

## **Civil Society Steering Committee**

Monthly Call | 17 September 2025

9:00-10:00 AM ET

### **Meeting Minutes**

**Attendees:** Natalia Carfi, Anabel Cruz, Nikhil Dutta (as a Second), Zuki Kota, Cielo Magno, Steph Muchai, Laura Neuman, Doug Rutzen, Barbara Schreiner, OGP Support Unit (SU)

**Apologies:** Eka Gigauri, Blair Glencorse, Katerina Hadzi-Miceva Evans

#### **1. Incoming Co-Chair discussion- 30 min**

- a. The cohort discussed the process to select a new incoming Civil Society Steering Committee (CS SC) co-chair for 2026-2027, joining the Leadership Subcommittee in October 2025. Members discussed the unique challenges of this geopolitical moment for the open government civil society community, emphasizing the need for strong co-chair leadership that can galvanize the community and high level government counterparts. Members also discussed other considerations of the co-chair role, including funding and time commitment.
- b. The CS SC agreed to: 1. Document terms of reference for the co-chair role and selection process, 2. Set a deadline of September 24 to submit self-nominations, 3. Convene ahead of the Global Summit to select a CS SC co-chair by consensus, and 4. Endorse the civil society and government co-chairs at the October 7 Ministerial SC meeting in Spain.

#### **2. Global Summit - 20 min**

- a. The CS SC discussed the rollout of the Vitoria-Gasteiz Declaration for wider open government community sign-on following SC approval by close of business, September 19. Pending SC endorsement, on September 22, the SU will share the declaration online for wider endorsement, noting that the text is final. Members were encouraged to circulate the declaration among their networks to secure broad support ahead of the Summit. Additionally, members suggested coordinating bilateral outreach from SC governments to encourage other governments to sign on.

#### **3. AOB - 10 min**

- a. Zuki Kota provided an update on the progress of the Action Framework Task Force. The task force has conducted consultations with a wide range of OGP stakeholders to identify ways to improve the effectiveness and increase the flexibility of OGP's action framework. The task force will share proposals for the consideration of the full SC in the months following the Global Summit, which will include input received from the community during the Summit.