## THE INSPECTION PANEL

ANNUAL REPORT

JULY 1, 2017-JUNE 30, 2018





### FOREWORD BY THE CHAIR OF CODE

s the Inspection Panel prepares to mark 25 years since its creation by the Board of Executive Directors, it is worth noting the strong and long-lasting legacy it has built over the past quarter century.

No institution, including the World Bank, is perfect. Despite the best of intentions and practice, mistakes happen, and those mistakes can have serious, if unintended, consequences for communities and the environment.

In this regard, the presence of the Panel is comforting to the Board.

It provides us with a source of parallel information—of warning in some cases—about mistakes that need to be addressed. It provides all participants, Bank and borrower alike, an increased incentive to be watchful regarding risks. And it offers a learning opportunity for all stakeholders—Board, Bank management and staff, and the development community at large.

As someone now serving a second stint on the Board, I have seen the Inspection Panel evolve over time to address a broader range of issues. This evolution—demonstrated this year by new cases reflecting the rapidly changing nature of development—represents a positive trend.

That said, it is worth asking whether changes are needed in how the Panel operates.

The world evolves and, with it, the Bank and development work need to adapt as well.

For these reasons, as the fiscal year ends the Board is reviewing the functions of the Panel to ensure it has all the tools necessary to continue operating effectively as the World Bank's independent accountability mechanism to give voice to those unintentionally harmed by Bank-supported projects.

The goal of our effort is quite simple: To make sure the Inspection Panel's positive legacy continues to grow over the next 25 years.

**Otaviano Canuto** 

Chair

Committee on Development Effectiveness Board of Executive Directors

#### **MESSAGE FROM THE PANEL**

his has been another productive and effective year for the Panel, one that underscored the range and diversity of cases brought forward by people and communities seeking redress from harm resulting from the unintended adverse impacts of World Bank projects.

The important issue of gender-based violence (GBV), which the Panel first confronted in a 2015 case from Uganda, emerged again, this time in a Request for Inspection of a road project in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). The Panel's Investigation Report substantiated many of the Request's GBV allegations and identified the management of GBV risks as an area of continuous learning and action for the Bank.

The Panel also tackled land issues in a case from India and natural habitat issues in a case from Uganda, the latter case reviving issues the Panel first considered a decade ago.

In its role of promoting institutional learning at the World Bank, the Panel this year released the fourth report in its Emerging Lessons Series—on consultation, participation and disclosure of information. The series draws on the Panel's caseload over the last quarter century and aims to contribute to more effective and sustainable development. The Panel has been heartened by the response of stakeholders inside and outside of the Bank to these learning reports.

We were also pleased to support the publication of a book authored by two Requesters from a 2005 DRC forestry case, one that they consider as a starting point in the recognition of their rights as indigenous people in the country and the beginning of important development outcomes for their benefit.

The Panel expresses its appreciation to the Board of Executive Directors for its support of our work, and thanks World Bank Group President Jim Yong Kim and senior management and staff for their continued engagement. We are humbled by the trust that Requesters place in the Panel and the Panel process, and thank civil society and other stakeholders for their work to promote accountability. Finally, we are extremely grateful to the Secretariat staff for their professionalism and dedication.

The upcoming year will be an interesting and challenging one. The Panel will mark 25 years since its creation by the Board, and the World Bank will begin implementing its new Environmental and Social Framework. It is in that context that we look forward to continuing to partner with all stakeholders to give affected communities a voice in World Bank-supported activities.

Gonzalo Castro de la Mata Jan Mattsson Imrana Jalal

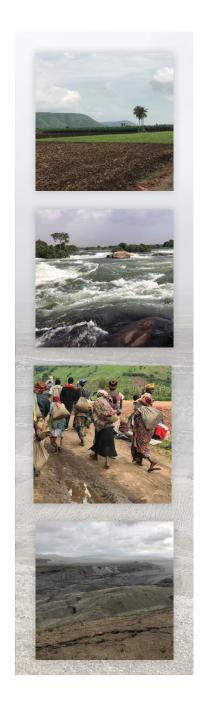


Inspection Panel members (from left to right): Gonzalo Castro de la Mata (chairman), Imrana Jalal and Jan Mattsson.

# THE INSPECTION PANEL

## ANNUAL REPORT

**JULY 1, 2017-JUNE 30, 2018** 







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#### PANEL DESCRIPTION

#### WHAT IS THE INSPECTION PANEL?

The Inspection Panel is an independent complaints mechanism for people and communities who believe that they have been, or are likely to be, adversely affected by a World Bank-funded project. The Bank's Board of Executive Directors created the Panel in 1993 to ensure that people have access to an independent body to express their concerns and seek recourse.

The Panel is an impartial fact-finding body, independent from the World Bank management and staff, reporting directly to the Board. Its process aims to promote accountability at the World Bank, give affected people a greater voice in activities supported by the World Bank that affect their rights and interests, and foster redress when warranted.

#### **HOW DOES THE INSPECTION PANEL WORK?**

In response to complaints from project-affected people, the Panel has a mandate to review projects funded by the World Bank through the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) and International Development Association (IDA). The Panel assesses allegations of harm to people or the environment and reviews whether the Bank followed its operational policies and procedures.

This often includes issues such as:

- Adverse effects on people and livelihoods as a consequence of displacement and resettlement related to infrastructure projects, such as dams, roads, pipelines, mines and landfills.
- Risks to people and the environment related to dam safety, use of pesticides and other indirect effects of investments.
- Risks to indigenous peoples, their culture, traditions, lands tenure and development rights.
- Adverse effects on physical cultural heritage, including sacred places.
- Adverse effects on natural habitats, including protected areas, such as wetlands, forests, and water bodies.

Complaints related to the projects supported by other agencies of the World Bank Group—the International Finance Corporation and Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency—are dealt with by the Office of the Compliance Advisor Ombudsman.

The Panel has produced two videos explaining its mandate and procedures to potentially affected communities and their representatives. Both can be found on the Panel website.

#### **HOW IS THE INSPECTION PANEL STRUCTURED?**

The Inspection Panel consists of three members appointed by the Board for a five-year non-renewable term. Members are selected on the basis of their ability to deal thoroughly and fairly with the complaints brought to them, their integrity and independence from Bank management, and their exposure to development issues and living conditions in developing countries.

In fiscal year 2018, Panel member Zeinab Bashir Elbakri completed her term and was succeeded in January 2018 by Imrana Jalal. The other two Panel members were Gonzalo Castro de la Mata (member since December 2013 and chairman since November 2014), and Jan Mattsson (member since November 2014).

The Panel also has a permanent Secretariat that provides operational, technical and logistical support to the chairman and Panel members, and assists the Panel in processing complaints, conducting investigations and responding to questions from potential complainants. It organizes outreach events and provides information about the Panel through publications and social media.

