* of activities pursued by civil society actors (e.g. public policy impact, empowerment of people, meeting societal needs).

To visually present the scores of the four main dimensions, the CSI uses the Civil Society Diamond (see figure 2 for an example).[2] The Civil Society Diamond, with its four axes, visually summarises the strengths and weaknesses of civil society. CIVICUS notes that since it captures the essence of the state of civil society across its key dimensions, the Civil Society Diamond can provide a useful starting point for interpretations and discussions about what civil society looks like in a given country.

Figure 2: Civil Society Diamond
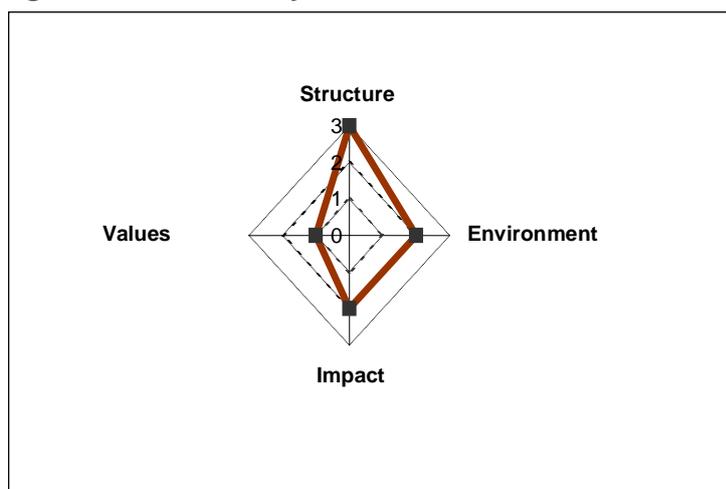
3. PROJECT METHODOLOGY AND IMPLEMENTATION

The National Implementation Team (NIT) led the implementation of the CSI project, with guidance from CIVICUS. Advice came from two sources: the National Advisory Group (NAG) in Guinea and the CIVICUS CSI team based in South Africa.

The NIT gathered and analysed information on Guinean civil society, based on a range of secondary data sources that provided information on the 74 CSI indicators. This enabled the NIT to develop a provisional assessment report. The NAG used the information in the provisional report to develop a comprehensive, unbiased assessment of the state of Guinean civil society, assisted by the CSI team and their knowledge of the methodology.

---

[2] The Civil Society Diamond was developed for CIVICUS by Helmut Anheier.

The CSI methodology combines regional focus group meetings, a questionnaire to gather data from CSO participants, a community survey, and a structured search of secondary data sources. All of these methods were employed in this Guinea project, as part of the comprehensive CSI methodology. Before starting data gathering, at its first meeting, the NAG validated the conceptual framework and research methods of the CSI.

The implementing team made use of area divisions from the 1996 population General Census. The Republic of Guinea is divided into four natural areas: Maritime Guinea, Mid-Guinea, Upper-Guinea and Forest Guinea, plus the capital, Conakry. A sample of districts was chosen in these areas, such that the survey covered 50 districts, comprising 38 urban and 12 rural. A national sample of 892 households was chosen, considering the percentage of people living in each natural region in comparison to the total population in Guinea. 766 households from urban areas and 126 households from rural areas were chosen. The poll targeted people over 17 years old, and an equal number of women and men. It was based on one of two questionnaires supplied by CIVICUS, which was adapted to fit the local context. The second questionnaire was used to guide regional focus group discussions and gather data from CSOs ahead of discussions.

Table 1: Communities, respondents and regional groups according to location

Natural regions	Number of communities			Number of interviewed households			Regional committee
	Total	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural	
Conakry	5	5	0	220	220	0	20
Maritime Guinea	11	8	3	176	140	36	20
Mid-Guinea	13	10	3	144	129	15	20
Upper-Guinea	11	8	3	176	142	34	20
Forest Guinea	10	7	3	176	135	41	20
TOTAL	**50**	**38**	**12**	**892**	**766**	**126**	**100**

The NIT analysed all information gathered: the primary data from the field (community survey and regional stakeholders discussions), and also the published information on Guinea and its civil society.

Members of the NAG met to grade the indicators. The key task of the NAG was to arrive at a consensus grade on each indicator based on the data generated. The NAG scored indicators at 0, 1, 2 or 3, 0 being the lowest possible and least desirable score and 3 the highest. This enabled calculations for each dimension of the Index and the Guinean Civil Society Diamond.

4. THE VALUE OF THE PROJECT

It is important to note that the CSI is a comparative global project. The comparative approach is made possible by a series of indicators, as they enable cross-country comparability, and are designed to fit the distinctive social, cultural and political features of each country. The CSI was an opportunity to deepen knowledge on the role of CSOs in the development and governance of Guinea, but it also offered a challenge to CSOs to work together in order to defend and support Guinean citizens' common interests.

The project helps to clarify the concept of civil society. Obtaining valuable information is likely to make Guinean civil society more intelligible, and to encourage the adoption of a broader-based understanding and consciousness of the role of civil society in the current context of the Guinean Republic. The national workshop, which brought together a myriad of actors from civil society as a culmination of the project, stands at the very centre of the 'knowledge-

action' combination of the CSI, and provided the basis for further dialogue and action to strengthen civil society in Guinea.

5. LIMITATIONS OF THE CSI STUDY

In spite of the guidance provided by CIVICUS, implementation of the CSI in Guinea experienced several difficulties. The major weakness was delays in time; there were large gaps in time since the data was gathered and the results published in the reports. To some extent, one could say there is a danger that the published information risked becoming obsolete. In the context of the change in regime in 2009, it is important to understand that the situation of civil society in Guinea is a rapidly evolving one.

II. CIVIL SOCIETY IN GUINEA

II.1 HISTORY OF CIVIL SOCIETY IN GUINEA

In Guinea, as in many countries, civil society joins forces when a common interest is threatened. Despite deep changes throughout Guinea's history, there is still a tradition of solidarity, albeit one that expresses itself differently between rural and urban areas.

In the aftermath of Guinea's independence, the country's first leaders focussed on national cohesion and aimed to develop a strong patriotic culture. This was particularly evident under a one party system from 1958 to 1984. Women, young people and workers were organised within party units around the one-party system of the Democratic Party of Guinea, even in the smallest village. Although one effect of this was to develop national solidarity, at the same time it helped to sow the seeds disunity for the future. Each recent election has been disrupted by violent acts, based on ethnic divisions.

The first CSOs seen in Guinea were the international offices of NGOs and local organisations started by well-connected people who had previously worked for religious offices or in public service. These organisations included, for example, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the Guinean Association for Family Welfare (AGBEF). From 1990, an urge for democracy manifested itself in Guinea, and Guinean civil society gained momentum and belief. Several CSOs arose, although they were not marked by strategic thinking about identities, vision and mission, and instead tended to be diverse in the forms they followed. Some became political parties, others actors for the defence of marginalised groups, or human rights organisations.

Rising pluralism enabled people to create associations in order to take part in political discussions. The great majority of these associations, however informal in their origins, turned into local NGOs. Simultaneously, press groups and associations of press workers were created.

The legal framework for associations and NGOs in Guinea is regulated by the L/2005/013/AN act, passed into law 4 July 2005. This act sets the rules and regulations for civil associations in the Republic of Guinea. The act made easier the registration of CSOs by simplifying procedures and decentralising levels of treatment and approvals, which can now be given at the level of Prefectures.

II.2 CONCEPT OF CIVIL SOCIETY IN GUINEA

For the purposes of this study, civil society is understood according to the following definition:

"Civil society refers to all the modern or traditional, non-political and non-governmental organisations, registered or informal, which aim at promoting sustainable peace and true democracy through socio-economic and cultural development, and which act as an intermediary between the state, political parties and the population, abiding by the ongoing regulations.

This definition of the civil society was adopted by consensus at the National Forum on Civil Society and Development Participation, 18 to 20 July 2001, Conakry.

The notion of civil society arose in the 1990s in Guinea, at the same time as the broadening of democracy, even if significant civil society forces – such as trade unions and women or

youth organisations– existed since before the foundation of the Guinean state and indeed in many cases, played a major in the struggle for independence.

CSOs in Guinea tend to exist to defend common interests, or represent the interests of marginalised social strata. However, there is still no CSO network able to lead common and organised initiatives.

In Guinea, any organisation has to be first approved by the Ministry of Territory Administration and Political Affairs, or by one of its departments. NGO status does entail some benefits, such as certain tax exemptions.

It is however important to note that an elitist viewpoint prevails among many CSOs; often urban intellectuals claim to represent the interests of communities. A second challenge is that government only approves CSOs that appear to have correct structures and documentation, although the law enables organisations to begin work immediately after submitting the official registration documents. These are both major deterrents to the initiation of grassroots organisations that could address the needs of their communities

The CSI methodology offers a list of CSO categories, based on the definitions of civil society. Eighteen categories of various associations or groupings were used to describe the Guinean context. Agreement on the definition of civil society and on the categories of CSOs was reached before the surveys began (see Annex 3).

II.3 MAIN FEATURES OF THE GUINEAN CONTEXT

The Republic of Guinea is a coastal West African country, covering an area of 245,857 square kilometres and with an estimated population of roughly 10 million.
The country is administratively subdivided into eight regions: Boké, Faranah, Kankan, Kindia, Labé, Mamou and N'Zérékoré, with Conakry, the capital, designated as a special area.

From 2003 to 2006, Guinea experienced large-scale consumer price inflation; this was halted in 2007 due to economic policies implemented by the new government. Annual average inflation then dropped from 34.7% in 2006 to 22.9% in 2007.

A decrease in gross foreign assets worsened after 2003 and was exceptionally high in 2007: gross foreign assets stood at US$ 42.8 million at the end of December 2007, compared to US$ 71.9 million in 2006. The 2007 amount of gross foreign assets was then only equal to 0.4 months of imports. Economic difficulties triggered social protests at the beginning of 2007, which in turn had a strong impact on economic activity. With four key sectors (fishing, industry, building and public works, and the civil service) all slowing, economic growth was inhibited.

Socially, however, major improvements were achieved despite the economic hardships, especially in education and healthcare. Efforts have been made since 1986 to reduce internal and external imbalances. These reforms partly enabled the meeting of social needs. The schooling rate was 28% in 1988 but increased to 74% in 2002, infant mortality decreased from 13.6% to 9.8% between 1992 and 1999, and drinking water supply went from 51% in 1995 to more than 60% in 2002.

In spite of efforts to meet growing social requests, Guinea still experiences major problems in its human development. The United Nations Human Development Index (HDI) for Guinea is among the weakest levels worldwide (0.456 in 2007/2008), ranking the country 160th out of 177 countries.

II.4 MAPPING CIVIL SOCIETY IN GUINEA

The CSI Social Forces Analysis (SFA) is a participatory tool, using visual techniques and group exercises, to identify major actors and analyse the links among them. The SFA has two aspects:

1. Society mapping: participants identify and analyse key actors and relations of power in society.

2. Mapping civil society: participants identify major forces within civil society.

At the first NAG meeting, maps were drawn for both the overall society, and for civil society. Apart from the three traditional groups of actors, CSI Guinea identified international development partners as a fourth force alongside domestic groupings that should not be neglected. Guinean society as a whole can therefore be divided into four basic sectors, in order of importance: the state, the private sector, civil society and development partners. The NAG participants who conducted the SFA drew the following conclusions:

- The Guinean state is the most powerful force. It maintains close connections with certain key private businesses.

- The private sector is the second more important sector after the state. It is the main taxpayer, and the secondary provider of jobs after the state, especially job opportunities for young people.

- Civil society is represented by several NGOs and development associations, including women and youth organisations, human rights associations, religious groups, trade unions and the independent media.

- Even if development partners are not local structures, they are perceived as a social force in Guinea, not least as a lobbying force, a major provider of funding and an arena where major decisions are taken regarding socio-economic policies.

A common saying in Guinea is that in order for each family to protect itself, it needs to produce a soldier, a pastor and a doctor. This underlines the great respect shared in society for people who fulfil these functions. The image of a people searching for its own protection is powerful within Guinean culture. It influences the judgements and motivations of social forces and their decisions. In this respect, it is not surprising that the NAG identified the following as key actors: defence and security forces (the army and other uniformed forces), religious groups, private sector employers, professions (including legal and medical professions), trade unions, political parties, journalists and development organisations.

III. ANALYSIS OF CIVIL SOCIETY IN GUINEA

This section analyses data collected during the project through a series of dimensions, sub-dimensions and indicators. Each indicator measures what is considered as an important and specific aspect of civil society in Guinea. According to the country context, some indicators are more important than others. This section is divided into four parts: structure, external environment, values and impact. Each sub-dimension has a score of 0 to 3, and the score for each dimension consists of an average of these scores. A general analysis is made first of the score of each dimension, and then of the score of the sub-dimensions.

