

ADB Policy on IP and Engagement of IP

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The ADB Policy on IP

- Promote effective participation of IP
- Ensure culturally appropriate benefits to IP
- Provide effective safeguards to mitigate adverse impacts
- Disclose information to affected IP and general public

Strategic importance of the Policy

- Statement of commitment to respect and promote the rights of IP in operations.
- Provides a basis for IP to participate in the development processes that affect their lives.
- Policy principles used in policy dialogue regardless of whether or not the recipient countries have an IP policy.
- Requirement to comply with the Policy is applied to the operation of the private sectors - which may not adopt a generic policy on IP.
- Inform ADB's own staff of the Bank's position vis-à-vis IP issues and guide the staff in design and implementation of projects.

Principles of IP engagement

- Initiatives should be compatible in substance and structure with the affected peoples' culture and social and economic institutions, and commensurate with the needs, aspirations and demands of affected peoples.
- Initiatives should be conceived, planned, and implemented, to the maximum extent possible, with the informed consent of affected communities, and include respect for IP dignity, human rights, and cultural uniqueness.
- Development processes must incorporate transparency and accountability.

Safeguard Policy Update

- Enhance effectiveness of ADB policies on environment, IR and IP, and ensure relevance to changing client needs and new lending modalities and instruments.
- Articulate safeguard requirements more clearly to improve coherence and consistency of the safeguard policies.
- Identify mechanisms for approaches focused more on results during implementation.
- Enhance flexibility in policy application to better match lending modalities & capacities in DMCs.
- Identify internal process & resource allocation improvements.
- Undertake a consultative process with stakeholders.

Conclusion

- Implementation of the ADB Policy on IP will not be possible without effective participation and engagement of IP themselves in the preparation, implementation and monitoring of ADB projects and programs.
- ADB will continue to support efforts to ensure that its projects will bring benefit to IP and negative impact will be mitigated.
- Please visit the IP website
<http://www.adb.org/IndigenousPeoples/>