



THE UPDATE



THE WORLD BANK INSPECTION PANEL NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 06

APRIL 2013

Welcome to the 6th Edition of the Inspection Panel Newsletter which provides an update on recent cases the Panel has worked on, other news and developments around the Panel, and gives a heads-up on upcoming events. In the introductory Message from the Chair, we touch upon a topical issue of today's debate on development: risk and accountability in development projects. We hope you find this Update useful and we shall appreciate your feedback.

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MESSAGE FROM THE INSPECTION PANEL CHAIR



Alf Jerve
Chair of the Inspection Panel

RISK AND ACCOUNTABILITY: WHAT ROLE FOR THE INSPECTION PANEL?

ment work, and that the Bank needs to be able to take the risks that go along with innovation, and venture into challenging circumstances where risks and potential rewards may be high. Effective safeguard policies provide means to identify and manage risks, which at times may slow down speed and rightly so. At the same time, citizen-driven accountability helps to enable risk-taking by providing a safety net for affected people in the event that risks materialize.

The Bank wants to speed up. To meet the needs of clients and find new solutions to development challenges its appetite for taking risks must change. Accountability mechanisms, like the Inspection Panel, are often accused of causing staff to become risk averse – of slowing down the speed. The Panel has been set up to give people affected by Bank-supported projects an avenue for raising their concerns, knowing that the complaint will be handled by a body independent of those who manage the project. We call it citizen-driven accountability. Does this slow down speed or does it allow for speeding up because it improves the braking system? Fast cars need good brakes.

The answer is not simply one or the other. The Panel has stated on several occasions that it recognizes risk-taking is an essential part of develop-

ment work. This also protects the reputation of the Bank.

The Panel recognizes the challenges faced by the Bank in its operations. Compliance with policies is not just black or white. In its reports, the Panel gives credit to the institution where due, highlights the challenges it faces, and puts on record statements of appreciation by affected people and communities for positive efforts and engagement of the Bank. The Panel also recognizes that both the Bank and its borrowers have changed since the creation of the Panel in 1993. A possible causal relation between the Bank's application of its policies and adverse impacts on people or the environment, which is the underlying premise of a Panel investigation, is less obvious in the emerging context of more programmatic loans, more co-financing with other donors, and a greater share of financing from the client country. Risks for affected people and the environment, however, remain. The Panel is one of the main pillars of accountability for the Bank in the context of such risks. How to ensure the continued role of citizen-driven accountability in light of evolving operational models built on enhanced partnerships and leveraging of resources is an important part of the risk management discourse.

ABOUT THE PANEL:

The Inspection Panel is an independent complaints mechanism for people who believe that they have been, or are likely to be, adversely affected by a World Bank-funded project. The Panel provides for accountability through assessment of Bank's compliance with operational policies. The process is designed to provide redress to affected people and address issues of policy non-compliance and harm. For more, visit: www.inspectionpanel.org



UPDATE ON CASES

CASES SINCE JULY 2012

Since July 1, 2012, the Inspection Panel has worked on 8 cases relating to the following projects:

- ⇒ Kenya Energy Sector Recovery Project
- ⇒ India Improving Rural Livelihoods through Carbon Sequestration Project
- ⇒ India Vishnugad Pipalkoti Hydro Electric Project
- ⇒ Ethiopia Promoting Basic Services Program
- ⇒ Afghanistan Sustainable Development of Natural Resources Project
- ⇒ Kenya Natural Resource Management Project
- ⇒ Egypt Giza North Power Project
- ⇒ Lebanon Greater Beirut Water Supply Project

For cases the Panel worked on before July 2012, please check our [Annual Report 2011-2012](http://www.inspectionpanel.org) at: www.inspectionpanel.org

The Panel was set up to give people affected by Bank-supported projects an avenue for raising their concerns, knowing that the complaint will be handled by a body independent of those who manage the project...

KENYA ENERGY SECTOR RECOVERY PROJECT



On May 10, 2012, the Panel received a Request for Inspection related to the Kenya Energy Sector Recovery Project. The Request was sent by Mr. Peter Usher on behalf of the Njumbi Road Residents' Association in Nairobi, Kenya. The Requesters listed a number of potential harms and policy non-compliance issues relating to the design, construction and opera-

tion of an electric power substation located in Lavington, Nairobi. They claimed that the substation was illegal, environmentally unsound and posed a danger to the health and security of the people living near it. On June 25, 2012, Management submitted its Response to the Request for Inspection. Management noted that mitigation and safety measures addressed appropriately the Requesters' concerns.