III.1 STRUCTURE

Structure assesses the main components of the actors in the dynamic space of civil society, their main features and the relationship they have to each other. The score of 1.9 given to the structure dimension, on a scale from 0 to 3, shows a satisfactory level of organisation.

Figure 3: Structure dimension scores
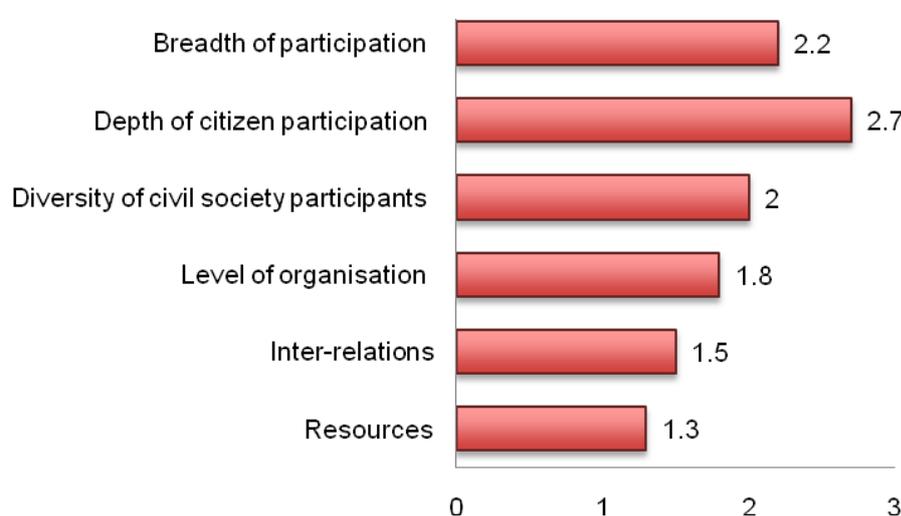
III.1.1 Breadth of citizen participation

This sub-dimension takes into account the forms and level of engagement level of Guinean people in civil society. Five indicators are identified for this analysis.

Table III.1.1: Assessment indicators for breadth of citizen participation

No	Indicator	Score
1.1.1	Non-partisan political action	2.0
1.1.2	Charitable giving	3.0
1.1.3	CSO membership	2.0
1.1.4	Volunteering	1.0
1.1.5	Collective community action	3.0

III.1.1.1. Non-partisan political action
This indicator represents the percentage of people who have participated in political action other than within a political party, such as writing to a newspaper, taking part in protests or signing a petition. These forms of actions are rare in Guinea, although there have been some vigorous actions reported since June 2006, which have sometimes been met with violence.

According to the community survey, 45.6 % of the population reported being involved in such activities. CSI-Guinea therefore scored this indicator 2.

During the succession process after the death of President Sékou Touré in 1984, and during the move to a multi-party system between 1984 and 2008, non-partisan political action picked up pace. During this time, actions became more usual for Guinean people, as they helped to develop a more active civil society. Civil society is generally the base of any political actions outside the political parties.

III.1.1.2. Charitable giving

In Guinea, it is quite difficult to gather statistics on charitable donations, as there is no database on such donations. Guinean people tend to give in mosques or churches or give money to people anonymously. But charity seems to be a habit of the population. The community survey reported that a high level of citizens, 87.8%, donate to charity on a regular basis, generating an indicator score of 3. It would however be necessary to do a more extensive survey on this issue in order to obtain more reliable data.

III.1.1.3. CSO membership

This measure assesses what percentage of the population belongs to at least one CSO. The community survey shows that six persons out of ten (59.1%) state that they do, providing an indicator score of 2. This can be seen to reflect the post-1984 boom of associations and NGOs. The CSOs with wide membership include the Association of the Parents and Friends of the School (APEAE), environmental organisations and organisations based on cultural or ethnic identity.

III.1.1.4. Volunteering

Voluntary work in Guinea is usually of the local kind, typified by assistance to a neighbour or a member of the community without expectation of being paid in return. The community survey reports that formal volunteering for a CSO is far rarer, at 13.8%; therefore, this indicator is scored at 1.

III.1.1.5. Collective community action

Collective community action means, for example, taking part in a meeting on community matters, or in a common decision to solve problems within the community. The community survey showed a large majority of people (72.5%) had taken part in such actions in the past year. Common action is a tradition in the villages and in rural communities one that continues to this day. People also collectively farm shared fields, while the money generated supports development actions. The score of 3 given by CSI-Guinea to this indicator reflects the strength of collective community action in Guinea.

III.1.2 Depth of citizen participation

This sub-dimension assesses the intensity of multiple forms of citizen engagement in Guinean civil society. It also examines the frequency of socially-based engagement of Guinean people in civil society activities.

Table III.1.2: Assessment indicators for depth of citizen participation

No	Indicator	Score
1.2.1	Charitable giving	3.0
1.2.2	Volunteering	3.0
1.2.3	CSO membership	2.0

III.1.2.1. Charitable giving

This indicator refers to the percentage of income that people donate to charity each year.

The percentage of income donated by regular donators, as reported in the community survey, was 11.9%. This is a high level, as the methodology ascribes a score of 3 to this indicator if the level of income donated is over 3%.

III.1.2.2. Volunteering
This indicator regards how many hours on average a Guinean works voluntarily each month. Respondents to the community survey who stated that they were active volunteers went on to report that they had on average spent 43 hours in the preceding month working voluntarily for organisations, groups and networks or helping other people. This is a high level of voluntary work according to the CSI methodology, and therefore the indicator was scored 3.

III.1.2.3. CSO membership
This indicator asks what percentage of members of one CSO belong to a second CSO or more. The community survey highlights that more than half of the membership base, between 51% to 65% do so, thus generating an indicator score of 2.

III.1.3 Diversity of civil society participation

This section examines the representativeness of CSOs of the society and geography of Guinea.

Table III.1.3: Assessment indicators for diversity of civil society participation

No	Indicator	Score
1.3.1	CSO membership	1.0
1.3.2	CSO leadership	2.0
1.3.3	Distribution of CSOs	3.0

III.1.3.1. Membership of CSOs
Significant social groups, such as women, young people and people with disabilities, seem to be under-represented in CSOs in Guinea. While there are several organisations of people with disabilities and women, created by those on the margins of society to serve their groups' interests, people from these groups are rarely well represented in other types of CSOs. The low score of 1 given to this indicator underlines that most of the major social groups are absent from CSOs, with particular under-representation affecting women and rural populations.

III.1.3.2. CSO leadership
This indicator assesses the level of representativeness of marginalised social groups in the leadership of CSOs. According to CSO participants who completed a questionnaire and took part in regional focus groups, the representativeness of women as leaders of CSOs is only 2.5%, while it is 22.9% for rural populations and 31.5% for poor people; which is the same score as for upper class people. Ethnic minorities score higher, at 43.1%, as do religious minorities, with 42.9%, as the two most represented distinct social groups in the leadership of CSOs. The indicator score was therefore set at 2.

The lack of women in such roles is of course assumed to reflect wider issues about the marginalisation of women through customs and traditions as well as in areas such as education.

There are many CSOs occupying elite levels, led by intellectuals, based in the capital, Conakry, which have steady relationships with state functionaries and representatives of development partners. Such CSOs have a tendency to talk on behalf of the whole of civil society, without having a mandate to do so. Social groups, such as rural populations, poor people and minority groups do not have access to these elite groups.

III.1.3.3. Distribution of CSOs
This indicator assesses where CSOs are located. According to CSO participants, 28% of those consulted stated that CSOs are gathered in the cities but 41% stated they are spread around the most remote parts of Guinea. This shows strong representation of CSOs across Guinea, and was the indicator was therefore scored 3.

III.1.4 Level of organisation

This sub-dimension explores the inter-connections and support structures for CSOs, both internationally and domestically.

Table III.1.4: Assessment indicators for level of organisation

No	Indicator	Score
1.4.1	Existence of CSO umbrella bodies	1.0
1.4.2	Effectiveness of CSO umbrella bodies	3.0
1.4.3	Self-regulation	3.0
1.4.4	Support infrastructure	1.0
1.4.5	International linkages	1.0

III.1.4.1. Existence of CSO umbrella bodies
The percentage of CSOs belonging to a federation of organisations, a platform or a network is assessed to be very low in Guinea. 41.8% of CSO representatives surveyed think that only four to six CSOs out of ten are members of a network, while 49.3% felt fewer than four out of ten are network members. This generated an indicator score of 1.

III.1.4.2. Effectiveness of CSO umbrella bodies
This indicator assesses the representation, dynamism and relevancy of CSO networks according to their targets. Data from the regional stakeholder consultations show that nearly 57.0% of participants think that CSO networks are generally efficient; while a further 25.6% perceived a moderate efficiency rate, showing a high level of trust in networks from their members, and giving the indicator a score of 3. Five social actors out of ten (49%) felt that the CNOSCG was relevant in the implementation of its objectives, and as we will see below, the CNOSCG also benefits from a high level of trust, at 81.3%, as reported in the CSI survey.

III.1.4.3. Self-regulation
This indicator, which scored 3, shows the level of internal self-regulation process of CSOs. The data collected from CSOs show that six out of ten, or 62.5%, have self-regulation mechanisms. Such mechanisms can include a manual of administrative and accounting procedures and an internal code of conduct. These are additional to any requirements entailed in the official organisational registration by the state.

III.1.4.4. Support infrastructure
This indicator, with a score of 1, underlines that there are few civil society support structures in Guinea. Of CSOs surveyed, 54.8% said that infrastructure was limited, while a further 29.0% said there was none, meaning 83.8% of those consulted felt that support infrastructure was not adequate.

III.1.4.5. International linkages
International linkages refer to those organisations which are members of international networks, or involved in global processes. The number of CSOs with international linkages is very limited. An important majority (65.8%) believe that only a few CSOs have international linkages, and a further 20.5% think this applies to only a very few CSOs. The

score for this was therefore also set at 1.

III.1.5 Interrelations

This section considers the inter-connections between civil society actors, and the quality of their exchanges. It has two indicators, as is evident below:

Table III.1.5: Assessment indicators for interrelations

No	Indicator	Score
1.5.1	Communication	1.0
1.5.2	Cooperation	2.0

III.1.5.1. Communication
The findings suggest a real information deficit within civil society in Guinea, and a lack of sharing of experiences. Responses from CSOs tell us that 40.4% feel that communication is limited, and only 26.3% believe it to be moderate. The indicator was therefore scored at 1.

III.1.5.2. Cooperation
Civil society actors do however occasionally cooperate on common issues, and some examples of sectoral networks and coalitions can be identified. This indicator, with a score of 2, acknowledges this cooperation level. 57.0% of CSOs involved in the regional focus groups responded that some CSOs were co-working on common issues, with the same percentages stated that there were many and few respectively (roughly 20% each).

III.1.6 Resources

This sub-dimension gives us insight into the level of resources civil society has, whether financial, human or technological and infrastructural.

Table III.1.6: Assessment indicators for resources

No	Indicators	Score
1.6.1	Financial resources	1.0
1.6.2	Human resources	2.0
1.6.3	Technological and infrastructural resources	1.0

III.1.6.1. Financial resources
33.5% of CSOs consulted say they do not have enough resources to do their work; a further 22.2% say they are very short of resources; while only 8.7% say they have sufficient resources available. CSI-Guinea therefore scored this indicator at 1.

This deficiency is due to a lack of effective support from the state for most CSO activities, leaving them reliant on external funding sources. It is important to note that financial resources were hit particularly hard by the suspension of cooperation between Guinea and its main development partners as a result of Guinea's debt default from 2007.

III.1.6.2. Human resources
As with financial resources, a sufficient quality and quantity of human resources are rare in civil society in Guinea. However, in the survey of CSOs, 58.8% of CSO representatives consulted stated that human resource levels were quite sufficient, giving this indicator a score of 2.

It is noteworthy that the majority of the representatives of organisations created their own structures without any professional skills in their field and without any facilities to hire

qualified staff. In addition, opportunities for staff training or for staff progression are very low. This reflects the deficiency of financial resources to hire qualified staff, as they are expensive. Foreign CSOs, in comparison, are able to hire competent and trained staff to meet needs due to better financial resources.

III.1.6.3. Technological and infrastructural resources
The level of technical resources and infrastructure evident is low. Only 13.9% of CSO participants stated that what they have is sufficient, compared to 39.9% who say they do not have enough and 26.4% who say they are severely impeded, providing a score of 1. This is seen as a consequence of financial resource shortages of CSOs.

