Evaluation/Assessment of the frameworks and possibilities of civil society (organisations) to participate in national climate policy

Methodology

- 5 criteria/levels of evaluation
- 25 qualitative indicators
- Scoring is not uniform but ranges between 0-2 and 0-3, depending on the indicator
- Single scoring system was assigned to the 5 criteria and indicators, with higher weight on criteria 2 and 4

Criteria	Possible max. scores	Scaled max. scores
1 Fundamental requirements	10	17
2 Enabling Legislation	17	22
3 Supporting governance & structures	7	17
4 High-quality participation processes	16	27
5 Capacity building	8	17
Total	**58**	**100**

Ranking:

0-25 points = poor frameworks and possibilities for participation
26-50 points = limited frameworks and possibilities for participation
51-75 points = good frameworks and possibilities for participation
76-100 points = very good frameworks and possibilities for participation

Remark: Weighting and ranking will be done by UfU.

Criteria	Indicators	Scores
1 Fundamental requirements	a. **Stability and peace**	0-3
	b. **Anti-corruption and transparency**	0-3
	c. **Security of environmental defenders**	0-2
	d. **Political commitment to civil society participation**	0-2
2 Enabling Legislation	a. **Commitment to international conventions and agreements**	0-2
	b. **National laws requiring proactive civil society participation**	0-3
	c. **National laws requiring timely participation**	0-3
	d. **National laws requiring information regarding the participation process**	0-3
	e. **National laws requiring the consideration of civil society's comments**	0-3
	f. **National laws requiring notification of civil society on the decision made along with the reasons and considerations on which the decision is based**	0-3

3 Supporting governance & structures	a.	**Governance structure**	0-2	
	b.	**Institutional coordination & cooperation**	0-3	
	c.	**Financial resources**	0-2	
4 High-quality participation processes	a.	**Early participation**	0-2	
	b.	**Broad, inclusive invitation**	0-3	
	c.	**Timely invitation**	0-2	
	d.	**Adequate participation formats**	0-2	
	e.	**Transparency and information**	0-2	
	f.	**Available documentation**	0-2	
	g.	**Transparent review of recommendations**	0-2	
	h.	**Evaluation and feedback process**	0-1	
5 Capacity building	a.	**Environmental education**	0-2	
	b.	**Public awareness raising on participation rights and possibilities**	0-2	
	c.	**CSO capacity building on climate change, climate policy, policy dialogue, organisational development, cooperation and networking**	0-2	
	d.	**Capacity building on participation and stakeholder engagement for governments**	0-2	
Max. total score			**58**	

Criteria	Indicators	Scores
1 Fundamental requirements	a. **Stability and peace** (What is the intensity of ongoing conflicts?)[1]	0 = high intensity of conflict (limited war or war going on) 1 = medium (violent crisis going on) 2 = low intensity of conflict (non-violent crisis or dispute going on) 3 = very low intensity of conflict (no dispute, crisis or war going on)
	b. **Anti-corruption and transparency** (What is the perceived level of corruption?)[2]	0 = highly corrupted, CPI of 0 1 = corrupt, CPI equal to or under 50 2 = clean, CPI higher than 50 3 = very clean, CPI of 100
	c. **Security of environmental defenders** (Enjoy environmental defenders security?)[3]	0 = alarmingly weak security for environmental defenders (more than one murder documented) 1 = weak security for env. defenders (one murder documented) 2 = Environmental defenders are somewhat secure (no murder documented)

[1] This indicator and related scoring is based on the Conflict Barometer 2021 by HIIK (www.hiik.de/conflict-barometer/?lang=en). The Conflict Barometer uses a five-level model, defining disputes and non-violent crises as non-violent conflicts with a low conflict intensity, violent crises as violent conflicts with medium conflict intensity and limited wars and wars as violent conflicts with high conflict intensity.

[2] This indicator and related scoring is based on the Corruption Perception Index 2021 by Transparency International (www.transparency.org/cpi2018). According to Transparency International a scoring of zero means "highly corrupt" and 100 is "very clean". The scoring "1=corrupt" and "2=clean" was set by UfU. Transparency International defines corruption as the "abuse of entrusted power for private gain", whereas "transparency is about shedding light on rules, plans, processes and actions. (…) "It is the surest way of guarding against corruption, and helps increase trust in the people and institutions on which our futures depend." (www.transparency.org/what-is-corruption)

[3] This indicator and related scoring is based on the Global Witness Report, which documents the murder of land and environmental defenders (latest report: https://www.globalwitness.org/en/campaigns/environmental-activists/last-line-defence) It is important to note that the absence of murder does not mean that there are no other threats, attacks or harassments of environmental defenders and activists.

	d.	**Political commitment** (Is political participation of civil society related to the environment and climate backed by high-level political bodies and decision makers?)	0 = no 1 = yes, to some extend 2 = yes, fully
			Max. Score: 10
2 Enabling Legislation	a.	**Commitment to international conventions and agreements** (Did the country sign and ratify (accept, approve, accede to) the Aarhus Convention or the Ezcazú Agreement, requiring civil society participation related to the environment and climate?)	0 = no, neither signed, nor ratified (accepted, approved, acceded to) 1 = signed, but not ratified (accepted, approved, acceded to) 2 = ratified (accepted, approved, acceded to)
	b.	**National laws requiring proactive civil society participation** (To what extend does/do • the constitution, • national framework laws regarding environment and climate, • Strategic Environmental Assessment laws, • or climate related sectoral laws (regarding energy, industry, transport, forest or land use) obligate the State or state agencies at the national level to proactively seek participation of civil society in decision making related to the environment	0 = none of the laws assessed 1 = a minority of the laws assessed 2 = a majority of the laws assessed 3 = all laws assessed

