



The Inspection Panel

THE WORLD BANK  
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# ACCOUNTABILITY MATTERS

OCTOBER 2016

## HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS ISSUE

### Emerging Lessons Series

Panel releases the second report in its Emerging Lessons Series.

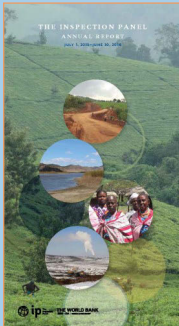
### Uganda, Kosovo Reports

Panel sends Uganda and Kosovo investigation reports to the Board.

### New Cases

Panel registers cases from Uganda and Colombia; issues Notice of Receipt in India case.

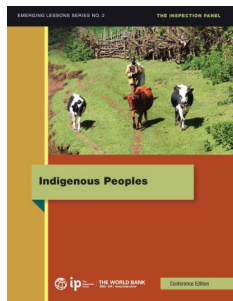
### Panel Publishes its 2015-2016 Annual Report



The Inspection Panel has published its annual report detailing activities conducted during the World Bank's 2016 fiscal year. The report provides summaries of cases the Panel processed from July 1, 2015, to June 30, 2016, and also includes a message from the Panel, highlights of the Panel's year, the Panel budget, biographical information on the Panel leadership, and information on the nature of the Panel's casework over more than two decades. An electronic version of the report, which includes links to all of the cases mentioned in the report, is available on the Panel's website.

## FEATURE

### PANEL RELEASES SECOND EMERGING LESSONS SERIES REPORT



The Inspection Panel on October 4 released the second report in its Emerging Lessons Series. The report, which detailed lessons from Panel cases involving indigenous peoples, was released at a side event during the International Monetary Fund-World Bank Group Annual Meetings. Panel Chairman Gonzalo Castro de la Mata presented the main findings of the report at the event, which was chaired by Melanie Robinson, World Bank executive director for the United Kingdom. Maninder Gill, director with the

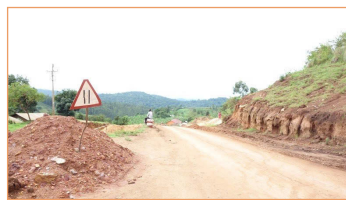
World Bank's Social, Urban, Rural and Resilience Global Practice, and Albert Barume, chairperson/president of the UN Expert Mechanism of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, also took part in the event. The report concluded that the preparation stage of the project cycle is particularly important when it comes to projects involving Indigenous Peoples. It also said that greater expertise needs to be deployed to capture the specificities of Indigenous Peoples, their livelihoods and their attachment to lands and resources. The report series identifies lessons emerging from the Panel's caseload. The initial report in the series, which identified lessons from cases related to involuntary resettlement, was released in April. Subsequent reports will cover environmental and social assessment, and issues related to consultation, participation and disclosure of information. Those reports will be released in 2017. [More](#)



## INVESTIGATION REPORTS

### PANEL SUBMITS UGANDA, KOSOVO INVESTIGATION REPORTS TO BOARD

The Inspection Panel has submitted to the World Bank's Board of Executive Directors its investigation reports into complaints from Uganda and Kosovo. The Board is expected to discuss and publicly release the two reports later this year.



The September 2015 complaint from Uganda concerned the World Bank-funded upgrading and rehabilitation of the Kamwenge-Fort Portal road. Complainants raised several concerns related to the project, including lack of participation, inadequate road and occupational health and safety measures, poor labor practices, inadequate compensation, fear of retaliation, sex with minors and teenage pregnancies by road workers, increased sex work, the spread of sexually transmitted infections, sexual harassment of female employees, child labor and school dropouts. The project was canceled by the

Bank on December 21, 2015, and the Board approved the Panel's recommendation to investigate in January 2016. The complaint from Kosovo raised several instances of harm related to loss of land, loss of livelihoods, restrictions on economic development and forced displacement. The June 2015 complaint came from residents of Hade village and Obiliq municipality. Complainants believe the harm emanates from the Bank's engagement in Kosovo's power sector over the years – including the financing of the Resettlement Action Plan for the Shala neighborhood of Hade village, and the Resettlement Policy Framework for the New Mining Field, which set the standard for future resettlement expected as the Sibovc Mine expands.



Following the submission of its investigation reports to the Board and under a pilot program as part of its new Operating Procedures, the Panel made the Table of Findings of each report available to complainants on a confidential basis to assist in a meaningful consultation process on the Management Action Plan.

The Board of Executive Directors created the Inspection Panel in 1993 to promote accountability and improve development results at the World Bank. The 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 and wish to seek redress.

