

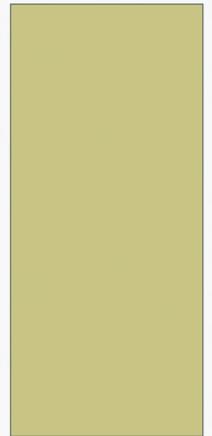


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# INTEGRATING GENDER IN SAFEGUARDS AT THE WORLD BANK

## CONTEXT TO INFORM AND GUIDE THE DISCUSSION

ONLINE EXPERT FOCUS GROUP  
16, MAY 2013



# PUBLICATION NOTE

- The purpose of this presentation was to facilitate the discussion on gender and safeguards by the international expert focus group held online on May 16, 2013. A [summary](#) of the discussion of this focus group as well as the [participant list](#) are available on the safeguards review [website](#).
- The focus group was conducted in accordance with Chatham House rules, and all participants spoke in their individual capacities rather than as representatives of their respective institutions.
- This focus group was part of the World Bank safeguard policies review and update process, and the topic of Gender is one of the emerging areas that stakeholders have asked the Bank to consider during the review. Other emerging areas include: labor and occupational safety; disability; free, prior and informed consent of Indigenous Peoples; climate change; human rights; and land tenure and natural resources. The international expert focus groups have been held by the World Bank to inform the ongoing safeguard policies review on how the Bank can address emerging areas through an integrated safeguards framework—either at the level of principles, policies and procedure—or through other approaches outside of the safeguards ambit.
- More information about the expert focus groups as well as the terms of reference for participation is available [here](#).
- More information about the safeguard policies review and consultations is available on the review [website](#).

# SAFEGUARDS POLICIES REVIEW AND UPDATE

- 2 year Process to review and update current safeguard policies
- **Objective:** Help the WB render support for:
  - Client capacity building;
  - Strengthen supervision arrangements, implementation, and accountability;
  - Ensure better environmental and social results.

# SAFEGUARD POLICIES

- Current WB safeguard policies consist of ten separate policies—six environmental, two social, and two legal, founded on a principle of “do no harm”
- Safeguard Policies apply after project identification
- OP 4.01 Environmental Assessment ensures that projects and programs supported by the World Bank are environmentally and socially sound and sustainable. The borrower must carry out a process
- Project-level gender assessments are not an explicit part of the current safeguard policies

# MAINSTREAMING GENDER THROUGH EXISTING WB INSTRUMENTS

- OP 4.20 states the WB responsibility for completion of periodical assessments of the gender dimensions of development, within and across sectors, in countries where the WB has active assistance program.
- Following WDR2012 and WDR Operationalization Framework the WB is mainstreaming gender through several policies:
  - IDA/corporate commitments on CASes and gender informed lending.
  - Quarterly tracking of Gender Informed Lending, by sector and region
  - Annual reports presented to the World Bank Board and IDA midterm reviews
  - Regional monitoring of gender informed lending at different stages of project preparation and implementation (project's concept note review meetings, ROC reviews, Regional Gender Action Plans)

# HOW TO ADDRESS GENDER IN THE SAFEGUARD POLICIES?

- WB is exploring explicit and consistent approaches to:
  - ensure that analytical work and lending have positive impacts in gender
  - Address systematically gender disparities through WB operations
- WB is also discussing potential benefits of including explicit gender-based analysis in specific instances that are addressed by other safeguard policies: involuntary resettlement; indigenous peoples.
- A free-standing gender safeguard policy may be an overly heavy-handed approach that may not reinforce the mainstreaming approach or produce the desired effects.

# MAINSTREAMING GENDER IN THE SAFEGUARD POLICIES

This approach aims to:

- identify and mitigate the potential risks faced-created by development interventions.
- include measures the WB may fulfill to identify potential “gender disparity risks” that can be exacerbated by the implementation of WB projects.
- identify methods to assess and address potential “gender disparity risks” identified in the context of the implementation of safeguard policies.

AREAS OF INTERVENTION	EVIDENCE OF GENDER DISPARITIES	MAINSTREAMING GENDER APPROACH		
ENDOWEMENTS		Indigenous Population	Involuntary Resettlement	Access to Information and community consultation
Education:	Gender gaps in school enrollment for poor people and for those disadvantaged by other circumstances such as remoteness, ethnicity, caste, race, or disability.	Indigenous women have a limited access to education	Distance to schools is a key issue for women and their children. Men do not set the same priorities to education as women.	Women's particular interests in education should be taken in consideration in communities decision making
Health:	High maternal deaths	Indigenous women are face with high maternal deaths due to lack of access to health services.	Access to health services is a key issue for women.	Women's particular concerns in health should be taken in consideration in service delivery
	High infant and early childhood deaths, particularly of girls	Infant and early childhood mortality tends to be high among Indigenous populations due to lack of access to health services.	Access to health services is a key issue for women as they are the primary caregivers of children.	

ENDOWEMENTS		Indigenous Population	Involuntary Resettlement	Access to Information and community consultation
<b>Physical Assets:</b>	Gender disparities in access to assets such as land and credit	Indigenous women often lack access to ancestral lands	Compensation for loss of assets should be issued in the names of both spouses.	
	Gender disparities in land ownership and availability to control and dispose of it.		Where national law and tenure systems do not recognize the rights of women to hold or contract in property, measures should be considered to provide women as much protection as possible	
	Provision of water to households is part of the traditional role of women.		Resettlement plan should assess the access communities have to water sources and sanitation services, in order to ensure that conditions are not worsen	

ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES	EVIDENCE OF GENDER DISPARITIES	Indigenous Population	Involuntary Resettlement	Access to Information and community consultation
<p><b>Access to employment</b></p>	<p>Lack of access to child care services</p> <p>Discriminatory treatment in labor laws and regulations</p> <p>Discriminatory beliefs about women's productivity in some sectors or occupations reduce employment opportunities for women.</p>	<p>Indigenous women are victims of forced labor and trafficking for prostitution and domestic servitude.</p>	<p>Skills training, access to credit, and job opportunities, should be equally available to women and adapted to their needs.</p>	<p>Ensure that women receive information on employment opportunities</p>
<p><b>Female farmers and Entrepreneurs</b></p>	<p>Gender disparities in access to assets and economic inputs</p> <p>Gender disparities in treatment by markets and formal institutions. Laws or customary norms that place restrictions on hours and sectors of work for women.</p>	<p>Indigenous women's roles have eroded due to loss of natural resour., depletion of ecosystems, and their transformation into cash economies</p>	<p>Skills training, access to credit, and job opportunities, should be equally available to women and adapted to their needs.</p>	<p>Ensure that women receive information on economic opportunities and inputs</p>

AGENCY	EVIDENCE OF GENDER DISPARITIES	Indigenous Population	Involuntary Resettlement	Access to Information and community consultation
	High rates of domestic violence and/or gender based violence	Indigenous women suffer domestic violence and sexual abuse, including in the contexts of trafficking and armed conflict		
	Low participation of women in politics and political organizations	Indigenous women lack political status within States.		
	Limited bargaining power within households and communities	changes in local, social and decision-making structures have resulted in a lower status of women	Implementation of resettlement may reduce women's bargaining power within the household, when ownership of assets is not granted to them	Ensure that women receive information and their interests and concerns are taken in consideration in communities decision making
	Women's lack of control over household resources		Implementation of resettlement may worsen household conditions reducing women's control over household resources	
	Lack of control over her own fertility			
	Women's limited access to the justice system	Indigenous populations tend to have limited access to the justice system		

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THANK YOU

