ANNUAL REPORT 2020

HUMAN SECURITY COLLECTIVE





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FOREWORD

Dear Reader,

Our 2019 Annual Report began with the statement that 2019 was a special year for Human Security Collective. Who could have anticipated then that 2020 was the beginning of an era that would become unforgettable for us all!

Looking back at the Covid 19 year, we are grateful and relieved that the pandemic has not led to a complete disruption for our team and our work, and thankful that together with our partners and the support from our donors we have been able to continue implementation on our projects. We are conscious that so many others across the world have been much less fortunate – a realization that has motivated our team to go the extra mile.

Zoom became our go-to tool for interaction and, like so many others, we were at first delighted by its versatility and inclusivity. Soon enough, though, we experienced its limitations as well. Some of our partners and the communities they work with do not have (uninterrupted) access to the internet, others felt uneasy with the initial lack of security safeguards video-call applications provided, and we all began to suffer from 'Zoom fatigue'. It is a compliment to the team and our partners that despite these challenges, projects could continue apace. We are appreciative of the motivation of our partners to carry on with the work when they and their families were struggling with access to much-needed healthcare and other essential support mechanisms for dealing with the pandemic.

The Covid 19 pandemic has put a spotlight on many deficiencies in the world, including on the shortcomings of state-driven security without oversight or the countervailing power of civilians and civil society.



The notion of human security and how to apply this in situations of insecurity and instability have now become even more important. In our programmes, the threats and vulnerabilities as experienced by people and their communities are the entry point for developing policy and programmes to address these real and perceived risks.

As our Inclusive Leadership part of programme, we train and mentor young persons to better understand, reflect, and act on the insecurities in their daily lives and that of the communities they are part of. In our bottom-up approach, we facilitate connections of youth with policymakers, educators, and other stakeholders such as community police officers to provide them with a broader scope of possibilities for change. We can see the impact of this approach in the way youth gain more self-esteem and confidence to contribute to positive and tangible change.

In 2020, our work in this programme has included on- and offline training for youth leaders connected to the Center for the Study of Islam and Democracy in Tunisia. In North Cameroon and South Philippines, the Inclusive Leadership work is embedded in a project that aims to safeguard freedom of religion and belief in contexts where these can be manipulated by state and non-state actors.



It is a compliment to the team and our partners that despite these challenges, projects could continue apace.

In Mali, we are working with community leaders to help enable them to play an active role in the prevention of conflicts and in peacebuilding in areas where violent extremists gain influence by the day – part of a broader project that addresses the root causes of these conflicts.

Our programme on the nexus of Security and encompasses Development initiatives that address the root causes of conflict. The Security and Development toolkit developed by HSC for the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs is part of this programme. This toolkit contains a methodology for policymakers and programme officers to validate development systemically project proposals that are implemented in areas where terrorist and criminal networks are active. Application of the toolkit is mandatory for the approval of these projects. We have trained Dutch government officials, their local government counterparts, and development partners in the application of the methodology of the toolkit, with onsite trainings having taken place in Kenya and Burkina Faso.

Other elements in this programme are the Masterclasses on the prevention of violent extremism with government and civil society and the multistakeholder roundtables to ensure that countering terrorism financing rules and regulations are implemented with the meaningful participation of civil society. We aim to roll out a combination of the above - addressing the root causes of conflict, the toolkit, the Masterclasses, and countering terrorism financing stakeholder dialogues - in a number of selected countries in Africa in the coming year.

Our programme on safeguarding civil society and civic space affected by these countering terrorism financing rules has in 2020 focused on financial access challenges and restrictions that civil society organizations face. We cohosted a virtual event to raise high-level attention around the issue at the Civil Society 20 conference on the margins of the G20, which was attended by over 2000 participants across the world. In the Netherlands, two roundtables on the issue were organized, in partnership with the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Dutch Banking Association, attended by ministry representatives, the Financial Intelligence Unit, bankers, the CBF (the Netherlands Fundraising regulator), and colleagues from small and large civil society organizations. We were also invited to present our work in expert panels on the subject throughout the year.

