



SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT
The World Bank

Social Development at the World Bank Group

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Social Development at the World Bank

- Social development empowers people by creating more inclusive, cohesive and accountable institutions and societies.
- Poor people's own voices tell us that poverty is more than low income – it is also about vulnerability, exclusion and isolation, unaccountable institutions, and powerlessness.

Social Development response

- In the World Bank, social development ensures that programs responds to social context and priorities of poor people, thus making programs more equitable and sustainable – we put poor people first.
- We do this by working on four business lines
 - Social policy and social analysis
 - Community-driven development and local governance
 - Conflict and social cohesion
 - Social inclusion and safeguards
- We work on “mainstreaming” and manage our own programs
- Social Development at the World Bank managed an operational portfolio of \$7.7 billion in FY07. Across the Bank, Social Development has a network of over 150 social scientists and economists.

Current Social Development themes

1. Climate change
2. Infrastructure
3. Governance

1. Social aspects of climate change

- We focus on the social dimensions of vulnerability and adaptation to climate change, and the links between climate change and human security, conflict and migration.

2. Social aspects of infrastructure

- Improve people's access and promote social inclusion
- Mitigate adverse impacts and manage political and social risk (PSIA)
- Enhance the demand for good governance through voice and participation
- Promote inclusion of the most vulnerable and protect involuntarily displaced and Indigenous Peoples
- Improve the design of infrastructure operations in conflict affected and fragile states

3. Governance and Anti-corruption

- The Bank traditionally focused public sector reforms – *the supply-side of governance*
- Social Development has developed approaches that emphasize civic engagement – *the demand-side of governance*
 - Participation in service delivery (community development)
 - Social accountability (score cards, expenditure tracking, social audits, participatory budgeting)
 - Rights and local governance
 - Combining supply and demand sides at local level

Social Development facts

- According to an internal Bank evaluation, projects that addressed at least one social development theme were rated 3 to 4 percent higher on outcome, sustainability, and institutional development impact than the overall average of Bank projects for a 30-year period.
- Moreover, projects that addressed four or more social development themes had a 90 percent success rate, compared to just a 68 percent success rate for those that did not address these themes, and were significantly more likely to be sustainable and promote institutional development successfully.

Social Development in the Regions

■ AFRICA

Conflict and delivery in infrastructure, emerging work on social accountability

■ EAST ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

Local institutions and voice

■ EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA

Local and regional governance and development

■ LATIN AMERICA

Inclusion, and social accountability in DPLs

■ MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA:

Inclusion, especially in youth

■ SOUTH ASIA

Building the local state

Challenges for Social Development at the World Bank Group

- Social Development is a small group in a large network. This presents a great opportunity but there are also risks
- Social Development's own managed work is increasing. However, the demand for our services across sectors both inside the network and outside (eg, health and education) is also increasing
- Infrastructure portfolio tripled since 2003 to \$10 billion. The challenge is to ensure that these new investments are socially sustainable.

Challenges for Social Development at the World Bank Group

- This means doing business differently and going beyond social safeguards to include other key social development aspects:
 - Promote social inclusion
 - Manage political and social risk (PSIA)
 - Increase the demand for good governance
 - Improve operations in conflict affected and fragile states
- In projects, policies, and programs
- For the Bank and for the client countries