Management considered that development in urban environment, while serving the entire community, may adversely impact some residents more than others.

The Panel undertook a site visit and met with all stakeholders. On July 25, 2012, the Panel submitted its Report to the Board of Executive Directors, in which it did not recommend an investigation. It noted that the Requesters were mainly concerned with the legitimacy of the process that led to the siting and construction of the substation and that they were seeking its removal and consideration of alternative sites. The Panel noted that the issue of conformity with national laws and regulations of the process leading up to the siting and construction of the Lavington substation was subject to an ongoing process at the National Environmental Tribunal. The Panel also noted that Management recognized

certain shortcomings in relation to the process that led to the siting and construction of the substation and made a number of commitments to address some of the potential impacts of the substation.

The Board approved the Panel's Recommendation on August 6, 2012. Reports and further information are available [here](#).

Subsequently, on March 8, 2013, Mr. Peter Usher informed the Panel that the National Environmental Tribunal ruled in favor of the Njumbi Road Residents' Association and ordered the revocation of the environmental license for the substation and directed its relocation to a suitable location.



INDIA IMPROVING RURAL LIVELIHOODS THROUGH CARBON SEQUESTRATION PROJECT

On April 23, 2012, the Panel received a Request for Inspection related to the India Improving Rural Livelihoods through Carbon Sequestration Project, supported by the BioCarbon Fund. Farmers, many of them belonging to Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes from districts in the states of Orissa and Andhra Pradesh, submitted the Request.

The Project, supported by the BioCarbon Fund, provides for participating farmers to raise plantations of fast-growing species of trees with high rates of carbon sequestration (mainly Eucalyptus and Casuarina species) on fallow land on their property. Once trees are harvested – normally five years from planting and before seven years have passed – the farmers sell the timber to one of the project entities, J.K. Paper Limited paper company (JKPL) on a buy back guarantee. In addition, they receive revenue from selling the emission reductions by the plantations, through a second project entity, VEDA. This Project is officially registered under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Clean Development Mechanism (CDM, Registration No.4531).

The Request stated that, though farmers raised plantations on their degraded

lands since the Project beginning, the carbon revenue accrued by their plantations would only be given to farmers whose plantations were still standing at the time the Project's verification audit took place, while those who had to harvest and sell their trees before would not be receiving their share. According to the Request, delays in Project execution by the Bank delayed the verification activities and thus caused harm to some farmers by depriving them of their revenue.

Management in its Response to the Request dated September 18, 2012, noted that the Bank had promptly made the payments payable to the Project Entities required under the Project's legal agreement, following audits completed under the CDM framework rules. Project Entities were, in turn, responsible to pay the farmers their share of carbon revenue. Management indicated that it had transferred the carbon revenue to the escrow account held by the two entities in April 2012, but the entities had yet to release the payments to the farmers.

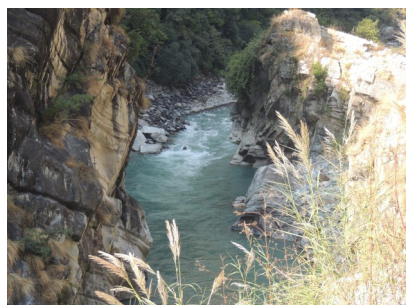
The Panel reviewed the Request and Management Response, and relevant documents related to the CDM Framework. It also traveled to India to meet with, and listen to, farmers who submitted the Request, the Project entities and Bank



staff in the New Delhi country office. The Panel determined in its Report and Recommendation that there were no indications of likely policy non-compliance on the part of Management with regard to the payment of carbon revenue being withheld from the farmers. The Panel understood that the funds were transferred into the escrow account without delay in April 2012. The Panel verified that Management communicated and followed up with the Project Entities to expedite the payment to the farmers.

Following the Panel's visit and the Report and Recommendation, and additional communications with the Bank, the Project Entities paid each farmer his/her own share of the carbon revenue accrued by participating in the Project. Reports and further information are available [here](#).

INDIA VISHNUGAD PIPALKOTI HYDRO ELECTRIC PROJECT



On July 23, 2012, the Inspection Panel received a Request for Inspection concerning the Vishnugad Pipalkoti Hydro Electric Project in India. The Request was sent by some residents of Uttarakhand state and

raised several social, cultural and environmental concerns, and related issues of compliance with Bank policies and procedures. In particular, it raised issues related to religious and cultural concerns, impacts of the Project on water sources, loss of biodiversity and other environmental harms, impacts on livelihoods, health, economic issues, and gender concerns. Requesters also claimed lack of transparency and consultations and absence of adequate studies in the Project.