Conclusion

The score of 1.9 resulting for the Structure dimension reveals weak engagement from citizens in the actions and activities of civil society. As a result, levels of involvement of civil society in everyday life of Guinean people are low. This could stem from a lack of awareness of, and knowledge about, civil society and what it can offer, or be caused by the lack of financial and technological resources, resulting in CSOs being unable to reach out to people and meet their needs.

Guinea is divided into five areas, each of them presenting unique economic, cultural and climatic specificities. Those specificities give rise to different behaviours and a variety of organisations across the country as is evident through the study. It is also noteworthy that CSOs appear unwilling to collaborate in common actions that serve broader interests. This weakness, added to the politicisation of some areas, undermines trust in the actors of Guinean civil society.

III.2 ENVIRONMENT

This dimension analyses the limits within which Guinean civil society exists and evolves. These limits are set formally by current laws, and are tested out not only by how citizens exercise rights and freedoms within the specific political, economic and cultural contexts, but also by the nature of the relationships between civil society, the state and the private sector. These factors all shape the environment within which civil society functions. An examination of such factors reveals weaknesses that need to be addressed in order to enhance civil society's role and under-explored opportunities for civil society

This dimension, looking at the political, social, economic, cultural and legal environment, registers a limited score of 1.1. This tells us that Guinean civil society works in a very unfavourable socio-economic context and experiences a low level of connection with the state and private sector.

Unlike the previous section, which was based mostly on responses to various CSO surveys and focus group meetings, this dimension makes extensive use of secondary data sources, which are assessed, analysed and scored by the NAG.

Figure 4: Environment dimension scores
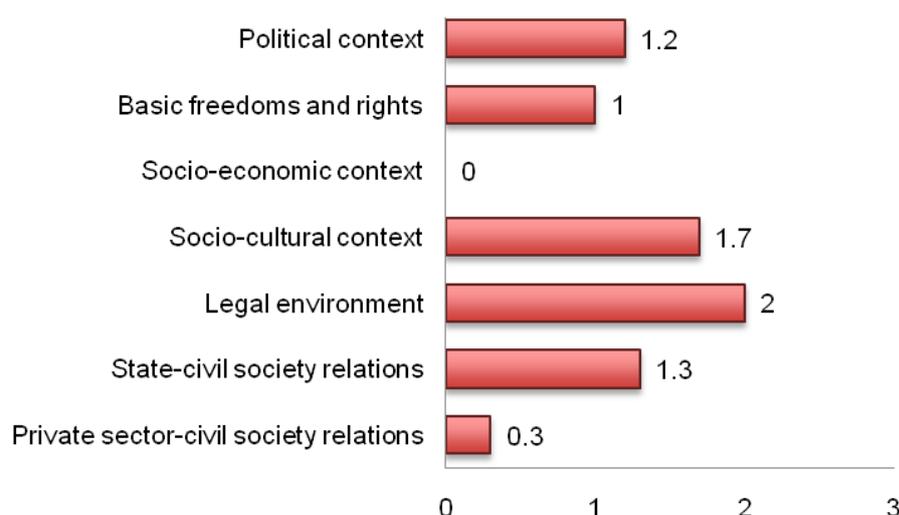
III.2.1 Political context

This sub-dimension describes the political situation of Guinea and its impact on civil society.

Table III.2.1: Assessment indicators for political context

No	Indicator	Score
2.1.1	Political rights	2.0
2.1.2	Political competition	2.0
2.1.3	Rule of law	1.0
2.1.4	Corruption	0.0
2.1.5	State effectiveness	2.0
2.1.6	Decentralisation	0.0

III.2.1.1. Political rights
The score of 2 is given to this indicator because there are still restrictions on citizens' political rights and on participation in the political process. Since the beginning of the democratisation process in 1991, political parties, while tolerated, have experienced many restrictions. For instance, public contests have been prohibited. In its 2008 *Freedom in the World* report, Freedom House ranks Guinea 158th out of 167 countries and classifies it as an authoritarian country (Freedom House, 2008).

III.2.1.2. Political competition
Apart from the Unity and Progress Party (PUP), the leading party since 1993, there are over 50 political parties in Guinea. The Fundamental Law of 2001 allowed this political pluralism. The main parties are the Rally of the Guinean People (RPG), the Union of Democratic Forces of Guinea (UFDG), the Union of Republican Forces (UFR) and the Union for Progress and Renewal (UPR). Those parties mainly use shareholders' equity; their importance depends on the social and economic position of their founder or president.

It is notable that the Guinean Parliament is characterised by the presence of two unequal groups of Members of Parliament (MPs), whose value equals three to one. Laws are generally passed with an absolute majority and in favour of the leading party. Political parties and opposition groups in particular evolve in a highly complex political environment, resulting in difficulties in confronting the leading party. For these reasons, there is no real competition in the political arena in Guinea. However, notable improvements have been registered

regarding the presence of the political parties in the media. Therefore, this indicator scored 2.

III.2.1.3. Rule of law
This indicator assesses the level of trust regarding the practice of the rule of law, from the point of view of Guinean citizens. This indicator's score of 1 reflects that people do not trust the application of the law in Guinea. Separation of the legislative, executive and judicial power is very approximate. The average Guinean citizen does not trust the national jurisdiction. Acts are well written, but are difficult to enforce.

In a Foreign Policy (FP) publication of 10 May 2006, Guinea was classified in the "screwed up countries" list. By using 12 socio-economic, political and military indicators, Foreign Policy classified 146 countries according to their vulnerability to internal violent conflict. Guinea was ranked 11th on this list, and the 10 countries ahead of it are all already involved in civil war or violent internal conflict. This also shows a decline of Guinea's previous position of 16th. The report also recognises that Guinean elites are increasingly splitting into clans. FP further notes the "official non-recognition of the Guinean state" and "the drowning of the Guinean state is a slow and steady deterioration of the social and political structures."

III.2.1.4. Corruption
Corruption is extensive in Guinea. Transparency International's 2008 Corruption Perception Index puts Guinea in 173rd place out of 180 countries with a score of 1.6 out of 10. The CSI score of 0 therefore reflects the very high level of corruption in Guinea.

The 2008 Transparency International report adds, "In poor countries, corruption compromises the fight against poverty and threatens the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals... Out of control corruption could increase by a level of US$50 billion the amount of the needed investments to reach the MDG in the field of water and public hygiene, which represents nearly half of the budgets in favour of the development taken together" (Transparency International, 2008).

III.2.1.5. State effectiveness
The state's incapability of fulfilling the urgent needs of citizens is underlined by a CSI score of 2. It should be noted that the state's structure often seems to be administratively unwieldy, with responses to the urgent needs of citizens often provided slowly.

Furthermore, the social, economic and political crises that have recently enveloped Guinea seem to have changed the way that the state bureaucracy and employees work. There has arguably been a loss of some motivation and professional integrity within the public administration, and anecdotal evidence suggests that retiring state employees are no longer being replaced, that transfers of skills and competencies are rare, and that senior managers become more preoccupied with the political sphere than with effective administration.

III.2.1.6. Decentralisation
There is an act of decentralisation in Guinea, but although it has been prepared and submitted to the National Assembly in 2004, it has not been voted into law yet. However, some moves towards decentralisation can be noted, such as the creation in 2008 of a Ministry in charge of decentralisation. Despite this, the score of 0 attributed to this indicator shows the limited support given by the state so far to decentralised structures, and the embedded centralised nature of the state. The act needs to be voted on and passed onto law in order to initiate genuine movement of decentralisation, which many in civil society believe would improve the efficiency of development.

III.2.2 Basic freedoms and rights

This sub-dimension evaluates the extent of civil liberties such as freedom of speech, association and organisation.

Table III.2.2: Assessment indicators for basic freedoms and rights

No	Indicator	Score
2.2.1	Civil liberties	1.0
2.2.2	Information rights	1.0
2.2.3	Press freedoms	1.0

III.2.2.1. Civil liberties

This indicator shows the limitations of civil liberties guaranteed by the law. The liberty rate of 11 (Freedom House) attributed to Guinea gives it the status of a state in which the rights and civil liberties are not always respected (Freedom House, 2008). However, a programme of modernisation of the Guinean law is currently being established with the support of development partners.

The weekly newspaper *Le Lynx* published an article entitled *Seized Freedom*. This article is a statement by the political party The Union Democratic Forces in Guinea (UFDG) written after the arrest and imprisonment of political opponents of the government. The party points to what it calls the, "...serious breach of human rights and the violation of the principles governing the state of rights." Another article written by the Commission on Human and Peoples' rights, titled *Complaint against Guinea*, addressed the complaint made by Liberian and Sierra Leonean refugees in Guinea against the security services, reporting victimisation, tortures and rape in the wake of a statement made by the President of Guinea to suppress acts of rebellion in 2000. In the light of such information, Guinea can only be scored 1 on this indicator.

III.2.2.2. Information rights and freedom of the press

Article 3 of the Press and Communication code states, "The Guinean State guarantees to each person living on the national territory the right to inform or to be informed and to have a full access to the sources and to the information means as long as it is fair to communication laws."

In practice, a right to information is not realised. Despite this policy, the National Council of Communication (CNC) prohibited political shows on private radio and television channels, while some private newspapers and radios have been temporarily suspended. In practice, it is very difficult to get access to state files. Once again, it is therefore only possible to score this indicator 1.

III.2.2.3. Freedom of the press

Although Article 1 of the Press and Communication code states that, "The print media and the audio-visual means of communication are free," violations of freedom of the press in Guinea are frequent. Journalists and private publishing companies have been attacked quite often, including broken into and vandalised. The Freedom House 2009 *Freedom of the Press* report ranked Guinea 158th out of 167 countries with an indicator of 2.09 on a scale of 1 to 10 (Freedom House, 2009). Using this measure, Guinea is considered as one of 51 authoritarian countries in the world. The CSI indicator score for this is therefore 1. However, a gradual improvement is being seen though broadcasts on private radio stations that give greater opportunities for self-expression.

III.2.3 Socio-economic context

This sub-dimension assesses impact of the socio-economic context on civil society. To make this concept of socio-economic environment tangible in Guinea, five indicators likely to influence civil society are set.

They are: 1) poverty and social imbalance; 2) armed conflict; 3) ethnic or religious conflict; 4) social or economic crisis; 5) illiteracy.

The rate 0 has been given here as we have found the majority of these conditions seriously prevent Guinea from having an efficient civil society.

Table III.2.3: Assessment indicators for socio-economic context

No	Indicator	Score
2.3.1	Socio-economic context	0.0

III.2.3.1. Poverty and social imbalance

The measure of poverty is based on a commonly accepted notion of widespread poverty, when more than 40% of the population survives on US$2 or less a day. The most recent report on the Integrated Core Survey for Poverty Assessment (EIBEP), made in 2002-2003 by the National Directorate of Statistics, shows that in 2002, 49.2% of the Guinean population were living under the poverty line, estimated at 387.692 FG per person per year, and 19.2% of the population were below the extreme poverty line.

Poverty is more of a rural phenomenon: nearly 60% of the rural population are poor, which represents 86% of overall national poverty. Upper Guinea (67.5% under the poverty line) and Mid Guinea (55.4%) are consistently the poorest places. As for the administrative areas, Kankan (66.8%) and Labé (65%) are the poorest places according to EIBEP, followed by Faranah (61.1%) and N'Zérékoré (56.1%).

The main deciding factors of poverty given by the data analysis of EIBEP are education, employment, living area and physical capital contribution.

As for the trends of poverty, surveys conducted by the World Bank and the National Directorate of Statistics revealed that poverty had decreased by 13.4 points between 1994 and 2002, going from 62.6% to 49.2%. This is primarily due to increased personal income during this period and to a small reduction in inequalities (for example the Gini coefficient, which assesses inequality on a rising scale, went down from 0.449 in 1994 to 0.403 in 2002). This drop of poverty was mainly favourable to the rural areas, where poverty decreased by 22.2 points, going from 82.1% in 1994 to 59.9% in 2002. However, the phenomenon got worse in cities. In Conakry, poverty doubled, from 10.2% to 20.6%, while the poverty ratio went from 25.8% to 26.8% in other main cities. The situation in Forest Guinea needs special attention. It recorded 54.4% of the population under the poverty line, even though it was the least poor area in 1994. The last projections available were based on a strong deterioration of the macroeconomic and financial situation in Guinea in 2003. They indicated a strong increase of poverty, going up from 49.2% in 2002 to 53.6% in 2005 (EIBEP).