Finally, we obtained an ISO 9001 certificate. The entire team can be proud of this achievement which was the result of an intensive process that was also very helpful in terms of improving the organizational pillars of our foundation.

I would like to express my gratitude to our team and everyone that supported HSC in the past year. We are thankful to our Board members for their constructive critique, advice and good company. Last but not least, a deep thank you to all our partners and donors for their invaluable support that enables us to learn from our achievements and mistakes, to reflect, and to grow.

Lia van Broekhoven

Executive Director Human Security Collective



WHO WE ARE

Human Security Collective (HSC) is a foundation based in The Hague working on issues of development, security and the involvement of citizens in their communities and societies. We believe that the idea of Human Security, with its focus on people, relationships and human rights, provides an organizing frame for action. Based on the elements of trust-creation, local ownership, empowerment and collective action, we facilitate conversation between civil society, policy shapers and other actors to promote alternative approaches to current security practice.





OUR WORKING THEMES

Our work is carried out in three themes. In our daily work, though, these themes intersect and cut across the work that we do, informing how we approach issues.



Development/ PVE Nexus

Impact of Countering Financing of Terrorism (CFT)Measures on Civil Society



2020 IN REVIEW



1. Inclusive leadership



In our work on **Inclusive Leadership**, we envision a world in which all people are seen as valuable allies for building resilient communities. We are dedicated towards investing in providing opportunities for women, young people and marginalized groups to play an active role in identifying and addressing complex social issues in collaboration with others. For that, we a) create safe spaces for them to explore their talents to contribute towards safety in their communities; b) connect them with key stakeholders in society to create new ideas to tackle dynamic social issues.

In our approach, we recognize that complex social issues require citizens to become more actively engaged in decision-making that has a direct impact on their lives. Our Inclusive Leadership work particularly encourages young citizens from disadvantaged communities to collectively analyze the most pressing human security issues at stake and discuss possible solutions.

IN 2020

As part of the Dutch National Action Plan 1325, Cordaid and HSC joined forces from 2016 to 2020 with 8 Libyan partners to enable women's leadership and political participation in Libya. The project 'Women and Youth as Bridge builders: Strengthening Resilience in Libya' supported strong, resourceful women and men in Libya to create more peaceful communities, and participate meaningfully and equally in various peace processes as well as in conflict resolution and prevention. The project, with its long-term commitment, deepened local partnerships through capacity building, lobby and advocacy, and information and knowledge sharing. For more information on the situation in Libya, read the new research paper on Libya based on collected stories by the 8 Libyan partners 'Measuring daily safety for effective peacebuilding'



A total of 67 women and men were trained through the programme



Libyan partners during a workshop



shows that the programme deepened local partnerships through capacity building, lobby and advocacy, and information and knowledge sharing.



A programme to increase voluntary social service amongst youth, the coalition Time 4 Your Future (T4YF), (Maatschappelijke Dienst Tijd), grew further in 2020. What began in 2018 as a pilot programme in Delft has grown to also include the Greater Hague Area. The partnership now includes Plans & Pixels, Participe. ROC Mondriaan. Human Security Collective and youth ambassadors. We launched a website and are currently developing an app that will allow youth and coaches to more closely follow the developments in T4YF. HSC and others organized a series of trainings that would build skills such as appreciative listening and empathic communication. After the training sessions, the participants would be matched with an organization where they could work as a volunteer. The youth have participated in all kinds of social initiatives, including supporting other young people while fishing, walking with elderly people, organizing innovative activities. The youth involved are developing further trainings and facilitating this themselves with the support of the T4YF coaches.



