

OGP Civil Society Steering Committee
Monthly Call: 12 June 2019

Key Points of Discussion

Civil Society SC (additional) members in attendance:

Helen Darbishire, Aidan Eyakuze, Asma Cherifi, Glynnis Cummings-John, Nathaniel Heller, Robin Hodess, Giorgi Kldiashvili, Tur-Od Lkhagvajav, Zuzana Wienk

SC seconds: Bianca Nelson (Nathaniel)

Absent:

Maria Baron, Delia Ferreira Rubio, Suneeta Kaimal, Lucy McTernan, Elisa Peter

Support Unit:

Maia Koytcheva, Paul Maassen

1. Ottawa Review

Reviewing the Ottawa Summit, the Civil Society Steering Committee commended the passing of OGP Local. The cohort reiterated the importance of an inclusive, co-creation process in the design phase of OGP Local.

The launch of the [Feminist Open Government Initiative](#) during the summit was noted as a successful starting point to building bridges across the global gender community. Furthermore, the opportunity to gather more strategic data provided by the IRM Refresh and Global Report was welcomed.

Moreover, the lightning talks during the plenaries were praised for helping break up more traditional conversations. However the cohort also expressed a desire to be included more strategically during summit - as well as regional - sessions and panels.

Some concern was expressed over the limited time for in-depth discussion during the Steering Committee sessions and it was suggested to collectively consider an improved structure for the future. GL has a leading role to play. Building on this, the cohort stressed the importance of strengthening working level relationships with strategic government contact points to pursue substantive issues in a more co-creative manner and leverage knowledge and skills.

The cohort recognized the challenge posed by keeping civil society organisations informed and involved. It was suggested to further pursue a targeted communications strategy and make use of existing channels of communication more strategically. The communication plan that was discussed and agreed in the first half of 2018 will form the basis for this.

2. SC Rotation Nominations

Expressions of interest for civil society co-chairs are to be received by Nathaniel and Robin by June 21st and the candidates will then be interviewed by the current CS chairs in advance of the next monthly call. A final decision of the new incoming co-chair will be made in time for the mid-July target date.

3. AOB

The cohort expressed concerns over balancing steering committee duties on top of their regular day jobs. It was suggested to consider the potential and feasibility of recalibrating or even reimagining the (various) SC roles and work models, and/or consider financing SC members so they are able to commit to duties more freely. Revisiting the role of the individual seconds was also brought up.