How does networked civil society bring change?

Learning from Oxfam Practice

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Coalition is king ... [ and Queen! ]

Duncan Green
coalitions can provide Neutral space from factions
Government sometimes prefer coalitions as partners
Coalitions generate data and analysis that government can use
Coalitions Can Be more effective with Government membership
Coalitions offer strength in numbers for visibility & protection
Coalitions can provide local to international connections
Vanuatu Civil Society Disability Network: Providing Advice to government
Timor Leste Land and Inclusive Development: Connecting Networks horizontally & vertically
Pakistan Listen Project: networking women
Implications for development practice

• Collective action is not always the answer: assess whether, and what type of, coalition or networking are matched to individual project goals

• Consider which of the coalition or networking benefits are of use for each project, and how much work is required to trigger them

• More learning and evidence is needed to understand what makes civil society coalitions effective
For more information contact

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