World Bank Management submitted its Response to the Request on October 24, 2012 and the Panel visited the Project area in November 2012.

The Panel issued its Report and Recommendation to the Board of Executive Directors on November 26, 2012, in which it recommended that the matters raised in the Request be investigated.

The recommendation was approved by the Board of Executive Directors. The Board decided that the investigation would be effective as of March 15, 2013. Documents relevant to the Request for Inspection will be disclosed after March 15, 2013. The Panel is presently in the investigation phase of its process. Reports and further information are available [here](#).



ETHIOPIA PROMOTING BASIC SERVICES PROGRAM



On September 24, 2012, the Panel received a Request for Inspection related to the Ethiopia Protection of Basic Services (PBS) Phase II Project Additional Financing and to the Promoting Basic Services Phase III Project, which form part of the Protection of Basic Services Program (PBS). The Request was submitted by two local representatives on behalf of 26 Anuak people from the Gambella region of Ethiopia, who currently live in different refugee camps outside of Ethiopia. The local representatives and the Requesters asked the Panel

to keep their identities confidential because of serious concerns about their personal security and that of relatives in Ethiopia. The PBS's objective is to contribute to expanding access and improving the quality of basic services delivered by local governments in five sectors – education, health, agriculture, water supply and sanitation, and rural roads – while continuing to deepen transparency and local accountability in service delivery. PBS provides for Basic Service Block Grants for recurrent

expenditures (salaries, operations and maintenance) in the five basic service sectors, which are disbursed from the federal level to the regions and from the regions to the woredas (districts).

The Request states that the Requesters have been harmed by the Bank-supported PBS Program as a result of World Bank's non-compliance with its policies and procedures because, in their view, the PBS Program is contributing directly to the Ethiopian Government's Villagization Program (VP) in the Gambella Region, launched in 2010. The Request states that under the VP, Anuak people are being forced to leave their ancestral lands under mass evictions with the pretext of providing better services and improving the livelihoods of communities. In reality, they claim, in the new sites where they were forcibly moved, the Requesters found infertile land, and no schools, clinics or other basic

services. The Request adds that Government workers whose salaries are paid under PBS have implemented the VP. It adds that some of these workers opposed the implementation of the VP and, as a result, they have been the targets of arrests, beating, torture and killing.

Management submitted its Response to the Request on November 19, 2012. The Panel has reviewed the Request and Management Response, and carried out its eligibility field visit.

The Panel has issued its Report and Recommendation, which is not public at this stage. A Board discussion of the Panel Report and Recommendation has been requested. The Report will be made public after the Board meeting.

Further information is available [here](#).

AFGHANISTAN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES PROJECT

On December 3 and 6, 2012, the Panel received two Requests for Inspection related to the Sustainable Development of Natural Resources Project in Afghanistan. The Panel registered both requests on January 4, 2013, and is processing them jointly. The first was sent by an affected community member residing in the Mes Aynak area of Logar Province and the second by the Kabul office of the Alliance for the Restoration of Cultural Heritage (ARCH). The Requests were sent on behalf of affected community members. Both sets of Requesters asked for confidentiality.

The Requests listed a number of concerns related to the planned mining of copper deposits in the area. These concerns related to: the adequacy of environmental and social assessments; the quality of the disclosure of information and consultations; the preservation of the Mes Aynak cultural heritage site; water depletion, pollution, and impacts on agriculture; the involuntary resettlement and livelihood restoration; and the vulnerability of the Kuchis indigenous minority. The Management Response was received on February 8, 2013. At the time of the issuance of this newsletter, the Panel team has just finalized a site visit. Further information is available [here](#).



