

Report

Strategy meeting of the Core Team

Global Coalition for Social Protection Floors

7-8, March 2016, Geneva, Switzerland

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Day 1, Monday 7th of March: Status quo of SPF and our Coalition, starting to work on our joint future

1. Introduction

The Strategy Meeting was opened by Yvonne Theemann, Senior Program Officer at the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung Geneva Office (FES). She delineated the most important steps of the Coalition's history and further explained the workshop's purpose and program.

2. Aims of the Strategy Meeting of the Core Team

The aim of the Strategy Meeting was to define short, mid, long-term future activities with a priority given to the national level. Furthermore, it intended to compare notes on past activities including a detailed report from the meeting in New Delhi, January 27th- 29th 2016.

3. Expectations

Subsequent to the first working session during which participants presented their SPF projects in small workgroups, they stated their expectations of the Strategy Meeting. By way of classification, expectations can be differentiated among aspects regarding internal concerns of the Coalition and thematic concerns.

In summary, participants wished to address the following points:

Internal Concerns of the Coalition

- Financing and Budgeting
- Representation at the SPIAC-B
- Positioning on the international level between the World Bank and their concept of Social Safety Nets and the International Labor Organization (ILO)
- To clear and re-focus the Coalition's objectives
- Organization of Social Media Strategies

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Thematic Concerns

- Refugee crisis with regard to Social Protection
- Capacity Building for civil servants and civil society organizations
- Role of the Informal Sector

4. Opportunities and Gaps

The Strategic Meeting continued with identifying Gaps and opportunities. Gaps had been previously defined as the critical assessment of the Coalition's work, its added value, its constituency as well as its sustainability. On the other hand, opportunities were to be outlined on all levels, national, regional and international, and linked back to national implementation. All participants were asked to individually elaborate on three categories. Their findings were summarized and presented.

1) Accomplishments / Achievements

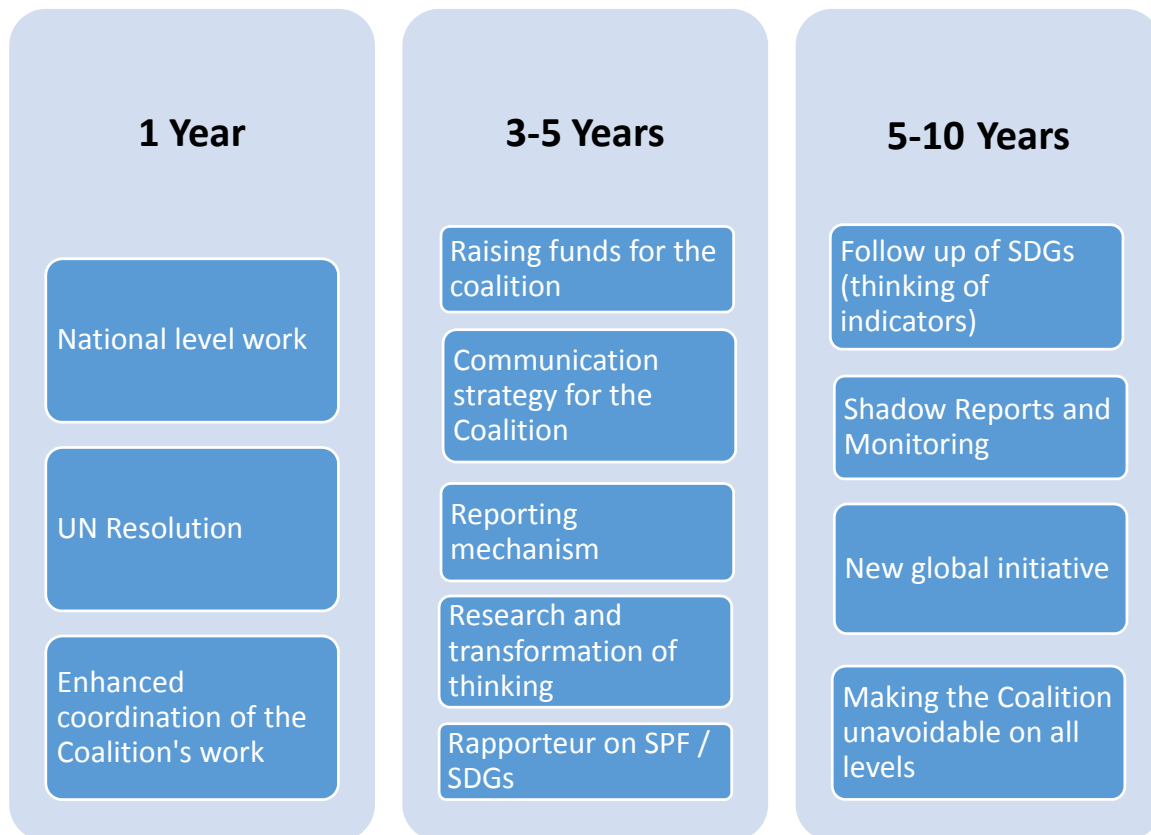
- The Coalition itself, its recognition, its diverse and strong membership manifests an achievement
- The Coalition's advocacy work towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), Human Rights Mechanisms including the Human Rights Council and the European Union
- Other activities including the website, the Civil Society Guide to National Protection Floors, Financing for Development

