

NZDPU Focus Group Governance Charter

1. Background

In June 2022, French President Emmanuel Macron and UN Special Envoy for Climate Ambition and Solutions Michael R. Bloomberg created the Climate Data Steering Committee (CDSC or the Committee) to advise on the design of a unified global open climate data utility. Following the CDSC's announcement at COP27, initial steps have been taken to support the technical work required to launch the utility described by the CDSC's white paper and technical paper, the Net-Zero Data Public Utility ("NZDPU" or the "Utility"). The Utility will provide access to data which will support efforts to hold firms accountable for their commitments. As a beta pilot is designed and built, NZDPU will host focus groups as a means to gather industry expertise and climate data experience and to provide user feedback and product testing as the Utility is built out.

2. Purpose of Focus Group

2.1 Rationale

Membership in each Focus Group is available to any organizations who meet the criteria of the respective industry group:

- Financial institutions are, for example, banks, asset owners/managers, trust companies, mutual funds, brokerage firms and exchanges;
- Assurance and verification providers are, for example, service providers and consulting and auditing firms; and
- Corporates and real-economy companies are non-financial corporates and real-economy companies that are not already captured in the other Focus Groups.

In the interest of organized discussion, membership may be capped on a first come-first served basis. Industry expertise and experience working with climate transition-related data in practice is desirable. The Focus Groups are intended to represent a diverse group of firms to allow for more fruitful discussion and a more holistic perspective of the challenges facing a variety of stakeholders from a data collection and usage perspective.

2.2 Objectives

The purpose of the Focus Groups is to gather diverse industry players to convene and discuss challenges and opportunities for each industry group in the climate transition-related data space. The Focus Groups will be asked to provide strategic advice and insights to the NZDPU Head of Product to assist with the development of the Utility. Feedback from the Focus Groups will be used to iterate and improve work on the creation of the beta pilot of the Utility across its features, including its data models, and product functionality.

2.3 Governance

The Focus Groups will be led/chaired by Simone Kramer, NZDPU Head of Product.

3. Responsibilities

3.1 Meetings and Events

The Focus Groups will meet monthly starting in January 2023,¹ and running through COP28 in November 2023. At least one representative of each focus group member firm should be present in each meeting to facilitate efficient collaboration and to advance the goals of the group. Firms are able to bring multiple representatives, and can select representatives particularly relevant to the topic of each session.

3.2 Other Activities

Focus Group members are expected to:

- Review and advise on the NZDPU data models and product design; and
- Participate in product testing of the pilot NZDPU as appropriate throughout the duration of the Focus Group.

4. Confidentiality, competition law, and conflicts of interest

4.1 Confidentiality

Any non-public information disclosed, or opinions expressed during meetings will be treated as confidential unless and until the group has authorized their public release. It is understood that members' staff may see some documents relating to meetings, but unnecessary involvement of third parties in handling this material is strongly discouraged. Members are reminded of their legal obligations in relation to material nonpublic information, including under relevant market abuse regulations. In all cases where third parties are provided access to documents relating to meetings (e.g., assistants or advisors), individual members are responsible for ensuring that those third parties are aware of and respect the confidentiality and sensitivity which attaches to the discussions and documents in question.

4.2 Competition Law

Members are responsible for obtaining their own independent legal counsel regarding matters relating to the relevant competition laws. Members should take particular care to familiarize themselves with the concept of competitively sensitive information and should not disclose or exchange such information under any circumstances. If the disclosure or exchange of potentially competitively sensitive information is absolutely necessary for the legitimate purposes of the group, procedures will need to be put in place to make sure that the information is suitably anonymized and aggregated and can be shared in compliance with all relevant laws.

4.3 Conflicts of Interest

Any actual or potential conflicts of interest by members (or their representatives) should be noted by the relevant individual and passed back to the Head of Product. The Head of Product will escalate to the head of the NZDPU and legal counsel to assess and consider possible actions, including the replacement of conflicted members as necessary.

¹ With the exception of the corporates/real-economy companies Focus Group, which will convene shortly thereafter.