III.2.3.2. Armed conflict

The first Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP) in Guinea, published in April 2004, indicated that, "since 2000, the development context has been marked by several exogenous shocks (armed conflicts in the sub-region, rebel attacks against the national territory)..." Guinea was the victim of rebel attacks from September 2000 to June 2001.

III.2.3.3. Ethnic or religious conflict

A second version of the PRSP in Guinea, published in August 2007, outlines that ethnic conflicts are occasional and often related to land issues, seasonal movement of people, and also to elections. There is still, however, no conflict between the different religions.

III.2.3.4. Social and economic crisis

The economic and social report published by the Ministry of Economics and Finance in July 2007 indicated that economic results continued to deteriorate. Eventually, economic declines cut across objectives of poverty reduction and social stability. In 2007, the growth of GDP in real terms was estimated at 1.8% against 2.5% in 2006. Inflation in 2007 was 22.9% as an annual average, against 34.7% in 2006. Exchange reserves however were very low and the state was unable to service its debt. This debt default led to the suspension of disbursement by major partners that damaged projects for the fight against poverty.

The second PRSP indicated strong social tensions have been a threat to peace and national unity. Two national strikes took place in January and February 2007 and caused around a hundred of deaths and significant material damage.

The weekly newspaper *L'Enquêteur,* 24 April 2008, published an article about the problems due to the organisation of elections. "I firmly believe now that if we go for these elections with our current government, there will be some troubles," said Jean Marie Dore, General Secretary of the Unity and Progress Party of Guinea (UPG).

Nevertheless, while the social and economic crisis factors leading up to 2008 presented challenges for civil society, the subsequent change in regime has negatively affected other CSI indicators, creating further challenges still for the future of a healthy civil society in Guinea.

III.2.3.5. Illiteracy

The final report of the last Integrated Core Survey for Poverty Assessment (EIBEP) of 2002-2003 from the National Directorate of Statistics indicates that the literacy of adults (15 years old and over) is low, at 28.3%, but has increased by 5.8 points since 1994. Strong inequalities have been registered between the sexes, with 45.7% literacy for men against 14.1% for women; and location, with 57.1% in Conakry, 45% in the other main cities and 17.1% in the rural areas.

III.2.4 Socio-cultural context

This sub-dimension tells us about the influence that norms and socio-cultural behaviours have on Guinean civil society.

Table III.2.4: Assessment indicators for socio-cultural context

No	Indicator	Score
2.4.1	Trust	1.0
2.4.2	Tolerance	2.0
2.4.3	Public spiritedness	2.0

III.2.4.1. Trust

This indicator measures the level of trust in Guinean society. There is a general lack of trust between members of society. The World Values Survey (WVS), used for this set of indicators, tells us that 78.7% of the population state "you can't be too careful." The behaviour of the police regime inherited from the first Republic is widely though to have

influenced this. Only a small part of the population trusts each other; therefore this indicator has scored 1.

III.2.4.2. Tolerance

This indicator, scored at 2, assesses the level of tolerance of members of society towards people who are different, such as those of another race, religion, ethnicity, and towards immigrants or people living with HIV/AIDS. The WVS reports a mixed picture with highest levels of tolerance towards people living with HIV/AIDS (36.7%) and lowest towards people of a different origin (only 11.0%); this latter seems to connect with the above lack of trust.

Guinean society therefore has a moderate tolerance level. It is argued that it is when elections are coming that politicians rekindle differences, generating ethnic conflicts for political gain.

III.2.4.3. Public spiritedness

This indicator measures the rate of people likely to violate public rules such as refusing to pay taxes, or the level of acceptance when someone does not pay for public transport or gets government benefits they are not entitled to.

The notion of public spiritedness among members of Guinean society reaches an acceptable level, with this indicator scoring 2. The WVS reports that 76.6% of people disapprove of cheating to get benefits from the state, 87.8% deplore free riding on public transport and 83.9% take a dim view of tax avoidance.

III.2.5 Legal environment

This sub-dimension looks at the legal environment for civil society and the extent to which it is favourable.

Table III.2.5: Assessment indicators for legal environment

No	Indicator	Score
2.5.1	CSO registration	3.0
2.5.2	Allowable advocacy activities	2.0
2.5.3	Tax laws for CSOs	2.0
2.5.4	Tax benefits for philanthropy	1.0

III.2.5.1. CSO registration

In Guinea, views on the registration process for CSO are encouraging. According to CSO participants:

- 34.6% state that registration process for a CSO is fast –taking less than two months.
- 30.6% state that registration process for a CSO is simple – applicants do not need specific legal advice.
- 39.5% state that registration process for a CSO is not too difficult for small organisations.
- 85.4% state that registration process for a CSO abides by the legal framework.
- 42.0% state that registration process for a CSO is equally implemented – the same registration process is enforced to all applicants.

This therefore receives a score of 3.

III.2.5.2. Allowable advocacy activities

This indicator describes the level of freedom of CSOs to pursue advocacy activities and express views critical of the government. In answer to the question "how do you perceive the

limitations on speaking in defence of civil society formulated within the current law," the majority of CSO participants (56.9%) answered these limitations were fair, initiating an indicator score of 2.

III.2.5.3. Tax exemptions in favour of CSOs
This indicator analyses the tax system for CSOs. The tax system has aspects in favour of CSOs, such as customs duties exemptions for the import of vehicles, machines, equipment, computer materials, medicine and books, all of which can be seen to assist CSOs' work.

The promulgation of legal and regulating text on CSOs played a part in the creation of myriads of NGOs, groups and associations. Some of those became respected operators of programmes and projects in such areas as rural development, basic education, community health, training, information provision, natural resource management, and actions connected with human rights and the fight against HIV/AIDS. The assessment that tax exemptions are reasonably stimulating for CSOs caused this indicator to be scored 2.

III.2.5.4. Tax laws for CSOs and philanthropy
This indicator assesses the level of tax exemptions, tax credits or other tax benefits that stimulate donations from individuals or firms to civil society. In this respect, the 2007 Treasury Act makes available to NGOs and charities tax reductions on goods and services they provide to the population. Nevertheless, this indicator scored 1. This shows that in Guinea the tax system for CSOs is still onerous, even when the tax code allows facilities in favour of philanthropy. But philanthropy should still be further acknowledged as public utility.

III.2.6 State-civil society relations

This sub-dimension assesses the nature and quality of connections between civil society and the state.

Table III.2.6: Assessment indicators for state-civil society relations

No	Indicator	Score
2.6.1	Autonomy	2.0
2.6.2	Dialogue	2.0
2.6.3	Cooperation/support	0.0

III.2.6.1. Autonomy
This indicator sets out to address the extent to which civil society runs independently from the state, and is free to work without a high level of state intervention. 58.1% of CSO participants reported that government intervenes in an inappropriate way in activities of civil society. This entailed an indicator score of 2. This suggests that in Guinea, the state agrees with the idea of an independent civil society, but nevertheless intervenes in CSO activities. Occasionally, illegal interventions by government in the business of CSOs are seen.

III.2.6.2. Dialogue
The extent of dialogue between the state and civil society also scored 2. This underlines the existence of a dialogue with a rather broad scope of CSOs, but mainly on an *ad hoc* basis. According to CSO participants, 48% perceived the dialogue between the state and civil society as moderate, while almost the same amount, 47%, felt it was limited.

III.2.6.3. Cooperation/support
This indicator tries to capture whether CSOs benefit from state resources through subsidies, contracts and other forms of support. The CSO responses are very clear here: an overwhelming 99% stated that only 1% of CSOs benefit from state resources. This therefore earned an unambiguous score of 0.

III.2.7 Private sector-civil society relations

This sub-dimension assesses the nature and the quality of ongoing connections between civil society and the private sector.

Table III.2.7: Assessment indicators for private sector-civil society relations

No	Indicator	Score
2.7.1	Private sector attitude to civil society	1.0
2.7.2	Corporate social responsibility	0.0
2.7.3	Corporate philanthropy	0.0

III.2.7.1. Private sector attitude to civil society
In Guinea, a total lack of interest from the private sector regarding civil society is evident. There are however certain connections of influence between employers and trade union leaders. Some company leaders have been observed in trying to make clients of trade union leaders, so as to weaken cohesion within the workers.

23% of CSOs representatives surveyed perceived the private sector as hostile to civil society, while 45% perceived it as indifferent. Only 32% felt it was favourable or have experienced support. On that basis, it was scored 1.

III.2.7.2. Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)
The outcome of the CSO survey suggests a complete lack of interest of large companies regarding the social and environmental impacts of their operations; this was therefore scored 0.

CSR was seen as consisting of three aspects:

· Responsible approach towards employees;
· Responsible approach towards the environment;
· Responsible approach towards the surrounding communities in which a firm is located and evolves.

In this context, we took into account the example of the Compagnie des Bauxites de Guinea (CBG). This company played an essential part in increasing wealth in Guinea. But with regard to the three points above, only the first one was really considered by CBG. Regarding the other two, CBG's ore mining triggered a degradation of the environment in Sangarédi and in its surrounding area, which has led to difficulties in farming the land to this day. In the same way, residues pumped into the sea after ore washing destroyed the sea flora along Kamsar and villages on the coast, and had a direct impact on the health of the population living along the coast. This is an example of how on the whole, the notion of CSR is badly understood, and is not entirely considered by employers and civil society actors.

CSO representatives were asked the question, "how do you perceive the work of large companies in Guinea regarding the way they take into account the social and environmental impact of their activities?" More than eight out of ten participants (81.4%) answered that such consideration by big companies is minor (46.5%) or limited (34.9%).

III.2.7.3. Corporate philanthropy
Very few CSOs profit from private sector funds because corporate philanthropy is minor in Guinea. More than nine CSO participants out of 10 (93.3%) stated that fewer than 10% of CSOs receive funds from the private sector. Therefore this was scored 0.

Conclusion

The analysis above emphasises that the ability of CSOs to play a strong role depends heavily on the political and legal context of a country, and in Guinea this has not been favourable. Since the Second World War, Guinea has steadily been subject to successive socio-political ideologies. Unfortunately, such political change has done little to improve the environment in which civil society operates.

Until now, neither the state nor the private sector have perceived civil society as a real development partner. However, despite the difficulties they encounter, Guinean people are surprisingly tolerant and peaceful. Experiences of violence are normally stirred by politicians seeking power by exploiting ethnic or/and tribal differences.

A score of 1.1 for this dimension tells us that Guinean civil society evolves in a political, social, economic, cultural and legal context that is especially tough, and will always be limited in its scope and impact unless issues of this broader environment are addressed.

III.3 VALUES

This dimension analyses the application of values in Guinean civil society, overall scoring 2.2 out of 3.

Figure 5: Values: sub-dimension scores
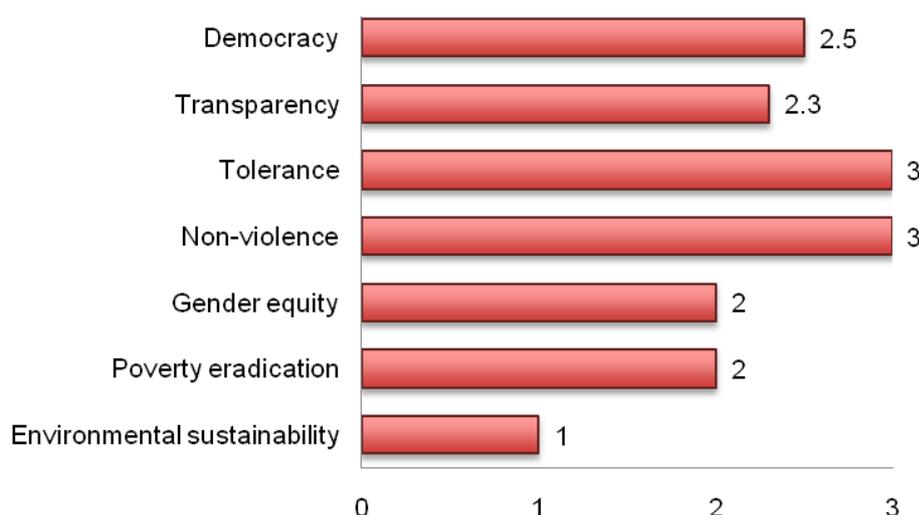
III.3.1 Democracy

The first sub-dimension in this section examines the scope of democratic practice within Guinean civil society.

Table III.3.1: Assessment indicators for democracy

No	Indicator	Score
3.1.1	Democratic practices within CSOs	2.0
3.1.2	Civil society actions to promote democracy	3.0

III.3.1.1. Democratic practices within CSOs
This indicator tries to assess the extent to which CSOs practice democracy internally. We

note that the founding text of each CSO states fundamental principles that have to be implemented within the organisation.

