

**World Bank’s Safeguard Policies’ Review and Update**

**Stage 2**

**Summary of feedback**

**Date:** February 2, 2015

**Location:** Cusco, Peru

**Audience (Government, Civil Society, etc.):** Civil Society

|  |
| --- |
| **Specific feedback from Stakeholders**  |
| 1. **General Comments**
 |
| *Comments and Recommendations** Disability is not taken into consideration from a comprehensive standpoint in World Bank projects. It is especially worrying that the **language of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities** is not taken into consideration.
* There is not sufficient detail in the Framework on the **specific requirements to consider disability** in the projects.
* The World Bank should take into account **international certification models** to ensure that Bank financed infrastructure guarantees universal access to people with disabilities. All Bank projects should guarantee universal access to people with disabilities.
* **Climate change** should be a World Bank priority and the measures to counter it should be more clearly detailed in the Framework.

*Questions** How will the Bank ensure compliance with its safeguards, given that preparation, monitoring and evaluation are the borrower’s responsibility?
* How can **questions and complaints be addressed directly to the World Bank** when communities feel their grievances complaints are not addressed through the project’s mechanisms?
* How does the proposed Framework take children into consideration?
* Are there specific policies for **rural communities** that cannot be considered as indigenous communities?
* Will standards in the new Framework be enforced even if there are **discrepancies with national legislation**?
* Has **funding for policy implementation** been considered?
 |
| 1. ***A Vision for Sustainable Development***
 |
| *N/A* |
| 1. ***World Bank Environmental and Social Policy***
 |
| *N/A* |
| 1. ***Environmental and Social Standard (ESS1): Evaluation and management of environmental and social risks and impacts***
 |
| *Comments and Recommendations** The Framework should require stronger **social and environmental risk evaluation and analysis** to avoid wasting investments. In Peru natural catastrophes, such as landslides, often result in lost investments.
* There is concern that **the borrower and not the Bank** will be responsible for the preparation, monitoring and evaluation of environmental impact assessments.
* The Framework places **too much emphasis on corrective measures and impact mitigation**, and not enough on prevention.
* Environmental impact mitigation plans in World Bank projects should be designed with **permanent indigenous peoples’ participation**.

*Questions** How does the Framework take into consideration the specific needs of **children with disabilities**?
 |
| 1. ***Environmental and Social Standard 2 (ESS2): Labour and working conditions***
 |
| *N/A* |
| 1. ***Environmental and Social Standard 3 (ESS 3): Effectiveness in resources and pollution prevention***
 |
| *Comments and Recommendations** The Framework should take into consideration with greater detail **safe access to water**. There are many projects that affect the people’s access to water. There are, for example, projects that derive water from one watershed to another. Mountain people are the most vulnerable populations in this regard.
* It is very important for the Framework to make a greater contribution to **protecting the availability and quality of water resources**.
 |
| 1. ***Environmental and Social Standard 4 (ESS 4): Community and health security***
 |
| *Comments and Recommendations* * The World Bank should consider **GMO foodstuffs** and their effects on people’s health.
* There is concern on livestock management and the **use of drugs that can pose health hazards to humans.** The Framework should consider these risks.
 |
| 1. ***Environmental and Social Standard 5 (ESS 5): Land purchases, restriction to land use and involuntary resettlement***
 |
| *N/A* |
| 1. ***Environmental and Social Standard 6 (ESS 6): Biodiversity conservation and sustainable management of living natural resources***
 |
| *Comments and Recommendations* * There is concern that the compensations for environmental damage will take place according to national law. In this sense, how will the Bank supervise enforcement of compensation measures?
 |
| 1. ***Environmental and Social Standard 7 (ESS 7): Indigenous peoples***
 |
| *Comments and Recommendations* * Delegating responsibility to governments for the implementation of the indigenous people’s policy is a risk because state regulations do not always protect indigenous peoples. There should be **more robust measures to ensure that governments comply with indigenous people’s protection policies**.
* The Standard on indigenous peoples leaves **too much discretion to government** to determine the nature and degree of impacts on indigenous peoples and if it is possible or not to prevent them.
* The Standard about indigenous peoples is **too focused on correction and mitigation of impacts**, and not enough on impact prevention.
* It could be understood that the Framework **allows funding projects that affect people in voluntary isolation and initial contact**, given that it does not prohibit them explicitly.

*Questions** What are the policy changes as regards the **consultation requirements**?
* What measures to prevent negative impacts on indigenous peoples are **mandatory for the countries**?
* The participants asked for clarification on the Alternative Strategy concept and the process that will be followed if a borrower requests it.
* What are the indigenous peoples’ and rural populations’ **specific participation forums** in Bank financed projects, and how will this change in the future?
 |
| 1. ***Environmental and Social Standard 8 (ESS 8): Cultural heritage***
 |
| *N/A* |
| 1. ***Environmental and Social Standard 9 (ESS 9): Financial intermediaries***
 |
| *N/A* |
| 1. ***Environmental and Social Standard 10 (ESS 10): Dissemination of information and participation of stakeholders***
 |
| *Comments and Recommendations* * Current Bank projects do not guarantee **full and effective participation**. There is a feeling that in many cases consultation meetings are based on an already finished document and that the stakeholders’ opinions are not taken into consideration. This happens especially when projects involve disadvantaged or vulnerable people, such as children or people with disabilities.
* How will **meaningful consultation be ensured during all the phases of a project** and not only following safeguard instruments?
* Civil society participation should be ensured and especially the participation of communities that can be affected by the projects, including indigenous peoples, in the **design of consultation plans under ESS 10**.
 |