

Enabling Environment Principle Short Definitions

- 1.) **Respect and protection of fundamental civil society freedoms:** Assesses the degree of society-wide freedom of expression, press, association, and assembly and how the state assures the protection of these values.
- 2.) **Supportive legal framework for the work of civil society organisations:** Assesses access and rights to establish organisations, civil society organisation operational independence, plus any formal and informal protections from interference.
- 3.) **Accessible and sustainable resources:** Assesses the availability and ease of access to funding, knowledge and networks, the conditionality of funding and the sustainability of funding sources, plus the bureaucratic and tax burdens placed on CSO actors and donors.
- 4.) **Open and responsive state:** Assesses the legal framework to support access to state information and public transparency, plus the degree, transparency and accountability of government consultations with civil society. This includes access to decision-making, meaningful participation of civil society in political processes, and the associated governance structures.
- 5.) **Supportive public culture and discourses on civil society:** Assesses representation of civil society in public and political debate, perspectives on civil society, the sense of popular sovereignty as a common value, and equal rights to civil participation.
- 6.) **Access to a secure digital environment:** Assesses access to information online, the degree of online government censorship and surveillance, the use of digital defamation and privacy laws to suppress civil society voices, and media literacy and access to technology in society.