



## **Annual Report 2015**

### **Introduction**

The year can be characterized by a number of successes and a number of (slight) disappointments for the foundation. The team closed the year with a feeling of optimism about the future of HSC while recognizing the continued challenge to sustain the organization financially.

The achievements of 2015 are presented in the financial report and in the narrative report. The narrative report starts with a short overview of the financial sustainability of HSC, its project and program development and developments related to the composition of the team.

Each team member has written in their own words achievements according to the activities they planned for 2015.

The reports ends with challenges and possibilities for 2016 and beyond, which are presented in more detail in the 2016 operational plan.

### **1. Financial sustainability and program development**

HSC received a two-year follow up grant from Open Society Foundation (OSF) for the Financial Action Task Force related work, and a 18 month new grant from the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs/DVB (department of Security Policy) for an innovative pilot project on youth leadership and resilience in the municipality of Delft in the Netherlands which is implemented in tandem with a similar program in Tunisia.

The consortium application in which HSC took part for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs/DSO (Department for support of civil society) for their partnership program on lobby and advocacy with the aim to secure an enabling civil society did not materialize. Follow up conversations with HSC to become involved in the program as think and do tank did not lead to the anticipated result. The Ministry/DSO and the umbrella organization for development cooperation, Partos, expressed a continued interest in the work and networks of HSC. HSC however will not actively pursue a partnership with them. Experience so far has shown that the investments in dialogue and negotiation with both the Ministry/DSO and Partos are too time consuming and have not led to any concrete funding result.

Through a number of consultancies HSC not only generated income for its equity, but also managed to gain insights in countering violent extremism programs, in particular with regard to the decision-making of these programs, ways in which they are executed and their ownership. It helped the foundation in gaining a better understanding of the relationship between human security and CVE, and in informed decision-making on ways to implement CVE activities.

The three directors decided to decrease their gross salaries by way of charging 0.9 FTE instead of 1 FTE (40 hours) to the foundation. The savings on salary costs helped increase the foundation's reserve capital.

2015 was the last year HSC received institutional funding from Cordaid. Through savings on salaries, consultancy related income, and projects that were approved, HSC ends the year with a positive balance on its account. The balance will be used as working capital to further develop the foundation in 2016 and beyond. (for more detail see Financial report 2015 and Financial forecast 2016)

## **2. Team members**

In view of strengthening the organization and making it less vulnerable in terms of available capacities, HSC decided to offer a contract for an indefinite term to Siebrich who has become HSC program officer. HSC renewed the contract of Sangeeta who is the foundation's communication and advocacy officer.

In October an intern joined the team. Dorine IJsseling, who will stay until the end of May, is an MA student at the "University of Humanistiek" in Utrecht. She has accepted a assignment as project assistant, is participating in research related to the Delft-Tunisia program and supervised by Jeanne and Siebrich.

The entire team contributes to the visibility of the organization. Based on feedback from various persons and institutions it can be said that HSC reputation as an organization that has knowledge on combining sound practice with influencing policy making in the field of a human security and a civil society approach to countering violent extremism is growing abroad and in the Netherlands.

The team organized various sessions with the aim to learn from each other's practice, discuss current discourses on CVE/Countering Violent Extremism and human security, to develop a more focused approach to its mission, and a funding strategy that has a "healthy mix" between project and program subsidy and consultancy income. HSC anticipates this to be a continual challenge as the balance between "opportunities for new funding and partnerships" and "focus on existing projects" needs to be calibrated from time to time. The current development related funding environment is volatile and increasingly program and project-based. Government or inter-governmental funding is granted out through tenders which have administrative and financial conditions that make it almost inaccessible for smaller organizations. Working in consortia is therefore the only option to access these funds.

Institutional funding is an exception and mainly given by private foundations for a specific cause and within a specific time-horizon.

### **3. Achievements**

#### **Sangeeta – communication and advocacy officer**

##### **Communication:**

The Civil Society Platform on the FATF (<http://fatfplatform.org/>) was built and launched in February 2015. It has been set up to ensure that civil society is effectively engaged in the debate on antimoney laundering and combatting terrorism financing. The website was produced under the 'Standing up Against Counter-Terrorism Measures that Constrain Civic Space' project, supported in part by a grant from the Open Society Foundation's Human Rights Initiative. The platform has been populated with resources and useful links for nonprofits dealing with the constraining effects of FATF policy on civic space. It has country-specific information as well as good-practice recommendations for governments. The platform is being widely used – the current unique hit counter now stands at almost 55,000. There is a nascent Early Warning and Alert System (EWAS) on the site and this, along with the country pages, both need to be developed further. Additionally, there is a twitter account linked to this platform – the feed for which appears on the site. The next stage in the platform's evolution is to make it more interactive, with users being able to join webinars, write blogs, comment on articles/blogs, take surveys and ask questions. It is envisaged that this particular forum will facilitate debate and discussion, and ensure an accessible and effective structured dialogue between civil society and the FATF policy-making organ – with the ultimate goal of protecting the operating space of nonprofits.

