

The Civil Society Fund

FINAL REPORT

PARTNERSHIP INTERVENTION, SMALL-SCALE DEVELOPMENT PROJECT AND MAJOR DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

The total report may not exceed 8 pages.

Aim

The final report is the Danish organisation's report to the Civil Society Fund. Your reflections are important in terms of documentation and learning. It is therefore not the aim that the partner organisation completes the report on its own.

The final report can be used as a tool in your partnership to strengthen transparency and joint responsibility as described in "Position Paper No. 4. Partnership and Strengthening of Civil Society".

The final report is also an element in the Danish organisation's "track record" and can be taken into account in future assessments of applications from the Danish organisation with the same or other partners, as described in the guidelines for the Civil Society Fund.

External evaluation

For interventions above 2 mio. DKK the external evaluation report must be enclosed if not already shared with CISU.

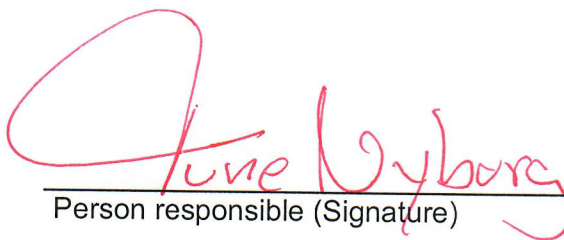
Danish applicant organisation	Stairway Denmark		
Intervention title	Break the Silence Phase 2: Creating a Sustainable Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Network in the Philippines		
Contact person, name and e-mail	Tune Nyborg, tune@tnk.dk		
Journal number	15-1753-MP		
Country(-ies)	Philippines		
Project period	April 1. 2016 - Dec. 31. 2017		
Total budget	499.962	Actual expenditure	497.900,58

25.06.2018

Date

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E-mail address



Person responsible (Signature)

Tune Nyborg

Person responsible (Block letters)

1. Objectives and results achieved

1.1. Explain in point form how the intervention has reached each objective and indicators and/or expected changes which have been described in the original application.

General objectives

Consolidation and full establishment of a sustainable BTS National Network that will coordinate and assist its members in doing advocacy on child sexual abuse and exploitation.

Overall the project has reached most of its goals and the expectation has even exceeded in most of the objectives (objectives 1, 3 and 4). Objective 2 has not fully been reached. Still the BTS NN has the methods and ideas in place to generate income to become economically sustainable and independent as a national network, and thereby also fulfilling objective 2.

The strategy and work method to consolidate the network is seen to be a sustainable and efficient way to continuously work towards achieving the over-all project vision, which is to have; *“a nation in which all children are protected from sexual abuse and exploitation”*. The project’s immediate objectives center around raising awareness on the issue of child sexual abuse and building the capacity in the children themselves and the environment surrounding them, for prevention and for recovery management of victims.

In general, the BTS NN has started the steps to sustainability by reaching most of the goals of the project. The fact that the board consists of NGO, Local Government Units and representatives from the National Government, makes this network extremely unique and very sustainable. Relations are being built between the partners who never before have come together to work so unified towards a common vision. This is the reason why the network has reached its current state of maturity considering the short time span. However, the process of full consolidation and sustainability takes time. This corresponds with the counselling given to us by CISU.

The immediate objectives in the projects were:

1. In terms of development of organizational capacity, the network should have formed and implemented its constitution and by-laws, policies (governance, membership, financial); and the formalization of the network as an organization.

Status: The BTS National Network has been fully established and officially recognised as a legal entity under Philippine law.

Several-day board meetings were held on last week of May, August 21.-26. and on November 26.-29. During these meetings the major outputs were the board’s development, finalization and approval of the network’s Operations Guide, Child Protection Policy and Social Media Guidelines. Further, the board was able to come up with concrete plans for the conduct of the BTS National Network’s advocacy, capacity-building and sustainability initiatives for early 2018. This includes organizing the 1st BTS National Network Annual Conference.

It has been decided to conduct the BTS NN Annual General Assembly and annual board meeting in February, together with the BTS National Network Annual Conference. The conference will be open to all interested parties and will have a dual functionality by on one side promoting advocacy and on the other securing income for the network by ticket sales.

