



Support for Professional and Institutional Capacity Enhancement (SPICE) January – March 2016 Quarterly Report

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ACRONYMS AND OTHER ABBREVIATIONS

ACJU	All Ceylon Jamiyyathul Ulama	DPTC	District Preschool Teachers Committee
AFD	Agence Française de Développement	DS	Divisional Secretariat
AOR	Agreements Officer's Representative	EG	Equal Ground
ASNN	Ampara Social Needs Network	EHED	Caritas – Eastern Human and Economic Development
ATM	Active Theater Movement	EPPTA	Eastern Province Preschool Teachers Association
AWA	Akkaraipattu Women's Association	EPZ	Export Processing Zone
AWF	Affected Women's Forum	EVSDOW	Eastern Voluntary Social Development Organization for Women
BOA	Basic Ordering Agreement	FGD	Focus Group Discussions
BDS	Berendina Development Services (Gte) Ltd.	FHH	Female-headed Household
CA	Constitutional Assembly	FOG	Fixed Obligation Grant
CAMID	Center for Accessibility, Monitoring and Information on Disability	FOSDOO	Federation of Social Development Organizations
CBO	Community-based Organization	FPA	Family Planning Association
CBP	Capacity Building Partner	FRC	Family Rehabilitation Center
CDO	Community Development Organization	FTZ	Free Trade Zone
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination against Women	FY	Fiscal Year
CF	Creator's Forum	GA	Government Agent
CHANGE	CHANGE Humanitarian Organization	GBV	Gender-based Violence
CHR	Center for Human Rights and Research	GDP	Gross Domestic Product
CHRC	Center for Human Rights & Community Development	GMSL	Green Movement of Sri Lanka
CHRD	Center for Human Rights and Development	GN	Grama Niladhari
CID	Criminal Investigation Department	H2H	Heart to Heart
CMEV	Center for Monitoring Election Violence	HEO	Humanitarian Elevation Organization
CMT	Community Monitoring Teams	HHR	Home for Human Rights
COC	Code of Conduct	HRC	Human Rights Council
CPA	Center for Policy Alternatives	HRDs	Human Rights Defenders
CPBR	Center for Peace Building and Reconciliation	HUDEC	Human Development Center
CPPHR	Center for the Protection and Promotion of Human Rights	ICES	International Center for Ethnic Studies
CRPC	Community Resources Protection Center	ICNL	International Center for Not-for-Profit Law
CRPD	Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities	ICS	Institute for Constitutional Studies (Gte) Ltd.
CSN	Civil Society Network	IDP	Internally Displaced Persons
CSO	Civil Society Organization	IFGEJ	Islamic Framework on Gender Equality and Justice
CWUDU	Child and Women Development Unit	ILO	International Labor Organization
DGP	Development Grants Program	ISD	Institute of Social Development
DO	Delivery Order	ITJP	International Truth and Justice Project: Sri Lanka
DPO	Disabled Persons Organization	IWARE	Islamic Women's Association for Research
		JSAC	Jaffna Social Action Center

JSSK	Jathinathara Sahayogitha Sangwardana Kaway	PCM	Project Cycle Management
KV	Kinniya Vision	PMC	Preschool Management Committees
KPI	Key Person Interviews	PMA	Preschool Teachers' Association
LAC	Legal Aid Commission	PMN	Prathiba Media Network
LEADS	Lanka Evangelical Alliance and Development Services	PMP	Performance Management Plan
LGBTIQ	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex and Questioning	PPCC	Professional Psychological Counselling Center
LLRC	Lessons Learnt and Reconciliation Commission	PRECIFAC	Presidential Commission of Inquiry to Investigate and Inquire into Serious Acts of Fraud, Corruption and Abuse of Power, State Resources and Privileges
LRHF	Lanka Rainwater Harvesting Forum	PRC	Public Representations Committee
LST	Law and Society Trust	PEB	Preschool Education Bureau
LTTE	Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam	PTA	Prevention of Terrorism Act
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation	PWD	People with Disabilities
MARDAP	Mannar Association for the Rehabilitation of Differently-abled Persons	R2L	Right to Life
MCC	Mannar Citizen's Committee	RDHS	Regional Director of Health Services
MoH	Ministry of Health	RDS	Rural Development Society
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding	RFA	Request for Application
MP	Member of Parliament	RGNK	Rajarata Gamidiri Nirmana Kaway
MPDF	Moneragala People's Development Foundation	RPK	Rajarata Praja Kendaraya
MPL	Muslim Personal Law	RPR	Resources for Peace and Reconciliation
MSI	Management Systems International	RS	Ruhunu Sisila
MWDRF	Mullaitivu Women's Development and Rehabilitation Federation	SACLS	South Asian Center for Legal Studies
MWDT	Muslim Women's Development Trust	Sarvodaya	Lanka Jathika Sarvodaya Shramadana Sangamaya
NAFSO	National Fisheries Solidarity Movement	Savisthri	Savisthri Women's Movement
NCPA	National Child Protection Authority	SCF	Sirakukul Cultural Foundation
NDC	National Delimitation Committee	SCRMI	Society for Citizens' Rights of Mullaitivu
NECASL	National Evangelical Christian Association Sri Lanka	SDJF	Sri Lanka Development Journalists Forum
NewAROW	Network for Advocating Requirements of Women	SDS	School Development Societies
NGO	Nongovernmental Organization	SEED	Social Economical and Environmental Developers
NIC	National Identity Card	SEUSL	South Eastern University of Sri Lanka
NNAF	NGO National Action Front	SFM	Secretariat for Muslims
NPC	National Peace Council	SGBV	Sex- and Gender-based Violence
NWAAN	Northern Women Action and Advocacy Network	SHG	Self Help Groups
OCA	Organizational Capacity Assessment	SIPL	Strategic Inspirations (Pvt.) Ltd.
ODF	Organizational Development Facilitator	SLBC	Sri Lanka Broadcasting Cooperation
OIP	Organizational Improvement Plan	SLCDF	Sri Lanka Center for Development Facilitation
ONUR	Office of National Unity and Reconciliation	SLF	Sri Lanka Foundation
ORHAN	Organization for Rehabilitation of the Handicapped	SLFP	Sri Lanka Freedom Party
PALTRA	Partners in Alternative Training	SOP	Standard Operating Procedure
PEB	Preschool Education Bureau	SPICE	Support for Professional and Institutional Capacity Enhancement
PCA	Peace and Community Action	STTA	Short-Term Technical Assistance
		SWDC	Suriya Women's Development Center

TGWCU	Textile Garments Worker's Congress Union
TISL	Transparency International, Sri Lanka
TJ	Transitional Justice
TOT	Training of Trainers
TPA	Tamil Progressive Alliance
UFL	United Federation of Labor
UK	United Kingdom
UN	United Nations
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Emergency Fund
UNHRC	United Nations Human Rights Council
UPFA	United People's Freedom Alliance
USAID	United States Assistance for International Development
USF	Uva Shakthi Foundation
VAW	Violence against Women
VOI	Voice of Image
VSSOA	Voluntary Social Service Organizations Act
WANT	Women Action Network
WAS	Women's Affairs Society
WC	Women's Center
WDF	Women's Development Foundation
WDO	Women's Development Officers
WIN	Women in need
WRDS	Women's Rural Development Society
YCWM	Young Christian Workers' Movement
ZDE	Zonal Director of Education
ZEO	Zonal Education Office
ZOA	ZOA: Relief, Hope, and Recovery

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Operational Context

As President Maithripala Sirisena commenced his second year as head of state, the first three months of 2016 have witnessed a marked shift in Sri Lanka's political and economic landscape. There is little doubt that the government is now moving into a critical phase of its tenure.

A series of significant political developments have occurred during the period under review. President Sirisena's blunt rejection of any international participation into investigations of war crimes — directly refuting the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) Resolution 30/I, which Sri Lanka co-sponsored — has cast doubt on the government's commitments to transitional justice and reconciliation efforts. The government's backpedaling rhetoric has also fueled public antipathy and increased international pressure and scrutiny on Sri Lanka. As a result, confidence and trust in the government's commitment to implement sustainable transitional justice policies is waning fast.

Further, the government's approach to demilitarization in conflict-affected areas, the release of lands, the freeing of detainees and the lack of assurances to address the long-standing culture of impunity and rights violations have eroded the confidence of the Tamil polity. The lack of progress on resolving these issues has provided Sri Lanka's "joint opposition" with ample ammunition to actively campaign against President Sirisena's leadership and the coalition government.

The civil society-led bodies — the Public Representations Committee (PRC) on Constitutional Reforms and the Consultation Task Force on Reconciliation — continue to hold nationwide consultations with the public. Various civil society groups have capitalized on these opportunities and provided oral and written submissions to the PRC. The 11-member Consultation Task Force has sought submissions from stakeholders, experts and the public on the design of reconciliation and accountability mechanisms. However, the lack of political leadership regarding the discourse on transitional justice has reinforced skepticism about the government's willingness and ability to implement any credible domestic mechanisms to ensure people's grievances are heard and addressed.

Achievements

- SPICE shaped, and submitted for USAID approval, selected applications from the national request for applications (RFA) (Round 5) and the regional RFA (Round 6). In response to the RFA Round 5, SPICE received a total of 40 applications by the stipulated deadline and shortlisted 15 proposals. In response to RFA Round 6, SPICE received a total of 76 grants applications by the stipulated deadline; SPICE is in the process of finalizing 21 of them for approval by USAID.
- SPICE awarded two new grants this quarter to Savisthri Women's Movement and to the Center for Promotion and Protection of Human Rights (CPPHR).
- SPICE facilitated the completion and closeout of its remaining grants.
- Under Component 2, SPICE completed all of the agreed-upon capacity-building initiatives, and facilitated the review of benchmarks with 20 grantees that had completed the Organizational Improvement Plan (OIP) activities.
- SPICE finalized the design of and identified grantees for capacity-building initiatives for the next phase of the project.
- Since its beginning, the project reached 4,284 people through human rights awareness-raising activities, including awareness of GBV issues.
- During the entire project period, 248 events, trainings or activities designed to build support for peace or reconciliation among key actors to the conflict have taken place.
- 67 organizations received capacity-building support since the beginning of the project.

Operational Highlights

- SPICE finalized the closeout of the Batticaloa office and disposal of assets in line with contractual obligations and in keeping with Sri Lankan labor laws.
- SPICE completed the organizational restructuring of the Vavuniya and Colombo offices to deliver on the rest of the project.
- A program review and planning meeting was conducted for all staff to orient them on the extension period in terms of program priorities, documentation and administration.
- SPICE recruited a manager to oversee capacity-building initiatives during the final phase of the project.
- The M&E officer, who was previously based in the East, has been recruited to replace the senior M&E manager, who resigned from the organization this quarter.

Challenges

The coalition government has made concerted efforts to stop harassment of human rights defenders (HRDs) and journalists and the censure of the media; it continues to expose corruption and graft within its polity. While the climate of fear has reduced considerably for civil society organizations (CSOs) in general, relations between civil society and the government remain turbulent. The government's rhetoric has become progressively more defensive in response to international community and civil society scrutiny. Against this backdrop, the likelihood of fractured relations between the government, civil society and diplomatic community in the future has become increasingly apparent.

Programming Priorities in the Next Quarter

- Close out the grants that are completed, meeting the USAID requirements.
- Monitor and support CPPHR, Savisthri grants that are awarded in FY16 Q2.
- Award, monitor and support SACLs, R2L, Sarvodaya, NPC, TISL, NAFSO, MCC and PPCC grants that have been approved by USAID.
- Shape and submit to USAID sub-award requests for approval for the remaining applications that have been successful under rounds 5 round 6 of the RFA.
- Close out the capacity-building basic ordering agreements (BOAs) and roll out the planned capacity-building program for the extension period.
- Select participants, update design and commence Round II of the CORE VALUES program.

POLITICAL CONTEXT

The first three months of 2016 have already witnessed a marked shift in Sri Lanka's political and economic landscape and little doubt remains that the government is now moving into a critical phase. The alliance-led government has made significant progressive steps in good governance and democracy, yet any guarantees of its commitment to transitional justice and reconciliation remain in doubt. The government's political will to carry through its own commitments, manage its international relations and address fiscal reforms is under intense scrutiny from the public, civil society and the international community.

Government Achievements

In early January, as President Sirisena marked his first year as head of state, the government presented its plan for a new constitution to Parliament via a resolution that called for setting up a Constitutional Assembly. The main tasks of the Assembly would be to deliberate on a new constitution and seek views and advice of the people, which would feed into a draft of a constitutional bill for Parliament's consideration. In March, the resolution passed unanimously, despite significant changes to it. A modification to the resolution outlined that the existing constitution will be amended – leaving room to retain any existing provisions – rather than drafting a new constitution. The lack of clarity or a consensus in Parliament about the precise nature of the executive presidency, electoral reform and the devolution of power is noteworthy.

The two bodies led by civil society – the Public Representations Committee (PRC) on Constitutional Reforms and the Consultation Task Force on Reconciliation – continued to hold nationwide forums with the public. The 11-member Consultation Task Force continues to seek submissions from stakeholders, experts and the public on the design of reconciliation mechanisms through its website (<http://www.scrm.gov.lk/>). Among the mechanisms planned by the government are an Office of Missing Persons; a Truth, Reconciliation, Justice and Non-Recurrence Commission; an accountability mechanism; and an Office of Reparations.

The government's commitment to transitional justice processes and good governance was reinforced by promises to criminalize disappearances, ratify the International Convention against Enforced Disappearances, issue certificates of absence and introduce a new counter-terrorism legislation that meets international standards (to replace the Prevention of Terrorism Act (PTA)). Under the directive of the president, the government committed to establishing the National Authority for the Protection of Victims and Witnesses of Crime, and a special committee was appointed to provide solutions to grievances faced by journalists – adding to the growing number of commissions set up under Sirisena's leadership. The Presidential Commission of Inquiry to Investigate and Inquire into Serious Acts of Fraud, Corruption and Abuse of Power, State Resources and Privileges (PRECIFAC) continues its probe into graft and corruption and has extended its term by one year until March 2017. In keeping with President Sirisena's pledge to introduce a Right to Information Act in the government's 100-day program, the Parliament passed a much-awaited Right to Information bill in March. It provides for the right of access to information, to specify grounds on which access may be denied, to establish a Right to Information Commission and to appoint Information Officers.

Another significant milestone in Sri Lanka's reconciliation efforts was the singing of the national anthem in both Tamil and in Sinhalese – to mark Sri Lanka's 68th Independence Day celebrations. The two versions of the national anthem received mixed reactions; some termed the gesture as an important step toward genuine reconciliation, while Sri Lanka's "joint opposition" claimed it was another step toward ethnic division in the country.

While transitional justice and good governance are at the forefront of public and political discourse, the prevailing situation in the North and East is still a concern. The government has attempted to release land formally controlled by the military; however, a recent report released by the Center for Policy Alternatives (CPA) concluded that more than 12,500 acres of land remains occupied by the Sri Lankan military. General antipathy toward the government has grown due to reasons that include its slow movement in demilitarizing the northern and eastern provinces; the releasing of detainees

suspected of having links with the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), but against whom no charges have been framed; and its failure to curb the increasing number of rights violations such as rape, child abuse, sex- and gender-based violence (SGBV), police brutality and reports of torture.

President Sirisena's government was lauded by the international community for the efforts made in initiating and engaging in more open dialogue during the first year of its political transition. To demonstrate its commitment to reform and good governance, the government has ratified the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD); the International Labor Organization (ILO) Convention C122 on Employment Policy; signed the Convention on the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearances; while the Cabinet of Ministers approved Sri Lanka's accession to the Mine Ban Treaty (the Ottawa Convention) and approved the development of a National Strategic Plan to Monitor and Combat Human Trafficking.

However, any praise for the positive strides taken toward reconciliation and accountability was soon overshadowed by President Sirisena's blunt rejection of any international participation to probe the alleged atrocities committed during the conflict – a direct refutation of Resolution 30/1, which Sri Lanka co-sponsored. The government came under fire by civil CSOs, the opposition, activists and the international community as being contradictory and incoherent despite attempts at damage control by Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe and other members of the United People's Freedom Alliance (UPFA).

The government's arguments for dealing with the serious findings of war crimes and human rights violations appeared to be restricted to the need to manage international pressure and to protect the military. The president's unwillingness to commit to any degree of international participation severely compromises consultations on the design of transitional justice mechanisms and casts doubt on the government's commitments toward reconciliation efforts. Pressure on the government intensified with the release of a report by the International Truth and Justice Project: Sri Lanka (ITJP). The report documents the testimonies of 20 Tamil torture survivors with incidents taking place as recently as December 2015. It outlines the continuation of state-organized abductions, torture and sexual violence by the security forces long after the change of government in January last year.

International scrutiny on the government has increased amid a series of high-profile visits that took place this quarter. These include Hugo Swire, the United Kingdom (UK) Minister of State at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office; Prince Zeid Ra'ad Al Hussein, the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights; the Working Group on Governance, Rule of Law and Human Rights under the European Union-Sri Lanka Joint Commission; and Pablo de Greiff, special rapporteur on the Promotion of Truth, Justice, Reparation and Guarantees of Non-Recurrence. The general rhetoric from the diplomats has been the lack of genuine progress on accountability for crimes committed before 2009, and an emphasis that President Sirisena's government should not renege from its commitments made last year. At the 31st session of the UNHRC in Geneva, Prince Zeid reiterated his office's position on the importance of accountability and transitional justice in Sri Lanka and stressed that the national consultations on designing a transitional justice mechanism must be held in an environment "free of surveillance and intimidation."

Local Politics

Uncertainty that the government will complete its reform agenda has given President Sirisena's opponents a wider opening to campaign against the Alliance's leadership. The government reneging from its commitments to the UNHRC Resolution has provided ample ammunition for the opposition to claim that different leadership could better handle international pressure.

Former President Mahinda Rajapaksa and his supporters have used the issues arising out of the Geneva Resolution to fan the flames of political discord. Campaigning by Sri Lanka's "joint opposition" is fast gaining traction. The participation of 38 UPFA parliamentarians, together with Rajapaksa, at a March public rally in Colombo clearly demonstrates a widening division within the Alliance. An increasing concern among civil society and the public is the threat of a possible split within the coalition

government, which would then obstruct the ongoing transitional justice processes in the country. Faced with this challenge, Sirisena's increasingly defensive rhetoric at this critical juncture risks international censure and rising discontent among some parliamentarians and the Tamil and Muslim polity.

Civil Society Space

Sri Lankan civil society is more vocal than it was during the past regime. Despite challenges in Sri Lanka's reform agenda, the government and civil society have demonstrated unprecedented cooperation in improving reconciliation and good governance processes as the consultations for constitutional reform and the design of transitional justice mechanisms continue. Harnessing public opinion and ownership in these processes is indicative that the government wants to – or at the very least wants to *appear* – responsive to civil society and its polity.

At the same time, civil society continues to engage in national and international advocacy efforts on Sri Lanka's noncommittal stance on the UNHRC Resolution. However, the increasingly defensive government coupled with deepening discontent by Sri Lanka's civil society reveals that the already fragile relationship between the government and civil society may be in for some rough weather in the months ahead. Civil society actors have also expressed discontent that the change of regime, even after 15 months, has not manifested itself in reforming the operational and regulatory framework governing civil society activities.

In the North and East, militarization and a continued culture of surveillance by the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) is an ongoing contention in opening up civil society space in post-conflict areas.

ANALYSIS

The original period envisaged under the SPICE program, after a three-month no-cost extension, ended this quarter (March 2016). During this period, 56 organizations implemented 77 grants. More than 40 organizations received systematic capacity-building support. The environment in which the project was conceived and commenced was distinctly different from what transpired after the change of government. The hostile context for CSOs gave way to a more welcoming, yet complex, setting. The programming for the one-year extension period recognized this change. During this quarter, SPICE reviewed, selected and shaped grants for two rounds of RFA applications. The key challenge was to ensure that the programming remained focused on delivering the outcomes agreed on under the program description while also ensuring that the overall goal of expanding civil society space was interpreted and applied in the new context. The following analytic observations could be made with regard to programming under transition.

The national government, a daring experiment in coalition politics unprecedented in Sri Lanka, is necessarily also a compromise government. The multiple actors and interests mean that the policy space is incoherent and fulfilling “good governance” election pledges is moribund. The progressive as well as the liberal democratic civil society that were the vanguard of support in bringing this government to power now find themselves at a crossroads. Some have reverted to strident criticism while others remain restrained in their critique. The positive moves by the government – including in the spheres of anti-corruption, accountability, reconciliation, open governance, etc. – have opened opportunities for CSOs to constructively engage. But reorienting their strategies, principles and skills to effectively engage with the government is a challenge. Such engagement, in the absence of reciprocity from the government in terms of concrete progress, puts these CSOs in a difficult situation regarding their traditional constituencies and allies. Traversing these challenges and holding the government accountable to its promises requires a capable civil society. Therefore, the portfolio of grants was determined to strengthen the role that CSOs could play in the current context.

The issues that formed the basis for the design of SPICE more or less remain the same, but the focus of interventions is different, as addressing these concerns has evolved to different stages. This has meant that interventions have to focus not only on getting the government to take bold measures, but also on influencing and shaping the public discourse and perceptions with regard to critical issues. Therefore, on issues of accountability and reconciliation, while working with the government on its transitional justice and constitutional reform processes, the CSOs also have a role in shaping the public discourse – creating spaces to discuss multiple viewpoints openly and in an informed manner. The grant portfolio thus was designed to consist of organizations that are willing to take the critical and difficult discussion to the southern and central provinces. Supporting media/journalists in this phase becomes crucial.

The transition is also characterized by a reorientation of economic policy. Given the implication for economic, social and cultural rights of chosen policy direction by the government, it becomes imperative that CSOs in the area of economic governance receive support. Expanding the space for CSOs in this sphere is critical to ensure the protection of rights of marginalized population who might lose out. With the government being amenable to look at land grabbing, fishing rights, urbanization, privatization, welfare expenditure, free trade agreements, GSP plus and other trade concessions in consultation with the CSOs, it is imperative that CSOs working with fishers, farmers and the urban poor receive support, along with those who work on civil and political rights focused for oppressed communities. Expanding CSOs in the current context and protecting citizens’ rights would therefore also mean supporting CSOs that work on these issues.

As SPICE this quarter set about shortlisting and shaping the two rounds of RFA that will see support for at least another 40 grants, the program took the above into consideration in fleshing out the goals and outcomes agreed upon in the program description.

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES

Program Administration and Management

Grants Update

- The RFA rounds 5 and 6 closed during the quarter. In response to the RFA Round 5, a total of 40 applications were received by the stipulated deadline and 15 proposals were shortlisted. In response to RFA Round 6, a total of 76 grants were received by the stipulated deadline while 22 are in the process of being finalized for approval for USAID.
- The Center for Promotion and Protections of Human Rights (CPPHR) and Savisthri Women's Movement have commenced activity implementation.
- In response to RFA Round 5, the following grants have been submitted for approval:
 - * The Professional Psychological Counseling Center (PPCC),
 - * South Asian Center for Legal Studies (SACLS),
 - * Right to Life (R2L),
 - * Transparency International Sri Lanka (TISL),
 - * National Peace Council (NPC),
 - * National Fisheries Solidarity Movement (NAFSO),
 - * Lanka Jathika Sarvodaya Shramadana Sangamaya (Sarvodaya) and
 - * Mannar Citizen's Committee (MCC).
- The following grants from RFA Round 5 are being prepared for submission to USAID for approval:
 - * Center for Policy Alternatives (CPA),
 - * Institute of Social Development (ISD),
 - * National Evangelical Christian Association Sri Lanka (NCEASL),
 - * International Center for Ethnic Studies (ICES) and
 - * Law and Society Trust (LST).
- In response to RFA Round 6, the following grants are being finalized for approval by USAID:
 - * Center for Human Rights and Development (CHRD),
 - * Center for Human Rights and Community Development (CHRCD),
 - * Dabindu Collective (Dabindu),
 - * Textile Garments Worker's Congress Union (TGWCU),
 - * Prathiba Media Network (PMN),
 - * Affected Women's Forum (AWF),
 - * Center for Accessibility, Monitoring & Information on Disability (CAMID),
 - * Human Elevation Organization (HEO),
 - * Islamic Women Association for Research and Empowerment (IWARE),
 - * Peace Community Action (PCA),
 - * Social Economical and Environmental Developers (SEED),
 - * Action Theatre Movement (ATM),
 - * Muslim Women's Development Trust (MWDT),
 - * CHANGE Humanitarian Organization (CHANGE),
 - * Mullaitivu Women's Development and Rehabilitation Federation (MWDRF),
 - * Sirakukal Cultural Foundation (SCF),
 - * Rajarata Gamidiri Nirmana Kawayaya (RGNK),
 - * Rajarata Praja Kendaraya (RPK),
 - * Mannar Association for Rehabilitation of Differently-Abled People (MARDAP),
 - * CARITAS Sri Lanka,
 - * Moneragala People's Development Foundation (MPDF) and

- * NGO National Action Front (NNAF).

