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Civil Society Engagement eNewsletter - February/March 2016



February/March 2016 eNewsletter

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- * Now Open - CSO registration for the 2016 Spring Meetings
- * Indigenous Poverty in Latin America

Also This Month

Events & Consultations

Review and Update of the World Bank Safeguard Policies - Consultations Close March 15, 2016: The 3rd phase of consultations on the revised (second) draft will close on March 15th. Prior to this date, you are invited to participate in any of the [online consultations](#), through the World Bank Live platform, that will take place early in the week of March 8, 2016. [More](#)

World Bank Group Country Strategies: In this edition, we highlight the recently completed [Systematic Country Diagnostic for Sri Lanka](#). Access more of the latest country engagement documents [here](#).

Follow the World Bank Fragility Forum Online: The 2016 World Bank Group

Highlights

CSO Registration for the 2016 Spring Meetings - Now Open



The 2016 Spring Meetings Civil Society Policy Forum (CSPF) will convene from April 12 – 15, 2016. CSO registration is now open until April 1, 2016. More information about registration and the policy forum in general can be found on our [new Civil Society Policy Forum event page](#). A draft schedule will be available on this site from March 14.

World Bank MD Sri Mulyani Indrawati Meets with European CSOs

When World Bank MD and COO Sri Mulyani Indrawati visited European capitals earlier this year, she took the opportunity to meet with a range of civil society organizations. At roundtables in the Netherlands, Berlin and London, she spoke about the development milestones of the past year, the challenges of the year ahead and how these relate to the International Development Association (IDA), the World Bank's fund for the poorest. Participants also raised points around climate change, gender, inclusive growth, fragility, Safeguards, the GPSA and data.

Indigenous Poverty is More Than Double that of Other Latin Americans

Fragility, Conflict and Violence Forum 2016 will take place in Washington DC from March 1-3. Registration is now closed but a number of events will be broadcast online. Learn more and follow the conversation [here](#).

Help us Improve Learning about Water and Sanitation by taking this [brief survey](#) about the Water and Sanitation Program's research and knowledge products.

Upcoming Events

[Annual World Bank Conference on Land and Poverty](#): Washington DC, March 14-18, 2016.

[IMF/World Bank 2016 Spring Meeting Civil Society Policy Forum](#): Washington DC, April 12 -15, 2016

[InterAction Forum 2016](#): Washington DC, April 18-20.

[3rd GPSA Global Partners Forum](#), Washington DC, May 19-20, 2016

Blogs

Aqeela Asifi: Refugee and Tireless Champion for Education - Recognized for her indefatigable efforts to educate Afghan girl refugees, Asifi was a guest panelist at the "Managing Displaced Populations – Lessons from Pakistan" discussion with World Bank President Jim Yong Kim during his recent visit to Pakistan. [More](#).



Indigenous peoples achieved significant social gains, poverty reduction, and improved access to basic services during the commodity boom in the early years of the century. Yet, they still face a poverty rate more than double the rest of the population in Latin America, according to a new World Bank study. [Read more](#).

Grievance Redress Service: New Brochure

Last year, the World Bank launched the [Grievance Redress Service](#) (GRS). Through the GRS, individuals and communities that may be directly and adversely affected by a Bank-supported project can bring their concerns directly to the attention of Bank Management. See [the brochure](#) for more information (available in seven languages).

How Can We Leverage Digital Technology for Financial Inclusion?

Last month's workshop on digital finance helped identify the policy implications innovative digital finance has on financial inclusion. Insights will inform the analytical framework for the Bank's policy guidance on digital financial inclusion to inform global policymakers, regulators and other stakeholders. [Read more](#).

'Voice and Agency' Summaries Available to Ship

Executive summaries of [Voice and Agency: Empowering Women and Girls for Shared Prosperity](#) are now available in English, French, Spanish, and Arabic. The WBG Gender team would like to make hard copies available to NGO, think tanks and others, ahead of International Women's Day on March 8 and beyond. If interested, please contact [Mame Niasse](#) and specify how many copies and in what languages you would like them.

For more on World Bank - Civil Society Engagement, visit, www.worldbank.org/civilsociety.

Regional News

AFRICA (AFR) Breaking the Gender Earning Gap in Africa:

Few women work in male-dominated industries in Africa and globally. Women in typically male sectors earn as much as their male peers and three times more than other women, according to a recent World Bank study in Uganda. They are 3.5 times more likely to have been introduced to their work by a male family member and 80% more likely to have had a male role model than other women. [More](#)

* [View regional site](#)

East Asia Pacific (EAP) Generasi - Improving the Health and Future of Indonesia's Children:

This feature story looks at the impact of Indonesia's Generasi program launched in 2007 to improve maternal and child health and universal access to education. It says that to date participating villages have seen a ten percent reduction in childhood malnutrition compared to non-participating communities. [See details»](#)

* [View regional site](#)

Europe and Central Asia (ECA) World Bank Promotes Citizen Engagement for Better Development Results in Tajikistan:

In early February, the World Bank supported the organization of a series of capacity building workshops in Tajikistan to promote stronger participation of civil society in development projects, including those financed by the WBG. [See details»](#)

* [View regional site](#)

Latin America and Caribbean (LAC) World Bank Provides \$150 Million to Combat Zika Virus in LAC:

In order to support countries in Latin America and the Caribbean affected by the Zika virus outbreak, the World Bank Group has made US\$150 million immediately available to support a range of activities critical to the Zika virus response. [See details»](#)

* [View regional site](#)

Middle East and North Africa (MENA) The Cost of War & Peace in the Middle East and North: Middle East and North Africa (MENA)

Five years of war in Syria and spillovers to the neighboring countries have cost close to US\$35 billion in output, according to World Bank's recent MENA Quarterly Economic Brief. By restoring peace and moving to full democracy, the expected economic growth in the region could instead reach 7.8 percent in five years. [See details»](#)

* [View regional site](#)

South Asia (SAR) Pakistani Youth See Economy :

World Bank Group president Jim Yong Kim met with Pakistani students eager to discuss social innovation, entrepreneurship and inclusive growth. This is an important theme for Pakistan and one particularly relevant to the country's young population. Nearly two-thirds of Pakistan's population is 24 years old or under. [See details»](#)

* [View regional site](#)

This Newsletter is produced by the Civil Society Team of the World Bank Group (WBG) in collaboration with other WBG units. The Newsletter highlights several policies, programs, and initiatives of the WBG which may involve or be of interest to CSOs. We welcome your comments and feedback to make this newsletter as useful as possible. You can subscribe to the Newsletter using a [new registration page](#). Please share your comments on the Newsletter with us: civilsociety@worldbank.org. All past issues of the Newsletter can be found at [here](#). To unsubscribe click [here](#). For more on the World Bank - Civil Society Engagement, visit our [website](#).



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