

Human Security Collective

Report 2017 and Operational plan 2018

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1. Introduction

In 2017 the HSC team finalized two projects, continued to implement ongoing projects and started several new ones. The projects belong to three programmatic areas:

- Strengthening youth women and community leadership in high risk areas which enables them to play a role on conflict transformation, social cohesion and prevention of violent extremism from a human security approach
- Developing a human security perspective and approach to policies and programs in contexts where violent extremism is a threat to stability and development
- Developing civil society government engagement on the Financial Action Task Force Anti-money laundering and Countering Financing of Terrorism rules to mitigate regulatory and financial restrictions of civil society.

This report summarizes the outcomes of each of these projects and the further development of the three programs the encompass these projects based on the 2017 operational plan. Challenges encountered in the implementation of the projects are mentioned. In addition, we present developments on HSC outreach and communication.

The report concludes with the 2018 operational plan, of which several activities are well underway at the time of the board meeting on May 7. The 2017 report therefore includes developments till February 2018 when appropriate.

Projects that ended in 2017 are not specifically mentioned unless we find it useful in view of lessons learnt for future initiatives.

We start by briefly summarizing highlights and challenges of 2017.

2. Overall highlights and challenges

We welcomed three new team members in 2017, Theophile, Janita and Esther, whose contribution to projects and the overall development of the organization have already proven to be invaluable. The same goes for Thalia, who joined the team in January 2018 to take on work for Janita who is on maternity leave. From June 2018 onwards, Esther will fully replace Wim who has been financial officer since the start of HSC. Besides becoming our financial officer, Esther together with Jeanne spearheads the development of a quality management system of HSC (ISO certification). Our colleague in Tunis, Yasmin, provides excellent support to the youth leadership program and other initiatives we are developing in Tunisia. She too became a parent in 2017. We are happy with the arrival of these young persons in Amersfoort and Tunis in our collective!

The growth of the organization in staff, number of projects and volume of finances from different sponsors comes with several challenges. The decision to start with the ISO process already helps further our institutional and organizational development. Due to the intensive work in the different teams that require regular travels abroad, we need to carefully plan team meetings and overall organization meetings as well as internal working sessions which we value as a method to share experiences, challenges and solutions, and a way to sharpen our strategic choices. The team has a WhatsApp group and WhatsApp sub-groups which have already proven to be a quite functional means of communication.

2017 Was the year where we had to say goodbye to Sylvia Tiryaki, our board member from GPOT in Turkey who due to political developments in the country was no longer able to remain part of our board. We are grateful for Sylvia's energetic and enthusiastic presence at the board meetings and her good advice for our further development and growth. We are very pleased that Elsine van Os from Signpost Six accepted to take on a position in our board.

We had to prematurely end our partnership with the Tunisian partner on the Youth Leadership project, Freesight Association, due to irreconcilable differences in the approach and type of leadership we deem important for working on youth leadership and culture. The ending of the partnership was a collective effort where we had to notify the funder, MoFA, of our decision, develop a communication plan to let other partners and mentors know about our decision and prevent negative messaging about HSC especially through social media, and tell the news to the FSA director offering her an alternative plan to fulfil remaining mutual obligations under the project. Looking back, we can say that HSC and FSA managed to finalize the project in a way that was sufficiently satisfactory to both.

2017 Was a year where HSC was primarily occupied with the implementation of projects that were approved in 2016. Parallel to the implementation the team managed to develop several new initiatives which help sustain our programs.

3. Programs and Projects

Youth, Women and Community Leadership for Human Security

The program on strengthening youth leadership in 'high risk' areas encompasses besides youth, women and community leadership hence the change in the program's name. Jeanne team leader for the program. Other team members are Siebrich, Janita, Thalia and Yasmin

Building resilience among youth leaders in Mena. Duration: Part 1 till June 2017. Part two till September 2018

The project *Building resilience among youth leaders in the MENA* has been given an additional grant (part 2) to expand its activities to the municipality of Gouda in the Netherlands, and within Tunisia to work with Arab Institute for Human Rights.

Part 1 was evaluated by both partner organizations and it was felt that mentors had increased their capacity to analyze and reflect on push and pull factors of VE. Mentors also reflected on the change in perceptions about push and pull factors that lead to Violent Extremism. The visit from Dutch mentors to Tunisia also added to that change in perception. Most mentors managed to design and implement projects to provide support to teenagers in vulnerable

communities and last but not least HSC facilitated engagement between security stakeholders and the mentors in both communities to discuss push and pull factors that lead to VE.

During a mid-term review which was conducted in May 2017 the following outcome pathway was made to provide insight into the achievements. This visual does not include the findings of the exchange which took place in December 2017 Sarah Chamekh, Medenine, mentor of FSA in Tunisia. March 2017

As participants in Leaders for Human Security, Oussama and I presented our work to members of local and international civil society, and to representatives from The Tunisian Government and the UN. We are working for the long term and simple changes like ensuring one of our mentees has a proper conversation with his father to convince him of his own choice of study is a sign of encouragement for us.



More and more, we see our added value in relation with youth workers. Whereas they have an enormous asset being present in the neighborhoods and having built credibility amongst the youth, HSC is able to provide group activities and facilitate discussions amongst each other and with third parties on sensitive issues such as safety in your neighborhood, radicalization that leads to violent extremism, polarization. In our view, one requires both roles and responsibilities to become effective at the level of systemic change. We see youth workers struggling with the various roles they are assumed to take up. As Dorine IJsseling mentions in her research; the credibility of youth workers in relation to vulnerable youth in the neighborhoods is at stake the minute they are also perceived by these youth as closely collaborating with the municipality on identifying youth at risk of radicalizing and or criminalizing. We see it as our added value to be the neutral facilitator and bridging the gap between two different approaches – that of the youth workers which is an inclusive approach and that of the security policy at the municipal level which has the tendency to look more into risk behavior and control mechanisms (more police in the street and excluding vulnerable youth from certain activities).

