

FACTSHEET

CIVIL SOCIETY CONSULTATION (CIVICUS MONITOR)
IN GANDAKI AND LUMBINI PROVINCE

WORKING DEFINITION OF CIVIC SPACE, ACCORDING TO CIVICUS MONITOR:

“The space in which citizens can freely express themselves, peacefully assemble and organize themselves without fear of repercussions. It is the right of citizens to claim civic space and the duty of power-holders to provide and protect civic space”.

Group discussion based on six different dimensions of civic space:

1. FREEDOM OF ASSOCIATION



2. FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION



3. FREEDOM OF PEACEFUL ASSEMBLY



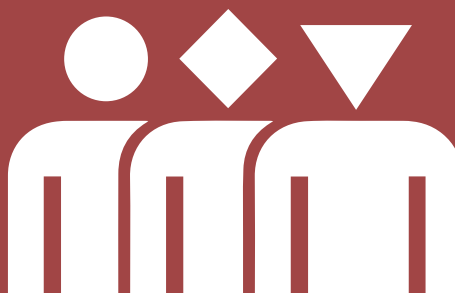
4. PERSONAL SAFETY AND WELL-BEING



5. DIALOGUE AND CONSULTATION




6. SOLIDARITY AND DIVERSITY



CIVIC SPACE RATING:

-  CLOSED
-  REPRESSED
-  OBSTRUCTED
-  NARROWED
-  OPEN

CIVIC SPACE TREND:

- OPENING UP 
- STATIC 
- SHRINKING 

OVERALL RESULTS BASED ON RATINGS:

Civic space to promote SDG 16 - rated as **‘obstructed’**.

CIVICUS monitor describes the obstructed rating as:

“Civic space is heavily contested by power holders, who impose a combination of legal and practical constraints on the full enjoyment of fundamental rights. Although civil society organizations exist, state authorities undermine them, including through the use of illegal surveillance, bureaucratic harassment and demeaning public statements. Citizens can organize and assemble peacefully but they are vulnerable to frequent use of excessive force by law enforcement agencies, including rubber bullets, tear gas and baton charges.”

Personal Safety and well-being - rated as **‘repressed’**

Dialogue and consultation - rated as **‘repressed’**.

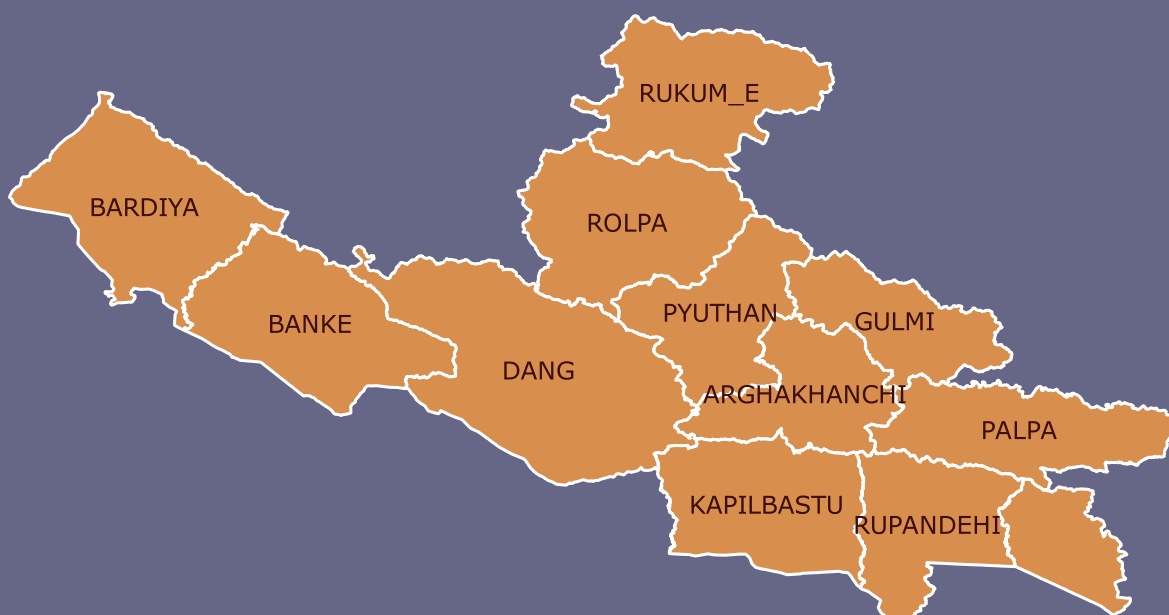
This corresponds to the following civic space context:

“Civic space is significantly constrained. Active individuals and civil society members who criticise power holders risk surveillance, harassment, intimidation, imprisonment, injury and death. Although some civil society organisations exist, their advocacy work is regularly impeded and they face threats of de-registration and closure by the authorities. People who organize or take part in peaceful protests are likely to be targeted by the authorities through the use of excessive force, including the use of live ammunition, and risk mass arrests and detention. The media typically reflects the position of the state, and any independent voices are routinely targeted through raids, physical attacks or protracted legal harassment. Websites and social media platforms are blocked and internet activism is heavily monitored.”

GANDAKI PROVINCE



LUMBINI PROVINCE

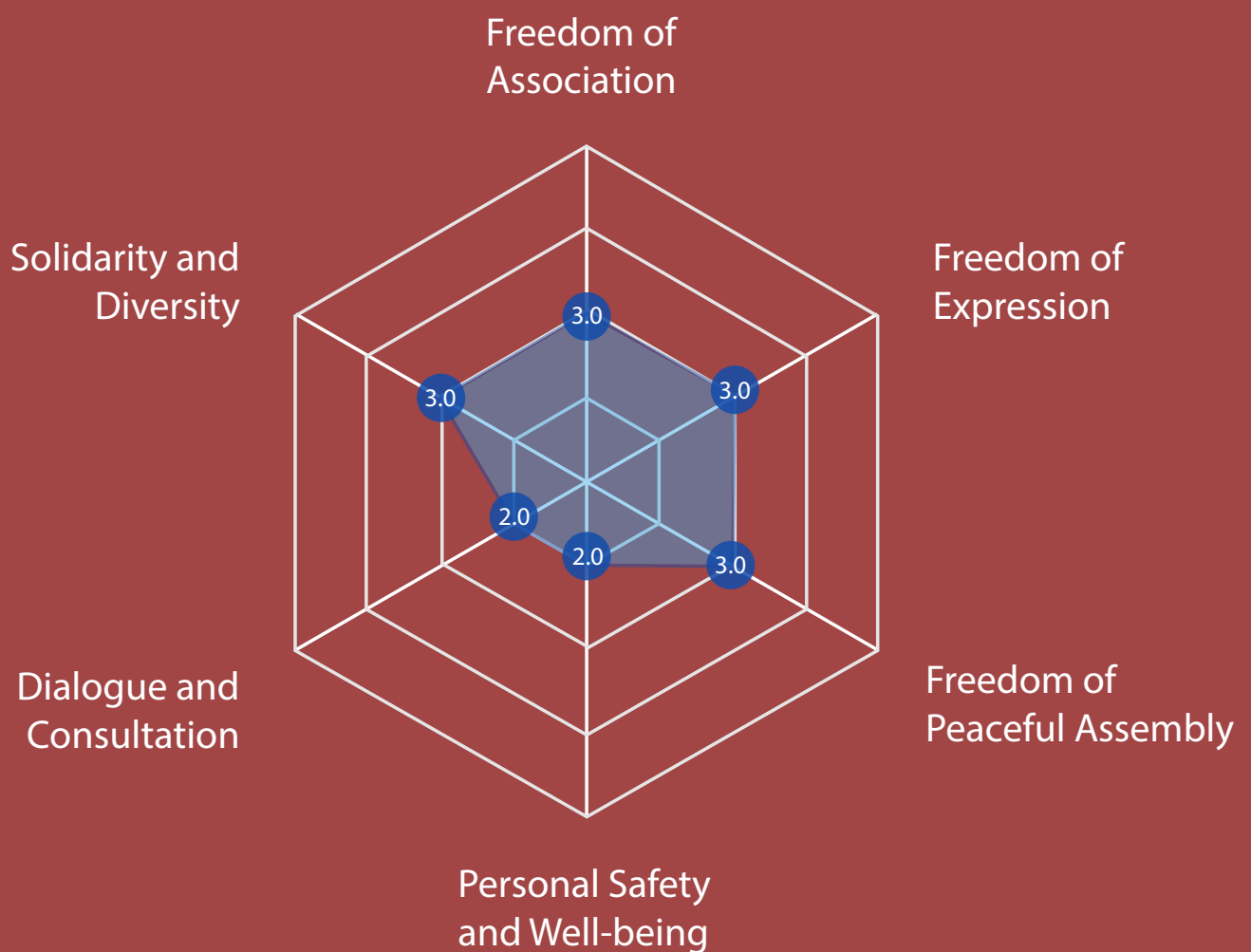


‘OBSTRUCTED’ AND ‘REPRESSED’