A majority of CSOs report that they respect democratic principles internally. In response to our question, 71% of CSOs responded that members control the decision-making processes and choose the leaders through democratic elections. However, in regional consultations, it was also discussed that changes to the boards of some CSOs occur too rarely. This indicator was therefore scored 2.

III.3.1.2. Civil society actions to promote democracy

In discussions, it was stated that civil society sees itself as a space where there is a culture of expressing and tolerating different viewpoints, where democracy is modelled and intolerant attitudes are challenged. 70.7% of CSO participants stated that CSO members played a key democratic role through participation in internal elections. CSO activities in this field are felt to be a true support to democracy and a promoter of its ideals. This was therefore scored 3.

III.3.2 Transparency

This sub-dimension looks at the transparency of the sector, both internally, and their acts to promote external transparency.

Table III.3.2: Assessment indicators for transparency

No	Indicator	Score
3.2.1	Corruption within civil society	2.0
3.2.2	Financial transparency of CSOs	3.0
3.2.3	Civil society actions to promote transparency	2.0

III.3.2.1. Corruption within civil society

As with any other country, there are casual examples of corrupt behaviours in civil society. Examples raised in discussions include: failure to respect the rule to hold annual general assemblies; failure to share management accounts with other members of an organisation and outside parties; travelling expenses reimbursed to journalists and other media workers to report an event that goes against the supposed neutrality of their analysis. Nevertheless, 35% of CSO participants reported there were casual examples of corruption, 30% that they were very rare, but a significant 35% did not answer or did not know. This indicator was therefore scored 2.

III.3.2.2. CSOs' financial transparency

This indicator was scored at 3. In Guinea, according to the CSO participants surveyed, a majority of CSOs (between 51% and 65%) make their accounts public.

III.3.2.3. Civil society actions promoting transparency

In CSO discussions, it was acknowledged that there are a certain amount of CSO activities to promote transparency, but in Guinea, such actions lack broad support and public visibility. Almost 69.7% of CSO participants stated that they were able to name campaigns, actions or programmes led by civil society in the last year in favour of governmental transparency, while 30.0% perceived the role of civil society as essential in this respect. This was therefore scored 2.

III.3.3 Tolerance

This sub-dimension looks at the practice of Guinean civil society in the promotion of tolerance.

Table III.3.3: Assessment indicators for tolerance

No	Indicator	Score
3.3.1	Tolerance within the civil society arena	3.0
3.3.2	Civil society actions to promote tolerance	3.0

III.3.3.1. Tolerance within the civil society arena
A high level of tolerance among CSOs has been noted, leading to an indicator score of 3. Almost nine out of ten CSO participants (89.1%) answered that they do not know openly racist, discriminatory or intolerant forces within CSOs, with only 7.6% being able to think of only one or two examples.

III.3.3.2. Civil society actions to promote tolerance
Several CSOs stated they strongly focused their work on promoting tolerance; giving this a score of 3. After protests in January and February 2007, several religious groups and associations co-ordinated their media presence and attended places of worship to call on the population to exercise self-control and tolerance. More than five out of ten CSO participants (56%) were able to name at least one or two examples of campaigns, actions or programmes led by civil society in the previous year to promote tolerance in society.

III.3.4 Non-violence

This sub-dimension assesses the impact of CSO-led actions in promoting non-violence in Guinea.

Table III.3.4: Assessment indicators for non-violence

No	Indicator	Score
3.4.1	Non-violence within the civil society area	3.0
3.4.2	Civil society actions to promote non-violence and peace	3.0

III.3.4.1. Non-violence in the civil society area
In Guinea, no CSO reported using violent means to express its interests. Although Guinea experienced violent riots in the wake of several protests, there is a strong consensus within CSOs involved in CSI with respect to the principle of non-violence. Violent actions of civil society members very rarely occur and are strictly disapproved of. The indicator score for this is therefore 3.

When asked the question, "how would you describe civil society forces that use violence, attacks, hostility, brutality and/or fighting in order to express their opinions and needs?", 48.5% of CSO participants responded that the use of violence by civil society is extremely rare and 32.4% said that there were only isolated groups casually using violence.

III.3.4.2. Civil society actions to promote non-violence and peace
Participants reported examples, occurring since 2006, of civil society actions that have helped to promote non-violence and peace. Of CSOs consulted, 73.7% said that civil society had a major role to play on this front, 59.8% were able to name one or two recent CSO campaigns to promote non-violence and peace and a further 14.4% could think of several examples. This therefore also scored 3.

III.3.5 Gender equality

This sub-dimension looks at the promotion of gender equality, both internally and externally.

Table III.3.5: Assessment indicators for gender equality

No	Indicator	Score
3.5.1	Gender equality within the civil society arena	2.0
3.5.2	Gender equality practices within CSOs	2.0
3.5.3	Civil society actions to promote gender equality	2.0

III.3.5.1. Gender equality within the civil society arena

This indicator takes into account the presence of women in leading positions within civil society and the way civil society actors treat women on a whole. Almost six CSO participants out of 10 (59.6%) stated that the presence of openly sexist and discriminatory forces within civil society is minor, and only 12.8% felt it was a major problem. Furthermore, 47.3% said that if sexist views were expressed or such practices seen, they would usually be condemned within civil society; a further 11.8% that they always would. However, given that as discussed earlier, women are under-represented in civil society leadership, even though the origins of this go deeper than civil society to the position of women in Guinean society in general, this indicator scored 2.

III.3.5.2. Gender equality practices within CSOs

CSO participants assess that a small majority of CSOs (between 51% and 65%) implement gender equality measures in their organisations, generating a score of 2 for this indicator.

III.3.5.3. Civil society actions promoting gender equality

51.6% of CSO participants could name one or two recent actions or campaigns by civil society to promote gender equality and a further 21.5% can think of several examples, leading to an indicator score of 2. However, on the wider scale of society, 34.7% of CSO participants state that the role civil society is able to play in promoting gender equality in society as a whole is limited, 27.4% that it is moderate and 26.3% that it is major. Participants reported a lack of broad support for and visibility of actions on this regard. Gender inequality is clearly deeply rooted in Guinean civil society and there has to be realism about the extent to which civil society on its own can tackle this.

III.3.6 Poverty eradication

This sub-dimension assesses the level of engagement by Guinean civil society in tackling extreme poverty.

Table III.3.6: Assessment indicators for poverty eradication

No	Indicator	Score
3.6.1	Civil society actions to eradicate poverty	2.0

III.3.6.1. Civil society actions to eradicate poverty

CSO respondents reported on their actions to tackle poverty in Guinea, but acknowledged that such actions were hampered by lack of broad support and visibility. As to the type of actions undertaken, most CSOs stated that they aimed to improve household living conditions through such activities as: microfinance, training women in farming techniques, training young people in entrepreneurship, and building infrastructure sites, for example for clinics, wells, rural paths. However, Guinean CSOs reported that they were lacking in material and financial support due to the suspension of development cooperation following debt default.

53.9% of CSO participants stated they could provide one or two recent examples of initiatives by CSOs in poverty eradication and a further 24.7% said they could give several examples. 37.5% also stated that civil society had a major role to play in poverty eradication and 44.8% that it had a moderate role, hence the indicator score of 2.

III.3.7 Environmental sustainability

This sub-dimension examines the role of Guinean civil society in promoting the preservation of the environment.

Table III.3.7: Assessment indicators for environmental sustainability

No	Indicator	Score
3.7.1	Civil society actions to promote environmental sustainability	1.0

III.3.7.1. Civil society actions to promote environmental sustainability
All CSOs working in the farming sector reported that they implemented actions to promote the preservation of the environment. 50.5% of CSO participants reported that they knew of one or two examples of recent campaigns by CSOs on this issue, and 32.2% could think of several examples. However, CSOs felt their impact was limited. While 30.6% thought civil society played a major role, a larger 42.9% said its role and impact was minor, with a further 10.2% saying it was limited. For this reason, this indicator was scored 1.

Conclusion

This Values dimension received a total score of 2.2 out of 3. This score highlights two key points. Firstly, in most cases Guinean civil society feels it is ahead of society as a whole when it comes to values, and is making some efforts to promote these values within society, to strengthen and support them. At the same time, some values which received low scores are clearly not yet sufficiently internalised and practiced amongst Guinean civil society. Guinean civil society must continue to be in the vanguard of generating progressive values, challenging regressive values, even when these are popular in society, and internally modelling the values it espouses. In confronting the broader challenges currently facing Guinean society – including the weaker dimensions identified as part of this country report on the state of civil society – it will be imperative that civil society makes the most of the potential of these progressive values.

III.4 IMPACT

Civil society should be measured by its impact on improving citizens' lives and making a positive contribution to society. To assess this dimension, the CSI in Guinea focused on five main domains of intervention: civil society's degree of influence on public policies; its capacity to hold the private sector and the government to account; its response to social issues; its role in citizens' empowerment; and its response to social needs. Overall, the dimension scored 2.3.

In this survey, the notion of impact contains both the final outcome of an activity, as well as the degree of activity attempted.

Figure 6: Impact sub-dimension scores
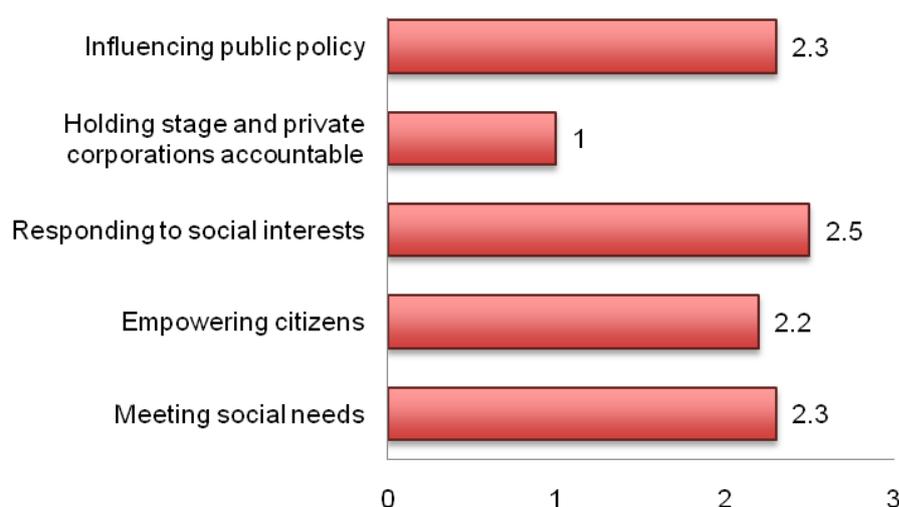
III.4.1 Influencing public policy

This sub-dimension shows the degree of activity by Guinean civil society to influence public policies, and the effectiveness of that activity. Overall, the score of 2.3 suggests that although civil society is active in this area, its impact is still limited.

Table III.4.1: Assessment indicators for influencing public policy

No	Indicator	Score
4.1.1	Civil society's impact on social policy issues	3.0
4.1.2	Civil society's impact on human rights issues	2.0
4.1.3	Civil society's impact on good governance issues	2.0

III.4.1.1. Civil society's impact on social policy issues
This indicator was scored 3, as according to consultations with CSOs, only 1% of participants felt civil society was not active in this area; and several success stories about civil society's role were shared. 54% said civil society was moderately active, 24% quite active and 20% very active.

III.4.1.2. Civil society's impact on human rights issues
58% of CSO participants reported that Guinean civil society has had limited success in influencing policies in human rights, 32% report successful influence and 8% report high levels of success. This was therefore assessed to have an indicator score of 2. However, this is surely one area for further investigation to explore the challenges and opportunities in exerting this kind of influence. Faced with a challenging environment and political situation, it will be critical for civil society in Guinea to understand better what works, and what does not work so well, in trying to improve the human rights situation.

III.4.1.3. Civil Society's impact on good governance issues
54% of CSO participants felt that civil society is active and 21% very active on promoting public policies in addressing good governance. However, that activity would appear not to be translating into impact: 60% reported limited success on this front, while only 14% reported success, compared to 15% who felt there had been outright failure. This was therefore also awarded a score of 2.

Participants in regional focus groups also discussed civil society's impact on other issues. They found that civil society had no influence on the National Development Budget process. Budget pilot surveys are elaborated by the ministerial departments and institutions and

submitted to the National Assembly for endorsement, with minimal opportunity for civil society input.

They also discussed civil society's role in policies on democracy. 52% believed civil society is very active here and 33% thought it active, and this would seem to have a greater translation into impact, with 49% saying that civil society's policy efforts on democracy met with success, 22% going so far as to say it achieved great success and 27% saying that success was more limited.