Reference checks and follow-up queries for a few other applications – including the Federation of Social Development Organizations (FOSDOO), Uva Shakthi Foundation (USF), Ruhunu Sisila and Jathinathara Sahayogitha Sangwardana Kawayaya (JSSK) – are still being processed and will be completed next quarter.

Staffing

This quarter, SPICE staffing levels declined considerably in line with the work plan for the extension period. The Eastern office closed and its staff contracts were terminated. To service the eastern grants selected under the last two rounds of RFAs, SPICE will retain three staff (the regional manager, the manager of grants and finance and one driver). Any additional support will be filled through a short-term technical assistance (STTA) contract where needed. Vavuniya also saw one program focal point reduced under the plan.

The senior monitoring and evaluation (M&E) manager's contract ended this quarter and, with USAID approval, this position was filled by the M&E officer from the East. The part-time communications officer who was retained on a STTA basis was discontinued and a full-time knowledge management (KM) and communications officer was appointed effective mid-January 2016 to oversee the increased reporting and monitoring responsibilities during the last year of the project.

The restructuring of the capacity-building team was completed this quarter. A capacity-building manager was recruited to replace the two managers who had been handling SPICE and USAID's Development Grants Program (DGP) grantees' capacity-building work but had resigned. One capacity-building program officer who left the quarter was replaced internally with another program officer. The coordinator of the CORE VALUES Training Program finished her contract this quarter.

Office Lease Agreements and Disposal of Assets

The Eastern office closed during this period following a closeout process that included disposition of assets from the Eastern Office to grantees and transfer of the remainder to the Colombo and Vavuniya offices. Three vehicles were returned to USAID. Given that a few grants remain that would be best handled by staff stationed in the East, SPICE will maintain a limited presence in that region. For this purpose, a room has been leased from another USAID contractor through the end of this year. The lease agreement for the Colombo office was extended through March 2017.

Interaction with the Mission

Regular meetings took place to update the agreement officer's representative (AOR) on the progress of the project. Darcy Ashman, MSI's technical lead on capacity building, visited during the quarter to help the team plan the capacity-building interventions for the extension period and updated the AOR on the progress. MSI and its partners participated in the various assessments carried out by USAID during the quarter. The chief of party (CoP) participated in the meeting with USAID's assistant administrator.

Government Approval and Taxation

MSI responded to queries by the Inland Revenue Department with respect to its tax obligations. USAID was kept abreast of developments.

Security

MSI's security manual was updated during the quarter. It will be finalized with consideration of the local context in the next quarter.

Component I. Support Targeted National Indigenous Organizations to Promote Pluralism, Rights and National Discourse and Support Regional Indigenous Organizations to Promote Responsive Citizenship and Inclusive Participation

By way of a modification to the cooperative agreement, Components 1 and 2 were merged into one. This change took effect last quarter, and reporting for the current quarter integrates them under one component.

Grantee Activities

(Please note that the cut-off date for activity reports is March 20, 2016, for this quarterly report.)

Grantee activities are reported under the categories of Multi-Region, Eastern and Northern. Multi-region grants include those implemented in more than one province or region, and those that fall outside the North, East and adjoining border areas.

Multi-Region Grants

The **Center for Peace Building and Reconciliation (CPBR)** commenced activities in August 2015. The six-month project received a one-month no-cost extension, which concluded this quarter. The project was largely youth-focused and aimed to empower youth and enhance inter- and intra-community engagement in post-war Sri Lanka. The grant, titled “*Voice of Image (VOI): Represent Your Presence*,” was based on the organization’s previous experience in peacebuilding and reconciliation through artistic expression, and it contributes to ongoing work. The grant focused on youth empowerment by providing young people with the space and opportunity to acquire skills in photography and helping them release creative energies. The project uses creativity, visual literacy and peacebuilding tools as a medium for young women and men to express their views. The following activities were carried out during the grant period:

Improving Youth Skills in Photography: 16 photo-taking journeys took place in the areas of Colombuthurai, Nawanthurai, Nayanmarkattu and Nallur in the districts of Jaffna and Kahatagasdigiliya in Anuradhapura District. The groups have taken more than 14,000 photographs that are currently being reviewed by the photography-training consultant. Training has reached 68 young photographers (30 women and 38 men) so far.

Five photo-reading sessions were completed with a total of 34 youth participants (9 females and 25 males). During this session, the young photographers received feedback from their trainer as well as their peers on the photographs they have taken.

A training session was conducted for the photographers to improve their conceptual knowledge based on the theme “*Our Village, Our People*.” Training under this initiative reached 44 youth (21 women and 23 men).

Film Screenings: CBPR facilitated five film screenings with the aim of supporting youth to understand the techniques and concepts of visual literacy and socio-political, cultural and economic realities and issues. The purpose of this activity was to enrich photo-taking, dialogue and facilitation skills among the youth. A choice of two films: *Eight Below* by Frank Marshall and *Mr. and Mrs. Iyer* by Aparna Sen were selected to be screened. A total of 38 youth (16 women) attended the film screenings.

Five Community Organizers Groups Set Up: Training addressed the social role of photography, diversity, community mapping, community mobilizing and facilitation for community organizer groups in Colombuthurai, Nayanmarkattu, Nawanthurai, Kahatagasdigiliya and Pollonnaruwa. A group of 30 youth (10 women and 20 men) received training. The group hosted mini-exhibitions and *shramadhanas* (community welfare gatherings) in late March.

The **International Center for Ethnic Studies (ICES)** commenced activities on its grant in May 2015; it closed in January 2016 following a no-cost extension. The project, titled *Truth and Justice in Sri Lanka*, sought to contribute to the development of an organic, relevant transitional justice process in the country. The grant sought to provide space for key decision-makers from different communities to discuss and debate options for forging a transitional justice process that is sensitive to the peculiarities of Sri Lanka's conflict. Activities during the full grant period include:

Facilitating Dialogues on Transitional Justice Processes: ICES hosted six dialogues in the North, East, South, Central and Western provinces for 235 people (81 women). Participants included civil society actors, political actors and community leaders. Facilitating the discussions were renowned experts in international relations and transitional justice mechanisms: Bina De Costa, Eduardo Gonzalez and Albie Sachs. The dialogues helped gauge the concerns of regional stakeholders while revealing both shared views and diverse opinions on transitional justice. The participants expressed concern about the willingness and ability of the government to deliver a credible mechanism that commands the confidence of affected communities. Topics discussed included the need for a truth commission, the assurance of criminal prosecutions and legal and institutional reforms and reparations.

Meetings with Policymakers on Transitional Justice: The experts on transitional justice, Albie Sachs and Eduardo Gonzalez, met with policymakers who would play a key role in designing and implementing the transitional justice process in Sri Lanka. Three meetings took place with Foreign Affairs Minister Mangala Samaraweera, Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe and former President and Head of the Office of National Unity and Reconciliation (ONUR) Chandrika Bandaranaike Kumaratunga. The discussion focused on the proposals for a truth and justice mechanism, and the experts shared their experiences and ideas, drawing from their own countries' experiences and other global contexts.

Documentary on Transitional Justice: A documentary film based on the six dialogues and discussions with high-level stakeholders was developed. It was screened to an audience of 26 viewers (11 women). The objective of the screening was to provide a platform for decision-makers to generate a discussion on Sri Lanka's transitional justice process. The film will be widely distributed. A report titled *Advancing Truth and Justice in Sri Lanka – a Report on Six Dialogues*, based on the discussions and individual testimonies, was developed and distributed electronically among 600 recipients comprising academics, diplomats, governmental and non-governmental officers, politicians, artists and civil society representatives. The report is available on the ICES website and the PDF version is [here](#).

Through its series of dialogues ICES, created discussion among different stakeholders, including regional stakeholders and women on their transitional justice concerns. For the first time in post-war Sri Lanka, a dialogue took place in the Central Province on transitional justice, creating space for the upcountry Tamil-speaking community to raise concerns and issues they wished to see addressed. Community exposure to experts such as Sachs and Gonzalez gave the Sri Lankan civil society insights into the different conflicts and different ways of managing conflicts.

Diverse Views on Accountability in the Northern Province.

The idea that civil society actors in the Northern Province of Sri Lanka are united in opinion and share common views on transitional justice is unrealistic. The dialogues facilitated by ICES in the province reveal that not all of civil society believes that internationally administered investigations are a viable option of accountability for those affected by the conflict.

The discussions revealed that although strong demands for international engagement exist, views differ on the extent of participation required in truth-seeking mechanisms. The report and documentary produced by ICES capture these diverse views and recommendations within the Tamil-speaking communities in the Northern Province.

The **NGO National Action Front (NNAF)** commenced activities under its grant in October 2014; it concluded in January following two no-cost extensions. The grant supported the NNAF, made up of voluntary services organizations, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and community-based organizations (CBOs) in Sri Lanka, to emerge as a strong, national-focused coordination unit by establishing a code of conduct (CoC) for its member organizations to help govern its organizational activities. The second phase of activities under the grant focused on developing the CoC and enhancing capacities of member organizations to adhere to the CoC. Activities carried out by NNAF during its grant period include:

Expanding the NNAF Network: NNAF has expanded its network to represent greater ethnic diversity and wider geographic coverage. The network now includes 350 CSOs comprising 36,000 members in 21 districts. Sixty-five (65) new CSOs and NGOs have joined the network; of them, 28 are from the Northern Province, 15 from the Eastern Province and 22 represent the plantation sector. A majority of the new membership in these areas consist of Tamil and Muslim communities.

Expanding NNAF's Geographic Scope and Ethnic Representation

Prior to the SPICE project's intervention, the NNAF represented 16 districts – Kandy, Matara, Hambantota, Galle, Anuradhapura, Moneragala, Pollonnaruwa, Kegalle, Rathnapura, Kurunagala, Ampara, Batticaloa, Puttalam, Kalutara, Gampaha and Jaffna. The network had a strong southern focus and limited representation of Tamil-speaking office-bearers on its Executive Committee.

The SPICE project was designed to help expand NNAF's coverage and geographic scope to include Tamil-speaking districts of Vavuniya, Kilinochchi and Trincomalee, as well as Nuwara-Eliya and Badulla, which mostly contain the plantation sector. NNAF has now set up five consortia in the districts of Vavuniya, Kilinochchi and Trincomalee and the up-country areas, and has increased the number of Tamil-speaking office-bearers to seven (from zero) to include the country's Tamil-speaking community in this national coordination forum.

Developing a Code of Conduct and Compliance Manual: An updated version of the CoC is in place. It provides recommendations on guiding principles; operational principles and standards; a legal framework for registration and operations; management practices; standards for transparency and accountability; and partnership and networking. During the consultation meetings, a general understanding was developed within the NGO consortia on the guidelines, their importance and how they can further improve. Twenty-one (21) district consultation meetings and one national-level consultation meeting took place to facilitate the revision of the CoC, with 466 individuals (261 women; 130 youth) participating.

A compliance tool that sets out indicators to evaluate and self-assess the adoption and adherence of NGOs to the Guiding Principles and Operational Principles and Standards laid out in the CoC has been developed. Testing of the device has taken place in four districts to verify feasibility of its application and its use as an assessment tool. The districts include Matara (11 CSOs took part), Kandy (9 CSOs), Vavuniya (12 CSOs) and Ampara (16 CSOs). The tool is available in Sinhala and Tamil. A certificate of compliance for organizations will be issued after a period of six months.

The grant for **Savisthri Women's Movement** was approved by USAID in March 2016. The 10-month project focuses on fostering active participation of women in lobbying and advocating on issues they face and successfully negotiating citizens' rights with duty bearers, which builds upon the organization's previous grant funded by SPICE. This second phase of the grant also focuses on increasing awareness of transitional justice and the reconciliation process. A deeper understanding of transitional justice and accountability processes will facilitate informed grassroots discussions on these issues. These awareness-raising sessions are aimed at influencing the government's implementation of the transitional justice process. The activities will be focused in the districts of Matara, Mathale, Nuwara Eliya Anuradhapura and

Batticaloa. During the reporting period, the grant agreement was signed and the project work plan was finalized.

Sri Lanka Development Journalists' Forum (SDJF) commenced its project in July 2015 and activities concluded during this quarter. The project, *Engaging Key Stakeholders in Advocating the Islamic Perspective on Gender Equality and Justice*, used the 'Islamic Framework on Gender Equality and Justice' (IFGEJ) that was developed during the previous grant. The second phase of the grant aimed to publicize the framework and support wider discourse on Muslim women's rights and on the framework among stakeholders in Batticaloa, Trincomalee, Puttalam, Kandy and Colombo districts.

The project supported the development of resources that emphasize equality as represented in Islam with appropriate examples and pertinent historical information from a religious context. Qur'anic verses that promote and protect the rights of women have been heavily used to reinforce positions of gender equality. The resources aim to provide awareness to those who want to claim the existence of equality within an Islamic ideological framework. Activities conducted during the grant period include:

Developing and Printing Resources on the Islamic Perspective on Gender Equality and Justice: 2,000 copies of the IFGEJ were published in the Tamil language, including two booklets titled *Islamic Perspective on Gender Equality and Justice*. The framework and accompanying resources launched at an event in Colombo with the participation of 84 academics, politicians, representatives from women's organizations, and Islamic religious scholars from different schools of thought (including the All Ceylon Jamiyyathul Ulama [ACJU], Jamaath e-Islami and Tawheed Jamaath). The participants included 20 women. The publication is available on the SDJF website (in Tamil) (<http://www.ldjf.org/blog/on-developing-an-islamic-framework-on-equality-and-justice-ifej/>).

Challenging Male Perspectives on Muslim Women's Rights

M.S.M. Nusri worked with SDJF in developing the Islamic Framework on Gender Equality and Justice. He recalls his experience in developing the framework:

"I did not have a broad knowledge about equality in Islam, especially with regard to the equal rights of women, and I too believed in the patriarchal interpretations of Islam. But during the discussions, I realized the need to having a better understanding and broader knowledge on gender equality and how to interpret the Qur'anic verses accordingly before writing up an article for the framework.

Since there were a limited number of books in Tamil which speak about gender equality in Islam, I downloaded many Arabic and English articles written by famous progressive and moderate Islamic scholars and Muslim feminists such as Taha Jabir Al-Alwani, Yusuf al-Qaradawi, Shehzad Saleem, Abdul Hameed Abu Sakka and Dr. Zainab al Alwani. Reading these resources gave me new knowledge on gender equality and justice through an Islamic perspective.

Then I wrote the chapters 'The Status of Women's Testimony in Sri Lanka' and 'Islam, Divorce and Women's Rights.' After that, taking part in a number of panel discussions with diverse groups, I also gained vast experience. This project helped me increase my knowledge on gender equality and justice in Islam. As a result, my perspective has changed. I joined the SDJF project as a participant. But at the end of the project I have become an author, preacher, resource person, facilitator and a trainer. Working for this book has changed my way of thinking."

Promoting Discourse on Gender Equality in Muslim Communities: Eight panel discussions drew participation of a total of 261 individuals (142 men and 119 women). They included 20 male religious leaders; 30 civil society representatives (16 men and 14 women) from Puttalam District; 32 civil society representatives (25 women and 7 men) from Kattankudy, Batticaloa District; 21 individuals and representatives of organizations working on inter-religious issues (13 women and 8 men) in Colombo District; 67 members (50 men and 17 women) of the Muslim CSOs from Muttur, Trincomalee District; 30 Muslim students (19

**A Listener Provides Feedback on SDJF's
'Samaththuvam' Radio Program**

"I was listening to the radio program on women's testimony. I didn't know that there are more verses about testimony. All these years, we heard only about how one man's testimony equals the testimony of two women. But the program was so clear. They themselves addressed doubts and myths and gave explanations and answers too. It was very interesting and it was an eye-opener. We never knew about this because no one thought of us."

— Rusanah, Akkaraipattu, Ampara, Jan. 17, 2016

women and 11 men) from the University of Peradeniya; 43 Muslim students (24 women and 19 men) of South Eastern University of Sri Lanka (SEUSL); and 18 participants (11 men and 7 women) from Muslim organizations in Colombo District. The discussions raised diverse opinions on the principles of equality, women's right to testify and women's rights to consent to marriage.

Training Community Leaders: Two one-day trainings took place in the districts of Puttalam and Batticaloa to educate community leaders on the IFGEJ and promote awareness on Muslim women's rights within their respective

communities. In both districts, the training sessions included a total of 44 women and 16 men. The trainings were based on a module prepared by SDJF as part of the project. Following the trainings, some participants are conducting study circle discussions around the IFGEJ in Kattankudy, Batticaloa District.

Publication of Newspaper Articles on the IFGEJ: Eight newspaper articles were published in Tamil on the concepts explained in the IFGEJ in two national Tamil newspapers (*Vidivelli* and *Navamani*). The concepts covered in the news articles include Muslim women's spiritual rights, marriage, divorce, women's right to give testimony, polygamy, education, intimate partner violence and Muslim Personal Law (MPL).

Radio Programs on the IFGEJ: SDJF broadcasted five radio programs in Tamil to reach a wider audience at the national level. The programs aired on the Sri Lanka Broadcasting Cooperation (SLBC) Muslim Service and highlighted the issues currently affecting Muslim women in the country. The programs also covered issues under MPL.

The **Young Christian Workers Movement – Sri Lanka (YCWM)** grant commenced activities in July 2015 and concluded on Dec. 20, 2015. The objective of the grant was to connect workers across ethnic divides to advocate on common issues and their rights as workers. In war-affected areas, youth leaders received training to educate community youth on employment rights. Targeted groups include existing and potential worker populations, with special focus on female workers in export processing zones (EPZs) in Negombo and in the districts of Puttalam and Mannar. Activities conducted by YCWM during the grant period include:

Training on Labor Rights for Job Seekers and Workers in Mannar and Puttalam Districts: Youth leaders from the two districts and surrounding areas received training on Sri Lankan labor law and rights of employees, including the rights for collective bargaining and forming trade unions; and health and safety regulations. Seventy-five (75) participants (51 women) from both districts received training – 36 individuals (32 women) from Puttalam District and 39 individuals (19 women) from Mannar District. The trainings provided opportunities for workers in different fields (e.g., the apparel sector, the manpower sector and salt mining and processing factories) to better understand their rights and address issues and challenges they face in their workplace. The trainings were designed to educate youth who are likely to join the workforce on their rights.

Training on Labor Laws and Workers' Rights in the Katunayake EPZ: Five one-day workshops promoted awareness among men and women garment workers. Two trainings were in Tamil and three in Sinhala. In total, 187 workers were reached through these trainings; 103 were women workers from the apparel sector.

Developed and Distributed a Calendar with Key information on Rights in Sinhala and Tamil: With the support of volunteer photographers, YCWM compiled 12 images reflective of the lives of apparel workers, together

with key messages and important contact details. They distributed 2,000 copies of the calendar to their base network, trade unions, women's organizations and other CSOs for dissemination among workers in the apparel sector to raise awareness.

Training Second-Tier Leaders on Gender Equality, Youth Leadership and Labor Rights: 35 youth (eight females) selected from YCWM's networks received training in leadership skills, gender equality, women's rights and labor rights.

Eastern Grants

The **Center for the Protection and Promotion of Human Rights (CPPHR)**, commenced its third grant in March 2016. Under the 11-month grant, CPPHR seeks to improve knowledge and awareness on the transitional justice process and enable affected communities to participate and respond to the reconciliation and accountability processes. CPPHR will support the reconciliation process in eight districts in the Northern and Eastern provinces of Sri Lanka. The grant will assist family members of the disappeared, those arbitrarily arrested and detained and affected families of summary killings and other grievous violations to understand and support the transitional justice and reconciliation process in Sri Lanka. The grant will support youth leaders to promote awareness on peace and reconciliation among students and peers and will continue to provide low-income and marginalized communities with legal aid assistance and representation.

Kinniya Vision (KV) commenced activities in April 2015 and its grant concluded in January. The grant focused on improving stakeholder involvement in developing the Early Childhood Care and Development Sector (ECCD) in Eastern Province. The grant comprised three main components: strengthening civil society institutions representing preschool teachers to better plan, manage, network and engage with government stakeholders; increasing planning and management capacities of civil societies, communities and education authorities; and improving coordination and collaboration among ECCD key stakeholders, including the Eastern Province Preschool Teachers Association (EPPTA), the District Preschool Teachers Committee (DPTC) and preschool management committees (PMCs).

The grant's interventions worked to improve the lobbying and advocacy abilities of these collectives to reorganize the ECCD sector and address issues related to preschool teachers' salaries and allowance, improvement of the school syllabus, recognition of teachers and the effective implementation of education policies related to ECCD. KV's activities during the grant period include;

Strengthening Preschool Management Committees: 17 zonal-level PMC network capacity-building trainings took place in the Ampara, Batticaloa and Trincomalee districts with the participation of 270 people (22 males, 248 females). The trainings focused on strengthening the capacities of the PMCs to improve ECCD responses within the sector. During the project period, the PMCs conducted 30 meetings to discuss and continue their functions.

English-Language Course for Preschool Teachers: KV facilitated an English-language course for 81 female preschool teachers in Ampara, Batticaloa and Trincomalee districts.

Skills Development Training for Partners: KV facilitated a training session for 14 partner members (10 men and 4 women). A follow-up capacity-building training for ECCD partner organizations in the Eastern Province was also conducted. Two skills development trainings targeted EPPTA executive members, with 15 women participating.

Improve Coordination and Collaboration among Key Stakeholders in ECCD: In the districts of Ampara, Batticaloa and Trincomalee, KV facilitated 26 stakeholder meetings: two provincial-level stakeholder meetings, six District Preschool Teacher Committee (DPTC) meetings, one EPPTA quarterly meeting, three EPPTA – Education Authority meeting, three Preschool Teachers – National Stakeholders meetings, three ECCD national stakeholders meetings and eight Education Authority – CSO platform meetings. Key stakeholders at the series of meetings included representatives of the Divisional Secretaries (DS), Zonal Education Department (ZED), Regional Director of Health Service (RDHS) and police officers. The stakeholders of preschool education, for the first time, could collaborate with each other in developing a one-year action plan for the Preschool Education Bureau (PEB), Eastern Province; they believe this will give them focused direction and a long-term vision for the sector.

KV facilitated 11 dialogues between preschool and primary school teachers in the Ampara, Batticaloa and Trincomalee districts. The dialogues helped the teachers identify issues affecting preschool education at both the district and provincial levels and develop strategies to address them. KV also provided support for a host of other meetings related to preschool education. The organization facilitated the provincial-level PEB meetings and hosted a discussion between EPPTA members and UNICEF regional officers in Batticaloa.

Exchange Visits for School Development Society Members: KV conducted three exchange visits for School Development Society (SDS) members and arranged a visit for preschool teachers. SDS members from 36 select schools in the Eastern Province participated in the exchange/study tours. A total of 166 (75 women and 91 men, including 23 youth) participated in the visits.

A National Symposium on the Study of Early Childhood Care and Development Policies in Sri Lanka



On Feb. 11, Kinniya Vision (KV) conducted a national symposium in Colombo to share findings of the 'Study on Early Childhood Care and Development Policies in Sri Lanka'. A summary of the report was delivered to the Secretary of the Ministry of Women and Child Affairs.

