

# Civil Society Policy Forum

2016 Annual Meetings, Washington DC, October 4-7 2016

## CALL FOR PROPOSALS - GUIDELINES

The Civil Society Policy Forum (CSPF) for the International Monetary Fund/World Bank 2016 Annual Meetings will convene in Washington DC from Tuesday, October 4 to Friday, October 7, 2016. This is an important opportunity for Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) to engage with World Bank and IMF staff, their peers, and government delegations on a wide range of topics such as those that highlight efforts to tackle poverty reduction, secure financial stability, and promote high employment and sustainable and inclusive economic growth around the world.

While we continue our process of modernizing and updating the CSPF and work towards putting in place an interim CSO working group that will make proposals in October for the basis of a rotational working group that will work alongside the WB and the IMF teams on the CSPF, we need to launch the call for proposals for the 2016 Annual Meetings CSPF. **This call for proposals will run from Monday, July 11 to Friday, August 19 and an initial schedule will be posted on Tuesday, September 6.**

We are therefore making available for feedback, the draft guidelines that will inform the selection of sessions. **Please provide any feedback by sending an email to [IMFCONSULTATION@imf.org](mailto:IMFCONSULTATION@imf.org) by July 5, so that we can take them into consideration for the final draft.**

The CSPF follows an inclusive and participatory approach that reflects the diversity of CSO policy concerns. In recent years, demand for sessions has been much higher than the total slots available, and we can't guarantee that all proposals will be accepted, but will do our best to accommodate as many as possible within the available slots.

**To that end, the IMF and World Bank CSO teams will rely on the following guidelines in the selection of proposals for the Policy Forum:**

1. **CSPF Themes:** The CSPF aims to cover a diverse range of topics with priority given to those that are thematically relevant to the work of the World Bank Group and the IMF, and which invite debate beyond the focus of one civil society organization or country.
2. **Session Proposals:** Sessions run concurrently throughout the day and can be organized solely, or with other entities, by CSOs, the Bank, and the Fund. In order to promote inclusiveness and global CSO participation, however, we **encourage each CSO to limit its proposal to one session per organization and/or work jointly with other CSOs and regional partners**, to co-organize a session that showcases a variety of perspectives on the specified topic. If we receive multiple proposals on similar themes we may ask submitting organizations to consider working together on their session. To promote transparency and facilitate collaboration, we will be making submitted proposals available on our website from August 22, if the submitting CSOs agree.
3. **Session Format:** We encourage and seek to identify CSO-proposed sessions that promote dynamic and interactive discussions. Thematic relevance/prominence and expected audience numbers will be the primary determinant factors for session room selection.