



**The World Bank  
Review and Update of the World Bank's Environmental and Social Safeguard Policies**

**Multistakeholder Consultation Meeting  
at the World Bank Office, Tokyo, Japan**

**SUMMARY**

The consultation meeting held on January 29, 2013 was chaired by Mr. Kazushige Taniguchi, Director of the World Bank Tokyo Office. Members of civil society organizations, the private sector, trade unions, and universities participated in the meeting (see Annex 1).

- New policies should be applied to all types of Bank activities. This should include: Development Policy Lending (DPL); Investment Lending (IL) including financial intermediaries (FIs) and Use of Country Systems (UCS); and Program-for-Results (PforR). The new policies should also cover Trust Funds, Grants, Guarantees, Technical Assistance. The approach (Policy Principles, Delivery Process, Safeguard Requirements) of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) can be used as a reference. The Social and Environmental Guidelines of the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) can serve as standards for Technical Assistance.
- More clarification is needed on why DPLs are not part of the review, and why the Bank focuses only on investment lending.
- OP/BP 4.00 (Use of Country Systems) and 9.00 (PforR) should be integrated into the new framework. Table 1 of OP 4.00 can be a model of the requirements for a borrower's environmental and social management systems (ESMS). ESMS analysis should be disclosed for DPLs, Investment Lending – FI operations; and PforRs before Board consideration. Safeguard requirements in OP/BP 9.00 also should be revised, since there is no gap-filling requirement. OP/BP 9.00 should be included in the scope of review.
- The Bank should adopt international best practices, such as: ADB's disclosure of Social and Environmental Monitoring Reports and disclosure of draft EIA reports at least 120 days before Board consideration in Category A projects; IFC's and ADB's establishment of grievance redress mechanisms; and IFC's free, prior, and informed consent of Indigenous Peoples, labor standards and review of primary supply chains.
- The new Safeguard Policies should not be diluted. All requirements including steps and timing of the current Policies should be sustained. To clarify the scope and application, vague wording such as "as appropriate" and "relevant" should not be used. Definition of

key words and categorization should not be changed inappropriately. “No go zone (e.g., critical natural habitat)” should be sustained. When the first draft is released, a detailed comparison analysis with current requirements should be made available.

- The Bank should provide a table that shows the current policy text, revised policy text and an explanation concerning why new provisions or revisions are being proposed. This would help all parties see what changes are being considered and reduce concerns over dilution by being very transparent.
- More clarification is needed on two areas: what is meant by dilution and how stringent the Bank was before as far as project selection and project implementation are concerned.
- Disability mainstreaming should be adopted. The Bank should continue to involve disabled persons in its programs on the basis of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD). The uploading on the Bank website of the outcome of the consultation process is appreciated. Consideration should be given to ensuring access to information for everyone so no one is excluded.
- The Safeguard Policies need to be inclusive of disability and persons with disabilities. CRPD should be reflected in the policies in full, particularly with regard to the social model of disability and development. Recalling the World Bank’s earlier appointment of Advisor on Disability and Development Judith Heumann and Senior Operations Officer Charlotte McClain-Nhlapo, it is important that disabled persons themselves are involved within the Bank when addressing these issues.
- More clarity is needed on what extent the input of socially disadvantaged people has been ensured in environmental and social Safeguard Policies.
- Inclusion should be made a top priority. Even in developed countries like Japan, inclusion is sometimes forgotten. It is hoped that the Bank will take the lead in emphasizing the need for inclusion.
- The Bank’s environmental assessment should integrate the activities and guidelines of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the private sector, and other actors involved in climate change. The focus should not be on adverse risks and mitigation only. Measures that can generate revenue activity through environmental conservation, such as carbon credits, should also be integrated into the policies.
- It is hoped that the Bank’s involvement in environmental issues will serve as a trigger for solving other global issues. Significant scientific advancements have been made with regard to climate change. The impact upon the ecosystem has also been increasing. These need to be taken into consideration.
- At the individual project level, the magnitude of climate change impact (e.g., greenhouse gas emissions) tends to appear smaller. A comprehensive review of climate change impact assessment is required.

- The safeguard policies should state that there is compliance with International Labour Organization (ILO) labor standards, e.g., collective bargaining, formation of labor unions, and prohibition of child labor and forced labor.
- By “Bank-wide team approach,” who is meant by practitioners?
- The definition of impact tends to be ambiguous. People knowledgeable about environmental impact and preservation should be more involved to address these issues so that the Safeguard Policies are not diluted and become more effective. Environmental impact needs to be more clearly defined, including who will be impacted.
- The current policies have weak enforcement, and the harsh conditionalities attached prevent many people from being involved. The new Safeguard Policies should be easier and more convenient to use.
- Trying to receive inputs from everyone will be an endless process. Clarify the timeframe that the Bank has in mind and by when the Bank will reach a conclusion.
- The review process is a key opportunity to introduce human rights due diligence at the Bank because the policies already require analysis of environmental and social impacts. The Bank should assess and address the human rights risks of all of its activities to ensure that it does not fund, directly or indirectly, rights violations. Such an assessment can be merged with existing social impact assessment processes and should identify the full range of human rights risks. The Bank should also enhance existing safeguards, in particular, the Indigenous Peoples and Involuntary Resettlement policies, to be consistent with international human rights standards.
- The Bank’s Safeguard Policies should be aligned with international human rights obligations of its member states and clients. A cornerstone of the policies should be a requirement that the Bank undertake and require borrowers to implement human rights due diligence to identify all potential impacts on human rights for every project or program that the Bank finances, and to take all necessary measures to address adverse impacts. An overarching, comprehensive human rights policy is needed, covering the full range of relevant human rights issues, such as, but not limited to, labor rights, non-discrimination, the rights of persons with disabilities, and women’s rights.
- Exclusion and discrimination continue to be key factors that drive and deepen poverty. Economic development initiatives that do not incorporate human rights obligations and principles can deepen marginalization, discrimination, and injustice. The Bank should adopt a safeguard protecting the principles of non-discrimination on the basis of race, color, sex, age, sexual orientation and gender identity, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth, disability, or other status.
- The use of country systems should be promoted and expanded to increase acceptance in the country. Furthermore, as the use of country systems is limited to certain countries, consideration should be given to improving the legal system of countries.