The Secretariat is currently headed by Executive Secretary Dilek Barlas, and, at the end of fiscal year 2018, consisted of Senior Operations Officer Reinett Erkan, Operations Officers Birgit Kuba and Tamara Milsztajn, Senior Communications Officer Rob Doherty, Senior Executive Assistant Oriana Bolvaran, Research Assistant Rupes Dalai, and consultant Lars Madsen.

The Panel hosts student interns each summer and welcomes others for temporary practical learning experiences. For its investigations, the Panel hires independent, internationally recognized experts to ensure objective and professional assessment of the issues under review.



(From left to right): Executive Secretary Dilek Barlas, Operations Officer Birgit Kuba, Consultant Lars Madsen, Panel Chairman Gonzalo Castro de la Mata, Senior Operations Officer Reinett Erkan, Panel Member Imrana Jalal, Senior Communications Officer Rob Doherty, Panel Member Jan Mattsson, Operations Officer Tamara Milsztajn, Research Assistant Rupes Dalai, Senior Executive Assistant Oriana Bolvaran.



# CASE SUMMARIES

The Panel received seven new Requests for Inspection and continued work on two additional cases in fiscal year 2018. Information on these cases is presented in summary fashion over the next several pages. Depending on the case, the following information is provided: Project Information, a description of the Request for Inspection, Bank management's response to the Request, the Panel's action in response to the Request, the Management Action Plan in response to a Panel investigation and the Board discussion or action. More detailed information on all of these cases can be found on the Panel's website.



## INVESTIGATIONS

# DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO (DRC): SECOND ADDITIONAL FINANCING FOR THE HIGH-PRIORITY ROADS REOPENING AND MAINTENANCE PROJECT

CASE NO. 120

#### THE REQUEST

An August 3, 2017, Request for Inspection from two community members living in Goma and its vicinity alleged harm from the Bukavu-Goma road works. The Request claimed a loss of property, loss of livelihoods, use of violence against the community, including gender-based violence (GBV), and a seizure of indigenous communities' resources as a result of the project's implementation. Specifically, it alleged that the Congolese Armed Forces engaged by the project's contractor to provide security had occupied a quarry that is operated by the Requesters and is their source of income and livelihood. The Requesters also claimed that there had been violence against the community and instances of sexual violence against women in the course of implementing project activities. They also contended that that young boys were employed by the contractor as daily laborers, and that the contractor confiscated a part of the workers' salaries. The Panel registered the case on September 13, 2017.

#### **MANAGEMENT RESPONSE**

In its October 20, 2017, response, management said that the contractor allegedly resorted to violence, using military personnel to seize construction material without compensation, but said the dispute had been resolved and the Requesters were compensated for their losses. Management said it took "the allegations of GBV very seriously" but, despite its best efforts, it had not been able to substantiate any GBV claims. Management said it also took the allegations of child labor very seriously, but it was not able to confirm any case of child labor employed by the project. Management noted that apart from the Requesters, other quarry owners and operators had not been properly compensated for the exploitation of their quarries and borrowing pits. However, according to management, all outstanding compensation had been paid and an audit had been commissioned to verify the payments. Management said it had agreed on an action plan with the borrower to address the concerns raised by

#### PROJECT INFORMATION

# Second Additional Financing for the High-Priority Roads Reopening and Maintenance Project (Pro-Routes)

Project No.: P153836 Region: Africa

IDA Grant Amount: US\$125 million equivalent Board Approval Date: February 18, 2016 Closing Date: February 28, 2019

The Second Additional Financing provides funding for the reopening of the three new road sections, including the Bukavu-Goma road (RN2), linking the North and South Kivu regions of the DRC. The project development objective is to "re-establish lasting road access between provincial capitals, districts and territories in the project implementation area in a way that is sustainable for the natural environment."



the Requesters, including those related to GBV, use of military personnel and working conditions.

On November 27, 2017, management submitted an update to its response to inform the Board and the Panel of developments and to summarize the actions the Bank would take immediately and planned to take over the subsequent few weeks. The update explained that management, during its fourth high-level mission to the project site after the Request was received, met with survivors of the alleged gender-based violence and accompanied them to a service provider for GBV support. Management also met with several government authorities to secure their commitment to prevent any form of retaliation against the complainants or victims of GBV. The update stated that "given the seriousness of the alleged harm and the shortcomings in the borrower's supervision and reporting mechanisms, management has suspended disbursements against all civil works components under the Second Additional Financing."

#### PANEL, MANAGEMENT AND BOARD ACTIONS

After visiting the project area, the Panel submitted its Report and Recommendation to the World Bank's Board of Executive Directors on November 21, 2017, confirming the eligibility of the Request and recommending an investigation. The Board approved the recommendation on December 8, 2017. On December 13, 2017, the Panel published its Investigation Plan. A Panel team traveled to the project area again from January 17 to 31, 2018, to conduct the investigation visit.

The Panel submitted its Investigation Report to the Board on April 27, 2018.

Management submitted its initial Report and Recommendation on June 14, 2018. The Board considered the Panel's Investigation Report on July 17, 2018, and asked Bank management to update its report and proposed action plan to better reflect the steps it had taken and planned to take to address the Panel's findings. Management submitted its revised report on August 27, 2018, and the Board approved the updated action plan on September 7, 2018.



#### PANEL INVESTIGATION REPORT

In its Investigation Report, the Panel acknowledged that the DRC's fragile and post-conflict context poses major project preparation and implementation challenges, and welcomed management's efforts to address the issues raised in the Request for Inspection after it was received. But the Panel verified most of the claims of harm in the Request and found several instances of Bank non-compliance with its policies and procedures related to environmental and social assessment, consultation and disclosure of information, involuntary resettlement, health and safety, grievance redress and supervision.

The Panel found that project preparation proceeded without seriously reviewing whether implementation systems were adequate, whether capacity constraints remained, and whether the risk profile had changed. Given the weak assessment of risks and their potential impacts, the Panel found that the proposed mitigation measures envisioned under the project were, in turn, inadequate. This was particularly true for the risks associated with the security situation. Since no security arrangement was designed for project implementation, no mitigation measures were put in place to manage social risks that could emerge from the use of military forces engaged by the contractor.

The Panel concluded that the project's environmental assessment process was based on weak stakeholder engagement. In particular, the Panel noted that the Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) was not operational prior to receipt of the Request and community members had no avenue to raise their concerns.

The Panel found exploitation of many quarries used for the project took place in the presence of military forces and without prior agreements and payments to the quarry operators and their workers. The Panel noted the importance of providing compensation to quarry operators and workers for their loss of incomes and livelihoods.