By executing the above activities in February will correspond with National Awareness Week on the Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation held every 2nd week of February. Also, the international observance/celebration of the World Safer Internet Day is in February and these 3 annual activities will contribute to a strong consolidation of the BTS NN and their activities.

Furthermore, the BTS NN will conduct an annual National Fun Run in November in partnership with PADS (Philippine Accessible Deaf Services). This will correspond as November is also National Children’s Month.

This too will have a dual functionality by promoting advocacy and raising money, both activities again securing sustainability and consistency for the BTS NN.

2. Funds generated for continuous network operations at least for 1 year (2018).

Status: After the establishment of the legal organization, Break the Silence National Network, Inc, and opening of a bank account, the BTS NN is now collecting membership fees from the participating members. Later BTS NN will also receive income from trainings and other activities, aside from the 2 annual events, conducted by the network.

As shared with Stairway Denmark representatives during their visit in Feb-March of 2017, a growing number of network member organizations have succeeded in generating funds for their BTS operations through grants and other income generation activities. Some of them have been awarded with project extension support for their child protection program that includes their BTS initiatives. In short; The membership of the BTS NN is serving as a recognition for the members, making it easier to obtain funds from other donors.

As for the network's income, SFI and the network's Board has initiated the BTS Advocacy Notebook Project, both for advocacy and income generation. On the 1st and back pages of the notebooks is the copy of the Touching Rules and Online Safety Rules. The members of the network use the notebook as handouts when they are doing trainings/camps, scholar programmes, as staff notebooks e.g. This means that the network members are earning money to the network through their own daily operations. Other sources of income for the network will come from trainings and other activities conducted by the network and/or the member organizations in relation to the BTS Campaign.

There is broad interest from other organisations and professionals working within the area of promoting children's rights. Therefore, it will be possible to invite paying participants to the BTS National Network Annual Conference.

In relation to the National Fun Run planned for November, The Philippines Accessible Deaf Services (PADS) has received significant support from the Australian and Canadian embassies and has also earned a million pesos from conducting the BTS National Run just within the year. BTS NN will do the run, in collaboration with PADS, as they can lean on PADS experience and simultaneously build a stronger relation with them. The activity is expected to bring a considerable income for the network.

2. In terms of program capacity, and still in relation to sustainability direction, increased involvement and functionality of at least 10 LGU (Local Government Units) partners.

Status: This objective has been exceeded by far. The majority of the BTS National Network members have sustained their active engagement with their respective LGUs: police, local social service officers and/or local education system, at the community level as well. The type and nature of collaboration varies, depending on local context. It is commendable to note that many network members have made significant progress in influencing their LGUs to be more active on their initiatives on child protection. Especially on Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation Prevention and provide significant budget allocation at that. Further, network members have reported more involvement of LGUs at the municipal/city level in terms of responding to cases.

Presently, the national government has been continuously implementing the Seal of Good Housekeeping (SGH), as part of good governance policy among the municipal and city governments. An important element of this seal is Child Friendly Governance, conducted by the Council for the Welfare of Children (CWC) and the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD). This has been maximized by many of our network members and has increased the level of their engagement with the city and municipal governments.

However, in the more recent events, the Child Friendly Local Governance Audit has been a concern, primarily with one of its criteria – the higher the number of reported child abuse cases, the lower the score the local governments would have, reducing their chance to get the seal. This has resulted to discouragement from the city and municipal governments to continue and/or develop their child protection initiatives especially on the area of child sexual abuse. Despite this, the network members continue to receive support from their LGU partners.

During the November board meeting of the BTS National Network, the CWC was invited to present an orientation on the Child Friendly Local Governance Audit and at the same time to consult with the Council the concerns of the network members with regards to the criteria. The BTS NN will be officially communicating to the Council on the concern and will make a request to be invited during the review of the mechanics for the Child Friendly Local Governance Audit.