As HSC we believe it is important to team up with local partners as they are the ones who can ensure sustainability after the project period ends. We also find it vital to adapt our programme towards the target group and according to the way the local partner works with the target group. This requires quite some thinking through with both partners we feel their commitment towards the overall goal of the programme and they would both like to extent the program until December 2017 to be able to achieve all the objectives set out from the start.

In the second quarter of 2017 a new partner in Tunisia and in the Netherlands were identified to roll out Part II. We were able to conduct the first workshops in Gouda, the Netherlands in September 2017 and in Tunisia with the Arab Institute for Human Rights in August 2017, taking all the lessons learnt of Part I into consideration.

<u>Strengthening social cohesion with refugees in a neighborhood in the Hague where refugees</u> with a resident permit will be housed. Duration: Till March 2018

The project social cohesion with refugees took place in one of the disenfranchised neighborhoods of the Hague. The project aimed to bring about social understanding, interaction, and cohesion in neighborhoods where the municipality has announced that over 150 refugees shall be provided social housing in two designated building in the same neighbourhood. The "integration" of these groups in the neighborhood encounters a number of obstacles that were addressed during the first phase of the project in which a social mapping was conducted. The report pointed out that many citizens are struggling with a multitude of problems related to unemployment. Human Security Collective organized a meeting with citizens to discuss the multitude of problems and as to encourage citizens to pitch ideas to increase social cohesion and overcome some of the pressing issues, seed money was provided. The project was in partnership with Justice & Peace and STEK (a faith-based organization active on community work and outreach in the Hague). Unfortunately, the partnership did not lead to the project team being more effective in her outreach to citizens and identifying key stakeholders to work with. Also, the expected housing of over 150 refugees in these areas did not take place during the project phase, which left us with doing a lot of preparatory work, yet not being able to harvest any outcomes which we had anticipated. Ending in a positive note

though, we learnt a lot about the huge problems citizens encounter which policymakers often play down.

<u>Curriculum development on youth leadership and the prevention of violent extremism in</u> partnership with the OSCE. Duration: till end of 2017

The partnership with the OSCE on the youth leaders against violent extremism (LIVE) project has led to the development of a training curriculum with a number of relevant items that were tested in a pilot training session with youth from various countries where the OSCE has a relevant presence. HSC was lead consultant on the development of the curriculum and worked closely with a community-based foundation in the UK active on the subject and trainers from UN (UNITAR) and other entities. These partners on the project brought their own expertise to the curriculum to make it an holistic approach to PVE encompassing both online and offline methodologies. It also contains modules on Security Awareness, Human Rights and Social Media which has allowed us to broaden our expertise. The curriculum for Youth Leadership in PVE proved beneficial for both the youth leadership and women leadership program.

NAP 1325 in Libya, strengthening the role of women and young leaders in peace and security. Duration: till December 2019

The NAP 1325 project on Libya is in a number of ways linked to the type of work HSC is conducting on youth leadership and PVE/Prevention of Violent Extremism. Together with local partners we are providing capacities of women and young persons to initiate small-scale initiatives that may contribute to local rehabilitation, peace and human security. At the same time, we are further developing the "OSCE" curriculum to include modules on gender, diversity and masculinity. Because of the risks involved on travelling to Libya, capacity building and training activities are conducted in Tunisia where it is relatively safe. The project consortium partners, Cordaid and HSC, will work out a number of scenarios for project implementation, including the possibility to provide on-line trainings and guidance to local partners. Currently the Dutch Embassy for Libya operates from Tunis. Due to HSC project on youth leadership project in Tunis and connections with the Embassy, we are well positioned to make practical and strategic connections between the NAP 1325 and the Youth leadership projects, which may facilitate the work with local Libyan partners.

The 1st Human Security workshop took place in December 2017 and had participants work in small groups to practice project design skills, by focusing amongst others on Human Security, Conflict Analysis, and the Theory of Change. The primary aim was for participants to walk away from this workshop with an initial idea for their human security initiative.

One of the first exercises was to share each other's stories about safety in one's community.

Reflections on sharing stories about safety in one's community:

The tragedy isn't in the story or in the experience itself, but it is in the phase that comes after, when we lose all feelings of security.

Another exercise was about designing a young person. The discussion that followed focused on the effect of the war on these young people, leading to the following statements from the participants:



"The youth in Libya are the most affected ones; the space given to them is very tight, the educational system is bad, the economic situation, the same. There is a violation of their rights, they are always accused of being incapable and irresponsible."

Developing a human security perspective to and approach to policies and programs in contexts where violent extremism is a threat to stability and development

Fulco is team leader of the program. The project is Mali is managed and executed by Theophile. Sangeeta is involved in 'The human security approach to prevent violent extremism research program in Egypt, North Iraq and Palestine'.

A pilot on developing a Toolkit for connecting development goals with prevention of violent extremism objectives. Duration: 2017 - 2018

In 2017, the projects under this program became more integrated. At the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA), the Security Policy Department (DVB) initiated an approach to integrate development and prevention of violent extremism policies and programming. The decision followed international developments at the United Nations, where the United Nations Development Program, UNDP, began to integrate the Prevention of Violent Extremism Action plan of the UN Secretary General which was developed by the UN Office for

Counter Terrorism. The decision by UNDP to develop programs in fragile, unstable and highrisk regions from a PVE lens means that the prevention of violent extremism is being mainstreamed in development policy and programming and is becoming part of a conflict transformation analysis which policy makers and funders need to have access to before committing to support projects. From the security end, international counter terrorism entities are paying more attention to the prevention side of violent extremism, leading to an, in our opinion, positive development of PVE and development policies coherence. The development and security communities consider human security a vital approach to help achieve development and prevention of violent extremism goals in unstable and high-risk contexts.