Planning Workshop for Officers of the Education Department: KV conducted three workshops (including a follow-up) for 59 provincial and divisional government officials working in the ECCD sector. Participants included 10 women and 49 men. The workshops focused on reviewing and updating existing strategic plans, policies, structures and procedures to develop an action plan for 2016, under the leadership of the Provincial Minister of Education.

Study on Early Childhood Care and Development Policies in Sri Lanka: To analyze the effectiveness of ECCD policies in Sri Lanka, a study reviewed existing policy documents and other literature, conducting key discussions with high-level representatives from ministries and departments, provincial ministries of education, authorities related to children's affairs and representatives from the health sector and the National Child Protection Authority (NCPA). The study included a round of focus group discussions with frontline officers of the education, child protection, health and social service departments and a survey of preschool teachers, education officers and health officers. The study was co-supported by SPICE, together with Agence Française de Développement (AFD) and Solidarité Laïque.

KV conducted a national-level symposium to share the findings and facilitated representatives of preschool teachers and CSOs working in the ECCD sector to deliver a summary version of the study to the chief minister of the Eastern Province.

Northern Grants

The **Federation of Social Development Organizations (FOSDOO)** commenced work on its second grant, *Strengthening Civil Society to Address Gender-Based Violence (GBV) Issues in Vavuniya & Kilinochchi Districts*, in June 2015. The intervention has three major components: improved understanding of GBV issues among civil society alliances and networks to collectively advocate with service providers; enhanced capacity of district- and divisional-level GBV prevention and response mechanisms to respond effectively to GBV issues; GBV victims/survivors receive effective responses from the GBV response mechanism in each district. FOSDOO is building on the successes of its first grant in setting up GBV forums in the Vavuniya District. The grant concluded this quarter following a one-month no-cost extension. Activities carried out by FOSDOO during the second phase of the grant include:

Reviewing and Developing Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for District-Level Forums and Divisional-Level SGBV Forums: The SOP for the SGBV forum in Kilinochchi District has been reviewed and developed. The process was initiated by the government agent (GA), bringing in government and civil society stakeholders and service providers. The SOP review and its subsequent development for Vavuniya District was not carried out. The Vavuniya District SGBV forum is conducted at the Desk for Prevention of GBV at

Findings and Recommendations of the Study on Early Childhood Care and Development Policies in Sri Lanka:

The study concluded that the National Policy is a well-formulated document, but gaps exist in its implementation. The study recommends:

- Revisiting the current definition of early childhood when revising the existing National Policy;
- Including separate strategies for family and parents and most vulnerable and disadvantaged children;
- Clearly defining the roles and responsibilities of ECCD;
- Establishing a Provincial Ministry of Women and Child Affairs; and
- Developing the capacity of the Children's Secretariat with appropriate technical groups to manage policy-related matters.

Vavuniya General Hospital and chaired by the medical superintendent. It was decided that there is no need for a SOP, as procedures already exist under the government-led *Mithuru Piyasa* unit, which provides special care for survivors of SGBV. At the divisional level, the SOP development was carried out in both districts.

The review and development of the SOPs allowed for greater collaboration and information-sharing among the members of the SGBV forum and relevant stakeholders. The GBV forum members have contributed and shared their knowledge to develop the SOP, which will support the operation of SGBV forum in more functional, workable way.

Community-Level Collaboration in Responding to SGBV

Strengthened divisional-level civil society networks (CSNs) have had a positive impact on the communities they represent. By enhancing the CSNs' conceptual understanding of SGBV and in promoting awareness of available service providers within their localities, communities now have better access to SGBV service providers.

The CSNs now work in cohesion with other community-level organizations to provide more effective and proactive responses to SGBV prevention. For example, through the divisional-level CSN, members of the Women's Rural Development Society (WRDS), Women's Affairs Societies (WAS), and representatives from Child and Women Development Units (CWDU) have established better connections through greater interaction and information-sharing. This has widened the space and scope for the organizations and units to respond to SGBV either individually for in collaboration.

Strengthening Civil Society Networks (CSNs): A "functional framework" was developed to support divisional-level CSNs adopted in both districts. However, due to differing levels of commitment in both districts, the guidelines have been institutionalized in Kilinochchi District but are yet to be finalized in Vavuniya District. Sixty-five (65) women from divisions in both Kilinochchi and Vavuniya participated in the framework's development. The Kilinochchi divisional CSN has been effective since its establishment during the first phase of the grant. The CSN now functions as a pressure group to mobilize and advocate for effective responses by government dutybearers in GBV response and prevention.

Facilitating GBV Monitoring Meetings: Seven GBV monitoring meetings – four in Kilinochchi and three in Vavuniya – included participation of eight Child & Women Development Units (CWDUs). Three meetings each took place in Kilinochchi and Vavuniya divisions with 282 people attending.

Facilitating CSN Meetings: Eight district-level CSN meetings (four in Kilinochchi and four in Vavuniya) took place. An average of 13 women participated in each meeting. Twenty-five (25) divisional-level CSN meetings have been facilitated with an average of 20 CSN members attending. Thirteen (13) meetings took place in Vavuniya divisional secretariat (DS) divisions and 12 meetings occurred in Kilinochchi DS divisions. Unresolved cases and critical cases were discussed and remedial action identified with relevant dutybearers for necessary follow-up action. The CSN initiated a campaign to advocate for more effective police services regarding GBV, domestic violence, abuse, rape and other types of SGBV.

Emergency Assistance for GBV Survivors: 31 survivors of GBV (20 women from Vavuniya District and 11 from Kilinochchi District) were provided with immediate support to meet their food, clothing and transport needs. They have been referred to relevant service providers for remedial action.

Case Conference Meetings: Ten divisional-level meetings were held to discuss critical GBV cases in need of remedial action and support. Six meetings were held in Kilinochchi District and four meetings were

supported in Vavuniya District. The meetings took place on a case-by-case basis where GBV service providers, CSOs, Women Development Officers (WDOs), government representatives and police authorities (among other relevant stakeholders) discussed, assessed and took necessary action or strategized ways to follow up on urgent GBV cases.

Promoting Awareness on GBV Prevention: Two trainings were conducted in each district. In total, 56 teachers participated in the training on gender-sensitive approaches and coaching and mentoring techniques. A program raising awareness on sex and gender, family structures, cultural norms, GBV and mechanisms of redress was conducted for students in both districts. It reached 902 students from Kilinochchi and Vavuniya, including 449 female and 453 male students. The training was conducted with the consent and guidance of the Zonal Director of Education (ZDE) of the relevant divisions. This learning has leveraged teachers' understanding of SGBV issues and approaches in dealing with affected children.

Providing Space for GBV Survivors to Share Experiences: 80 GBV survivors received the space and opportunity to share their experiences with other survivors. Individual counseling was provided to 18 GBV survivors to lessen their stress and help them return their lives to normal.

Referrals and Legal Assistance: Domestic violence and GBV cases have been referred to relevant service providers for remedial action and legal support. As result of this, five families have reunited and three cases have been referred to the Legal Aid Commission.

Mannar Citizens' Committee (MCC) commenced work on its second grant in November 2015. The grant sought to consolidate the achievements of the first one: to encourage citizens of Mannar District to participate in human rights issues and initiatives; to launch initiatives to resolve prioritized human rights issues in the district and to improve human rights activities in Mullaitivu District by developing CSO capacities. The grant concluded in January 2016 following a no-cost extension. Activities for the entire grant period include:

Awareness-Raising on Basic Human Rights: Programs promoting human rights took place at the *grama niladhari* (GN) level, divisional level and district level. A total of 842 individuals (204 men and 638 women) were reached through basic human rights awareness trainings in 20 GN divisions throughout Mannar District. Five divisional-level human rights awareness programs were conducted for 123 individuals (71 women) in the five divisions of the district – Mannar town, Nanattan, Musali, Manthai West and Madhu. Two district-level human rights awareness programs reached a total of 50 individuals (18 women).

CSN Members Advocate for Women's Issues

The Northern Women Action and Advocacy Network (NWAAN) in Kilinochchi initiated a meeting with the Northern Provincial Member of Parliament (MP) S. Sritharan on the 29th of February 2016 where around 500 civil society network (CSNs) representatives and women activists joined together to advocate for gender equality and accountability by duty bearers. Issues included advocating for the recruitment of more Tamil-speaking police officers, more women in Parliament and effective responses to SGBV by the police. Sritharan has agreed to discuss these grievances at national level with the relevant duty-bearers.



CSN representatives and activists advocate for women's rights and accountability by duty bearers.

Strengthening Divisional-Level Citizens' Committees: Five divisional-level citizens' committees are now functioning in Mannar District. Each committee's capacities were strengthened through promoting awareness on the rights issues in their areas, how to address them and where to seek redress. A total of 26 committee members (17 males, 9 females) participated in the training sessions. Five meetings in each of the district's divisions strengthened participants' interactions and promoted stronger networking. A total of 77 divisional-level committee members (including 20 women) participated in the meetings.

Mobilizing Volunteers: 21 select volunteers (13 women) associated with MCC attended a training-of-trainers (TOT) program on Mobilizing, Reporting and Project Cycle Management (PCM).

Documenting Human Rights Violations in Mannar: A research report titled *Voices of Mannar: An Account on Human Rights Violations and Call for Justice and Accountability* was produced and will be used for advocacy purposes when required.

Promoting Awareness on Land Rights: Awareness-raising sessions on land rights took place in 15 GN divisions in Mannar District for 632 individuals (414 women). Subsequently, 28 individuals (19 men, 9 women) who faced land issues received legal aid.

Providing Psychosocial Support: 37 men and 74 women affected by GBV and other rights violations, and in need of psychosocial support, were identified and referred to relevant service providers.

Assisting Families of Detainees: 140 families of detainees received a onetime support of essential goods to be given to detainees during family visits.

Improving Service Outreach in the District of Mullaitivu: The Society for Citizens' Rights of Mullaitivu (SCRM) is now registered and functioning as a CSO. MCC facilitated a three-day training on human rights, leadership, problem solving, conflict management and non-violent communication to develop the capacity of 15 members of the SCRM, including six women. The members of the SCRM have now participated in several discussions related to human rights in their locality.

ZOA commenced the second phase of its grant, titled *Integrating the Most Vulnerable Communities in the North into Civil Society Structures through Targeted Livelihood Interventions*, in July 2015; it concluded in February following a two-month no-cost extension. The initiative seeks to empower female-headed households (FHHs) and people with disabilities (PWDs), and reach the most vulnerable groups in these communities. The aim of the second phase of the grant was to consolidate the outputs/results of the previous grant and expand the interventions of the previous grant activities. The area of focus covered the districts of Kilinochchi and Vavuniya and some interventions took place in Mullaitivu District. The activities conducted by ZOA during its grant period include:

Empowering Citizens to Claim Their Rights to Land and Property

With the support of USAID/SPICE, MCC provided space for citizens from the District of Mannar to come together and voice their grievances of past and current human rights violations, as well as challenges they face in their daily lives. By promoting awareness on citizens' rights to land and property, communities can identify what rights have been violated and are now confident in voicing their concerns and questions on ways to seek redress.

Five cases have now been directed to the land administration unit in the Divisional Secretariat (DS) in Madhu. V. S. Croos, the Land Officer in Madhu DS notes; "Because of the awareness-raising among citizens, an increasing number of people approach and question the land administration unit regarding their rights to property and land."

Livelihood Initiatives for Excluded and Vulnerable Communities: A total of 200 new beneficiaries (152 women, 48 men) were selected to receive livelihood inputs and initiatives. Seventy-eight (78) individuals received basic start-up support to achieve food security and 122 individuals received support to sustain or further expand their livelihood ventures. ZOA facilitated a training on business planning for the targeted 200 beneficiaries, however, a total of 214 individuals (including 189 women) attended the training. In addition, 197 beneficiaries were trained on livelihood-related skills (180 women and 17 men).

Livelihood Support for Excluded and Vulnerable Beneficiaries from Previous Grant Phase: 30 beneficiaries (14 female, 16 male) from the previous assisted pool of beneficiaries (under the first grant phase) were assessed and provided with inputs to sustain and further expand their livelihood ventures.

Supporting Livelihood Beneficiaries in Community-Level Decision-Making Structures: 200 beneficiaries (148 women) were encouraged to participate in self-help groups (SHGs) in their communities and in local community mechanisms such as the WRDS and the RDS.

Training on Gender and Inclusion: Two trainings were designed and conducted during the grant period. A basic training promoting awareness on gender roles and responsibilities was conducted for 224 people (200 women, 24 men). Follow-up trainings at the village level served 200 participants (173 women).

ZOA facilitated a second training on women leadership and collective action that targeted select participants of the previous training, who now had a basic understanding of gender concepts. The training was designed as a residential training workshop which was attended by 93 individuals including 80 women. A follow-up training was also conducted. The trainings focused on promoting awareness on the social status of women and female-headed households.

As this was the second phase of the grant, the results achieved in the previous intervention were consolidated through follow-ups and through additional support in strengthening the various initiatives such as increasing the membership of SHGs. It is too early to monitor and assess the impact of the grant's initiatives given the duration of the grant. However, the beneficiaries who received livelihood trainings have started to practice at least some of the learnings from the trainings. A number of individuals who attended the training on livestock management have begun farming livestock (chickens).

To contribute to the achievement of Component I, SPICE supported activities directly to further contribute to the discourse on constitutional reform and address gender equality and women's rights. They include:

Translation of the Report by the Committee Appointed by the Minister of Disaster Management and Human Rights in 2007 on the New Bill of Rights to Be Included in the Constitution: The Institute for Constitutional Studies (ICS) procured the services of experienced (retired) personnel from the legal draftsmen's department to translate this report into Sinhala and Tamil. With constitutional reform being high on the government's agenda and the reform process already begun, this report in Sinhala and Tamil will contribute to enriching the reform discourse.

Discussions on Delimitation by the Institute of Social Development (ISD): SPICE supported the Institute for Social Development to carry out discussions in the districts of Kandy, Matale, Nuwara Eliya, Badulla, Moneragala, Kegalle, Rathnapura, Colombo, Kalutara, Matara and Galle in providing the government with recommendations on delimitation and electoral reforms. The discussions were held with local government representatives, CSOs and politicians in the relevant districts to gather their opinions and recommendations. The resource people for the discussions were S. Vijechandran, senior lecturer, Economics Department, University of Peradeniya; R. Ramesh, lecturer, Political Science Department, University of Peradeniya; and P. Muthulingam, director, Institute of ISD. The delimitation recommendations were prepared by ISD together with academics and CSO members and the proposals were submitted to the National Delimitation Committee (NDC) through the Tamil Progressive Alliance (TPA). Participant details are currently being verified by SPICE and will be provided in the next quarterly report.

Awareness Campaigns to Increase Public Participation in the Constitutional Reform Process: R2L carried out seminars on the need for constitutional reforms in the districts of Anuradhapura, Kurunagala, Rathnapura and Badulla. The seminars informed the public on the importance of constitutional reform and its process and aimed to generate public interest in participating and making submissions to the PRC on Constitutional Reforms. The seminars in the four districts drew 281 participants (219 males and 62 females), who included members of civil society, government officials, doctors, teachers and political party representatives.

Promoting Workers' Rights: Progress Union, Dabindu Collective and the United Federation of Labor (UFL) held a seminar houses in Katunayake on labor rights in commemoration of International Women's Day. The seminar was aimed at increasing female workers' awareness on their labor rights. Apparel-sector workers from the Katunayake and Biyagama EPZs participated at the event. Topics included the right to earn a minimum wage, proposed salary increases, working hours, working and living conditions of workers and rights specific to women workers. A live broadcast of the event was carried out by the national radio channel – Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation (SLBC).

Component 2. Strengthen Internal Management Capacity of Indigenous Organizations

During this reporting period, SPICE completed the first phase of Component 2 Capacity Building activities (2013-2016) and began the transition to the second phase (2016-2017). New Capacity Building Managers for Colombo and the field were hired to replace the previous staff members who had resigned.

Capacity-Building Process for SPICE Grantees

Twenty-six SPICE grantees have received capacity-building support during the entire project period. All grantees have completed the identified activities in their respective Organization Improvement Plans (OIPs). Twenty grantees completed the 'Benchmark Review' – the last step in the SPICE capacity building cycle during the reporting period.

Capacity building interventions facilitated during the reporting quarter include;

- **ASNN** – Presentation of the evaluation findings to the ASNN board and staff. The second two-day workshop to develop the strategic plan for ASNN was conducted.
- **CHR** – The redesign and development of a user-friendly, responsive, mobile-friendly organizational website is in progress.
- **MWDT** – Supported the design and development of a user-friendly database management system for recording case details, which will streamline data entry and analysis. This activity is ongoing and will be completed in the next quarter.
- **NAFSO** – Training conducted on data gathering, documentation and reporting, and a documentation system developed for NAFSO in consultation with staff.
- **ORHAN** - Development of a documentation, filing and information storage system; Facilitation of a review of the organization's governance structure.
- **R2L** – A series of discussions on gender culminated in the development of an organization gender policy.
- **NPC & R2L** – Reviewed and revised the existing strategic plans in the context of the impact created and the shifting socio-political context.

- **CDO, Sarvodaya, AWF & WDF** – Discussions/orientations to staff on the revised finance, administration and human resource policy manuals.
- **Benchmark reviews** – A reflection of the capacity-building process jointly facilitated by the Organizational Development Facilitators (ODFs) and SPICE upon completion of the OIP activities of 20 grantees: AWF, CAMID, CHR, CPA, EVSDOW, EG, MCC, MWDT, NAFSO, NewAROW, ORHAN, RPK, R2L, WANT, WDF, CDO, Sarvodaya, SWDC and ASNN.

Key Highlights

Development of Documentation, Filing and Information Storage System for ORHAN

Two one-day workshops on documentation and filing were facilitated in January. Eight staff (5 females, 3 males) participated. The purpose of this intervention was to orient and introduce staff to basic filing and documentation procedures, and provide an opportunity to practice organizing working files based on their organization’s requirements. A set of guidelines for file management was developed.

Exposure Visit to Review ORHAN’s Governance Structure

Nine ORHAN staff members (3 women, 6 men) consisting of board members, management and administration staff took part in an exposure visit to Lanka Evangelical Alliance & Development Services (LEADS), Colombo. The visit explored possibilities of restructuring the governance and management functions of ORHAN. The purpose of the visit was to learn about governance functions and prepare a plan for strengthening ORHAN’s governance structure. Some measures have been completed according to the action plan – including conducting discussions among the executive and management committees to restructure the governance and management functions and to identify an individual to head the management functions of the organization.

Evaluation of ASNN

A comprehensive set of interviews was completed, including 13 key person interviews (KPI)s with board members, educators, administrative service providers and ASNN staff, as well as eight focus group discussions (FGDs), as part of the evaluation process. Six observation visits were conducted to special education units and informal discussions with teachers and principals supported the evaluation process. The evaluation report, titled *External Evaluation Report of ASNN*, was shared with the board members and staff of ASNN. The recommendations included both programmatic aspects related to children with special needs, parents of children with special needs and the community; and overall organizational aspects related to advocacy, networking and governance.

Staff Orientation and Input on Sarvodaya’s Revised Finance Manual

The revision of the finance manual included four sessions with Sarvodaya’s staff at headquarters and district coordinators, to orient them to the provisions of the manuals, and to provide input and feedback.

Taking Ownership of CB Initiatives

The opportunity to take part in the revision process of the finance manual not only ensured that Sarvodaya staff are familiar with its contents, and take ownership of the manual, but also provided them with a forum to highlight gaps and challenges in the existing procedures and systems, particularly from a district-level perspective. A district coordinator noted, “*It’s very important that our participation and contribution was sought for this process, instead of doing it alone.*”

The finance director opined that this was a timely intervention, given that the last manual had been developed in 2006. Since then, despite many revisions, the procedures have not been updated.

Flexibility in the Capacity-Building Process

The space and opportunity to change or add activities to address organizational and contextual changes contributed to the overall effectiveness of the capacity-building process in several CSOs. The revision of strategic plans of R2L and NPC enabled them to review and revise their strategic goals and activities to better suit the changed political and social context.

Planning of Phase Two

The team reviewed the capacity building progress of each grantee and planned out actions for the next phase, given the revised program description for the limited scope of the one-year extension period. SPICE plans to support limited number of grantees and to manage the ODFs directly as individual consultants moving forward in the extension period. SPICE established selection criteria that led to three categories of potential recipients of capacity building support, summarized as priority 1, 2 and 3, below:

Priority 1 Grantees: R2L, NAFSO, AWF, MCC, MWDT, CAMID and CPPHR.

The grantees were chosen through a set of predetermined criteria. Priority will be given to support institutionalizing the change management process undertaken in phase I of the SPICE project's interventions. The grantees would also be requested to identify one or two new areas for support based on the benchmark review/institutional capacity assessment tool. A letter to this regard outlining the basis of the capacity-building process has been sent to all the grantees mentioned above.

Priority 2 Grantees: NPC, Sarvodaya, CHRD, NNAF, ASSN and RPK.

These grantees will receive support on the change management process already undertaken, but require some follow-up action to realize effective change. Discussions with the organization have commenced and will be implemented in the next quarter.

Priority 3 Grantees: Any of the 26 SPICE grantees or any new grantees that SPICE will be contracting during the extension period: Requests for specific support will be assessed on a case-by-case basis, and will be decided based on the need, relevance, value addition and availability of resources, etc. Specific intervention in SEED and SACLs have been identified and will be implemented in the next quarter.

Capacity-Building Support to USAID's Development Grants Program (DGP)

The Family Rehabilitation Center (FRC) continued its indicator development training of its staff during January 2016. The memorandum of understanding (MoU) between FRC and SPICE for support of FRC in developing M&E indicators was extended until the end of March 2016.

SPICE is in the process of obtaining three quotes from service providers to train staff of Home for Human Rights (HHR) in communication, presentation and report writing in English.

An M&E system and plan has been developed for MENCAFEP by Creator's Forum (CF). Relevant staff have also been trained to collate and input information into the simple system that has been developed for the organization. The strategic plan of MENCAFEP was translated from English into Sinhala and Tamil and all three versions were printed.

CF is finalizing the human resource operational manual for MENCAFEP in close consultation with them. In addition, a consultant has been contracted to update, review and revise the financial system of the organization and prepare a financial manual. This intervention is underway and will be completed by the next quarter.

A consultant has been contracted to train the Sri Lanka Center for Development Facilitation (SLCDF) staff (both financial and program) on reviewing financial reports and audits, preparing management decisions based on financial and audit reports, budgeting, etc. This training will take place next quarter.

The first phase of the strategic plan for ICES was completed. The next two phases will commence in the next six months. SPICE is in the process of contracting the consultants for this task.

Community Organizations' Role and Ethos: Value Activism through Leaders' Understanding Enhancement Support (CORE VALUES) Training

An Overview on CORE VALUES Training

The CORE VALUES initiative was conceived in response to (a) manifest gaps in SPICE partner capacity, as seen in ongoing strategic planning exercises; (b) a lacunae in project proposals received from a large number of otherwise competent CSOs; (c) an expressed need from CSO leaders and other key stakeholders; and (d) clear indications that these areas will pose challenges for the sector on the ground in the future. The curriculum was designed to address these self- and other-identified needs and gaps, as they represent the CORE VALUES and perspectives that should characterize the ethos of the civil society sector today.

The following six broad subject areas, though they overlap and reinforce each other, stand out in terms of importance in providing a firm, shared foundation upon which the varied spectrum of CSOs may flourish. Though some are more substantive and others more strategic and/or operational, all six embody basic principles and values that CSOs need now, to translate into their daily work.

1. Sector-wide concern, with crucial geographical and contextual variations. This includes strategies and modalities:

- The roles and functions of CSOs in Sri Lanka today;
- Issues and insights relating to accountability and locating this within a broader governance framework; and
- Understanding the challenges and necessities of networking that is not top-down, to pursue an advocacy agenda that is generated at the community level.