Time 4 Your Future participants, together with some HSC team members



In 2020, we reached 128 young people and arranged 20 placements for volunteers, including at Flex College, Specific Postand, Green, Delft, support, and

Sportief Besteed Groep, Delft support and Delft voor Elkaar

Under the 'Young Leaders for a Better Tomorrow' project, Human Security Collective partnered with the Centre for the Study for Islam and Democracy (CSID) to strengthen the leadership skills of 400 young Tunisians in 10 governorates. This effort falls within a larger framework of strengthening the Tunisian democratic transition and preventing violent extremism in Tunisia.



400 young Tunisians in 10 governorates were trained throughout the

programme



25 coaches strengthened their capacities over the course of the programme



Coaches working on a Theory of Change

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In 2020, despite the COVID-related work and travel challenges, we were able to work with young people from different backgrounds on capacity building on the core themes of human security and Freedom of Religion and Belief (FoRB). We worked closely with 40 young people in Mindanao, Philippines and 31 from the Far North of Cameroon. They have conducted community mapping exercises in the areas where they live, and have begun developing their own initiatives to address pressing human security issues. In the Philippines, we have focused specifically on Mindanao, including Cotabato, Iligan, Lanao del Norte, Maguindanao and Marawi. In the coming time, these young people will themselves become equipped to become trainers on these topics.



Engaged with over 70 young leaders

from different backgrounds on capacity building

The following results were achieved over the course of the Cameroon workshop:

- Participants learned about the seven domains of human security and applied them to the local context
- Participants identified potential resources within their communities which may form a basis for development projects
- Participants learned and applied techniques of non-violent communication

In 2020, the three-year action research programme, **PARTICIPATION**, kicked off. HSC is part of a consortium funded by the EU (Horizon 2020) comprising 15 European universities and NGOs in Europe. We are studying future perspectives and trends of polarization, extremism and radicalization. Central to this programme are participative methodologies, permitting the cocreation of effective strategies for prevention with social actors, stakeholders and policymakers.

In the first half of 2021, the plan is to conduct research on the policy and practice of the prevention of radicalization leading to violent extremism in the Dutch context, both at national and municipal levels.



Workshop participants from the Far North of Cameroon identifying resources within their communities for their development project



Maroua, Cameroon, workshop participants



2. DEVELOPMENT/ PVE NEXUS



We seek to understand **violent extremism (VE)** as part of broader conflict in society, that should be analyzed and approached from a conflict transformation perspective. This is a long-term approach, allowing us to understand the root causes and drivers of VE and to address them through developmental interventions.

Development can enable communities to build resilience against VE, and governments to respond better to the needs of citizens. Ownership by local communities is key, as well as the strengthening of the social contract between the State and its citizens, creating inclusive governance and decision making and building leadership at both community and governance level. We see developing and implementing action plans for the prevention of violent extremism (PVE) itself as a process of conflict transformation, shifting power relations, and leading to transitional justice and reconciliation. Building trust among stakeholders and being more inclusive are prerequisites for the breadth of our interventions towards effective PVE.

This year we focused much of our efforts on the African continent, including working to address the root causes of armed conflict and violence in Mali, setting up a human rights observatory in Cameroon, and developing and disseminating a PVE Toolkit that serves as an instrument to help make development programmes PVE-sensitive.

IN 2020

In 2020, HSC was involved in an Observatory for monitoring human rights violations within the context of state responses to violent extremism in the Boko Haram affected areas of Far North Cameroon. The initiative is backed by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) office on the Prevention of Violent Extremism in Africa, with technical support from HSC, and implemented by a consortium of civil society organizations based in the region.



170 incidents reported

across the three sites where human rights monitoring activities took place, namely Tourou, Amchide and Waza

The pilot phase of the Observatory yielded the following outputs:

- Implementation of capacity development workshops to train Observatory staff on monitoring and human rights
- Production of monthly reports reporting on human rights violations across the three sites
- Liaison with security forces, administrative authorities, traditional and religious leaders, community members, and civil society to address human rights violations



The 'Addressing the Root Causes (ARC) of Armed Conflict and Violence in Mali through a Human Security Approach' programme is part of a four-year (2017-2020), multi-country programme to combat conflict, instability, and irregular migration. In Mali, the focus is on the issue of violence and conflict. Funded by the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Kerk in Actie (KIA), it is being implemented in the regions of Mopti, Timbuktu, Gao, and the district of Bamako by a consortium made up of Norwegian Church Aid (NCA), ICCO Cooperation, and Human Security Collective (HSC) in partnership with 12 local NGOs. HSC's role in this programme is to work to ensure that the interests of the involved communities related to conflict and local security are represented and communicated to the national government and international security and development actors.



