

## **Civil Actor Participation (CAP) tool (final)**

This Civil Actor Participation (CAP) tool has been developed to assess the baseline and set targets for GLA lobby & advocacy interventions for *civil actors*. ‘Civil actors’ can be local CSOs, CBOs, communities or specific local community groups (e.g. indigenous people, women, youth, etc.). But it can also be regional or national level CSOs that GLA southern partners train and/or connect with for L&A reasons.<sup>1</sup>

This tool is different from the Engagement, Commitment and Action (ECA) tool that GLA uses for *public and private actors*. The civil actor’s outcomes have to be assessed differently because public and private actors are usually the ‘power holders’ contrary to civil actors. This means that for civil actors other aspects have to be assessed than for public and private actors.

The Civil Actor Participation (CAP) tool was developed based on an existing tool (Arnstein’s Ladder of Participation’). However, realising that the GLA has a wide range of interventions targeting a wide range of civil actors, many adaptations needed to be made to suit the use of this tool for the GLA.

The tool has a scale of six levels. Based on the kind of objectives and activities of the GLA the following three aspects are included in the different levels of the tool:

1. The level of active and legitimate influence and participation (‘inclusion’) of civil actors in decision making or key processes concerning<sup>2</sup>:
  - governance of forested landscapes;
  - access to land and resources (use and tenure rights)
  - applying nature based sustainable practices
2. *The extent to which civil actors have the capacity to exert meaningful influence, to participate and/or have access to resources (e.g. information, training, finance)*<sup>3</sup>
3. The extent to which the environment/operational space is conducive for meaningful influence or participation of civil actors

The tool is intended for use by the GLA Southern partners to:

- assess the baseline situation for either of the three aspects mentioned above;
- set targets for the full programme period and each year of the programme;
- track progress, assess achievements

The baseline situation (2016) and target outcomes for civil actors for 2020 and 2017 are already described in the country/thematic programme inception reports and the 2017 southern partner CSOs work plans. For future progress tracking and IATI now the corresponding levels in the CAP tool need to be assessed, similar to the process for public and private actors with the ECA tool.

NB: Influencing processes are by nature complex. Like the ECA tool this CAP tool is not necessarily linear and sequential, the distinction between levels is gradual and a higher level in the scale is not always ‘better’! Levels for different aspects could differ, e.g. the legitimate operational space could be level 3 (limited), while *the capacity of civil actors* to use this space for meaningful influence/participation might be level 1 (non-existent) . The scale is merely meant as tool for setting a baseline and targets and as reflection for what has been achieved for the distinct aspects.

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<sup>1</sup> This means that the CSOs that are mentioned in the generic examples in the table are not our GLA southern partner CSOs, but rather CSOs targeted by them.

<sup>2</sup> These are the three conditions identified by GLA to manage the forested land sustainably (see GLA programme document)

<sup>3</sup> Description of level and examples given in *blue/italic* in the table with the scale and its levels

## The scale and its levels

Level	Description of level	Generic examples
Level 1	<p><b>No participation:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- No meaningful participation or influence of civil actors in decision making or processes concerning forested landscape governance.</li> <li>- <i>Civil actors have no awareness and/or capacity or means to exert influence.</i></li> <li>- No conducive environment/operational space for civil actor participation.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Public or private sector actors do as they like without showing any attention for the interests of, or the consequences for civil actors. Sometimes they are withholding information or giving misleading information; denying dangers/risks; dismissing critics; and/or disregarding differences of opinion</li> <li>- Public or private actors urge civil actors to change their behaviour, e.g. illegal logging, poaching, mining, etc. without being prepared to discuss solutions in which they have to make commitments themselves</li> <li>- Civil actors are directed ('manipulated') by public or private actors to agree with certain decisions without being properly informed about the issue, purpose or consequences. E.g.: local elected or traditional leaders agree to allocate communal land to a private company because of misleading information or a short term gain</li> <li>- Civil actors are involved in implementing initiatives of public or private actors but have no influence on the activities/decisions and are not (made) aware of their rights, or how activities/decisions may affect them (participation for 'decoration/show')</li> <li>- <i>Farmer associations are not aware of the need for applying nature based sustainable practices, e.g. agroforestry, 'climate smart agriculture' (CSA), etc.</i></li> <li>- Civil actors do not get the opportunity to take part in discussions or public debate about forested landscape governance issues.</li> </ul>
Level 2	<p><b>Passive participation:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Civil actors are informed/aware, but they have no influence on decisions or processes concerning forested landscape governance.</li> <li>- <i>Very limited capacity to influence/participate</i></li> <li>- Possibilities to influence/participate very limited</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Civil actors are informed about actions or changes and how it might affect them, but their views are not actively sought. E.g.: information meeting about the allocation of land to a palm oil company</li> <li>- Village level civil actors or community based organisation (CBOs) are informed about, but not involved in natural resources governance issues</li> <li>- <i>Farmers associations are aware of the need for nature based sustainable practices, but lack the capacity to apply it</i></li> <li>- <i>Civil actors are aware of legislation about civil actor participation in spatial planning but they do not have the capacity to act on it</i></li> <li>- Public and private actors are reluctant to give civil actors any influence.</li> <li>- Legal options for influence/participation are very limited, or there is little operational space for civil actors to exert influence.</li> </ul>
Level 3	<p><b>Limited form of influence/participation:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Civil actors have limited influence on decisions or processes concerning forested landscape governance.</li> <li>- <i>Civil actors have some, but not sufficient capacity to influence/participate</i></li> <li>- Some opportunity (operational space) to influence decisions or processes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Civil actors are informed and encouraged to express their opinions and ideas, but the decisions are taken by the consulting (public or private) actors. E.g.: public surveys; public comment procedures; community /neighbourhood meetings, etc.</li> <li>- <i>Community CSOs have some but not enough capacity for High Conservation Values (HCV) areas assessments and management</i></li> <li>- <i>Civil actors, e.g. women or youth, organised themselves but do not have enough capacity to conduct L&amp;A to the government for their issues</i></li> <li>- On a limited scale local CSOs/CBOs are allowed to influence or participate in forms of spatial planning</li> </ul>
Level 4	<p><b>Involvement:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Civil actors actively influence or participate in decision making or governance of forested landscapes</li> <li>- <i>Civil actors have the capacity to influence or participate, are</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Civil actors have an active role in forested landscape governance issues, e.g. in (facilitating) participatory spatial planning, but public or private actors take the end-decisions</li> <li>- Civil actors are allowed to actively advise or plan but public or private actors retain the power to decide on the legitimacy or feasibility of the advice. E.g.: participatory workshops engaging a representative range of concerned stakeholders about new developments in the area, in which discussions/results can be input to decisions</li> </ul>

