Engaging with Communities and other stakeholders

IDB Invest promotes open, transparent and inclusive engagement between the client and stakeholders, particularly affected communities, as a key element to enhance the environmental and social sustainability of investments.

**WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO BUILD A MEANINGFUL STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT?**

1. **It is the basis for constructive relationships** with local communities and other groups who may be affected by a project, or have an interest in it.
2. **It helps in vulnerable groups identification** specially those disproportionately affected by the project.
3. **It is an essential information tool** about local knowledge and perspectives that should be considered in the project.
4. **It addresses grievance and concerns** it must be able to seek remedy from the client if they feel the project may cause harm to them or the environment.

**PRINCIPLES THAT EVERY PROJECT SHOULD FOLLOW**

1. **It should be an ongoing process** This should be undertaken as a process both during project preparation and implementation, rather than one or a few isolated events.
2. **It should be based on a disaggregated analysis** This analysis must ensure that different categories of stakeholders are represented and involved.
3. **It should be free of reprisals** Participants, including those who voice opposition to the project, should be protected against reprisals, coercion or intimidation.
4. **It should be inclusive at all stages** It must ensure that all relevant perspectives are captured and considered.
5. **It should be transparent** With documentation and public disclosure of how stakeholders are engaged, what their views and concerns are, and how stakeholder perspectives are considered and reflected.
6. **It should be equitable for all** It must ensure that all vulnerable groups among stakeholders are given a voice and are not disproportionately impacted by the project.
7. **It should provide prior and understandable information** About relevant aspects of the project, in a language, format, and manner that is appropriate, clear, and accessible.
8. **It should address grievance and concerns** Participants, including those who voice opposition to the project, should be protected against reprisals, coercion or intimidation.

**KEY VALUES**

- PARTICIPATION
- DIALOGUE
- PROTECTION
- TRANSPARENCY
- INCLUSION

Learn more: Go to idbinvest.org/en/sustainability