

# SCHEDULE

Active Space Defence

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20 Sept

**09:00-09:30**

OASEN

## Registration in the lobby

Get your name tag and get ready for take-off!

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20 Sept

**09:30-10:15**

OASEN

## Interactive Launch

We launch the Stockholm Civil Society Days and the Active Space Defence with a joint, giant interactive exercise which will help us getting a sense of who is in the room and what's most urgent on the agenda.

A welcoming dialogue follows, a conversation between the conference hosts and participants, including a political outlook with an update on some of the current trends.

### Participants:

Erik Lysén, Director of International Affairs at the Church of Sweden, representing the Civic Space working group at CONCORD Sweden  
Lena Ingelstam, Assistant Director General at Sida, Sweden  
Sarah Birete, Centre for Constitutional Governance in Uganda,  
Nabiela Farouq, Advisor at PaRD secretariat, expert in Governance, Gender and Religion  
Vitalice Meja, Director of Reality of Aid, Ethiopia  
Veronika Mora, Director of Hungarian Environmental Partnership Foundation,

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20 Sept

**10:15-10:40**

OASEN

## Responding More Effectively to the Closing Civic Space Challenge

In recent years, there has been an increasing recognition of the problem of closing

civic space and its impact on civil society and the exercise of civic freedoms in countries around the world. What do we know about how can donors and CSOs respond more strategically and effectively?

The International Center for Not-for-Profit Law (ICNL) will invite dialogue to illuminate possibilities and bring into relief outstanding questions.

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20 Sept

**10:40-11:00**

OASEN

## Break

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20 Sept

**11:00-12:00**

OASEN

## A guided tour of the SCSD

A guide to the conference methodology and a preview of what the afternoon sessions will be about.

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20 Sept

**12:00-13:00**

OASEN

## Lunch

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20 Sept

**13:00-16:00**

HÖRSALEN

## **Walking a Tightrope: Advocacy Groups balancing local legitimacy and foreign support**

The session aims to build a collective awareness and understanding of the legitimacy challenges faced by advocacy groups across the world and how to respond.

In this session, you will share and learn innovative strategies to effectively balance local legitimacy and foreign support, in a way that promotes greater civic accountability and protects the space for citizens to speak out.

Using ted-style pitches, live voting, activist vlogs, and table discussions, participants will explore the key ingredients for strengthening local legitimacy.

Using these ingredients as a frame of analysis, we will explore some of the

dilemmas that organisations face including how to navigate politics and power. Our hypothesis is that you can build more strategic communications and a stronger narrative using these ingredients to tell your story and assert your legitimacy to act and speak out.

### **Key note speakers:**

Ms Sophie Kyagulanyi  
Governance & Accountability Thematic  
Manager, Oxfam Uganda  
Ms Luong Minh Ngoc  
Director, ISEE Vietnam

### **Facilitator:**

Ms Isabel Crabtree-Condor  
Knowledge Broker – Oxfam Knowledge Hub  
Governance & Citizenship

Group work facilitators:

Ms Bettina Huber  
Program Lead Civil Society Space &  
Strengthening, Oxfam [Novib] Mr David  
Saldivar  
Mr Rodrigo Barahona

### **Organizers:**

Oxfam

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20 Sept

**13:00-14:30**

COPAN

## **Sustaining Dialogue in Shrinking Spaces: A tested approach**

An experiential dive into the Sustained Dialogue approach that is successfully used in a number of countries with varying amounts of civil society space. Session attendees will become dialogue participants in this interactive workshop, and will speak from their own experience, and dig deeply into some mutually-identified topics related to civil society space. Together the group will work toward understanding the "problems behind the problem" and explore how interactions and relationships at the

individual-level can connect with local, national, and institutional behaviour. The workshop will provide participants a chance to form individual and collective outputs related to the overall goals for action coming out of the Stockholm Civil Society Days (SCSD), as well as learn a model for dialogue.