For more information visit: [www.inspectionpanel.org](http://www.inspectionpanel.org)

## NEW CASES

### Uganda: Private Power Generation (Bujagali), Water Management and Development, and Energy for Rural Transformation Phase III (Kalagala Offset)

The Inspection Panel in September registered two complaints about the Bank-financed Uganda Private Power Generation (Bujagali) Project, Uganda Water Management and Development Project, and the Energy for Rural Transformation Phase III Project. Complainants claimed that the projects will fail in their objective to remedy the environmental and social harm that may occur to the Kalagala Offset Area from the filling of a reservoir related to a downstream dam. The Panel will process the complaints jointly. [More](#)

### Colombia: Río Bogotá Environmental Recuperation and Flood Control

The Panel on October 13 issued a Notice of Registration for two complaints regarding the Río Bogotá Environmental Recuperation and Flood Control Project in Colombia. The complaints were filed by the “Fundación Colectivo Somos Uno” and the “Mesa Cuidadana Cortijo Tibaguya.” The complainants, who asked for confidentiality, raised concerns about the improvement and expansion of the Salitre Waste Water Treatment Plant in Bogotá. They claimed that residents of the neighboring communities are likely to suffer environmental, health and social harm as a result of the expansion of the plant, and allege negative environmental impacts on the wetlands and ecosystems of the area. They also questioned the analysis of alternatives, and claimed that the project in its current location and form is not technically, environmentally and socially viable. The Panel will process the complaints jointly. [More](#)

### India: Proposed Amaravati Sustainable Capital City Development Project

The Panel on October 8 received a complaint about the Amaravati Sustainable Capital City Development Project in India’s Amaravati Capital Region. Amaravati is proposed to be the capital of the State of Andhra Pradesh after its bifurcation. The complainants, who asked for confidentiality, stated they are likely to suffer harm as a result of the World Bank’s failures or omissions with respect to environmental and social impacts related to a land-pooling scheme being used to acquire land for the capital city. In line with its Operating Procedures, the Panel is reviewing the complaint to determine its admissibility. [More](#)

## NON-REGISTERED CASES

### Mexico: Urban Transport Transformation Project

The Inspection Panel in early August issued a Notice of Non-Registration of a complaint about the Urban Transport Transformation Project in Mexico. The complaint was received on April 1 and claimed that inadequate planning and project design were leading to environmental degradation. The Panel confirmed the alleged harm was not linked to a Bank-financed project. [More](#)

### India: Andhra Pradesh & Telangana Road Sector and National Highways Interconnectivity Improvement Project

The Panel in September received complaints from community members from Muramalla Village, Polavaram Mandal, in East Godavari District of the State of Andhra Pradesh, India. They claimed harm caused by the involuntary resettlement, environmental degradation and lack of consultation in the context of the widening of National Highway 216 (NH 216). As in a previous case relating to NH 216, the Panel conducted its due diligence and determined that the alleged harm is not linked to any project supported by the World Bank, and did not register the request. [More](#)

### Bangladesh: Trade and Transport Studies RETF Project

The Panel on October 18 issued a Notice of Non-Registration of a Request for Inspection of the Bangladesh Trade and Transport Studies RETF Project, which includes a feasibility study of route options connecting Thegamukh and Chittagong Port. The Panel had received a complaint from members of indigenous communities in the Chittagong Hill Tracts area of Bangladesh who claimed to represent four indigenous communities living in the area. The complainants alleged the absence of meaningful engagement with indigenous peoples and raised concerns over land issues, forests, the environment and cultural sites. The Panel learned that

the World Bank did not accept the feasibility study of route options because it was not satisfied with the standard of consultations and the quality of the draft. The Panel received a memorandum from Bank management assuring the Panel that the Bank would not proceed with any activities to connect Thegamukh and Chittagong Port. Since the draft feasibility study did not cause a material adverse effect and because there is no longer the potential for harm to materialize given the Bank’s decision not to move forward, the Panel did not register the complaint. [More](#)

## OUTREACH

### Panel Member Speaks to Philippine CSOs



Panel Member Jan Mattsson explained the Panel’s mandate and process to about 50 representatives of mostly Philippine-based civil society organizations at the 13th annual meeting of the Independent Accountability Mechanisms (IAMs) in

Manila on September 6. The presentation was part of an all-day meeting at the Asian Development Bank involving officials of the IAMs and representatives of local, regional and international CSOs. [More](#)

### Panel Hosts Human Rights Advocates

The Inspection Panel on October 20 hosted participants in the Human Rights Advocates Program at Columbia University for a briefing on the Panel’s mandate and process. Senior Operations Officer Mishka Zaman and Chairman Gonzalo



Castro de la Mata explained how the Panel works, listed and described ongoing cases, and briefed participants on guidelines intended to address retaliation against those who seek to work with the Panel, and on the Panel’s role under the World Bank’s new Environmental and Social Framework. [More](#)

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