HSC was asked by the MoFA DVB to take the lead on the development of a PVE Toolkit with the aim to link development programs supported by the MoFA and Embassies with PVE objectives and strategies. The Toolkit was discussed with various policy makers and program officers at the MoFA and the UNDP and is piloted in Mali and Tunisia in 2018. Based on the outcome of the pilot it will be further developed for rolling out in a number of Dutch Embassies across the world. Relevant personnel at the Embassies and Headquarters' staff will be trained in the application of the toolkit. DVB is coordinating the toolkit with other MoFA departments, notably DSH (for Stabilization and Humanitarian Assistance) and DSO (for social development through civil society support).

CVE Masterclass in Nigeria leading to a generic CVE masterclass. Duration 2017 - 2018

Another DVB sponsored initiative on which HSC was asked to take the lead is the further development of a countering violent extremism, CVE, master class. HSC developed and organized together with the Dutch Embassy and in collaboration with the Nigerian ONSA (Office of the National Security Advisor) a CVE master class for 30 staff members of the ONSA in Kaduna, Nigeria. The Dutch NCTV (National Coordinator for Security and Counter terrorism) and the municipality of Gouda were invited by us to bring in their experience on the community security model as has been developed and implemented in the Netherlands. The Master Class 2 (MC2) for the Nigerian National Orientation Committee (NOA) and develop and conduct a CVE Master Class in Sudan and Ethiopia. In November HSC associate, Peter Knoope, traveled to Maiduguri, Nigeria, to map an outline for the MC2.

Addressing Root Causes of Conflict and Violence in Mali. Duration: 2017 - 2020

The sponsor of the ARC, Addressing Root causes of Conflict and Violence, project in Mali, the MoFA DSH, is appreciative of the approach HSC is steadfastly developing in country. The project is implemented under a consortium project with Norwegian Church Aid (NCA, the project lead) and ICCO, the Dutch inter-church development organization. Together with local partners, HSC is addressing systemic problems underlying conflict and violence, and which are exploited by violent extremist groups in Timbuktu, Goa, Mopti, the district of Bamako including some municipalities in Kidal and Menaka. Together with women, youth, community and religious leaders, we are developing and applying a human security approach to address security related problems faced by communities. We help these groups engage with relevant local and national government and international entities. Beside working in Mali, HSC together with Malian

partners is reaching out to the G5 - a regional collaboration of 5 Sahel countries on development and security policies on our approach to mitigate violent extremism through addressing root causes of violence and conflict.

Since the start of the project at the beginning of 2017, the activities that are being implemented by HSC are on schedule. The program aims at achieving three (3) outcomes:

- **Outcome 1**: Authorities at the community level have adopted and practice the principles of good governance and accountability towards communities;
- **Outcome 2**: Communities are able to prevent and/or manage conflicts related to the management of natural resources, socio-political issues, justice and religion; and
- **Outcome 3**: The interests of the involved communities related to conflict, peace and local security are represented and scaled up towards the national government and international security and development actors through a networking approach, to effectively address the root causes of conflict.

HSC is mainly responsible for the third outcome. Theophile has coordinated with consortium partners and the coordinator for the project in Bamako the implementation of activities that will ultimately help achieve outcome 3. He also adapted training material on the nexus between PVE and Development, youth, women, and community leadership on PVE and intra and interreligious approaches to addressing violent extremism which were largely developed in collaboration with HSC colleagues. These materials were used in a series of workshops that were organized with and for local partners. In addition, the workshops served as platform for cross-organizational learning between the different stakeholder groups and for preparing outreach about these activities to national and regional government representatives (the G5). International initiatives on a PVE approach to mitigate violent extremism were introduced by Theophile and HSC to local partners.

The key challenges come down to a continued consultation with consortium members (i) to link activities from regional to national levels and vice-versa on the one hand and (ii) to pool efforts both within the consortium and with other programs / projects for effective joint actions plan. In the coming year HSC will continue to make an effort for:

- Mobilization and commitment of beneficiaries / target groups around the implementation of their actions plans;
- Further facilitation of a mutual learning framework among implementing partners; and
- Establishment of mechanism to measure joint results.

Research on a human security approach to countering violent extremism. Duration: 2017 - 2019

HSC is one of the five consortium members of a research project sponsored by the NWO/WOTRO (Netherlands scientific research in tropical countries) and the Knowledge Platform on Security and Rule of Law. The lead agency is Clingendael and implementing partners are besides HSC universities and thinktanks in Egypt, North Iraq and Palestine. We are tasked to develop communication and outreach tools for the study that looks into practices and perceptions of communities and people on a human security approach to prevent violent extremism. The GPOT thinktank of the Kültür University in Istanbul had to withdraw from the consortium due to problems after the aborted military coup in the country. The study has many challenges in terms of coordination which we anticipate may be overcome with the arrival of a research assistant for the Clingendael lead on the project.

<u>Short term assignments: training/capacity building and board member of GCERF. Duration:</u> <u>throughout the year</u>

These assignments were conducted by Fulco with support when required from other HSC colleagues, e.g. for the workshop on community-based prevention of violent extremism which was implemented by Sangeeta.

Rehabilitation and Reintegration of violent extremist offenders in SE-Asia: September

Fulco took part as an expert on an ICCT (International Center for Counter Terrorism) and GCSS (Global Center for Cooperative Security) led project in Indonesia and Malaysia to identify the roles and experiences of civil society organizations (CSOs) in the field of rehab and reintegration of violent extremist offenders. The mapping of these experiences served as input for the preparation of a workshop with CSOs from Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines. The workshop took place in Jakarta, with the participation of 25 CSOs from these countries with the aim to develop an action agenda on the subject. The project will end mid-2018.

