Impact of the Global Crises on Civil Society Organizations

A Survey based on responses from 640 CSOs worldwide
This survey was undertaken under the guidance of a CSO Steering Committee, which included two members of the NGO Committee for Social Development:

- Marianists International,
- the Sisters of Charity Federation and
- the Friedrich Ebert Foundation.
Budget change 2008 to 2010

Chart Question 14: Budget change 2008 to 2010 (projected)
Budget change in Asia

Chart Question 14: Change of budget in Asia, incl. China
Chart Question 14: Change of budget in Latin America and Caribbean
Budget change in Western Europe

Chart Question 14: Change of budget in Western Europe
Budget change in USA and Canada

Chart Question 14: Change of budget in USA and Canada
Chart Question 15: Change of funding by source since 2006

- **Others**
- **International institutions**
- **Corporate**
- **Governments**
- **Private foundations**
- **Religious institutions**
- **Direct personal contributions**
Chart Question 15: Change of funding sources in Sub-Sahara Africa since 2006

Number of CSOs

- f. International institutions
- e. Corporate
- d. Governments
- c. Private foundations
- b. Religious institutions
- a. Direct personal contributions

Change of funding by source in Africa
Chart Question 15: Change of funding sources in Western Europe since 2006

Numbers of CSOs

-75-100 -50-75 -25-50 -1-25 0 1-25 25-50 50-75 75-100

Legend:

- f. International institutions
- e. Corporate
- d. Governments
- c. Private foundations
- b. Religious institutions
- a. Direct personal contributions
Official Development Aid commitments are usually adopted as (0.7%) ratio of gross national income (GNI).

With the fall of GNI in many donor countries, aid budgets will automatically be reduced,

while still maintaining the ODA/GNI ratio.
Did your organization easily adapt to a tighter resource constraint?

Have reduced resources led to better efficiency of work?

Has your organization narrowed the scope of its work?

Did your organization substantially reduce the number of its staff?

Did your organization start an additional fundraising campaign?

Did you develop additional skills using internet tools (Skype, etc.)?

Did you seek networking with locally-based CSOs?

Do you expect the strategies to be sufficient to meet the challenges?
**CSOs’ Strategies in Sub-Saharan Africa**

**Chart Question 17:** CSOs strategies in Subsahara Africa to cope with drop of revenue since 2006

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Yes (%)</th>
<th>No (%)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. Did your organization easily adapt to a tighter resource constraint?</td>
<td>42.5% (57)</td>
<td>57.5% (77)</td>
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<tr>
<td>b. Have reduced resources led to better efficiency of work?</td>
<td>30.5% (39)</td>
<td>69.5% (89)</td>
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<td>c. Has your organization narrowed the scope of its work?</td>
<td>72.2% (96)</td>
<td>27.8% (37)</td>
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<td>d. Did your organization substantially reduce the number of its staff?</td>
<td>63.9% (85)</td>
<td>36.1% (48)</td>
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<tr>
<td>e. Did your organization start an additional fundraising campaign?</td>
<td>81.6% (111)</td>
<td>18.4% (25)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f. Did you develop additional skills using internet tools (Skype, etc.)?</td>
<td>53.9% (69)</td>
<td>46.1% (59)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g. Did you seek networking with locally-based CSOs?</td>
<td>81.1% (107)</td>
<td>18.9% (25)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>h. Do you expect the strategies to be sufficient to meet the challenges?</td>
<td>48.4% (61)</td>
<td>51.6% (65)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i. Other</td>
<td>70.6% (12)</td>
<td>29.4% (5)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Example from Sub-Saharan Africa

A CSO reported:

“We still are only 2 full time and 4 part time staff working with 1,655 children in 70 different villages. The workload has increased, but we have not been able to increase staff ...

We could not further adapt because we were running at optimal efficiency prior to the crisis.”
CSOs’ Strategies in Asia

Chart Question 17: CSOs’ strategies in Asia, incl. China, to cope with drop of revenue since 2006

- a. Did your organization easily adapt to a tighter resource constraint? 58.7% (56) Yes, 41.3% (39) No
- b. Have reduced resources led to better efficiency of work? 60.0% (57) Yes, 40.0% (38) No
- c. Has your organization narrowed the scope of its work? 58.3% (56) Yes, 41.7% (40) No
- d. Did your organization substantially reduce the number of its staff? 59.2% (58) Yes, 40.8% (40) No
- e. Did your organization start an additional fundraising campaign? 79.6% (78) Yes, 20.4% (20) No
- f. Did you develop additional skills using internet tools (Skype, etc.)? 62.8% (59) Yes, 37.2% (35) No
- g. Did you seek networking with locally-based CSOs? 85.3% (81) Yes, 14.7% (14) No
- h. Do you expect the strategies to be sufficient to meet the challenges? 59.1% (55) Yes, 40.9% (38) No
- i. Other 50.0% (8) Yes, 50.0% (8) No
CSOs’ Strategies in W.-Europe