### **Facilitators:**

Life & Peace Institute and Abdalla Elsafi,  
Sudanese youth resource-person.  
Additional resource person from Somalia,  
Abdullahi Mohamed Shirwa, Chairman of  
the Somali Peace Line (SPL)

### **Organizers:**

Life & Peace Institute

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20 Sept

**13:00-14:30**

QUIRIGIA

## **Sida's new guiding principles for the cooperation with civil society**

This session is about the new guiding principles for Sida's cooperation with civil society. It aims to present, but more importantly to discuss this Sida interpretation of what is good donorship and good partnership with civil society. The guiding principles and their framework for implementation will be

used by Sida and the Swedish embassies. They will also be used to inspire other donors. Sida will update the guiding principles regularly hence participants are invited to comment and able to influence this policy guidance.

### **Speakers:**

Karin Fällman, Senior Policy Specialist on  
Civil Society, Sida  
Joshua Haynes, USAID Seconded to Sida  
Charlotta Norrby, Head of Civil Society  
Cooperation, Sida

**Organizer:** Sida

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20 Sept

**13:00-14:30**

DJENNÉ

## United Nations for the Peoples? – The role of the UN in ensuring civic space in practice

The normative frameworks of the United Nations form a strong foundation for defending civic space – from the international human rights norms and standards that protect freedom of assembly, association and speech, to Agenda 2030 that promote civic engagement through its calls for multi-stakeholder partnerships, inclusive societies and leaving no-one behind. But how can UN actors and platforms effectively reverse the trends of shrinking civic space and support civil society in practice?

Aiming to identify concrete ideas and opportunities for working with the UN to defend and expand civic space, the session will examine entry-points at various levels of the UN system, including the global UN fora, mechanisms and agencies and UN country teams in repressive environments.

The session will combine brief presentations by representatives of the UN system and civil society with thematic group discussions

where all participants share experiences and explore ideas.

**Speakers:**

Maina Kiai, former Special Rapporteur on the Rights to Freedom of Peaceful Assembly and to Association  
Phil Matsheza, Regional Cluster leader for Governance and Peacebuilding, UNDP Regional Hub Bangkok  
Micah Grzywnowicz, International Advocacy Advisor at Swedish Federation for LGBTQ Rights (RFSL), Member of the UNDP Civil Society Advisory Committee  
Blazhen Maleski, Researcher at Reactor, Macedonia  
Maja Åberg, Senior Policy Adviser, Amnesty International, Swedish Section

**Moderator:**

Matilda Hald, Programme Manager, Dag Hammarskjöld Foundation

**Organizer:**

The Dag Hammarskjöld Foundation

20 Sept

**14:30-15:00**

OASEN

## Break

20 Sept

**15:00-16:30**

QUIRIGIA

## Religious actors working for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) and specifically LGBTQ

UN agencies with particular responsibility for SRHR issues show increased interest to engage in dialogue with faith-based actors. There are religious leaders who want change and therefore are important actors in the work of SRHR in development cooperation and for everyone's human rights. This seminar highlights the strategic role of young prospective religious leaders (informal and formal) and experiences from networking between activist groups and theological seminaries to create scope for marginalized voices to address SRHR issues.

**Facilitator:**

Policy Adviser SRHR Emilie Weiderud, Church of Sweden

**Speakers:**

Professor Charlene Van Der Valt – University of Kwazulu natal (UKZN) and Regional Process Coordinator Arnold Motsau – Inclusive and Affirming Ministries (IAM)

**Organizers:**

Church of Sweden

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20 Sept

**15:00-16:30**

DJENNÉ

## Participation, Empowerment and Protection – How to Safeguard Child and Youth Activism

Children and youth organizations have historically struggled to be recognized as political actors in their own right – a struggle that has deepened as democratic space continues to shrink in many countries. Even though the right to participation is recognised in CRC and by the UN Security Council Resolution 2250 there is little recognition and protection of children as human rights defenders in international law.

This seminar will present the different aspects that affect potential participation of children and youth in political processes, based on recent case studies.

Particularly we will consider: What are the risks that young activists face? How can donors facilitate child and youth participation? With whom does

responsibility lie for their protection and safety?

