

POLICY FORUM ON DEVELOPMENT

CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR THE SELECTION OF MEMBERS OF

THE GLOBAL GATEWAY CIVIL SOCIETY AND LOCAL AUTHORITIES DIALOGUE PLATFORM ('GG DIALOGUE PLATFORM')

1. Background

On 1 December 2021, the European Commission and the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy presented the Joint Communication on The Global Gateway¹. Global Gateway is the EU's contribution to narrowing the global investment gap, supporting global economic recovery and accompanying the twin green and digital transitions beyond European borders, and promoting the resilience of value chains globally. It intends to boost smart, clean and secure links in the digital, climate, energy, and transport sectors, and to strengthen education, research and health systems across the world. It is fully aligned with the UN's Agenda 2030 and its Sustainable Development Goals, as well as the Paris Agreement.

Global Gateway is Europe's positive and **values-based offer** to channel Team Europe's investments in global infrastructure development in accordance with six key principles: democratic values and high standards, good governance and transparency, equal partnerships, green and clean, security-focused and catalysing private sector investment. An enabling environment will be key to mobilise increased infrastructure investment meeting high technical, competition, environmental, social and governance standards.

Global Gateway is delivered in a Team Europe approach. It mobilises all EU institutions, Member States, their Development Finance Institutions, public development banks, the EIB, the EBRD and the private sector behind common priorities in order to reach scale and create tangible and visible impact on the ground. In this way Global Gateway has the ambition to mobilise up to EUR 300 billion until 2027. In the Enlargement and Neighbourhood countries, Global Gateway is being implemented through three regional Economic Investment Plans (EIP).

As announced in the Joint Communication, a dialogue with civil society shall be established as part of Global Gateway's governance and communication arrangements. Civil society organisations (CSO) and Local Authorities (LA) will play a key role in ensuring that a value-based and inclusive approach is taken, so that Global Gateway delivers on its goals in line with its principles. A "**Global Gateway Civil Society Organisation and Local Authorities Dialogue Platform**" (henceforth the '*GG Dialogue Platform*') will be set up to this end, as a working group of the **EU Policy Forum for Development** (PFD). Through this platform, the Global Gateway strategy will benefit from the perspectives and experience of stakeholders to enhance its overall effectiveness and sustainability.

The Commission is calling for expressions of interest for the selection of members of the GG Dialogue Platform.

¹ [EUR-Lex - 52021JC0030 - EN - EUR-Lex \(europa.eu\)](#)

More specifically, the GG Dialogue Platform will:

- 1) Exchange on horizontal policy issues of interest for CSOs and LAs as key development actors in the framework of the Global Gateway Strategy. This could include aspects such as addressing inequalities, transparency and sustainability;
- 2) Receive feedback from the global/European/local civil society organisations about the roll out of the Global Gateway Strategy. This may include aspects such as respect of “key principles” set out in the EU Joint Communication on the Global Gateway, within different investment priorities and specific geographic contexts;
- 3) Exchange on how CSOs and LAs can play their share in partnering around GG flagship projects, by looking at opportunities for them to engage at country level;
- 4) Provide a space for regular updates by all participants.

2. Features of the GG Dialogue Platform

2.1. Composition, eligibility, and selection criteria

The dialogue platform is open **to global or regional associations, platforms and networks of civil society organisations and local authorities.**

This may include (but is not limited to) youth organisations, women’s organisations, trade unions, employers’ organisations, cooperatives, business and consumer organisations, rural organisations, faith-based organisations, LGBTIQ, indigenous peoples, organisations of people living with disability, foundations; organisations specialised in Global Gateway’s priority investment areas: digital, climate and energy, transport, health, education and research; organizations focusing on good governance, transparency and accountability, human rights and democracy.

The dialogue platform shall consist of **up to 60 networks and associations.** Organisations in each category shall:

- Represent a network in one or more regions or at global level that works in the area of international cooperation and development for at least 5 years;
- Have adequate capacity to reach a wide membership, i.e. members in a large number of countries of one or more regions;
- Have proven and relevant competence and experience, including at European and/or international level, in their respective areas of activity; specifically, have knowledge and experience working with current EU policy implementation;
- Ensure adequate competence, seniority, and experience of the proposed representative/s. Representatives of the organisations selected to participate in the GG Dialogue Platform will have significant experience and track record in the area of activity of their organisations. They will also have proven capacity to represent and express the views of their constituencies, including past representational experience and demonstrated capacity to provide their constituencies with regular feed-back on the discussions and conclusions reached within the Platform.

Members will commit to take part in the GG Dialogue Platform's activities in the short and medium term and have the availability to fulfil this commitment. This will involve sharing information with constituents regularly to feed into GG Dialogue Platform's discussions and outputs and representing the views of their constituencies to the best of their capacity in the GG Dialogue Platform's meetings and events.

2.2. Selection procedure

The selection procedure shall consist of an assessment of the expressions of interest performed against the selection criteria listed in section 2.1. above, followed by the establishment of a list of the most suitable applicants, and concluded by the appointment of the members of the platform.

In the appointment of dialogue platform members, the Commission will strive to achieve a balanced representation in order to ensure diversity and inclusion. It will also aim to ensure, as far as possible, a high level of competence, balance of thematic and geographical coverage, while taking into account the specific tasks of the platform, the type of knowledge required, and the relevance of the applications received.

2.3 Rules of Engagement and Operation of the Dialogue Platform

It is anticipated that the dialogue platform members would convene in plenary meetings up to two times per year online or in presence, including one meeting in the run up to the Global Gateway Forum or Global Gateway Board Meeting. Platform members may appoint a steering group to act as liaison between the GG Dialogue Platform and the European Commission and lead the work around the platform's priorities. The steering group will have up to 15 members.