CTED (Counter Terrorism Executive Directorate) events in Tunisia: March and July

Two prevention of violent extremism working conferences took place in Tunisia which were organized by UNCTED and the Tunisian National Counter Terrorism Committee (CNLCT) which were supported by HSC through reaching out to civil society contacts in the country, presenting a human security and civil society perspective on countering violent extremism and facilitating a number of sessions. The objective was to further develop the national Counter Terrorism and PVE plan and engage civil society and the private sector on the plan. The idea was that a triangle structure made up by government, civil society and the private sector would be an effective model for the development and implementation of the plan. The engagement with civil society has been problematic due to restrictions put by the government. Private sector has been persistently absent and there have been no signs that they will embark on a PVE strategy. UNDP has been very helpful in the preparation and execution of both workshops through linking the stakeholders with several civil society organizations and bringing in research on the drivers and root causes of violent extremism. Both UNCTED and UNDP are interested in follow up steps. There may be an opportunity to team up with them in 2018 pending availability of resources and request for follow up by the Tunisian government.

Support to a community-based prevention of violent extremism in Mindanao, the Philippines: November

The Bangsamoro Development Agency (BDA), as development branch of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF), is preparing a Prevention of Violent Extremism (PVE) program. The

organization has more than 10 years of experiences in community driven development programs. The BDA wants to build on that experience and knowledge about Bangsamoro communities in developing a program for PVE that will mainly contribute to peace and stability in the Bangsamoro. The Dutch Embassy in the Philippines supports resources in the person of amongst others the ex-director of Cordaid, René Grotenhuis, to help the BDA in developing a PVE plan. René reached out to HSC to help prepare and conduct a workshop for providing the BDA with analysis and on how to properly address the problem of violent extremism in the communities of Bangsamoro (which is the territory the MILF considers to be the homeland of the Muslim communities in Mindanao). Fulco and Sangeeta helped prepare the workshop and Sangeeta participated in the event together with international colleagues from the Asia Foundation and the Center for Humanitarian Dialogue. Around 40 people, young and old, women and men, attended the workshop. A follow up activity is planned for 2018.

Trainings for Clingendael and The Hague Academy: throughout the year

During the year HSC has given training on Countering Terrorism/CVE strategies in the Sahel, Afghanistan and South Asian contexts at Clingendael, for foreign diplomats, as well as on security and CT for Dutch policy makers. For The Hague Academy a training has been conducted on CT/CVE and conflict transformation.

Global Community Resilience Fund – GCERF: HSC is a board member

In 2017 two board meetings have taken place, one in London and one in Doha. HSC has participated on behalf of civil society in these meetings. Mercy Corps, a large international humanitarian organization (based in Washington DC and Edinburgh) with projects in over 85 countries across the world has assumed a position as an alternate board member for civil society. GCERF was set up by the Global Counterterrorism Forum (GCTF), a multilateral forum of 29 countries and the EU, which was set up under the leadership of the previous US government to accelerate amongst others prevention of violent extremism approaches. GCTF members have contributed to GCERF with the aim to financially support grassroots lead PVE initiatives. In 2018 it is to be seen if the GCTF will have the same political cloud and authority on counter terrorism and PVE policies and programs as it used to have during Obama's presidency. Current expectations on US leadership of the GCTF which also established entities like Hedayah (CVE center of excellence in Abu Dhabi) and the Malta Institute for Justice and Rule of Law are not surprisingly low and its future depends on the interests and investments of other countries that have been active from the onset of the GCTF like the UK, France, the Netherlands, Spain, Switzerland, Italy, the EU, Turkey, Morocco, UAE, Nigeria, South Africa, Japan, Indonesia, India, Pakistan, and Australia amongst others. The merit of taking part in the board meetings of GCERF lies in receiving first-hand information on international CT and PVE developments and in being able to provide critically constructive input from a civil society perspective.

<u>Connecting the Youth, Women and Community Leadership for Human Security and a Human</u> <u>Security Approach to prevent violent extremism programs</u>

Projects and initiatives that are being developed under these two programs are overlapping in the way they have been conceived, developed and implemented. The HSC team is mutually

supportive on strengthening and improving these projects and corresponding partnerships. **The** lessons learned from the ARC project in Mali on conducting capacity building, networking, scaling up and facilitating concertation / dialogues are shared within the HSC team for the use in other contexts. Data and experiences gained in the project contributed to the improvement of the P / CVE master class tools and the Development – PVE toolkit. The approach developed under the youth and women leadership programs in the Netherlands, Tunisia and Libya informed the work on community resilience and prevention of violent extremism with local and national partner organizations in Mali. Partners from Tunisia, the Netherlands, Libya and Mali were invited to an outreach program in February 2018 where they were able to present their work, exchange practices and experiences and prepare for a visit to the UN in New York where we will organize a side event hosted by the Dutch Permanent Mission to the UN on youth, women and community leadership and PVE, at the 6th review of the Global Counter Terrorism Strategy.

The team decided to organize an in-house working session in 2018 to identify commonalities and potential synergies in these two programs with the aim to further integrate them strategically and programmatically. This will be the first of a series of sessions to explore connections between our programs and projects with the aim to further solidify them and to seek potential new possibilities in connection with external developments concerning human security, the prevention of violent extremism, conflict transformation, financial crime and an enabling civil society space.

Solutions for regulatory and financial restrictions of civil society that stem from the FATF Anti-Money Laundering and Countering Financing of Terrorism Rules

Lia is leading the program and is working closely with Sangeeta and Fulco on the implementation of projects.

