

ADB Safeguard Policy Review and Update: Phase 2 Regional Consultations on Biodiversity and Natural Resource Management



Description

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) is conducting a comprehensive review and update of the 2009 Safeguard Policy Statement (SPS, or the policy). Stakeholder engagement is a critical element in the update process and will be guided by a [Stakeholder Engagement Plan \(SEP\)](#). The SPS review and update will be implemented over three phases. Phase 1 was recently concluded with initial stakeholder outreach. During the second phase, ADB will conduct a series of stakeholder consultations based on key analytical studies, and their implications on policy revision. The final stage of consultations will seek to solicit comments on the working paper for revision and finalization of the safeguard policy.

ADB is launching Phase 2 with a series of consultations on key thematic areas related to environmental and social safeguards. Based on feedback from these consultations, subsequent country-level dialogues and focus group discussions on key technical areas will be conducted.

Regional consultations on Biodiversity and Natural Resource Management

The consultations will compare the policy provisions and practice in biodiversity and habitats assessment definitions, and requirements of development projects between ADB and other multilateral financial institutions (MFIs). Participants are encouraged to share their insights on the potential gaps of the provisions and implementation of the policy, and propose recommendations and remedial actions to ensure the strengthening of the policy and positive outcomes towards “no net loss” or “no net gain” in biodiversity. Comments received from the consultations will be considered in the final report, and will inform the revision of ADB’s standard on biodiversity.

Purpose

The objective of these consultations is to obtain a better understanding of the views of stakeholders on ADB’s requirements related to biodiversity natural resource management safeguards implementation challenges, good practices and recommended future policy directions.

Target Participants

The regional consultations will involve developing member countries, civil society organizations, and other non-government stakeholders.

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