III.4.2 Holding the government and the private sector accountable

This section takes an analytical look at Guinean civil society's capacity to hold government and the private sector accountable. It finds that civil society's activity in this field is still very limited, and little impact can be discerned as yet.

Table III.4.2: Assessment indicators for holding the state and private sector accountable

No	Indicator	Score
4.2.1	Holding the state accountable	2.0
4.2.2	Holding the private sector accountable	0.0

III.4.2.1. Holding the state accountable

While civil society is active in trying to monitoring the transparency of the government and holding it to account, its impact is limited. 33% of CSO participants reported that civil society is active in this sphere and 42% quite active, resulting in a score of 2. But this activity yields little impact. Only 25% report success, while 61% say any success is limited. While 55% could give examples of civil society pressuring government to improve service delivery to the public, impact was minor. Only 18.0% reported success, compared to 48.0% reporting limited success, and 16.0% reporting failure.

Some CSOs reporting that their work to promote transparency of the state focuses on strengthening citizens' education, with the aim of nurturing the notion of the state reporting to citizens and citizens holding the state to account in the longer term. The current political system in place, along with current level of development of CSOs, did not allow a strong reporting and accountability role to be played at this stage.

III.4.2.2. Holding the private sector accountable

The actions of civil society to hold the private sector accountable were very limited, with very few examples identified. There was more activity in Forest Guinea towards companies active there, but this was still a limited degree of impact. The CSO survey revealed that 56% believed civil society to be inactive and only 10% very active, while success was elusive. Only 13% reported success, 36% limited success and the highest score, 38%, reported nothing but failure. The only score this indicator could receive in light of these findings was 0.

III.4.3 Responding to social interests

This sub-dimension assesses the responsiveness of civil society to key social concerns raised by the public.

Table III.4.3: Assessment indicators for responding to social interests

No	Indicator	Score
4.3.1	Responsiveness to key social concerns	2.0
4.3.2	Public trust in CSOs	3.0

III.4.3.1. Responsiveness to key social concerns

CSOs are moderately responsive to social issues, reflected in a score of 2. While 41% of CSOs surveyed stated that civil society played a significant role in directly responding to social needs, 37% recorded a score of moderate, and 15% were less optimistic than this, saying civil society had limited responsiveness.

III.4.3.2. Public trust in CSOs

A high level of trust was recorded from the CSI community survey in various segments of civil society. A high level of trust exists towards the CNOSCG (81.3%), NGOs (81.0%), religious groups (77.5%) and trade unions (66.3%). The comparisons are striking to the lower levels of trust in non-CSO actors, such as multinational companies (46.6%), press (31.3%), TV (28.0%), armed forces (21.4%), political parties (20.8%), the President (16.7%), the government (14.5%) and, lowest of all, the police (12.6%). The overall score for trust in CSOs recorded was an exceptionally high 97.5%, giving this a score of 3.

This suggests that Guinean CSOs have managed to develop their legitimacy, through the relevance of the questions they raise and the issues they address, and by being seen to deliver value in areas often neglected by public authorities. In a recent example, CSOs were notably seen to have been involved in the process of negotiating a suspension of the strike of January to February 2007. It also tells us there are significant social gaps caused by lack of trust in other sectors, into which civil society steps.

III.4.4 Empowering citizens

This section looks into ways in which Guinean CSOs are able to directly intervene to empower citizens. Examples of this include undertaking citizens' education and information programmes, increasing the ability of citizens to carry out collective acts, improving the standing of marginalised and vulnerable groups, and in strengthening social capital.

Regional differentiations are revealed in civil society's responses to these issues. The most noticeable activities reported in regional focus groups can be found in Upper Guinea, where they were said to touch all layers of society. Lower Guinea comes second, but this region acknowledged that further efforts were required in terms of information and education. In Middle Guinea, it was stated that emphasis must be placed on empowerment towards collective action and on empowerment of marginalised people, while in Conakry, civil society is active in empowerment towards collective action. Civil society is reported as active in developing social capital in Lower Guinea, Middle Guinea and Upper Guinea, although its impact is limited.

In all regions, results highlight that civil society works mostly on empowering women and creating income-generating activities, excepted in Conakry where such efforts are less noticeable. Mostly, these activities are managed by microcredit organisations; these organisations generally provide credit to women, other citizens and groups/cooperatives which want to carry out income generating activities.

Table III.4.4: Assessment indicators for empowering citizens

No	Indicator	Score
4.4.1	Informing and educating citizens	2.0
4.4.2	Building capacity for collective action	3.0
4.4.3	Empowering marginalised people	2.0
4.4.4	Empowering women	2.0
4.4.5	Building social capital	2.0
4.4.6	Supporting livelihoods	2.0

III.4.4.1. Informing and educating citizens

As 35% of CSOs work in citizen education, it is clear that civil society activities in this area exist. In the CSI community survey, 75.7% of public respondents mentioned that they had encountered civil society public information campaigns, and 89.5% had participated in a civil society organised activity in this regard.

But according to CSO participants, their impact was limited, giving this indicator a score of 2. 48.5% of CSO participants stated that civil society-led public campaigns of citizen education on HIV/AIDS were successful, while 37.1% said these had only limited success. On the subject of civil society campaigns on education, 60% of CSO respondents here said there had been only limited success, while 24% reported unqualified success. Civil society assessed its efforts as more successful on information campaigns about citizenship. 48% felt that great success had been achieved with these campaigns, compared to 26% reporting unqualified success and 25% reporting limited success.

As for levels of activity, 42.9% felt that this was sound, 11.2% said civil society was very active, and 38.8% sufficiently active. Again however, a gap between activity and impact is evident, with 47.9% reporting limited success from these efforts, 42.7% reporting success and only 9.4% reporting great success.

III.4.4.2. Building capacity for collective action

Most CSOs surveyed report that they are active in strengthening populations' capacities and that the sector plays an important role in this role. However the poor shape of the social and economic fabric does not help with resource mobilisation on this front. 53.9% of the respondents to the community survey felt civil society was active in helping the community to gather to discuss an issue, while interestingly the score from CSO representatives was lower: 41.9% believed that civil society was active and 39.2% that it was quite active in strengthening capacities of local communities. Once again, we see a gap in impact: while 50.0% of CSO representatives reported success and 11.0% great success, 39.0% believed success was more limited.

III.4.4.3. Empowering marginalised people

The term 'marginalised groups' includes people living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA), people with disabilities, poor people and people with drug addictions, amongst others. The findings of the community survey were less encouraging of civil society's role, with 45.2% of community respondents considering that civil society was active in helping poor people to improve their lives. 72.2% have however taken part in activities initiated by civil society on these fronts.

Like the previous one, this indicator sheds light on apparent inefficiencies in Guinean civil society in empowering the marginalised, particularly on the gap between activity and impact, generating a score of 2. Civil society is acknowledged by many to play an important role and some significant examples do exist. Several projects are currently being implemented by CSOs in order to help PLWHA and the fight against malaria and tuberculosis, for example.

III.4.4.4. Empowering women

The community survey shows that 49.8% of people are aware of CSOs working to empower women in the community to improve and take control of their lives, and 70.6% have taken part in activities on this matter. The score of 2 given to this indicator shows that the level of female empowerment targeted and performed by CSOs was above average.

III.4.4.5. Building social capital

This indicator attempts to compare the difference in levels of trust, tolerance and public spiritedness between civil society members and non-members, on the basis that participation in civil society is expected to contribute to the strengthening of social capital and the

reinforcement of positive values. The score of 2 awarded by the NAG highlights that they do believe civil society plays a useful role in this sphere.

III.4.4.6. Supporting livelihoods
The community survey shows that the impact of civil society on supporting livelihoods was limited. Only 40.4% respondents in the community survey reported this. The views of CSO respondents are somewhat different, suggesting that they may have over-reported their activity in this sphere. 96.9% said they could name specific examples of civil society initiatives to provide direct services to the people. This ambiguity was reflected in a score of 2.

III.4.5 Meeting societal needs

This indicator shows the impact of Guinean civil society's efforts to meet social needs of the population. Regional stakeholders tell us that civil society activities in response to social needs are very limited and have no impact in Conakry and Lower Guinea, but that civil society is active in the three other regions, albeit with a limited impact.

Table III.4.5: Assessment indicators for meeting societal needs

No	Indicator	Score
3.4.5.1	Lobbying for public service delivery	2.0
3.4.5.2	Meeting pressing needs directly	2.0
3.4.5.3	Meeting needs of marginalised groups	3.0

III.4.5.1. Lobbying for public service delivery
62.5% of CSO participants claim to be able to name specific examples of pressure by civil society on government to improve service delivery to the population. In the regional focus group discussions, the impact of CSOs on this issue was said to be mainly visible in Middle Guinea and Forest Guinea. Only 20% of CSOs reported success from these initiatives, however. 53.3% reported limited success and 17.8% failure. This indicator therefore scored 2. Participants also noted that many activities in this sphere were initiated by international NGOs which were able to lobby government.

III.4.5.2. Meeting pressing needs directly
Only 41.1% of the community survey named an instance of a CSO intervening to meet their needs directly; such as by drilling a well. This is at odds with perceptions of CSOs surveyed, whereby 96.9% of which could name specific examples of civil society intervention. This perhaps suggested limited public awareness of civil society activity, and an overstatement by civil society of its impact as opposed to activity. A score of 2 suggests the truth is somewhere between these two.

This indicator reported similar scores in various regions, suggesting that CSOs were working directly on meeting social needs uniformly across Guinea. Again, it was noted that these actions were often initiated by international NGOs, such as Plan Guinea, Aide et Action and the Red Cross, which undertake initiatives such as drilling wells, building public and family toilets, and developing infrastructure for communities who are later put in charge of managing them. It was also noted that UNICEF intervenes to promote childcare with education and nutrition programmes.

III.4.5.3. Meeting the needs of marginalised groups
Respondents in the community survey were asked to state which type of agency they felt was best-placed to meet the needs of the marginalised, using the example of AIDS orphans. 84.4% of the respondents said that CSOs were the best-placed, compared to 15.3% who would put their trust in national agencies. When asked a follow up question about whether they had approached any organisation for assistance, 30.7% said they had not; but of the

rest, 54.0% had found a CSO the most effective in helping them, compared to 15.3% who had had a more positive experience from a national agency. This therefore scored 3.

Regional focus groups sessions found that CSOs were working to respond to the needs of the marginalised in all of the five regions Guinea was divided into for this study. However, it was evident that their impact was limited in Lower Guinea and Forest Guinea, compared to more significant impact in Middle Guinea and Upper Guinea. Indeed previous surveys on poverty in Guinea (EIBC 1994 and EIBEP 2002) revealed that these two regions were more affected by poverty. The objective of the Village Communities Support Project (PACV), the actions of which focuses on just those two regions, was to contribute to reducing this particularly severe poverty.

Conclusion

The overall score of 2.1 obtained for this dimension showed that Guinean civil society is achieving a strong impact in several areas, and is actively trying to take part in a process of change. It also showed that the community found the services CSOs provided as valuable and were prepared to put their trust in the sector compared to state agencies. This element of trust is a valuable but potentially fragile asset, which civil society needs to repay with sustained delivery.

There are times when civil society seems to be overstating its successes and roles, and a gap between high levels of activity and medium levels of impact emerges time and again. At the same time, civil society would appear to be struggling to raise itself from a service delivery role to an advocacy and policy influencing role, although as outlined, the circumstances, particularly the socio-economic and socio-political situation, are against it here. This also accounts for civil society's weaker watchdog role towards the state and the private sector, where a clear need emerges for initiatives that strengthen constructive, critical relationships. The trust in civil society, and the track record it has begun to demonstrate over the last few years, proves that civil society is capable of acting more as a two-way interface between the government and the population.

IV. STRENGTHS AND WEAKNESS OF GUINEAN CIVIL SOCIETY

The above analysis enables us to dissect the strengths and weakness of Guinean civil society, preparatory to making recommendations to improve the position of civil society in Guinea.

IV.1 CIVIL SOCIETY'S STRENGTHS

▪ **Existence, multiplicity and diversity of CSOs**
The democratic opening up during the 1990s helped the emergence of a multitude of CSOs. These organisations operate in a diverse array of areas including actions to address poverty, environmental protection, community health, actions against HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and other endemic diseases. Others cover sport, human rights protection and a diverse range of other issues.

▪ **Engagement of CSOs**
Even if the impact of their actions is not always clear, the commitment of CSOs to serve the cause of the vulnerable and the poor is clearly stated in their objectives and manifested in their actions.

▪ **Learning of democratic culture**
Although they encounter difficulties on their way, Guineans at all levels are engaged in a learning process about democratic culture. Civil society should capitalise on this opportunity to better promote the value of democracy in improving the development processes of Guinea.

