

Open Government Partnership

Governance and Leadership Monthly Call Summary

8 April 2021 | 08:00 - 9:30 EDT

Attendees:

- Government of Korea: Jihye Park, Minchan Park
- Government of Italy: Marco Marrazza
- Maria Baron
- Aidan Eyakuze

Call Summary

I. Overview of GL priorities for April

Reference material: [Meeting presentation](#)

Following the previous GL discussion around priorities for March, including launching the Co-Chair call-to-action, this session focused on discussing what actions GL members and the OGP Support Unit (SU) could take to ensure its uptake across OGP, and other priority actions for GL during April. These include:

CTA follow ups:

- *GL outreach to other SC countries for uptake of the call-to-action and participation in the upcoming ministerial SC meeting.*
- *Reach out to OGP community -POCs and civil society- to incentivize participation in OGW events.*

Set dates for SC and high level events

- *Finalize agenda for ministerial SC meeting focused on call to action and set the date.*
- *Set dates for SC meetings for rest of the year (ministerial in June; working level late July; pre-summit working level mid october)*
- *Secure GL ministerial participation for Open Gov Week opening plenary.*
- *Send Head of State/Government and Ministers Summit invitations*

As part of this effort, GL members shared suggestions and their progress so far:

- Ensure that Steering Committee governments respond to the call-to-action and that they may encourage non-Steering Committee governments to participate.
- Engage in bilateral outreach to SC governments in coordination with the Support Unit to position concrete opportunities. Civil Society SC members are also coordinating internally on how to reinforce these efforts and consult the interests of domestic civil society.
- Leverage other events to position the call-to-action more broadly, including during discussion on 2021 global summits coordination, the upcoming Community of Democracy [roundtable event/](#)

- It is important to accelerate advocacy efforts for call to action uptake during Open Gov Week and future Steering Committee meetings to showcase progress being made around the call-to-action and bring concrete results to the OGP Summit at the end of the year.

II. Ministerial SC meeting - discuss overview of proposed agenda; GL to set date to send save the date

GL discussed the proposed agenda for the next ministerial-level SC meeting, proposed to focus on the role of the SC to ensure implementation of the call to action. The following draft agenda was proposed for the Ministerial Steering Committee:

Draft Ministerial SC Agenda
Date TBC (May 27 or June 10 TBC) - 2 hours

A. *State of democracy in the world & the imperative for the OGP leadership [guest speaker TBC] (30 minutes)*

B. *Call-to-action and the role of the Steering Committee (45 minutes)*

Opportunity for Steering Committee Ministers and Civil Society Principals to share their proposed actions in 2021 to lead the Partnership by example and advance bold and ambitious reforms across priority areas outlined in the #OpenRenewal campaign. All Steering Committee members will be invited to report on the progress made on these actions at the 2021 OGP Global Summit in Seoul (December 13-17).

Discussion:

- I. *What ambitious actions are Steering Committee members taking within their own countries and organizations to advance the Open Renewal overarching objectives?*
 - a) *Make transparency and accountability global norms for the recovery from the pandemic (e.g. on vaccines, stimulus, safety-net packages)*
 - b) *Tackle systematic inequalities of income, gender and race*
 - c) *Address threats to democracy and civic space*
 - d) *Build trust and enhance public participation to reinvigorate democracy*
- II. *What actions can Steering Committee Ministers take to encourage the rest of the Partnership to respond to this call-to-action and show concrete reforms captured in action plans at the Seoul Summit?*

C. *Global Advocacy and the role of the Steering Committee (45 minutes)*

Space for discussing the role that OGP can play, as a connector and implementing platform, for global summits in 2021 (e.g. at G7, SDGs, G20, UNGASS, Biden Democracy Summit etc.).

Discussion:

- I. *How can Steering Committee Ministers, with the engagement of the wider Partnership, help forge and mobilize a stronger political coalition for open*

government and democracy, including in the key 2021 summits which will focus on strengthening democracy?

- II. *What role are Steering Committee foreign ministries playing to advance this vision and what opportunities are there for helping bridge more closely discussions between international fora and national implementation?*

Agreed next steps: GL agreed to hold the ministerial SC meeting on June 10. This will be complemented by a working level meeting before the end of July. Save the dates will be sent shortly.

III. **Open Gov Week Opening Plenary - discuss the role of GL during the opening plenary of OGW on May 18 at 08:00 EST**

Reference materials: [OGW Open Plenary proposed concept note](#)

The OGP SU reviewed a proposed concept note for the Opening Plenary of the Open Gov Week, to be held at 8:00am Eastern Time on Monday, May 17. The event will be a kick-off moment for the week, focused on concrete actions being implemented rather than a list of previous achievements.

GL members welcomed the suggestion to crowdsource from the community questions ahead of the event to make the event more engaging. A proposed question to the community is “What does Renewal look like for you?” to generate conversations around what renewal means to different stakeholders of the OGP community.

IV. **Governance updates & AOB**

The OGP SU presented the following timeline for launching the Government SC elections:

1. Launch government SC elections: April 12
2. Deadline for applications: June 1
3. GL endorsement of candidates: June 3 (GL meeting)
4. Voting (if needed): June 21 - June 30
5. Announce results: July 1 (earlier if no voting needed)

GL presented no objections to the timeline. This [webpage](#) now contains all the information regarding this year’s government elections.

In regards to Korea’s potential candidacy, it was highlighted that any GL member running for election will recuse itself from the meeting when candidates are endorsed by the group.