Outreach included 140 community leaders and 70 religious leaders



We helped facilitate an inter-religious dialogue at the G5 Sahel level



We provided support for the integration of a PVE dimension in the local development plans of five communes of Bamako

HSC developed a PVE Toolkit, commissioned by the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The PVE Toolkit offers policymakers and practitioners а comprehensive and hands-on instrument for analysis and design and helps to provide clarity on the relevance and feasibility of making development programs PVE-sensitive. The Toolkit was completed in 2019 and the Strategic Programme for training on the PVE Toolkit begun in April 2020. The training was implemented in a hybrid manner, both in-person and virtual. The training sessions in Mozambigue (AIAS programme), Kenya (LISTEN programme), Somalia (IDLO, Miisaan and Dan Wadaag programmes) and Burkina Faso (programmes rolled out by CDC/AJDS and EducommunicAfrik) have resulted in adjustments to these programmes mentioned, resulting in the inclusion of PVE indicators in baseline studies when carried out. Training sessions have also been conducted in Uganda.







Inter-religion dialogue to design actions plan



Conducting a training session in Kenya for the LISTEN programme

3. Impact of countering the Financing of terrorism (CFT) Measures on civil society



The events of 9/11 twenty years ago determined, in large part, the counterterrorism architecture as we see it today. Under intense pressure from the US in the immediate aftermath of the events of that fateful day in 2001, multilateral bodies such as the United Nations (UN) and the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) were mobilized to put in place sanctions as well as rules and regulations to counter terrorism and terrorism financing. This was then to be supplemented by laws and regulations enforced at the national level. And many regional organizations have further supplemented the UN and FATF's counterterrorism and terrorism financing frameworks, encouraging or mandating member implementation.

These rules and regulations have had enormous consequences on non-profit organizations (NPOs) and the space in which they operate. The discourse around NPOs being a conduit for terrorism financing, whether wittingly or unwittingly, has been pervasive and sticky, despite the paucity of empirical evidence over the years. Whether it is onerous registration, licensing and/or reporting requirements, restrictions on receiving foreign funding, financial access issues or restrictions on the freedoms of expression and association, the operational threshold for NPOs worldwide is inordinately high today.

HSC was instrumental, together with partner organizations, in the founding of a coalition of NPOs (the Global NPO Coalition on FATF) that has advocated over the years for mitigating the unintended (and, sometimes, intended) consequences of the countering the financing of terrorism agenda on the nonprofit sector.

Milestones include:

- Retraction of the claim (in 2016) that the NPO sector is 'particularly vulnerable' to terrorist abuse.
- Formalization of a risk-based approach (as opposed to a rule-based one), which means a more proportionate and context-specific implementation of the counterterrorism standards.

- Awareness-raising and coalition-building at the global, regional and national levels, to help mitigate the effects of the security agenda that constrain civil society operating space.
- Establishment of regular engagement between the FATF Secretariat and NPOs, which allows for more effective NPO participation.

IN 2020

Multilateral advocacy continued apace, with HSC engaging in the G20/C20 process in Saudi Arabia

HSC and Islamic Relief Worldwide jointly organised a <u>multistakeholder panel</u> during the C20 Summit titled 'Financial inclusion as a lifeline for NPOs – how the current financial integrity/financial exclusion conundrum can be resolved'. This <u>blog</u> outlined our advocacy asks in terms of what the G20 could do to mitigate the financial access challenges and financial exclusion facing many nonprofits.