The HSC website has also been streamlined. There is now more internal capacity capture to accurately reflect what we do. Discussions on whether to overhaul it completely are ongoing. The HSC newsletter was launched in October 2015. It will be published quarterly. At the moment it is mainly disseminated through social media. There were further discussions on how to proceed with the Civil Society Network for Human Security, and it was decided that the best way forward was to have an associates/affiliates page on the HSC website. This will need to be compiled.

##### **Advocacy:**

FATF OSF project (together with Lia) – A further two-year grant from OSF means that the Global NPO Coalition on FATF can continue its lobby and advocacy efforts – raising awareness in-country on FATF, its policies and their effect on civil society, as well as engaging with the FATF and their observers, like the World Bank, directly on revising its policies, conducting a risk based approach and to making their evaluations more effective.

##### **Acquisition:**

Helped finalize the Knowledge Platform proposal on Comprehensive Approaches to Human Security. If funding is granted, my role will be in coordinating the research and helping manage the project in the areas identified (Egypt, Kurdistan, Palestine). Worked on two more proposals which did not materialize – one for Berghof Foundation (Germany) and the other for the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (UK).

##### **Learning and research:**

Attended the International Countering Violent Extremism (CVE) Research Conference organized by Hedayah in Abu Dhabi – learning about the latest efforts in the field of CVE/PVE and networking with those working in the area.

Did a 2-day WordPress course which helped with building the FATF platform and streamlining the HSC one.

## **Siebrich – Program officer**

### ➤ **Developing a human security strategy and approach to counter violent extremism in Mali**

- January 2015 visit to Mali for an internal meeting with the consortium, where we reflected upon 2014, and planned for 2015. Many side meetings took place, with CSO's/civil society organizations as well as the African Union; Commission for Justice and Reconciliation; Chinese and Dutch Embassy as well as the EU Delegation and MINUSMA.
- 31 April/ 1<sup>st</sup> May: Co-organized (with WANEP/West African Network for Peacebuilding and GPPAC/Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict) International Reflection Meeting in Bamako, where we provided an introduction to a human security approach to CVE, as well as input on push and pull factors in the Malian context – to start the discussion and prepare group work, which concluded with recommendations towards different actors.  
(Meeting was attended by Malian and international CSO's, as well as focal points WANEP different Malian regions, as well as some government representatives and representatives of embassies). Blog on discussion can be read here:  
<http://www.hscollective.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/06/Blog-Mali-final.pdf>
- 21 July-14 August visit to Mali: Mid-Term Review of Project took place. Furthermore, HSC co-organized training and reflection meeting on SSR/Security Sector Reform with DCAF/Democratic Control of Armed Forces, and WANEP, for WANEP's civil society network. Training included presentation on CVE engagement from CS and Human Security perspective, including dilemmas, as well as a brainstorm on push and pull factors of violent extremism. Between two meetings there was time for networking and research on perceptions of CSO's on current peace/security context in Mali – especially after peace agreement had been signed in June.
- June and December 2015: participation (together with GPPAC) in preparatory training of European military staff MINUSMA to be deployed within information department (ASIFU) of MINUSMA. Training focused on human security approach; diversity of CS players in Mali; perceptions on MINUSMA among population as well as civil-military relations.
- November 2015: Organized visit WANEP (coordinator and board member) to The Hague and Brussels. This is in period that WANEP is finalizing last (2<sup>nd</sup>) phase of consultations on human security in different regions of Mali, and could share outcomes with policymakers in The Hague and Brussels. Next to individual meetings (MFA/Ministry of Foreign Affairs; MoD/Ministry of Defense), we organized together with EPLO/European Peace Liaison Office a brown bag lunch for Brussels based CSO's and policymakers working on Mali;  
<http://www.hscollective.org/announcement/eplo-brown-bag-lunch-event-with-wanepmali/>

### ➤ **Women and Youth Against Violence project**

- Helped in regional exchange in Istanbul with young leaders from Libya; Palestine and Iraqi-Kurdistan. Exchange included training on human security facilitated by Jeanne,

during which we made use of the Human Security Challenge aiming at learning on complexity of security issues. We received very positive feedback on the Human Security Challenge, which the young leaders found very useful. In the reflection, links were made with how decisions on security policies are made 'in the real world'.