Since 2014 HSC together with Charity & Security Network in the US are co-chairs of the Global NPO Coalition on the FATF (in short: Global NPO coalition). We are hosting and facilitating a website for the coalition: www.fatfplatform.org This loose coalition comprising around 100 civil society organizations and networks across the world is the dialogue partner for the Financial Action Task Force (FATF), the global Anti-Money Laundering and Countering Terrorism Financing (AML/CFT) standard setter. Almost 200 countries have endorsed the FATF standards and they are continually monitored and evaluated for compliance with the 40 AML/CFT standards, one of which (Recommendation 8) is entirely dedicated to nonprofit or civil society organizations. The countries have to transpose the international recommendations into national laws, rules and regulations and have to show based on a national risk assessment concerning money laundering and terrorism financing risks and threats whether their laws, rules and regulations are effective. If a country is In the Netherlands the FATF recommendations are incorporated in the WWFT, 'de Wet Witwassen en Terrorisme Financiering' that was revised in 2011 to include support for terrorism financing as a criminal offence, which was a direct consequence of the FATF evaluation in 2009.

In 2016, the Global NPO coalition managed to successfully advocate for change of Recommendation 8 and provided the FATF with timely input to revise R8 policy. NPOs are not

any longer particularly at risk for terrorism financing but can be at risk which the country has to prove to the FATF with evidence based on a risk assessment of the sector.

Besides the website HSC is handling the twitter account of the Coalition. The website and tweets continue to attract a growing number of visitors and followers. Last year we had over million unique hits on the platform.

HSC has regular conversations with the FATF secretariat in Paris on ongoing activities of the standard setter that have impact on the financial and regulatory space for civil society. These conservations are informed by regular discussions with the core group of the Global Coalition. The core group also provides strategic direction to the Global NPO Coalition's engagement with the FATF.

The two co-chairs of the Global NPO Coalition, HSC and Charity & Security Network organize regular conference calls and webinars with experts on FATF related topics for the members of the coalition.

Together with the European Center for Not for Profit Law, the European Foundation Center and the Norwegian Refugee Council, HSC has a seat to represent nonprofit organizations at the FATF Private Sector Consultative Forum (PSCF). This Forum is held once a year in Vienna at the UNODC (UN office on Drugs and Crime) and provides an opportunity for all sectors that are affected by the FATF recommendations to present challenges and suggestions to one another and to the FATF members. These four NPOs hold the seats for two years and will be replaced by other members of the Global NPO Coalition in 2019.

HSC was invited to speak in the panel on global challenges at the PSCF 2017 and highlighted the importance for governments to conduct risk assessments for NPOs which should form the basis for terrorism financing rules for NPOs instead of the widely applied rule-based approach that has resulted in overregulation of the entire NPOs sector for terrorism financing risks. In addition, we emphasized the need for governments, regulators, banks and NPOs to identify joint solutions for the growing trend of refusing and terminating bank services to civil society or for delaying bank transfers from civil society organizations to their partners in high risk or conflict areas. A phenomenon called de-risking. Together with members of the Global NPO coalition we organized a day-long event with the FATF on experiences of NPOs and governments with FATF evaluations and anti-money laundering and countering terrorism financing risk assessments. Civil society colleagues from across the world participated in the meeting. The constructive engagement of the Global NPO coalition at the PSCF was noticed by regional FATF organizations, such as GIABA (West African FATF), leading to an invitation as a resource person (Fulco) at their regional meeting in Lomé, Togo.

The visibility of Global NPO Coalition and the role of HSC in the coalition (as co-chair and facilitator of the website and handler of the twitter account) resulted in support from funders for civil society engagement with government on national money laundering and terrorism financing risk assessments and on FATF country evaluations and for stakeholders' round tables to identify solutions for derisking of NPOs. Governments are sensitive to the recognition by the FATF of the Global NPO coalition as a key stakeholder for an effective implementation of the FATF AML and CFT recommendations. HSC role on the FATF supports

the execution of initiatives we have developed together with civil society colleagues and consultants, with support from the Open Society Foundations Human Rights Initiative and the OAK foundation:

Government – NPO engagement on the FATF in Indonesia. Duration: 2017 – 2018

With PINGO (Portal NGO Indonesia) in the lead, we helped establish an Indonesian Civil Society working group on the FATF. In a number of workshops, the group was capacitated on the FATF standards and ways to engage with the Financial Intelligence Unit, the government entity responsible for the compliance of the country with the FATF standards, in the process leading to the FATF country evaluation. The group produced a policy paper on the nexus between laws, regulations and policies that were developed in the upshot to the FATF evaluation and their impact on NPOs in terms of freedoms of association, assembly, speech and resource mobilization. The paper and the work of the Civil Society Working group serves as a guidance for governments on ways to comply with the FATF recommendation on NPOs (R8). Various hurdles had to be overcome before this government - civil society engagement could be realized. In the coming months the Civil Society working group with support from HSC and the Greenacre group (a consultancy firm specialized in NPO risk assessments), will deliver timely input to asks from the FIU and other government entities in the process of the finalization of the evaluation report. This initiative has been supported besides by OSF, by the US Embassy OPDAT program in Jakarta that provided travel and accommodation funds for Greenacre and HSC to conduct a presentation at a government – civil society workshop on the FATF evaluation in Bandung.

<u>Government – NPO engagement on the FATF and the GSP+ trade agreement in Pakistan.</u> <u>Duration: 2017 – 2018</u>

This project comprises two components government – NPO engagement on the FATF evaluation of Pakistan and engagement between civil society, the private sector and government on the EU Generalized Systems of Preferences Trade Agreement. The objective is to leverage through this engagement 'civil society space to operate' in the country. Regarding the FATF component, together with the Greenacre group we support the work of CWS (Community World Services) to build a coalition that engages the government entity responsible for compliance with the FATF standards, NACTA which is the National Counterterrorism Authority at the Ministry of Interior. In view of the highly complex security context of Pakistan this is a delicate initiative. Fulco travelled to Pakistan with Greenacre on an assessment mission that generated quite some interest from civil society, parliamentarians, public opinion makers, government and international stakeholders (Embassies of the UK, the Netherlands, European Union Representative) in the initiative. Concerning the GSP + component, we are supporting the work of BytesforAll (a digital freedom organization) and the consultant to achieve that the EU trade agreement that has explicit human rights and labor rights clauses, can be monitored with active participation from civil society in Pakistan and Brussels.

