



WORLD BANK GROUP

STATEMENT BY THE WORLD BANK

10TH SESSION OF THE UN EXPERT MECHANISM ON THE RIGHTS OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

AGENDA ITEM 6:

*Ten Years of the Implementation of the UN Declaration
on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples: Good Practices and Lessons*

The World Bank is pleased to participate in the discussion on agenda item 6, the ten years of the implementation of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, Good Practices and Lessons.

While the Bank supports numerous initiatives and projects regarding Indigenous Peoples rights, we want to highlight a few current key initiatives we are undertaking as part of efforts in the Bank to advance good practices and lessons learned related to Indigenous rights, norms and standards over the last ten years since the UN Declaration has been adopted.

First, the World Bank has taken steps and dedicated efforts to improve the knowledge and awareness of Bank staff with respect to operationalizing Indigenous rights in Bank projects supported by the Nordic Trust Fund. We gratefully acknowledge the participation and collaboration of human rights experts from EMRIP, the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), the ILO, the Nordic Trust Fund and the World Bank who are members of the Human Rights Expert Group that was created under this grant to provide guidance and technical assistance to eight Bank projects related to Indigenous Peoples and ethnic minorities.

Second, to achieve the World Bank's twin goals—boosting shared prosperity and end extreme poverty—the Bank is initiating an Indigenous Peoples Technical Advisory Group to promote the inclusion and participation of Indigenous Peoples to inform Bank projects.

Third, the Bank is supporting the rights of Indigenous Peoples of ten countries in Central Africa to participate in decision-making over their lands, territories and natural resources at the global, subnational and national levels by strengthening their capacities of their representative organizations. In addition, the Bank is also committed to strengthening Indigenous Peoples' capacity and enhancing their participation in key climate change processes through initiatives supported by trust funds. For example, those funded by the World Bank's Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF), the Climate Investment Funds (CIF), the Dedicated Grant Mechanism (DGM), and the African Catalytic Growth Fund. In addition, the CIF also recognizes the importance of including traditional knowledge and technology rooted in Indigenous Peoples'



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values and experience, as an important source of innovation for climate science and practice. They have commenced efforts to promote recognition of traditional knowledge and technology to climate solutions within the World Bank and beyond.

Fourth, our learning process gained momentum in 2012, when the World Bank developed a new Environmental and Social Framework that was informed by a wide and extensive consultation process that included Indigenous Peoples in all regions. Our Framework is a more comprehensive set of standards that ensures the respect of Indigenous Peoples' dignity, human rights, economies, and cultures. Among other developments, the new Framework includes an Environmental and Social Standard (ESS 7) for Indigenous Peoples/sub-Saharan African Historically Underserved Traditional Local Communities and realigns itself with the UNDRIP to recognize the Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) of Indigenous Peoples in World Bank funded projects. Indigenous Peoples will also be crucial partners in the roll-out phase of the Framework.

In closing, the UN Declaration is a vital instrument to help guide the Bank in its mandate to achieve the twin goals and Indigenous Peoples' right to inclusive development. We value the collaborations to date with the EMRIP members and we look forward to continued productive and collaborative engagement on this front.

Thank you.