2) Gaps: What could be achieved but was not

- Funding for both; Social Protection Policies (national and international) and for the Coalition
- Researching and monitoring of implementation
- Social Protection Floor concept within the SDGs
- Capacity building at national and regional levels throughout sub-coalitions
- More participation in Coalition's decision making process
- Partnering with relevant actors beyond the ILO and stakeholders such as the private sector

3) Picture the Coalition in the short, mid and long term

- a. What are the opportunities?
- b. How can we seize them?



4. Challenges

Following the presentation participants were invited to raise concerns and challenges in respect to the gaps and opportunities which had been identified before.

Externally

- SPF and SDGs: it is important to clarify common features and differences and to ensure that SPF is not all about SDGs
- National implementation: how to contribute to its improvement, how to empower on the ground partners and civil society actors
- SPF awareness: how to raise awareness and impart knowledge on SPF
- Taxation area: engage with the work of the Independent Commission for the Reform of International Corporate Taxation (ICRICT) which is a group of leaders from around the world who believe that there is both an urgent need and an unprecedented opportunity to bring about significant reform of the international corporate taxation system.

Internally

- Publications: release information in different language and not only in English
- Structure: create national and regional contact points to generate a better oversight and more inclusive participation

- Strategy: overcome the nature of a loose network and bring in line individual activities alternatively distinguish better between common activities of the Coalition and individual activities
- Communication: better and improved use of social media channels
- Funding: difficult to think of generating sustained financial funding, instead elaborate on technological transfers

Day 2, Tuesday 8th of March, Defining our next activities and joining forces with other potential partners

The second day of the Strategic Meeting first continued the small working group session of the previous afternoon. In light of the identified gaps and opportunities, participants had been asked to elaborate on future (short, mid and long term) projects and activities. The results were summarized and presented to the plenary. Responsibilities were assigned and a timeframe was created covering short, mid and long term outlooks.

Time Period	Activity	Responsibility
Short – Term (within 1 year)	High Political Forum	Winifred, Sergei, Christina
	Civil Society Spotlight Report	Căcilie
	UN ECOSOC Resolution	Sergei, Wouter, Odile, Căcilie
	Statement on Refugees	Moussa
Medium – Term (3-5 years)	Policy Papers	See below
	Working Groups	See below
	Mapping of Expertise within the Coalition	All
	Rapporteur on SPF and SDGs	
	Human Right Council Resolution	
Long – Term (5-10 years)	National Shadow Reports	Priti, Ebenezer, Edmond
	Set up Regional Focal Points	See Below
	National Coalition FES - Country Projects	Căcilie
	Networking and Advocacy Work	All

Policy Papers	
Topic	Responsible
Universality vs. Targeting	Gala, Odile, Daniel, Mariavic
Human Rights Approach	Wouter, Priti
Legal Frameworks	Ebenezer
Tax Justice	Yvonne
Misuse Social Protection	Klaus, Mariavic

Working Groups	
Topic	Responsible
Finance	Yvonne, Samuel, Mareike, Daniel, Mariavic
Communication	Samuel, Edmond, Moussa
Unpaid Care and Social Protection	Priti, Gala, Sergei, Căcilie

Regional Focal Points	
Region	Responsible
Asia	Samuel, Priti, Tilak
Latin America	Gala
MENA	Moussa
Africa	Edmond
Eastern Europe	Barbara?

Joint Meeting with ILO-experts and SPF-Coordinators from various FES offices

Isabel Ortiz, Director Social Protection Department ILO, joined the Coalition alongside SPF coordinators from various FES Offices. Isabel Ortiz gave an overview of her work and recent developments in the field of social protection. She introduced the participants to the Social Protection Inter-Agency Cooperation Board (SPICA-B) which was established in 2012 and is co-chaired by the ILO and the World Bank. The board aims at coordinating efforts of the international community on social protection initiatives by bringing together leader and technical experts. Moreover, she gave input on the Social Protection Assessment-Based National Dialogue (ABND) which is designed to identify priority areas in national social protection systems. It provides an opportunity for all the stakeholders in the country to come together and have discussions on the existing social security situation and formulate priority policy options. In addition to that, participants were invited to ask questions and raise individual concerns.