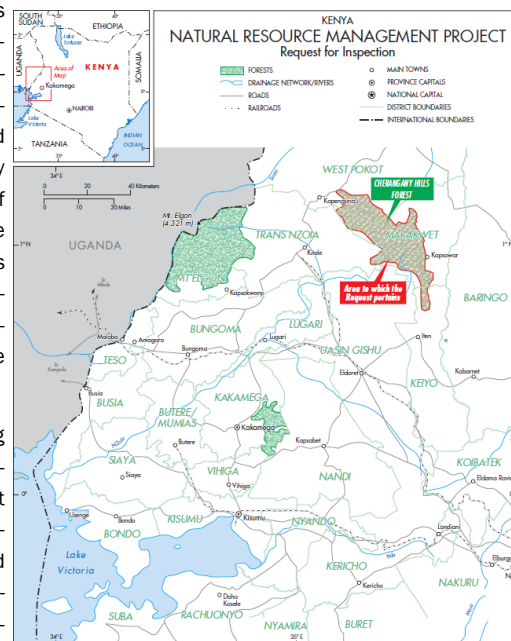


KENYA NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PROJECT

The Request to the Panel was sent on January 14, 2013 by people from Sengwer communities who “live and represent others who live” in the four areas of the Cherangani Hills in the western highlands of Kenya, namely the Kapolet Forest (in Trans-Nzoia District), Talau and Kaiapos (in West Pokot District), and Empopot Forest (in Marakwet District). The Requesters have asked for confidentiality. The original Project’s development objective was defined as: enhance “institutional capacity to manage water and forest resources, reduce the incidence and severity of water shocks such as drought, floods and water shortage in river catchments and improve the livelihoods of communities participating in the co-management of water and forest resources.” The Project was later restructured and objectives changed to: improve the management of water and forest resources in selected districts. The Management of Forest Resources component provides for realigning and demarcating boundaries in selected gazetted forests; supporting the effective implementation of the Resettlement Policy Framework; and developing and implementing Resettlement Action Plans. The restructuring included a focus on updating the safeguards instruments and improving their implementation to respond to the needs of Indigenous Peoples in the project

areas. An expressed concern of communities around the forests relates to land use and access issues. The project will make targeted contributions to these issues through the preparation of an updated Process Framework (PF) and its implementation under the Bank’s Involuntary Resettlement Policy, and the preparation of Indigenous Peoples Plans (IPPs) under the Bank’s Indigenous Peoples Policy. The Project as restructured will support preparation and implementation of what would be equivalent to Indigenous Peoples Plans, in Kenya, called Vulnerable and Marginalized Group Plans (VMGPs).

The Request raised many concerns including some relating to human rights violations committed against Sengwer communities. They do not feel that they are in an equitable and fair partnership; sharing the benefits of the Project; and being properly involved in decision-making processes and implementation activities. The Requesters claimed that their rights were violated because they are not being recognized as Indigenous Peoples, but as a Vulnerable and Marginalized Group. They argue that this decision was taken without carrying out free prior and informed consultations with them. They also argue that there are plans to resettle the Sengwer families living in Empopot Forest without carrying effective and efficient free prior and informed consultations.



Management submitted its Response to the Request on March 15, 2013. The Panel is currently reviewing the Request and Management Response, and is yet to undertake its visit to the project areas. Further information is available [here](#).

EGYPT GIZA NORTH POWER PROJECT

On February 21, 2013, the Inspection Panel received a Request for Inspection related to the Egypt Giza North Power Project (GNPP). The Request was submitted by the Egyptian Association for Collective Rights and seven other non-governmental organizations (NGOs) on their behalf and on behalf of 17 owners of agricultural holdings and 18 agricultural laborers and/or tenants belonging to the villages of Alqata and Abu Ghalib in the Imbaba area of Giza Governorate, who claim to be impacted by the Project.

The GNPP is a gas-fired power plant with several ancillary facilities. The Project was approved by the Board of Directors on June 8, 2010 and financed through a loan in the amount of \$600 million. Additional financing of \$240 million was approved on February 14, 2012. GNPP is a category A project.

The Requesters state they have experienced some Project-related impacts already, and fear additional impacts may arise as Project construction

progresses. The Requesters concerns relate to water availability for their crops and other impacts of the Project on their agricultural land, as well as concerns about resettlement, pollution, and transparency and consultation.

The Panel registered the Request on April 4, 2013 and Management’s response is expected on May 3, 2013.

Further information is available [here](#).



LEBANON GREATER BEIRUT WATER SUPPLY PROJECT

On November 4, 2010, the Panel received a Request for Inspection concerning the Greater Beirut Water Supply Project in Lebanon submitted by Mr. Fathi Chatila (the Requesters' Representative) on behalf of himself and 50 residents of the Greater Beirut area, who feared that alleged failures and omissions of the Bank in the design and preparation of the Project would likely cause them harm. The Project will supply drinking water to Beirut and main infrastructure includes a water conveyance tunnel and a water treatment plant. The main source of water is the Qaraoun Dam in the Bekaa Valley. The Requesters claimed that the raw water to be used by the Project is not fit as a source for potable water. With respect to the economic analysis, the Requesters stated that it is not clear whether the Project is the least costly option because, in their view, certain investment costs, including the cost of treating highly contaminated water, were not taken into consideration. The Request also argued that the Project, as designed, will deprive farmers in the south of Lebanon and/or the Upper Litani River Basin of water for irrigation. It was claimed that the Qaraoun Dam is not storing enough water to meet the demands for both the Project and irrigation schemes under development.

