

Civil Society Steering Committee
Monthly Call | Wednesday 9 March 2022
8:00-9:00 EST / 14:00-15:00 CET

Attendees

- Aidan Eyakuze & Sammy Awami, Twaweza
- Anabel Cruz, ICD Uruguay
- Helen Darbishire, Access Info Europe
- Lysa John, CIVICUS
- Lucy McTernan, York University
- Steph Muchai, International Lawyers Project
- Luben Panov, ECNL
- Elisa Peter, Publish What You Pay
- Doug Rutzen & Nikhil Dutta, ICNL
- Zuzana Wienk, White Crow

Apologies

- Blair Glencorse, Accountability Lab

Summary

I. Ukraine response and update from GL discussion

The Civil Society Steering Committee cohort (CS SC) discussed the OGP response to the situation in Ukraine, and ways to motivate the wider community towards action. CS SC will draft a call-to-action around beneficial ownership transparency, asset disclosure, verification processes and individual member country accountability, and civic space and its importance in fighting corruption and supporting citizens. The SU will provide assistance in disseminating the statement.

The OGP Support Unit (SU) also provided a brief update on informal operational guidance that was agreed with the Governance and Leadership subcommittee (GL). The guidance is designed for extraordinary circumstances such as i) when an OGP member country is overthrown by a military coup or a takeover by non-state actors; and/or ii) conflicts/war between OGP members or between OGP and non-OGP members. This is not meant to be a formal OGP policy tool, but rather a flexible, internal agreement to follow.

II. Follow-up and brainstorm on cohort recruitment

CS SC discussed efforts to recruit strong candidates for the 2022 CS SC rotation, with a focus on Asia Pacific and Latin America regions, and/or with expertise in the fields of anti-corruption, and civic tech and digital governance.

III. Overview of SC meeting agenda for March 24

The SU provided an overview of the agenda for the upcoming SC meeting on March 24, which will focus on leveraging the Steering Committee's political leadership and strategic oversight role to meet OGP's objectives in 2022, including the development of an ambitious and compelling strategy to guide OGP's future.



The SU also provided a brief overview of the upcoming country inactivity decisions for Bulgaria, El Salvador, Israel, Malawi, and Malta. CS SC members reinforced the importance of engaging with civil society in each country before and after an inactivity status.