2. Substantive areas that affect CSOs' achievement of their core principles and broader objectives:

- Unpacking "identity" (including ethnicity) and recognizing its ramifications for Sri Lankan society;
- Understanding and engaging with nationalism(s) at multiple levels and contexts; and
- Addressing gender concerns, especially in relation to cultural discourse.

In all, 38 first- and second-tier civil society leaders (plus 15 floating participants*) were trained in the inaugural CORE VALUES Training Program, 2015. They comprised civil society representatives from CBOs, regional and national NGOs, networks, community movements and development organizations. The participants represented the following geographical and political identities/communities: North, East, South, bordering villages, the plantation sector, the wider Muslim community (general), women (including Muslim women) and the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex and questioning (LGBTIQ) community. They represented the sectors of human rights, women's rights, the disability sector, policy and law, the media and grassroots movements.

CORE VALUES was one of the first programs off the block after the January 2015 change in government, and as a result capitalized on the newfound momentum. However, while a tangible reduction of overall tension and trepidation now exists, the general public antipathy toward CSOs persists and is fueled by

* Floating participant = participant identified and invited to a specific module to share insights and experiences on module topic and enrich participant discussions.

nationalist interest groups. Hence, the need to capitalize on the newly reopened space to be able to facilitate clarity and self-regulation processes without the defensive closing of ranks.

Design and Process

The participant interview process was designed to achieve a decentralized, multilingual, partner organization involvement and ownership, which was complemented by invitations/headhunting to ensure that all key areas and locations were adequately covered. For example, a critical mass of participants from the plantation sector was necessary, and this was achieved through combining individual invitations with partner nominees.

Participants were primarily SPICE partners with the remaining filling in the geographical, sectoral and ethnic representational gaps. The training targeted the second-level leadership of CSOs/NGOs to ensure that trainees will have sufficient time to participate without the burden of balancing their work schedules and to maximize the impact of the training on their organizations. For CORE VALUES to help nurture a change in the broad CSO environment, it aims to create champions among those in positions of authority who can influence both their individual organizations and the sector collectively.

To optimize the learning process and ensure maximum attendance, the training program consisted of seven self-contained modules, the second to sixth spanning four days of intensive residential deliberations. The first and final modules were designed for five days each of residential sessions.

The training was conducted bilingually (in Sinhala and Tamil), which added to inevitable time constraints inherent in participant-centered trainings. However, the inter-ethnic, inter-linguistic and inter-cultural dynamic was crucial to the core premises underlying this training.

The first and final capstone courses were held over five days to ensure comprehensive grounding and consolidation. The Capstone Module was fine-tuned at the end of the other modules to ensure that all sessions were adequately covered and problem areas received additional focus. For modules four, five and six, for instance, the subject areas lent themselves to panel discussions with groups of experts representing diverse views, and this panel discussion method was followed. However where individual presentations were seen to be more conducive to an open exchange of views, this process was adopted too. In summary, the training methodology combined presentation, discussion, group work and individual contemplation and was sufficiently flexible to cater to the needs of the trainees in the different substantive areas.

Civil Society Strengthening – Operational Environment and Regulatory Framework

Round-table discussions took place with CSOs in the Northern, Eastern, Western (Colombo), and Southern provinces and in the central plantation region during February and March 2016. A total of 137 participants (57 women, 80 men) represented 89 organizations, including human rights organizations, CBOs, women's organizations, humanitarian/developmental organizations and regional NGOs. Eight participants attended in an individual capacity. The round-table discussions were facilitated by David Moore, Ambika Satkunathan, B. Skanthakumar and S. Swornalingham.

In 2014-2015, SPICE commissioned two research papers, *Assessment of Sri Lanka's Legal and Regulatory Framework Relating to Civil Society Organizations (CSOs)* by Kishali Pinto-Jayawardena & B. Skanthakumar and *We Are Afraid of Them. They Are Afraid of Us: A Study Of The Context In Which CSOs and CBOs In Sri Lanka Function & Its Impact On Freedom Of Expression, Association & Assembly* by Ambika Satkunathan. Recommendations arising from these papers were presented at the discussions and CSO participants were encouraged to seek clarifications and question the findings of the papers and make additional recommendations.

A summary document of key grievances and recommendations that came out of the first round of discussions in the North, East and in Colombo was submitted to officials from the Ministry of National Co-existence, Dialogue and Official Languages on March 1, 2016. The document flagged issues such as the pervasive culture of surveillance of CSOs by military and civilian authorities, particularly in the North and East. The submission also flagged the Voluntary Social Service Organizations (VSSO) Act, subsequent amendments, de facto expansion of its scope and directives emanating from it, which are fundamentally problematic as a legal basis for regulating CSOs. The submission also highlighted the issue of the law and the institutional arrangement based on it, which has created a situation in which enormous discretionary powers are exercised by the NGO Secretariat and district administrators and officers, in a manner not conducive to creating an enabling environment and subordinating independent CSO activities. Suitable immediate, mid- and long-term recommendations too were specified in the submission.

Currently, SPICE is compiling a similar submission incorporating input and recommendations out of the Galle and Kandy meetings to deliver to the ministry. Thereafter, SPICE will share the documents widely detailing the findings and recommendations of these national round-table consultations.

PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND MONITORING

Performance Monitoring Plan Update

The SPICE project's interventions under the two components per the revised program description are monitored by assessing the progress of the outcomes set for SPICE project. Outcomes 1 and 2 relate to Component 1 and Outcome 3 relates to Component 2; each outcome is monitored using a set number of indicators. Most of the Performance Monitoring Plan (PMP) indicators performed fairly well during and until this reporting period and the targets were raised for most of the indicators considering overachievement of the initially set project targets and the extended period of the project. Individual grantee activities currently aligned to individual grantee objectives are contributing toward SPICE PMP indicators and are thereby contributing to the overall SPICE objective of enhancing civil society space and effectiveness in Sri Lanka.

Outcome 1: Improved protection of citizens' rights by Sri Lankan organizations

A total of **56** organizations contributed to SPICE Outcome 1, "Improved protection of citizen's rights by Sri Lankan organizations," under Component 1 since the inception of the project. These organizations are CHR, CPPHR, CHR, CPA, AWF, NPC, NewAROW, WDF, R2L, Sarvodaya, SWDC, ICES, MWDT, MCC, MWDRF, NAFSO, EG, ZOA, FOSDOO, KOINONIA, PPCC, WANT, HUDEC, EVSDOW, Viluthu, ICS, SDJF, PCA, CHANGE, ASNN, CDO, IWARE, ORHAN, SEED, EHED, TISL, SfM, SACL, NNAF, CAMID, LST, Berendina, CRPC, NCEASL, RPK, Savisthri, ATM, KV, FPA, H2H, MARDAP, DABINDU, WC, AWA, YCWM and CPBR.

Human Rights: Since the beginning of the project, **46** domestic NGOs, located or working in various regions of the country were observed to be active at any point of time and engaging in monitoring or advocacy work on human rights.

Legal Aid, Victims' Assistance (including GBV Assistance): **155** individuals from low-income or marginalized communities received legal aid or victims' assistance during the reporting period, totaling **42,636** since the beginning of the project. The legal aid or victims' assistance includes GBV assistance, support to obtain

legal document and other victims' assistance, such as counseling, legal representation, legal advice, care packs, livelihood assistance, etc.

GBV services reached **5** individuals, bringing the total to **3,375** for the entire project period. One individual was assisted to obtain at least one legal document, bringing the total to **36,621** individuals since the inception of the project.

Human Rights Defenders (HRDs): The number of HRDs remains at **1,389** individuals at the time of reporting. **4,284** individuals were reached through human rights awareness-raising activities this quarter through awareness sessions, trainings, print and other media, bringing the total to **62,801** individuals reached during the entire project period.

The number of legal cases handled remains as **334** for the entire project period.

Outcome 2: Expanded civil society support for more inclusive, active citizen participation in development, reconciliation and governance

Since the inception of the project, **56** organizations contributed to Outcome 2, "Expanded civil society support for more inclusive and active citizen participation in development, reconciliation and governance," under SPICE Component 2. These organizations are: CHRD, CPPHR, CHR, CPA, AWF, NPC, NewAROW, WDF, R2L, Sarvodaya, SWDC, ICES, MWDT, MCC, MWDRF, NAFSO, EG, ZOA, FOSDOO, KOINONIA, PPCC, WANT, HUDEC, EVSDOW, Viluthu, ICS, SDJF, PCA, CHANGE, ASNN, CDO, IWARE, ORHAN, SEED, EHED, TISL, SfM, SACLs, NNAF, CAMID, LST, Berendina, CRPC, NCEASL, RPK, Savisthri, ATM, KV, FPA, H2H, MARDAP, DABINDU, WC, AWA, YCWM and CPBR. In addition to the above-mentioned organizations, another **247** civic associations / organizations supported by SPICE grantees were also part of Component 2 of SPICE at any time period of the project. The activities ranged from sustaining CSOs / civic associations and supporting them, helping CSOs to engage and work with the local government bodies and religious leaders and supporting and encouraging CSOs to work in networks.

Peace and Reconciliation Activities: Since the project's inception, **248** activities have been designed to build support for peace or reconciliation. The activities include meetings, discussions, trainings/workshops, cultural events and projects implemented in support of the Lessons Learnt and Reconciliation Commission (LLRC) recommendations. As in the previous reporting period, **48** grantees counted as critical Sri Lankan organizations advocating pluralism, human rights and democracy remain active.

Networks and Forums: **41** of the 56 SPICE grantees were assessed to be part of at least **one** network at the divisional, district or national / international levels, which amounts to **73** percent of the total grantees during the reporting period. A few are task forces/forums in which certain government administrative structures are represented alongside civil society organizations. SPICE grants also support some of the civil society networks. At the time of reporting, **29** forums involving multi-sector stakeholders and duty-bearers have been established to address GBV issues.

Events, Trainings and Other Interventions Promoting Awareness, Citizen Participation: 72 events, trainings and other interventions promoting awareness and citizen participation in governance and democracy were completed this quarter, totaling 265 since the inception of the project.

Outcome 3: Enhanced management and technical capacity of indigenous organizations supporting civic participation and inclusive development

67 organizations received capacity-building support since the beginning of the project. Furthermore, **16** individuals received skilled development training during this reporting period, bringing the total individuals reached to **470**.

The SPICE project's interventions under the three major components of the project are monitored by assessing the progress of the outcomes set for the SPICE project. Each outcome relates to each SPICE project component, and each is monitored using a set of indicators.

Annex I details indicator progress; the narrative should be read in conjunction with the attached PMP indicator updates.

Summary of Sub-Awards

TABLE I. SUMMARY OF SUBAWARDS TO DATE (as of 15th March 2016)										
Ref No:	Subgrant Awardee	Type of Grant	Status	Subgrant Value SL Rs & USD \$		Total Disbursements ITD*	Burn Rate	Grant Start Date	Grant End Date	
SUBGRANT GRANTED										
13.001.CHRD.SIG	Centre for Human Rights and Development	Simplified Grant	Closed	LKR	11,052,028.30	LKR	10,988,783.00	99%	5-Feb-13	4-May-14
				USD	87,960.90	USD	85,719.75			
13.002.CPPHR.FOG	Center for the Protection and Promotion of Human Rights	Fixed Obligation Grant	Closed	LKR	15,140,790.00	LKR	15,140,790.00	100%	1-Aug-13	31-Jul-14
				USD	120,032.00	USD	117,814.50			
13.003.CHR.FOG	Centre for Human Rights and Research	Fixed Obligation Grant	Closed	LKR	15,335,400.00	LKR	15,335,400.00	100%	10-Oct-13	9-Apr-14
				USD	120,000.00	USD	119,503.38			
13.004.CPA.FOG	Centre for Policy Alternatives (Guarantee) Limited	Fixed Obligation Grant	Closed	LKR	14,275,490.00	LKR	13,775,490.00	96%	1-Aug-13	31-Aug-14
				USD	112,606.00	USD	107,233.04			
13.005.AWF.FOG	Affected Women's Forum	Fixed Obligation Grant	Closed	LKR	4,411,300.00	LKR	4,411,300.00	100%	1-Aug-13	31-Jul-14
				USD	34,385.38	USD	34,249.79			
13.006.NPC.SIG	National Peace Council	Simplified Grant	Closed	LKR	8,153,705.00	LKR	8,153,689.00	100%	1-Sep-13	30-Sep-14
				USD	62,005.36	USD	63,610.68			
13.007.NEWAROW.FOG	Network for Advocating Requirements of Women	Fixed Obligation Grant	Closed	LKR	3,464,340.00	LKR	3,464,340.00	100%	15-Sep-13	14-Sep-14
				USD	26,758.00	USD	26,879.13			
13.008.WDF.FOG	Women Development Forum	Fixed Obligation Grant	Closed	LKR	3,220,890.00	LKR	3,220,890.00	100%	1-Sep-13	31-Aug-14
				USD	25,106.03	USD	24,965.22			
13.009.R2L.FOG	Right to Life Human Rights Centre	Fixed Obligation Grant	Closed	LKR	5,445,890.00	LKR	5,445,890.00	100%	1-Sep-13	14-Sep-14
				USD	46,613.00	USD	42,276.57			

TABLE I. SUMMARY OF SUBAWARDS TO DATE (as of 15th March 2016)

Ref No:	Subgrant Awardee	Type of Grant	Status	Subgrant Value SL Rs & USD \$	Total Disbursements ITD*	Burn Rate	Grant Start Date	Grant End Date
13.010.SARV.SIG	Sarvodaya	Simplified Grant	Closed	LKR 12,664,900.00	LKR 11,781,013.00	93%	1-Aug-13	31-Aug-14
				USD 98,713.00	USD 91,878.22			
13.011.SWDC.FOG	Suriya Women's Development Centre	Fixed Obligation Grant	Closed	LKR 6,300,608.00	LKR 6,300,608.00	100%	1-Sep-13	31-Aug-14
				USD 47,913.36	USD 48,963.80			
13.012.ICES.FOG	International Centre for Ethnic Studies	Fixed Obligation Grant	Closed	LKR 6,015,771.00	LKR 6,015,771.00	100%	1-Oct-13	15-Dec-14
				USD 50,296.00	USD 46,720.48			
13.013.MWDT.FOG	Muslim Women's Development Trust	Fixed Obligation Grant	Closed	LKR 3,423,050.00	LKR 3,423,050.00	100%	1-Oct-13	30-Sep-14
				USD 26,331.00	USD 26,645.39			
13.014.MCC.FOG	Mannar Citizens' Committee	Fixed Obligation Grant	Closed	LKR 4,507,986.00	LKR 4,507,986.00	100%	1-Nov-13	31-Oct-14
				USD 37,612.00	USD 35,107.90			
13.015.MWRDF.FOG	Mullaitivu Women's Development and Rehabilitation Federation	Fixed Obligation Grant	Closed	LKR 3,424,500.00	LKR 3,424,500.00	100%	25-Oct-13	24-Oct-14
				USD 25,797.00	USD 26,654.88			
13.016.NAFSO.FOG	National Fisheries Solidarity Movement	Fixed Obligation Grant	Completed	LKR 4,586,320.00	LKR 4,100,000.00	89%	1-Nov-13	31-Oct-14
				USD 34,745.00	USD 31,975.14			
13.017.EG.FOG	Equal Ground	Fixed Obligation Grant	Completed	LKR 6,241,017.00	LKR 5,505,000.00	88%	15-Feb-14	14-Feb-15
				USD 48,665.00	USD 42,836.55			
13.018.ZOA.SIG	ZOA	Simplified Grant	Completed	LKR 19,471,891.00	LKR 19,471,891.00	100%	20-Mar-14	19-Mar-15
				USD 150,000.00	USD 151,049.48			
13.019.FOSDOO.SIG	Federation of Social Development Organizations (FOSDOO)	Simplified Grant	Completed	LKR 6,302,790.00	LKR 6,027,052.00	96%	5-Mar-14	4-Mar-15
				USD 51,000.00	USD 46,727.74			

TABLE I. SUMMARY OF SUBAWARDS TO DATE (as of 15th March 2016)

Ref No:	Subgrant Awardee	Type of Grant	Status	Subgrant Value SL Rs & USD \$		Total Disbursements ITD*	Burn Rate	Grant Start Date	Grant End Date	
13.020.KOINOIA.FOG	KOINOIA	Fixed Obligation Grant	Closed	LKR	6,547,950.00	LKR	6,547,950.00	100%	15-Mar-14	14-Mar-15
				USD	51,000.00	USD	51,000.88			
13.021.PPCC.FOG	PROFESSIONAL PSYCHOLOGICAL COUNSELLING CENTRE - (PPCC)	Fixed Obligation Grant	Closed	LKR	6,154,750.00	LKR	6,154,750.00	100%	17-Mar-14	16-Mar-15
				USD	47,344.00	USD	47,872.25			
13.022.WANT.FOG	Women Action Network for transformation (WANT)	Fixed Obligation Grant	Closed	LKR	3,665,060.00	LKR	3,655,060.00	100%	20-Mar-14	19-Mar-15
				USD	29,031.00	USD	28,383.09			
13.023.EVESDO.FOG	Eastern Voluntary Social Development Organization for Women (EVSDOW)	Fixed Obligation Grant	Closed	LKR	3,646,700.00	LKR	3,646,700.00	100%	1-Apr-14	31-Mar-15
				USD	28,052.00	USD	28,394.28			
13.024.HUDEC.FOG	CARITAS JAFFNA – HUDEC (Human Development Centre)	Fixed Obligation Grant	Closed	LKR	6,030,333.00	LKR	6,030,333.00	100%	25-Mar-14	24-Mar-15
				USD	47,541.00	USD	46,976.46			
13.025.VILUTHU.FOG	Viluthu, Centre for Human Resource Development	Fixed Obligation Grant	Closed	LKR	5,281,719.00	LKR	5,281,719.00	100%	15-Apr-14	14-Jan-15
				USD	40,629.00	USD	41,037.92			
13.026.ICS.FOG	Institute for Constitutional Studies (ICS) Guarantee Limited	Fixed Obligation Grant	Closed	LKR	5,720,200.00	LKR	5,720,200.00	100%	15-Apr-14	14-Apr-15
				USD	44,002.00	USD	43,522.35			
13.027.SDJF.FOG	Sri Lanka Development Journalist Forum	Fixed Obligation Grant	Closed	LKR	5,972,500.00	LKR	5,972,500.00	100%	15-May-14	14-Nov-14
				USD	45,942.00	USD	46,592.01			
13.028.PCA.FOG	Peace and Community Action	Fixed Obligation Grant	Closed	LKR	5,550,870.00	LKR	5,550,870.00	100%	15-May-14	14-May-14
				USD	45,884.00	USD	43,112.06			
13.029.CHANGE.FOG	CHANGE Humanitarian Organization	Fixed Obligation Grant	Closed	LKR	5,172,292.00	LKR	5,172,292.00	100%	1-May-14	1-May-15
				USD	39,787.00	USD	40,057.76			

TABLE I. SUMMARY OF SUBAWARDS TO DATE (as of 15th March 2016)

Ref No:	Subgrant Awardee	Type of Grant	Status	Subgrant Value		Total Disbursements ITD*	Burn Rate	Grant Start Date	Grant End Date	
				SL Rs & USD \$						
13.030.ASN.FOG	Ampara Special Needs Network	Fixed Obligation Grant	Closed	LKR	4,596,390.00	LKR	4,596,390.00	100%	1-May-14	1-May-15
				USD	35,358.00	USD	35,682.13			
13.031.CDO.FOG	Community Development Organization-	Fixed Obligation Grant	In-progress	LKR	4,008,765.00	LKR	3,191,000.00	80%	1-Jul-14	1-Jul-15
				USD	30,702.00	USD	24,689.73			
13.032.IWARE.FOG	Islamic Women Association for Research and Empowerment	Fixed Obligation Grant	Closed	LKR	3,801,270.00	LKR	3,801,270.00	100%	15-Jun-14	14-Jun-15
				USD	29,150.84	USD	29,476.16			
13.033.AWA.FOG	Akkaraipattu Women Association	Fixed Obligation Grant	In-progress	LKR	3,926,325.00	LKR	2,350,000.00	60%	15-Jun-14	14-Jun-15
				USD	30,110.00	USD	18,348.10			
13.034.ORHAN.FOG	Organization for Rehabilitation of the Handicapped	Fixed Obligation Grant	In-progress	LKR	5,840,713.00	LKR	5,250,000.00	90%	1-Jul-14	1-Jul-15
				USD	44,929.00	USD	40,779.67			
13.035.SEED.FOG	Social Economic Enviromental Developers	Fixed Obligation Grant	Closed	LKR	5,662,760.00	LKR	5,662,760.00	100%	20-Aug-14	19-Aug-15
				USD	43,560.00	USD	43,647.62			
13.036.EHED.FOG	Caritas EHED Batticaloa	Fixed Obligation Grant	Closed	LKR	4,787,330.00	LKR	4,787,330.00	100%	1-Jul-14	13-Feb-15
				USD	36,825.00	USD	37,053.35			
13.037.TISL.FOG	Transparency International Sri Lanka	Fixed Obligation Grant	Closed	LKR	5,136,830.00	LKR	5,136,830.00	100%	1-Sep-14	31-Aug-15
				USD	39,514.00	USD	39,559.62			
14.038.CHR.FOG	Center for Human Rights and Research	Fixed Obligation Grant	Closed	LKR	15,437,250.00	LKR	15,437,250.00	100%	5-Aug-14	5-Feb-15
				USD	120,162.00	USD	119,808.13			
14.039.CHRD.SIG	Centre for Human Rights and Development	Simplified Grant	Closed	LKR	11,581,578.00	LKR	10,322,344.00	89%	6-Aug-14	5-Aug-15
				USD	89,089.00	USD	78,356.52			

TABLE I. SUMMARY OF SUBAWARDS TO DATE (as of 15th March 2016)

Ref No:	Subgrant Awardee	Type of Grant	Status	Subgrant Value SL Rs & USD \$	Total Disbursements ITD*	Burn Rate	Grant Start Date	Grant End Date
14.040.CPPHR.FOG	Centre for Promotion & Protection of Human Rights	Fixed Obligation Grant	Closed	LKR 16,073,210.00	LKR 14,421,000.00	90%	3-Sep-14	2-Sep-15
				USD 123,640.00	USD 111,460.84			
14.041.CPA.FOG	Centre for Policy Alternatives (Guarantee) Limited	Simplified Grant	Closed	LKR 16,045,015.00	LKR 13,748,006.00	86%	3-Sep-14	0-Jan-00
				USD 123,423.00	USD 105,312.92			
13.042.SFM.FOG	Secretariat for Muslims	Fixed Obligation Grant	Closed	LKR 7,720,650.00	LKR 8,215,650.00	106%	1-Sep-14	31-Aug-15
				USD 59,390.00	USD 62,377.26			
14.043.R2L.FOG	Right to Life Human Rights Centre	Fixed Obligation Grant	In-progress	LKR 6,872,512.00	LKR 5,981,000.00	87%	1-Nov-14	31-Oct-15
				USD 52,865.00	USD 45,630.15			
14.044.SACLS.FOG	South Asian Centre for Legal Studies (Guarantee) Limited (SACLS)	Fixed Obligation Grant	Closed	LKR 4,763,736.00	LKR 4,742,736.00	100%	15-Oct-14	15-Jul-15
				USD 36,644.00	USD 36,102.84			
14.045.NNAF.FOG	National NGO Action Forum.	Fixed Obligation Grant	Closed	LKR 3,233,600.00	LKR 3,158,600.00	98%	15-Oct-14	15-Jul-15
				USD 24,874.00	USD 24,080.78			
14.046.NPC.SIG	National Peace Council	Simplified Grant	Closed	LKR 9,713,270.00	LKR 9,713,270.00	100%	1-Nov-14	31-Oct-15
				USD 74,717.00	USD 73,464.02			
14.047.SARVODAYA.SIG	Lanka Jathika Sarvodaya Shramadana Sangamaya(Inc.)	Simplified Grant	Closed	LKR 13,137,580.00	LKR 11,482,807.00	87%	1-Nov-14	31-Oct-15
				USD 101,058.00	USD 86,782.43			
14.048.AWF.FOG	Affected Women Forum - AWF	Fixed Obligation Grant	Closed	LKR 4,830,440.00	LKR 4,486,540.00	93%	5-Nov-14	4-Nov-15
				USD 37,157.00	USD 34,309.11			
14.049.CAMID.FOG	Centre For Accessibility, Monitoring and Information on Disability	Fixed Obligation Grant	Closed	LKR 4,891,147.00	LKR 4,891,147.00	100%	20-Nov-14	19-Nov-15
				USD 37,624.00	USD 37,328.09			

