Open Government Partnership

Criteria & Standards Call 8 July 2025 | 8:00 AM - 9:00 AM ET

Meeting Minutes

Attendees: Government of Chile (Claudia Montero), Government of Estonia (Marten Lauri), Government of the United States (Daniel York), Anabel Cruz, Zuki Kota, Doug Rutzen, and the OGP Support Unit (SU)

Apologies: Government of Germany, Natalia Carfi

- 1) Action Framework Task Force Recommendations- 25 min
 - a) Members discussed a proposal of the <u>Action Framework Task Force</u> for a moratorium on the enforcement of specific, time-bound, requirements of OGP <u>Participation and Co-Creation Standards</u>.
 - b) C&S discussed the concerns raised by task force members, particularly regarding the perceived weakened civil society role and influence in OGP processes. While acknowledging these concerns, C&S members expressed support for the proposal.
 - c) The Subcommittee endorsed the task force's recommendations as reflected in the <u>Resolution</u> on the Temporary Suspension of the Enforcement of Time-Bound Minimum Requirements.
 - d) Next Steps: The SU will disseminate the C&S resolution and guidance on the moratorium to all relevant stakeholders, including the Independent Reporting Mechanism (IRM)...
- 2) 2025 OGP Eligibility Review- 20 min
 - a) The SU presented its approach to analyzing the asset disclosure metric for the 2025 eligibility review. Asset disclosure is one of four key dimensions of open government that comprises the core eligibility criteria to join OGP and remain in good standing. The initial (and current) source approved by the SC for asset disclosure (the World Bank's Public Officials Financial Disclosure database) is no longer produced by the World Bank, and there is no datasource that could directly replace it (scope, methodology, accessibility). The SU presented several options that have been considered. The subcommittee ultimately agreed to maintain the data as is, while publicly acknowledging the status quo in the database and offering ad-hoc assessments based on evidence provided by governments. C&S agreed to this approach based on the fact that there have been only two instances that required reviews in the past eight years and the data is likely to be accurate. Some members shared that this metric should be replaced in the future to ensure up-to-date analysis without expending financial resources.
 - b) Summary of 2025 Eligibility Scores: the SU presented an <u>overview</u> of the results of this year's review. Twenty countries are now eligible to join OGP, including Thailand for the first time (all others were eligible in 2024). Additionally, six OGP members are currently under eligibility review, while

three members do not pass the Values Check assessment. No further action is required by C&S.

3) Country updates -15 min

- a) The SU provided an update on the Response Policy case concerning the Government of Georgia. The government did not submit a formal response to the SU, including a work plan addressing the concerns of the case by the March 2025 deadline, as outlined in the Steering Committee's October 2024 Resolution on this issue. If the government fails to adequately respond in line with Stage Two Actions by December 31, 2025, suspension from OGP will become permanent, and Georgia will no longer be an OGP member.
- b) The SU also shared an update of countries under <u>procedural review</u>, including Mexico and South Africa. The SU is in regular contact with both governments, and no further action is required by C&S at this time.
- c) Lastly, the SU provided an update on current efforts to recruit new countries to join OGP, including Poland, Tanzania, Switzerland, and Namibia.