

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



**UNITED STATES**

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**Participants:**

Beth Urbanas – U.S. Treasury Department  
Jamie Franco – U.S. Treasury Department  
Stephen Halloway – Inter American Development Bank  
Christopher Webster – U.S. State Department  
Maria Longi – Millennium Challenge Corporation  
Elizabeth Hart – U.S. Agency for International Development  
Nilmini Rubin – U.S. Senate (Senate Foreign Relations Committee)  
Jay Branegan – U.S. Senate (Senate Foreign Relations Committee)  
David Luna – U.S. Agency for International Development  
Steve Feldstein – U.S. State Department

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

- The work of INT and progress on debarring corrupt firms
- Engagement with civil society on governance and anti-corruption
- The Bank's internal discussions on GAC and its engagement strategy
- Relationship of GAC and incorporating indicators into newly developed CAS's
- Role of media in GAC strategy
- Demand for public financial accountability
- Capacity building to strengthen country systems and transparency in the Bank's selection of country systems

## Consultation Reply

### 3. How the Bank should engage where governance is weak, and circumstances under which to disengage

What is the Bank's strategy for engagement with civil society? Is it robust enough? What about the idea of establishing a grant window for civil society engagement in the Bank's GAC efforts? Recommend that the Bank promote knowledge management amongst key NGOs to promote engagement where governance is weak. Overall, how does Bank management weigh the costs of engaging vs. disengaging? What is the balance?

### 4. How to ensure fair and consistent treatment across countries

What is the Bank's standard in dealing with corruption in specific countries and sectors (cited the Kenya example)? Has the engagement been consistent and effective?

### 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

The Bank needs to take the independent media seriously. By creating open signals to both the government and the public that media coverage of fraud and corruption are taken seriously by the Bank, you are able to strengthen the role of the media in your GAC strategy.

### 6. How to mitigate fiduciary risk in Bank operations?

What is the demand for public financial accountability?

### 8. How to monitor progress in governance and anticorruption at the country level

How will the Bank incorporate indicators on governance, such as the Global Integrity Index, into the new CASs that are being developed?

### 10. Other key issues

Country Systems – the Bank needs to be transparent about when it decides to use country systems. They should make public the results of ESW and sector analysis work. It was also stated that capacity building will help strengthen country systems, and the emphasis must be to help build such capacity.