

ADB Safeguard Policy Review and Update: Phase 2 Regional Consultations on Gender and Safeguards



Description

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) is conducting a comprehensive review and update of the 2009 Safeguard Policy Statement (SPS, or the policy). Stakeholder engagement is a critical element in the update process and will be guided by a [Stakeholder Engagement Plan](#) (SEP). The SPS review and update will be implemented over three phases. Phase 1 was recently concluded with initial stakeholder outreach. During the second phase, ADB will conduct a series of stakeholder consultations based on key analytical studies, and their implications on policy revision. The final stage of consultations will seek to solicit comments on the working paper for revision and finalization of the safeguard policy.

A series of consultations on key thematic areas related to environmental and social safeguards will be conducted. Based on feedback from these consultations, subsequent country-level dialogues and focus group discussions on key technical areas will be conducted.

Regional consultations on Gender and Safeguards

ADB's Strategy 2030's operational plan for priority two on accelerating gender equality makes specific reference to strengthening gender elements in social safeguards and core labor standards, as well as addressing risks of sexual exploitation, abuse and harassment (SEAH) in ADB-financed projects. These consultations aim to share preliminary findings from a benchmarking study on Gender and Safeguards which looked at how comparator multilateral financial institutions (MFIs) are addressing gender issues in their respective safeguard frameworks.

Stakeholders are encouraged to share their insights and experiences to help ADB understand where there are potential gaps and convergences in this area, and where it needs to go further in meeting evolving safeguards needs. Feedback received during the consultations will further inform recommendations of the analytical study on gender and safeguards and linkages to the intersectional safeguards needs of women within other potentially vulnerable groups.

Purpose

The objective of these consultations is to obtain a better understanding of the views of stakeholders on ADB's gender and safeguards implementation challenges, good practices and recommended future policy directions.

Target Participants

The regional consultations will involve governments, civil society organizations and other non-government stakeholders.

For more information and comments, contact the Sustainable Development and Climate Change Department, Asian Development Bank at:

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