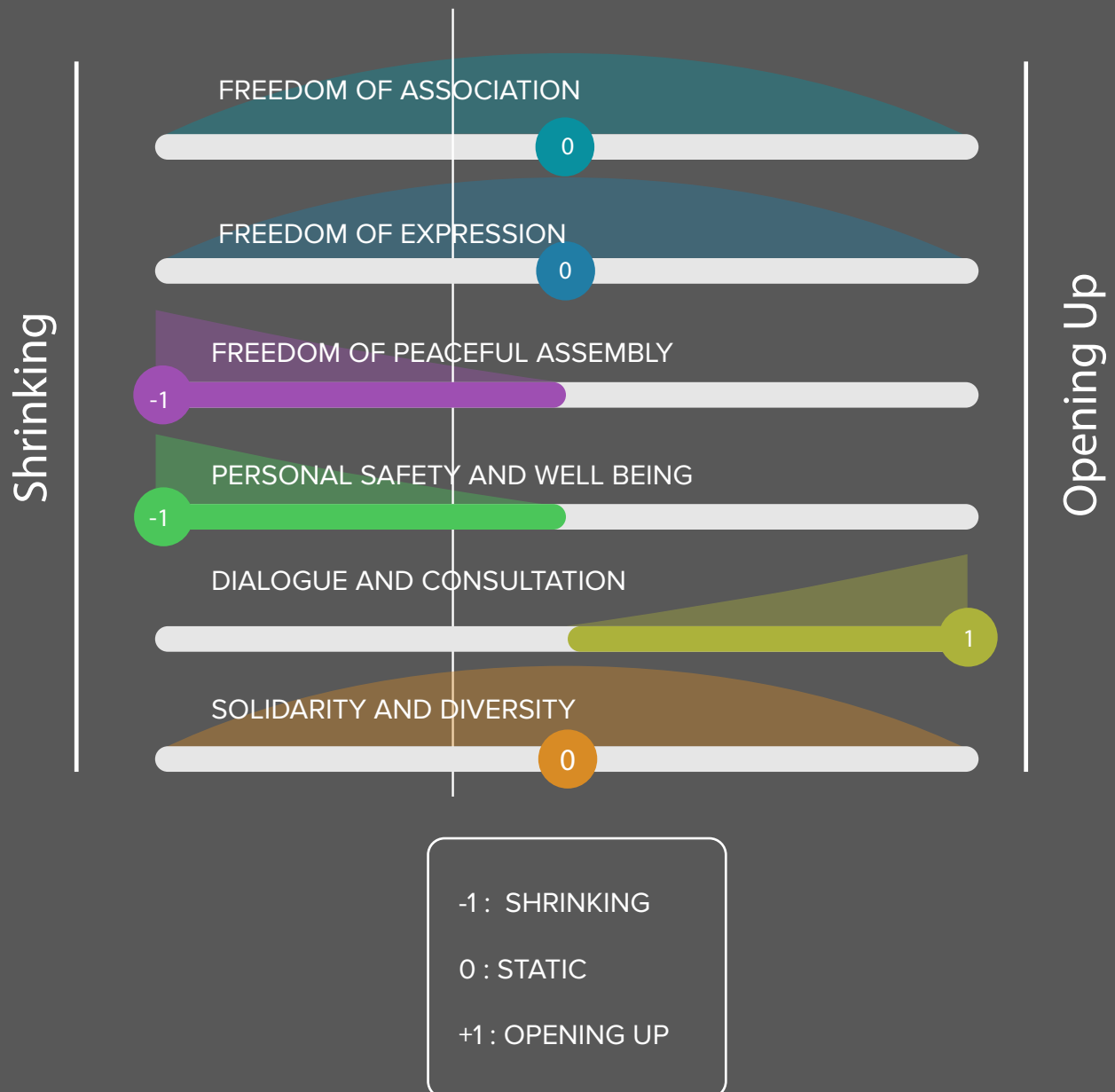
VISUAL PRESENTATION OF THE RATING DURING THE WORKSHOP

1. CLOSED
2. REPRESSED
3. OBSTRUCTED
4. NARROWED
5. OPEN

CIVIC SPACE RATING



VISUAL PRESENTATION OF THE TRENDS DURING THE WORKSHOP



FREEDOM OF ASSOCIATION

Assessment of the laws, regulations and procedures that regulate the establishment and operation of associations in curtailing of the rights to civic freedom of association.



STATUS:



CLOSED



REPRESSED



OBSTRUCTED



NARROWED



OPEN

TREND:

OPENING UP



STATIC



SHRINKING



FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION

The restrictions of free expression, through direct control or indirectly through intimidation and obstruction, and from the state towards severely curtailing the online and offline freedom of expression by proposing numerous pieces of legislation before parliament.



STATUS:

- CLOSED
- REPRESSED
- OBSTRUCTED
- NARROWED
- OPEN

TREND:

OPENING UP ↑

STATIC →

SHRINKING ↓

FREEDOM OF PEACEFUL ASSEMBLY

The restrictions for individuals and groups to peacefully gather and to take nonviolent action in public spaces.



STATUS:



CLOSED



REPRESSED



OBSTRUCTED



NARROWED



OPEN

TREND:

OPENING UP



STATIC



SHRINKING



PERSONAL SAFETY AND WELL-BEING

Assessment of the use of legal and illegal mechanisms that create stress, fear, and insecurity among civil society members, rights defenders/activists, and other marginalized identities within the society.



STATUS:



CLOSED



REPRESSED



OBSTRUCTED



NARROWED



OPEN

TREND:

OPENING UP



STATIC



SHRINKING



DIALOGUE AND CONSULTATION

The way government engages with citizens in the development of policy and the extent to which civil society is consulted in government decision making. The voice of the narrowed civil society is often ignored by the state.



STATUS:

- CLOSED
- REPRESSED
- OBSTRUCTED
- NARROWED
- OPEN

TREND:

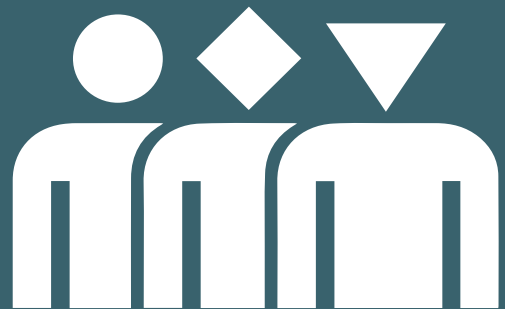
OPENING UP ↑

STATIC →

SHRINKING ↓

DIVERSITY AND SOLIDARITY

Assessment of the extent and ways that civil society creates space for diverse voices and expresses solidarity with each other when space is shrinking.



STATUS:

- CLOSED
- REPRESSED
- OBSTRUCTED
- NARROWED
- OPEN

TREND:

OPENING UP ↑

STATIC →

SHRINKING ↓

ABOUT THE PROJECT:

The Violence Monitoring and Shrinking Civic Space (VMSCS) is a joint initiative by Collective Campaign for Peace (COCAP) and Innovation for Change (I4C) - South Asia Hub. The project is supported by the USAID and the Tides Foundation. The project aims to focus on violence and contestation, with a view toward improving our understanding of, and response to, violence and shrinking civic-space incidents in Nepal amid Covid-19. The VMSCS also provides as an instrument to measure progress against Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Targets 5.2 (elimination of violence against women) and 16.1 (reduction of all forms of violence and related death rates) in Nepal.



