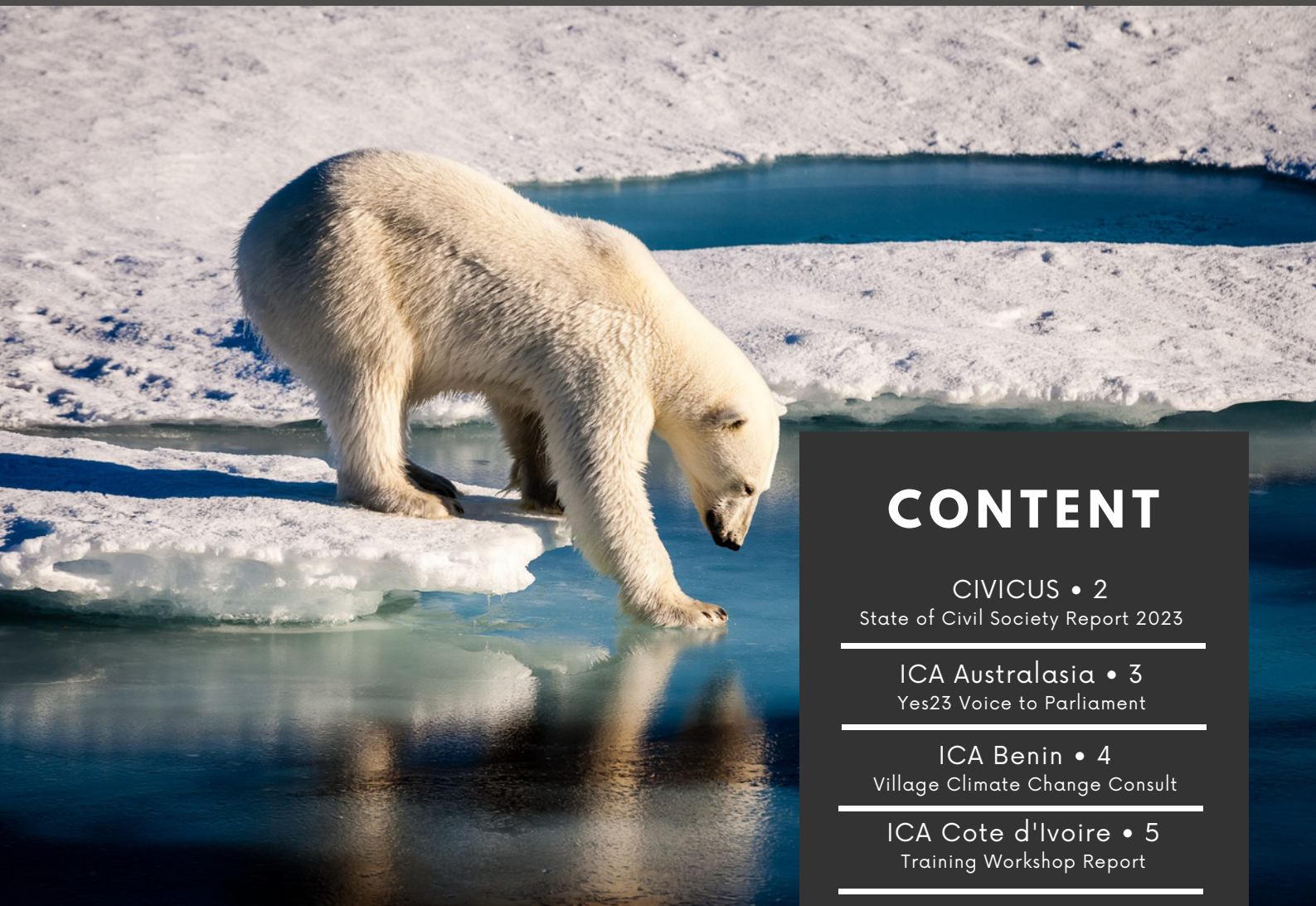


Global Buzz

MARCH AND APRIL 2023



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CIVICUS: State of Civil Society Report 2023

ICAI is a member of CIVICUS, a global alliance dedicated to strengthening citizen action and civil society throughout the world. This 2023 report describes the multiple conflicts and crises that are intensifying threats to human rights.

It also describes how civil society is growing, diversifying and widening its repertoire of tactics. Drawing on its special strengths of diversity, adaptability and creativity, civil society continues to evolve. Much of civil society's radical energy is coming from small, informal groups, often formed and led by women, young people and indigenous peoples.

Key findings

- Civil society is playing a key role in responding to conflicts and humanitarian crises – and facing retaliation
- Catastrophic global governance failures highlight the urgency of reform
- People are mobilising in great numbers in response to economic shock – and exposing deeper problems in the process
- The right to protest is under attack – even in longstanding democracies
- Democracy is being eroded in multiple ways – including from within by elected leaders
- Disinformation is skewing public discourse, undermining democracy and fueling hate
- Movements for women's and LGBTQI+ rights are making gains against the odds
- Civil society is the major force behind the push for climate action
- Civil society is reinventing itself to adapt to a changing world

Read the full report [here](#).