TABLE I. SUMMARY OF SUBAWARDS TO DATE (as of 15th March 2016)

Ref No:	Subgrant Awardee	Type of Grant	Status	Subgrant Value SL Rs & USD \$		Total Disbursements ITD*	Burn Rate	Grant Start Date	Grant End Date	
14.050.LST.FOG	Law & Society Trust	Fixed Obligation Grant	Closed	LKR	5,195,903.00	LKR	4,195,000.00	81%	1-Jan-15	31-Aug-15
				USD	39,968.00	USD	32,083.19			
14.051.MWDT.FOG	Muslim Women Development Trust	Fixed Obligation Grant	Closed	LKR	3,846,090.00	LKR	3,846,090.00	100%	22-Dec-14	21-Nov-15
				USD	29,585.00	USD	29,141.01			
14.052.NeWAROW.FOG	Network for Advocating Requirements of Women	Fixed Obligation Grant	Closed	LKR	3,394,394.00	LKR	3,394,394.00	100%	22-Dec-14	21-Nov-15
				USD	26,110.72	USD	25,841.25			
14.053.MWDRF.FOG	Mullaitivu Women's Development and Rehabilitation Federation	Fixed Obligation Grant	Closed	LKR	3,971,740.00	LKR	3,971,740.00	100%	1-Jan-15	31-Oct-15
				USD	30,552.00	USD	30,175.20			
14.054BDS.FOG	Berendina Development Services (Gte) Ltd- (BDS)	Fixed Obligation Grant	Closed	LKR	5,914,959.00	LKR	5,612,959.00	95%	1-Jan-15	31-Oct-15
				USD	45,500.00	USD	42,666.70			
14.055.NAFSO.FOG	National Fisheries Solidarity Movement	Fixed Obligation Grant	Closed	LKR	4,435,400.00	LKR	4,435,400.00	100%	7-Jan-15	7-Dec-15
				USD	34,118.00	USD	33,610.71			
14.056.WDF.FOG	Women Development Foundation (WDF)	Fixed Obligation Grant	Closed	LKR	3,940,098.00	LKR	3,940,098.00	100%	22-Dec-14	21-Nov-15
				USD	30,308.00	USD	30,000.02			
14.057.CRPC.FOG	Community Resources Protection Center	Fixed Obligation Grant	Closed	LKR	3,628,430.00	LKR	3,628,430.00	100%	16-Jan-15	15-Oct-15
				USD	27,911.00	USD	27,601.32			
14.058.NCEASL.FOG	National Christian Evangelical Association of Sri Lanka	Fixed Obligation Grant	Closed	LKR	5,070,281.00	LKR	4,968,281.00	98%	15-Jan-15	30-Sep-15
				USD	39,002.00	USD	37,744.14			
14.059.RPK.FOG	Rajarata Praja Kendaraya	Fixed Obligation Grant	Closed	LKR	3,106,301.00	LKR	3,379,301.00	109%	26-Jan-15	25-Oct-15
				USD	23,895.00	USD	25,618.79			

TABLE I. SUMMARY OF SUBAWARDS TO DATE (as of 15th March 2016)

Ref No:	Subgrant Awardee	Type of Grant	Status	Subgrant Value		Total Disbursements ITD*	Burn Rate	Grant Start Date	Grant End Date	
				SL Rs & USD \$						
14.060.RPK.FOG	Kinniya Vision	Fixed Obligation Grant	In-progress	LKR	4,309,365.00	LKR	3,876,000.00	90%	20-Apr-15	19-Nov-15
					USD	33,149.00	USD			
14.061.FPA.FOG	The Family Planning Association of Sri Lanka	Fixed Obligation Grant	Closed	LKR	2,607,154.00	LKR	2,607,154.00	100%	20-Apr-15	19-Oct-15
					USD	20,055.00	USD			
14.062.ATM.FOG	Active Theatre Moment	Fixed Obligation Grant	Closed	LKR	3,005,450.00	LKR	3,005,450.00	100%	20-Apr-15	19-Oct-15
					USD	23,119.00	USD			
14.063.H2H.FOG	Heart to Heart Lanka	Fixed Obligation Grant	Closed	LKR	1,896,850.00	LKR	1,896,850.00	100%	20-Apr-15	19-Oct-15
					USD	14,591.00	USD			
14.064.MCC.FOG	Mannar Citizen Committee	Fixed Obligation Grant	Closed	LKR	3,609,180.00	LKR	3,195,000.00	89%	20-Apr-15	19-Dec-15
					USD	27,755.00	USD			
14.065.MARDAP.FOG	Mannar Association for Rehabilitation of Differently Able People	Fixed Obligation Grant	Closed	LKR	3,213,630.00	LKR	3,213,630.00	100%	10-May-15	9-Nov-15
					USD	24,720.00	USD			
14.066.DABOMDU.FOG	Dabindu Collective	Fixed Obligation Grant	Closed	LKR	1,614,620.00	LKR	1,518,745.00	94%	1-May-15	31-Oct-15
					USD	12,420.00	USD			
14.067.SWM.FOG	Savisthri Women's Movement	Fixed Obligation Grant	Closed	LKR	1,961,661.00	LKR	1,961,661.00	100%	1-May-15	31-Oct-15
					USD	15,090.00	USD			
14.068.FOSDO.FOG	Federation of Social Development Organizations	Simplified Grant	In-progress	LKR	3,934,375.00	LKR	3,079,486.00	78%	1-Jun-15	31-Dec-15
					USD	30,264.00	USD			

TABLE I. SUMMARY OF SUBAWARDS TO DATE (as of 15th March 2016)

Ref No:	Subgrant Awardee	Type of Grant	Status	Subgrant Value SL Rs & USD \$	Total Disbursements ITD*	Burn Rate	Grant Start Date	Grant End Date
14.069.WC.FOG	Women's Center	Fixed Obligation Grant	Closed	LKR 2,030,010.00	LKR 2,030,010.00	100%	1-Jun-15	30-Nov-15
				USD 15,615.00	USD 15,247.41			
14.070.ICES.FOG	International Centre for Ethnic Studies (ICES)	Fixed Obligation Grant	In-progress	LKR 8,441,123.00	LKR 7,590,000.00	90%	15-May-15	14-Nov-15
				USD 64,932.00	USD 57,166.67			
14.071.ZOA.FOG	ZOA	Simplified Grant	In-progress	LKR 15,266,526.00	LKR 13,548,830.00	89%	1-Jul-15	31-Dec-15
				USD 117,435.00	USD 97,834.47			
14.072.CHANGE.FOG	CHANGE Humanitarian Organization	Fixed Amount Award	Closed	LKR 3,063,468.00	LKR 4,063,468.00	133%	1-Jul-15	31-Oct-15
				USD 23,565.13	USD 30,277.09			
14.073.HUDEC.FOG	Caritas Jaffna – Human Development Centre	Fixed Amount Award	Closed	LKR 2,277,911.00	LKR 1,645,786.00	72%	1-Jul-15	31-Oct-15
				USD 17,524.00	USD 12,288.16			
14.074.HUDEC.FOG	Sri Lanka Development Journalist Forum	Fixed Amount Award	Closed	LKR 2,277,911.00	LKR 4,279,870.00	188%	1-Jul-15	31-Oct-15
				USD 17,524.00	USD 31,692.04			
14.075.YCW.FOG	Young Christian Workers Movement – Sri Lanka (YCW)	SIMPLIFIED GRANT	Closed	LKR 1,847,400.00	USD 1,847,400.00	100%	1-Jun-15	1-Nov-15
				USD 14,211.00	USD 13,753.92			
14.076.CPA/CMEV.FOG	Centre for Policy Alternatives (CPA)/Centre for Monitoring Election Violence (CMEV)	SIMPLIFIED GRANT	Closed	LKR 5,420,817.00	LKR 756,641.00	14%	1-Jul-15	31-Oct-15
				USD 41,699.00	USD 5,476.73			
14.076.CPBR.FOG	Center for Peace building and Reconciliation	Fixed Amount Award	In-progress	LKR 5,463,710.00	LKR 3,241,128.00	59%	1-Jul-15	1-Dec-15
				USD 42,029.00	USD 23,531.36			
15.078.CPPHR- FAA	Center for the Protection and Promotion of Human Rights	Fixed Amount Award	In-progress	LKR 10,058,547.00	LKR 300,000.00	3%	1-Mar-16	31-Jan-17
				USD 71,846.76	USD 7,829.18			

TABLE I. SUMMARY OF SUBAWARDS TO DATE (as of 15th March 2016)									
Ref No:	Subgrant Awardee	Type of Grant	Status	Subgrant Value SL Rs & USD \$		Total Disbursements ITD*	Burn Rate	Grant Start Date	Grant End Date
15.079.SAVISTHRI- FAA	Savisthri Women's Movement	Fixed Amount Award	In-progress	LKR	3,586,242.00	LKR	0%	1-Mar-16	31-Dec-16
				USD	25,616.01	USD			
15.080.PPCCI- FAA	Professional Psychological Counselling Centre	Fixed Amount Award	In-progress	LKR	6,846,908.00	LKR	0%	29-Mar-16	28-Feb-17
				USD	48,906.49	USD			
15.080.SACLS- FAA	South Asia Center for Legal Studies	Fixed Amount Award	In-progress	LKR	7,510,200.00	LKR	0%	23-Mar-16	22-Jan-17
				USD	53,644.29	USD			
IN-KIND Grants	Multiple	In-Kind	Completed	LKR	3,744,870.00	USD	80%		
				USD	28,650.95	USD			
SUB TOTAL		LKR		LKR	503,885,535.30	LKR	90%		
		USD		USD	3,893,643.22	USD			

NOTE:

*ITD: Inception to Date

**Subgrant approved after 15th March 2016

Summary of Sub-Awards - Subcontracts

TABLE II. SUMMARY OF SUBAWARDS (SUBCONTRACTS) TO DATE (as of 15 March 2016)								
Ref. No	Subaward Awardee	Type of Agreement		Subaward Value SL Rs & USD \$	Total Disbursements ITD*	Burn Rate	Subaward Start Date	Subaward End Date
605100.05.03.13.010	SIPL- Strategic Inspirations (Pvt) Ltd	BOA		LKR 29,101,800.00	LKR 30,038,782.15	103%	9-Sep-13	8-Sep-15
				USD 223,860.00	USD 235,705.36			
605100.05.03.13.011	PALTRA (Guarantee) Ltd -Partners in Alternative Training	BOA		LKR 34,957,650.00	LKR 32,879,325.79	94%	9-Sep-13	8-Sep-15
				USD 268,905.00	USD 250,365.16			
605100.05.03.14.018	EML Consultants (PVT) Ltd.	BOA		LKR 6,267,820.00	LKR 2,896,912.00	46%	1-Aug-14	31-Jul-15
				USD 48,214.00	USD 30,198.91			
605100.05.03.14.026	Creators Forum.	PO		LKR 1,136,000.00	LKR 1,010,605.00	89%	27-Oct-14	31-Jan-15
				USD 8,738.46	USD 7,835.53			
605100.05.03.14.024 A	Business Consultancy Services	BOA		LKR 7,000,110.00	LKR 11,166,745.00	160%	1-Jan-15	30-Jun-15
				USD 53,847.00	USD 83,570.74			
605100.05.03.14.024 B	Creators Forum	BOA		LKR 5,500,300.00	LKR 4,877,872.00	89%	1-Jan-15	30-Jun-15
				USD 42,310.00	USD 37,016.21			
605100.05.03.14.024 C	Management Frontiers	BOA		LKR 7,930,390.00	LKR 2,267,680.00	29%	1-Jan-15	30-Jun-15
				USD 61,003.00	USD 16,892.35			
SUB TOTAL		LKR		LKR 91,894,070.00	LKR 85,137,921.94	94%		
		USD		USD 706,877.46	USD 661,584.27			

ACHIEVEMENTS

Project Management and Administration

- SPICE recruited a manager who is highly experienced in organizational development (OD) to oversee capacity-building initiatives during the final phase of the project. A program officer was appointed to take over capacity building in the field.
- The M&E officer who was based in the East has been recruited to replace the senior M&E manager, who resigned from the organization this quarter. The M&E team was further strengthened with the addition of a knowledge management and communications officer.
- Batticaloa Office was closed out with assets disposed and returned. A room has been rented in the premises of another USAID contractor to ensure limited presence.

Grants

- SPICE awarded two new grants this quarter and 32 are in process of being finalized for approval.
- SPICE facilitated the completion and closeout of the remaining grants.

Capacity Building

SPICE Grantees

- Evaluation and strategic planning workshop of ASNAN.
- A documentation system developed for NAFSO in consultation with staff.
- Development of a documentation, filing and information storage system for ORHAN.
- Facilitation of a review of the ORHAN governance structure.
- Gender policy developed for R2L.
- Review and revision of NPC and R2L strategic plans.
- Orientation sessions with staff of AWF, WDF and Sarvodaya on the revised finance, admin and HR policy manuals.
- Completion of all the capacity-building initiatives agreed upon, and a joint reflection of the capacity-building process with 20 grantees: AWF, CAMID, CHRD, CHR, CPA, EVSDOW, EG, MCC, MWDT, NAFSO, NewAROW, ORHAN, RPK, R2L, WANT, WDF, CDO, ASNAN, SWDC and Sarvodaya.
- Reflection discussions on the SPICE capacity-building process with the organization development facilitators (ODFs) and capacity-building partners.

Direct USAID Grantees

- Relevant consultants for the strategic planning process of ICES have been finally selected and the first phase is complete.
- The English, Sinhala and Tamil versions of the strategic plan of MENCAFEP was printed and disbursed to key stakeholders during the organization's 20th anniversary.
- An M&E system has been introduced to MENCAFEP and they are gradually beginning to use it.

CORE VALUES Training

The CORE VALUES training program officially closed in December 2015, after the successful completion of a series of seven training programs. A certificate presentation ceremony took place, at the request of participants, on January 24, 2016 at the Sri Lanka Foundation (SLF). Three types of certificates – Certificate of Successful Completion, Certificate of Participation and Certificate of Attendance – were presented, based on specific criteria developed by the facilitators and the SPICE team. Dr. Udan Fernando and Vasuki Jayasankar delivered keynote addresses at the event, followed

by an inspiring closing speech by Dr. Arjuna Parakrama. The participants also delivered moving presentations/poems, and presented personalized tokens of appreciation to the facilitators, SPICE team and interpreters.

Project Activities

Outcome 1: Improved protection of citizens' rights by Sri Lankan organizations.

- 155 people received legal aid or victims' assistance. This includes GBV assistance, support to obtain legal documents and other support.
- 210 people were reached through GBV services.
- 150 people received other legal aid, including legal advice, legal representation, etc.
- 4,284 persons were reached through human rights awareness-raising activities, including awareness on GBV issues. These people were reached through direct awareness programs trainings or indirectly through publications.

Outcome 2: Expanded civil society support for more inclusive, active citizen participation in development, reconciliation and governance.

- 254 civic associations were directly or indirectly part of the project at any point, including this reporting period; 75 percent (241) are active in community development and governance.
- Since the beginning, 205 organizations – including SPICE grantees and CSOs/CBOs assisted by SPICE grantees – continue to represent marginalized communities to pressure the government to implement policy or conduct government oversight at least at the local level.
- From the beginning of the project through this reporting period, 187 civil society organizations are or were engaged in advocacy interventions at any point.
- 73 percent of SPICE grantees are part of or engaged in at least one network, contributing to a strengthened and more cohesive civil society portfolio that SPICE works with, compared to the 45 percent in September 2014.
- During the entire project period, 248 events, trainings or activities designed to build support for peace or reconciliation among key actors to the conflict have taken place.
- 48 of 56 organizations through this reporting period were assessed to be advocating pluralism, human rights and democracy.
- 3 community projects were completed through the facilitation of SPICE grantees.
- 72 events, trainings and other interventions promoting awareness and citizen participation in governance and democracy were completed from the inception of the project.
- From the beginning of the project, 29 forums received support to address gender-based violence together with duty-bearers and rights holders.

Outcome 3: Enhanced management and technical capacity of indigenous organizations supporting civic participation and inclusive development

- 67 organizations received capacity-building support from the commencement of the project.
- 16 people were trained through skills development training during the reporting period, totaling 470 since the beginning of the project.

BEST PRACTICES AND CHALLENGES

Best Practices

Flexibility in Program Design to Adapt to Changing Context: As the SPICE project enters its fourth and final phase, flexibility in program design has proven to be a critical asset in consolidating gains from the earlier phases of the project. New and existing grantees will receive technical support in designing and delivering their projects so they can leverage opportunities to promote civil society engagement and participation in the transitional justice and constitutional reform processes. These two opportunities are critical to ensuring the rights and participation of Sri Lankan citizens over the long term. The ability

to implement projects that will focus on furthering reconciliation, good governance practices, inclusion and the protection of rights is reflective of the SPICE project's ability to adapt to the changing socio-political context.

Flexibility in Capacity-Building Initiatives: The space and opportunity to change or add new activities to address organizational and contextual changes contributed to the overall capacity-building process of several CSOs. The revision of strategic plans of R2L and NPC enabled them to review and revise their strategic goals and activities to better suit the changed political and social context.

Stronger, Cohesive Responses: SPICE continued to bring together organizations to collaborate. CORE VALUES trainings, exposure visits, specific activities and advocacy initiatives have proven to be a more cohesive, structured way of facilitating civil society responses.

Challenges

With the resignation of the manager handling USAID's DGP grantees during the end of the previous quarter, the outstanding interventions had to be contracted out while SPICE recruited a replacement for the manager.

EXPENDITURES

Project expenditures at the end of March 2016 totaled \$9,876,157.73. During this quarter, the program continued disbursements under grants and subcontracts from FY-2015. As of March 15, 2016, \$4,134,898.49 was paid to grantees and subcontractors. At the end of the second quarter of FY 2016, 83.45 percent of the obligated funding allocated under the October 13, 2015, subgrant between MSI and Counterpart International had been spent.

PROGRAMMING PRIORITIES FOR NEXT QUARTER

Project Management/Administration

- Assess the personnel requirement in light of the new grants based on theme, location, language and complexity and retain STTA as required;
- Update the security guidelines of MSI to reflect the local context; and
- Commence procedures for asset disposition pertaining to the grants that have been closed.

Grants

- Close out the grants that are completed meeting the USAID requirements.
- Monitor and support CPPHR, Savisthri grants that are awarded in FY16 Q2.
- Award, monitor and support SACLs, R2L, Sarvodaya, NPC, TISL, NAFSO, MCC, PPCC, which have been approved by USAID.
- Shape and submit to USAID sub-award requests for approval the remaining applications that have been successful under rounds 5 and 6 of RFA.

Capacity Building

SPICE Grantees

- Finalize the choice of ODFs for the final phase of SPICE capacity building and meet with new ODFs to orient them on the capacity-building process to be adopted during the second phase.
- Initiate discussions with grantees that have been selected for phase 2 of the capacity-building process to share about future capacity-building support and plan the institutionalization of changes from the first phase, as well as one or two new initiatives.
- Commence capacity-building process of the second phase.
- Complete all ongoing in-kind grant support and property transfer.

Direct USAID Grantees

- Finalize STTAs for consultants involved in the strategic planning of ICES and commence second phase of process.
- Call for quotations and contract a consultant for the improvement of new media communications and training of ICES staff.
- Extend POP of MoU with FRC.
- Finalize procurement process for HHR's English-language reporting and presentation training, so that the training may commence.
- Follow up on financial training of SLCDF staff and the financial manual development and training of MENCAFEP staff.
- Contract consultant to develop tools for culture and gender analysis and assessments for JSAC.
- Contract consultant to develop social enterprises for Navajeevana and through this build the team within the organization.
- Contract consultant to conduct supervisory skills development for Sevalanka Foundation, if the need is still identified.
- Develop and standardize the M&E system, including a data management plan for Shanthiham via support from FRC.

Training on CORE VALUES

- Finalize the broad process curriculum for the second phase of the training and contract consultant facilitators.
- Finalize the selection of the participants through the application and interviews process.
- Plan and conduct the first two modules dealing with civil society's role and functions, accountability and networking.

ANNEX I: Performance Monitoring Plan Update

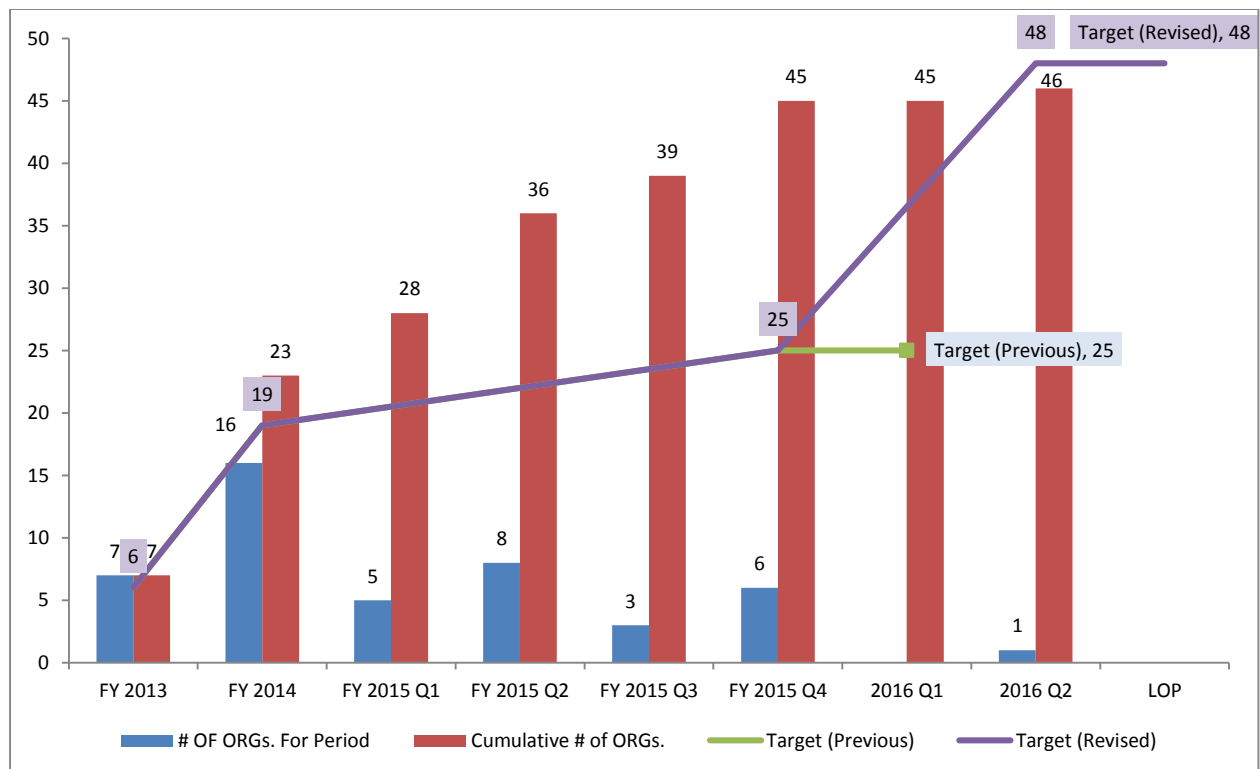
Outcome I: Improved protection of citizens’ rights by Sri Lankan organizations

The first outcome of SPICE is monitored using five indicators and three sub-indicators. Their progress is below:

I.1: # domestic NGOs engaged in monitoring or advocacy work on human rights receiving USG support			
FY 2016 Targets	FY 2017 Targets	LOP until 2015	Revised LOP
48	48	25	48

The diagram below explains the progress of indicator I.1 since the beginning of the project. This indicator has shown a steady growth since the beginning of the project and since September 2015, a total of 46 domestic NGOs that have received USG support through SPICE are engaged in monitoring or advocacy work on human rights. This USG support includes ongoing and/or completed grant support through SPICE.

