DRAFT UNAIDS Civil Society Engagement Marker Guidance (August 2018)

What is a civil society engagement marker?

Fostering meaningful engagement with civil society is a cornerstone of the work of the Joint Programme. As such, there have been growing calls for better ways of tracking the way that the Joint Programme allocates resources and engages with civil society. However, there are several challenges in collecting this type of data. The civil society engagement marker (CSM) is an approach which addresses these challenges as it provides a simple yet effective way of monitoring investment in civil society engagement that can be applied consistently across Joint workplans. While the system does not allow for tracking direct expenditures on civil society engagement, it gives an indicative idea of the investments made on the Joint Programme's engagement with civil society. This is achieved by marking deliverables from the Joint Plans with codes that determine the level of contribution to civil society engagement.

The CSM is a resource tracking mechanism based on a coding system which is intended to measure the extent to which and how UNAIDS engages with civil society. The CSM enables UNAIDS to:

- track investments (budget and expenditure) for results relating to how the Joint Programme engages with civil society, while monitoring and analyzing trends
- improve accountability on how the Joint Programme engages with civil society

Note: if possible, track investments to civil society organizations by component of the community response for which investments focused: advocacy and participation in accountability, community service delivery, community-led research, community financing. For a full description on the components of community responses to HIV please see "Communities Deliver"
*(*http://www.unaids.org/sites/default/files/media_asset/UNAIDS_JC2725_CommunitiesDeliver_en.pdf)

How to apply the civil society engagement marker to UNAIDS Joint Plans?

1. As the Joint Plan is being drafted/revised, use the *Checklist for planning and reporting on civil society engagement to ensure that it is incorporated into your Joint Plan (being finalized).*
2. When the Joint Plan is complete, assign each of the deliverables a CSM score
3. There are four rating codes as described in the box below. The criteria used to apply each rating code is also explained.

Rating Code	Rating description
0 or N/A	no consultation with civil society/community and no engagement with civil society/community
1	consultation and engagement with civil society/community
2	consultation and engagement with civil society/community and civil society/community is responsible for implementing the activity (i.e. receives direct funds from Joint Programme)
3	conceived and designed by civil society/community, and civil society/community is responsible for implementing the activity (i.e. receives direct funds from Joint Programme)

The criteria used to apply ratings are as follows:

Rating code 0 or N/A: no consultation with civil society/community and no engagement with civil society/community

This category includes deliverables of a workplan where there is no consultation with civil society/community and no engagement with civil society/community and there are hardly any entry points for civil society engagement. This is not to be viewed as negative as not all activities in a Joint Work Plan need to involve civil society. If the deliverable falls under this category, it will:

- be of a technical nature and cover mainly operational activities such as IT support, cost of office premises, building maintenance and repairs etc.
- activities clearly with no community focus or aspects

Rating code 1: consultation with civil society

This category includes deliverables of a workplan where there is consultation with civil society/community and where there are entry points for meaningful engagement. ***Rating code 1 may be viewed as the general goal for the majority of workplans.*** If the workplan falls under this category, it will:

- contribute to the engagement of civil society/community
- ensure specific consideration has been given to civil society/community needs.

Rating code 2: consultation and engagement with civil society/community and civil society/community is responsible for implementing the activity

Deliverables that fall into this category are strongly linked with consultation and engagement of civil society/community and civil society/community is responsible for implementing the activity and receive funds from the Joint Programme. If the deliverable falls under this category, it will:

- contribute to the engagement of civil society
- ensure specific consideration has been given to civil society/community needs
- be implemented directly by civil society/community (from Joint Programme funds)

Rating code 3: conceived and designed by civil society/community, and civil society/community is responsible for implementing the activity

This category includes deliverables where the intervention was conceived and designed by civil society/community, and civil society/community is responsible for implementing the activity. If the deliverable falls under this category, it will

- contribute to the engagement of civil society
- ensure specific consideration has been given to civil society/community and its needs
- be conceived and designed by civil society/community
- be implemented directly by civil society/community (from Joint Programme funds)

How is the civil society engagement marker data used?

The CSM data is analysed and will be aggregated for each region and the global level. A global financial benchmark will need to be set based on the planning data. A global CSM report will be prepared based on the planning data and subsequently a final report is based on the expenditure data.