

7. Sustainability

The Consortium puts a premium sustainability. In the inception phase the partners will review and develop a sustainability plan with an exit strategy. This Consortium works with local partners embedded and with networks in the target areas and which focus on capacity development and building the autonomy of youth (SHIFT's social enterprise approach in particular). Their strand 1 and 2 interventions will focus on building active and autonomous engagement of young people and be combined with Alert's experience developing locally-led dialogue mechanisms which function beyond the lifetime of the project. WFD's involvement builds on its existing programming with young people and Parliamentarians and would complement this work, the CSSF project would amplify its reach and impact, linking in to local and meso levels, rather than duplicate it. Strand 3 work, embeds the project in the Youth Action Plan process at a policy level, which has a momentum and dynamics outside of this project, so continued youth-engagement at this national level and around implementation of the YAP would help ensure sustainability of engagement and impact. The focus of the project on learning and exchange also disseminates project learning beyond the Project Team and opportunities for linkages and uptake of lessons learned by other practitioners or at a policy level helps ensure institutionalisation of learning.

The project's strategy of working with institutions, structures and supporting spaces for dialogue, as well as working with individual young people and political actors, helps ensure that the project is not reliant on key individuals and reducing the risk related to retention.

The Consortium would use quarterly and six-monthly reflection and review sessions to review and assess the sustainability plan and exit strategy and the ongoing MEL and mid-term evaluation (which would be the final evaluation if only one year would flag any potential issues with or opportunities for sustainability). The Consortium would plan for a demobilisation phase to ensure that the project is closed in a way that allows for sustainability and that administrative and financial structures are prepared for this.