The project overall project has many obstacles including the relationship between OSF and CWS, which makes it a challenging endeavor. We have decided to stop hosting and managing

the GSP + component in a follow up phase as trade agreements as an enabler for civil society space are not a strategic topic of HSC and are currently discussing with OSF and the local partner to have the initiative hosted by a Trade Union organization.

In a country like Pakistan where civil society space is strongly pushed back, this project may well be significant for keeping the space open as it is supported by government entities with quite some leverage amongst the wider government, the military and corporate sectors.

Drivers of derisking and impact on civil society, Duration: 2017 - 2018

HSC coordinated, managed and was a research partner on the study which looked into the drivers of decisions by banks that lead to derisking of civil society and the impact this has on their humanitarian, human rights, development and peace building work. The study was finalized in March 2018 and provides an analysis on the ways security policies and financial regulatory policies (the FATF recommendations) are interlinked and how this plays out globally and in three countries: Mexico, Brazil and Ireland. The study also presents a number of ongoing initiatives both globally and nationally to identify solutions for derisking which are developed jointly by governments, regulators, banks and civil society. The study was conducted in partnership with ECNL, Ben Hayes, Conectas in Brazil and UnidOSC in Mexico.

During the course of the study HSC was invited to take part in a World Bank – ACAMs project on identifying tangible solutions for derisking through four workstreams 1) changing language in regulatory authorities (Central Banks, Financial Conduct Authorities) manuals based on the revised FATF Recommendation 8, 2) develop technologies that give comfort to banks, other financial institutions and donors when providing services to NGOs, such as an NGO repository for Know Your Client due diligence and exploring ways to NPO banking through virtual currencies and block chain technology, 3) facilitate stakeholders' meetings to find joint solutions whereby the different sectors understand each other's mindsets, needs, challenges, and 4) outreach and communication. Urged on by our own research, this initiative and research conducted by Charity & Security Network and Women Peacemakers Program, we restarted a stakeholders' round table in the Netherlands together in collaboration with the Ministry of Finance on understanding derisking in the Netherlands context and identifying solutions. At this round table hosted by HSC the three Dutch international banks, civil society from various sizes and backgrounds and the ministries of Foreign Affairs and Finance participated. The meeting resulted in a deeper understanding of the issues and a number of suggestions for solutions. It was clear that especially smaller civil society organizations active on human rights or conflict transformation and/or working with partners in conflict areas are more seriously affected by than larger organizations by decisions banks make to comply with AML and CFT recommendations and economic sanctions regimes by the UN, the US and the EU. The Ministry of Finance and HSC continue their collaboration on the round table in 2018 focusing on identifying solutions for smaller civil society organizations in collaboration with the Central Bank and banks that are open to taking on more risk and on exploring the possibility to conduct a risk assessment of civil society which is developed in conjunction with relevant stakeholders: civil society organizations, regulators and banks/the Dutch Banking Association.

In February 2018 the collaboration with the World Bank and the Dutch Ministry of Finance resulted in an International Stakeholders' Dialogue on *Ensuring financial services for civil society,* hosted by the WB, MinFin and HSC. Around 75 civil society organizations, government and inter-governmental organizations, and banks from Europe and the US participated in the meeting which led to concrete suggestions and further steps forward. Once more it was confirmed by participants at the meeting that smaller organizations need to be supported by policy makers, donors and funders to ensure access to banking services. In the perception of most banks, these smaller civil society organizations are high risk and low profit resulting in unfavorable decisions to accept them as clients or go the extra mile to ensure transactions of funds for their partners on the ground. Banks with the reputation to support human rights, environmental rights organizations are not able to provide small organizations that operate internationally the services they need as they rely on corresponding banks for international transactions. These 'correspondents' are big international commercial banks that incline to repeat due diligence procedures on risky customers as they too have to comply with AML/CFT and sanctions rules.

As an offshoot of this dialogue, the Global NPO Coalition has started to advocate to the G-20 members and the Global Financial Partnership on Financial Inclusion (a G-20 initiative that works in tandem with the UN Secretary General advocate on Financial Inclusion, Queen Maxima) to take on political leadership to prevent further derisking of NPOs and particularly those that are working on sensitive topics and in what are perceived to be 'risky environments' such as conflict areas.

By the end of 2017 OSF decided to support HSC with a general support grant for 2018 which will enable further activities on ensuring financial services for civil society.

Building a technical resource hub on the FATF AML/CFT rules across the world

This project started end of 2017 and is supported by the OAK foundation. HSC is partnering with the International and European Centers for Not for Profit Law on this initiative that aims to build capacities of civil society colleagues from our networks to become 'FATF experts'. This consortium provides co-financing to this initiative. Our colleagues across the world will be able to provide technical assistance to civil society organizations in their countries and regions on the FATF risk assessments and evaluations to ensure civil society participation. Currently colleagues from 15 countries have been trained. We set up a list serve and website for this initiative where training materials are developed on-line which can be used by colleagues. The technical resource hub is complementary to the Global NPO Coalition. Whereas the latter is a platform for information exchange, global and regional strategy development and advocacy, the technical hub's objective on capacity development and training. Notwithstanding this distinction, there remain issues concerning complementarity of the hub and the Global Coalition that we will need to address further.

Short-term assignments: training, capacity building, advisory positions. Duration: throughout the year

In January 2017 HSC helped to conduct a training in Beirut for the Women Peacemakers' Program project on PVE and women's organizations in the MENA region. The training focused on financial and regulatory restrictions stemming from the FATF AML/CFT rules on civil society organizations in the region and ways for these organizations to become engaged with the Global NPO Coalition on the FATF for support and advocacy.

