

FORUM-ASIA Theory of Change 2023-2027

Strategic Goal 1

Empowered civil society and marginalised communities promoting and protecting human rights, civic space and democracy in Asia.

Overall Impact

An enabling environment for a thriving civic space and stronger democracy towards the realisation, protection and promotion of all human rights in Asia.

Strategic Goal 2

Resilient Asian civil society and marginalised communities continuing their work for human rights, civic space and democracy in a safe and sustainable manner.

Specific Objectives on Gender, Climate Crisis & BHR

Specific Objectives

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1.1 Improved legal, policy and regulatory environment for human rights, civic space and democracy in Asia.

Strengthened the promotion and protection of the right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment of vulnerable and marginalised communities in the context of development projects and business operations.

2.1 Increased protection and support for Asian civil society and marginalised communities including those operating in conflict and climate crisis situations to continue their work on human rights, civic space and democracy in Asia.

1.2 Increased accountability of state and non-state actors on human rights violations and abuses at national, regional and international levels.

Enhanced recognition and inclusion of the rights and issues of vulnerable groups of different gender identities and sexual orientation especially women and LGBTIQ+ groups in FORUM-ASIA operations.

2.2 Improved operational resilience and holistic security of Asian civil society and marginalised communities including those operating in conflict and climate crisis situations to mitigate and respond to threats and attacks and sustain operations in online and offline spaces.



Shrinking civic space, and non-participatory policy making and non-inclusive/weak accountability mechanisms and institutions. Lack of capacities and platforms for meaningful engagement on laws and policies.

Vulnerabilities arising from gender identities and sexual orientation such as women, LGBTIQ+ groups and other marginalised groups being disproportionately impacted by shrinking civic space, democratic backsliding and climate change.



Business operations are not respectful of the rights of communities, especially the vulnerable and marginalised, which lead to environmental degradation and acceleration of the climate crisis



Human rights violations and abuses in online/offline spaces and insufficient support structures and platforms. Armed conflicts, the worsening of the climate crisis, security risks and lack of adequate technical and financial resources for Asian civil society and marginalized communities.

Outcomes as preconditions to specific objectives

1.1.1. Increased capacities of Asian civil society and marginalised communities to effectively engage with policymakers on laws, policies and regulations related to human rights, civic space and democracy.

1.1.2. Enhanced opportunities and spaces for dialogues and meaningful engagements for Asian civil society on laws, policies and regulations related to human rights, civic space and democracy.

1.2.1. Enhanced media and public attention to the plight and views of Asian civil society and marginalised communities pertaining to human rights, civic space and democracy in Asia.

1.2.2. Increased inclusion of Asian civil society and marginalised communities' voices in the debates and deliberations of international and regional human rights mechanisms and other advocacy platforms.

1.2.3. Strengthened advocacies for compliance of existing National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs) with Paris Principles and influence establishment of new NHRIs in Asia.

Strengthened evidentiary base on the impact of business operations on environmental degradation and climate crisis and the linkage with non-democratic processes & policies, shrinking civic space and human rights violations and abuses.

Increased capacities of Asian civil society and marginalised communities to conduct impactful advocacy on climate change preventive measures, including adaptation and mitigation ones, as well as effective remedies for human rights violations and abuses.

Enhanced operationalisation of gender policies and procedures in FORUM-ASIA programmes and operations.

Increased participation and consideration of issues faced by all vulnerable groups of different gender identities and sexual orientation especially women and LGBTIQ+ groups in FORUM-ASIA projects and programmes.

2.1.1. Strengthened availability of timely and substantive support to at-risk Asian civil society and marginalised communities in Asia to continue their human rights and environment protection work.

2.1.2. Strengthened national and regional initiatives including creation of platforms for knowledge sharing on protection of Asian civil society and networks including sustainable temporary relocation mechanisms in Asia.

2.2.1. Enhanced holistic security skills (digital and physical security, and psycho-social wellbeing) of civil society and marginalised communities operating in repressive, conflict and climate crisis situations.

2.2.2. Increased capacities of members, partners and Asian civil society organisations on strategic communication, resource mobilisation, financial management and M&E/project management.

Strategic Interventions

C A R E S

capacity building

advocacy

research

emergency assistance

strategic communications

Collect and synthesise credible and verifiable evidence through research.

Conduct evidence-based advocacy on all levels

Needs based capacity building of Asian civil society and marginalized communities.

Protect and safeguard civil society marginalised communities in both preventive and responsive manner

Strategic communication and engaging with media and audiences who can influence change