Yes23 Voice to Parliament Campaign Launch

Adelaide, 21-23 February

Over 300 activists from all corners and sectors of Australia gathered at Tandanya Aboriginal Cultural Institute on Kurna country, Adelaide, from 21-23 February, for the launch of the Voice to Parliament Yes 23 campaign <https://yes23.com.au>.

A constitutionally protected Voice gives Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people a direct say in the laws that affect them, allowing for real solutions to the challenges imposed on them in areas like jobs, health, education, and justice. Between October and December, a date will be set for Australians to be asked whether the nation's Indigenous peoples (which make up 3.2% of the population) should be recognized in the Constitution.

The February launch, organised by From the Heart, was inspiring - from mob to community groups and from unions to corporates. Together, our networking knew no bounds! Click [here](#) to read more.



Village Climate Change Consult

ICA Benin was the first of ten African nations to complete their Village Climate Change Consult. From 6 to 12 Février 2023, ICA Benin held a week-long workshop in Assodè with 20 women of partner groups, facilitated by Kassimou Issotina of ICA Benin and Adufu Gator, Exécutive Director of ICA Togo.

The action plan adopted included:

- 1- Looking for more financial support for women partner groups in order to enable them to increase their activities
- 2- Including literacy activities in our future programs
- 3- Improving stoves project in order to use less wood and charcoal
- 4- Continue sensitizing community leaders about tree cutting and brush fires
- 5- Increase tree planting activities
- 6- Looking for support to build a hangar for shea nut processing

For the entire report click [here](#).



Training Workshop Report for Community Action on Climate Change

As part of ICA Côte d'Ivoire's activities relating to addressing climate change, a five-day training workshop was held from January 30, 2023 to February 03, 2023 in Bounda Sub-Prefecture in the region of Gbeke. 25 community members took part in this training session, including 21 women, who became community relays for community action and education on climate change.

The objective of the workshop was to equip participants with tools to talk about climate change in their communities to build resilience and adapt to climate change. The participants created an action plan to:

- Hold meetings to share and popularize ways to fight against climate change;
- Pursue the activities of the project for the construction of improved hearths within the framework of its popularization in the surrounding villages;
- Sensitize communities on the evils of tree cutting, bush fires and illegal gold panning;
- Seek financial support for the implementation of IGAs in favor of women within the framework of women's empowerment.

See full report [here](#).

This workshop, co-animated by Messrs: KOUAME Konan Eugene, Executive Director of ICA Cote d'Ivoire and AMANI Koffi, Sociologist expert in natural resource management, allowed for five days, to equip participants with tools that they can use to talk about climate change to their communities to build resilience and adapt to climate change.



Climate Change Training for Village Community Educators

Climate Change training is taking place from 2021 to 2024 with pilot projects already completed. From February 27-March 3, 2023, sixteen Community Village Educators (CVE) participated in the training (five men and eleven women). The intention of the training was to respond to what is climate and what is climate change, how can we adapt to climate change, overcoming the effects of climate change, and generate community actions.

Click [here](#) to read the full report of the training and planning.



Social Artistry Program

In February 2023 was a joyful month as we welcomed Ms. Janet Sanders, Chairperson at PEOPLEnergy and Senior Facilitator for ICA Nepal and Mr. Blasé Sands, Co-director at the Academy of the New Earth to celebrate 20 years of the Social Artistry program.

Since its inception in 2002, ICA Nepal has adopted Social Artistry as a major approach for personal and organizational transformation with more than 1,000 people trained in the program. UNDP now considers Social Artistry one of their major approaches for development.

To celebrate 20 years of the program we held the 2nd National Seminar on Social Artistry Leadership. The three-day session was facilitated by ICA Nepal in collaboration with PEOPLEnergy, Gathering Inc. and the Richard Sims Family. Around 70 participants discussed 20 papers and worked on formulating a 20-year strategy and plans for its development as a national campaign.

A three-day visit to the Social Artistry Cultural Laboratory at Rasuwa was organized by ICA Nepal in connection with the completion of 20 years of Social Artistry practice in Nepal. ICA believes that our villages are laboratories of culture, and much knowledge, traditions and practices have evolved as a result of this culture; therefore, all these villages and peoples are in the form of cultural laboratories. During the visit, Social Artists closely observed the various dimensions of culture and achieved more clarity in their understanding.

Following the 20th celebration program, Nepal formed a new working Social Artistry committee with 15 members and a seven-member advisory committee. For the next three years the committee will conduct training, meetings and conferences, and implement projects on Social Artistry in Nepal and neighboring countries.