The Panel recommended that the Board authorize the Panel to carry out an investigation of some of

the matters raised in the Request for Inspection, namely issues of compliance and potential harm related to water quality, costs and water availability. In early February 2011, members of the Board requested a full Board discussion of the Panel's recommendation. This Board meeting took place on March 8 and 10, 2011. During the Board meeting, Management committed to study further the issues of water quality, water availability and Project costs. The Board of Directors determined that "acknowledging the legitimacy of the Requesters' concerns, the Board invited the Inspection Panel to return by July after considering and taking into account the analysis of the study commissioned by Management on the water quality, availability, and cost, in order to inform the Board on whether or not subsequent investigation is warranted, and if so, on its precise focus."

In June 2011, Management provided the Panel with the final reports of the three studies it had commissioned: an Independent Technical Review of Source Water Quality; an Independent Technical Review of Source Water Quantity and a Study of Project Cost Estimates, Financial and Economic Analyses. In July 29, 2011, the Panel issued its Report "Follow up to Board Decision of March 20, 2011" where it stated that in light of recent actions proposed by Management to address key issues and risks, as they were outlined in a Management Note, the Panel decided

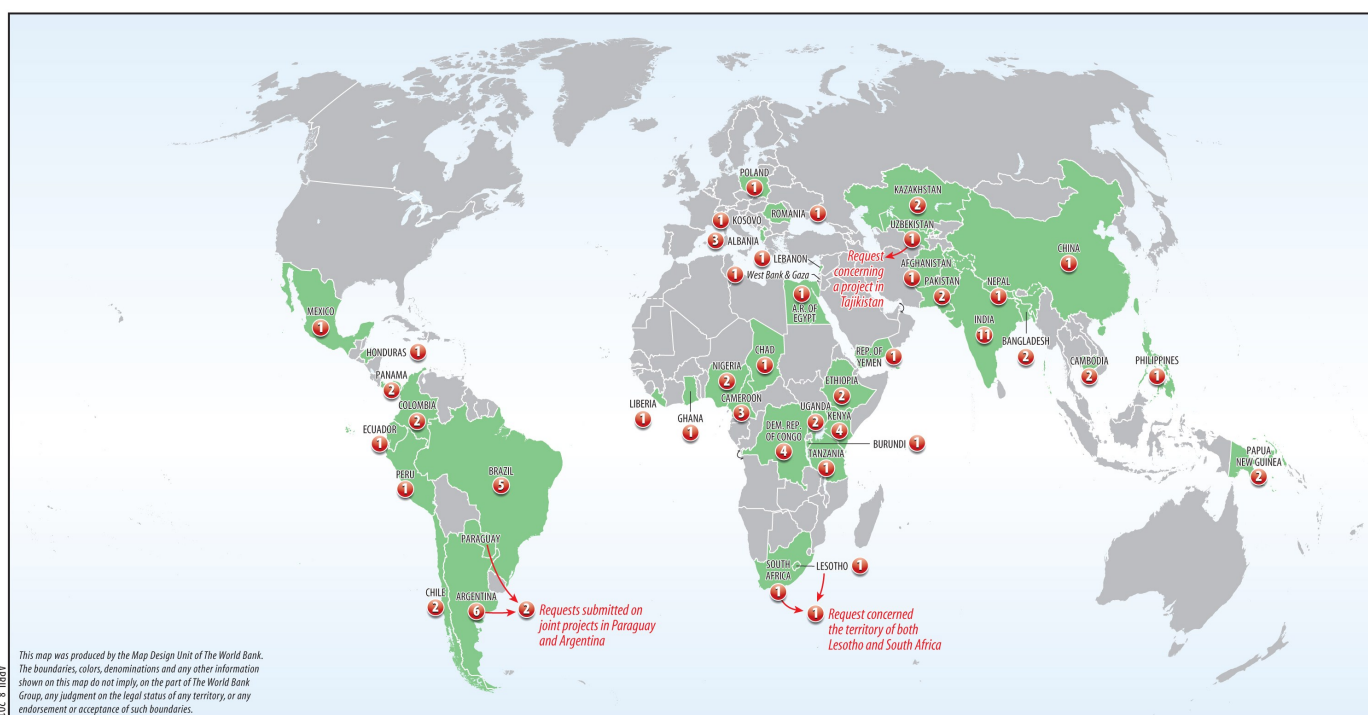


to await further developments before deciding on whether an investigation was warranted. The Panel decided to report to the Board by early 2013. Management submitted its Progress Report on the Implementation of Management's Action Plan in January 2013.

