

**STRENGTHENING WORLD BANK GROUP  
ENGAGEMENT ON GOVERNANCE AND ANTICORRUPTION  
CONSULTATION FEEDBACK**



**WASHINGTON DC –SOCIETY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT (SID)**

(DECEMBER 13, 2006)

**Participants:** Approximately 60 participants attended--mixed constituency, including participants from academia, civil society, private sector, and US government agencies.

**What were the key issues/themes raised by participants?**

1. Civil society and media were seen as key interlocutors to promote good governance, and the Bank was encouraged to increase its partnership with these groups (enhance CSO funding and engagement mechanisms). In general, participants sought more information about how the Bank engages with groups (e.g. private sector) outside the non-executive branch of government.
2. Need for clarity on the definition of corruption and the scope of the Bank's governance work.
3. The GAC strategy should not penalize the poor; those living in poverty should not be penalized for the corrupt actions taken by the government and/or other individuals.
4. Need for clarity on how the GAC strategy addresses security concerns/issues.

<b>3. How the Bank should engage where governance is weak, and circumstances under which to disengage</b>	
Civil Society	The link between corruption and poverty is a viscous cycle (chicken and egg syndrome). Those living in poverty should not be penalized for the actions by government and/or other individuals. How does the Bank prioritize among the two?
<b>5. How to strengthen the Bank's work with champions of reform outside the executive branch of government – parliament, judiciary, civil society, media and the private sector</b>	
Civil Society/Government	Bank is correct to work with media and civil society groups. How does the Bank access non-executive branches of government, especially the private sector?
Civil Society	What is the role of the private sector in the strategy?
<b>7. The Bank's role vis-à-vis other donors in supporting governance reform</b>	
Government	How does the Bank view China's increased lending to the Africa region?
Civil Society	What is the relationship between the Bank and other IFIs/organizations who also work on governance issues?
<b>8. How to monitor progress in governance and anticorruption at the country level</b>	
Government	Does the Bank have the capacity to increase funding to civil society groups so that they can play a greater role in monitoring activities? The Bank should increase funding to CSOs. Are there specific guidelines the Bank must follow in terms of engaging with CSOs?
Civil Society	It must be costly and difficult for the Bank to carry out investigations. Doesn't enforcement eventually lie with the host country?
Civil Society	How does the Bank expect to promote good governance when the government itself is corrupt? Is the Bank ready to be aggressive where there is weak governance?
<b>9. Areas for improvement in GAC strategy and country-level support</b>	
Government	Does the strategy address the role of security in promoting good governance? In Africa?

Government	How does the Bank define corruption, and how broad is it?
Government	In general, participants sought more clarity on the scope of the Bank's mandate on governance.
Government	There is a robust debate on how to measure governance and corruption. What data set does the Bank use to measure governance and corruption? Are there concrete examples of how this information may shape an agreement with a particular country.
<b>10. Other key issues</b>	
Embassy Govt.	How does the Bank address the link between security/terrorism/governance?