The Panel found that the project's Environmental and Social Impact Assessment did not identify any risks associated with violence against the community by the use of security forces. After receipt of the Request, however, management took several actions to address security issues, including ensuring the training and screening of military personnel and the reduction of the number of military personnel engaged by the project contractor.

The Panel noted that the absence of relevant Bank policy or guidelines on security arrangements presents a policy gap that may have contributed to harm. But it found that even in the absence of a specific policy, had management undertaken a robust risk analysis of the security situation in eastern DRC at the outset and kept itself informed about the situation on the ground through field-based supervision, harm relating to use of violence or intimidation could have been uncovered and mitigated earlier.

The Panel acknowledged that DRC ranks among the countries with the lowest gender equality indexes, and stated that the conflict in eastern DRC exacerbates this situation, placing women and girls at high risk of both domestic violence and GBV at the hands of state and non-state armed groups and other conflict actors.

During its investigation the Panel substantiated many GBV allegations. The Panel found many types of GBV related to the project including sexual harassment, sexual exploitation and abuse, and rape, experienced by both female workers inside the contractor's camp and by women and girls along the road. Some of the abuses of minors resulted in pregnancies.

The Panel found management in non-compliance for not properly assessing the GBV risks considering the endemic GBV rates and the high vulnerability of women and girls in the project area, and for the lack of appropriate mitigation measures that led to serious harm to women and girls in the community. It further found management in non-compliance for failing to supervise the implementation of measures to mitigate the risks of GBV, or to identify and propose measures to redress harm caused by the project. The Panel acknowledged management's efforts to address GBV issues after the receipt of the Request, including the preparation of a Code of Conduct and training for the contractor's employees.

The Panel noted there were no Bank supervision missions to RN2 from the time of Board approval in February 2016 until receipt of the Request in August 2017. While noting that the security situation in the project area is undoubtedly challenging, the Panel stated it believed that with accurate information, flexibility on dates, and due caution Bank staff missions could have been fielded to support project supervision. It noted that after receipt of the Request and in the period of August 2017 to March 2018 management undertook seven field missions to the project area—the first such field visits to supervise RN2.

In general, the Panel said the lessons identified by its investigation are especially relevant given the important and significant increase in World Bank lending to countries suffering from fragility, conflict and violence (FCV) taking place now and expected in the coming years.



#### MANAGEMENT REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION

In its August 27, 2018, Report and Recommendation in response to the Investigation Report, Bank management acknowledged that the Panel's findings confirmed the weaknesses of the project pertaining to the Bukavu-Goma road. It said it regretted there were areas of non-compliance with Bank policies and said it was taking "decisive steps to prevent it from occurring in the future."

Specifically, management acknowledged that project preparation and implementation "should have included a more thorough assessment of GBV risks and more robust measures to prevent and address them." Such measures, it said, follow the recommendations of the Bank's Global GBV Task Force, established in the wake of the Panel's investigation of the Uganda Transport Sector Development Project, and have been put in place to secure the needed support for the GBV survivors and help prevent further incidents of GBV in the area.

In general, management stated it was continuing its efforts to mainstream and deepen the implementation of Global GBV Task Force.

Management stated it had "exerted considerable effort to date" to remedy "short-comings" in project preparation and supervision, and that it was "fully committed" to continue its support and close oversight of the borrower's implementation of agreed remedial actions regarding support for GBV survivors and prevention of future GBV incidents, livelihood restoration for affected communities, and the strengthening of institutional capacity of all stakeholders to manage preventive and remedial actions. Bank management in its action plan committed to supporting the government of DRC in its implementation of a series of measures, including:

- Providing robust support to Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) survivors and putting in place measures to prevent future incidents of SGBV.
- Strengthening project GRMs, ensuring the effective operation of SGBV-dedicated GRMs, and processing of complaints received by these mechanisms.
- Training Pro-Routes contractors' workers and security personnel on SGBV prevention/humanitarian law.
- Restoration of Pro-Routes quarries and borrow pits, and compensation for losses.
- Helping enhance the institutional capacity of all stakeholders to manage preventive and remedial actions—from contractors and SGBV service providers to provincial authorities and national institutions.

Additionally, management said it was issuing good practice notes for staff on managing SGBV and the use of security forces in projects.

As of May 31, 2018, management stated, the borrower had implemented 30 of 43 corrective actions, and other key actors, including the contractor and supervision engineer, had changed or reinforced their management teams in charge of RN2 works to improve their performance.

Management agreed with the Panel's assessment that lessons from the case were also relevant for the Bank's broader engagement in FCV environments, and said the Bank was committed to "identifying and developing effective ways to supervise project implementation when insecurity poses challenges."

Management committed to provide the Board with a progress report on the implementation of its updated action plan within six months of the Board's September 7, 2018, approval.

The Panel's Investigation Report and management's Report and Recommendation can be found on the case page of the Panel's website.

# PENDING INVESTIGATIONS

## UGANDA: PRIVATE POWER GENERATION PROJECT (BUJAGALI); WATER MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOP-MENT PROJECT (WMDP); ENERGY FOR RURAL TRANSFORMATION PHASE III PROJECT (ERT-III)

CASE NOS. 110, 113

#### THE REQUEST

The Panel received two Requests for Inspection of the projects in 2016. Both complaints raised concerns about potential social and environmental harm caused by the construction of the Isimba Dam reservoir and the consequent flooding of the Kalagala Offset Area (KOA). Although the World Bank is not financing construction of the dam, the Requesters claimed the flooding would undermine the management of protected natural resources in the KOA, a requirement of an Indemnity Agreement signed between the International Development Association and the government of Uganda as part of an earlier project to build the Bujagali Dam. The Panel processed the Requests jointly.

#### **MANAGEMENT RESPONSE**

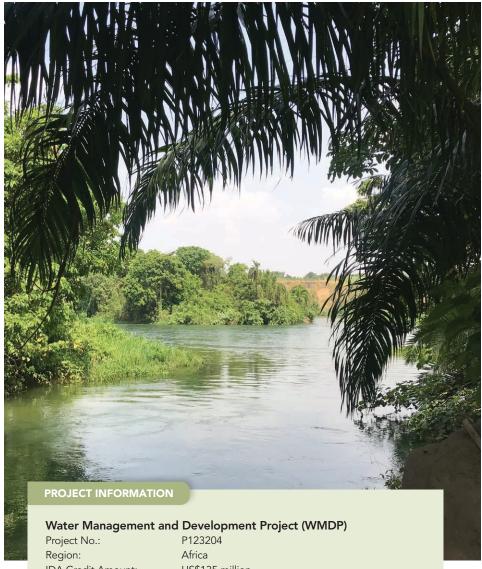
Management argued the Requests were ineligible on several grounds. It said the potential harm alleged by the Requesters does not stem from a Bank-supported project, but is related to the development of the Isimba project, which is not financed by the Bank and, as a result, cannot be subject to Panel review. Management also contended that the Bujagali project was completed and the project was therefore not eligible for the Panel's review. It further said that WMDP and ERT-III do not relate to the harm alleged in the Requests. Finally, management said, the issues raised in these Requests were addressed in the Panel's recommendation relating to two prior Requests.