The Panel has issued its Final Report and Recommendation, which is at this stage under consideration by the Board. The Report will be made public after the Board consideration.

Further information is available [here](#).

MAP: GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION OF ALL REQUESTS FOR INSPECTION





NEWS AROUND THE PANEL

ZEINAB BASHIR EL BAKRI

NEW MEMBER OF THE INSPECTION PANEL



[Zeinab Bashir El Bakri](#) was appointed as a new Member of the Inspection Panel on September 1, 2012. She replaced Mr. Roberto Lenton, whose five-year term expired on August 31, 2012. Ms. El Bakri was selected to this position through an international competitive recruitment process.

Ms. El Bakri, a national of Sudan, brings to the Panel more than 20 years of development experience. She built a distinguished and broad career at the African Development Bank (AfDB), where her last position was Vice President of Operations from 2006 to 2009. In addition,

between 1991 and 2005, she served in a number of positions at AfDB spanning multiple regions of Africa; focusing on portfolios including social development, gender, agriculture and agro-industry, climate change and governance; and gained expertise in both policy development and operations. After leaving AfDB, she was appointed Director of the Delivery Unit for the Office of His Highness the Prime Minister of Kuwait, responsible for ensuring delivery of reform initiatives.

She holds a Ph.D. in Sociology & Anthropology from Hull University and received her M.A. and B.A. in Sociology from the American University in Cairo.

TESTING A MODEL FOR THE MOST SENIOR NON-CHAIR PANEL MEMBER TO SERVE FULL-TIME

Inspection Panel Member Eimi Watanabe joined the Panel office in Washington D.C. on a full-time basis on February 1, 2013 under a nine-month pilot to test a model of two Panel Members working full-time. Previously, only Chair of the Inspection Panel served full time while two other Panel Members were engaged based on operational needs. The test has been developed in consultation with the Committee on Development Effectiveness of the Board of Directors.

The intent of the pilot is to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of the Panel's work through more frequent and effective interactions with all stakeholders, increased due diligence at the early stages of the Panel process and reduced time for investigations. After the trial period, the Panel will evaluate the pilot and make further recommendations.

The Inspection Panel consists of three members who are appointed by the Board for nonrenewable periods of five years. As provided for in the Resolution that established the Panel, members are selected on the basis of their ability to deal thoroughly and fairly with the Requests brought to them, their integrity, their independence from Bank Management, and their exposure to developmental issues and to living conditions in developing countries.

The Panel is functionally independent of Bank Management, and reports solely to the Board. In addition, Panel members are prohibited from ever working for the Bank after their term ends.

EIMI WATANABE TO ASSUME THE RESPONSIBILITY OF CHAIR OF THE INSPECTION PANEL

Panel Members unanimously elected development. A Sociologist by training, Eimi Watanabe to serve as a Chair of she has been involved in a wide range of the Inspection Panel for one year substantive areas, both at the project from May 1, 2013. Ms. Watanabe and policy levels, including poverty reduction, gender, child health and nutrition, governance, capacity development, the environment, and migration. From 1998 to 2001, she served as Assistant Secretary General and Director of the UNDP's Bureau for Development Policy.

Mr. Jerve will then continue as a full-time Panel Member until October 31, 2013, when his five-year appointment expires.

[Eimi Watanabe](#) was appointed to the Inspection Panel in November 2009. A Japanese national, Eimi Watanabe has over 30 years of experience in

[Alf Jerve](#) joined the Panel in November 2008 and assumed the responsibility of Chair of the Inspection Panel on February 1, 2012. A national of Norway, Alf Jerve brings to the Panel close to three

decades of work in the field of development. As a Social Anthropologist by training, he has engaged in a wide range of development activities, including extensive field research in Africa and Asia. Among his assignments was a three-year posting to Tanzania with the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation as coordinator of a rural development program.





REVIEW OF PANEL OPERATING PROCEDURES

The Inspection Panel is undertaking a review and update of its Operating Procedures, which specify the Panel's operations and practice within the ambit of its mandate. An important goal of the review is to make the Panel process clearer and more user-friendly and accessible.