▪ **Proximity between CSOs and grassroots communities**
Most CSOs are close to grassroots communities, sharing this everyday reality. These CSOs are therefore well positioned to understand the needs and deep aspirations of the population, and to adapt their activities to suit these needs.

▪ **Political will to include CSOs**
There is some government recognition of the importance of the contribution of CSOs to the development of Guinea. Even if it is driven by donor requirements, government has become more sensitive to CSO proposals, as shown by the participation of CSOs in the elaboration process of the Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP) focusing on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), that is regularly mentioned in political speeches.

▪ **Development of relations with CSOs at the international level**
Several Guinean CSOs maintain partnerships with major international CSOs, in order to facilitate access to the global sphere.

▪ **Consideration of gender in almost all development programmes**
Despite the lack of female leadership within Guinean CSOs, efforts by the authorities and development partners to mainstream gender in almost all programmes and policies provides impetus for CSOs' work to improve the situation for women and girls.

▪ **Existence of diverse sources of information**
Guinea benefits from several private radio stations broadcasting from Conakry and other cities, and these provide diverse flows of information, sometimes contradictory. This enables citizens to form their own opinions.

IV.2 Civil society's weaknesses

▪ **Poor understanding of the concept of civil society**
The CSI found that most civil society actors do not well understand the roles they are expected to play and the responsibilities they should consider. This leads to strategic mistakes of positioning that are linked to the pursuit of personal interests.

▪ **Leadership issues**
Most managers and executives of CSOs take a lead in speaking for civil society as a whole, with neither the mandate nor the representativeness to do so, thus undermining their legitimacy. In the worst cases, CSO leaders have used grassroots organisations to position themselves as a way to improve their own living conditions and satisfy their personal ambitions.

▪ **CSOs as political vehicles**
Managers and executives of some CSOs are influenced by politicians and play political games, using their influence within civil society to support their political leanings and advance their political ideologies. This makes it harder to offer initiatives that benefit groups regardless of political affiliations.

▪ **Lack of democratic culture among CSOs**
Most CSOs do not follow best practice principles of cooperation, based on sound democratic culture to choose and renew their leaders.

▪ **Low institutional development**
Most CSOs do not have a clear vision of their roles and actions, and often lack properly defined strategic plans. As a consequence, their actions lack consistency.

▪ **Weakness of CSOs in rural areas**
CSOs in rural areas are weak institutionally, with low financial capacity, and are vulnerable to interference of central government representatives. They lack easy access to information and show a lack of preparation in their interventions. As they have less visibility, they have fewer relationships with other civil society actors.

▪ **Low financial capacity of CSOs**
It is impossible for CSOs to operate with their own funds, as membership fees are low and irregularly paid by members whose living conditions are too precarious. CSOs are not financially independent and work on a project basis, funded by external partners. They do not have independent funding to carry out emergency operations or satisfy the basic needs of vulnerable populations. In this context, the development process stalls when the various projects come to an end. In the case that partners suspend their cooperation, as happened in Guinea, these CSOs are forced to slow down or disappear.

▪ **Lack of adequate capacity**
To carry out their roles and responsibilities, CSOs lack certain skills necessary to their actions, such as research capacities, including situation analysis; ability to propose concrete solutions to problems; resource mobilisation; design, monitoring and evaluation of projects; development of sectoral policies; ability to understand and utilise legal instruments; planning; negotiating; lobbying and advocacy.

▪ **Lack of compliance with self-regulatory mechanisms**
CSOs have a poor culture of democratic values and present a lack of rigour in applying self-regulatory and transparency mechanisms. There is a strong need to develop and adopt a code of ethics and conduct for NGOs and development organisations.

V. RECOMMENDATIONS

The analysis of CSI results lead to the following series of recommendations:

- **Organise a national workshop:** A national workshop was organised on 9 April 2011 to present the outcomes of the CSI to CSO representatives, the government, the private sector and other development partners.

- **Publish and disseminate the research outcomes:** The information and the analyses gathered by the project will be brought to the public's attention in order to provide practitioners, civil society actors, government officials, technical and financial partners, citizens and researchers with knowledge and perspectives on the structure, environment, values and impact of civil society in Guinea.

- **Organise regional workshops:** The national implementation team will disseminate the research findings through the administrative regions.

- **Popularise the outcomes through a brochure presenting key civil society concepts:** Present in an easily accessible way civil society's definition and role, its positioning and relationship with other actors, areas of intervention, values and methods of approach, and promotion of social interests in partnership with other stakeholders (government, private sector, development partners) or as an alternative to their actions.

- **Identify key areas of intervention:** The identification of civil society's priority areas of intervention, commonly accepted by a wide range of civil society actors, will be carried out. This will enable improved empowerment activities. The data from the study will therefore be used as a reference for conducting various projects and advocacy for civil society in Guinea, and the development of CSO action plans.

- **Implement a convening and consultation framework:** Convene to exchange experiences and discuss key development issues, raise awareness, promote collective reflection and empower civil society actors.

- **Develop partnerships with different networks:** The development of national and international networks between countries that have implemented the CSI is important.

- **Develop a national communication and information network:** There is a need for a national communication and information network for civil society with special focus on experience sharing between CSOs and on a regular flow of information towards intermediate and grassroots organisations.

- **Develop and adopt a code of ethics:** A code of ethics should be developed by all CSOs, aiming at setting the rules of associations in Guinea.

- **Develop self-regulation mechanisms and instruments:** Focus should fall on developing mechanisms of good conduct and self-regulation of CSOs aiming at reinforcing their legitimacy, including legal and fiscal guides, accounting systems adapted to associations, codes of conduct and an endorsement system.

- **Implement advocacy activities:** To enable the effective implementation of the decentralisation process initiated by government.

- **Advocate for greater involvement of civil society in the development, implementation, monitoring, evaluation and funding of public policies:** To improve the environmental dimension of civil society.

- **Develop CSO competencies in research and evaluation follow-up**: With the aim of strengthening their capacities to hold the government and the private sector accountable and to fight against corruption.

- **Develop the institutional, financial and technical capacities of CSOs:** This will empower CSOs, particularly rural organisations.

- **Develop a strategy to better promote democracy at the grassroots:** This will aim to enable CSOs to better play their role at the grassroots.

- **Develop a citizenship education programme:** The implementation of such a programme is necessary to reinforce citizen education.

- **Urge the government to allocate an annual grant to Guinean CSOs.**

- **Ask that the government recognise CNOSG as a non-profit organisation.**

- **Conduct the study again on a periodical basis (every five years):** In order to chart the future course of Guinean civil society.

VI. CONCLUSION

The analysis of civil society in light of the four CSI dimensions led to the creation of the Guinean Civil Society Diamond. This diamond, based on scores varying from 1.1 to 2.3 on a scale from 0 to 3, shows overall an average level of development of Guinean civil society, which operates in a barely conducive environment. Consequently, CSOs have a limited impact on society in general and are poorly involved in development processes. They collaborate badly with one another and do not always transmit or live out their values.

Figure 7: Guinea Civil Society Index Diamond
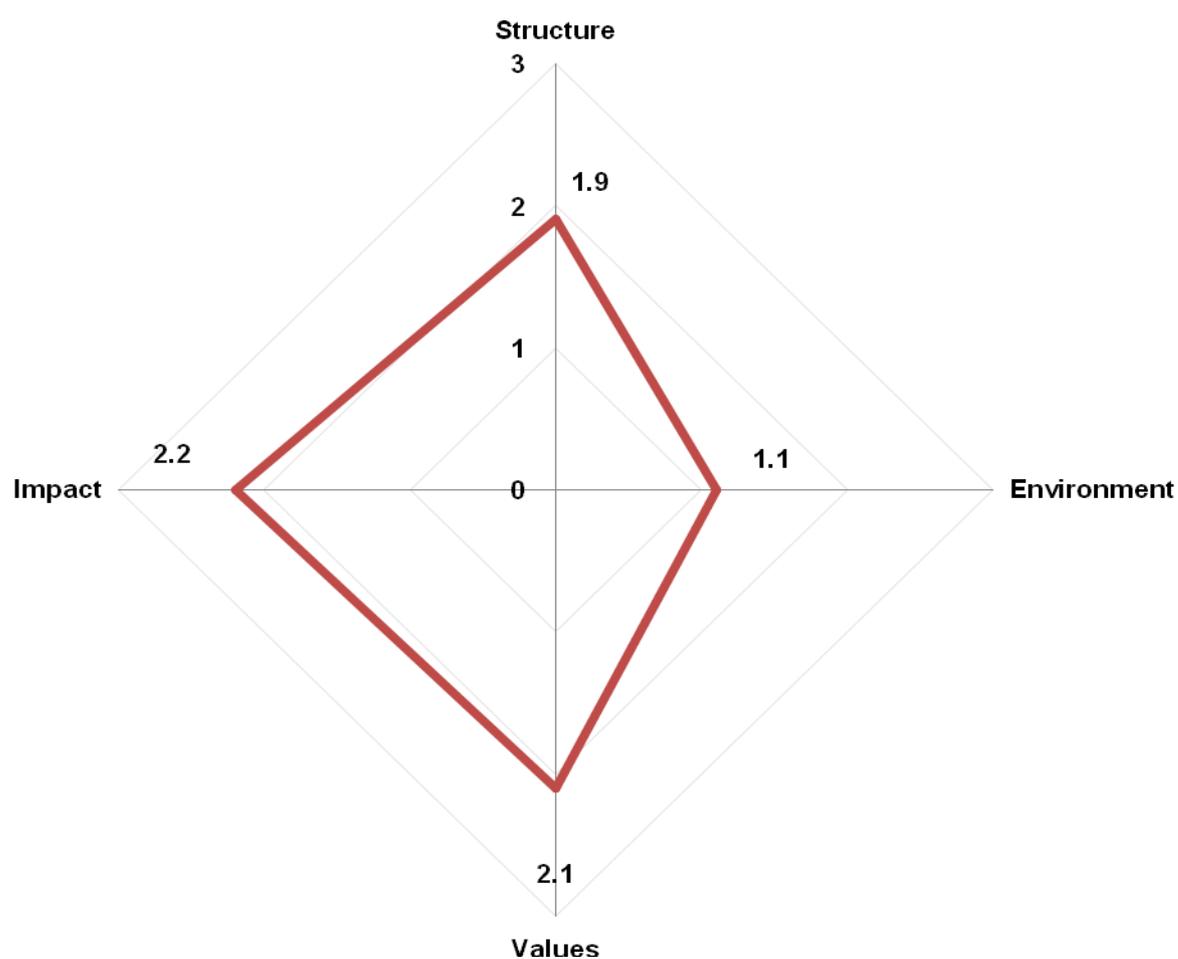
The overwhelming dominance of government in the socio-economic and socio-political spheres is the key challenge that CSOs face.

Nonetheless, civil society is showing that it is making a difference in filling social gaps that government does not meet and helping to address people's needs. The fact that civil society enjoys high public trust, and has demonstrated that it can act with responsibility and maturity, equips it for what should be the next phase of its evolution: as a mutually valued and trusted partner in expanding democratisation and improving development, and an intermediary between a government which is beginning to acknowledge that it is not the sole owner of solutions and a populace who still have pressing and unsatisfied needs and aspirations.