### Speakers and facilitators:

Meja Vitalice, Director of Reality of Aid, Africa

Annette Lyth, Senior Child Rights Advisor and Child Protection Specialist, Plan International Sweden

Karin Fyrk, Thematic Advisor Child Rights Governance, Save the Children Sweden  
Johanna Teague, Swedish MFA (TBC)

The seminar will be facilitated by Monica Lorensen, Head of Policy & Advocacy, Plan International Sweden

### Organizers:

Plan International Sweden and Save the Children Sweden

20 Sept

**15:00-16:30**

OASEN

## Meet Your Match – an exercise in solidarity and persuasion

Join us for a session that is a mix between speed dating and role playing designed to enhance your skills of persuasion and finding mutually beneficial solutions for different stakeholders in the fight to reclaim civic space. In an improvised, mock-debate participants will develop the arguments of five different actors around a specific example of shrinking civic space: government officials, businesses, donors, politically unengaged citizens and a fellow civil society actors. In several rounds of improvised mock-debates, participants will have the opportunity to explore specific civic space issues through the viewpoint of different actors

and identify persuasive arguments to both counter threats to civic space and build alliances with others affected. The Civic Charter will form the framework for the discussions and will be introduced as a tool for stakeholder engagement.

### Speakers and facilitators:

Brandi Geurkink, Campaign Manager,

International Civil Society Centre

Katja Gürten, Global Partnerships Manager, Global Standard for CSO Accountability

### Organizers:

International Civil Society Centre

### DANCE JAM

Drastic times call for drastic measures. When we need new approaches to our problems, we often sit in meeting rooms and discuss, listen to speeches or panels, or search the internet. But how we go about planning and strategizing might be just as important as the what. This innovative session will use movement (dance) as a method for dealing with issues faced by the closing space for civil society.

### WALK & TALK!

Need some fresh air? There will be organised walking sessions for discussions on topics in need of a fresh take.

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20 Sept

**16:00-17:00**

HÖRSALEN

## Responsibility to protect or the ones needing protection? The role and responsibility of political parties for shrinking – and widening – civic space.

2016 marked the 11th year in a row when countries in which repression is growing outnumbered countries with democratic stride. The trend of shrinking space has received a lot of attention along with growing challenges for civil society. Political actors however are rarely mentioned even though restrictions on civil society often is tailored to suppress political opposition.

By neglecting the role of political parties, we risk overlooking the most important actor for both shrinking and widening space – the law makers. How can political peer-to-peer cooperation contribute to democratic space and respect for civil society?

**Speaker:**

Saskia Brechenmacher is an associate

fellow in Carnegie's Democracy and Rule of Law Program, where her research focuses on civil society, governance, and institutional reform in post-conflict societies and hybrid political regimes.

**Panelists:**

Jorge Valladares, Senior Programme Manager International IDEA

Machris Cabrereros, President of Akbayan Citizen's Action Party, Philippines

Martin Ångeby, Secretary General Swedish International Liberal Center

**Organizers:**

Olof Palme International Center in cooperation with Silc

(Swedish International Liberal Center)

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20 Sept

**17:00-17:30**

OASEN

## Connecting the stars

Our moments from the day. A chance to hear what others heard, share your insights and connect the dots.

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20 Sept

**17:30-19:30**

OASEN

## Reception – Mingle, Music and More

Music performance by Simone Moreno. Finger food, drinks, table tennis and...

**The Whine Bar**

Still have lots to say about shrinking space, but no energy left to be constructive about it?

The whine bar is your place to wind down (or wind yourself up) after a full day at the conference. Order a conversation topic at the bar, bring the topic sign to your table,

and wait for others to join you in a satisfying whining match.

But hey, don't get stuck in a whine-a-thon! Get the frustration out of your system and then let the conversation take you where it wants to go. And make sure to also leave a message of hope at our Table of Praise.



### MAKE ROOM!

Did you start a really interesting discussion during coffee break? Did the session end too soon? Is there an aspect of shrinking space you feel is really urgent to talk about, but can't find it in the program? There are extra rooms available for break-out sessions during the entire conference.

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21 Sept

**09:00-09:15**

OASEN

## Get ready to start

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21 Sept

**09:15-10:00**

OASEN

## A Guided Introduction to Day 2

We start the day with an interactive exercise, a greeting from Carin Jämtin, the Director-General of Sida, and some teasers from today's sessions.