As a part of the initial review, the Panel conducted targeted consultations with Bank staff and Board members, and with various external stakeholders, such as former requesters, civil society organizations, representatives of other Independent Accountability Mechanisms, members of the academic community, former Panel members, and technical experts who have worked on the Panel investigations.

The objective of this initial consultation process was to identify areas where the Panel has the opportunity to enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of its operation in the years to come, within its existing mandate. The inputs received have addressed several issues, including:

- Improving public awareness of the Panel's availability as an accountability and recourse mechanism
- Enhanced due diligence at the registration phase of the Panel process
- Providing clarity of information and analysis in the eligibility phase of the process regarding the Panel's recommendation on whether an investigation is warranted

- Fostering opportunities for problem solving by Management and Requesters during the early stages of the Panel process
- Speeding up investigations
- Improving transparency and the involvement of Requesters in the process
- Promoting appropriate and effective interactions with the Board, governments, requesters, and Management throughout the Panel process
- Promoting corporate learning as a result of Panel investigations and work.

Currently, the Panel is engaged in a process of drafting the updated Operating Procedures, which will be shared for further consultation among all stakeholders.



OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

WORKSHOP ON 'ACCOUNTABILITY, INTEGRITY AND ANTI-CORRUPTION: THE AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK'S APPROACH', LOMÉ, TOGO

JULY 17-18, 2012

In July 2012, the Independent Recourse Mechanism of the African Development Bank invited the Panel to present its work and experience at a two-day workshop in Togo. The workshop was held under the title of "Accountability, Integrity and Anti-Corruption: The African Development Bank's Approach". The Panel Secretariat staff presented the Panel experience and

lessons learnt from its work as an example of a citizen-driven accountability mechanism available for people affected by projects, which the World Bank finances in part or in total. The Panel's work in Africa and its contribution to principles of citizen-driven accountability were extensively discussed at the workshop.

FIFTEENTH MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP OF THE PARTIES TO THE AARHUS CONVENTION, UNITED NATIONS, GENEVA

SEPTEMBER 3-5, 2012

In September 2012, at the invitation of the Aarhus Convention, the Panel took part at the fifteenth meeting of the Working Group of the Parties to the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters (Aarhus Convention). At the

meeting, Parties reaffirmed their binding commitment to promote the principles of the Convention in international forums and identified key areas, including new processes, for targeted action. Civil society urged Parties to contact their representatives of the boards of IFIs to make them

aware of their obligation to promote the Aarhus Convention's principles in IFI processes.

The Panel Deputy Executive Secretary Dilek Barlas participated in the meeting and shared the Panel experiences on access to information, transparency and consultations.

CIVICUS WORLD ASSEMBLY, MONTREAL, CANADA

SEPTEMBER 5-7, 2012



The Panel, jointly with Compliance Advisor Ombudsman (CAO) of the IFC and MIGA, took part at the Civicus World Assembly - the global event that brought together over 900 civil society organizations from throughout the world and generated lively discussions on how to attain more transparent and accountable global governance. The key theme of the World Assembly was 'Defining a New Social Contract - Making

the Future Together'. The Panel Secretariat staff presented at the Assembly session on 'Regional Institutions - an Inclusive Governance Framework: Failures, Possibilities, Solutions'. The Panel and CAO cohosted an information booth for Assembly participants.

INTERNATIONAL RIGHT TO KNOW DAY - TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY IN INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT BANKS, EU PARLIAMENT, BRUSSELS

SEPTEMBER 28, 2012

The Panel and other Independent Accountability Mechanisms at the International Finance Institutions took part in the *International Right to Know Day* at the European Union Parliament in Brussels. The event was organized by the European Ombudsman in cooperation with the Complaints Mechanism of the European Investment Bank. Alf Jerve, the Chair of the Inspection Panel presented at the session on the *role*

of Independent Accountability Mechanisms in ensuring accountability of International Financial Institutions.

The International Right to Know Day, celebrated each year on 28 September, was established in 2003 by access to information advocates from around the world.





SESSION ON 'CITIZEN-LED ACCOUNTABILITY AT THE WORLD BANK GROUP: EXPERIENCES OF INDEPENDENT RECOURSE MECHANISMS', WB-IMF ANNUAL MEETINGS, TOKYO, JAPAN OCTOBER 12, 2012

The Inspection Panel and Compliance Advisor Ombudsman of the IFC and MIGA (CAO) cohosted a session on '*Citizen-Led Accountability at the World Bank Group: Experiences of Independent Recourse Mechanisms*' at the World Bank-IMF Annual Meetings Civil Society Policy Forum in Tokyo in October 2012.

