



The Inspection Panel

THE WORLD BANK
IBRD • IDA | WORLD BANK GROUP

Accountability Matters



INSPECTION PANEL NEWSLETTER

April 2015

HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS ISSUE

PARAGUAY PILOT

The Pilot Program was successfully completed after we verified that consultation and participation was restored in project implementation.

ETHIOPIA SERVICES

After the Panel concluded its investigation of the project, Bank management proposed measures to address livelihood challenges of the *Anuak* peoples.

KENYA GEOTHERMAL

Panel team just completed a visit to the Hells Gate National Park in the Rift Valley to investigate complaints made by four *Maasai* communities.

SPRING MEETING

The Panel is organizing three events during the Spring Meetings between April 15–17 to discuss the value of accountability for development.

ABOUT THE PANEL:

The Inspection Panel is an independent complaints mechanism for people and communities who believe that they have been, or are likely to be, adversely affected by a World Bank-funded project. The Board of Executive Directors created the Inspection Panel in 1993 to ensure that people have access to an independent body to express their concerns and seek recourse.

For more information see: www.inspectionpanel.org

PARAGUAY PILOT CONCLUDED



The Inspection Panel successfully concluded its second Pilot to Support Early Solutions, applied to the Bank's "Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development Project" (PRODERS) in Paraguay. The Request for Inspection was submitted in July 2014 by leaders of two indigenous organizations in the Departments of *San Pedro* and *Caaguazú*, claiming that the consultation and participation of indigenous people in the Project was no longer possible due to a lack of logistical support. Following the Requesters' and Bank Management's agreement to proceed with this case under the Pilot approach, the Panel decided to postpone its decision on registration and to allow the implementation of an Action Plan developed by the Bank to restore consultation and participation. The Requesters and Management informed the Panel in March 2015 that an NGO had been hired as a service provider for the indigenous communities and that consultations and participation activities were back on track. After visiting Paraguay and meeting with the Requesters, the Panel verified the successful implementation of the Action Plan and the satisfaction of the Requesters with the resumption of services. The Panel thus issued a Notice of Non-Registration. [More](#)

UPDATE ON ACTIVE CASES

Basic Services—ETHIOPIA

The Panel concluded its investigation on the "Ethiopia: Promoting Basic Services Phase III Project", requested by *Anuak* Indigenous Peoples from the state of Gambella. Bank Management has proposed measures to address the many livelihoods challenges of *Gambella* people described in the Panel's report. These measures include support for small holders farmers, improving quality of basic services and alleviating hunger, and strengthening of Bank's work to improve prospects of refugees and people living in borderland areas. Management is implementing these actions and will update on their progress over the coming 12 months. [More](#)



Geothermal Expansion—KENYA



Members of four *Maasai* villages affected by the Project submitted a Request raising concerns about impacts of the Project's geothermal generation expansion component, implemented in the Hells Gate Park in the Rift Valley. The Panel determined the eligibility of the Request and recommended an investigation focusing on resettlement related issues, including land titling, identification and impacts on Project Affected People (PAPs), livelihood restoration measures, and grievance mechanism. The Panel is currently carrying out the investigation and is coordinating its efforts with the Complaints Mechanism of the European Investment Bank, which received similar complaints on the project. [More](#)

Power Development—NEPAL

Over 100 indigenous and non-indigenous families submitted a Request stating that their homes, lands, and livelihoods had been affected by the installation of an electric transmission line. Their concerns revolved around problems related to resettlement, health impacts, consultation and disclosure, cultural impacts, and grievance redress. The Panel submitted its Investigation Report to the Board of Executive Directors on February 12, 2015, and Management's Report and Recommendation was received on March 30, 2015. The Panel is awaiting the Board meeting where these two reports will be considered, and the Board will decide whether to approve Management's action plan. [More](#)



RECENT REQUESTS

Mining Infrastructure—MONGOLIA

The Panel registered a Request on a project assisting the Mongolian government to study the feasibility of the *Shuren* Dam and the *Orkhon Gobi* Water Diversion projects which, the Requesters believe, may have very severe impacts on communities in Mongolia and Russia and Russia's Lake Baikal, a world heritage site. [More](#)

Mining Policy—HAITI

A Request raising concerns that safeguard policies were not followed in providing assistance to the Government for drafting mining legislation was not registered because Bank operational policies do not apply to the specific trust fund financing the project. The Panel did, however, make observations on the policy framework applicable to Bank's technical assistance. [More](#)

Road Upgrading—UGANDA

Members of a local community in *Kamwenge* District sent a complaint about lack of participation, inadequate compensation, and increase of criminality related to a nearby road upgrading project. The Panel's decision on registration is pending since the Requesters did not meet the eligibility criteria of taking their concerns to Bank Management before filing the complaint. [More](#)

CLOSED CASES

Rural Enterprises—UZBEKISTAN

The Request concerned the use of child and adult forced labor in cotton harvesting. After a one-year deferral of its recommendation, the Panel decided not to recommend an investigation given promising progress in the dialogue with the Government, ongoing efforts to eradicate such practices, and Bank commitment to third party monitoring. [More](#)

Natural Resources—KENYA

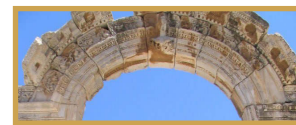
The Panel's investigation on the complaint of the *Cherangany-Sengwer* Indigenous Peoples concerning the NRMP Project was completed in September 2014. Corrective steps proposed by Bank management included a recently held consultation process undertaken by the government to hear the views of the Requesters on the issue of ancestral land rights. [More](#)

* For information on other Requests and cases see [website](#).

BLOGS

Strengthened Accountability In A Changing World

Gonzalo Castro de la Mata



Gonzalo argues in his [blog](#) that the complexity and challenges of accountability have increased dramatically since the Panel was established 20 years ago. Within this context, the Panel defines successful accountability as the process in which redress is provided to people that have suffered harm. He cites a successfully concluded case in Paraguay where the Panel used the Pilot for Early Solutions to address the complaint brought by indigenous peoples about their lack of participation in a large agricultural production project financed by the Bank. Due to the willingness of the requesters, Bank management, and the Inspection Panel to work together they were able to improve participation. While accountability was well served in this case, Gonzalo reiterates that the Panel will continue to use investigations when warranted.

PANEL NEWS

New Panel Member Appointed



Jan Mattsson became Member of the Inspection Panel on 17 November 2014. A Swedish national, he brings to the Panel over three decades of development experience in the public and private sectors, as well as academia. [Bio](#) Jan undertook his first Panel visit in March visiting Maasai communities in the Hells Gate National Park in the Rift Valley, Kenya.

See [Blog](#) on his impressions of the trip and details on the case.

New Format for Panel Newsletter

The Panel has introduced a new format and frequency for its newsletter which provides regular updates on new and ongoing cases. The new format is shorter and web-based, and will be sent out quarterly.

Barney Frank Book Launch

The Inspection Panel co-sponsored the launch of retired Congressman Barney Frank's book *Frank* on March 15th in appreciation for the strategic role he played in helping to establish the Panel 20 years ago. [More](#)

EVENTS

SPRING MEETINGS

The Panel is organizing three events during the WBG/IMF Spring Meetings between April 15–17 to promote a discussion on the value of accountability for development.

- ◆ "Open House" at the Panel Offices (April 15).
- ◆ High level session titled "[Accountability for Better Development Outcomes: A Conversation with Government, Industry, and Civil Society](#)" (April 16).
- ◆ Civil Society Forum session "[Accountability Mechanisms and Indigenous Peoples Rights: Experiences from the Field](#)" (April 17).

See our [website](#) for locations and other meeting details.

URGEGWALD HUMAN RIGHTS CONFERENCE

Panel Chairman, Gonzalo Castro de la Mata, attended the "IFIs, Human Rights and Accountability" Conference hosted by [Urgewald](#) and held in Berlin on March 16-17.



CONTACT US

The Inspection Panel

1818 H STREET NW,
MAIL STOP: MC10-1007
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20433,
U.S.A.

TEL: +1 202 458 5200
FAX: +1 202 522 0916

EMAIL: ipanel@worldbank.org

WEBSITE: www.inspectionpanel.org



10/05/2014 07:32