COC and its international work

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About COC Netherlands

- Established in 1946 (eldest globally)
- National community based LGBTI-org
- International focus from the start
- Vision: “Inside-out”
- Advocacy in NL and international
COCs international work

**Empowerment of LGBTI communities**
Support to LGBTI organisations in over 35 countries in Centralasia, Eastern Europe, Africa, Middle East, South and Southeast Asia, and the Caribbean

**International advocacy**
Supporting LGBTI organisations in using regional and international human rights mechanisms - (UN, ACHPR, OSCE, OAS etc.) to hold governments accountable and towards standardsetting
Core principles and assumptions

• Sustainable change = from the inside out
• Local community in the lead: direction / pace / strategies (+ their backlash!)
• Everywhere always - LGBTI activists
• Sustainable change = an empowered community of LGBTI people
• It might get worse before it gets better!
5 Pathways

Empowered LGBTI
Strong LGBTI Community
Capable LGBTI CSOs
Mobilised LGBTI movement
Regional and global HR movement
Working towards diverse and inclusive societies in which LGBTI are able to participate to their full potential
Partners

- Theory of Change
- Governance model
- National and regional strategies / plans
- Budget
- M&E
- Stories of Change
- Community-based research
- Linking and learning
Role COC

- Access to funding / governments / networks / intergovernmental spaces
- Facilitator
- Resource mobilisation
- Technical and financial support
- Intermediary – absorbing risk and administrative burden
- Incubator – new groups / initiatives / informal mobilisation
Stories of Change

https://international.coc.nl/stories-of-change

https://international.coc.nl/economic-empowerment-of-lgbti-in-ghana/

https://international.coc.nl/activities-lbq-women-ouagadougou/