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21 Sept

**10:00-12:00**

HÖRSALEN

## In times of nationalism, fundamentalism and shrinking space – Who will stand up for women's rights?

We look into the gendered aspects of shrinking space and the additional threat that the shrinking space environment poses for women human rights defenders. Increasing fundamentalism, nationalism and focus on traditional values, narrows the space for women and women human rights defenders. If civil society is closed, women human rights defenders have few arenas if any to fight for political influence and for women's human rights.

The gendered aspects of shrinking space is a global phenomenon, and we can see that the space for women's human rights within the EU and bordering countries is also closing. How can the voice of the EU be for defending civic space when it allows the problem to grow even within the EU? In interactive working groups we will build on and draw learnings from the experiences shared by invited guests and from participants, and give concrete recommenda-

tions on how the EU and the international community can step up its work to support and strengthen women's organisations in repressive environments.

### Panelists:

Veronika Móra – head of Hungarian Environmental Partnership Foundation, Hungary  
Blazhen Maleski – researcher, Reactor, Macedonia  
Woman Human Rights Defender, Azerbaijan  
Lena Ag – secretary general Kvinna till Kvinna, Sweden  
Anna Jakenberg Brinck – head of Democracy and Development cooperation unit at Swedish MFA

**Moderator:** Helena Bjuremalm, Senior Policy Specialist on Civil Society, Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida)

**Organizer:** The Kvinna till Kvinna Foundation

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21 Sept

**10:00-11:30**

QUIRIGIA

## LIFELINE for CSOs under attack

With this session we want to give an up-to-date picture of the international trend of shrinking civil space and give ideas on how to counter the trend. Activists from different countries will describe how they successfully worked against closing civil space. We will also inform about how the Lifeline fund can support embattled CSOs.

### Speakers:

Anar Mammadli, EPDE, Azerbaijan  
Mireille Tushiminina, Centre for Democracy and Human Rights, Cameroon  
Carlos Santiago Mazabanda Calles, Fundacion Tiam, Ecuador

### From the Lifeline consortium:

David Moore (ICNL), Sara Brandt (CIVICUS), Åsa Nilsson Söderström (SILC)

### Organizers:

SILC, ICNL and CIVICUS (Lifeline consortium)

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21 Sept

**10:00-11:30**

DJENNÉ

## Exploring holy and unholy alliances – why religion matters in combating shrinking civic space

By using a workshop methodology we aim to extract knowledge and experiences from secular and faith based organisations and different government actors in relation to religion and religious actors in contexts with shrinking civic space.

### **The workshop departs from the following questions:**

1. How do local actors use the limited civic space existing? What roles can different religious actors play in this situation? How can international development and humanitarian actors support the progressive religious actors in these contexts?
2. How and when do we cooperate with religious actors that are reluctant to human rights, democratisation and civic space?
3. When and in what way is it an asset not to be religious in a religious context?

### **Speaker and facilitators:**

Speaker is Nabiela Farouq, Advisor at PaRD secretariat, expert in Governance, Gender and Religion.

The workshop is facilitated by the Swedish Mission Council assisted by Islamic Relief, Church of Sweden, Life & Peace Institute, Swedish Committee for Afghanistan, Sida and Partnership for Religion and Sustainable Development, PaRD

### **Organizers:**

The workshop is organised by the Swedish Mission Council (SMC) and Knowledge forum for religion and development, a working group focusing issues concerning the role of religion in development cooperation. The group consists of members from The Swedish Mission Council, Islamic Relief, Church of Sweden, PMU, The Christian Council of Sweden and Diakonia.

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21 Sept

**10:00-11:30**

OASEN

## Shrinking civic space – a responsibility of business?

Civic freedoms continue to shrink in many countries around the world and attacks on human rights defenders are escalating. Businesses are contributing to this situation, either directly or indirectly in their value chains. The purpose with this session is to analyse the role and responsibility of business in relation to a shrinking civic space and discuss how businesses can play an active role in protecting human rights and natural resource defenders.

The session will be carried out through different round tables with international guests from Colombia and China as well as representatives from Swedish civil society. The round tables will discuss issues such as what responsibility does a company have for its entire value chain and business relations, what actions can responsible companies take to protect civic freedoms, the responsibility of the state, is there a need for binding regulations on business and human rights, public private partnerships as well as the role and impact of Chinese outbound investments around the world.