Since the initial targets have been overachieved, the LOP has been revised from 25 to 48, considering the extended period of the project.



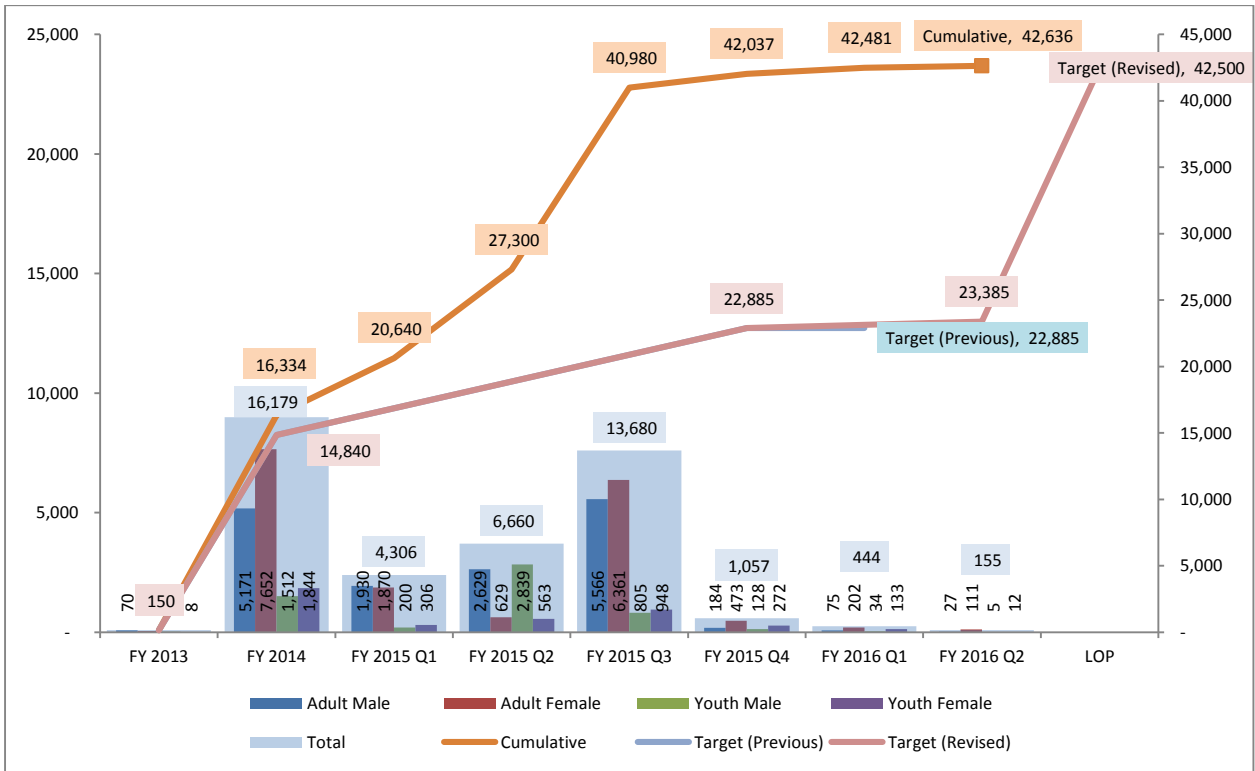
I.2: # individuals from low income or marginalized communities who received legal aid or victims assistance with USG support			
FY 2016 Targets	FY 2017 Targets	LOP until 2015	Revised LOP
500	163	22,885	42,500

The project found a great demand for legal aid or victims' assistance for individuals from low-income or marginalized communities, and this indicator, I.2, recorded significant progress from mid-2014 to FY 2015 Q3.

Since FY 2015 Q3, the progress of this indicator shows stabilization. 155 individuals who received legal aid or victim's assistance during the previous and present reporting period were verified and updated during this reporting period. As the diagram below

SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTORS (SINCE THE BEGINNING)		
CHR	ZOA	CPPHR
PPCC	CHANGE	HUDEC
AWF	WDF	MWDRF
MWDT	WANT	KOINONIA
CHRD	MCC	SWDC
CRPC	CDO	SEED
RPK	MARDAP	FOSDO

explains, 42,636 individuals received legal aid or victims' assistance since the beginning of the project. The initially set LOP of the project has been significantly overachieved and the LOP has been revised from 22,885 to 42,500 since FY 2015 Q4, considering the extended period of the project.

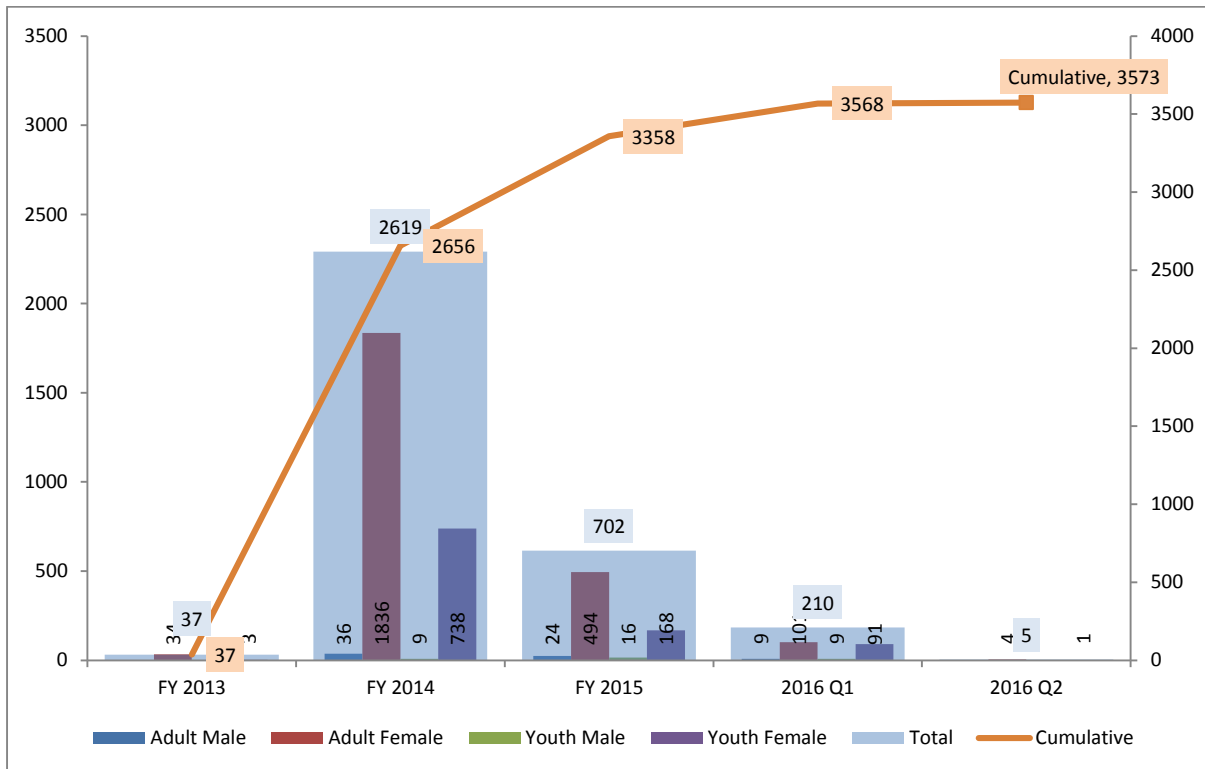


1.2.1: # people reached by USG-funded interventions providing GBV services

FY 2016 Targets	FY 2017 Targets	LOP until 2015	Revised LOP
350	30	5300	3750

The diagram below shows the number of people reached through GBV services since the beginning of the project. A total of 3,573 people were reached through GBV services during the entire period of the project. During the reporting period, five females received emergency assistance support. The LOP has been revised from 5,300 to 3,750 at the end of FY 2015.

CONTRIBUTORS (SINCE THE BEGINNING)		
SWDC	AWF	WDF
NEWAROW	PPCC	AWA
CPPHR	IWARE	EG
MWDT	MWDRF	FOSDO
HUDEC	WANT	CHANGE
	RPK	

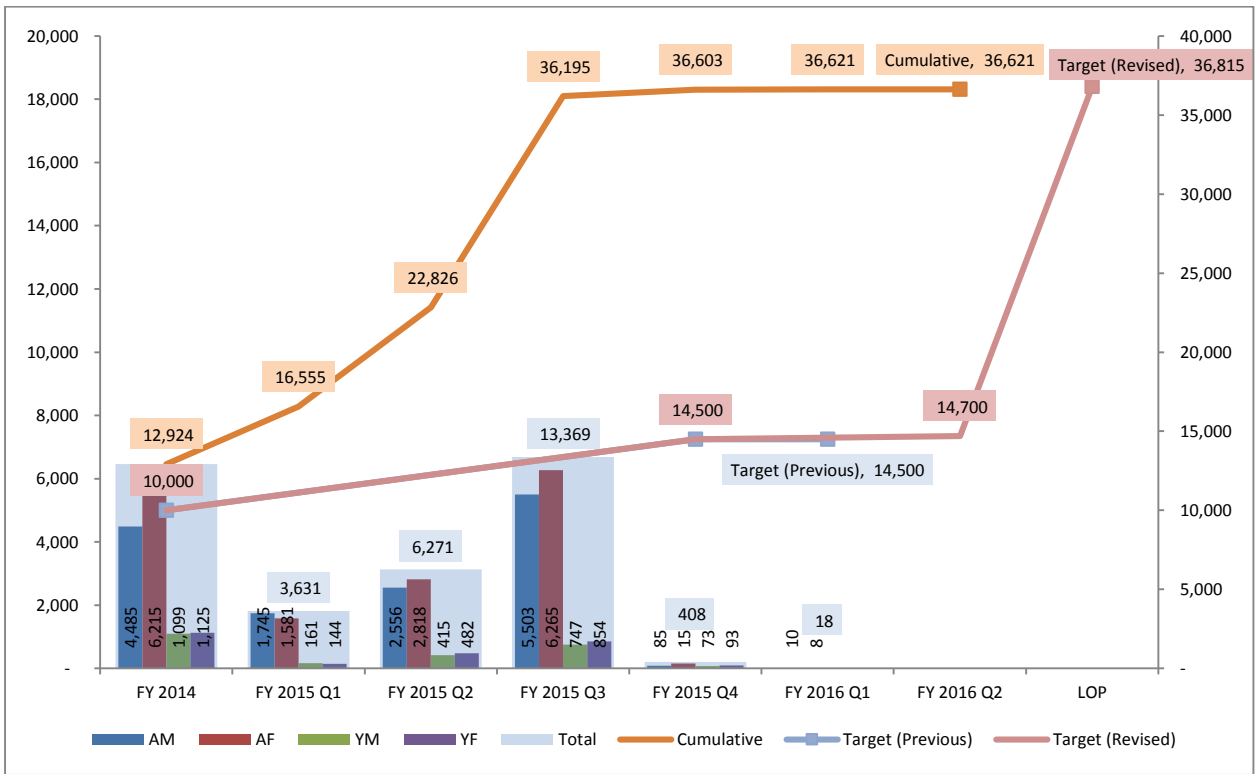


1.2.2: # people who received key government identification and other vital legal documents with assistance from target groups

FY 2016 Targets	FY 2017 Targets	LOP until 2015	Revised LOP
212		14,500	36,815

Since most of the activities related to indicator 1.2.2, sub-indicator 1.2, are completed, the progress of this indicator has stabilized since FY 2015 Q3. No individuals were assisted to receive legal documents during this reporting period, which leaves the total at 36,621.

SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTORS
(SINCE THE BEGINNING)
CHR AND CHANGE



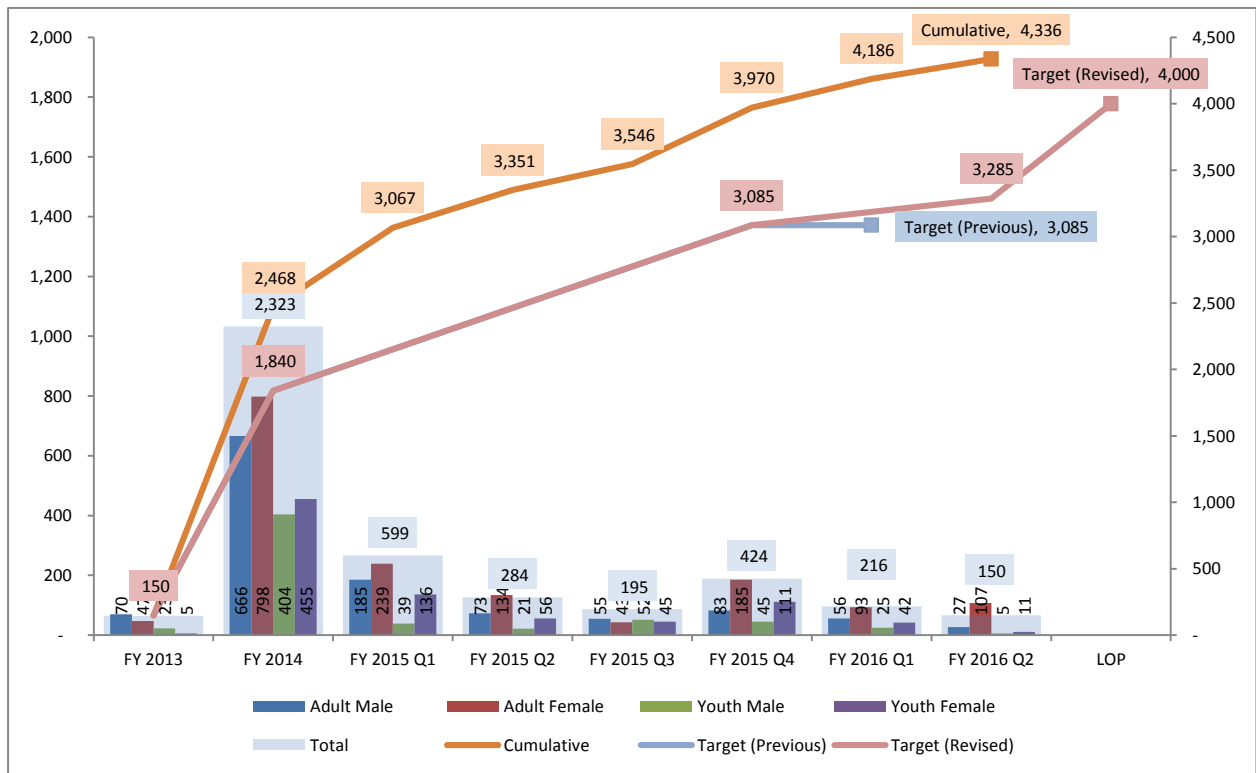
1.2.3: # beneficiaries of other legal aid or victims assistance

FY 2016 Targets	FY 2017 Targets	LOP until 2015	Revised LOP
200		3,025	4000

Under sub-indicator 1.2.3, 150 individuals were reported to have received other legal aid or victim's assistance during the period, bringing the cumulative number to 4,336. Among the 150 people who were assisted during this reporting period, 27 are adult males, 107 are adult females, 5 are youth males and 11 are youth females. The assistance provided during this quarter was livelihood assistance.

Going forward, this indicator's progress is expected to stabilize.

CONTRIBUTORS (SINCE THE BEGINNING)		
CHRD	EG	MCC
HUDEC	WANT	ZOA
CHANGE	ORHAN	CDO
WDF	SWDC	CPPHR
KOINONIA	PPCC	CRPC
	MARDAP	



I.3: # human rights defenders trained and supported

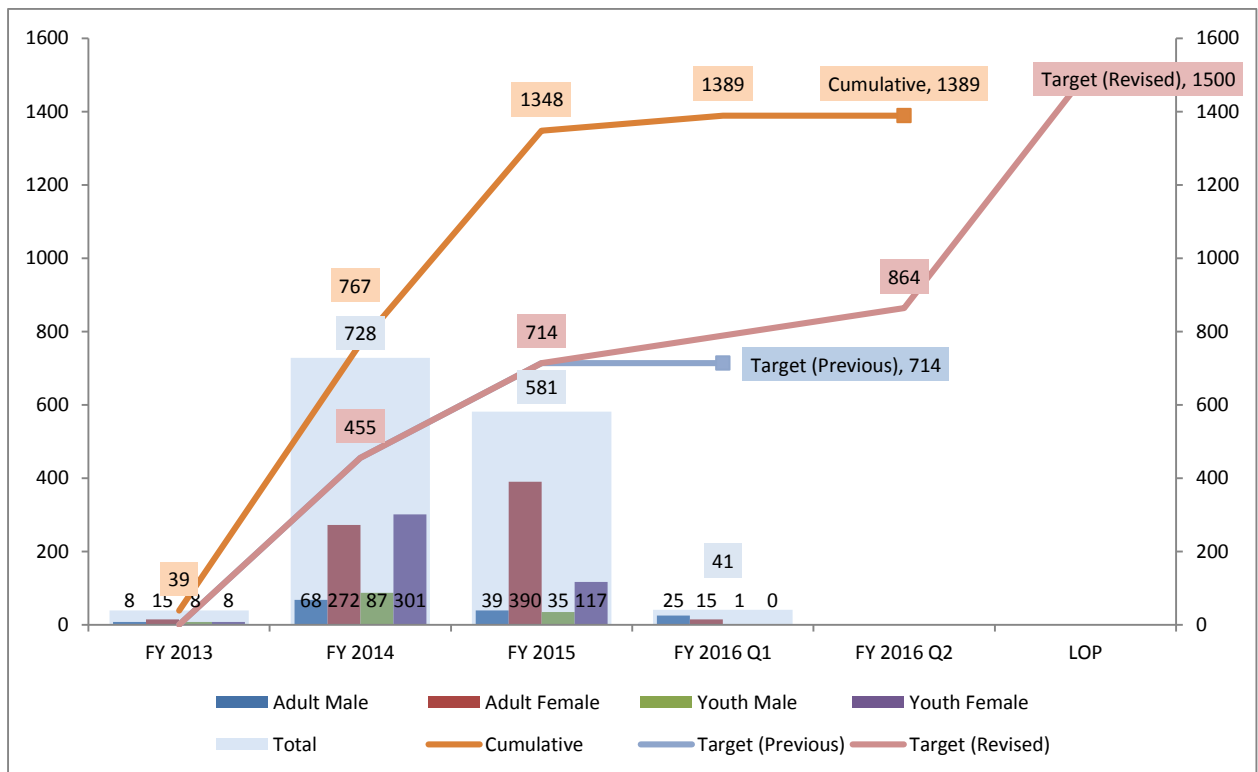
FY 2016 Targets	FY 2017 Targets	LOP until 2015	Revised LOP
152		714	1500

The diagram below shows the number of human rights defenders trained since the beginning of the project.

As most of the grants ended in the previous quarters, no progress is reported during this period and the cumulative progress remains at 1,389. The LOP has been revised from 714 to 1,500 at the end of FY 2015

CONTRIBUTORS (SINCE THE BEGINNING)		
CHRD	R2L	AWF
NEWAROW	CPPHR	PCA
MCC	MWDT	MWDRF
EHED	RPK	FOSDO
	HUDEC	

The initially set LOP for the period through FY 2015 has been overachieved and it has been revised from 714 to 1,500, considering the extended period of the project.



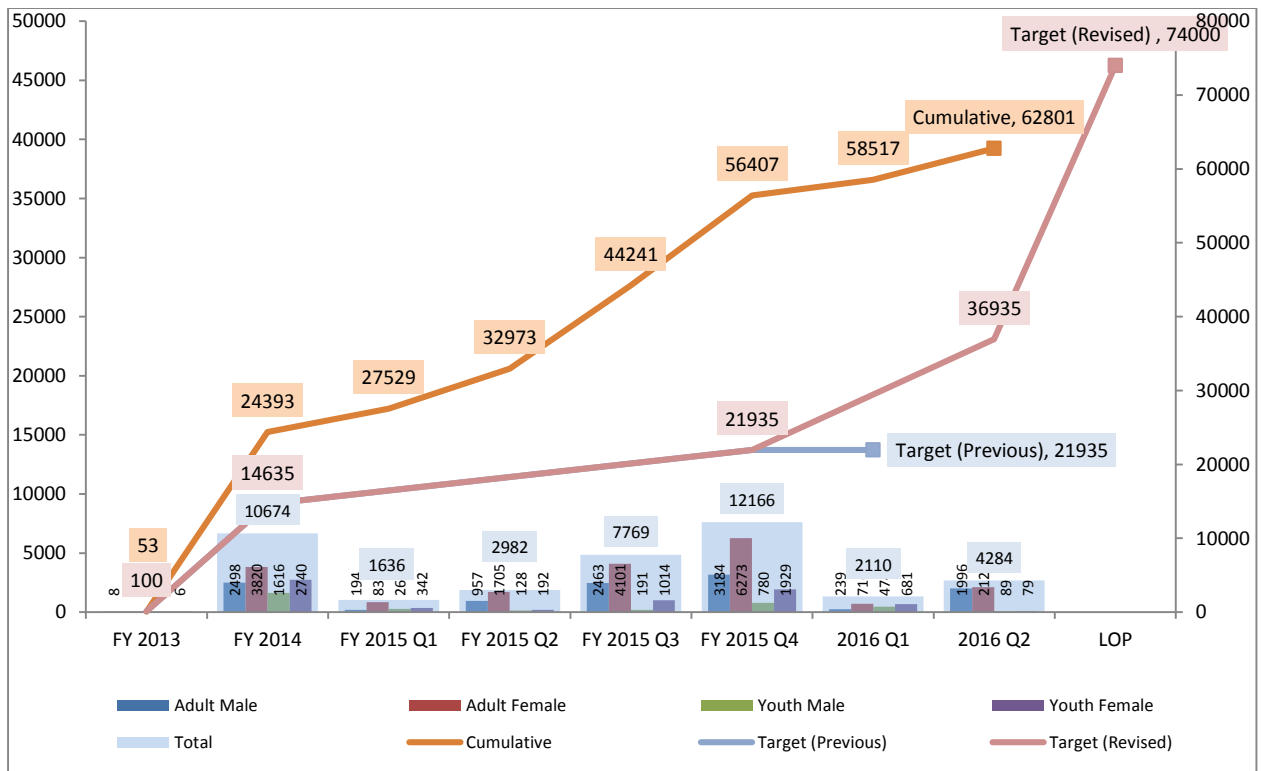
I.4: # people reached by HR awareness-raising activities

FY 2016 Targets	FY 2017 Targets	LOP until 2015	Revised LOP
15,000	3,046	21,935	74,000

The diagram below compares the progress of indicator I.4 across different reporting periods in the bars (axis on the left), and cumulative progress against targets in the lines (axis on the right). As the diagram shows, 4,284 individuals were reached through HR awareness-raising activities during this quarter (verified numbers of the previous quarter progress also included). This brings the cumulative reach to 62,801.

