

# Open Government Partnership

## Criteria & Standards Monthly Call

27 June 2024 | 10:00 - 11:00 ET

### Attendees:

- C&S members:
  - Government of Germany (chair) (Sebastian Haselbeck)
  - Government of the United States (Jennifer Lewis, Kiril Jakimovski, Daniel York)
  - Government of Chile (Claudia Montero)
  - Lucy McTernan (chair)
  - Doug Rutzen
  - Natalia Carfi
  - Zuki Kota
- Representatives from Georgian CSOs
- OGP Support Unit (Alonso Cerdan, Tinatin Ninua, Jaime Mercado, Peter Varga)

### Meeting Minutes

#### 1. Discussion with Georgian CSOs on the current domestic situation [non-decisional]

- The C&S co-chairs, the Government of Germany and Lucy McTernan, kicked off the meeting by welcoming representatives from the Georgian CSOs that had filed the Response Policy case. The Chairs introduced the objectives of the call which were to discuss the impact of the recently adopted Transparency of Foreign Influence law and the subsequent withdrawal of NGOs from the Open Government Forum in Georgia. This was a non-decisional meeting aimed at better understanding the latest developments, implications for the OGP agenda in Georgia, and outlining the next steps within the Response Policy framework.
- The C&S Chairs provided a recap of the process so far, and an overview of the next steps within the guidelines of the policy: The Stage One actions period lasts six months (until Nov 6) after which C&S will assess if the issues raised have been addressed. If not, they may recommend moving to Stage Two actions, which could include suspending the government from OGP. Stage Two allows the SC more flexibility in determining the necessary actions and timeline for the government to regain active status. If the government fails to meet these recommendations within the set timeframe, the suspension will become permanent, and the government will no longer be an OGP member.
- The Support Unit informed C&S that the Government of Georgia has not formally responded to Stage One recommendations, which included developing a work plan to address the issues raised in the concern (see detailed recommendations [here](#)). The work plan was due by June 6, 2024.

- C&S acknowledged the concerns expressed by Georgian CSOs regarding the passage of the law and the overall state of affairs regarding the open government agenda in the country, and thanked them for providing their insights and perspectives.

*Next Steps agreed by C&S:*

- *The Support Unit to update the OGP community on the Response Policy case and next steps.*
- *Adhere to Response Policy guidelines for fair application and schedule a follow-up C&S meeting in late July to discuss the way forward.*