In the summer of 2017 HSC co-convened with DFID (UK Development organization) an internal briefing on derisking and NPOs for civil servants from 5 UK ministries presenting the preliminary findings of our study. The engagement with DFID and UK civil society umbrella organizations has since remained and resulted in their support on the G-20 advocacy to obtain political support for our derisking of NPOs related work.

In December, HSC was the co-facilitator and trainer in a workshop on the understanding and application of the FATF Recommendation 8 for civil society and the Ethiopian Financial Intelligence Unit in Addis Ababa. We were invited by the GCCS (Global Center on Cooperative Security) that has been implementing a year-long project on anti-money laundering and countering terrorism financing in the Horn of Africa. It was the first time that the issue was discussed in the presence of civil society and government stakeholders. The result was the commitment by the FIU to discuss with civil society the government's risk assessment for terrorism financing of the NPO sector.

HSC is a member of the steering committee on the WODC commissioned research on the Dutch Terrorism Financing Policy monitor. The research is conducted by the University of Amsterdam Political Sciences Department. HSC is an advisor to the same department's study commissioned by the EU 2020 research horizon program, on 'Follow ML and TF decision making throughout the chain of decision-makers, from banks to recipients and anyone in between'.

Communication and Outreach

Sangeeta is responsible for the overall HSC communication and outreach and for outreach and communication via the FATF platform/website. She manages the social media of HSC and the FATF platform and produces the quarterly newsletter. In addition, she (copy) edits HSC documents for dissemination and publication. Thalia is supporting her in this vital work for our organization.

The HSC website and FATF platform website are continuously improved for user friendliness. Sangeeta and to some lesser extent other team members are posting relevant items on HSC and FATF platform twitter accounts and the HSC FB. In line with the decision taken at the Board meeting of 2016, HSC produces online newsletters every three months with input from the various team members. We have not yet worked on a year report that could be shared with the public and we may reconsider whether such report would be helpful in view of greater visibility and impact of our work. The quarterly newsletter may be sufficient for disseminating our work and results we would like to share with a wider audience.

HSC is careful to show pictures of partners and others that attend events and workshop we organize. Explicit request by partners not to be shown in public outreach are always respected. The events we conduct with e.g. the FATF are always on the Chatham House Rule.

We are preparing for the EU General Data Protection Rule that will be obligatory to all legal entities across the union that use personal data for work-related purposes.

HSC team members receive invitations for presentations or moderation assignments. In this way we are also able to reach out to a variety of audiences about our work. Notable events last year were:

The Common Effort meeting in Berlin which was attended by Theophile. The Common Effort 2017 was 3-day Joint Exercise and High-Level Event to build and promote effective interaction between governmental, non-governmental and military organizations for a safer and more secure world. HSC aims to participate every year in these Common Effort meetings.

A meeting organized by a Qatari charity foundation and their US legal counsel on challenges for humanitarian aid from the Gulf States where HSC was invited to a speak on a panel on financial restrictions and humanitarian work. This meeting resulted in an invitation to be a panelist at the Humanitarian Action Forum, an event organized yearly by the UK based Humanitarian Forum, where we were able to share our work on and with the FATF and invite participants at the event to join the Global NPO Coalition.

4. Plan of activities 2018

Overall HSC

Further develop our organization in terms overall governance keeping in mind that we are a small organization and have been able to prevent too much bureaucracy, but also keeping in mind that procedures and protocols will also help facilitate work flows and guide team members in their daily work. By the end of the year we hope to be ready to invite an ISO auditor to decide whether HSC is 'ISO proof'. Having and ISO certificate will allow HSC to become a leading partner on tenders issued by government and the EU.

We will try to have more internal working sessions for collective learning starting with the session in July on the nexus Youth, women and community leadership for human security and a human security approach to prevent violent extremism.

We are hopeful to hire an additional room in the Nutshuis which will provide space for all team members and for more secluded skype and conference calls.

After the summer Lia, Fulco and Jeanne need to decide on the composition of the team in relation to financial resources, funding possibilities, and strategic choices for the near and mid-term future (2019 - 2022)

We need to be prepared for the GDPR (Algemene Verordening Gegevensbescherming) which will come into force May 25, 2018.

After summer HSC will undergo an ED (equivalency determination) process to enable us to access US philanthropic grants. The process is led by a US law firm specializing on nonprofits and is financed by OSF. When we are granted the ED status, OSF is able to fund HSC institutionally for three-year periods, instead of one-year periods which they are allowed to

do under European law. We would also be able to access other US philanthropic funds (e.g. Ford Foundation or Gates Foundation) that are meant as an investment in our organization. The only requirement for this type of grant is the submission of a financial year and narrative report. Once the grant is approved the funder has no say in how the grant will be spent.

Our plan to establish an advisory group has not come through in 2017. We need to rethink this idea and decide whether such a group would add value to our work and organization.

Youth, Women and Community Leadership for Human Security

The team is exploring possibilities for a continuation of funding of the Youth leadership project in the Netherlands and Tunisia. The second phase of the project will end September 2018 and there is consensus amongst the team, partners and funder that process and results coming out of the project would need to be strengthened and scaled up. The exchange visits are especially appreciated by the stakeholders. Besides a continuation in the Netherlands and Tunisia, possibilities to develop a similar project in Lebanon are explored through the Dutch CVE coordinator in Jordan.

The Libya NAP 1325 project will continue till end of 2019 and the team is keeping an eye on the further continuation of this program and the funding modality. The overall program and funding modalities are being evaluated later this year. HSC put in suggestions to make the NAP 1325 funds available to smaller organizations instead of placing thresholds in terms of financial track record and absorption capacity that would allow only large organizations to apply.

The implementation by Jeanne and co-trainers of the Youth Leadership and PVE curriculum which she and a team of consultants developed for the OSCE VERLT (Violent Extremism Leading to Terrorism) program for youth leaders from countries in the Balkan provides HSC with further practice and expertise on building capacities of youth leaders and understanding why exercises are perceived positively or less so. This supports the further development of the curriculum which HSC can implement in other contexts too.

