## **Open Government Partnership**

Leadership Subcommittee Monthly Call 10 April 2025 | 9:00 - 10:00 EDT

## Meeting Minutes

Attendees: Government of Brazil (Livia Sobota, Flavia Schmidt, Adriano Freitas), Government of Spain (Lázaro Tuñón, Lidia Perez Moreno), Blair Glencorse, Cielo Magno, Steph Muchai

Apologies: Government of Kenya

## 1. Letter from U.S. civil society organizations (CSOs) [decisional] - 30 minutes

- a. Leadership Subcommittee members discussed the <u>letter</u> from U.S. CSOs, and their requests to address their concerns regarding the OGP process in the United States and the broader decline of civic space, transparency and accountability in the country. Leadership Subcommittee members acknowledged the gravity of the circumstances and commended the leadership of the CSOs in calling attention to these challenges and safeguarding the hard-won progress made over the years.
  - The Leadership Subcommittee carefully considered the requests outlined in the letter, namely: 1) engaging the new US administration to reaffirm the expectations of OGP membership; 2) triggering the Response Policy; and 3) taking extraordinary action such as directly placing the U.S. under review or suspending the US upon not delivering an Action Plan.
  - 2. The Subcommittee agreed on the following:
    - a) The Support Unit (SU) will engage the US Government to reaffirm its responsibilities as a member of the Partnership through the standard outreach following political transitions.
    - b) Acknowledge the request to trigger the Response Policy and provide the necessary guidance and support to initiate the process.
    - c) Address the concerns through existing mechanisms, and reiterate the importance of applying OGP's <u>accountability</u> <u>mechanisms</u> fairly and impartially to all members.
  - Next steps: Due to time sensitivity of the concerns raised, the Leadership Subcommittee delegated to the SU CEO to send a <u>letter of</u> <u>response</u> to the U.S. CSOs communicating the subcommittee's decisions.

## 2. Check-in on priority action items from Madrid retreat- 30 minutes

a. The Government of Spain provided a readout of updates on the 2025 OGP Global Summit.

- Summit agenda: The Government of Spain is working closely with the SU and other stakeholders to develop plans for plenary sessions, high-level roundtables, and breakout sessions, as well as the ministerial-level track. After receiving input from the broader community on the agenda last month, the Summit Advisory Board is meeting to discuss analysis from the consultations on April 30.
- 2. High Level Summit Declaration: The Government of Spain shared a proposed approach and considerations for a high level declaration which would reaffirm global political commitment to open government values at the OGP Global Summit. Members shared suggestions on the contents and approach for the declaration, and emphasized the importance for the government of Spain to lead on the declaration, as the government host of the Global Summit.
  - a) Next steps: The SU will circulate a draft declaration to the Leadership Subcommittee for consideration.