The session provided an overview of the Inspection Panel and CAO, and discussed their processes, trends and lessons learnt since their estab-

lishment. It stressed the key mission of these mechanisms that reflects the principle of citizen-driven accountability and their important goal of giving voice and right of recourse to people with respect to actions that affect them. The session also discussed that the primary goal of the mechanisms is to ensure compliance with the World Bank Group policies and procedures.

CONFERENCES ON DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL LAW

Panel Executive Secretary Peter Lallas took part in two conferences to discuss the topic of citizen-driven accountability in international development and the role of Independent Accountability Mechanisms. He made a presentation on the Inspection Panel and accountability at a session on *Independent Accountability in International Development: Perspectives from International Financial Institutions* organized by Society for International Development in Washington D.C. in October 2012. The event was

attended by a wide variety of experts in the field of international development. He was also an invited speaker at a panel session under the Annual Meetings of the American Society of International Law in April 2013 in Washington D.C., which brought together legal and other specialists from around the world on the theme of international law in a multi-polar world.

UPCOMING EVENTS

SESSION ON 'DEFINING THE BOUNDARIES OF A PROJECT: WHERE DOES BANK ACCOUNTABILITY STOP?' WB-IMF SPRING MEETINGS, WASHINGTON D.C. - APRIL 18, 2013

The Panel is hosting a session titled '*Defining the boundaries of a project: Where does Bank accountability stop?*' at the Civil Society Policy Forum of the Spring Meetings on April 18, 2013, from 9am to 10:30am. The session will focus on 'area of influence' and 'causal relationship or link' in the World Bank-funded projects that have been key issues in many Panel cases.

This session would be of particular interest to CSOs and other develop-

ment practitioners interested in issues of accountability of IFIs, and to those following the World Bank's operational policy reform.

To sign up for the session, please send us a note to: ipanel@worldbank.org

INSPECTION PANEL OPEN HOUSE - APRIL 17, 2013

As part of the World Bank-IMF Spring Meetings 2013, the Inspection Panel is organizing its traditional Open House. Come and meet the Panel Members and staff of its Secretariat, learn how the Panel works and exchange views with us.

Date and Time: April 17 2013, 5:30pm - 7:00pm

Location: World Bank's Main Building - 1818 H Str, NW, Washington DC 20433, MC 10-512 (Inspection Panel Office)

* *Refreshments will be served.*

If you need an access pass to the building to attend the Open House, please send us a note to: ipanel@worldbank.org

GLOBAL LAND FORUM 2013: INCLUSIVE AND SUSTAINABLE TERRITORIAL GOVERNANCE FOR FOOD SECURITY

ANTIGUA, GUATEMALA – APRIL 23-26, 2013

The Panel Secretariat staff will participate at the *Global Land Forum 2013 on Inclusive and Sustainable Territorial Governance for Food Security* in Antigua, Guatemala, and will be a part of the panel at the session on *Transparency, Accountability and Open Development on Land*. The Inspection Panel experience on land issues will also be shared at the Forum's Marketplace of Ideas.

TENTH ANNUAL MEETING OF INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTABILITY MECHANISMS

WASHINGTON D.C. – SEPTEMBER 25-27, 2013

In September 2013, the Inspection Panel will host the Tenth Annual Meeting of Independent Accountability Mechanisms at International Financial Institutions.

On September 27, the Panel will organize a public event to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the Inspection Panel and 10th anniversary of the Network of Independent Accountability Mechanisms at International Financial Institutions. It will highlight and mark the World Bank's pioneering approach and contribution to citizen-driven accountability in international development cooperation. The institution of such a mechanism has since been followed by other IFIs, which later set up their accountability mecha-

nisms, including the Asian Development Bank, African Development Bank, Inter-American Development Bank, European Investment Bank, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, Japan Bank for International Cooperation and others. Ten years ago, on the initiative of the Inspection Panel, these mechanisms have formed a network.

The event will be open to public and will be targeted at civil society organizations, think tanks and academia focusing on conflict resolution and grievance redress in international development, private sector and trade unions, and staff and the Board of the World Bank and other IFIs based in Washington D.C.

To sign up for the event, please send us a note to: ipanel@worldbank.org

Check our website for more:
www.inspectionpanel.org

We are now on Facebook !



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