

ADB Safeguard Policy Review and Update: Phase 2 Regional Consultations on Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity, Gender Expression, and Sex Characteristics (SOGIESC)



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.

A series of consultations on key thematic areas related to environmental and social safeguards will be conducted. Based on feedback from these consultations, subsequent country-level dialogues and focus group discussions on key technical areas will be conducted.

Regional consultations on Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity, Gender Expression, and Sex Characteristics (SOGIESC)

This consultation will share preliminary findings from a benchmarking study on Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity, Gender Expression, and Sex Characteristics (SOGIESC) which compares ADB's current policy environment and practices on the topic to those of other multilateral financial institutions.

The session will seek feedback from stakeholders to help ADB understand where there are gaps and convergences in this area, and where it needs to go further in meeting evolving safeguards needs. The views and opinions received during the consultations will inform appropriate entry-points for SOGIESC and safeguards and linkages to safeguards needs of other potentially vulnerable groups.

Purpose

The objective of these consultations is to obtain a better understanding of the views of stakeholders on implementation challenges in consolidating ADB's Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity, Gender Expression, and Sex Characteristics (SOGIESC) in safeguards, good practices and recommended future policy directions.

Target Participants

The regional consultations will involve civil society organizations and other non-government stakeholders.

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