The food, environmental and economic crises have challenged civil society organizations (CSOs) and the communities they serve. A broad-based survey, financially supported by the United Nations Secretariat, was undertaken in 2009 that measured the impact of the crises on the operating capacity of CSOs around the world and their expectations as they look ahead. This side event will examine the current situation of CSOs as indicated by the survey and illustrated by a case in point. It also asks how to strengthen social-service delivery capacities of CSOs during crisis periods.

Welcome: Werner Puschra, Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, New York Office
Moderator: Caroljean Willie, Sisters of Charity Federation
Presenters: Eva-Maria Hanfstaengl (author) and Catherine Ferguson, UNANIMA International
Discussants: Representative from the French Mission to the UN (invited)
Steve O’Neil, Marianists International