### **Advocacy**

- On Mali: see project implementation.
- December / London, participation in roundtable on nexus CVE / Development, organized by Global Center on Cooperative Security. Provided introductory remarks on interaction with CVE from human security approach and background.

### **Acquisition**

- In 2015, we haven't been able to find funding to continue work in Mali, after finalizing human security project in Mali (2016 is final year). We will continue to invest in this in 2016. We did co-develop a proposal, together with Africa Study Centre in Leiden, for Berghof Foundation Call, for action-research on initiative with religious communities (including inter/intra religious dialogue) contributing to inclusive conflict transformation. Unfortunately it did not materialize.
- Helped in preparing proposal for a pilot project in The Hague with young leaders, in which engagement and analyses by young leaders on how they understand the issue of radicalization which can lead to violent extremism within their context, for a call for 'The Hague Innovators', which did not materialize. This helped preparing a proposal on Tunisian and Dutch leaders, for which we received a grant.

### **Learning**

- Participated in 'Common Effort' meeting in Berlin, May 2015, organized by German/Netherlands Corps, focusing on comprehensive approach. During this meeting, participated together with military and other security personnel as well as civil servants and CSO's in a planning exercise for a UN intervention. Official ceremony took place where Human Security Collective (our chair) signed Common Effort statement.
- Did training on Analytic Storytelling, which helped to prepare a storyline for presentations. □ Did weekly French course, to keep French up to date for work in Mali.

### **Jeanne – Program Director**

#### **Project implementation**

##### **➤ *Women and Youth Against Violence project***

- Provide a human security training for the Libya group in May 2015. The program provided capacity building on a Human Security approach to tackling safety issues. Also facilitated a regional exchange between youth groups from West Bank, Gaza and Libyan change makers. Participants managed to exchange good practices, challenges and opportunities on their strategies improving the security.
- Helped to prepare and facilitate the international training on Lobby and Advocacy organized by UNOY/United Network of Young Peacebuilders in The Hague in March 2015.

- Took part in two expert panels (OSCE/Organisation for Security and Collaboration in European and Amman declaration) to advocate for the role of young change makers in decision-making on CVE.

### **Advocacy**

- Algiers CVE summit 22/23 July

As part of the Dutch mission, presented a vision on young leadership in preventing violent extremism.

- Youth CVE summit and Strong Cities event New York, 29 September

Attended both the youth CVE summit and the launch of the Strong Cities Network (SCN) at the United Nations.

### **Programme development**

- **The Human Security Challenge**

Early 2015, HSC finalized the development of the Human Security Challenge together with Perspectivity. Tested the Human Security Challenge in Istanbul during a regional workshop with women rights activists (HIVOS network) and also at the Kultur University (in cooperation with GPoT/Global Political Trends Center). It was played during a regional training in Istanbul with young civil society activists (Women and Youth against violence project) and it was also played with human rights activists who were invited to attend an international training organized by Justice and Peace. By the end of 2015 the human security challenge has developed into a good module for participants to experience the complexity of security challenges.

- **Further development of youth leadership programme in the Mena region**

The investment in partnership development with Pyalara did not materialize as HSC had planned to travel together with Pyalara to Kurdistan but they could not make it. Furthermore HSC was invited to submit a proposal on Delft and Tunisia and therefore had to set priorities. Other opportunities on cooperation may arrive in 2016.

In February a mission to Erbil, Kurdistan took place for needs assessment capacity building and partnership. Out of that mission and the meeting with members of GPoT in May 2015 the idea developed to work on a joint research. This finally materialized into submitting a joint proposal on Comprehensive Approaches to Human Security (Egypt, Kurdistan, Palestine).

- **Writing a proposal Tunisian and Dutch youth leaders**

The presentation at the Algiers meeting resulted into an invitation to write a proposal on preventing violent extremism in Tunisia and Delft. The proposal was submitted in October 2015 and granted in November 2015. The project runs from January 2016 until June 2017.

### **Acquisition**

- Invested in meetings with staff and the chair of the executive board of the Haagse Hogeschool to explore ways to develop and provide lectures on human security that would strengthen existing minor and major subject matters. By the end of 2015 we were invited to provide guest lectures on Human Security and CVE.

- Beginning of 2015 we developed a project together with to submit to The Hague city council which provides funds for initiatives on Peace, Justice and Security. This project did not materialize. However, we have continued to invest more time and effort into establishing a diversity of contacts at the Municipal level (Delft, Rijswijk and the Hague) to work on preventing young people from radicalization that leads to violent extremism. Our contacts in Delft led to a partnership funded by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (department of Security Policy).

