

Call for Applications 2026

Independent Reporting Mechanism International Experts Panel

Deadline for applications: 5 May 2026

Overview

The IRM serves a central role in ensuring the credibility of OGP, as it is the key means of tracking progress in participating countries. The IRM provides independent, evidence-based, and objective reporting to hold OGP members accountable and support their open government efforts. This is done through reports and timely recommendations on the development and implementation of commitments by members.

To safeguard the independence of the IRM and to ensure quality research standards, the IRM is overseen by the **International Experts Panel (IEP)**. IEP members are selected through an open call for applications and confirmed for appointment by the OGP Steering Committee. The IEP is currently made up of three experts in the governance field with diverse regional and professional backgrounds.

In its role, the IEP guarantees the independence and quality of the IRM's products and assessments through two functions: governance and advisory of the IRM as a whole, and quality assurance of the IRM process. The IEP supports the strategic direction of the IRM and its priorities. The panel also provides independent oversight of the IRM methodology, review process, conflict of interest and quality of IRM products.

Role Specification

IEP members fulfill their roles through:

- Guiding and advising the IRM Lead on the IRM strategy and priorities
- Regular quality assurance checks on the IRM methodology
- Oversight of the pool of IRM Researchers and External Reviewers, and conducting conflict of interest reviews
- Resolving conflicts and complaints that are raised to the IEP

In addition, IEP members may be engaged in:

- Providing input to the Steering Committee and its Criteria & Standards (C&S) Subcommittee on issues with direct IRM implications
- Ad-hoc contributions to the OGP Support Unit on matters relevant to their IEP roles or pertaining to IRM findings
- Supporting review and dissemination of the IRM findings and its products

The IEP role in ensuring quality assurance includes the following:

- Methodological assurance reviews
- Oversight of the quality control process of IRM products
- Supporting IRM External Reviewer and Researcher trainings and ongoing learning activities

IEP responsibilities are primarily fulfilled during regular monthly meetings (12), quarterly quality assurance sessions (4), and by email, as needed. The IEP role is expected to take 18–20 days over the course of a year, including the preparation for and follow-up to each of the meetings. The IRM Lead may convene the IEP for additional meetings or solicit their participation during IRM events per the availability of IEP members.

All IRM and IEP meetings are held virtually. The IRM seeks to ensure at least one in-person meeting of the IEP during members' term.

Terms and Compensation

The IRM is now seeking applications for new members of the IEP. The term for members of the IEP will be a maximum of four years. IEP members are compensated for their time.

Eligibility and Selection Criteria

Candidates will be evaluated and recommended for appointment based on a range of experiences and skills, including:

Experience:

- Familiarity and/or experience with leadership roles in similar research/monitoring or multistakeholder entities
- Familiarity and/or experience providing strategic advice in similar research/monitoring or multistakeholder entities
- Familiarity and/or experience around good governance practices, as well as applying ethical and auditing standards in similar research/monitoring entities or research projects
- Familiarity and/or experience with monitoring and learning methods and research products
- Demonstrated expertise in open government themes and/or across regions. Interest to work across different national contexts including in countries that may be relatively unfamiliar.
- Ability to work in English required. Spanish or French is a plus.

Skills:

- Strong eye for detail and processes
- Demonstrated ability to provide constructive feedback
- Demonstrated public speaking ability
- Demonstrated ability to work in a collaborative environment
- Demonstrated commitment to OGP's core values of ambition & innovation, humility, inclusiveness, integrity, pragmatism, open-mindedness and service.

The IRM aims to select a diverse and geographically representative panel of candidates. We welcome applications across experiences including gender, age, ethnicity and race, and differing abilities. Consideration will be given to candidates with expertise and experience in open government in the executive, legislative, the judiciary branch and sub-national governments. IEP members are not required to come from OGP participating countries to sit on the panel.

Application Process and Selection Timeline

The call for applications is open for four weeks until Tuesday 5 May 2026. Anyone may apply, including, but not limited to those with backgrounds in government, civil society, and current or former IEP members.

Applications should be submitted to irm@opengovpartnership.org with the name(s) and a brief description, contact details, and CV of the applicant and “IEP APPLICATION - [Name]” in the subject line.

Following interviews, the selection committee will make recommendations to be shared with the OGP Criteria and Standards (C&S) Subcommittee for review and endorsement. The C&S Subcommittee will present a list for final endorsement and appointment by the OGP Steering Committee.