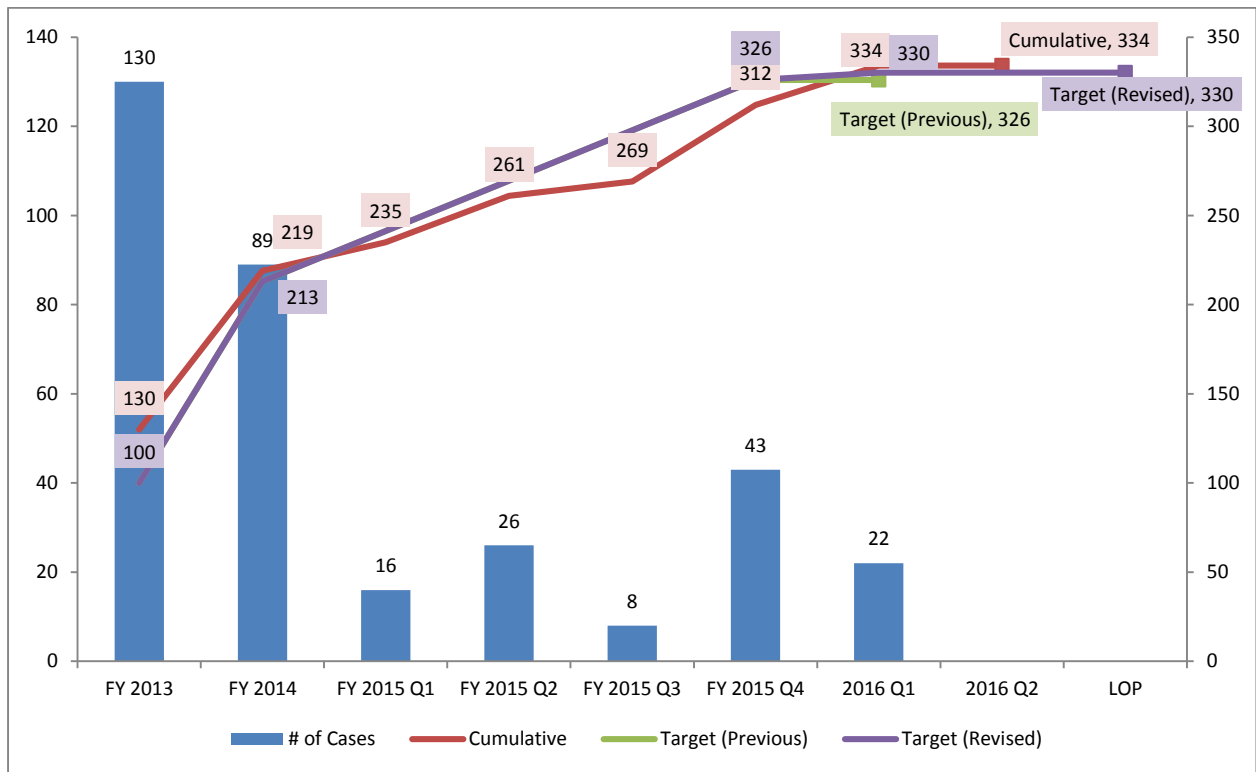
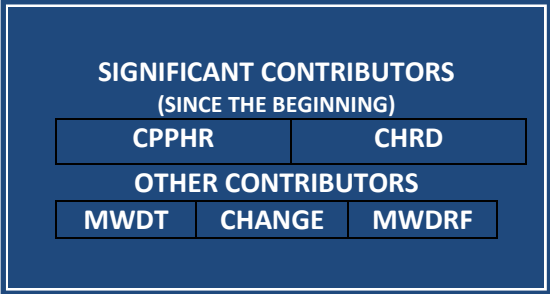
The progress of the indicator is expected to grow from the upcoming reporting period until FY2017 Q1, as most grants have completed their present phase and processing of new grants is in progress.

CONTRIBUTORS (SINCE THE BEGINNING)		
R2L	NAFSO	SARVODAYA
SDJF	EG	VILUTHU
AWF	WDF	SWDC
NEWAROW	CPPHR	KOINONIA
EVESDOW	PPCC	ASNN
IWARE	AWA	CHRD
CHRD	CAMID	EHED
MCC	MWDT	MWDRF
HUDEC	WANT	FOSDO
ZOA	CHANGE	ORHAN
CDO	SEED	RPK
ATM	SAVISTRI	DABINDU
CRPC	WC	ATM
BERENDINA	LST	H2H
CPA/CMEV	YCWM	



I.5: # legal cases handled by target NGOs			
FY 2016 Targets	FY 2017 Targets	LOP until 2015	Revised LOP
18		326	330

The diagram below compares the progress of indicator I.5 across different time periods in the bars, and cumulative progress against targets in the lines. As the bar diagram indicates, the cumulative progress is 334 and no new cases were handled during this reporting period. Some of the new grants, in the preparation process, also have the legal case component; however, the majority are the continuation of previously filed cases. Therefore, slight increases in cumulative numbers in the forthcoming quarter are expected.

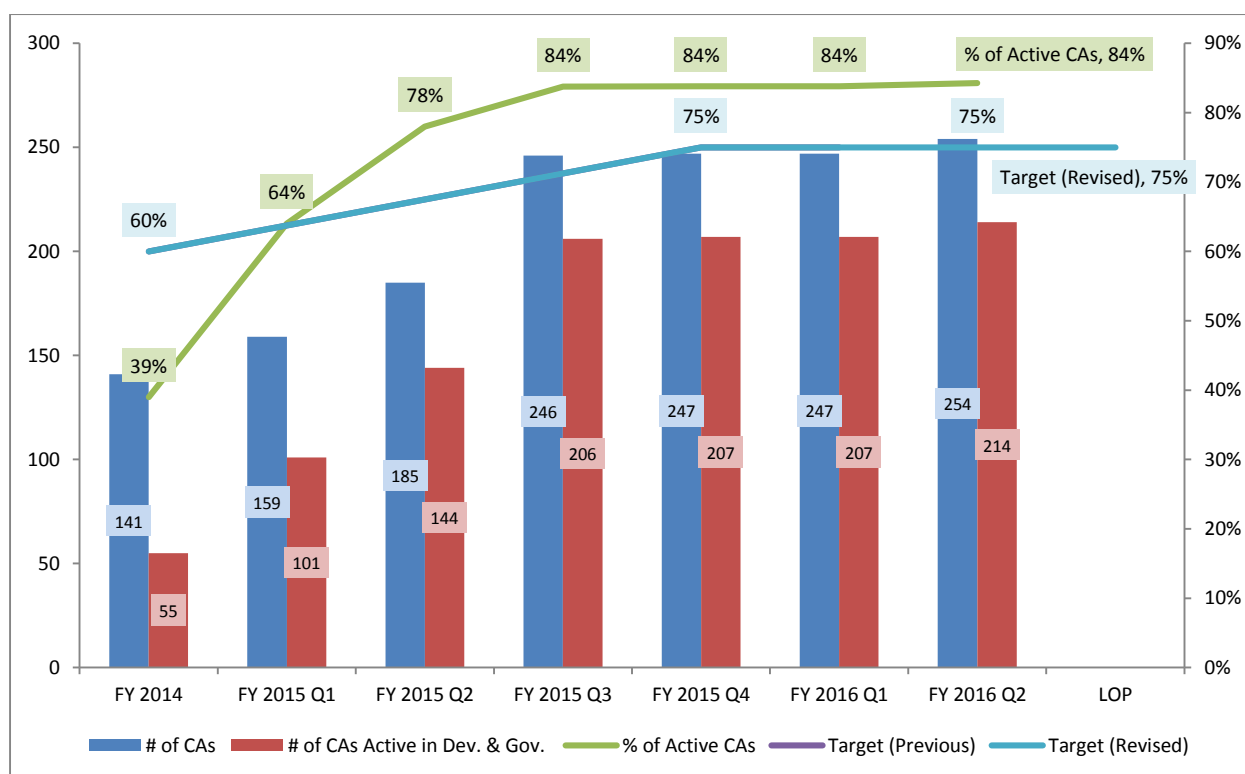


Outcome 2: Expanded civil society support for more inclusive, active citizen participation in development, reconciliation, and governance

The second outcome of SPICE is monitored using seven indicators. Its progress is given below.

2.1 % target civic associations active in community development & governance			
FY 2016 Targets	FY 2017 Targets	LOP until 2015	Revised LOP
75%	75%	75%	75%

The diagram below compares the number of civic associations active in community development and governance, with the total number of civic associations supported by the project (bars / left axis). The diagram also compares cumulative progress of the project against targets (lines / right axis). As presented in the bar chart, 254 civic associations have been supported under the project since its inception, and 84 percent (214) of them are assessed to be active in community development and governance.



The line diagram shows that the progress of this indicator increased over time and stabilized since FY 2015 Q3, as all the civic associations came onboard during the FY 2014 and FY 2015. A few new civic associations have come onboard since FY2015 Q3, but the percentage figure has not changed as the CA numbers have simultaneously increased.

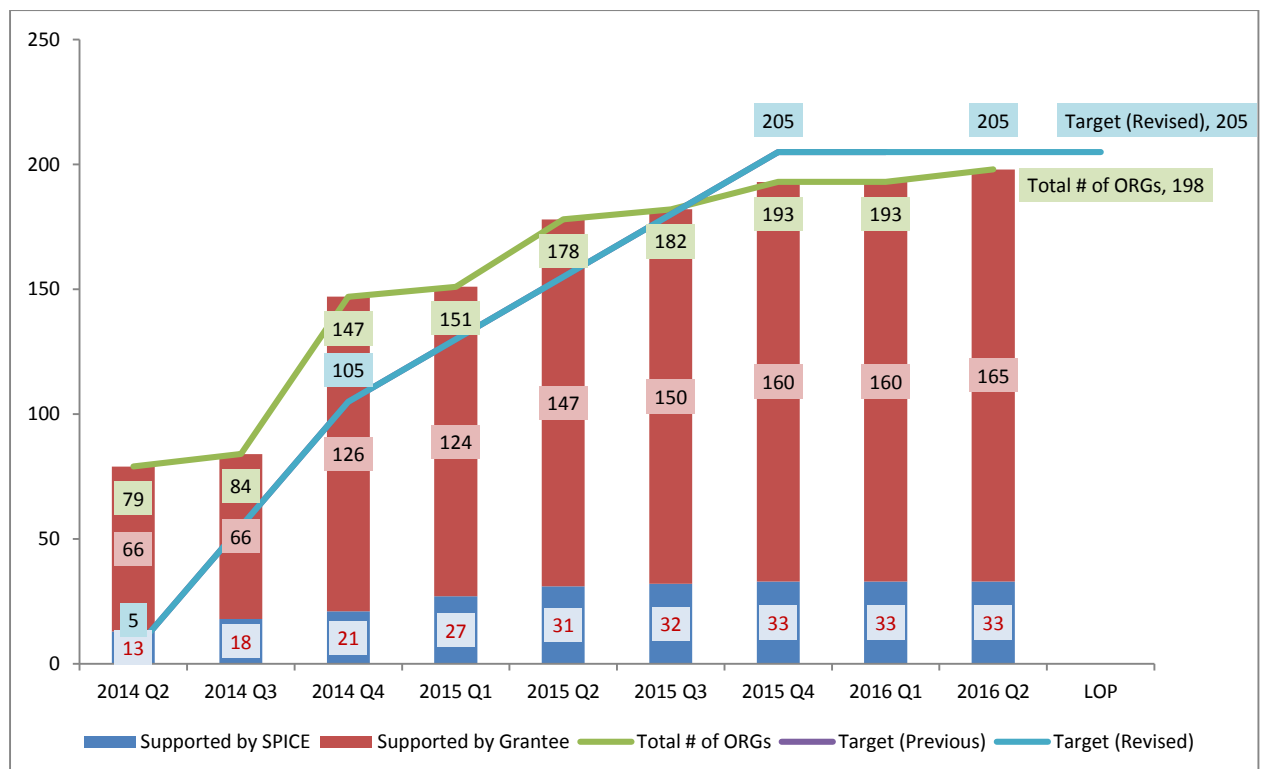
Note: Civic associations, per the indicator definition, include certain membership-based SPICE grantees, as well as civic associations supported by SPICE grantees.

2.2: # USG-funded organizations representing marginalized constituencies trying to affect government policy or conducting government oversight

FY 2016 Targets	FY 2017 Targets	LOP until 2015	Revised LOP
205	205	205	205

The diagram below displays SPICE grantees and organizations supported by SPICE grantees representing marginalized constituencies, trying to impact government policy or conduct government oversight (shown in the bars), and compares the progress of the indicator against targets (shown in the lines).

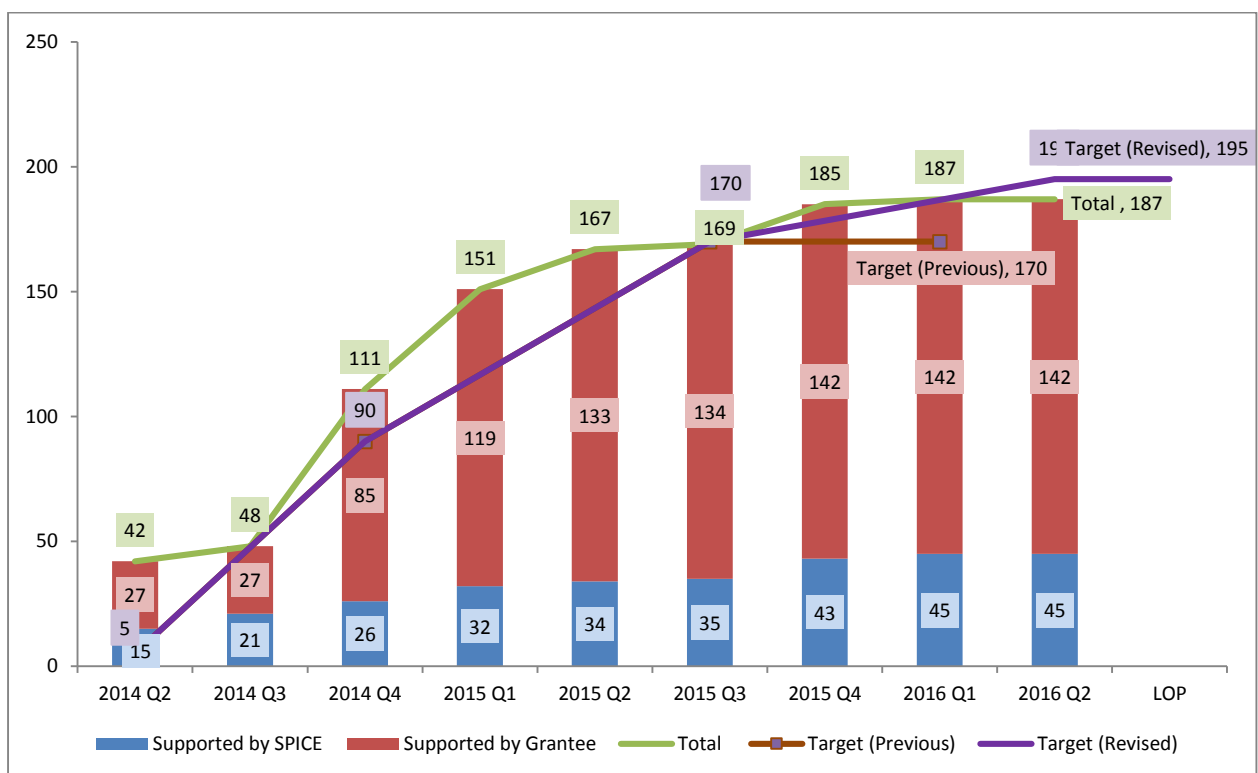
Since the inception of the project, 33 SPICE grantees and 165 organizations supported by SPICE grantees, totaling 198, are accounted as representing marginalized constituencies trying to influence government policy or conduct government oversight. The 165 organizations supported by SPICE grantees include formal community organizations and informal community groups, and their interventions are mostly at the local community level. Most of the grants ended in the last and previous quarters; however, based on the end grant assessment, five civic associations supported by SPICE grantees were identified as contributing to the indicator during this quarter.



2.3: # civil society organizations (CSOs) receiving USG assistance engaged in advocacy interventions

FY 2016 Targets	FY 2017 Targets	LOP until 2015	Revised LOP
195	195	170	195

The diagram below displays the number of CSOs receiving USG assistance through the SPICE project engaged in advocacy interventions against various reporting periods in a bar chart, and a comparison of indicator progress against targets in the line chart. As reported in the previous quarter, 187 CSOs, including 45 SPICE grantees and 142 CSOs supported by SPICE grantees, are assessed to be engaged in advocacy interventions at least at the local community level. The initially set LOP (170) was overachieved and has been increased to 195 considering the extended period of the project.



2.4: # USG-supported events, trainings or activities designed to build support for peace or reconciliation among key actors to the conflict

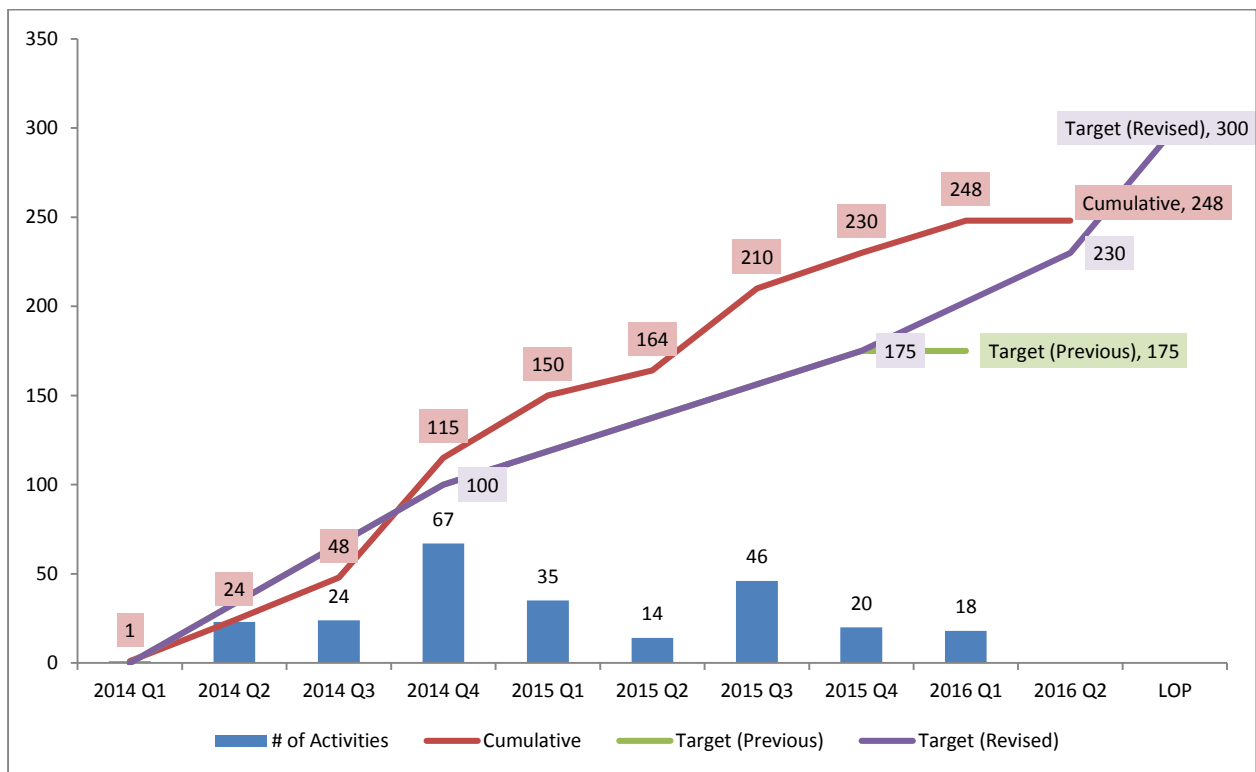
FY 2016 Targets	FY 2017 Targets	LOP until 2015	Revised LOP
0	100	175	300

The diagram below describes the number of USG supported events, trainings or activities by SPICE grantees designed to build support for peace or reconciliation among key actors of the conflict across different reporting periods, and compares the cumulative progress against project targets.

CONTRIBUTORS (SINCE THE BEGINNING)		
NPC	SARVODAYA	NAFSO
PCA	ORHAN	CDO
CHANGE	SEED	CRPC

Since most grants ended in the last quarter and new grant preparation is under way, no activities were reported in this period and the cumulative number remains at 248, the same as last quarter.

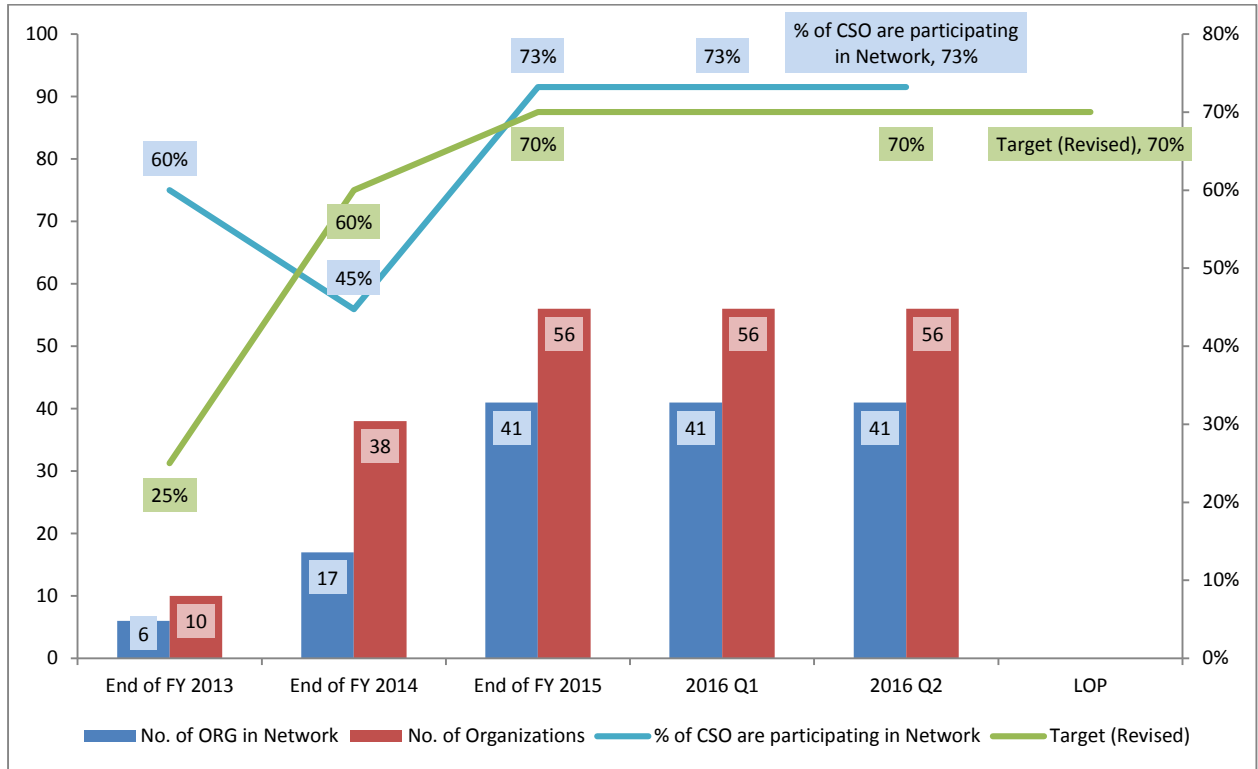
The initially set LOP of the project has been over achieved and thus it has been revised from 175 to 300, considering the extended period of the project.



The activities reported under this indicator include Inter-religious committee meetings, LLRC related discussions /trainings, inter-religious programs, awareness programs related to LLRC, conflict prevention/ peace-related trainings, etc.

2.5% target civic groups participating in at least one network			
FY 2016 Targets	FY 2017 Targets	LOP until 2015	Revised LOP
70%	70%	70%	70%

The diagram below compares the number of grantees who are part of at least one network with the total number of organizations supported against the project targets. As the diagram shows, 41 out of 56 organizations (73 percent), as in the previous quarter, are assessed to be part of a network at the divisional, district or national levels.



2.6 Index of strength of networks supported

FY 2016 Targets	FY 2017 Targets	LOP until 2015	Revised LOP
-	35%	50%	50%

This is an annual indicator and the progress will be updated by the end of FY 2016.

