Civic space and civil society engagement in the EITI

National Coordinators Meeting

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The global standard for the good governance of oil, gas and mineral resources.

Session Format

- Framing on why it is important to have civil society engagement in EITI implementation.

- Input from National Coordinators on successes and challenges in ensuring civil society engagement in EITI implementation.

- Open discussion

Role of civil society

The EITI multi-stakeholder platform

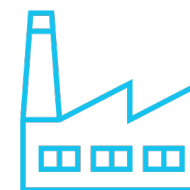*Supporting debate and oversight among key stakeholders*

Governments
Transparency supports increased investment and ensuring revenues due are paid

Civil society
Transparency supports dialogue with government and companies

Companies
Transparency supports predictive business environment

Investors
Transparency supports better investment decisions

Civil society partners

- ■ 1000+ national NGOs

- ■ Publish What You Pay

- ■ Transparency International

- ■ Natural Resource Governance Institute

- ■ Oxfam International

- ■ Tax Justice Network-Africa

Civil society plays a key role in EITI's theory of change

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- EITI Principle 8: "We believe in the principle and practice of accountability by government to all citizens for the stewardship of revenue streams and public expenditure."

- EITI Principle 12: "In seeking solutions, we believe that all stakeholders have important and relevant contributions to make –"

Civil society is expected to promote further transparency and use data to hold governments and companies accountable.

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Civil society in the EITI process

- With well-coordinated and inclusive civil society participation, **EITI data can inform public debate and lead to improved governance** in the extractive sector.

- Civil society input **underpins success throughout the EITI process**, from consulting communities affected by extraction over EITI reports to disseminating findings, making and following up on policy recommendations.

Strengthening civil society participation in the EITI

1. Selecting the best civil society representatives (including developing an open and transparent CSO constituency nomination process).

2. Ensuring these representatives are accountable to their broader constituency.

3. Ensuring civil society can contribute to the scope and objectives of the EITI process and uses EITI data.

4. Harnessing the EITI's Civil Society Protocol to safeguard civic participation in extractives governance.

   – *2023 EITI Standard 1.3 (f) The multi-stakeholder group is expected to monitor adherence to the Protocol: Participation of civil society and document its discussions related to any shortcomings identified, as well as activities undertaken to address them.*

EITI Protocol: Participation of civil society (1)

Expression: Civil society representatives are able to engage in public debate related to the EITI process and express opinions about the EITI process without restraint, coercion or reprisal.

Operation: Civil society representatives are able to operate freely in relation to the EITI process.

Association: Civil society representatives are able to communicate and cooperate with each other regarding the EITI process.

Engagement: Civil society representatives are able to be fully, actively and effectively engaged in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the EITI process.

Access to public decision-making: Civil society representatives are able to speak freely on transparency and natural resource governance issues and to ensure that the EITI contributes to public debate.

The scope of the civil society protocol

"For purposes of this protocol, references to '**civil society representatives**' will include civil society representatives who are substantively involved in the EITI process, including but not limited to members of the multi-stakeholder group.

References to the '**EITI process**' will include activities related to preparing for EITI sign-up; MSG meetings; CSO constituency side-meetings on EITI, including interactions with MSG representatives; producing EITI Reports; producing materials or conducting analysis on EITI Reports; expressing views related to EITI activities; and expressing views related to natural resource governance."

Addressing challenges through implementation support

- Monitoring civic space in line with Requirement 1.3 and the civil society protocol

- Coordination with Board members and civil society partners to address challenges in civic space, capacity and constituency coordination.

- Training on the civil society protocol, as well as using and analysing data

- Engaging with the EITI IS

- Peer exchanges

- Targeted implementation support on CSO engagement is tailored to each context

Panel discussion

- Christian Arias, National Coordinator, Ecuador EITI

- Léontine-Tania OYOUOMI-LOUMBOU épouse BIBEY, Gabon EITI

- Ian Mwiinga, Zambia EITI

Thank you

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