Level	Description of level	Generic examples
	<p><i>organized, formed coalitions, etc.</i></p> <p>- More conducive environment/ favourable operational space.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Farmers associations/ unions promoting/facilitating nature based sustainable practices among members and government</li> <li>- Local CSO coalition provides technical assistance to oil palm company to improve HCV<sup>4</sup> allocation and management</li> <li>- CSOs lobby successfully for the use of ecosystem values for ecological protection in production areas</li> <li>- <i>Communities/civil actors are able to request forested land tenure and titles.</i></li> <li>- <i>CSOs are able to map oil palm supply chain as a basis for L&amp;A.</i></li> <li>- <i>Local CSOs are able to support local communities to participate effectively in land use planning and forestland allocation processes</i></li> <li>- <i>CSOs, CBOs are able to support local communities to lobby for and/or claim land titles, and resource use rights.</i></li> <li>- <i>CSOs generate and deploy verified evidence in campaigns to influence decision making of public and private actors</i></li> <li>- <i>Local communities are able to defend their rights and promote their own sustainable livelihood systems towards companies and governments.</i></li> <li>- Civil actors are actively invited by public or private actors to participate in forested landscape governance issues</li> </ul>
Level 5	<p><b>Partnership/collaboration:</b></p> <p>- Civil actors are considered partners by public and/or private actors in decision making and processes of forested landscape governance.</p> <p><i>- Civil actors have the capacity and means to influence or participate as equal partners</i></p> <p>- Favourable operational space.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Civil actors are directly involved in planning, decision making processes and activities through a formal partnership/ joint body with public and/or private actors for a shared common goal, and agreed division of roles and responsibilities. E.g.: community management committee for communal forest area used by multiple stakeholders.</li> <li>- Decisions regarding forested landscape governance are the result of negotiations between civil and public/private actors, or direct influence of civil actors through L&amp;A, e.g. on spatial planning/ governance/ land use or tenure rights in a forested landscape, or in standard setting for oil palm growers.</li> <li>- <i>Civil actors have the capacity and the means to participate in forms of village and inter-village spatial planning; participatory conservation planning etc.</i></li> <li>- <i>Members of farmer's associations are starting to deploy nature based sustainable practices</i></li> <li>- Civil actors are treated as equal partners and are given the opportunity and the means to participate in forested landscape governance issues</li> </ul>
Level 6	<p><b>Leading role for civil actors</b></p> <p>- Civil actors have a leading influence, delegated power or full control in decisions on forested landscape governance.</p> <p><i>- Civil actors are fully capacitated and acknowledged for having the leading role.</i></p> <p>- Conducive, safe operational space.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Civil actors' led activities, in which decision making is shared with public and/or private actors as equal partners</li> <li>- Civil actors have the dominant or full decision making authority in a plan or program, even if the goal was set by a public or private actor. E.g. community forested area management committee composed of representatives of different community stakeholders with the delegated authority to take decisions on land use and tenure rights. Representatives of public or private actors might be in the committee but with an advisory role only.</li> <li>- <i>Resources and responsibilities are passed to civil actors for decisions on forested landscape governance issues, e.g. a forested area user corporation with no intermediaries between the corporation and the source of funds.</i></li> <li>- <i>Members of farmer's associations are deploying nature based sustainable practices</i></li> <li>- Civil actors can initiate agenda and are given the responsibility, power and means for managing aspects of all, or certain landscape governance issues. Public or private actors do not direct but offer support and advice to consider.</li> </ul>

<sup>4</sup> HCV = High Conservation Values