4. Launching and/or organization of at least 1 national advocacy campaign or initiative annually.

Status: The BTS NN succeeded in initiating a national rally raising awareness on the suggested bill to lower the criminal age of intent to 9 years of age. This was also mentioned in the status report from last year. Find film footage of this event in this link:

<https://www.facebook.com/StairwayFoundationPhilippines/videos/1447403465278929/>

Note: In the comments under the video more photos and live footage from BTS NN is enclosed.

As mentioned earlier the BTS NN has already two annual activities and campaigns in place: The BTS National Network Annual Conference in February and the National Fun Run in November.

To further advocate for children's rights and promote the objectives for the BTS NN, the board has discussed the following topics for coming national campaigns:

- Advocating for the raise of the age of sexual content from 12 to 15 years.
- Addressing the issue of the extremely high processing time for the prosecution of child offenders.
- Renegotiating criteria for Child Friendly Local Governance Audit. At the moment the criteria and process are absurd and very counterproductive and therefore should be changed.

Fulfilment of the objectives in % from 0 – 100 %

(100 % is given if the objective has been completely met and 0 % is given if the objective has not been met at all)

Fulfilment of objective 1	100%
Fulfilment of objective 2	75%
Fulfilment of objective 3	100+%
Fulfilment of objective 4	100+%

Target group as described in part C1 in the original application. To be filled out for small-scale and major projects.

Estimated primary target group the intervention has affected (number of people)	20 + staff from 7 core member organizations
Estimated secondary target group the intervention has involved (number of people)	2700 (Other BTS NN members, LGU's and members of local networks formed by BTS NN members.

The quantitative data is used for CISU's cross-cutting monitoring.

2.1. Describe how the strategy has led to the results/effects which were described in the original application, including whether adjustments or changes in the intervention's strategy was taken underway and what effect they had.

Minor adjustments have been made, the strategy was right, but some things took longer than initially planned as the establishment of a network takes time. Consolidation is progressing, and methods are in place.

The initial strategy is to capacitate and build a network expansion, so that the BTS NN can run as an individual legal unit with minimal support from Stairway Foundation Inc. In this project Stairway is capacitating the board members and organize the members to do higher level of advocacy work. The aim is to directly target children and communities. The high commitment of the board members and the members of the network will secure that we have met and exceeded most of the initial indicators.

2.2. Did implementation progress as planned? If there were activities which were planned but not implemented, describe in point form and give a short explanation (only for the period since the last status report).

Project implementation is progressing as planned, even exceeding some of the project's objectives and expectations ahead of planned timeframe. Though it is important to emphasize that building an independent network like BTS NN takes time. This was also stressed by the counselling we received from CISU. The structure is defined but the network is not fully consolidated, which is why this final report is feeding into our new project proposal submitted on March 15, 2018.

2.3. Describe problems, opportunities and/or contextual changes which have influenced the intervention in a positive or negative direction, if any.

Some logistic challenges were presented, in terms of coordinating and scheduling board meetings where all the 7 organizations, located all over the country, could participate. The members are executive directors, program managers/coordinators and technical staff, all key persons for the network to move forward and also key personnel in their own organization. All members are truly committed and are participating in these meetings that are not directly benefitting the individual organizations. The members are very willing to adjust their own schedules to be able to participate in network activities.

This was first seen as a challenge, but it has proven to have a very positive outcome as the commitment from the members were made evident. It also proves that the organizations presented are committed and have the capacity to drive the BTS NN moving forward.

2.4. Describe how the experiences for this intervention can be used to improve/adjust the strategy for any future intervention.

The experiences from this project is feeding directly into the next project proposal, submitted March 15, 2018. Please read this proposal for further details.

2. Monitoring and learning

2.1. How has important learning been gathered, systematised and shared?

On assemblies the network members are sharing good practices, actual cases and frustrations on their current work. Because the network consists of representatives from LGU, NGO and government parties, a wide perspective on the cases in question is being provided. It is all levels of the organizations that are sharing their experiences ranging from project managers/coordinators, technical staff and executive directors which also sheds light from different viewpoints in membership organizations. The sharing's ensure that all perspectives are heard and valued and guarantee that all parties feel commitment and ownership of network. There is, however, a need to further systematize the gathering and systematizing data and experience from the network. Therefore, a comprehensive database for this purpose is part of the next proposal. This knowledge and learning points were also shared with representatives from Stairway Denmark through a series of meetings with key staff and management in March 2018.