HSC co-convened multistakeholder panel during the C20 Summit

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Financial Action Task Force (FATF)

Germany took over the FATF Presidency in 2020 for a two-year term. The Global NPO Coalition had a call with incoming President Marcus Pleyer and his team just before he took office. Additionally, there have been a series of sustained virtual meetings between the Global NPO Coalition and the FATF Secretariat (policy development and other teams), at the working group level, throughout the year. The appointment of a new focal point for NPOs at the Secretariat has also helped. This is in addition to the annual Public Sector Consultative Forum, at which the Coalition has four seats.

The FATF has, in this period, been engaged in a strategic review process 'to consider the experience of the conduct of mutual evaluations to date which should inform the future of FATF's work post the current round of mutual evaluations. This will aim to strengthen the efficiency and the effectiveness of FATF and make the FATF's country assessments and monitoring processes more timely, effective and risk-based'. The review process will be completed in 2021.







Two Roundtables were organized in The Netherlands

with the Ministries of Finance and Foreign Affairs, the Financial Intelligence Unit, NPOs and banks to discuss financial access issues faced by NPOs as a result of anti-money-laundering (AML), CFT regulations, among others.

The discussions at the Roundtable have resulted in:

- The design by HSC, CBF, ABNAMRO and RABO bank of an NPO portal to facilitate access to banking services, especially for smaller organizations
- An agreement with some of the NPOs and the Ministry of Finance about submitting input for the FATF country evaluation of the Netherlands
- Addressing issues related to the draft law on the WTMO (Wet Transparantie Maatschappelijke Organisaties) and the way the POCOB (Parlementaire Ondervragings Commissie naar Ongewenste – financiële – uit onvrije landen) is impacting the WTMO process
- Addressing the impact of EU AML/CFT laws and regulations and international sanctions on humanitarian and development organizations.







In-country multi-stakeholder engagement

HSC participated in and facilitated multistakeholder engagement around the AML/CFT agenda and its consequences for civil society in numerous countries over the year, bringing together various arms of the government including Ministries of Finance, Internal Affairs, and Justice and the Financial Intelligence Units, the private sector (banks), the Banking Associations, and the regulators (Central Banks) with NPOs.

Engagement was around issues of financial access, beneficial ownership, and the blanket application/misuse of counterterrorism and money laundering laws and regulations to constrain the operational environment for legitimate charitable activity. HSC took part in such dialogue processes in countries as varied as the Netherlands (see above), <u>Kosovo, Kyrgyzstan</u>, and <u>Nigeria</u>, among others.



HSC spearhead a piece of empirical research

on <u>financial exclusion/challenges facing</u> <u>NPOs in Tunisia</u>. For more on the issue, do listen to the <u>recording of this webinar</u> on 'The Impact of Bank De-risking on Humanitarian Action', organized by PHAP and ICVA, and featuring HSC and NPO Coalition members, among others.

Multilateral engagement

The Global Counterterrorism Forum (GCTF) has launched an initiative on 'Ensuring the Effective Implementation of Countering the Financing of Terrorism Measures While Safeguarding Civic Space'. This initiative is being co-led by The Netherlands, Morocco and the UN Office of Counterterrorism (UNOCT), and implemented by the Global Center on Cooperative Security. It envisages the development of a GCTF Good Practice Memorandum on implementing effective and risk-based CFT measures that avoid negatively affecting civic space and humanitarian operations. Global multi-stakeholder consultations have been planned between December 2020 and May 2021, and the NPO Coalition is monitoring this process and engaging with caution. The Good Practice Memorandum will be presented for endorsement at the GCTF Ministerial Meeting in September 2021.



