

**Concept Note on the upcoming F2F Meeting of the
SDC's Thematic Network "Conflict and Human Rights" (CHRnet),
18 to 20 June 2019, in Geneva, Switzerland**

With the strategic objective to end poverty and reduce fragility and humanitarian crises, fostering peaceful, just and inclusive societies is the key to leave no one behind. For the Agenda 2030 to be a success, however, we need to embrace and address fragilities, conflicts and human rights. We need to know if we do the right things, i.e. we need to understand why we are engaged in fragile contexts and why do we support human rights. We also need to address obstacles to development with conflict sensitive programme management (CSPM) and the Human Rights based Approach (HRBA).

The challenges to sustaining peace, human rights and development are broad and multifaceted, and so is SDC's experience. Across SDC and beyond, the Conflict and Human Rights Network (CHRnet) plays an essential role in informing, learning and shaping SDC's policy and practice on these issues. SDC's way of working on those, reflected in the body of knowledge and wealth of experience of its members, is therefore crucial to the future orientation of our international cooperation when it comes to conflict sensitivity, prevention, aid efficiency and cohesive development.

Since the last F2F in 2016 in Lausanne, the time has come to call in CHRnet members for a great gathering so as to share the learning from the past 3 years, reflect together on global trends and narratives, and catalyse ideas for upcoming programmes and initiatives.

1. Objectives

On behalf of the CHRnet, the Thematic Unit CHR is organizing the next F2F event from 18 to 20 June 2019 in Geneva, Switzerland. The objectives of the F2F are: (a) to enable CHRnet members to learn about current practices and identify common approaches in the thematic areas of fragility, conflict and human rights; (b) to provide further knowhow and inspiration on selected topics relevant for the participants' operational work; (c) to share methodological practices on the integration of CSPM and HRBA; and (d) to promote peer exchange, foster network dynamics and catalyze new initiatives.

Joint discussions, learning and common understanding around selected topics, including on the current joint learning groups, will be prioritised, such as:

- Governance in Fragile Contexts, CHRnet-DDLGN
- Contested Space for Civil Society , CHRnet-DDLGN
- Prevention of Violence and Violent Extremism
- Nexus between Development and Humanitarian Aid
- Civic & Human Rights Education for participation and social cohesion, DDLGN-CHRnet-EDUnet
- Mutual learning on methodological aspects of CSPM, HRBA and RBM.

According to the thematic priorities and the current learning groups, an active collaboration with SDC's Democratization, Decentralisation and Local Governance Network (DDLGN), Gender Network and Poverty Network is ongoing and will be further promoted.

2. Participants

Around 80 participants are expected to register to this event. The target participants are:

- CHRnet members, including staff in Bern and in the Swiss Representations / Country Offices, as well as staff from SDC's partner organisations; and
- Key resource persons from SDC's institutional partners' organisations, who will be invited for specific contributions and inputs.

3. Working languages

The working languages of the F2F event will be English and French. Simultaneous translation (FRE/ENG and ENG/FRE) will be available.

4. Next information to all participants

After the participants' registration, we will jointly draft the agenda of the F2F, based on the results of the survey conducted in December 2018 with all CHRnet members. The next information E-mail in this regard will be sent in March 2019.