Plenary meetings will be co-chaired by two CSO-LA representatives and the European Commission, Directorate-General for International Partnerships (DG INTPA). Agenda for the meetings will be jointly agreed by the co-chairs, in consultation with GG Dialogue Platform members/steering group. Each annual meeting held ahead of the Global Gateway Board Meeting may lead to a short outcome paper drafted under the responsibility of the Platform members. Platform decisions are made by consensus.

GG Dialogue Platform members shall commit to participate in the platform's activities for a period of **two years**. They shall remain members until replaced. Their membership may be renewed. Members shall commit to take part in the platform's activities in the short and medium term and have the availability to fulfil this commitment.

Members are responsible for selecting their own representatives. Participation will be open to more than one organisational representative, especially if specific expertise is needed in each meeting. Members shall ensure continuity and consistency between their representatives.

Failure from members to participate in two (2) consecutive platform plenary sessions will lead to the discontinuation of membership from the process.

Participants in the activities of the platform shall not be remunerated for the services they offer. Travel and subsistence expenses shall be reimbursed only for participation in plenary meetings should they be held in presence. Reimbursement shall be made in accordance with the provisions in force within the Commission and within the limits of the available appropriations allocated to the Commission departments under the annual procedure for the allocation of resources.

The European Commission has the right to terminate the participation of a Platform member in case of violation of standards of ethical and professional conduct or unsatisfactory/non-contribution to the collective work of the Platform. Platform members should inform the DG INTPA team in case of an event that has an impact on and can hinder their contribution to the working group as soon as possible.

2.4. Transparency

Registration in the Transparency Register² is required in order for organisations to be appointed as members.

Personal data shall be collected, processed and published in accordance with Regulation (EU) No 2018/1725.

3. Application procedure

Interested organisations are invited to submit expression of interest to the European Commission, DG INTPA (Unit G2) functional mailbox:

INTPA-G2@ec.europa.eu

Expressions of interests must be completed in one of the official languages of the European Union. However, applications in English would facilitate the evaluation procedure.

Organisations shall indicate the name, title and CV of their proposed representative(s) in the GG Dialogue Platform.

An application will be deemed admissible only if it is sent by the deadline and includes the documents referred to below. All documents submitted by applicants should be duly filled in, legible, signed and numbered sequentially.

Supporting documents

Each application shall include the following documents:

- a cover letter explaining the applicant's motivation for answering this call and stating what contribution the applicant could make to the GG dialogue platform;

² Online access: <http://ec.europa.eu/transparencyregister/public/homePage.do?locale=en#en>.⁷
C(2016) 3301, Article 13.1.

- a classification form duly filled in specifying the member category for which the application is made (Annex I);
- a selection criteria form duly filled in documenting how the applicant fulfils the selection criteria listed in section 2.1 of this call (Annex II).

Additional supporting documents may be requested at a later stage.

Deadline for expressions of interest

The duly signed applications must be sent to the following e-mail address: INTPA-G2@ec.europa.eu by **04 October 2023 at 14h00 CET at the latest**. The date and time of the e-mail will be the date and time of sending.

ANNEXES:

- Annex I: Classification form
- Annex II: Selection criteria form

Annex I - Classification form³

To be filled in by all applicants

Transparency Register identification number: [...]

Nota Bene: although registration in the Transparency Register (TR) is required in order to be appointed as a member of the platform, it is not mandatory for the application procedure. Thus, interested individuals and organisations that at the time of the application are not featured yet on TR and, as a consequence, do not have a TR identification number, may still apply. However, should the applicant be selected as a result of the call for expression of interest, it shall register in the TR as a condition to be appointed as a member.

This expression of interest is made as the following **type of organisation**:

- ☐ Civil Society (please specify)
- ☐ Local Authorities
- ☐ Other (please specify):

Please select one or more Global Gateway priority investment areas in which your organisation is active:

- ☐ Digital
- ☐ Climate and energy
- ☐ Transport
- ☐ Health
- ☐ Education and research
- ☐ Other

For each area selected, please provide more details about specific areas of operation/sub-sectors in which your organisation operates (150 words maximum, per sector)

³ This form must be filled in, signed and returned with the application.

Please select one **or more geographical regions(s)** in which your organisation operates:

- ☐ Caribbean
- ☐ Central Asia
- ☐ East and South Asia
- ☐ Eastern Europe
- ☐ Europe
- ☐ Latin and Central America
- ☐ Middle East and North Africa
- ☐ Sub-Saharan Africa
- ☐ Pacific
- ☐ Western Balkans
- ☐ Global

For each geographical region selected, please provide the list of countries in which your organisation is active:

Key information:

Name of the organisation⁴:

Country where the organisation is headquartered:

Surname and position of the proposed representative/s:

First name and of the proposed representative/s:

Gender of the representative/s proposed:

Surname and position of the person applying on behalf of the organisation:
.....

First name of the person applying on behalf of the organisation:

Date:

Signature

⁴ This form must be filled in, signed and returned with the application.

Annex II: Selection criteria form⁵

Applicants are requested to describe how they fulfil the selection criteria listed in this call.

Members shall represent a network in one or more regions or at global level	
Members shall have history of working in the area of international cooperation and development for at least 5 years	
Be among the organisations described under section 2.1.	
Have adequate capacity to reach a wide membership, i.e., members in a large number of the countries of one or more regions	
Have proven and relevant competence and experience, including at European and/or international level, in relevant areas; specifically, have knowledge and experience working with EU policy implementation	

⁵ This form must be filled in, signed and returned with the application.

Ensure adequate competence and experience of the Platform representative/s	
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