

# Where Civil Society Partners and UN Agencies Connect

UNHCR, UNICEF and WFP joined forces to launch the UN Partner Portal in 2018, a platform designed to bring about a harmonized, efficient and easy collaboration between Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and their UN partners.

The UN Partner Portal supports the UN Agencies' pledges to harmonize partnership management, invest in technology to enable better access to information, and strengthen engagement with local and international CSO partners.

The UN Partner Portal is growing and listening to user feedback for continuous improvement. This *What's New* gives an overview of new features, new members and new benefits for CSO partner users.



Sitting out on the ground in the village of Rwaza in Musanze district in northern Rwanda, a female facilitator speaks to a group of children about important social issues like health, hygiene, sanitation and HIV. Photo: UNICEF/Noorani



Multiple Languages



Channel Subscription Alert



Immediate Notification







Self-service Access Request

#### **UN PARTNER PORTAL BENEFITS**

- CSO partnership opportunities posted by multiple UN Agencies in a single location
- CSO partner profiles to alert UN Agencies of CSO field presence
- Harmonized CSO partner declaration accepted by all UN Agencies
- CSO partner concept notes (both solicited and unsolicited) reviewed by UN Agencies
- Reduced timelines for CSO partnership selection and processing
- CSO partnership data and metrics on partnership practices
- UN Agencies verification and risk profiles of prospective partners
- Key partner profile data extraction for UN Agency analysis.

#### WELCOME TO WHAT'S NEW!

The UN Partner Portal is excited to share that the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) will be joining the portal membership. UNFPA is the United Nations sexual and reproductive health agency. The Agency is excited to come on board and to have a centralized location for partnership opportunities for its CSO partners.

The UN Partner Portal, managed by the UN International Computing Centre, has new features of interest to CSO partners. Most notably the site is now available in English, French and Spanish languages. There is also a new subscription feature to receive news about Calls For Expressions of Interest (CFEI). Additional features include Immediate Email Notifications, Self-Service Access Request, and a new and improved map system.

### Portal Site in English, French and Spanish

In Quarter 1 of 2020, more than 25,000 users from 179 different countries have accessed the UN Partner Portal. To date, the portal site has only been available in English. Now, by simply selecting the globe icon in the top right menu, CSO partner users can manage their portal experience in English, French and Spanish.

## CFEI Subscription Feature

CSO partners can subscribe to receive email notifications about new Calls For Expressions of Interest (CFEI) published on the portal. It is as simple as navigating to the User Profile area and adding a new subscription "channel."

Users can apply tags to customize their subscription by country, programme sector, or UN Agency (e.g. UNICEF partnership opportunities in India in nutrition). Email notifications are sent every midnight (GMT) with a list of daily news and information.

The only subscription channel available today is for newly published Calls For Expressions of Interest (CFEI). Additional channels will be added in the future.

## Immediate Email Notification

The UN Partner Portal allows users to adjust the frequency of email notification. "Immediate" email notification has now been introduced, along with the existing options of None (Disabled), Daily Digest, Weekly Digest and Bi-Weekly Digest.

CSO partner users responsible for accepting/declining UN partnership offers on behalf of their organization may wish to select "Immediate" email notification. It is as simple as navigating to the User Profile area and selecting the frequency of email notifications.

## Self-Service Access Request

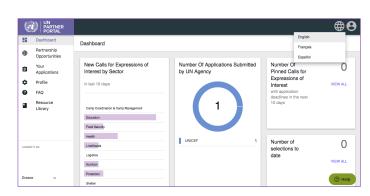
Each CSO partner should have only one organizational profile on the UN Partner Portal. However, each CSO partner may have multiple individual users associated with its organizational profile.

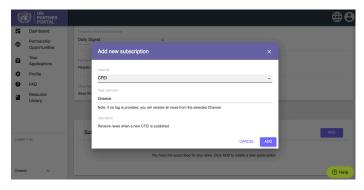
Previously, CSO partner users whose organizations had already created profiles on the portal had to be invited by site administrators in order to access the portal for the first time.

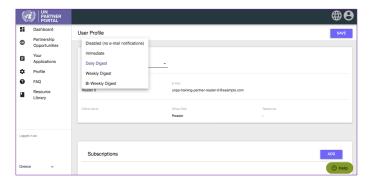
Now, such users can, after verifying their email address, send an online access request to their site administrator to be associated with the CSO Partner's organizational profile. This will expedite the onboarding of new CSO Partner users.

#### New Map System

A more efficient and effective map visualization system has been released, based on the open source OpenStreetMap tool. The new map visualization system has been applied to the completion of CSO profiles and allows CSO partner users to choose a country and apply a pin to a designated spot to indicate their geographic presence.











#### ABOUT THE UN PARTNER PORTAL

The UN Partner Portal is an inter-Agency initiative sponsored by UNHCR, UNICEF, WFP (and soon UNFPA) to improve the quality, timeliness and transparency of partnerships with CSO partners. We'd like to hear from you. Take our site satisfaction survey at: https://bit.ly/3a5RpUy. For more information, visit us at www.unpartnerportal.org.