Developing a human security perspective to and approach to policies and programs in contexts where violent extremism is a threat to stability and development

There is appreciation for the work by all stakeholders conducted by HSC in Mali under the ARC program. Obviously, the funder, MoFA DSH, sees merit in the involvement of specialized organizations like ours instead of only having large multi-purpose organizations' involvement in the ARC program. However, DSH seems to be moving back to calls for multi-million Euro tenders (over Eur 10 million) when the next ARC programming cycle in 2021 starts. This would mean that HSC would not be able to take on a leading position on follow up tenders. HSC will have to decide how to position ourselves in view of the future of the ARC funding modality and explore partnerships beyond our current consortium partners, Norwegian Church Aid and ICCO, that enable us to continue the work we started under the current ARC project.

Depending on the results of the Development – CVE toolkit pilots in Mali and Tunisia, a plan for rolling out the toolkit in a number of Dutch Embassies across the world and at the MoFa in the Hague for relevant civil servants, will be developed after summer. A positive development is that all departments that are involved in the toolkit, DVB, DSH and DSO see the merit of it. Especially the support from DSO is important as they are the funders of a number of programs for financing civil society (e.g. Dialogue and Dissent partnership) and for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

Regarding the CVE masterclass, the results of conducting this in Sudan, Ethiopia (CVE Masterclass 1) and Nigeria (Masterclass 2) will inform a decision later this year to include other countries and Dutch Embassies. The Ethiopia masterclass will be topped up with funding from the Australian Embassy which opens an opportunity to invite the Indonesian National Counter terrorism agency to hold a presentation on the CVE plan of Action in its country. The connection between Ethiopia and Indonesia on CVE training of civil servants made possible by the Masterclass opens up possibilities for other 'south-south connections' which adds value to the Dutch contribution to the Master class.

The initiative on community-based CVE in Mindanao is followed through with a PVE campaign that the BDA would like to launch. HSC has been approached to provide input in the campaign.

HSC is planning to take part in the Common Effort exercise and high-level event that will be held in the Hague in June. The focus country this year will be Tunisia.

In terms of further strategic development of both programs whereby further integration is a key topic, an internal working session is planned for July with the entire team. The session is being prepared by Fulco, Jeanne and Theophile.

Solutions for regulatory and financial restrictions of civil society that stem from the FATF Anti-Money Laundering and Countering Financing of Terrorism Rules

Follow up grants from OSF for the projects in Indonesia and Pakistan are in the pipeline.

HSC was again invited as a resource person at a second regional meeting organized by GIABA about the implementation of R8 based on national or sectoral risk assessments and engagement with civil society in member countries in March of this year. Following through these regional meetings and benefitting from our work in Mali under the ARC project, HSC has facilitated outreach of the 'Cellule Nationale de Traitement des informations Financières (CENTIF)' to the civil society organizations that partner with HSC. The objective was to:

- Strengthen the capacity of the implementing partners to fight against money laundering and the financing of terrorism;
- Make civil society organizations aware of their role to operate in a secure environment;
- To prepare the ground for future collaboration between HSC, FECONG, CENTIF and Think Peace based on a pilot project to tackle money laundering and terrorism financing in Francophone zone.

The OSF office in West Africa is a potential co-funder of this activity which can serve as an approach for other countries that are part of GIABA.

HSC will deliver a presentation on derisking and NPOs at the GAFILAT (Latin American FATF) plenary in Panama and support a side event on risk assessments for NPOs together with I/ECNL and partner organizations in Latin America.

As a follow through of a HSC presentation at Global Counter Terrorism Forum regional meeting on AML and CFT in Egypt for countries in the Horn of Africa, the EU approached us to discuss a potential capacity building project on NPO risk assessment for the prevention of terrorism financing in this region.

HSC delivered a presentation on the FATF Private Sector Consultative Forum in Vienna in March which was well received and helped in our advocacy to stimulate G-20 members to pledge political support to solutions that prevent derisking of NPOs.

Under the general support grant from OSF for derisking related activities, HSC is 1) providing support to ongoing activities in above mentioned countries, the Netherlands and with the World Bank, 2) able to develop and prepare tip-sheets and visuals for civil society to understand drivers of derisking and what solutions may be possible, 3) able to improve the FATF platform website through amongst others posting of these visuals, 4) able to reach out to platforms of banks like Triodos and ASN for leveraging our derisking related work, and 5) support a project in the UK that provides support to complainants to file complaints through a law firm to the Information Commissioner's Office about commercial companies of risk profiles which are used by banks and others for customer due diligence in order to prevent support to money laundering and terrorism financing. These complainants have been risk profiled as a terrorist by these companies, like World Check (owned by Thomson Reuters), based on open source data. As soon as an individual or legal entity like a civil society organization appears on WC list you receive a red flag by the bank which means that you may be a risky customer, and this can be sufficient reason for the bank to end your account.

In the Netherlands HSC will convene with the Ministry of Finance a meeting for small civil society organizations, the MoFA, and banks on specific challenges of these organizations with their banks and need to identify solutions together, and a meeting with larger civil society, the Central Bank and the AFM on the World Bank work streams to solve derisking and whether these can be adopted in the Dutch context and the EU.

The Oak supported FATF expert hub will be further developed with emphasis on materials for colleagues across the world that have committed to build capacities on the FATF for civil society engagement on risk assessments and country evaluations.

The Sigrid Rausing Trust is interested in providing financial support to the Global NPO Coalition and the website which allows us to make improvements especially regarding including visuals and fact sheets. A meeting is scheduled for the end of May.

Communications and outreach

Sangeeta and Thalia have prepared a plan to improve the websites, training and outreach materials and facilitate dissemination of these materials.