

## EOI: Open Government Forum – May Miller-Dawkins

I'm excited to nominate to be a civil society member of Australia's Second Open Government Forum. I have been involved with the global Open Government Partnership community for over two years. I am strongly committed to openness, transparency and engagement in public and private sectors and can contribute local and international experience on many open government topics. I was involved in the final phase of Australia's second National Action Plan and am keen to contribute to strengthening engagement in the delivery and development of open government priorities.

### *Demonstrated support of OGP's Mission and Strategy and the Open Government Declaration;*

My work with community groups, international organisations, universities and coalitions has focused on civic participation in public affairs, transparency and accountability of governments and corporations, and, increasingly, how to effectively access and use information (especially open data and data sharing) to create better outcomes for communities.

### *Expertise relevant to the Open Government Partnership;*

I can contribute experience across a range of open government issues and approaches including:

- Most recently, working with Nook Studios and the Open Contracting Partnership to find ways to advance *open contracting* practices in Australia, including through NAP 2. Previously, working with governments, civil society and private sector to secure open contracting commitments and progress as Director, Governance and Transparency at [The B Team](#).
- Building government and private sector support for *beneficial ownership transparency* at The B Team. Contributing to development of [OpenOwnership](#) to connect data across jurisdictions and enable civic, government and private sector use of data on company ownership.
- Currently supporting an Indigenous elder led initiative with a major university in north-west NSW that provides important lessons for the work of the Forum on *place-based approaches*.
- Involvement in research and discussions on *sharing, use and re-use of public sector data* in Australia and internationally, as well as experience in sharing and use of qualitative research.
- Building new coalitions, supporting *community engagement* in program and policy development, and contributing to research on respect for *civic rights*.

### *Demonstrated ability to engage broad and diverse community networks;*

As a Forum member, I would focus on how to include new communities and organisations into OGP processes in Australia. I would aim to work with members to develop new approaches for building relationships, understanding and collaboration between government and civil society. I would draw on my relationships across community, private and government sectors. As well as having diverse networks in Australia, I am strongly connected to the international open government community and can draw on insights and experiences from overseas colleagues.

### *Previous experience working with and influencing government; and*

I have engaged with state and federal governments to influence policy development and collaborated with government counterparts, for example, convening ten governments to strengthen implementation of London Anti-Corruption Summit commitments. I have previously served on a Ministerial advisory committee.

### *The desirability of maintaining some continuity between successive Forums, balanced with the desirability of reaching new communities and reflecting emerging open government priorities.*

I would be a new addition to the Forum, however, I would also provide some continuity from discussions on open contracting and enhancing the public engagement skills in the public service during the development of the Second National Action Plan.