

Civil Society Steering Committee

Monthly Call | 16 April 2025

10:00-11:00 ET / 16:00-17:00 CET

Meeting Minutes

Attendees: Anabel Cruz, Barbara Schreiner, Blair Glencorse, Doug Rutzen, Cielo Magno, Eka Gigauri, Laura Neuman, Natalia Carfi, Steph Muchai, Zuki Kota, OGP Support Unit (SU)

Apologies: Katerina Hadzi-Miceva Evans

1. Introduction - 2 min

- a. Civil Society Co-Chair Cielo Magno opened the meeting and previewed the call agenda.

2. Discuss and endorse cohort selection process for 2025 - 30 min

- a. Cielo Magno provided an overview of possible approaches for civil society SC term renewals.
- b. The cohort deliberated on the options presented, emphasizing the importance of transparency throughout the process. Members also recognized the importance of ensuring the application process is as streamlined as possible for the benefit of candidates and the Selection Committee. The cohort agreed on the following path forward:
 - i. The cohort will initiate a two-step process for the 2025 rotation cycle,
 - 1. Endorse second terms of incumbent members who have confirmed interest in renewing their SC terms, on a no-objection basis via circular
 - 2. Launch call for candidates only for the remaining open seats.
 - ii. The SU will integrate cohort feedback to ensure a lighter application and selection process, while still adhering to the formal existing criteria.
 - iii. For 2026 onwards, the cohort and the SU will standardize the renewal process for incumbent seats, emphasizing that the process should not be automatic.

3. Coordination for Open Gov Week - 10 min

- a. The SU provided an update on [Open Gov Week](#), taking place May 19-23. This year, OGW will focus on promoting the [Open Gov Challenge](#).
- b. Members discussed potential opportunities to coordinate sessions together, including an 'open house' with the broader civil society community.

4. Readouts from Subcommittees - 10 min

- a. Criteria and Standards Subcommittee (C&S): C&S Civil Society Co-Chair Zuki Kota shared an update on recent participation resolutions passed by the subcommittee, as well as ongoing discussions regarding the participation status of Afghanistan.
- b. Programmatic Delivery Subcommittee (PDS): PDS Member Laura Neuman shared a readout from PDS' first meeting in April, noting that PDS endorsed the terms of reference for three task forces and is in the process of selecting the subcommittee's co-chairs.

- c. Cielo Magno shared a readout from the latest Leadership Subcommittee meeting, including an update on the [letter](#) to OGP from U.S. CSOs requesting to address their concerns regarding the OGP process in the U.S. and the broader decline of civic space, transparency and accountability in the country. The subcommittee also discussed plans for a declaration of recommitment to OGP values at the OGP Global Summit.

5. **AOB - 3 min**

- a. Members shared which open government-related events they will attend in the next several months to coordinate action with the SU and fellow members.