

# CSD, NGOs and participation in a UN process

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# Major group participation in the CSD

- How can we make sense out of the CSD and understand how to use the knowledge and opportunities found within the CSD process that presents itself to us over the next two years – and which begins right now at this Regional Implementation Meeting?

# Major group participation in the CSD

- Is it possible to make the CSD process into something that eventually presents itself with opportunities and outcomes relevant to the common man and woman?
- Is it possible to find a way for NGOs and civil society to interact with governments, participate in policy making and perhaps even influence policy at CSD?

# Major group participatio in the CSD

- If so, what does the CSD really look like from a procedural point of view?
- CSD has been charged with developing and implementing an instrument called National Sustainable Development Strategies, the NSDS .
- And every member state of the UN has actually signed on to develop this. Maybe this could be a tool we could all use to implement the outcomes from CSD?

# What value does the CSD offer for major group participation

The CSD offers a forum for a broad discussion

- on sustainable development issues,
- on overarching or cross cutting issues
- on normative issues,
- on issues that have direct relevance for work on local, national and regional level

## Why are major groups actively present at CSD?

- The CSD process is a unique instrument for civil society to communicate and interact with the governments.

# Why are major groups actively present at CSD?

- The UN CSD - the UN Commission for Sustainable Development - offers the world one of the most open and participatory intergovernmental systems working on sustainability issues.

# Why are major groups actively present at CSD?

- To influence the text that will be negotiated;
- To build and cultivate alliances for future work;
- To showcase studies of successes that our organization have achieved;
- To learn about how intergovernmental negotiations work;
- To get to know our government
- To raise funds for our work



# Why are major groups actively present at CSD?

- To bring the result of the negotiations home, and follow up the decisions and see how they are being implemented
- To disseminate information about decisions taken
- To see if decisions taken at UN level should be brought to other sectors of the decision making process in your country, in addition to the participating ministry

# The Major 9 Groups represented are:

- Women
- Youth
- Farmers
- Indigenous Peoples
- NGOs
- Local authorities
- Science and technology
- Trade Unions
- Private sector

# The challenge of being present

- Making major group participation different from a traditional exchange of ideas at intergovernmental processes to one that contributes to outcomes.
- Making it a processes that adds value to all different thematic areas.
- Garnering the require critical mass of major group representatives to actively engages in all areas under review.