#### PANEL RECOMMENDATIONS/BOARD ACTIONS

The Panel on December 16, 2016, recommended to defer by up to year its decision on whether an investigation was warranted. The Panel said deferring its decision would allow it to wait for the completion of the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment addendum that Bank management was preparing and follow-up actions by the Bank. On April 4, 2017, the Board of Executive Directors approved the Panel's recommendation to defer by up to 12 months its decision on whether an investigation was warranted into WMDP and ERT-III, but found that the Bujagali project was not eligible to be investigated because the project was closed.

In the intervening period, the Panel kept in contact with the Requesters and Bank management, and a Panel team visited Uganda on February 7–11, 2018. On May 3, 2018, the Panel sent to the Board its Second Report and Recommendation that recommended an investigation of the alleged issues of harm and related potential non-compliance plausibly linked to WMDP and ERT-III. The Board approved the Panel's recommendation on September 19, 2018.





IDA Credit Amount: US\$135 million
Board Approval Date: June 26, 2012
Revised Closing Date: December 31, 2018

The development objectives of the project are to improve: (i) integrated water resources planning, management and development; and (ii) access to water and sanitation services in priority areas. The project will contribute to higher level goals of sustaining natural resources, improving service delivery, and increasing economic productivity.

### **Energy for Rural Transformation Phase III Project (ERT-III)**

Project No.: P133312
Region: Africa
IDA Credit Amount: US\$135 million
Board Approval Date: June 5, 2015

Closing Date: December 31, 2020

The development objective of the project is to increase access to electricity in rural areas of Uganda.

### PENDING DECISIONS

# INDIA: PROPOSED AMARAVATI SUSTAINABLE CAPITAL CITY DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

CASE NO. 119

#### THE REQUEST

A May 2017 Request for Inspection was filed by landowners from the area proposed for the construction of the city. They allege harm from a land pooling scheme being used to assemble the land required for the city, as well as from other project activities. The Requesters claim harm related to their livelihoods, environment and food security, and allege a lack of consultation.

#### MANAGEMENT RESPONSE

Management issued its response on July 21, 2017. It explained that it has not been decided whether the Bank would finance the proposed project, stating a decision would only be made after appropriate analysis of potential project risks and impacts had been undertaken and adequate mitigation measures had been developed and consulted upon to the satisfaction of the Bank. The response stated that "Management is of the view that, to date, the preparation of the proposed project has followed Bank policy requirements" and emphasized that the proposed project "is still at an early stage of preparation and therefore substantive application of Bank policies and procedures have not yet taken place." Management explained that it saw the Request as an opportunity to review and consider the views and concerns of the Requesters.

On November 27, 2017, management submitted to the Panel an addendum that offered clarifications, an update on project preparation and additional actions to "complement and clarify" the actions presented in its July 21, 2017, response in order to address the Requesters' concerns.

#### PANEL RECOMMENDATIONS/BOARD DECISIONS

A Panel team visited India from September 12–15, 2017, and on September 27, 2017, the Panel submitted its Report and Recommendation to the Board that recommended "carrying out an investigation into the alleged issues of harm and related potential non-compliance with Bank policies, especially relating to involuntary resettlement." After reviewing management's November 27, 2017, addendum, the Panel submitted an updated Report and Recommendation to the Board. In the update, the Panel stated it was satisfied that the addendum and actions proposed

#### **PROJECT INFORMATION**

#### Proposed Amaravati Sustainable Capital City Development Project

Project No: P159808
Region: South Asia
IBRD Commitment: US\$300 million

Board Approval Date: NA Closing Date: NA

The development objectives of the proposed project are to "provide select urban infrastructure in designated locations of Amaravati Capital City, and to support the initial development of its institutional and governance structure."



by management "provide an opportunity for the Bank to address the Requesters' concerns as identified in the Panel's Report and Recommendation, and to introduce measures to ensure that the project's preparation is in compliance with Bank policies and procedures." Based on the addendum and the proposed actions, the Panel deferred its recommendation as to whether an investigation was warranted for up to six months. The Board of Executive Directors approved the Panel recommendation on December 12, 2017.

The Panel met Bank management in April and June 2018 to receive updates on the progress of project preparation and on the implementation of the actions described in the management response and its addendum. During this same period, the Panel received regular communications from the Requesters who raised several concerns, including issues of accessibility and responsiveness of the Grievance Redress Mechanism and the establishment of the Citizen Advisory Committee.

The Panel understood from the management updates that several actions to address the Requesters' concerns, including the independent assessments of the land assembly instruments that will serve as inputs to the project's safeguard instruments, were still underway and required more time to be completed. The Panel noted that these assessment studies are a key element of the actions proposed by management. The Panel further noted that, according to management, the authorization to appraise the project can only be requested once all required safeguard instruments have been cleared and disclosed. The Panel was of the view that there was a need to await further progress on the assessment studies and other actions in order to be able to assess the implementation of management's commitments to address the allegations of harm and Bank non-compliance raised in the Request for Inspection.

Considering the above, the Panel on June 26, 2018, proposed a second deferral of its recommendation for nine months or when management authorizes the appraisal of the proposed project, whichever arises earlier.

The Board approved the Panel recommendation on July 13, 2018.

## CASES NOT INVESTIGATED

#### **CAMEROON: LOM PANGAR HYDROPOWER PROJECT**

CASE NO. 122

#### THE REQUEST

On December 1, 2017, the Panel received a Request for Inspection submitted by two former project workers who asked for confidentiality. The Request alleged unpaid overtime work, indecent working conditions, unpaid social security dues and thus inability to benefit from the social security system, dismissal of all workers who contracted Hepatitis B on the project site, and "abandonment" of workers who suffered "drastic" industrial accidents on the site. The Requesters referred to a prior engagement with the World Bank on these issues and said the problems were not resolved. The Panel registered the case on December 22, 2017. The Request stated that the project's Environmental and Social Management Plan and the Specific Contractual Engagement on Environmental and Social Management were violated.

The Request also included a report titled, "World Bank Project Exploiting Human Labor: Lom Pangar Hydro Project in Cameroon," dated September 2015, which the Requesters asked to be a part of the complaint. In addition to the issues raised in the Request, the report included concerns relating to working hours, workers' weekly rest, annual leave, right-to-work issues, job security, occupational safety and health, discrimination based on race and retrenchment.

