RENEWAL OF THE
THE BANK CIVIL SOCIETY COMMITTEE
2023-2025

September 2023

1. Key Evaluation Findings

The evaluation of the Bank-Civil Society Committee in 2022 revealed the importance of this body as a key partner of citizen and community organizations but also a means of strengthening transparency and accountability in the implementation of the Bank's High 5 priorities. The Committee is tasked with advising the Bank on strengthening relationships and partnerships with the CSO community and could support the Bank in implementing its 2024-2028 Civil Society Engagement Action Plan.

Nevertheless, the evaluation found that members of previous committees were not sufficiently representative of their constituencies (regions or themes). In addition, communication on the renewal of the committee was limited. To ensure that information on expressions of interest reaches the larger civil society, various communication channels need to be used**.**

2. Criteria for the selection of new Bank Civil Society Committee members

The following criteria shall guide the selection of CSO regional and thematic representatives:

- Be a CSO that is already visible and has the capacity, experience and interest to serve as a representative of a wide range of CSOs.
- An officially recognized and duly registered CSO in at least one regional member country with operations and representation in more than one country. CSOs covering entire regions are preferred
- A CSO, which can show evidence of achievements, good governance and accountability in its operations.
- A CSO that has a proven track record of gender equality and youth engagement in its operational work.

3. Application file

To be eligible, applicants must be CSOs shall, submit their applications to an ad hoc selection panel that comprises of 5 Civil Society and 3 Bank representatives.

The file includes the following elements:

- A cover letter
- The CSO’s technical and financial report of activities of the last 3 years
- A presentation of the CSO in at most two pages.
- An outline on how the CSO intends to effectively represent the region or thematic area and enhance the role of the Bank-Civil Committee (max. 2 pages).

The selection is based on extensive publicity through the Bank’s database and digital communication (via Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn). The 2023 CSO Regional Forums shall provide an opportunity to further inform the wider civil society about the renewal process thereby ensuring CSOs at the grassroots and the wider public are adequately informed about the renewal process.

4. The establishment of a selection panel (jury)

A selection panel (jury) is established by the Bank to lead the process of selecting the civil society members of the Committee.

The final selection of members of the Bank-CSO Committee shall be done by a panel comprising of 8 members with 3 representing the Bank and 5 representing civil society. The objective is to enhance transparency in the selection process and the representativity of the committee at both regional and thematic levels.

Civil society panel members shall be from 5 CSOs of the last 4 Bank-CSO committees from 2012-2022 with one being from an international NGO. Selection shall be based on expertise, regional/thematic representation, gender balance, and proposed contribution to the Bank-Civil Society Committee. Civil society panel members shall include:

- A representative of climate change and environmental issues (2018-2020 Committee)
- A representative of women's rights and gender equality (2016-2018 Committee)
- A representative of Youth (2020-2022 Committee)
- A representative of governance and accountability (2014-2016 Committee)
- A representative of International NGOs

The Bank shall be represented by three (3) members drawn from:

- The Department in charge of Gender, Women and Civil Society (AHGC), responsible for overseeing the renewal process and also serves as the secretariat of the Bank-CSO committee.
- The Bank's Anti-corruption Department that promotes transparency and accountability (PIAC)
- The Partnerships and Resources Mobilization Department (FIRM)

The composition of the jury shall ensure a fair representation of the working languages of the Bank and an equal representation (men - women). The jury must include at least one young person and one international NGO, and its members must be representative of the Bank's areas of intervention.

Applications for future members of the Bank - CSO Committee are received by the Bank (Civil Society and Community Engagement Division), which makes an initial selection based on the criteria defined.

5. Selection

The selection process shall include the following steps:

- **Compilation of total number of applications**: The Civil Society and Community Engagement Division of the Bank (AHGC2) shall receive and compile all proposals received by region and thematic area
- **Review and shortlisting:** The initial review and shortlisting shall be done by the Bank led by AHGC2 to produce a shortlist of CSOs that meet the basic criteria
- **Final selection:** By a panel made up of 8 members with 5 representing civil society and 3 representing the Bank
- **Publication of results:** Final results shall be made public following deliberations of the panel

The members of the selection panel shall receive a file consisting of the following elements:

- Pre-selected applications.
- The list of criteria for the selection of Bank-CSO Committee members.
- An application evaluation grid

6. Handover

The handover between outgoing and incoming members of the Bank-CSO Committee shall take place prior to the first statutory meeting which shall be held in January 2024 to adopt the operating rules and an action plan for the period 2024-2025.

7. Renewal schedule

Activities	Deadlines	Responsibility
1) Call for candidates	September 17 - November 6, 2023	Bank
2) Setting up of selection panel	By September 30, 2023	Bank
3) Deadline for receipt of applications	October 30, 2023	Candidates
4) Compilation and shortlisting	November 1 -10	Bank
5) Selection by panel	November 10 -25, 2023	Selection panel
6) Information of new committee members	November 30, 2023	Bank-Selection panel
7) Handover	December 14, 2023	