AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK GROUP
GROUPE DE LA BANQUE AFRICAINE DE DÉVELOPPEMENT

CSO
Civil Society
Société Civile

RENEWAL OF THE BANK-CIVIL SOCIETY COMMITTEE 2023-2025

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Background

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2000- the Bank-Civil Society Committee was first established in line with the 1999 Policy on Cooperation with Civil Society.

2015- the Committee was revitalized, and the Terms of Reference of the Committee were agreed upon following the adoption of the Framework for Enhanced Engagement with Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) in 2012

2016- TORs of the Committee were further revised through a consultative process.

2018- a new Bank-Civil Society Committee under the new format

2020- the present committee whose mandate has come to an end, was selected.

Aim of the Evaluation of the Committee



Take stock of the Committee's performance and achievements and ascertain its representativity.



Draw lessons from previous committees that can guide the renewal process.



With the perspective of a new CSE Action Plan 2024-2028, there is need for the Committee to become a key player in the ongoing institutionalization of CSE.

Key findings of the evaluation-Added value

The evaluation revealed the relevance of this body in mobilizing grassroots organizations.

The Committee Supported the planning and organization of major Bank events such as the 2021 CSO Regional Forums and 2022 Continental Forum and other CSO consultations

The committee provides a means of showcasing the impact of the Bank's operations.

Committee members provided inputs to Bank strategies and policy documents (Country Strategy Papers, PCNs..)

Key findings of the evaluation- Challenges

- Committee's influence in strategic decisions is weak
- Absence of tools for monitoring the Bank's engagement with civil society
- Lack of capacity to reach out to the entire region
- Weak link between committee members and their constituents

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Mandate of the Committee

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The mandate of the Bank-Civil Society Committee covers three major areas:

- **Awareness and communication.**
- **Dialogue and consultation**
- **Partnership**

Support and contribute to the Bank's inclusive growth agenda.

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Options for the renewal of the committee

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The committee is maintained as such: **22 members-11 Bank members and 11 CSO members**, with CSOs representing the 5 regions, 5 CSOs according to the themes, and an international NGO.

The number of Bank members is limited **only to a few sectors aligned with the Bank's priorities (about** 5), and the number of CSOs remains unchanged at **11**.

The number of Bank members is reduced to 4 permanent and 3 associate members according to the Bank's priorities. **The number of CSOs will depend on the size of the region** in terms of population or density or the number of CSOs in the region.

The Committee only comprises representatives of Civil Society Organizations.

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Renewal of the committee

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1. Launch of call for proposals

2. Shortlisting by the Bank to determine applicants that meet basic criteria

3. Final selection by a panel made up of CSOs and the Bank (3 bank and 5 CSOs representatives)

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Option retained

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- The Committee shall comprise 11 CSO members.
- Relevant Bank Departments shall be invited to collaborate on strategic, thematic or project-based
- 5 Regional and 5 thematic CSO Representatives
- There shall be 1 international NGO covering all 5 regions and one sector.
- The thematic areas to be represented are Agriculture, Climate and Energy, Youth, Gender, Governance and Fragility.

Criteria for the selection of committee members

1	2	3	4
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.

Renewal process timelines

The renewal process shall comprise the following key steps:

- Setting up of selection panel
- Call for applications
- Deadline for the receipt of applications
- Compilation and shortlisting
- Final selection
- Information of new committee members
- Handover meeting