### **Speakers:**

Leonardo González Perafán, Lawyer & researcher, Project coordinator, Indepaz, Colombia

Huang Zhong, Researcher and Asia Fellow, PILnet and representative of Business & Human Rights Resource Centre, China

Isabel Hilton, journalist and founder of chinadialogue.net

Kalle Bergbom, Head of research, Swedwatch

Åsa Beckius, Policy advisor private sector, Diakonia

Maja Magnusson, FIAN Sweden

### **Moderator:**

Malin Oud, Head of the Raoul Wallenberg Institute's Stockholm office and Team leader, Economic globalisation and human rights

### **Organizers:**

Forum Syd, FIAN, Latinamerikagrupperna, Raoul Wallenberg institute of human rights and humanitarian law, Swedwatch, Diakonia, Amnesty International

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21 Sept

**10:00-11:00**

COPAN

## 2nd chance: Religious actors working for SRHR and specifically LGBTQ

UN agencies with particular responsibility for SRHR issues show increased interest to engage in dialogue with faith-based actors. There are religious leaders who want change and therefore are important actors in the work of SRHR in development cooperation and for everyone's human rights. This seminar highlights the strategic role of young prospective religious leaders (informal and formal) and experiences from networking between activist groups and theological seminaries to create scope for marginalized voices to address SRHR issues.

**Facilitator:**

Policy Adviser SRHR Emilie Weiderud, Church of Sweden

**Speakers:**

Professor Charlene Van Der Valt – University of Kwazulu natal (UKZN) and Regional Process Coordinator Arnold Motsau – Inclusive and Affirming Ministries (IAM)

**Organizers:**

Church of Sweden

21 Sept

**12:00-13:00**

OASEN

## LUNCH

21 Sept

**13:00-17:00**

DJENNÉ

## Flipping the Equation: today's realities of shrinking civic space as a design model for tomorrow's resilient activism

As civil society grapples with the realities of restrictions of space, mobility, and agency, this session will test through an interactive format a number of provocations:

- 1) are conventional assumptions about program design, participation, and impact valid, still?
- 2) what new organizing principles are emerging in the field that require fewer resources?
- 3) do 'user-first' supply chains work in civil society programming?

The content of our double session will be fast-paced and compressed in the form of a design sprint that moves participants from problem identification to initial design of solution for action.

**Key Request:**

we ask participants to come prepared to share the 3 most significant blockers/

challenges they face in developing action combatting or advocating against closing civic space.

Ideally, participants will commit to the entirety of the session (full four hours). It is important that the participants help peers through the design journey and critical thinking process. If participants aren't certain they will be able to commit to the entire 4-hour session, please inform facilitators ahead of time.

**Speakers and facilitators:**

Cecily Rawlinson, Lead: Innovation for Change Network, CIVICUS, @CecilyRawlinson  
Alex Sardar, Chief Innovation Officer, CIVICUS, @alexsardar

**Organizers:**

CIVICUS World Alliance for Citizen Participation

### DOC LOUNGE

Too much talking, too many people? Take a break in the doc lounge and watch some short documentaires connected to shrinking space.

21 Sept

**13:00-15:45**

HÖRSALEN

## Counter-strategies to shrinking space for practitioners in civil society development cooperation

Narrowed democratic space takes different forms in different country contexts, and organisations and activists try to find the best counter-strategies they can. Development cooperation and international solidarity has an important role to play, but are development practitioners changing the way we work fast enough to respond to the urgency of the threats facing civil society?

A session based on group discussions on counter-strategies, in light of the closing democratic space, and best practices in development cooperation, on for example:

- Choice of organisations and initiatives to support
- Funding demands and how not to kill activism by bureaucracy
- Understanding, taking and sharing risks
- Creating safe spaces
- Exploring new actors and arenas to work with (cities, cultural groups, informal networks, etc)
- Showing solidarity and helping to create recognition, visibility and awareness
- Plus additional topics to surface during the discussions at the conference

The purpose of the session is to promote reflection of the attendees from organisations

and donors on what they can do to counter-act (and not contribute to) narrowed space to act for people organising for change. The methodology will include presentations of counter-strategies in different countries, facilitated group discussions and polls.