	and climate, going beyond the official notification of participatory events?) [4]	
	c. National laws requiring timely participation (To what extend does/do • the constitution, • national framework laws regarding environment and climate, • Strategic Environmental Assessment laws, • or climate related sectoral laws (regarding energy, industry, transport, forest or land use) require timely participation (before a decision is made and so that there is enough time for a public authority to consider the public comments) of civil society in decision making related to the environment and climate?)	0 = none of the laws assessed 1 = a minority of the laws assessed 2 = a majority of the laws assessed 3 = all laws assessed
	d. National laws requiring information regarding the participation process (To what extend does/do • the constitution, • national framework laws regarding environment and climate, • Strategic Environmental Assessment laws, • or climate related sectoral laws (regarding energy, industry, transport, forest or land use) require all information relevant to decision-making	0 = none of the laws assessed 1 = a minority of the laws assessed 2 = a majority of the laws assessed 3 = all laws assessed

---

[4] If there is a primary act requiring participation that affects several subordinates laws the latter are counted as well.

	processes relating to the environment and climate to be made available to civil society, without civil society having to make an official information request?)	
	e. **National laws requiring the consideration of civil society's comments** (To what extend does/do • the constitution, • national framework laws regarding environment and climate, • Strategic Environmental Assessment laws, • or climate related sectoral laws (regarding energy, industry, transport, forest or land use) require the State or State agencies at the national level to take due account of civil society's comments in decision-making relating to the environment and climate?)	0 = none of the laws assessed 1 = a minority of the laws assessed 2 = a majority of the laws assessed 3 = all laws assessed
	f. **National laws requiring notification of civil society on the decision made along with the reasons and considerations on which the decision is based** (To what extend does/do • the constitution, • national framework laws regarding environment and climate, • Strategic Environmental Assessment laws, • or climate related sectoral laws (regarding energy,	0 = none of the laws assessed 1 = a minority of the laws assessed 2 = a majority of the laws assessed 3 = all laws assessed

	industry, transport, forest or land use) require the State or State agencies at the national level to promptly inform civil society about the decision as well as provide a written response explaining which comments were taken into account as well as giving reasons for dismissing others?)	
		Max. Score: 17
3 Supporting governance & structures	**a. Governance structure** (Is there an institutional body or mechanism, such as a committee, division or centre, supporting and coordinating participation processes relating to the environment and climate?)	0 = no 2 = yes
	b. Institutional coordination & cooperation (Are national participation processes relating to the environment and climate coordinated across different vertical and horizontal political levels?)	0 = no 1 = there is week coordination and cooperation 2 = there is good coordination and cooperation 3 = there is very good coordination and cooperation
	c. Financial resources (Are civil society actors financially supported to participate in environmental/climate policy, e.g. through an allowance, a compensation of travel costs or the funding of stuff members?)	0 = no 1 = yes, to some extend 2 = yes, fully
		Max. Score: 7
4 High-quality participation processes[5]	**a. Early participation**	0 = only after most of the decision have been made

---

[5] The scoring represents the averaged evaluation of some recent national participation processes relating to the environment and climate in each country, described in detail in chapter xxx

		(At what time was civil society involved in the process?)	1 = after the first draft of the document/plan/strategy 2 = directly from the beginning on
	b. Broad, inclusive invitation (Was a broad variety of representatives of civil society (CSOs and broad public) invited to participate, including for instance those representing youth, gender, indigenous, and people of colour?		0 = no, no civil society representatives 1 = no broad variety, just a few selected CSOs 2 = just CSOs or just broad public 3 = yes, a broad variety
	c. Timely invitation (Was civil society invited early to participate?)		0 = some days in advance 1 = less than one month in advance 2 = more than one month in advance
	d. Adequate participation formats (How was civil society involved in the process?)		0 = through information 1 = through consultation 2 = through several interactive formats, fostering dialogue and collaboration
	e. Transparency and information (Was information about the technical background and the participation process available to civil society?)		0 = no 1 = yes, to some extend 2 = yes, a lot of information
	f. Available documentation (Was documentation about the discussions and results available to civil society?)		0 = no 1 = yes, to some extend 2 = yes, fully
	g. Transparent review of recommendations (Were recommendations and views from civil society reviewed in a transparent manner?)		0 = no 1 = yes, to some extend 2 = yes, fully
	h. Evaluation and feedback process		0 = no 1 = yes

	(Was there a evaluation and feedback process regarding the participation procedure?)	
		Max. Score: 16
5 Capacity building	**a. Environmental education** (Are there national formal and non-formal environmental and climate education offers for the public?)	0 = no 1 = yes, a few offers 2 = yes, lots of offers
	b. Public awareness raising on participation rights and possibilities (Is information about public participation rights and possibilities available to the public?)	0 = no 1 = yes, to some extend 2 = yes, fully
	c. CSO capacity building on climate change, climate policy, policy dialogue, organisational development, cooperation and networking (Is there capacity building on e.g. climate change, climate policy, policy dialogue, organisational development, cooperation or networking for CSOs?)	0 = no 1 = yes, a few offers 2 = yes, lots of offers
	d. Capacity building on participation and stakeholder engagement for governments (Is there capacity building on participation and stakeholder engagement for national governments and state officials?)	0 = no 1 = yes, a few offers 2 = yes, lots of offers
		Max. Score: 8
Max. total score		**58**