ANNEXES

ANNEX 1: PARTICIPANTS AND CONTRIBUTORS

COORDINATOR   El Hadj Bakary FOFANA
ASSISTANT COORDINATOR Abdoulaye DIALLO
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY   Aziz DIOP
TREASURER   Ernest KAMANO

REGIONAL ADVISORS   1. Ousmane BALDE
                           2. Mme Mariame SIDIBE
                           3. Oumar CHERIF
                           4. Abdoulaye KEITA
                           5. Mamadou Aliou BARRY

NATIONAL ADVISORY GROUP (NAG)

1. Ms FOFANA Nenbourou: SACCO
2. M. Boubacar Biro BARRY: Trade Union Association
3. M. Mamadou Taran DIALLO: Publish What You Pay Coalition
4. M. Salvadore PAPPALARDO: in charge of civil society at the French Embassy
5. Ms Bonaberi VANIA: in charge of civil society for the European Union
6. M. Youssouf DIOUBATE: in charge of civil society at UNDP
7. Ms Ana DIALLO: in charge of civil society at USAID
8. M. Alhassane CAMARA: National Forum of the Young People of Guinean Civil Society
9. M. Alhassane MAKANERA: Dean at Law School, University of Sonfonyah
10. Mme Mariama BARRY: UNDP
11. Mme Elysabeth COTE: IFES representative in Guinea
12. M. Kayoko DORE: UNDP

POLLSTERS

1. Aboubacar Demba TOURE
2. Mamadou Alpha DIALLO
3. Alpha OumarDIALLO
4. Mamadou Saliou SAGNA
5. Daouda CISSE
6. Mamadou Samba BOIRO
7. Dean Daniel LAMA
8. Mamadou SOUMAH
9. Fodé Lancei BERETE
10. Mouctar DOUMBOUYA
11. Germaine LOUA
12. Moussa CAMARA
13. Ibrahima DOUMBOUYA
14. NFansou DIAOUNE
15. Ivoire Bohando SOLANO
16. Sadio DIALLO
17. Jean Pierre KOUROUMA
18. Sory SIDIBE
19. Lamine CISSE
20. Zakaria DIALLO

PARTICIPANTS IN REGIONAL COMMITTEES IN CONAKRY

1.Salmana DIALLO
2.Bailaou DIALLO
3.Amadou KOUROUMA
4.Issiaga DIALLO

| 5.Hassimiou BARRY |
| 6.Aboubacar TOURE |
| 7.Mariama SOUMAH |
| 8.Alhassane CAMARA |
| 9.Abdoul Karim BANGOURA |
| 10. M'Mah Hawa SOUMAH |
| 11. Saliou CAMARA |
| 12. Mohamed Lamine SYLLA |
| 13. Augustin SOROPOGUI |
| 14. Sékou DORE |
| 15. Boubacar Biro DIALLO |
| 16. Idiatou CAMARA |
| 17. Aliou BARRY |
| 18. Salifou CAMARA |
| 19. Djénabou BAH |
| 20. Ousmane KETIA |

PARTICIPANTS IN REGIONAL COMMITTEES IN MARITIME GUINEA

| 1.Amadou Diarouga BALDE |
| 2.Bangaly CONDE |
| 3.Mamadouba Boffa CAMARA |
| 4.El Hadj Farouk SOUMAH |
| 5.Aly SAMOURA |
| 6.Ibrahima KABA |
| 7.Ibrahima Kalil SOUMAH |
| 8.Mamadi Mèmè CAMARA |
| 9.Bdoulaye CISSE |
| 10. Mamadou Djafarou BALDE |
| 11. Mamadou MANSARA |
| 12. Mamouni KOUROUMA |
| 13. Mariama BANGOURA |
| 14. Moustapha KABA |
| 15. Naby SOUMAH |
| 16. Ousmane Tanou DIALLO |
| 17. Delphin LAMA |
| 18. Ousmane KOUMBASSA |
| 19. Thierno Ismaila DIALLO |
| 20. Zeze BEAVOGUI |

PARTICIPANTS IN REGIONAL COMMITTEES IN MID-GUINEA

| 1.Abdoul Latif HAIDARA |
| 2.Abdourahmane DIALLO |
| 3.Amadou KEITA |
| 4.Amadou Oury DIALLO |
| 5.Boubacar BALDE |
| 6.El Hadj Ibrahima Sampring DIALLO |
| 7.El Hadj Mountaga DIENG |
| 8.Fatoumata Penda DIALLO |
| 9.Ibrahima Sory BALDE |
| 10. Mamadou Alpha BALDE |
| 11. Mamadou Alpha Hennere DIALLO |
| 12. Mamadou Alpha Kamélé BALDE |
| 13. Mamadou Alpha Koubia DIALLO |
| 14. Mamadou Saidou DIALLO |
| 15. Mamdou Bobo SOW |
| 16. Ramatoulaye Lassa DIALLO |
| 17. Thierno Amadou DIALLO |
| 18. Thierno Ibrahima BALDE |

19. Ibrahima Sory BALDE
20. Samba Diouma CAMARA

PARTICIPANTS IN REGIONAL COMMITTEES IN UPPER GUINEA

1.Abdourahmane KABA
2.Alpha BARRY
3.Alphonse YOMBOUNO
4.Diaraye BARRY
5.Fatou CAMARA
6.Filifing DANSOKO
7.Filbert Andega CAMARA
8.Frantoman CONDE
9.Hady CHERIF
10. Issiaka DOUMBOUYA
11. Kamissa DIAKITE
12. Kanséréba CONDE
13. Lounceny CHERIF
14. Mamady CAMARA
15. Mamadou Maladho DIAYE
16. Nanténin KEITA
17. Saidou TOURE
18. Sékou CONDE
19. Sékou KONATE
20. El Hassimiou KONATE

PARTICIPANTS IN REGIONAL COMMITTEES IN FOREST GUINEA

1. Lopou Françoise LAMA
2.Cécé Boniface MONEMOU
3. Antoine DRAMOU
4.Many MILLIMONO
5.El Hadj Cheik Dougo KEITA
6.Berthe SANGARE
7.Balla KEITA
8.Fanta Lancei CISSE
9.Fernand SOUALO
10. Bafodé CONDE
11. Amara Noko DIBATE
12. Saa Morel KAMANO
13. Laurent OLIANO
14. Korika SIDIBE
15. Niankoye Alain CEBELAMOU
16. Fara Yandi ORIANO
17. Fassa Lele KAMANO
18. Ivonne YRADOUNO
19. Mathieu KPOGHOMOU
20. Fanta Mady CAMARA

ANNEX 2: NATIONAL ACTION GROUP SCORING INDICATOR MATRIX

Dimension	Total score	Sub-dimension name	Total for sub-dimension	Indicator name	Indicator
1 Structure	**1.92**				
		1.1 Breadth of participation	2.2		
				1.1.1 Non- partisan political action	2
				1.1.2 Charitable giving	3
				1.1.3 CSO membership	2
				1.1.4 Volunteering	1
				1.1.5 Collective community action	3
		1.2 Depth of citizen participation	2.67		
				1.2.1 Charitable giving	3
				1.2.2 Volunteering	3
				1.2.3 CSO membership	2
		1.3 Diversity of civil society participants	2		
				1.3.1 CSO membership	1
				1.3.2 CSO Leadership	2
				1.3.3 Distribution of CSOs	3
		1.4 Level of organisation	1.8		
				1.4.1 Existence of CSO umbrella bodies	1
				1.4.2 Effectiveness of CSO umbrella bodies	3
				1.4.3 Self-regulation	3
				1.4.4 Support infrastructure	1
				1.4.5 International linkages	1
		1.5 Interrelations	1.5		
				1.5.1 Communications	1
				1.5.2 Cooperation	2
		1.6 Resources	1.33		
				1.6.1 Financial resources	1
				1.6.2 Human resources	2
				1.6.3 Technological and infrastructural resources	1
2 Environment	**1.07**				
		2.1 Political context	1.17		
				2.1.1 Political rights	2
				2.1.2 Political competition	2
				2.1.3 Rule of law	1
				2.1.4 Corruption	0
				2.1.5 State effectiveness	2
				2.1.6 Decentralisation	0

		2.2 Basic freedoms and rights	1.00		
				2.2.1 Civil liberties	1
				2.2.2 Information rights	1
				2.2.3 Press freedoms	1
		2.3 Socio-economic context	0		
				2.3.1 Socio-economic barriers to civil society	0
		2.4 Socio-cultural context	1.67		
				2.4.1 Trust	1
				2.4.2 Tolerance	2
				2.4.3 Public spiritedness	2
		2.5 Legal environment	2		
				2.5.1 CSO registration	3
				2.5.2 Allowable advocacy activities	2
				2.5.3 Tax laws for CSOs	2
				2.5.4 Tax laws for philanthropy	1
		2.6 State-civil society relations	1.33		
				2.6.1 Autonomy	2
				2.6.2 Dialogue	2
				2.6.3 Cooperation/support	0
		2.7 Private sector-civil society relations	0.33		
				Private sector attitude to civil society	1
				Corporate social responsibility	0
				Corporate philanthropy	0
3 Values	**2.26**				
		3.1 Democracy	2.5		
				3.1.1 Democratic practices within CSOs	2
				3.1.2 Civil society actions to promote democracy	3
		3.2 Transparency	2.33		
				3.2.1 Corruption within civil society	2
				3.2.2 Financial transparency of CSOs	3
				3.2.3 Civil society actions to promote transparency	2
		3.3 Tolerance	3		
				3.3.1 Tolerance within the civil society arena	3
				3.3.2 Civil society actions to promote tolerance	3
		3.4 Non-violence	3		
				3.4.1 Non-violence within	3

CIVICUS Civil Society Index Analytical Country Report for Guinea

				the civil society arena	
				3.4.2 Civil society actions to promote non-violence and peace	3
		3.5 Gender equity	2		
				3.5.1 Gender equity within the civil society arena	2
				3.5.2 Gender equitable practices within CSOs	2
				3.5.3 Civil society actions to promote gender equity	2
		3.6 Poverty eradication	2		
				3.6.1 Civil society actions to eradicate poverty	2
		3.7 Environmental sustainability	1		
				3.7.1 Civil society actions to promote environmental sustainability	1
4 Impact	2.07				
		4.1 Influencing public policy	2.33		
				4.1.1 - Civil society's impact on social issues	3
				4.1.2 - Civil society's impact on human rights issues	2
				4.1.3 - Civil society's impact on good governance issues	2
		4.2 Holding stage and private corporations accountable	1		
				4.2.1 Holding state accountable	2
				4.2.2 Holding private corporations accountable	0
		4.3 Responding to social interests	2.5		
				4.3.1 Responsiveness	2
				4.3.2 Public trust	3
		4.4 Empowering citizens	2.17		
				4.4.1 Informing/educating citizens	2
				4.4.2 Building capacity for collective action	3
				4.4.3 Empowering marginalised people	2
				4.4.4 Empowering women	2
				4.4.5 Building social capital	2
				4.4.6 Supporting livelihoods	2

CIVICUS Civil Society Index Analytical Country Report for Guinea

		4.5 Meeting social needs	2.33		
				4.5.1 Lobbying for state services	2
				4.5.2 Meeting pressing social needs directly	2
				4.5.3 Meeting needs of marginalised groups	3

ANNEX 3: DEFINITIONS OF ORGANISATIONS INCLUDED IN THE SURVEY

1. Farmers' or fishers' cooperatives or groups;
2. Commercial or financial businesses' associations;
3. Occupational associations, such as doctors or teachers;
4. Trade unions;
5. Neighbour or district associations;
6. Religious or spiritual groups;
7. Cultural association or groups, such as arts, music, theatre, cinema groups;
8. Associations for funeral costs;
9. Credit or saving group or cooperative
10. Education group (for example, the parents' association of the school, or the board of managers);
11. Associations for social services or for healthcare, such as associations for people with disabilities;
12. Sports associations;
13. Associations for young people;
14. Women's associations;
15. NGO / human rights or civic associations, such as the Rotary Club, the Red Cross or Amnesty International;
16. Groups based on an ethnic identity;
17. Environmental or conservation organisations and/ or
18. Leisure organisations, such as associations for stamps collectors.

ANNEX 4: SECONDARY SOURCES

1. Act of law L/2005/013/AN of 4 July 2005, adopting and enacting the Act establishing the status of CSOs in the Republic of Guinea
2. Compendium of tourism statistics 2002-2006 – Publication 2008 – page 80
3. CIVICUS Civil Society Index toolkit
4. Economic and social report published by the Ministry of Economy and Finance – July 2007
5. Feasibility study of the programme "Support to civil society initiatives for increased human capacity" (AISCHA) in the Republic of Guinea – 2003
6. Final report of the Rapport Integrated Core Survey for Poverty Assessment (EIBEP) in Guinea (2002-2003) – National Directorate of Statistics
7. First *Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper Implementation Report in Guinea* – April 2004
8. Fundamental Law of the Second Republic of Guinea
9. Journal "Info Finances du Ministère de l'Economie et des Finances de la Guinée" - March 2008
10. Newspaper *Le LYNX* n° 605 – 27 October 2003 – page 12
11. Newspaper *Le LYNX* n° 629 – 12 April 2004 – page 4
12. *Poverty Reduction Strategy* Paper (DSRP) of Guinea – Ministry of Economy and Finances – June 2001
13. *Poverty Reduction Strategy* Paper (DSRP2) of Guinea – Ministry of Economy and Finances – August 2007
14. Press Freedom Index 2009
15. Report of the National Forum of Guinean Civil Society Organisations – March 2006
16. Report of the training workshop on CSO internal and external communications in Guinea – April 2002
17. Report of the workshop on organisational management and resource mobilisation – December 2004
18. Roundtable on the stakeholders of Guinean development – November 2006
19. Study on the reinforcement of the UNICEF-Civil Society-NGO partnership – 2002
20. Transparency International Corruption Perception Index 2008
21. Weekly newspaper "*L'Enquêteur*" n° 171 – 24 April 2008