- Even if a country violates its own country systems, the Bank is unable to point that out as that would be interference with internal affairs. In this light, caution should be exercised in expanding country systems. Internal reform within the Bank is needed to increase staff awareness of Safeguard Policies.
- The lessons of the Inspection Panel are important. Why do appeals continue to be made to the Inspection Panel every year? What areas are difficult for the Bank vis-à-vis compliance? What is the cause of non-compliance? There were projects in the past that were difficult to solve by the Inspection Panel, and these issues need to be taken into account.

The Japan Center for a Sustainable Environment and Society (JACSES) also provided these comments in Powerpoint format (see [here](#)).

## Annex 1



### The World Bank

#### Review and Update of the World Bank's Environmental and Social Safeguard Policies

#### Consultation Meeting – Participant List

**Date:** January 29, 2013

**Venue:** World Bank Tokyo Development Learning Center

**Total Number of Participants:** 44

No.	Participant Name	Organization Represented	Organization Type
1	Kanae Doi	Human Rights Watch	NGO
2	Masako Yonekawa	Human Rights Watch	NGO
3	Riyo Yoshioka	Human Rights Watch	NGO
4	Kayo Ikeda		NGO
5	Hiroshi Takizawa	Japan Down Syndrome Society	NGO
6	Keiichiro Tamaru	Japan National Assembly of Disabled Peoples' International (DPI-Japan)	NGO
7	Keiko Sodeyama	Inclusion Japan	NGO
8	Osamu Nagase	Inclusion International	NGO
9	Satoru Matsumoto	Mekong Watch	NGO
10	Yasushi Hibi	Conservation International	NGO
11	Ryo Nagaishi	Japan Center for a Sustainable Environment and Society (JACSES)	NGO
12	Yuki Tanabe	Japan Center for a Sustainable Environment and Society (JACSES)	NGO
13	Ayaka Toki		Private Sector
14	Chiemi Osada		Private Sector
15	Ichiro Watanabe	Japan Oil Engineering Co., Ltd.	Private Sector
16	Jinichiro Kuroki	Chateraise Co., Ltd.	Private Sector
17	Junko Fujiwara	OPMAC Co., Ltd.	Private Sector
18	Junko Toyoshima	Padeco Co., Ltd.	Private Sector
19	Kenshiro Yuuchi	J.P. Morgan	Private Sector
20	Masami Takahata	Kokusai Kogyo Co., Ltd.	Private Sector

No.	Participant Name	Organization Represented	Organization Type
21	Mayumi Tanabe	Center for Diverse Creation (CDC) International Corporation	Private Sector
22	Nobuko Shimomura		Private Sector
23	Nobuyuki Ariyama		Private Sector
24	Rieko Sasaki		Private Sector
25	Santoshi Kumar Pandey	NTC International Co.,Ltd.	Private Sector
26	Seiji Okano	CTI Engineering International Co., Ltd.	Private Sector
27	Shinya Nagaoka	Japan Development Institute	Private Sector
28	Takashi Ito	CTI Engineering International Co., Ltd.	Private Sector
29	Takeaki Sato	AECOM	Private Sector
30	Tetsuya Saito		Private Sector
31	Tomoaki Tanabe	Nippon Koei Co., Ltd.	Private Sector
32	Tomoka Ohashi	NTC (Network of Technology and Confidence) International Co.,Ltd.	Private Sector
33	Tomoko Hattori	Japan Development Institute	Private Sector
34	Tomoo Aoki	Nippon Koei Co., Ltd.	Private Sector
35	Yasuko Kameumi	Kokusai Kogyo Co., Ltd.	Private Sector
36	Yasuko Yasukawa	Japan International Cooperation System	Private Sector
37	Yosuke Yamamoto	Kokusai Kogyo Co., Ltd.	Private Sector
38	Youichi Kura		Private Sector
39	Yumi Iwata		Private Sector
40	Keiko Hirota	Japan Automobile Research Institute	Research Institute
41	Kouta Koide	Tokyo Medical and Dental University	Student
42	Hiroshi Takizawa	Japanese Trade Union Confederation	Trade Union
43	Mamiko Katsumata	Japanese Trade Union Confederation	Trade Union
44	Kiyoshi Igusa	Yanamashi Eiwa College	University