#### **MANAGEMENT RESPONSE**

Management issued its response on February 9, 2018. It stated that the issues raised in the Request were known to the Bank and borrower, and that the Bank had worked during the implementation of the project to satisfactorily address and resolve the issues. Management stated it recognized that, in light of the significant turnover in the workforce over the lifetime of the project, some of the measures put in place over the years may not have benefited every worker who left the worksite before these measures were implemented. Management explained it had agreed with the borrower on an action plan that stipulates the existing Grievance Redress Mecha-

#### PROJECT INFORMATION

#### Lom Pangar Hydropower Project

Project No.: P114077 Region: Africa

IDA Credit Amount: US\$132 million equivalent

Board Approval Date: March 27, 2012
Closing Date: December 31, 2018

The Project Development Objective is "to increase hydropower generation capacity and reduce seasonal variability of water flow in the Sanaga River and to increase access to electricity." The project, which is structured in four components, consists of the construction of a regulating dam, a hydroelectric power plant, and a transmission line, and includes a rural electrification scheme along the transmission corridor, environmental and social measures and technical assistance, and project management.

nism (GRM) would continue to process project-related complaints, and that the Bank would support the borrower in a targeted effort to identify current or former workers who may have unresolved grievances, and would continue, and further strengthen where needed, supervision and implementation support.

On March 13, 2018, management submitted an addendum to its response, explaining that the Bank agreed with the borrower to extend the scope and staffing of the project's GRM to review and address grievances of current and former workers, and that the borrower would conduct a communications campaign to reach out to current and former workers to inform them of the extended GRM. The addendum also said that the Bank recommended the extension of the project's environmental and social panel of experts and the independent environmental and social auditors, and that the extension processes were underway.

#### PANEL RECOMMENDATIONS/BOARD ACTIONS

On March 16, 2018, the Panel recommended to the Board that the project not be investigated. In making that recommendation, the Panel took into account management's acknowledgement of the issues raised in the Request and its commitment to work closely with the borrower to understand and address any outstanding grievances. Specifically, the Panel noted the extension of the project's GRM, cited management's support to identify former workers who may have unresolved grievances and noted that management will provide and further strengthen, where needed, supervision and implementation support, including providing detailed feedback on the implementation of its action plan and its results within a year.

The Board approved the Panel's recommendation on March 30, 2018.

# MONGOLIA: MINING INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT SUPPORT PROJECT—AND ADDITIONAL FINANCING (MINIS)

CASE NOS. 124 AND 125

#### THE REQUEST

On April 2, 2018, the Inspection Panel received three Requests for Inspection related to the project and its additional financing in Mongolia.

One Request was submitted by Oyu Tolgoi Watch and a local non-governmental organization (NGO) on behalf of 52 residents of the Baganuur district of Ulaanbaatar who asked for confidentiality. It alleged potential harm from the feasibility studies and a cumulative impact assessment funded under the project for the Baganuur mine expansion. Specific harms alleged related to health impacts, genderbased violence, climate change, the quality of the studies, and consultation and disclosure of information.

A second Request was submitted by Oyu Tolgoi Watch and 27 residents of Gurvantes in South Gobi region who asked for confidentiality. They claimed potential harm from water management plans and the establishment of the Altain-Uvur Gobiin River Basin Administration financed by the project. Specific harms alleged include loss of access to traditional land and water sources, environmental impacts, and lack of consultation and disclosure of information.

A third Request (case 123, which is discussed elsewhere in this report) was submitted by the Rivers Without Boundaries Coalition, Rivers Without Boundaries Mongolia and a local NGO in Russia, the latter of which asked for confidentiality. They claimed potential environmental and social harm caused by the financing of impact assessments and feasibility studies of two subprojects financed by MINIS, as well as concerns related to lack of consultation and disclosure of information.

#### **PROJECT INFORMATION**

# Mining Infrastructure Investment Support Project and Additional Financing

Project No.: P118109/P145439
Region: East Asia and Pacific
IDA Credit Amount: US\$25 million

Board Approval Date: May 10, 2011/March 24, 2014

Closing Date: September 30, 2019

The development objectives of the project are to facilitate investments in infrastructure to support mining and downstream processing activities, regardless of the funding source, and to build local capacity to prepare and transact infrastructure projects.



#### **PANEL DECISION**

The Panel registered the first two Requests on May 11, 2018, and said it would process them jointly because they were for the same project.

Since the third Request concerned an issue on which the Panel made a recommendation in 2017, the Panel had to assess whether information provided by the Requesters and Bank management constituted new evidence or circumstances. The Panel did not consider this to be the case, and issued a Notice of Non-Registration for this Request on May 11, 2018.

A Panel team traveled to Mongolia from July 1–7, 2018, to investigate the complaints alleged in the two registered Requests. While there, they visited Baganuur, Ulaanbaatar, Dalanzadgad and Gurvantes and met with, among others, the Requesters, potentially affected community members, mine company officials, local and national government officials, World Bank Country Office staff and representatives of the MINIS project management unit.

After holding those meetings and reviewing relevant documents, the Panel found management's efforts to date and its commitments evidence of its intention to ensure that the respective assessments and their consultations are conducted in line with Bank policies and procedures.

Considering that, the Panel did not recommend an investigation, but noted that its recommendation does not preclude the possibility of a future Request for Inspection based on new evidence or circumstances not known at the time of the current Requests.

The World Bank Board of Executive Directors approved the Panel's recommendation not to investigate on August 6, 2018.

### CASES NOT REGISTERED

# PERU: BOOSTING HUMAN CAPITAL AND PRODUCTIVITY DEVELOPMENT POLICY FINANCING WITH A DEFERRED DRAWDOWN OPTION

CASE NO. 121

#### THE REQUEST

The Request for Inspection was submitted on October 13, 2017, by the leaders of two local indigenous organizations and their representative, claiming harm caused by Peru's Law No. 30230, which they alleged is supported by the Bank's program. The Requesters claimed that this law has reduced or eliminated Peru's capacity to guarantee the territorial rights of indigenous peoples and to provide regulatory oversight of the extractive industry. They specifically pointed to an increased number of oil spills that they claim have caused damage to forests, health issues, loss of clean water and food, economic and physical displacement, and loss of cultural resources and livelihoods in the affected communities, particularly those of indigenous peoples.

#### PANEL DECISION

After conducting its due diligence, speaking to the Requesters' representative and Bank management, and receiving additional clarifications, the Panel noted that the Bank's program is neither supporting Law No. 30230 as a whole, nor any of the law's provisions that the Requesters alleged cause negative impacts to the environment and land rights. The Panel thus determined that it was not possible to identify a Bank program plausibly linked to the Request, and therefore deemed it inadmissible. The Panel issued its Notice of Non-Registration on November 20, 2017.