Chart Question 17: CSOs strategies in Western Europe to cope of revenue since 2006

a. Did your organization easily adapt to a tighter resource constraint?
   - Yes: 62.7% (37)
   - No: 37.3% (22)

b. Have reduced resources led to better efficiency of work?
   - Yes: 46.6% (27)
   - No: 53.4% (31)

c. Has your organization narrowed the scope of its work?
   - Yes: 39.7% (23)
   - No: 60.3% (35)

d. Did your organization substantially reduce the number of its staff?
   - Yes: 31.6% (18)
   - No: 68.4% (39)

e. Did your organization start an additional fundraising campaign?
   - Yes: 82.5% (47)
   - No: 17.5% (10)

f. Did you develop additional skills using internet tools (Skype, etc.)?
   - Yes: 86.2% (50)
   - No: 13.8% (8)

g. Did you seek networking with locally based CSOs?
   - Yes: 76.8% (43)
   - No: 23.2% (13)

h. Do you expect the strategies to be sufficient to meet the challenges?
   - Yes: 63.2% (36)
   - No: 36.8% (21)

i. Other
   - Yes: 42.9% (3)
   - No: 57.1% (4)
Increase of demand for services
Increase of demand due to

Chart Question 21  Change of categories of requests

- **due to climate change**
  - Large increase >50%
  - Moderate increase <30%
  - Remain at 2006 level
  - Moderate decrease <30%
  - Large decrease >50%
  - 26.1% (79)
  - 31.0% (94)
  - 30.0% (91)
  - 8.6% (26)

- **in response to rising food price**
  - 26.4% (74)
  - 34.3% (96)
  - 26.4% (74)
  - 8.6% (24)

- **due to the financial and economic crisis**
  - 30.9% (98)
  - 36.0% (114)
  - 17.4% (55)

- **due to other reasons**
  - 23.2% (13)
  - 10.7% (6)
  - 39.3% (22)
  - 12.5% (7)
Projected increase of demand in 2011
CSOs’ Recommendations

Chart Question 26: National Financial Resources

- a. Recover illicit financial flows (Anti-corruption) - 2.69
- b. (Re-)introduce controls on short-term capital flows (curb capital flows) - 2.39
- c. Make national tax systems more progressive/redistributive - 2.47
- d. Introduce basic income grants for the poorest and vulnerable - 2.7
- e. Guarantee decent work for all - 2.73
- f. Other proposals - 2.16
Increase Official Development Aid

Chart Question 23: Official Development Aid (ODA)

- a. Honor existing official development aid commitments: 2.67
- b. Further increase official development aid: 2.61
- c. Channel more official development aid through CSOs: 2.64
- Other: 2.55
Measures at international level

Chart Question 27: Measures at international level

a. Strengthen international cooperation to combat tax evasion

b. Implement innovative financing measures, like air ticket levy, fin...

c. Establish a "UN Charter for sustainable and socially oriented mark..."

d. Other proposals
The environmental, food and financial crises show that simultaneous crises can occur and affect rich and poor around the globe.

Given the high degree of global economic and financial integration, there are projections that in future, global crises may occur with increasing frequency.
It must therefore be a high priority on the political agenda

- to take all necessary steps to avoid the social consequences of this present economic crisis,
- to slow and adapt to climate change,
- avoid another food crisis and
- prevent new financial and economic crises.
In any case,

- the world community should be better prepared and
- at least provide the financial means for “counter-cyclical” action.
During crises governments must step in by:

- directly by increasing bilateral and multilateral support for the poorest countries and
- by supporting the necessary programmes of civil society organizations.
There is a need to institutionalize financial support for those in need.

In order to assure stable and predictable funds:

- To address the social consequences of the crises and
- To avoid the harm to its poorest and most vulnerable members.
1. The International Labor Organization (ILO) initiated a “Global Jobs Pact“ to generate additional jobs during crises, and

2. All UN organizations proposed the establishment of a “Social Protection Floor” to protect affected people during crises and thereafter:

- It would secure access to essential public services: water, sanitation, health and education.
- It would provide essential social transfers to the poor to provide a minimum income.
The question remains how to provide additional funds for those proposals.

The most promising option favored by CSOs is the *Financial Transaction Tax* which would be established by national governments to tax transactions within their jurisdictions in all kinds of financial assets: shares, bonds, securities and derivatives.

It is expected that a tax rate of just 0.1% would yield globally 734.8 billion USD.
This PowerPoint presentation, an Executive Summary and the full Study are available at
http://ngosocdev.wordpress.com/2010/01/28/174/

Thank you

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New York, 15 February 2010