

REPRISALS

And why is it important to identify them

Contextual risks may involve situations such as pre-existing conditions of fragility, vulnerability or social exclusion of some groups, a history of human rights abuses, or weak governance such as high levels of corruption. These conditions exist prior to the project, and the client is not responsible for them.

Reprisals can take many forms



Verbal intimidation and threats

Surveillance & Digital surveillance

Property damage or loss

Restrictions to freedom of movement

Discrimination relating to employment

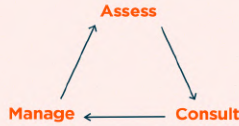
Legal harassment and lawsuits

Physical attacks



"IDB Invest does not tolerate retaliation, such as threats, intimidation, harassment, or violence, against those who voice their opinion or opposition to IDB Invest financed projects. IDB Invest takes seriously any credible allegations of reprisals. When complaints of this nature are raised, IDB Invest aims to address them within the scope of its mandate. In such instances, concerns are raised directly with the client and/or other relevant party and follow up action is taken, if necessary".

Understanding Environmental and Social Risk Factors



The private sector has an important role in understanding the risks faced by stakeholders that speak out and in creating safe spaces in which they can express their concerns.

Key steps for screening, preventing, and responding to reprisals against project stakeholders

SCREEN



1 Make a commitment to zero tolerance.

2 Identify, assess, and monitor reprisal risk factors.

PREVENT



3 Raise awareness and build staff capacity on reprisal risk.

4 Communicate and engage with stakeholders on zero-tolerance commitment.

5 Adopt an open, transparent, and inclusive approach with stakeholders.

6 Address risks to participants during consultation processes.

7 Scale up consultations with project stakeholders where reprisal risks are significant.

8 Account for reprisal risks in the project grievance mechanism.

RESPOND



9 Have protocols for incident response and proactive resolution in place.

10 Protect confidentiality of complainant identity and information.