

Open Government Partnership

Criteria & Standards Monthly Call Summary

7 October 2021 | 09:00 - 10:30 EDT

Attendees

- Government of Germany: Sebastian Haselbeck
- Government of Canada: Benoît Frenette, Darine Benkalha
- Government of Georgia: Ketevan Tsanova
- Lucy McTernan, University of York
- Doug Rutzen & Nikhil Dutta, ICNL
- Elisa Peter, PWYP
- Denisse Miranda, OGP Support Unit, IRM

Apologies

- Government of Nigeria
- Lysa John, CIVICUS

I. Countries Under Review

Reference materials: [Presentation](#)

The Criteria and Standards subcommittee (C&S) oversees the Procedural Review mechanism established to ensure that all participating members act in accordance with the OGP process. The Support Unit provided an overview of the OGP countries that are currently under review, listed below:

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|-----------------|--------------|----------------------|
| 1. Albania | 7. Israel | 13. Papua New Guinea |
| 2. Bulgaria | 8. Jamaica | 14. Sweden |
| 3. Burkina Faso | 9. Malawi | 15. Tunisia |
| 4. El Salvador | 10. Malta | 16. United Kingdom |
| 5. Greece | 11. Mongolia | |
| 6. Ireland | 12. Norway | |

The countries under review fall into three categories: 1) those that are late in delivering an action plan, 2) those that did not meet minimum co-creation standards when assessed by the IRM, and 3) those that fell below minimum eligibility criteria. C&S has agreed to revisit whether minimum eligibility is an appropriate criteria for continuing to remain in the Partnership, and will include this topic on the 2022 subcommittee work plan.

The Support Unit also provided a brief update on the Azerbaijan Response Policy case, and circulated the update on the action plan implementation as provided by the government of Azerbaijan. All details regarding the Response Policy case can be found [here](#).

II. IRM Update

The IRM provided an update on the implementation of new IRM products following the IRM refresh launched in February 2020. The results have been positive so far, with reported appreciation for the increased timeliness of reporting allowing for improvements in the implementation process. The next step will be to update the Articles of Governance with the approved IRM Charter to ensure the articles are up to date.

III. Update on Parliament Engagement Guidelines and next steps

Reference materials:

- *Main document: Revised [Guidelines for Parliamentary Engagement in OGP](#)*
- *Annex: [Parliamentary Engagement in OGP: Review Process and Key Findings](#)*

The Support Unit presented a streamlined version of the Parliamentary Engagement Guidelines for C&S review and input. This version incorporates C&S and other Steering Committee feedback received over the past weeks.

The document was also shared with the full Steering Committee ahead of the October 14 Steering Committee meeting to discuss any outstanding issues with the proposed changes that would prevent the SC from endorsing a final version in November. C&S had the following additional feedback on the guidelines:

- Clarify who represents ‘parliament’ when making the decision about engaging with OGP;
- Consider having a legal expert review the language for consistency;
- Continue refining the language for the final version.

C&S approved the following suggested timeline on next steps:

- October 21: Send a final version to C&S for review and endorsement at its November 4 meeting;
- November 4: C&S meeting to endorse i) Standards and ii) Parliament Engagement guidelines;
- November 8: Send C&S-endorsed Standards & Parliament guidelines to full Steering Committee for final approval by circular by November 22.

IV. AOB

A. Co-Creation and Participation Standards

The Co-Creation and Participation Standards are currently undergoing [public consultation](#). The Support Unit provided an update on the views and comments received so far, and expects to produce a blogpost reporting back on the comments that were received.

B. Pandora Papers

C&S raised the issue of the Pandora Papers, and has requested that the Support Unit provide any available updates on OGP related efforts.