### **Fulco – Deputy Director**

- Supported Siebrich in the organization and presentation of the International Tier Group meeting in Bamako, Mali, as part of the midterm review of the Mali Human Security Project with Wanep and GPPAC. Lobby meeting with the Mali Wanep team in the Netherlands and Brussels.
- Preparation and facilitation of national workshops for CTED on UN Security Council resolution 1624/2178, one in Mombassa Kenya and one in Tunis, Tunisia.
- Counter radicalization expert for EUTANS/Civipol (The consultant and service company of the French Interior Ministry) programme in Nigeria on the implementation of a CVE strategy
- Trainings for the Hague Academy, ICCT/International Center for Counter-terrorism, Clingendael on CVE and Human Security
- Facilitation of meetings for MoFA and the Hague Institute for Global Justice on Security, SSR and CVE
- Mapping study for the Dutch Embassy in Nigeria on a CVE programme and developing a CVE Masterclass for Nigerian policy makers in the Netherlands.

### **Advocacy**

- Presentation at UN CTED/Counter Terrorism Executive Directorate UN Security Council Resolution 1624 10 years anniversary on CVE strategy and the programmatic approach, and lessons learned from national workshops
- Presentation in Sarajevo, OSCE, on CVE/Counter terrorism strategy and community engagement
- Presentation Madrid, CTED Foreign Terrorist Fighters expert meeting on foreign fighters
- Presentations at Dutch MoFA on Sahel security strategies and extremist groups

### **Board membership**

- Building up Civil Society constituency for the GCERF/Global Community Engagement Resilience Fund Board, and attending two board meetings. GCERF was established by the Global Counter terrorism Forum/GCTF to enable granting out small-sized community based CVE grants

### **Programme development**

- Developing training modules on CT/CVE/ and conflict transformation for various audiences based on training sessions in primarily Nigeria.

### **Acquisition:**

A small proposal for the British FO in Kenya and the proposal for a CVE Masterclass for Nigerian policy makers in The Netherlands (MoFA/DVB), did not result in funding. A project on Rehabilitation with ICCT and GCCS was approved by US State Department and will be implemented in 2016/2017

## **Lia – Executive Director**

### **Overall management and learning**

In March the first institutional and project audit of the Cordaid financed Youth Leadership project was conducted with a largely positive result. The audit has led to a few improvements in our financial and time-writing reporting system which made in collaboration with HSC financial officer, Wim Ruijgrok.

The foundation is diversifying its project portfolio and partnerships which resulted to more regular team meetings. These meetings serve a dual purpose 1) to keep each other informed about individual/team projects and activities and 2) to discuss ongoing work and initiatives and learn from each other's approaches. A decision was made to develop modules about Youth leadership and Social Cohesion and developing a CVE engagement strategy between civil society and government authorities, using the practical and ongoing experiences of HSC team members.

HSC is a "flat and small organization" which contributes to an open culture and quick decision-making. The team members have capabilities and skills that are complementary and are able to replace one another when required on the different projects. In anticipation of a growing number of projects and partnerships in 2016, the team discussed the possibility of hiring additional staff in 2016 or working with associates. Team members are very dedicated to the work which is advantageous for the foundation, however the team also indicated that the small size of the organization makes it vulnerable for unforeseen events such as prolonged sickness or absence. None of these have occurred yet but merits attention by the director in particular when the number of projects and programs will grow as is foreseen.

The need for focus and clarity on HSC mission was discussed a number of times in particular in relation to the organization's position vis-à-vis the quickly developing CVE discourse, and its ambition to become more active in the Netherlands.

### **FATF network building, advocacy and program development**

A number of significant strides were made in amending Recommendation 8 of the FATF Anti Money Laundering and Countering Financing of Terrorism Standard. A Global Nonprofit Coalition on the FATF was established by HSC and others. Currently over 100 organizations and networks from diverse civil society backgrounds and countries world-wide take part in engagement with the FATF. The FATF NPO platform/website is frequently used as a source

of information and as a tool for disseminating advocacy messages (see Sangeeta's chapter). The FATF Secretariat considers HSC as a trusted interlocutor between them and civil society. In addition HSC has developed a constructive relationship on FATF matters with the World Bank, the UN CTED/Counter Executive Directorate, and the Dutch Ministry of Finance and Foreign Affairs. HSC helped organize the nonprofit consultation organized by the FATF president in Brussels in March 2015 through suggesting nonprofits that should be invited and co-facilitating a break-out session. HSC organizes brainstorm sessions with the FATF secretariat in preparation for activities that require nonprofit consultation and input.