This session is held under Chatham House rules, which means that information disclosed during the session may be spread by those present, but the source of that information may not be explicitly or implicitly identified.

### **Speakers and facilitator:**

Speakers from organisations around the world affected by the narrowed democratic space.

Session facilitator: Åsa Thomasson, Concord Sweden

**Organizers:** Members of Concord Sweden's working group on civic space: Action Aid, Church of Sweden, Diakonia, FIAN, Forum Syd, IKFF, Kvinna till Kvinna, Plan International Sweden, PMU, Raoul Wallenberg Institute, Save the Children, Swedish International Liberal Centre, Solidarity Sweden-Latin America, Swedish Mission Council, Världsnaturfonden WWF

21 Sept

**15:00-15:30**

OASEN

## Coffe break

21 Sept

**15:30-16:30**

QUIRIGIA

## Dynamic Accountability – putting stakeholder feedback at the heart of CSO accountability practice

Do you support the concept of active stakeholder participation, but regularly face difficulties to ensure that stakeholder wishes, contributions or changing needs on the ground are the real drivers of CSO decisions? Have you ever wondered how to close the feedback loop?

In this session we will explore the link between trust and co-creation with local stakeholders and the protection of civic space, and will propose a dynamic conception of accountability as one possible way to address this issue. Based on participants' knowledge and experience, and enhanced by the Global Standard as a tool for dynamic

CSO accountability, we will conduct a peer coaching session to discuss challenges and to identify best practices in a truly systematic use of feedback.

### **Speakers and facilitators:**

Katja Gürten, Global Partnerships Manager, Global Standard for CSO Accountability  
Brandi Geurkink, Campaign Manager, International Civil Society Centre  
Iliana Nesik, Balkan Civil Society Development Network

### **Organizers:**

International Civil Society Centre

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21 Sept

**16:00-17:00**

**HÖRSALEN**

## Defending spaces for green civil society

Green groups worldwide face growing pressure from hostile governments, as restrictive laws and policies, including on NGO registration, permitted activities, and freedom of speech, affect groups and activists in autocratic and democratic states alike, from China and Russia, to Cambodia and India.

In some repressive societies, the sphere of environmental protection has hitherto enjoyed a greater space and freedom of action than other sectors, allowing for a higher degree of advocacy and scrutiny of public policy; this offered civil society opportunities to advance public goods, such as rule of law, transparency and accountability.

For environmental activists, shrinking space for civil society brings an added concern: the global climate-change agreement, lacking an enforcement mechanism, effectively requires the public to evaluate and verify government implementation of commitments, to assess their adequacy, and to mobilise to

raise national and global ambition. As civil society space closes, so does the ability to exercise that scrutiny, and the capacity to avoid dangerous climate change

This workshop will use a panel discussion among experts and activists focused on environmental politics in China and South-east Asia to stimulate an interactive debate among participants about how to better defend crucial political opportunity spaces for green civil society.

**Speakers:**

Isabel Hilton, chinadialogue  
Malin Oud, Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights and Humanitarian Law (RWI)  
Sam Geall, chinadialogue  
Huang Zhong; Business and Human Rights Resource Centre  
Southeast Asian expert TBC

**Organizers:**

RWI/chinadialogue

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21 Sept

**17:00-17:30**

**OASEN**

## Connecting the stars

Our moments from the day. A chance to hear what others heard, share your insights and connect the dots.



**POP TALKS!**

As a way to take advantage of the knowledge and the brilliant minds present at SCSD we get to listen to short, inspirational talks that will pop up on several occasions during the conference in the main hall.

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22 Sept

**09:00-09:15**

OASEN

## Get ready to start

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22 Sept

**09:15-10:00**

OASEN

## A Guided Introduction to Day 3

The launch of Day 3 will include interactive preparations, words from the session hosts on what to expect in today's sessions and some unexpected elements.

Information on what rooms will be used for what seminar and overall practical information about the program and side events of the day.

