

EBRD Civil Society Programme at the Annual Meeting 2025

Agenda

Tuesday, 13 May

08:30 – 09:00

Welcome coffee

09:00 – 12:00

Multilateral development banks CSO focal points meeting (Closed session - members only)

This is a closed session only for multilateral development banks (MDBs) CSO focal points.

12:00 – 13:00

CSO suggestions for MDB coordination and support of the civic space (open to registered CSOs)

In this open special session, MDB representatives are keen to hear suggestions and recommendation from civil society representatives on how MDBs can further work together in supporting the civic space.

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13:00 – 14:00

Networking lunch

14:00 – 15:00

EBRD President's meeting with CSOs (closed session)

Civil Society Organisations will meet with President Odile Renaud-Basso and discuss the Bank's strategic priorities, major policies, and operations.

Introduction and welcome

- **Olena Koval**, Head of Civil Society Engagement and Private Sector Partnerships, EBRD
- **Odile Renaud-Basso**, President, EBRD

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15:30 – 17:00

Strengthening partnerships: Civil society and business collaboration for sexual orientation and gender identity inclusion
(Closed session – in-person by invitation only)

This closed-door roundtable session aims to highlight the business value of integrating SOGI considerations into corporate operations while addressing current challenges, assessing risks, and identifying partnership opportunities to advance inclusive and sustainable SOGI practices in businesses.

Introduction and welcome

- Henrik Linders, Managing Director of Environmental and Sustainability Department, EBRD

Roundtable objectives and format by the facilitator

- Perry Zizzi, Managing Partner at Dentons and first President of the Romanian Diversity Chamber of Commerce

Facilitated Panel discussion (approx. 1 hour)

Summary and Closing Remarks

- Henrik Linders, Managing Director of Environmental and Sustainability Department, EBRD

Wednesday, 14 May

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09:30 – 11:00

EBRD Board of Directors' Meeting with CSOs (closed session)

The goal of the meeting between interested Civil Society Organisations and the Board of Directors is to engage in a constructive dialogue discussing issues of concern and recommendations on key strategic themes and operations of the Bank.

Introduction and welcome

- **Olena Koval**, Head of Civil Society Engagement and Private Sector Partnerships, EBRD

12:00 - 13:00

CSO introductory panel

This introductory panel will present an overview of the CSO Programme at the 2025 Annual Meeting.

13:00 -14:00

Networking lunch

14:00 - 16:00

Independent Project Accountability Mechanism: review of the Project Accountability Policy

This consultative hybrid session aims to identify key issues that should be considered within the Project Accountability Policy review process which will start in June 2025 and be completed before the 2026 EBRD Annual Meeting and Business Forum.

The Bank's Chief Accountability Officer will present a summary of proposals identified in the 2024 External Assessment commissioned by IPAM and introduce the upcoming review process. The moderator will then present key policy issues raised by civil society organisations to prompt discussion amongst the audience.

Moderator

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15:00 -17:00

Renaud Tahon, Associate Director-Compliance Lead, EBRD

Speakers

- **Victoria Marquez-Mees**, EBRD's Chief Accountability Officer, IPAM, EBRD
- **Lynn Schweisfurth**, Uzbek Forum on Human Rights

Transfer to external venue

18:15 – 21:00

Reception for all participants

Thursday 15 May

10:00 – 11:30

Expanding horizons with civil society in Sub-Saharan Africa

This panel will discuss the role of civil society in Sub-Saharan Africa and explore the key areas and tools of engagement between the EBRD and civil society actors for advancing transition impact across the region.

Moderator

- **Olena Koval**, Head of Civil Society Engagement and Private Sector Partnerships, EBRD

Speakers

- **Dr. Heike Harmgart**, Managing Director, Sub-Saharan Africa, EBRD
- **Uju Aderemi**, Co-Interim Executive Director, Global Programmes, Save the Children
- **Hayley Kornblum**, Programme Manager, IKEA Foundation
- **Sacha Gayama**, Senior Advisor, Global Lead for Innovative Financing, DRC

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12:00 - 13:00

Networking lunch

13:00 – 14:00

Investing in people: restoring Ukraine's human capital

This panel will explore how multiple stakeholders – employers, civil society, and international partners – can collaborate to help restore Ukraine's human capital by establishing new skills in line with market needs, boosting productivity and job quality, and ensuring that nobody is left behind.

Moderator

- **Alan Rousso**, Executive and Team Coach, International Development Consultant and Former Managing Director of External Relations and Partnerships, EBRD

Speakers

- **Barbara Rambousek**, Director, Gender & Economic Inclusion, EBRD
- **Olga Rudneva**, Chief Executive Officer, Superhumans Centre
- **Viacheslav Klymov**, Co-owner and co-founder of NOVA Group, President of the Union of Ukrainian Entrepreneurs (SUP)
- **Mauro Longobardo**, Chief Executive Officer, ArcelorMittal Kryvyi Rih
- **Hlib Vyshlinsky**, Executive Director, Centre for Economic Strategy

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14:00 – 16:00

Civil Society Steering Committee meeting (Closed session- members only)

This is a member only meeting for the EBRD Civil Society Steering Committee.

16:00 – 17:30

Evaluation influence amid uncertainty and change

This session delves into the substantial role of the EBRD's Independent Evaluation Department (IEvD) in providing evidence-based insights that demonstrate the institution's results and effectiveness.

Through rigorous evaluation, IEvD enhances accountability, transparency, and facilitates organizational learning, thereby supporting the EBRD in achieving its strategic priorities with well-founded, data-driven approaches. This session showcases how the EBRD's Independent Evaluation Department provides evidence-based insights on the Bank's performance and impact. It will open with a brief overview of IEvD's role and mandate, followed by the presentation of the 2024 Annual Evaluation Review, illustrating how independent evaluation influences decision making and impact. The discussion will feature key evaluation findings of interest to CSOs, focusing on the Mid-term Evaluation of the 2021–2025 Strategic and Capital Framework (SCF), the Evaluation of Policy Dialogue (2017–2023), and EBRD's support for gender equality. The session will conclude with a preview of the 2025–2027 Work Programme and upcoming evaluations relevant to CSOs

Moderator

- Véronique Salze-Lozac'h, Chief Evaluator

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Speakers

- **Gabriele Fattorelli**, Director Corporate and Thematic Evaluations, IEvD
- **Samer Hachem**, Director Sector and Project Evaluations, IEvD
- **Olga Mrinska**, Associate Director Senior Evaluation Manager, IEvD
- **Bilgehan Kayalar**, Principal Evaluation Manager, IEvD

Alumni Ceremony and Reception