

Indonesia Civil Society Forum 2023  
**Civic Space, Capacity and Sustainability**  
Jakarta, June 14 - 15, 2023



**Breakout Session 4: Empowering the Marginalized:  
The Role of Civil Society**

**June 14, 13:30-16:00**

**Host: DFAT-INKLUSI**

This panel with focus on different types of experiences of multiple forms of marginalization and how intersectionality impacts our strategies and entry points to work on marginalization.

Despite Indonesia's impressive economic growth and being a middle-income country, there are still sizable sections of the population being left behind economic, social, and human development. Ethnic and religious minorities, people with disability, female-headed households and other marginalized groups face systemic barriers to participating and benefiting from Indonesia's social, economic, and political opportunities. The COVID-19 pandemic was also disproportionately felt by marginalised Indonesians.

In addition, social and cultural beliefs and attitudes that work against equality, tolerance and inclusiveness are widespread and, in many cases, slowly regressing, reinforced by vested interests, particularly at the local levels. Misogynist online abuse and other forms of discrimination have also increased during the past decade.

Civil society has opportunities to address these concerns since CSOs partners bring the legitimacy, relationships, and flexibility needed to work in locally appropriate ways. The session will showcase innovations in how civil society organizations at the national, district, and grassroots levels address issues around exclusion of the marginalized and most vulnerable.

**Guiding questions:**

1. What is your organization's strategy to foster and protecting diversity and inclusivity?
2. What are the best strategies of bridging key actors in tackling the underlying problems of exclusion and marginalization?
3. In terms of innovation, how can CSOs create adaptive and innovative programs?
4. What are some of the best practices in terms of addressing social norms and power relations?

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