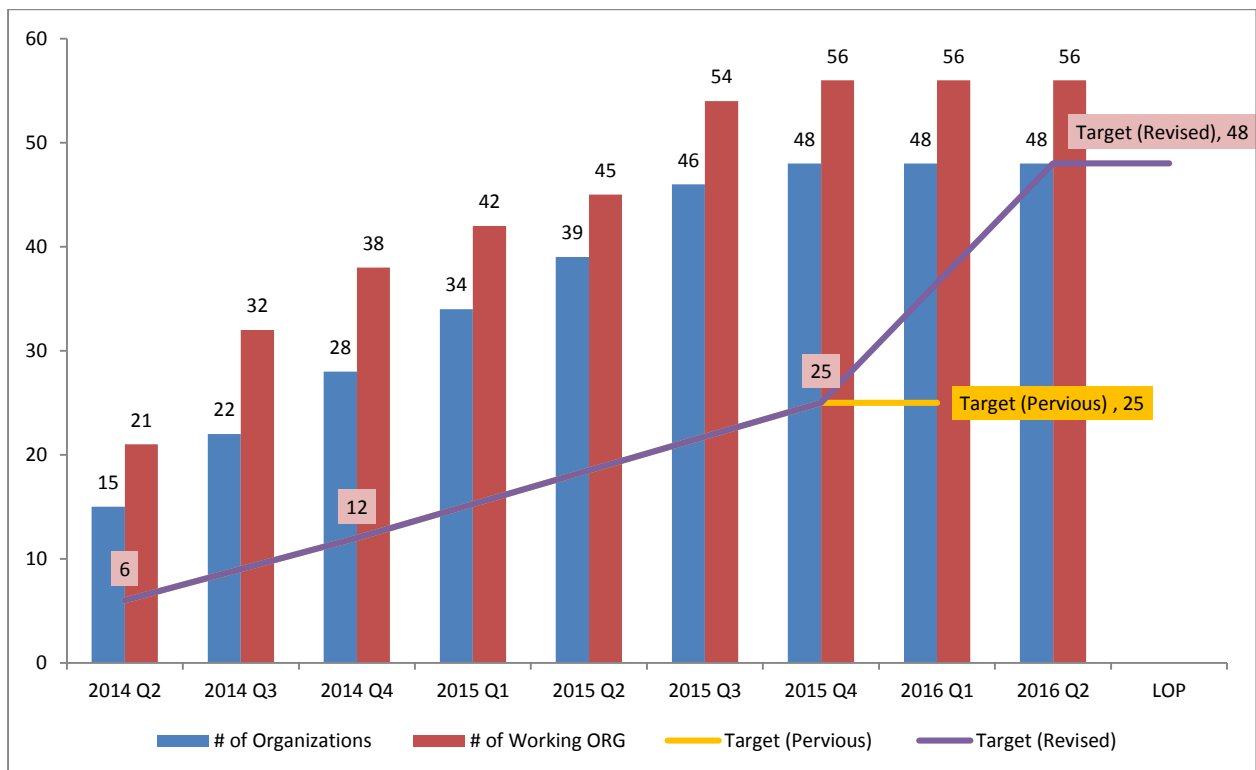
2.7: # critical Sri Lankan organizations advocating pluralism, human rights and democracy that remain active

FY 2016 Targets	FY 2017 Targets	LOP until 2015	Revised LOP
48	48	25	48

The diagram below compares the number of organizations that remain active in advocating pluralism, human rights and democracy against the total number of organizations receiving grants through the SPICE project, with targets set across different periods.

This indicator progress remains the same as the previous quarter, when 56 organizations received grants through the SPICE project and 48 were assessed to be advocating pluralism, human rights and democracy. These organizations include those that have ongoing grants/completed grants provided through the SPICE project. This indicator progress is expected to stabilize from this level, even during the extended period of the project.

The initially set LOP has been overachieved and thus the LOP has been revised from 25 to 48.



2.8: # USG supported events, trainings and other interventions promoting awareness and citizen participation in governance and democracy

FY 2016 Targets	FY 2017 Targets	LOP until 2015	Revised LOP
100	25	-	275

This is a new indicator per the revised M&E Plan submitted in 2015. The targets are set from FY 2016; however, the progress made since the inception of the project is also reflected in this indicator's progress.

As the diagram explains, 193 events, trainings and other interventions promoting awareness and citizen participation in governance and democracy were completed through the end of FY 2016 Q1 and 72 interventions have been reported for this quarter.

CONTRIBUTORS (SINCE THE BEGINNING)		
CPA/CMEV	ICES	HUDEC
CHANGE	CAMID	

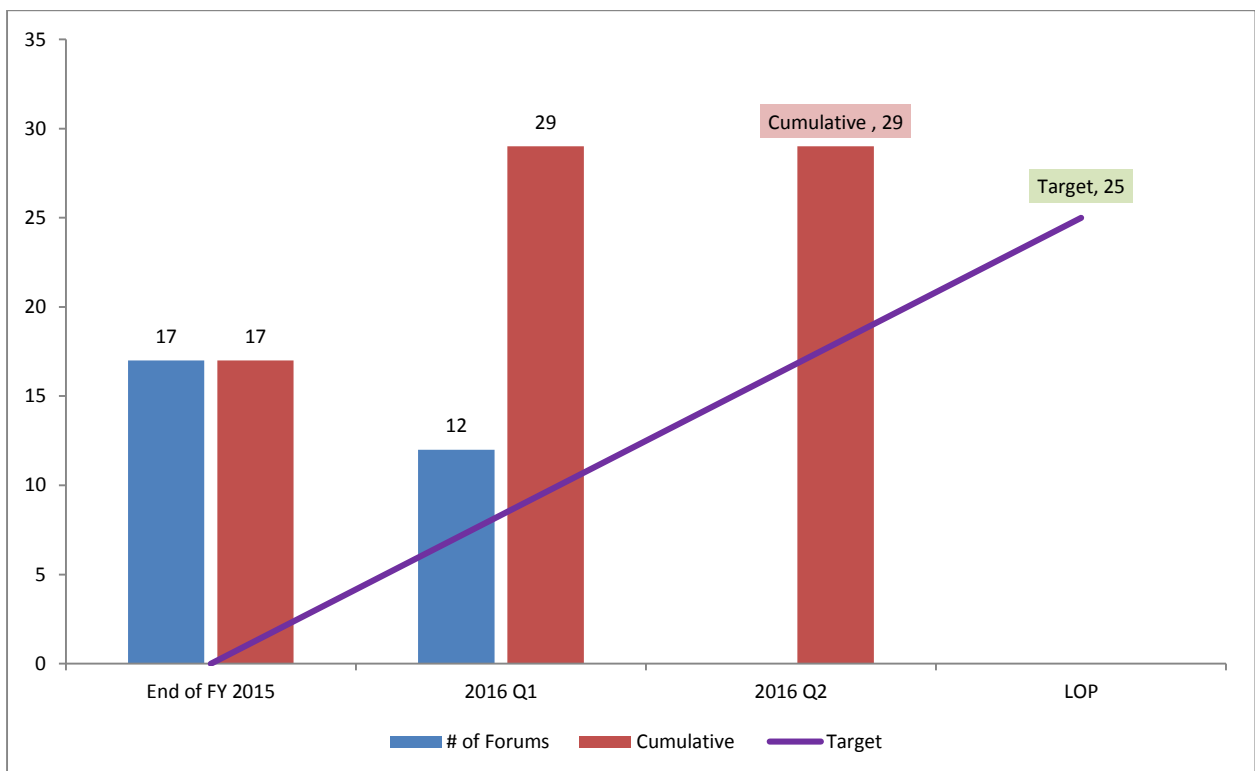


2.9: # Forums supported to address gender based violence that brings together duty bearers and right holders

FY 2016 Targets	FY 2017 Targets	LOP until 2015	Revised LOP
25	25 (Cumulative)	N/A	25

This is a new indicator per the revised M&E Plan submitted in 2015. As the diagram describes, 29 forums were supported to address gender-based violence together with duty-bearers and rights-holders through FY 2016 Q1. Since most of the grants end by 2016 Q1, no additional forums took place this quarter.

CONTRIBUTORS (SINCE THE BEGINNING)		
AWF	WDF	NEWAROW
EVADOW	AWA	MWDT
MWDRF	FOSDOO	RPK

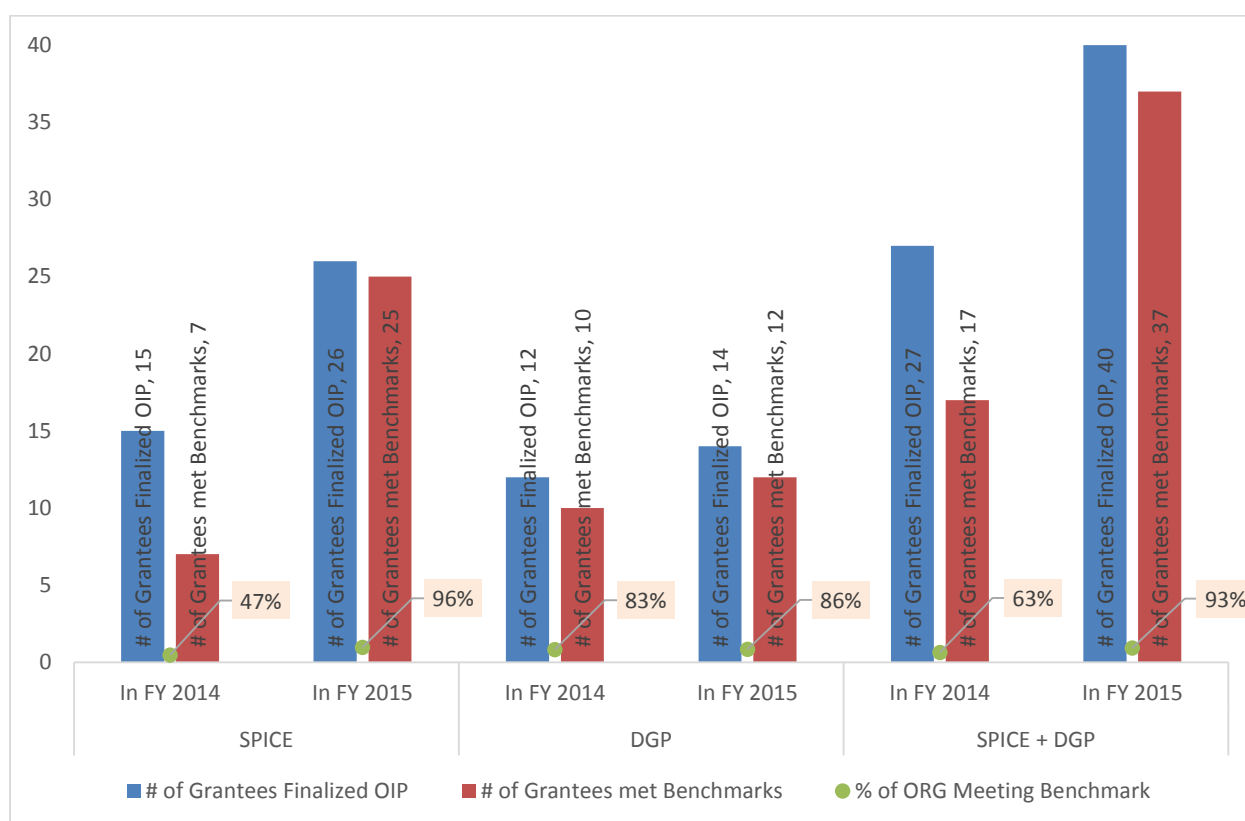


Outcome 3: Enhanced management and technical capacity of indigenous organizations supporting civic participation and inclusive development

The third outcome of SPICE is monitored using three indicators. Their progress is given below:

3.1: % of target Sri Lankan organizations meeting improvement benchmarks in a capacity building plan			
FY 2016 Targets	FY 2017 Targets	LOP until 2015	Revised LOP
-	80%	80%	80%

This is an annual indicator that needs to be reported every fiscal year in the fourth quarter. The chart below describes the progress reported as of FY 2015 Q4. Currently, OIP review assessments are being carried out by the capacity-building team.



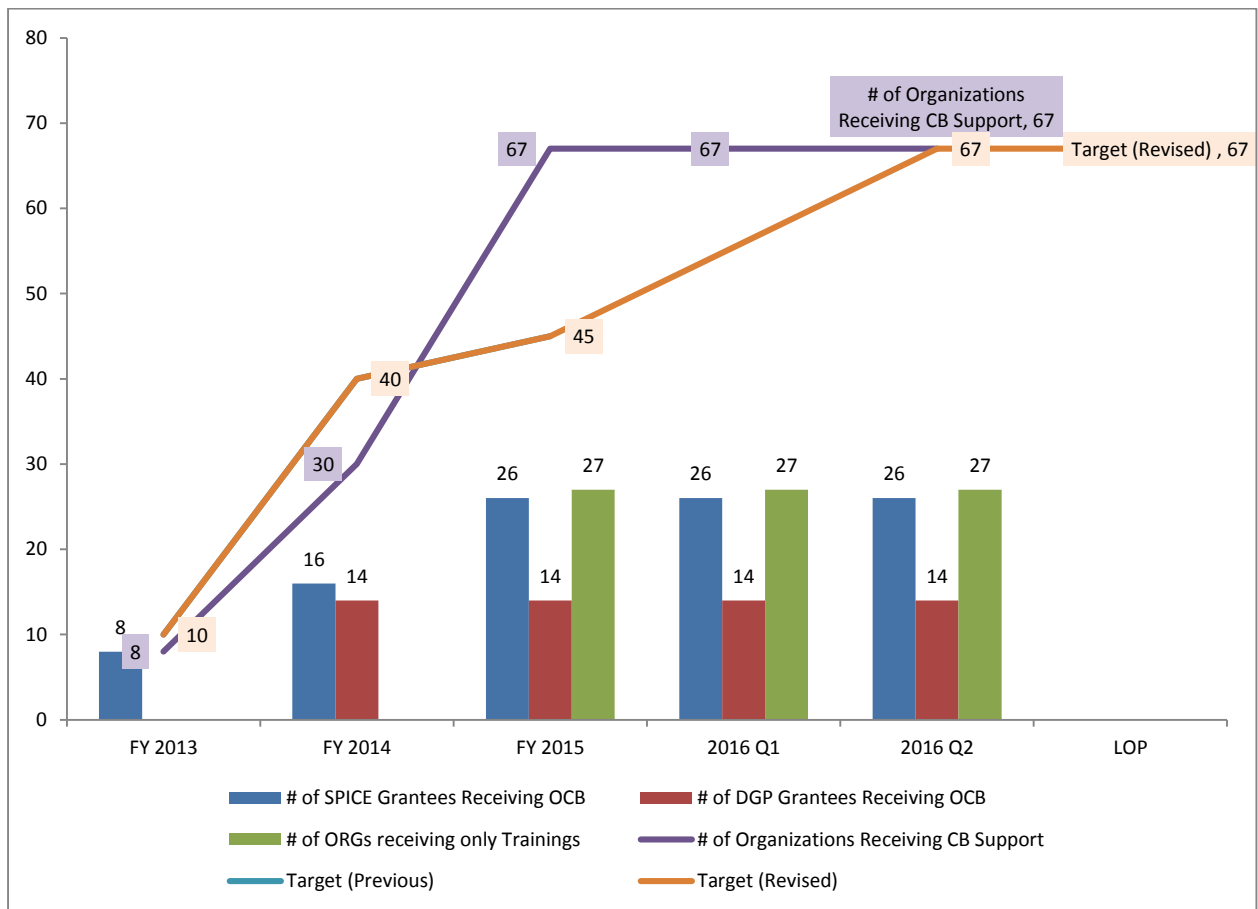
3.2:# Sri Lankan organizations receiving capacity building support

FY 2016 Targets	FY 2017 Targets	LOP until 2015	Revised LOP
67	67	45	67

The diagram below compares the number of organizations receiving capacity-building support across different reporting periods with the set targets.

The progress of this indicator has stabilized since 2015 Q2 and as of 2016 Q1, a total of 67 organizations were receiving capacity-building support (this includes organizations that have completed receiving capacity-building support as well) and the progress remains the same for FY 2016 Q2.

The initially set LOP has been overachieved by the project and it has been revised from 45 to 67.



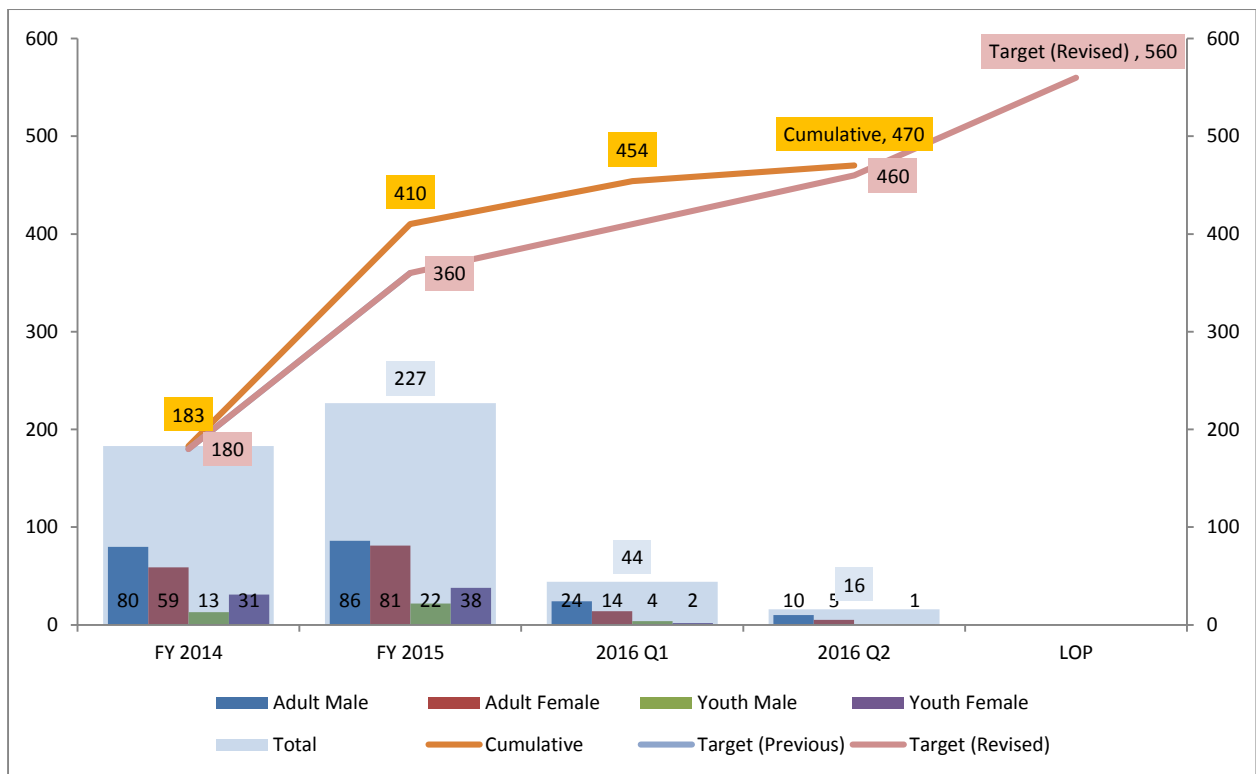
3.3# people trained in specific areas designed to improve Sri Lankan organization institutional capacity

FY 2016 Targets	FY 2017 Targets	LOP until 2015	Revised LOP
100	-	360	560

The diagram below describes the number of people trained in specific areas to improve the institutional capacity of Sri Lankan organizations across fiscal years 2014 and 2015, and compares the cumulative progress with fiscal year targets and LOP.

As described in the diagram, 470 people received capacity-building training since the beginning of the project, and 16 people were trained during the present quarter.

The initially set LOP has been overachieved by the project and it has been revised from 380 to 560, considering the extended period of the project.



It should be noted that the same people attending trainings in different learning areas were counted more than once, as mentioned in the PIRS. Thus, the actual number of people who received skills development training may be lower than the number reported.

Purpose: Expanded space for independent collective action by citizens, particularly in war affected areas, with regard to the key issues of governance, inclusion, reconciliation, and development

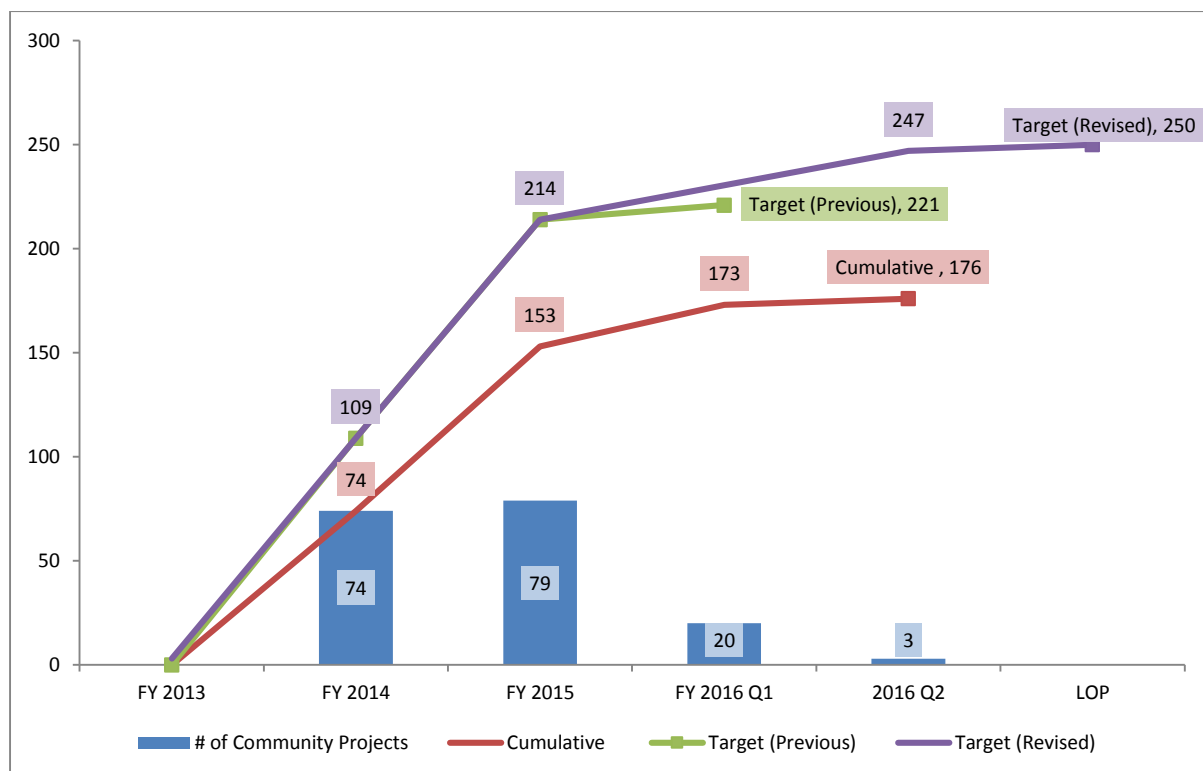
While the three outcomes of SPICE and their indicators establish the achievement of the purpose of SPICE, there are also three purpose-level indicators. These three purpose level indicators together with the outcome level indicators reveal the achievement of the purpose of SPICE.

0.1: % target civic groups that had an impact on development or governance decisions			
FY 2016 Targets	FY 2017 Targets	LOP until 2015	Revised LOP
75%	75%	75%	75%

This is an annual indicator that needs to be reported during FY 2016 Q4. Several grants came to an end during this reporting period and their impact assessment is under way.

0.2: # Community projects completed with active citizen participation			
FY 2016 Targets	FY 2017 Targets	LOP until 2015	Revised LOP
60	12	221	225

The below chart compares the number of community projects completed with active citizen participation during the entire project period with the targets. As the chart indicates, three community projects were completed during this reporting period fiscal year, totaling 176 since the start of the project. The LOP has been revised from 221 to 250 in end of FY 2015.



While the achievement of fiscal year targets is lower, 60 or more community projects are in progress and will be completed during the coming reporting period. Hence, the LOP of the project will be achieved during the upcoming reporting period.

0.3: “Most significant change” (MSC) in target groups/communities resulting from target group efforts

FY 2016 Targets	FY 2017 Targets	LOP until 2015	Revised LOP
10	05	30	45

This is an annual indicator that needs to be reported during FY 2016 Q4. However, the MSCs identified from the old set of grants will be developed and updated as of the upcoming reporting period.