Evaluation report

The 44 active member organizations in the BTS National Network have their own BTS local networks in their respective areas and these local networks act as direct local resource in the prevention and response to child sexual abuse and exploitation. The purpose of the external evaluation performed in second half of 2017 was:

- To document and analyze the experience of project partners in establishing and developing BTS local networks
- To assess current capacities of the BTS local networks in addressing both offline and online child sexual abuse and exploitation
- To gain inputs and recommendations with regards to future program directions for SFI and for the BTS NN in strengthening and sustaining the BTS local networks.

The key findings and recommendations from the report include:

- All of the organizations interviewed are appreciative of the local network trainings in relation to offline and online child sexual abuse and exploitation. They find it easier to establish contacts within the local government and local line agencies. This is due to the legitimacy brought about by being

recognized as being part of the local BTS NN. The network enables the members to speak in one voice leading duty bearers and local authorities to listen to what they want to say.

- The organizations expect BTS NN to provide continuous training, advocacy activities, and opportunities for funding. This includes increased on-line presence and capacity. The NGOs and GOs rated themselves well in the offline BTS campaign, but they generally rated themselves low when it comes to the online campaigns.
- Future activities should focus on consolidation of members in the local and national networks. Consolidation must include capacity building aside from the SFI modules but also in strategic planning and implementation for network organization and building.
- The interviewed organizations ask for increased efforts to establish closer cooperation with local government agencies, for instance via regular dialogues and the possibility of crafting memoranda on agreement / memoranda of understanding at the national level to ease the way for the local networks and sustain the BTS-related activities.

For more details, please read the Executive Summary in the evaluation report, Annex 1.

The findings and recommendations from the report confirms the strategies of SFI and the BTS National Network. The recommendations have been incorporated in the nep proposal for The Project Fund.

2.2. How will the learning be used in the future by the Danish partner, the South partners and in the partnership?

SFI's DNA is all about capacitating, empowerment and building network. The experience from building the BTS NN can be used in the coming process of securing the consolidation of BTS NN, which of course is the next lap of this project. SFI and Stairway Denmark have no doubts that the method of working is efficient and create evident results. The experience can also be used by expanding Stairway Denmark's work in Denmark. At the moment we are initiating a network for former volunteers to help recruitment of new volunteers and do fundraising activities as well.

2.3. Which tools have you used for monitoring and/or capacity building – if any? (please check the boxes below)

x	Mango Health Check
	Accountability Dialogue Tool
	Other tool, if yes, which?

The information is for CISU's monitoring and should not be perceived as a requirement to use the tools mentioned.

3. Partnership

3.1. Give a specific account of how the intervention has contributed to strengthening i) your partner(s), ii) your own organisation and iii) your partnership.

Stairway Foundation, Inc has been significantly strengthened by this project, in terms of outreach and in terms of impact, visibility and sustainability. Working with and through the network makes SFI's impact manifold stronger. The size and ambition of the network has led to growing attention, both in media, in local and national government, and among other NGO's for the Stairways training methods and strategies. This again have attracted new partners and donors with positive perspectives for the future.

For Stairway Denmark, the intervention has also had positive effects: Apart from the share satisfaction of being part of successful project, we experience a growing interest for our organization, with new volunteers coming in with new ideas and resources, some of the even as board members.

This, of course, has also strengthened the partnership between the two organizations. The interaction of ideas and inspiration are increasingly working both ways, for instance by 'translating' SFI's training materials for Danish schools in 2017-18. Three representatives of SFI will visit Denmark in March 2018 to participate in the launch of a new documentary, 'A Year of Hope', created on Stairway by Danish film maker Mikala Krogh.

