

Open Government Partnership

Criteria & Standards Monthly Call Summary

28 April 2022 | 09:00 - 10:15 EDT

Call Attendees

- Government of Germany: Sebastian Haselbeck
- Government of Canada: Melanie Robert, Sarah Macleod, Jean Cardinal
- Government of Georgia: Kety Tsanova
- Government of Nigeria: Gloria Ahmed
- Lucy McTernan, York University
- Elisa Peter, Publish What You Pay
- Doug Rutzen, Nikhil Dutta, ICNL
- Denisse Miranda, Independent Reporting Mechanism
- Theo Chiviruk, Ivy Ong, Helen Turek, OGP Support Unit

Apologies

- Lysa John, CIVICUS

I. **Criteria & Standards Subcommittee work agenda for 2022**

Reference materials: [2022 C&S Agenda](#)

The Criteria and Standards subcommittee (C&S) Co-Chairs provided an overview of the proposed agenda for 2022, outlining the key areas of work for C&S in line with its mandate. This will include a review of the Procedural Review protocols, regular updates on countries under Procedural Review, a recommendation on the participation status of Azerbaijan, and updates on the OGP Eligibility scores and data collection. The agenda also includes a suggested schedule of bi-monthly calls for the remainder of 2022, the next of which is currently planned for June.

C&S requested reflecting on how the subcommittee's work currently reflects the broader challenges and objectives faced by the Partnership, so that it may be discussed during the development of OGP's new strategy. Overall, C&S was supportive of the agenda and had no objections to the items suggested for 2022.

II. **Update on countries under Procedural Review**

A Q1-Q2 update of countries currently under Procedural Review was circulated ahead of the meeting, including requests for Steering Committee (SC) support. The government of Georgia volunteered sharing their experiences with any governments that are interested. A few events are coming up that are expected to support co-creation, including the Nordic+ meetings in early May.

III. **Proposal for revised Procedural Review triggers + protocols**

The Support Unit (SU) presented a proposal for a revised approach and protocols for Procedural Review and Inactivity cases in order to align with the new Participation &



Co-Creation Standards, action plan timelines, new IRM reports as a result of the IRM Refresh, and precedent of related cases from the past ten years. The changes will update the 'triggers' that lead to acting contrary to process and being placed under Procedural Review, the requirements to end such review, and help clarify when a country would be recommended for inactivity. The changes will also decouple the Procedural Review process from meeting the minimum core [OGP eligibility](#) criteria by establishing a new Eligibility Review process for countries that fall below the minimum eligibility scores for two consecutive years.

C&S provided the following feedback on the proposed changes:

- Reinforced the importance of the 2-year grace period being offered for adjustments to the new Participation & Co-Creation Standards;
- Ensure clarity on the criteria that are used to recommend inactivity status.
- Supportive of separating OGP's minimum eligibility criteria from the Procedural Review

Decision and next steps: The revised approach was endorsed by C&S. The SU will write out the revised protocols, reflecting input received during the call. They will then be sent to the full Steering Committee for final approval on a no-objection basis via circular.

IV. IEP selection update

The IRM provided a brief update on the status of the IEP selection process. A [memo](#) with the recommendation and details of the process was shared with C&S members on Friday April 22. After receiving 19 strong applications, the IEP selection committee determined a shortlist of candidates, conducted interviews, and recommended three new members and two former members to serve in a half-term mentorship role. C&S members are asked to raise any objections to the list of recommended members by May 6, 2022. If no objections are raised by this date, the selection committee's recommendations will be considered approved. The government of Germany, Lucy McTernan, Elisa Peter, and Doug Rutzen endorsed the selection during the meeting.