The engagement with the FATF by the Global Coalition and suggestion made by the coalition for better engagement with nonprofits led to a decision for a permanent representation of nonprofits at the FATF Private Consultative Forum Group where the task force discusses its policies with banks and other financial institutions, lawyers, notaries, etc, and to an improved outreach of the taskforce to nonprofits world-wide through e.g. online questionnaires and consultations. Input for the revision of Recommendation 8 were done through an online consultation.

HSC and its European consortium partners produced papers on 1) A risk based approach for Nonprofits to preventing terrorism financing, 2) the Analysis of the FATF mutual evaluations of Norway, Spain and Belgium which were shared among a number of relevant stakeholders and disseminated via the website. This consortium organized meetings in Germany, the Netherlands and Brussels with the aim to establish and strengthen local nonprofit coalitions that are able to engage their FATF delegation leaders (from Ministry of Finances, Justice and Central Banks) and FATF evaluators. It established a constructive relationship with DG Justice at the European Commission which harbors the EU FATF delegation. The delegation is responsible for capacity building of member states civil servants on transposing the EU AML/CFT directive which is modelled after the FATF standard into national laws, rules and regulations.

HSC and Statewatch produced a paper on Moneyval, the Regional FATF body that is housed at the Council of Europe and covers Eastern Europe, the Balkan countries, Caucasus, Holy See, Israel, Rusland etc, and started an engagement with the Moneyval Secretariat to address negative consequences of the FATF standard on civil society in countries covered by Moneyval.

HSC supported a network of gender and women empowerment organizations spearheaded by the Women Peacemakers' Program on incorporating the effects of counter terrorism measures, and including those of the FATF in their lobby towards the UN, and the SCR 1325 in particular. This collaboration and partnership resulted in incorporation of CTM and FATF in the report of the UN Secretary General to the Security Council on the renewal of 1325. The follow up resolution, 2242, on Women Peace and Security adopted in October 2015, specifically mentions the monitoring of counter terrorism measures on women organizations at country level in collaboration with the UN.

## Acquisition and presentations

Together with the European Foundation Center and the European Center for Not for Profit Law a renewal of the OSF grant for FATF related work was secured.

A meeting was organized with the Chairman of the Executive Board of the “ Haagse Hogeschool” (Polytechnic in the Hague) to look into possibility for collaboration (see Jeanne’s chapter). The Haagse Hogeschool has the ambition to become the most international polytechnic in the Netherlands with a student population of 25.000 of which 25% is from countries outside of the Netherlands. It actively seeks collaboration with organizations in the Hague that are active on peace, security and human rights.

Fonds 1818, a private foundation based in the Hague, approached HSC to organize an event on refugees which we agreed to collaborate with as it provides an opportunity to address the arrival of new comers in already vulnerable neighborhoods in municipalities in the wider environs of the Hague from the perspective of social cohesion and resilience (akin to the approach of the Tunisia-Delft project). Fonds 1818 invests in active citizenship and local connections and partnership in the Hague and neighboring municipalities. Their projects are focused on empowerment, local leadership, inclusion, poverty-alleviation, and environmental sustainability. HSC is exploring further collaboration with the Fund and is open to collaboration with Justice and Peace the Netherlands in initiatives supported by the Fund.

A renewed effort was made to access a grant from the Dutch Embassy in Jakarta for a civil society engagement on CVE project in collaboration with the Indonesian NGO PINGO. A concept note has been submitted which is endorsed by Indonesian civil society and the Indonesian Counter terrorism coordinator (BNPT) of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs .

Various panels and presentations on FATF and a Human Security approach to CVE: In Stockholm at the Global Civil Society Forum, in NYC at the Commission on the Status of Women, in Yogyakarta during the ASEAN Peace and Reconciliation Policy event, in Brussels at various events organized by the European External Action Services, the Human Rights and Democracy Network and Development Cooperation/Stability and Peace Instrument department, in London at Amnesty International, and in the Hague at the launch of the Global Counterterrorism Index.

A BBC 4 radio team interviewed HSC on the commercial data provider World Check which is used by banks and other financial institutions, NGOs, governments and others that have to perform due diligence procedures on their clients and partners for compliance with the FATF and other global Anti Money Laundering and Countering Terrorism Financing standards. The reporters were also able to access through an intermediary organization of HSC the WC data base to check on UK entries of Muslim Charities and individuals which are allegedly supporting terrorist groups. <http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b0639w47>

HSC co-organized an event on digital security issues in relation to the digital freedom of civil society during the Borders Sessions event in the Hague. This type of events help raise HSC profile on humans security related matters in the Netherlands.