HSC co-authored a report on financial exclusion/challenges facing NPOs in Tunisia



Initiative on Ensuring the Implementation of Countering the Financing of Terrorism Measures While Safeguarding Civic Space:

The Way Forward – Good Practices and Lessons Learned

GCTF's virtual launch event on the initiative co-led by the Netherlands, Morocco and the UNOCT



HIGHLIGHT: OUR WORK AT HOME

RESEARCH

A three-year action research programme, PARTICIPATION is part of a consortium funded by the EU (Horizon 2020), studying trends in radical ideologies and extremism, exploring drivers of polarization and radicalization, as well as methods for prevention. For more information, see page **12** and visit the project website **here**.

CAPACITY BUILDING

As part of our Inclusive Leadership programme, the **T4YF** project is a chance for young people to gain experience through volunteer work and gain a better idea about their future prospects. For more information on the programme, see page **11**.

The **PVE Toolkit** has been developed by HSC, with support from the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs, to offer policymakers and practitioners a hands-on tool to assess the possibility of implementing ODA-programmes in a context (not yet) affected by violent extremism. Read more about the toolkit on page **15**

ADVOCACY AND NETWORKING

HSC is the convener of the **Dutch Roundtable** on financial access issues faced by NPOs as a result of AML/CFT regulations. Together with the Dutch Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and the Dutch Banking Association (NVB), we bring together banks, civil society and policy makers to discuss remedies. Read more on page **18**



OUR PEOPLE

STAFF



Lia van Broekhoven, Executive Director



Fulco van Deventer, Deputy Director



Jeanne Abdulla, Director of Programmes



Sangeeta Goswami, Policy Advocacy Adviser and Communications Manager



Theophile Djedjebi, Senior Programme Manager



Siebrich Visser, Programme Manager



Yasmine Haloui, MENA Coordinator



Thalia Malmberg, Programme Manager



Mark Hann, Programme Manager



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We are grateful for the continuing support of our donors:





Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands

SIGRID RAUSING TRUST



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FINANCIAL RESULT AND OPERATING STATEMENT

| | Actual <u>2020</u> | Budget <u>2020</u> | Actual <u>2019</u> |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Income | x €1.000 | x €1.000 | x €1.000 |
| | | | |
| Contributions HSC Mutation project prerequisites | 1.464 -402 | 1.636 | 1.050 31 |
| Mutation project prerequisites | | 211 | |
| | 1.062 | 1.847 | 1.081 |
| Direct Project Expenses | 298 | 978 | 454 |
| Gross margin | 764 | 869 | 627 |
| <u>Expenditures</u> | | | |
| Personnel | 545 | 647 | 545 |
| Organization | 39 | 29 | 1 |
| General | 16 | 75 | 104 |
| Housing | 11 | 14 | 10 |
| Services | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| ICT | 12 | 16 | 16 |
| | 623 | 782 | 677 |
| Sub-total Result | 141 | 87 | -50 |
| Other Income | 50 | 90 | 59 |
| Interest | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total other income | 50 | 90 | 59 |
| Result | 191 | 177 | 9 |
| | | | |
| Financial position | 31-12-2020 | | 31-12-2019 |
| Prolonged Available Capacity | | | |
| <u>Equity</u> | | | |
| General reserve | 705.063 | | 519.957 |
| Reserve professional development | 37.237 | | 30.901 |
| | | | |
| | 742.300 | | 550.858 |
| Increase compared to previous year | | | |
| Operating surplus/ deficit | 185.106 | | 3.931 |
| Addition/ withdrawal facilities | 6.336 | | 5.172 |
| | 191.442 | | 9.102 |
| | | | |



BALANCE AS PER 31 DECEMBER 2020

| 31-12-2020 | 31-12-2019 |
|------------|--|
| | |
| | |
| 13.204 | 54.764 |
| 1.483.153 | 819.117 |
| 1.496.357 | 873.881 |
| 108.772 | 79.368 |
| | |
| 1.387.585 | 794.514 |
| | |
| 593.071 | -67.823 |
| | |
| 0 | 0 |
| 191.442 | 9,102 |
| | |
| | |
| 191.442 | 9.102 |
| | 13.204 <u>1.483.153</u> 1.496.357 108.772 1.387.585 593.071 0 191.442 |



