We strengthen the impact and resilience of international civil society organisations (ICSOs) to support people to change their world for the better.

2024 Programme

Convening & Connecting

Platform for Collaboration

Futures & Innovation
Convening & Connecting

Vision Works Global
23-25 APRIL 2024 | CAUX, SWITZERLAND

Vision Works invites ICSO CEOs to explore pivotal transformations in the civil society sector. This year’s focus includes navigating the challenges of digitalisation, localisation, and forging new partnerships. Vision Works provides a platform for informed dialogue and collaborative insights while delving into specialised discussions for Global Peers (CEOs) and Global Chairs, dissecting internal and external change demands.

Leading Together
25-27 JUNE | ONLINE

Policy, programme and human resources directors discuss best practices and opportunities for joint action. This year’s meeting will be directed by the insights we gained from participant consultations and liaison talks into the ICSO priority areas.

Global Perspectives
5-7 NOVEMBER | LOCATION TBD

Global Perspectives conference, set to return to a physical format in 2024, will include leaders and innovators from civil society organisations, partners and stakeholders exploring civil society trends and challenges. With the title “Truth, Trust and Technology,” the conference will focus on topics such as Mis-, Dis- and Mal-information (MDM) and the role of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in the sector.

Global Peers
5-6 NOVEMBER | LOCATION TBD

CEOs of ICSOs meet in the margins of Global Perspectives to discuss key developments in the sector and foster collaboration.

International Civic Forum
4 NOVEMBER | LOCATION TBD

This year’s International Civic Forum will be taking place in conjunction with Global Perspectives, where leaders from civil society, media, philanthropy and government who are protecting and advancing civic space worldwide gather to build trust and identify opportunities for collaboration.

* Events are subject to change
Platform for Collaboration

Making Voices Heard and Count

ANNUAL MEETING | AUTUMN | TBD

The Leave No One Behind Partnership promotes the generation and use of community-driven data to support countries to include the voices of marginalised communities in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Learn more about the Leave No One Behind partnership here.

Solidarity Action Network (SANE)

WORKING GROUP | 5-6 JUNE | LONDON, UK
CURATED CONVERSATIONS ON REGULAR BASIS | VIRTUAL

Our vision for SANE is to equip ICSOs to support their local partners in solidarity and are resilient themselves against attacks offline and online, by state and non-state actors, now and in the future. In 2022, the Centre launched a three-year initiative “Anticipating futures for civil society operating space” to strengthen anticipatory capacities and future readiness of civil society professionals who are working to defend and expand civic and civil society operating space. After raising awareness why we need to strengthen anticipatory capacities in civic space work (2022) and developing possible scenarios for civic space futures (2023), in 2024 we will focus on operationalising future scenarios, translating them into strategies, and turning those strategies into concrete organisational practices. Learn more about SANE here.

Accelerating Inclusive Power Shift

POWER SHIFT LAB | MAY | DAKAR, SENEGAL TBC
CURATED CONVERSATIONS ON REGULAR BASIS | VIRTUAL

The initiative aims to foster more inclusive governance models, create more equitable partnerships, and support ICSOs in revising their future mandate while intensifying structured donor dialogues to achieve a meaningful power shift in the sector. The project further aims to facilitate learning and exchange, produce guidelines and engage with related initiatives such as the Re-Imagining the INGO initiative (RINGO) and the #ShiftThePower movement. Learn more about the initiative here.

Within this project, we’re also developing the Innovation Report 2024, see Futures and Innovation below.
Futures & Innovation

Scanning the Horizon

ANNUAL MEETING | 5-6 JUNE | LONDON, UK
COMMUNITY SESSIONS ON REGULAR BASIS | VIRTUAL

Futurists, strategists, trend analysts and organisational learning and research specialists form a cross-sector community of experts and practitioners share insights, explore key trends and develop relevant strategies. The platform enables mutual learning and the pooling of resources. In 2023, the community focused on the learning topic of misinformation (false information spread accidentally), disinformation (false information spread with intent to harm) and mal-information (true information spread to inflict harm). Throughout the year we have gathered insights and foresights from the sector and used a futures lens to imagine possibilities of how the information landscape could change and what this means for CSOs and how they could respond. We will be publishing our learning and finding early in 2024.

Digital Dialogues

EVENT SERIES | FIRST THURSDAY EVERY MONTH | VIRTUAL

In collaboration with the Civic Tech Innovation Network (CTIN), this event series offers thought-provoking conversations for the civil society sector, recognising the irreversible impact of digitalisation on our societies. Every dialogue serves as a call to action for civil society organisations to become more engaged in determining the direction of our digital future. You can find our previous dialogues here.

Innovation Report

CURATED CONVERSATIONS | VIRTUAL

In partnership with Partos, we’ll launch the Innovation Report, The Power of (Making) Futures. It will highlight innovative practices and new approaches regarding the future roles and mandates of (I)CSOs in the context of sector power shift. The report release date is set for Spring 2024 in the formats of a podcast, graphic storytelling and a series of events.
Our community

The Centre’s programmes and activities bring together ICSOs with leaders from civil society networks, think tanks, local communities, business, politics and academia. This intermediary environment allows to leave logos and egos outside and foster effective knowledge and capacity pooling. Voices from communities and local CSOs are an integral part to the Centre’s work and thus assure truly participatory and self-reflective partnerships.

Owners & Supporters

The Centre is owned and supported by more than 20 of the largest ICSOs working across environmental, human rights, social justice and humanitarian themes. Fourteen of them hold equal shares in the Centre, through its not-for-profit limited liability company status. Elected shareholders representatives constitute the governing board, which oversees our work and finances.

The Centre’s work is also supported by ICSOs who are our Core Supporters: