

Aid Connect Programme Summary

Title	Civil Society Collective
Thematic area	Building civil society effectiveness
Consortium-lead	Bond
Consortium Partners	Scotland's International Development Alliance (SInDA); Hub Cymru Africa (HCA); Coalition of Aid and Development Agencies in Northern Ireland (CADA); South West International Development Network (SWIDN); The Partnering Initiative (TPI)
Countries	United Kingdom [England, Northern Ireland, Scotland, Wales]
Budget	£4M
Start and end date	June 2018 - June 2022
Objective	Bond and its partners will help to strengthen civil society organisations so that they have the capability to adapt to a rapidly changing environment, to advocate for change and to collaborate with others in pursuit of a more just and equitable world.
Impact/deliverables	<ol style="list-style-type: none">CSOs will have the capability to respond to changing humanitarian and development needsUK organisations working in international development and humanitarian assistance will be part of a strong and thriving networkGreater shared value will be achieved through collaboration between CSOs and with other development actorsThrough their advocacy, CSOs will have contributed to positive change
Activities with examples	The Civil Society Collective programme is divided into 14 projects, which partners contributions also feed into, and interlink to each of the deliverables:

A: Strengthened CSO capability

- A1 Supporting CSOs to learn and adapt
- A2 Strengthening accountability through transparency
- A3 Facilitating more sustainable resourcing
- A4 Transforming safeguarding practice
- A5 Evolving organisational culture

B: Building a stronger network

- B1 Strengthening on-line communities
- B2 Extending regional and national outreach
- B3 Supporting small Civil Society Organisations

C: Shared value through collaboration

- C1 Improving collaboration practice
- C2 Supporting Aid Connect consortia
- C3 Collaborating with funders

D: Advocating to secure change

- D1 Convening for national & international policy
- D2 Supporting implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
- D3 Navigating Brexit and beyond

Some of the programme activities are:

49 agencies and 14 networks and working groups collaborated on a report on *The UK's global contribution to the Sustainable Development Goals: Progress, gaps and recommendations*, published in June 2019. The report fed into the UK government's Voluntary National Review of the SDGs and provides key recommendations to the UK government and other institutions. It is a tool to strengthen policy advocacy and has been downloaded over 1,400 times. [The UK's Global Contribution to the SDGs](#)

The UK Alliance led the sector in driving **safeguarding good practice by providing resources and representing UK CSOs**. We delivered practical tools for CSOs including *20 core elements: a toolkit to strengthen safeguarding report-handling*, and *Good governance for safeguarding: A guide for UK NGO boards*. We also provided evidence on the sector's progress and challenges at the International Development Select Committee's safeguarding inquiry. [Safeguarding resources](#)

The **Bond Caste and Development Group produced a report** asking for the UK government to address work and descent-based discrimination globally to help achieve the SDGs and align policy asks. [Caste and Development Report](#)