

Comment on ADB's 1994 Disclosure and Information Policies

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Thank you for a Summary of the Workshops in two days 13-14 May 2004. My own comments (DLH) at the breakout group discussion (Academia Group - Melia Hotel, May 13th, 2004) have been reported by Mrs. Hoang Thanh Ha (Representative of WB) at the Plenary discussion. And in the Summary these comments have written fully in a paragraph "*Accessibility*" of the *Par 2. Project Information to Affected Stakeholders*, and some other paragraphs.

Now I would like to transmit our opinion about the issues of a Summary.

1. About Project Information (General)

If ADB would like to delete sensitive sections, so that depends of your consideration. But, for the Part II and III (pp. 1, 3) of the draft PCP need to be maintained wholly in the final policy paper, because in there composed of important and realistic theoretical points, and accurate appraisals of oneself.

It is just strong arguments to persuade governments of the developing countries to improve their transparency policy and to provide information to stakeholders and project-affected groups and the general public for more comprehends on the related matters with them.

Remarks of ADB on the findings and insights of own studies often little known are very exactly. A cause is a disagree method of communication.

2. About Project Information for Affected Stakeholders

According to the draft, in a Part B, paragraph 2.Audiences, Par. 67 (p.16) lacked a basic audience as "*workers and simple people*". These audiences just are the affected-groups and always should be the objectives to propose in the project by officials (either governmental or non-governmental). We think that it needs to be added in the Par. 67 "...**workers and simple people**". For the Academic group, it needs to add "**scientists, scholars, and credible non-governmental organizations**". In Viet Nam there are numerous experienced scientists (retired now) collaborators with different specialist non-governmental organizations. Their voice is frequently high appreciated.

3. About disclosed and not be disclosed information

Any not be disclosed information should be depended of the consideration of ADB. But the dissemination of information to the public, especially to affected groups is very necessary. In reality, this duty should be rare implemented. If affected groups (*workers and simple people*) could access to information about project (PID or SPI) the effect of the work should be more

ameliorative, and any modifications for a project might be more closely practical. It's better if the information would be disseminate early, don't be worried by the land price increasing.

Some words more.

The CESDER (The Center for Social & Development Research) is an academic non-governmental organization composed of scientists in different specialist of social sciences (professors, doctors, high specialist...of Economy, Sociology, Psychology, History, Ethnology, Arts, ...). The CESDER achieved good results in all regions studied in remote areas. We get also experiences in the dissemination of information to indigenous people. The CESDER is already to share information with other organizations if it's required.

Sincerely yours,

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