

What is Civil Society

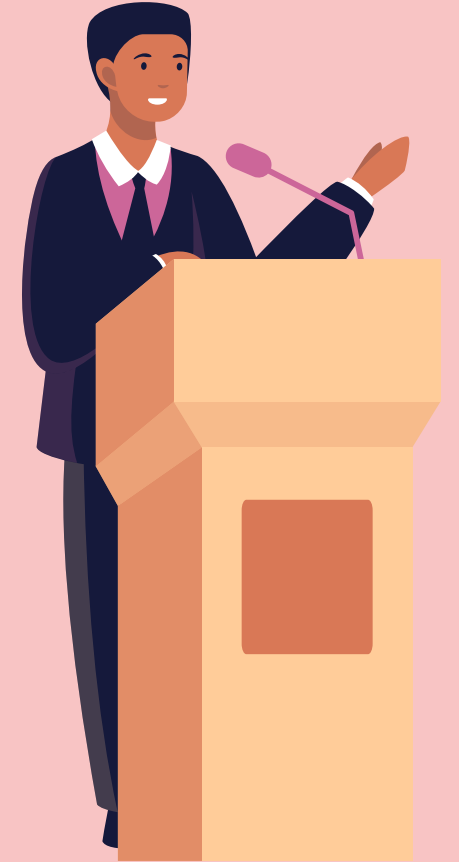
“The area outside the family, market, and state”,
civil society actors and entities come together a wide
range of purposes,



**Internet
Society**



civil society agent



“civil society Includes ”

- NGOs, non-profit organizations and civil society organizations (CSOs) that have an organized structure or activity, and are typically registered entities and groups
- Online groups and activities including social media communities that can be “organized” but do not necessarily have physical, legal or financial structures

“civil society Includes”

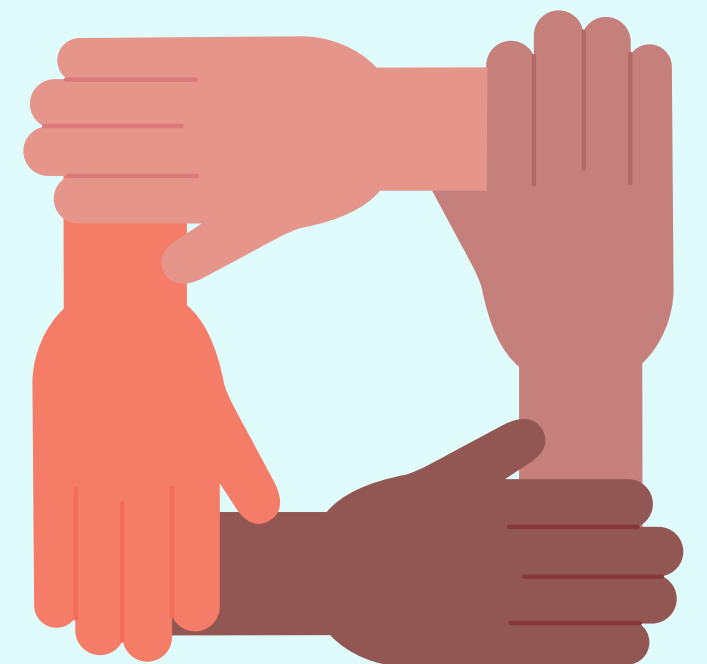
- Social movements of collective action and/or identity, which can be online or physical
- Religious leaders, faith communities, and faith-based organizations
- Labour unions and labour organizations representing workers

“civil society Includes ”

- Social entrepreneurs employing innovative and/or market oriented approaches for social and environmental outcomes
- Grassroots associations and activities at local level
- Cooperatives owned and democratically controlled by their members

Civil society roles

- 1) Watchdog
- 2) Advocate:
- 3) Service provider:
- 4) Expert
- 5) Capacity builder
- 6) Incubator
- 7) Representative
- 8) Citizenship champion:
- 9) Solidarity supporter:
- 10) Definer of standards:



Civil society roles

- **Watchdog:** holding institutions to account, promoting transparency and accountability
- **Advocate:** raising awareness of societal issues and challenges and advocating for change
- **Service provider:** delivering services to meet societal needs such as education, health, food and security; implementing disaster management, preparedness and emergency response

Civil society roles

- **Expert:** bringing unique knowledge and experience to shape policy and strategy, and identifying and building solutions
- **Capacity builder:** providing education, training and other capacity building
- **Incubator:** developing solutions that may require a long gestation or payback period
- **Representative:** giving power to the voice of the marginalized or under-represented

Civil society roles

- **Citizenship champion:** encouraging citizen engagement and supporting the rights of citizens
- **Solidarity supporter:** promoting fundamental and universal values
- **Definer of standards:** creating norms that shape market and state activity