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22 Sept

**10:00-12:00**

DJENNÈ

## Stronger Together: Co-Creating Effective Donor-CSO Strategies to Protect and Expand Civic Space

The aim of this session is to explore ways donors and civil society organizations can work collaboratively and strategically to design effective responses to common civic space challenges. Donor and CSO participants will work together in small groups to analyze scenarios illustrating commonly occurring civic space challenges, and craft responses. Scenarios to be explored in this session can include adapting to volatile or restrictive environments, supporting civil society ahead of contentious elections, the introduction of restrictive legislation, an increase in third-party attacks on human rights defenders, or others nominated by participants during the session.

Within each scenario, participants will share and discuss donor and CSO approaches for responding to civic space challenges, such as adaptive donor grant-making practices, fostering work through coalitions and

multi-sectoral groups, and making use of multi-stakeholder initiatives and multilateral fora to protect or widen civic space. Participants will learn from one another and from guest speakers, who will present participants with ideas and lessons learned through their own efforts to promote and protect open civic space.

### Speakers and facilitators:

ICNL and Oxfam will facilitate. Pre-selected speakers from civil society and development agencies will engage in interactive discourse with participants to share experiences and strategies, and reflect on ideas that have been brought up during the session in a closing discussion.

### Organizers:

The International Center for Not-for-Profit Law (ICNL)  
Oxfam

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## POSTER SESSION

30 minutes of short presentations of exciting projects, new reports, research findings etc. After the presentations there will be a chance to ask questions and find out more from the presenter as they will be available at the exhibition wall.

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22 Sept

**10:00-11:45**

HÖRSALEN

## The role of embassies in defending civic space and human rights – when does it work?

The purpose of the session is to reflect on how pressure from the international community can be effective in defending and upholding human rights as international law, and on the need for systematic and strategic approaches in embassies and delegations to support activists and counteract violations against democratic space.

### Topics could include:

- What is needed to make the role of embassies effective in supporting civic space and human rights – what are best practices?
- What is needed from back-donors to support strategic, systematic and brave action from all embassies – where are the gaps to make best practice the practices of all embassies?

The methodology will be beehive discussions, presentation of a country case and a discussion with a group of panelists representing different perspectives on the topic of the role of embassies and delegations at country level, in relation to democratic space and human rights.

### Speakers and facilitator:

Leonardo González Perafán, lawyer, researcher and analyst, Indepaz, Colombia  
Anna-Maj Hultgård, deputy head of the unit of HR and Intl law at MoFA and former ambassador of Sweden to Cambodia  
Karine Sohet, Senior Policy Officer EU Development Policy and Practice, Act Alliance  
Ulf Schyldt, author

### Moderator:

Malin Oud, Raoul Wallenberg Institute

### Organizers:

Members of Concord Sweden's working group on civic space: Action Aid, Church of Sweden, Diakonia, FIAN, Forum Syd, IKFF, Kvinna till Kvinna, Plan International Sweden, PMU, Raoul Wallenberg Institute, Save the Children, Swedish International Liberal Centre, Solidarity Sweden-Latin America, Swedish Mission Council, Världsnaturfonden WWF

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22 Sept

**10:00-12:00**

HÖRSALEN

## “Switching gears”: Imagine – you are someone else! Shift positions between CSO, donor and partner country government representative.

Participants will be asked to role-play in a debate on key issues related to the enabling environment for civil society and CSOs' own development effectiveness. The purpose of the session is to create awareness of what drives other actors and the challenges they face in their institutional environment. What is it like to leave your own position as CSO, donor or partner country representative and discuss civil society issues? During the session we will also discuss the Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation's Indicator Two: civil society operates in

an environment that maximizes its engagement in and contribution to development, and the multi-stakeholder process for its 2018 monitoring.

### Facilitator:

The Secretariat and Co-chairs of the Task Team will facilitate the session.

### Organizer:

Task Team on CSO Development Effectiveness and Enabling Environment  
<https://taskteamcso.com>

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22 Sept

**12:00-13:00**

OASEN

## Landing for Relaunch

Reflections and closing remarks.

With, among others, Maina Kiai, the former UN special rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association.

**STHLM**  
**CIVIL**  
**SOCIETY**  
**DAYS**

20-22 SEPT 2017