#### **PROJECT INFORMATION**

# Boosting Human Capital and Productivity Development Policy Financing with a Deferred Drawdown Option

Project No.: P156858

Region: Latin America and Caribbean

IBRD Loan Amount: US\$1.25 billion
Board Approval Date: February 11, 2016
Closing Date: February 18, 2019

The objectives of the Development Policy Financing are to support Peru's efforts to boost human capital and productivity by (i) enhancing the education policy framework to enable better quality of skills; (ii) facilitating the entry, operation, and exit of firms; and (iii) reducing transaction costs in trade. The program supports the Peruvian National Competitiveness Agenda of 2014–2018 and the National Education Project to 2021, and aims to support Peru's efforts to foster productivity growth through "measures targeting key productivity constraints by enabling the improvement of the quality of human capital, fostering competition pressures, and facilitating trade."



# MONGOLIA: MINING INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT SUPPORT PROJECT—AND ADDITIONAL FINANCING (MINIS)

CASE NO. 123

#### THE REQUEST

On April 2, 2018, the Inspection Panel received three Requests for Inspection related to the project and its additional financing in Mongolia.

The Panel registered two of the Requests, cases 124 and 125, and they are discussed elsewhere in this report. The third Request, this case, was submitted by the Rivers Without Boundaries Coalition, Rivers Without Boundaries Mongolia and a local NGO in Russia, the latter of which asked for confidentiality. They claimed potential environmental and social harm caused by the financing of impact assessments and feasibility studies of two subprojects financed by MINIS, as well as concerns related to lack of consultation and disclosure of information.

#### **PANEL DECISION**

Since the third Request concerned an issue on which the Panel made a recommendation in 2017, the Panel had to assess whether information provided by the Requesters and Bank management constituted new evidence or circumstances. The Panel did not consider this to be the case, and issued a Notice of Non-Registration for this Request on May 11, 2018.

#### PROJECT INFORMATION

# Mining Infrastructure Investment Support Project and Additional Financing

Project No.: P118109/P145439
Region: East Asia and Pacific
IDA Credit Amount: US\$25 million

Board Approval Date: May 10, 2011/March 24, 2014

Closing Date: September 30, 2019

The development objectives of the project are to facilitate investments in infrastructure to support mining and downstream processing activities, regardless of the funding source, and to build local capacity to prepare and transact infrastructure projects.

# TAJIKISTAN: PRIVATE SECTOR COMPETITIVENESS PROJECT

CASE NO. 126

#### THE REQUEST

The Request for Inspection was submitted on June 21, 2018, by two people residing in Tajikistan and employed by a foreign company that purchases cotton in the country. The Requesters alleged loss of income and loss of livelihood due to the non-payment of guarantees by a state-owned bank to the company.

#### PANEL DECISION

The Panel assessed the Request and observed that the alleged harm relates to a dispute between the foreign company and the state-owned bank. The Panel stated it did not find the alleged harm to be plausibly linked to the project, and issued a Notice of Non-Registration in response to the Request on July 24, 2018.

#### PROJECT INFORMATION

#### **Private Sector Competitiveness Project**

Project No.: P130091

Region: Europe and Central Asia IDA Grant Amount: US\$10 million equivalent

Board Approval Date: May 10, 2012 Closing Date: December 31, 2019

The project development objective of the project is to remove key constraints to business development and investment by (i) simplifying business registration and construction permitting processes, (ii) improving regulations and infrastructure underlying access to financial services, and (iii) encouraging development of the mining industry, where Tajikistan has a competitive advantage.

### MANAGEMENT PROGRESS REPORTS

(AS OF MAY 2018)

# INDIA: VISHNUGAD PIPALKOTI HYDRO ELECTRIC PROJECT

CASE NO. 81

In its third progress report, issued in November 2017, Bank management said action had been completed regarding the issue of water loss and alternative water sources but that work was ongoing related to issues of resettlement and livelihood restoration. For example, management said Tehri Hydro Development Corporation India Limited was hiring a specialized firm to help develop an ecosystem approach for development of additional livelihood opportunities in project-affect villages. Management will submit a fourth progress report in November 2018.

#### **NEPAL: POWER DEVELOPMENT PROJECT**

CASE NO. 87

In its second progress report, issued in August 2017, management said three of seven actions had been completed. Among the outstanding issues at that time of the report were: (i) the training of Nepal Electricity Authority staff and key stakeholders on conflict management; (ii) payment of the remaining compensation for land in the right-of way of one circuit; and (iii) updating the Vulnerable Community Development Plan activities to reflect the conclusions of consultations undertaken with the help of an independent facilitator. Management was scheduled to release its third report in August 2018.

#### KENYA: ELECTRICITY EXPANSION PROJECT

CASE NO. 97

In its first progress report, issued in April 2018, management indicated that 44 of 59 actions had been completed. Among the ongoing actions at the time of the report were: (i) construction of houses for newly identified project-affected people; (ii) livelihood restoration efforts, including provision of training, livelihood support measures and scholarships; (iii) improved water supply, and; (iv) finalization of land title transfer. Management will prepare a second report in April 2019.

# **UGANDA: TRANSPORT SECTOR DEVELOPMENT PROJECT**CASE NO. 98

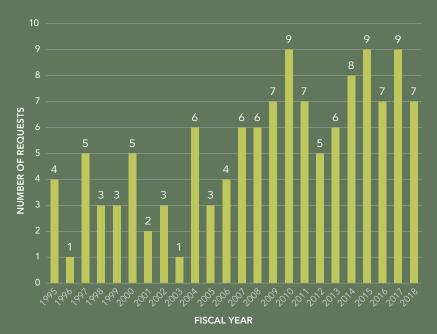
In its second progress report, issued in April 2018, management said the Bank, through the Emergency Child Protection Response (ECPR) program, had "met key commitments in addressing the material and psychological needs of the identified survivors of sexual abuse in the project area." It also said the Bank has continued to monitor legal redress regarding child sexual abuse cases in the area. Additionally, it said the Uganda National Roads Authority would continue to consolidate "the ECPR achievements including lesson learning and possible replication of good practices in other road projects." Management will prepare a third report in April 2019.



