

# Engaging with Communities and other stakeholders

IDB Invest promotes open, transparent and inclusive engagement between the client and stakeholders, particularly affected communities, as a key element to enhance the environmental and social sustainability of investments.



## WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO BUILD A MEANINGFUL STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT?



**1. It is the basis for constructive relationships** with local communities and other groups who may be affected by a project, or have an interest in it.



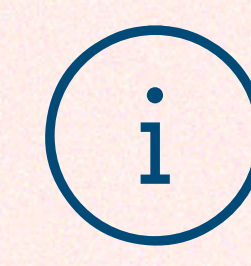
**2. It helps in vulnerable groups identification** specially those:



Disproportionately affected by the project.



With limited access to benefits from project opportunities.



**3. It is an essential information tool** about local knowledge and perspectives that should be considered in the project.

Stakeholder engagement should be a respectful and good-faith dialogue process between a project sponsor and affected or interested stakeholders.

## 8 PRINCIPLES THAT EVERY PROJECT SHOULD FOLLOW

While the specifics of project-level stakeholder engagement will vary depending on the nature of the project and the local context, a meaningful process should reflect the following principles and elements:

**1.** |

**It should be an ongoing process**  
This should be undertaken as a process both during project preparation and implementation, rather than one or a few isolated events.

**2.** |

**It should be based on a disaggregated analysis**  
This analysis must ensure that different categories of stakeholders are represented and involved.

**3.** |

**It should be equal for all**  
It must ensure that all vulnerable groups among stakeholders are given a voice and are not disproportionately impacted by the project.

**4.** |

**It should provide prior and understandable information**  
About relevant aspects of the project, in a language, format, and manner that is appropriate, clear, and accessible.

**5.** |

**It should be inclusive at all stages**  
It must ensure that all relevant perspectives are captured and considered.

**6.** |

**It should be free of reprisals**  
Participants, including those who voice opposition to the project, should be protected against reprisals, coercion or intimidation.

**7.** |

**It should be transparent**  
With documentation and public disclosure of how stakeholders are engaged, what their views and concerns are, and how stakeholder perspectives are considered and reflected.

**8.** |

**It should address grievance and concerns**  
It must be able to seek remedy from the client if they feel the project may cause harm to them or the environment.

### KEY VALUES

PARTICIPATION    DIALOGUE    PROTECTION    TRANSPARENCY    INCLUSION