Training Course on Social Artistry Leadership

In memory of the Late Richard Sims, ICA Nepal launched a Certificate Course on Social Artistry in August 2021. As a part of the continuation of the program, ICA Nepal in collaboration with Jean Huston Foundation conducted a physical session in February. The two-day session was attended by more than 50 active participants in various fields. During the session, the participants worked together to understand the basic tools and techniques of Social Artistry.

We concluded our productive march by bidding farewell to Ms. Janet Sanders and Mr. Blasé Sands. We really look forward to seeing them again virtually and learning more from them.

Workshop on Expressive Arts

A one-day workshop on Expressive Art has been completed with the facilitation of Ms. Sanders and Mr. Sands. The experts described expressive art as a method that involves making visual arts, doing movements, writing, and sharing the doing in sequential order. The primary focus of the session was to express inner emotions, and concerns, and explore projects or something that the participants want to accomplish. Expressive Arts is a really powerful tool to explore the inherent capabilities of humans and this session made the participants realize it more deeply.

Organizational Sustainability Assessment

ICA Nepal participated in the Organizational Sustainability Assessment, a model developed by the ICAI Organizational Sustainability Committee. The model uses the Sustainability Triangle which includes three areas: Mission Relevance, Economic Sufficiency and Organization Resilience. During the assessment, we found that it was strongly recommended to provide regular ToP training to the people of ICA Nepal. As a part of organizational capacity building, training like Proposal Writing, Leadership, Management, and Governance (LMG) Training, Group Facilitation Method (GFM), and various training were conducted. We have planned the training and coaching program for the year.

A three-day training course on Group Facilitation Methods was conducted at the ICA Training Hall for the internal members of ICA Nepal. The lead facilitator for the training was Dr. Timsina. The program covered the three major tools under GFM: ORID, the Workshop Method (Consensus Buildup), and Action Planning Method. The session also included in-depth sharing on the history of ICA and how it has been effectively operating in various countries using ToP methods.

Leadership, Management, and Governance (LMG) Training

In 2006, the Management Science for Health (MSH) with the support of USAID, facilitated the National Health Training Centre (NHTC) for the government of Nepal to develop their capacity for leadership and management issues to achieve improvement in health service delivery. ICA Nepal worked as a partner organization of MSH, a renowned organization on Leadership and Management and ADRA Nepal to implement a two-year-long leadership and management capacity-building program for multisectoral participants in three sectors of Nepal.

Since then, ICA Nepal has been facilitating several training sessions on LMG. A three-day workshop on LMG was conducted at ICA Training Hall in Kathmandu which was attended by 20 individuals. Dr. Timsina was the lead facilitator for the session. The session played an effective role in achieving its goals to build a platform for future leaders by carefully examining and implementing the LMG tools.

Click [here](#) to read the March 2023 report.





ICA Taiwan 2022 Report

ICA Taiwan creates and facilitates participatory processes to enable individuals, organizations and communities to be more effective in their purpose and goals, always with attention to a more open, respectful and creative way of relating and operating.

ICA Taiwan draws out the wisdom of each individual and group through reflective exercises and participatory programs.

ICA Taiwan is a research and action group which, in collaboration with their clients and partners, continually learns and integrates diverse knowledge and processes for desired change.

Click [here](#) to read the full ICA Taiwan 2022 Report.



Climate Change Training Report

Click [here](#) to see the entire report of the 13-17 February training.

The planning resulted in immediate community awareness meetings, due to the high demand for intervention in the community.

One partner (TFS) pledged to support the project by supplying seedlings for indigenous species while the district nursery will be selling fruits seedlings at reduced price so that we can establish fruits gardens in schools for promoting tree planting campaigns.



Earthkeepers Training in Togo

ICA Togo trained 20 Earthkeepers at in the Nyativé village from 20 to 25 February 2023. The workshop was facilitated by the Executive Director of ICA Togo and Mr Abassou Zoubila, ICA Benin project officer.

The training was based on the "Field Guide for Community Climate Change Action and Education" that has been translated into French language. The training was based on 14 lessons classified in five groups as shown in the Field Guide:

- Climate Change and How It Happens
- How Can I Adapt to Climate Change?
- Overcoming the Effects of Climate Change
- Caring for the Environment
- Leading the Community Response

During the training, there was group work, plenary sessions, role plays and action planning. We visited the school area where the community wants to do reforestation during the next rainy season. After the training, the participants will expand the information to their own households, friends, neighbors and churches.

Click [here](#) for the entire report and [here](#) for the French manual.



Global Schedule of Events

To see four types of events: studies, significant conversations, training and impactful global events visit the Global Schedule at:

<https://icaglobalarchives.org/social-research-center-events/>

Remember, YOU are invited to:

- 1- Offer a presentation you are interested in giving;
- 2- Recommend other people to present;
- 3- Participate in any of the events and encourage your friends to attend; and
- 4- Give feedback by emailing: icaglobalschedule@gmail.com

The vision for the Global Schedule of Events is to make this easily accessible and globally friendly to all no matter where and what!

Alan, Karen, Robyn, Sunny, and Virginia

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