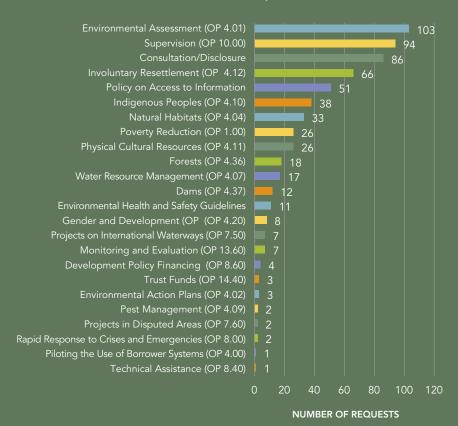


#### **APPENDIX I: GRAPHS ON PANEL CASES**

### **REQUESTS RECEIVED**



#### **MAJOR POLICY ISSUES RAISED IN REQUESTS, June 2018**

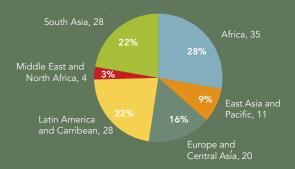


### **GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION OF CASES**

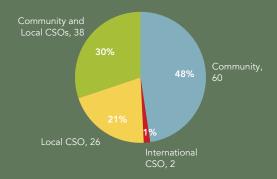




### **REGIONAL DISTRIBUTION OF CASES**

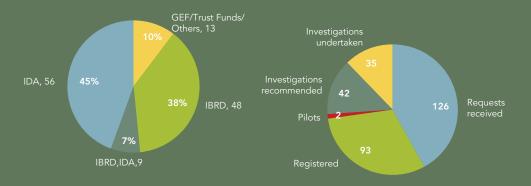


#### **TYPE OF REQUESTERS**



### PROJECT FINANCING SOURCE

### **CASE PROCESSING HISTORY**



# APPENDIX II: BIOGRAPHIES OF PANEL MEMBERS AND EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

#### **GONZALO CASTRO DE LA MATA (Chairman)**

Mr. Gonzalo Castro de la Mata was appointed to the Inspection Panel on December 16, 2013, and became its chairman on November 1, 2014. He is a U.S. and Peruvian national with close to three decades of international development experience. His career includes key roles across the private and public sectors and in multiple areas of development work, including biodiversity, climate change, accountability, and ecosystem management. He has been involved in highly visible and complex international projects, including as chair



of an independent panel for the U.S. Export-Import Bank for the Camisea project in Peru, and as a member of a UN review panel of the Barro Blanco Dam in Panama.

In 2009 he founded Ecosystem Services LLC, a company specializing in market-based approaches to conservation and renewable energy. Previously, he was managing director of Sustainable Forestry Management (SFM) for the Americas, where he was responsible for seminal investments that generated the first carbon credits from native plantations and forest conservation. Before SFM, he was head of the Biodiversity Unit at the Global Environment Facility, principal environmental specialist at the World Bank, director and vice president of World Wildlife Fund's Latin American and Caribbean Program in Washington, and founder and chief executive officer of Wetlands for the Americas. He earned a Ph.D. in ecology and population biology from the University of Pennsylvania and received his M.A. and B.A. from Cayetano Heredia University in Lima, Peru.

Mr. Castro de la Mata's appointment and his term as chairman run through December 15, 2018.

#### JAN MATTSSON

Mr. Jan Mattsson was appointed to the Inspection Panel on November 17, 2014. A Swedish national, he brings to the Panel more than three decades of experience in the public and private sectors, as well as in academia. His career has included operational field work, policy advice, program management, and leadership roles at the United Nations where he established robust systems for results-based management, transparency and accountability. Throughout his career he has demonstrated the ability to engage and build trust with mul-



tiple stakeholders around complex issues, risk management and innovation. He is passionate about social justice and behavioral ethics.

Mr. Mattsson held positions in several UN agencies—including the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations World Food Programme and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. In his final UN assignment, he was under-secretary-general and executive director of the United Nations Office for Project Services, an organization specializing in the implementation of development, humanitarian and peace-building operations on behalf of multiple partners. After leaving the UN, he founded M-Trust Leadership, an advisory firm promoting socially responsible investments and partnerships among business, government and civil society in pursuit of sustainable development. He has a Ph.D. in engineering from

the University of Linkoping, Sweden, with a multi-disciplinary thesis on management of technological change.

His term runs through November 16, 2019.

#### **IMRANA JALAL**

Ms. Imrana Jalal was appointed to the Inspection Panel on January 1, 2018. A Fiji national, Ms. Jalal brings to the Panel more than 30 years of experience across diverse geopolitical and multicultural environments in the private and public sectors.

As a Principal Social Development Specialist (Gender and Development) for the Asian Development Bank from 2010–2017, Ms. Jalal gained intimate knowledge of multilateral development bank operations in various sectors and demonstrated her ability to engage and build rapport and trust with



stakeholders around various and complex issues. She was Chief Technical Adviser at the Pacific Regional Rights Resource Team Office from 1995–2010.

A lawyer by profession, Ms. Jalal was a Commissioner from 1999–2001 on the initial Fiji Human Rights Commission, the first of its kind in the Pacific Island countries. She is the author of the "Law for Pacific Women: A Legal Rights Handbook," architect of the Fiji Family Law Act 2003, and was a founding member of the Fiji Women's Rights Movement. She was elected a Commissioner on the Geneva-based International Commission of Jurists (ICJ) in 2006 and served on the Commission's Executive Board from 2011–2017. The ICJ was established to protect the independence of judges and lawyers.

Ms. Jalal earned a Masters of Arts with a focus on Gender and Development from the University of Sydney, and an LLB and LLM (Hons.) in International Law from the University of Auckland.

Her term runs through December 31, 2022. In April 2018, she was elected to become chair of the Panel, effective December 16, 2018.

#### **DILEK BARLAS**

Ms. Dilek Barlas has served as the Executive Secretary of the Inspection Panel since July 2014. In her capacity as the Executive Secretary, Ms. Barlas provides strategic support and advice to the Panel Chairperson and Panel members; manages the Panel's Secretariat, its staff, consultants and resources; and maintains Panel's relations with internal stakeholders (the Board of Executive Directors, its committees, World Bank senior management and staff) as well as external ones (Requesters, civil society organizations, academia and the media). Ms. Barlas



was the Panel's Deputy Executive Secretary from 2007 to 2014. A Turkish national, Ms. Barlas has extensive experience in the field of development.

A lawyer by training, Ms. Barlas joined the World Bank in 1992 and served as the Senior Counsel in the World Bank Legal Vice Presidency for the Europe and Central Asia Region. As Senior Counsel she was responsible for the legal aspects of World Bank operations and conducted negotiations in numerous countries, including Albania, Azerbaijan, Uzbekistan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Turkey. Her work also included an overseas field assignment to the World Bank Office in Ankara, Turkey, from 2004 to 2006. Prior to joining the World Bank, Ms. Barlas served with the Under Secretariat of Treasury and Foreign Trade of Turkey and played a critical role in the preparation of Turkey's anti-dumping and subsidies legislation. Her private law practice includes work as an associate with White and Case in their Washington, D.C., office. Ms. Barlas holds a law degree from the University of Ankara, Turkey, and an LLM in International Legal Studies from the Washington College of Law at American University, Washington, D.C.