4. Sustainability of the intervention

4.1. What initiatives have been taken to support the sustainability of the intervention?

The aim of creating and capacitating a network that can run as an individual unit with minimal support from SFI, has proved sustainable in principle. The members of the network are truly committed and have the capacity to keep moving forward and strengthening the network. SFI will gradually step down from the role as initiator and catalyst in the BTS NN but will do so when the network is more consolidated. In the coming years, SFI's focus will be to further capacitate the board and the members. This is well on the way but is a process that takes time to further develop and fully consolidate the network. SFI and the BTS NN members want to grow and consolidate organically emphasizing sustainability. For this, the project needs more time, which is why we are admitting a new proposal.

Combined with stronger collaboration now with major government agencies (police, social welfare and education departments), the BTS NN has the potential to be a very promising force in addressing the issue of child sexual abuse, both in terms of prevention and recovery management.

Collaboration between and among the NGO partners and government partners has been strengthened both at the national and local levels. The above-mentioned evaluation stress the potential seen by the local partners in further developing the network and the collaboration between the network and local LGU's as well as potential donors. This will be further explored in the project proposed to CISU in March 2018.

4.2. How have you supported your partners in exploring opportunities for other funding and/or capacity building?

Stairway Foundation Inc. is remarkably capable of finding alternative donors. Representatives from Stairway Denmark have supported these efforts by being in continuing dialogue about future plans with different donors, e.g. Tondo Foundation from USA and Phoenix Foundation from Australia.

5. What difference has the intervention made?

For CISU webpage

SFI has created a network unlike any other. The focus is cocreation, transparency, equality and strong personal relations among the members. There is a willingness to commit to the network by building and growing it organically. This advocates for a stronger and more sustainable structure because the members are truly committed and are doing work they cannot not do! For 2017, BTS NN reached a total of 118,420 children and adults nationwide, with sessions on child sexual abuse and exploitation prevention. This includes police recruits, police officers, workers from local government units, school personnel, staff from non-government organizations, teachers, parents and students. Cybersafe sessions were held for more than 1,500 government staff, teachers and students. 425 staff and parents of different government and non-government organizations received orientation and trainings on CPP development. These facts leave no question that this network will grow into a strong advocating party to protect children nation wide in the Philippines.

Further achievements of BTS NN

The Zamboanga City Social Welfare and Development Organization organized a BTS Children's Congress 2017 on November 23-24, 2017 to review the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and other child-related laws with child/youth representatives, to teach online safety for children, and to promote the use of animations as a prevention strategy.

More than 30 disclosures have been reported, many of which are disclosures from adults who had sexual abuse experience during their childhood. Two disclosures were filed at the National Bureau of Investigation. One of the disclosures was from a girl, who along with an approximately 30 other children, was chained and abused by high ranking government officials. Disclosures had been responded to and are followed up as well.

Local BTS Networks have been continuously established primarily to make effective response mechanisms available and accessible for child sexual abuse victims. Advocacy materials have also been developed and localized by some of the BTS NN members such as the comics on Child Sexual Abuse Prevention and on Online Child Protection.

Some of the BTS Network members have also started to be more visible in national gatherings that are relevant to child protection, as participants and as resource persons. During the 1st Child Online Protection Summit in the Philippines, through Stairway, the BTS National Network was invited as resource speaker.

Project assumptions are still in place – high commitment from the core group members who are now the Board, part of which is resource provision which they have continuously demonstrated, presence of supportive local government units amidst the concern now with the Child Friendly Local Governance Audit, and competent and dedicated project staff. Project meetings have been conducted to discuss updates, issues and to decide on the necessary resolutions, both at the level of Stairway and that of the members and partners.

Please share photos, web pages, etc. with CISU which illustrate the results of the intervention.

6. Follow up – answer if relevant

6.1. Describe actions taken as a result of any “good advice” which was given in the original letter of approbation from the Assessment Committee. (Must be answered if “good advice” was given in the letter of approbation and answer has not been given in previous status reports)

Not relevant:

6.2. If it was mentioned in the application that you or your partner did not meet CISU’s financial standards when applying the Fund, please describe the initiatives taken in relation to this. (Must be answered if an answer has not been given in previous status reports)

Not relevant.

7. Additional comments or reflections

Other highlights:
Pictures from the first national assembly in 2017.

