



# ENTRY POINTS FOR CIVIL SOCIETY AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR IN THE DEVELOPMENT PLANNING PROCESS

Presented By: M-T Hangula

# Presentation Outline

01

Historical background of the Cooperation between GRN and CSOs in Namibia.

02

Overall objectives of the GRN CSOs Policy Framework

03

Engaging with CSOs: Benefit and Challenges

04

Determining the right course of action

05

Why Involving CSOs in Development Planning

How are CSOs involved? The entry point

Conclusions and Recommendations

# B A C K G R O U N D

## Historical background of cooperation between GRN and CSOs in Namibia.

- Since and well before the country's independence
- Guarantee through Constitution
- GRN good intentions through Help Desk\
- Cooperation Framework
- .
- Joint Participation at International forums

## Overall objectives of the Policy Framework

*“is to create a working partnership for the entire country, its citizens and their civic organisations, and for the Government”.*

Civil Society  
Private Sector



Working together

# Benefits of engaging with CSOs



Based on the roles CSOs play in their societies, the reasons to engage with them in SDGs-based planning and policy processes include:

- They are pivotal for mobilizing public opinion and raising public awareness.
- Their work creates bottom-up demand that holds leaders accountable.
- Engaging CSOs is a way to promote the full participation of local actors and the process helps to strengthen local skills
- Participatory assessment and monitoring processes at the community level can help initiate community-driven action.



# Challenges on getting CSOs involved

- **State and civil society relations –**
  - Competition, rivalry and tensions
- **CSO capacity, in terms human and financial capital**
  - Limited capacity for policy research and analysis
  - Limited experience with policy monitoring tools
  - Mismatched technical capacity
- **Obstacles in organizing and networking**
- **Limited representation and inclusiveness**
- **Limited political space to act**
- **Continuous and incremental process of creating partnerships and collaborations**



# DETERMINING THE RIGHT COURSE OF ACTION

- ✓ Government perception towards CSOs
- ✓ CSOs leveraging and or contributing national strategies
- ✓ Skills transfer for mutual benefit between GRN and CSOs
- ✓ CSOs ease of lobbying and raising awareness at grassroots' levels

# Why involving CSOs in Development Planning

- Their grassroots level base connectivity
- Continued engagement leaving no one behind
- Contribute bottom up approach to ensure ownership

*Portfolio Presentation*



# How are Civil Society involved? The Entry Point

- Assessing the national vision and long-term strategy;
- Aligning sectoral and cross-sectoral strategies; and
- Preparing an interim strategy to achieve progress towards long-term goals. Each of these phases follows the next and provides a general overview of the steps required for a country to prepare and finalize its medium-term development plan.

# Conclusions and Recommendations

- GRN effort to cooperate with CSOs highly encouraged to ensure inclusivity and ownership at all levels;
- GRN efforts to support CSOs financial and human resource capacity building highly recommended; and
- GRN CSOs Partnership Policy Review highly encouraged and recommended constructive partnership and sustainable development
- Cooperation and joint participation at national and international forum highly recommended
- GRN CSOs Policy provisions be implemented



I  
THANK  
YOU