## **APPENDIX III: INSPECTION PANEL BUDGET**

Total Budget Received	4,000,000
Total Budget Spent	4,090,915
Other Expenses	3,645
Contractual Services	47,681
Publications	62,603
Representation & Hospitality	14,020
Travel	368,972
Consultants <sup>b</sup>	762,977
Temporaries	47,236
Equipment and Building Services	552
Office Occupancy	188,166
Communications & IT Services	121,705
Benefits <sup>a</sup>	1,068,904
Salaries <sup>a</sup>	\$1,404,454

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> Includes Chairman salary and benefits. <sup>b</sup> Include Panel members' fees.

Washington, DC 20433

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#### **HIGHLIGHTS OF THE PANEL'S YEAR**

**Caseload:** The Panel delivered to the Board its Investigation Report for the Second Additional Financing for the High-Priority Roads Reopening and Maintenance Project in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). The case again touched on the topic of gender-based violence, an issue the Panel first tackled in its recent investigation of a road project in Uganda.

The Panel deferred for a second time its recommendation on whether to investigate the proposed Amaravati Sustainable Capital City Development Project in India so it could await further progress by Bank management on assessment studies and other actions to be able to evaluate the implementation of management's commitments to address issues in the Request for Inspection.

The Panel also recommended to the Board an investigation of two projects related to the Kalagala Offset Area in Uganda.

**Next Panel Chair Elected:** Members of the Inspection Panel unanimously elected Imrana Jalal as Panel chair, effective December 16, 2018. Ms. Jalal will succeed Gonzalo Castro de la Mata, who has been the chairman of the Panel since November 2014. Mr. Castro de la Mata will remain as chairman until his five-year term as a Panel member ends on December 15, 2018. A gender specialist, lawyer and development practitioner, Ms. Jalal joined the Panel on January 1, 2018, succeeding Zeinab Bashir Elbakri.

Emerging Lessons Series: The Panel released the fourth report in its Emerging Lessons Series at the International Monetary Fund-World Bank Group Annual Meetings in October 2017. The report identifies lessons from Panel cases related to consultation, participation and disclosure of information. In releasing the report, Mr. Castro de la Mata moderated a discussion on the topic at the event with World Bank Chief Executive Officer Kristalina Georgieva, Oxfam America President and CEO Abby Maxman and Jason Allford, an Executive Director at the Bank's Board. The report series aims to build institutional knowledge at the World Bank and contribute to more effective development. The first three reports in the series covered lessons from cases involving involuntary resettlement, indigenous peoples and environmental assessment.

Book by Requesters in 2005 DRC Forestry Case: Two Requesters in a 2005 Panel case from DRC published a book that reviews the evolution of relations between the country's indigenous peoples and the World Bank more than a decade after the Request for Inspection was submitted. The book—written by Willy Loyombo and Adrien Sinafasi and published in both French and English—demonstrates how, following the Panel case, an improved understanding of the situation of the Pygmies in the DRC led to a better relationship with the Bank and to Bank projects that were more responsive to the needs of this group of indigenous peoples. In the book, "The Indigenous Peoples of the DRC: Story of a Partnership," the authors also show that by bringing a case to the Inspection Panel indigenous peoples in the DRC strengthened their capacity to defend their rights and to participate in development projects that affect them. By supporting the book's publication, the Panel hoped to provide a platform for the perspective of the Requesters to be heard a decade after the case. The Panel is pleased to see that the Requesters considered the Panel case a starting point in the recognition of their rights as indigenous peoples in the DRC.

IAMs Network: The Panel in August 2017 took part in the 14th Annual Meeting of the Independent Accountability Mechanisms (IAMs) hosted by the Black Sea Trade and Development Bank in Thessaloniki, Greece. Mr. Castro de la Mata, Panel Member Jan Mattsson, Executive Secretary Dilek Barlas and Senior Communications Officer Rob Doherty represented the Panel at the two-day meeting, which, among other

things, discussed challenges and opportunities when different IAMs collaborate to handle complaints about co-financed projects, compliance and problem-solving related to financial-sector investments, IAMs' efforts to address reprisals against complainants, and outreach to civil society and potentially affected communities. It was also agreed that the Panel would host the IAMs' 15th Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C., in November 2018 to mark the 25th anniversary of the Panel's creation. While in Thessaloniki, the IAMs also met with 30 civil society organizations to discuss issues of common interest, including how to ensure community access to the mechanisms.

**Outreach:** The Panel took part in several outreach events during the year to explain its mandate and operations to stakeholders in Africa.

In December 2017, Operations Officer Tamara Milsztajn conducted a video conference (VC) with 60 civil society representatives in four Portuguese-speaking nations—Angola, Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique, and São Tomé and Príncipe. In March and May 2018, respectively, Ms. Milsztajn and intern Alice Schoonejans participated in VCs with representatives of nearly two dozen civil society organizations in Senegal, and with some 50 civil society representatives in Burkina Faso, Guinea, Mali, Cameroon and Niger. All of the VCs were organized with the help of local World Bank offices.

On May 6, 2018, Mr. Castro de la Mata took part in a discussion on "accountability and access to remedy" with representatives of civil society in Côte d'Ivoire. He participated in the "Dialogue on Development, Gender, Energy and Accountability" along with officials of the World Bank Group's Compliance Advisor Ombudsman and the IAM of the African Development Bank, as well as representatives of Lumiere Synergie pour le Developpement and the Centre for Applied Legal Studies.

The Panel chairman also joined with other IAM representatives on May 15 at a discussion with civil society representatives co-organized by the Legal Resources Centre prior to the start of the International Association for Impact Assessment (IAIA) annual meeting in South Africa.

On May 18, Ms. Barlas joined representatives of five other IAMs to discuss accountability issues at the IAIA meeting. The session—titled "International Finance: The Role of Independent Accountability Mechanisms"—covered a range of topics, including the relevance of accountability in the context of environmental justice, how IAMs have been able to achieve outcomes for affected communities negatively affected by development projects, and how communities, the private sector and governments can work together to assess environmental harm and mitigate negative environmental impacts.

Additionally, Mr. Castro de la Mata and Mr. Mattsson joined representatives of other IAMs in meetings with Chinese government and banking representatives in November 2017 in Beijing to discuss the issue of accountability. They met officials of the Ministry of Finance and the Department of International Economic and Financial Cooperation, and took part in a one-day workshop with Chinese banks with substantial overseas investments in the context of the country's One Belt, One Road Initiative. The Panel chairman also took part in two workshops in China in June 2018 designed to enhance financial intermediaries' understanding of environmental and social compliance and accountability to project-affected people.

Washington, DC 20433

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