

2025 ANNUAL REPORT

THE INSPECTION PANEL



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MESSAGE FROM THE PANEL

Fiscal Year 2025 was a year of agility and resilience for the Inspection Panel. We continued to uphold our mandate of ensuring accountability at the World Bank by addressing the complaints of project-affected people, strengthening our processes, and deepening engagement with the Board of Executive Directors, civil society, and other stakeholders. We did this while managing casework and participating in institutional reforms relating to the Accountability Mechanism (AM) and to the Inspection Panel.

Over the course of the year, the Panel processed eight new Requests for Inspection, registering six of them, and completing six eligibility assessments of complex cases in multiple regions. We concluded our investigation into the Tanzania REGROW Project, which highlighted important lessons about the risks conservation projects in protected areas carry when they restrict a community's access to natural resources and adversely affect the safety and livelihoods of people living in and around them. Marking a first in its history, the Panel recommended a verification of the Management Action Plan (MAP) addressing its investigation findings in Togo. This affirmed the role of the Panel in reassuring the Board that MAPs are implemented as it had approved.

Alongside its case work, the Panel was actively engaged in broader institutional reforms throughout the year. We contributed to the World Bank's ongoing efforts to strengthen its accountability architecture, including an external review of reforms to the Panel's toolkit and the creation of the AM. This review led to the restructuring of the AM—with the Panel and the Dispute Resolution Service now operating as two parallel entities each reporting independently to the Board—and to subsequent amendments to the Resolution and Operating Procedures. More recently, the Panel

contributed to the Board's Committee on Development Effectiveness in its consideration of the integration of the institution's accountability mechanisms as part of the One World Bank vision. Amidst these changes, the Panel and the staff have remained agile and resilient.

Through conferences in which the Panel participated, such as the annual meeting of the Independent Accountability Mechanisms Network (IAMnet) in Manila, COP29 in Baku, dialogues with stakeholders at the Civil Society Policy Forum, and a joint workshop with the Compliance Review Panel of the Asian Development Bank, we reinforced that changes—either in increasing financing through full mutual reliance with other development banks, the pivot of financing priorities, and/or potential integration of accountability mechanisms—must not undermine the rights of the Requesters or cause a regression to the accountability functions. This year, the Panel also contributed to technical conferences: (i) the 44th International Association of Impact Assessment in Bologna centered on use of artificial intelligence, and (ii) data harmonization workshops in London, working alongside various IAMs to discuss the fundamental principles guiding the sharing, management, use, and disclosure of case-related data.

As we move forward, we also wish to express our appreciation to Mark Goldsmith, who joined the Panel in November 2019, served as Chairperson from December 2023 to November 2024 and completed his term as Panel member in March 2025. During his tenure, he was involved in many Panel cases, leading the investigation into the Tanzania REGROW Project. Mark was instrumental in the Panel's close engagement with the Board and review team during the external review. His leadership was also instrumental in advancing key Panel initiatives, including the publication of non-technical case summaries and roundtable video discussions designed to broaden public access to our work by making highly technical language accessible.

Looking ahead, the Panel remains committed to listening to the voices of affected communities, addressing allegations of harm with independence, and ensuring that World Bank projects not only meet policy standards but also take remedial measures when significant harms are committed.

Ibrahim Pam, Chairperson
Evelyn Dietsche
Ajay Achyutrao Deshpande



PANEL STAFF

Left to right: Kojo Ano Benu-Ado, Serge Selwan, Richard Wyness, Camila Jorge do Amaral, Rupes Dalai, Cristiane Bena Dias, Ayako Kubodera, Dion Romano

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I.

ABOUT THE INSPECTION PANEL



THE INSPECTION PANEL

The Inspection Panel is an impartial, fact-finding, complaints mechanism that is independent of World Bank Management and that reports directly to the World Bank's Board of Executive Directors. The Board created the Inspection Panel in 1993 to offer people and communities access to a neutral body should they wish to raise concerns about—or seek recourse for harm caused by—projects funded by the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the International Development Association (jointly referred to as the World Bank). The Panel's process promotes accountability at the World Bank, gives affected people a greater voice in Bank-supported activities that affect their rights and interests, and provides redress when warranted.

STRUCTURE OF THE INSPECTION PANEL AND ITS TEAM

The Inspection Panel consists of three members appointed by the Board for five-year, non-renewable terms. Members are selected for their ability to deal thoroughly and fairly with the complaints brought to them, their integrity, their independence from Bank Management, and their familiarity with developmental issues and living conditions in developing countries. The Inspection Panel is assisted by dedicated staff who provide technical, operational, and administrative support. For its fact-finding and investigations, the Panel also engages independent, internationally recognized experts to ensure objective and professional assessment of the issues under review.

In September 2020, the Board updated the Panel's funding resolution to establish the Accountability Mechanism (AM), which included the Inspection Panel and introduced a Dispute Resolution Service (DRS). The Inspection Panel coordinates with the DRS on wider accountability initiatives such as outreach and events. On January 8, 2025, the Board separated the Panel and DRS into two parallel entities, each reporting separately and directly to the Board. On March 7, 2025, the Board adopted Resolution No. IBRD 2025-0001 and Resolution No. IDA 2025-0001 titled: "The World Bank Accountability Mechanism: Inspection Panel and Dispute Resolution Service" which superseded the September 2020 Resolution, and would amend the Panel's Operating Procedure moving forward.

WHAT THE INSPECTION PANEL DOES

In response to complaints from project-affected individuals or groups concerning Bank-funded projects, the Panel assesses allegations of harm to people, communities, or the environment and reviews whether the Bank has followed its operational policies and procedures.

This assessment often involves issues such as:

- Adverse effects on people and livelihoods due to displacement and resettlement related to infrastructure projects—including the construction of hydroelectric dams, roads and pipelines, the development of mines, and the management of landfills,
- Direct or indirect risks to people and the environment,
- Risks to Indigenous Peoples, their culture, traditions, land tenure, and development rights,
- Adverse effects on physical and cultural heritage, including sacred places, and
- Harm to natural habitats, including protected areas such as wetlands, forests, and water bodies.

The Panel also provides advisory services through various reports and publications on lessons emerging from its cases. Furthermore, the Panel organizes and participates in outreach activities, seminars, and other events to disseminate information about the Panel, its mandate, and work.



II.

CASE OVERVIEW



Registration 8	Eligibility 6	Dispute Resolution 2	Investigation 1	Verification 1
Registered 1) Serbia 2) Pakistan 3) Ecuador 4) India (Amaravati) 5) India (GNHCP) 6) Tajikistan Not Registered 7) Nigeria 8) Poland	Investigation Recommended 1) Pakistan Pending Board Decision 2) Serbia 3) Tajikistan Deferred 4) India (GNHCP) Investigation Not Recommended 5) Ecuador 6) India (Amaravati)	1) Viet Nam 2) Pakistan	1) Tanzania	1) Togo

During Fiscal Year 2025, the Inspection Panel reviewed the technical admissibility of eight Requests for Inspection. Of these, the Panel registered six Requests relating to Bank-funded projects in Serbia, Pakistan, Ecuador, Tajikistan, and India. Two Requests relating to projects in Nigeria and Poland were not registered.

In Fiscal Year 2025, the Panel assessed the eligibility of the six Requests that it registered for inspection. Of these, two cases (*Serbia: Public Sector Efficiency and Green Recovery Development Policy Loan* and *Tajikistan: Sustainable Financing for Rogun Hydropower Project and Technical Assistance for Financing Framework for Rogun Hydropower Project*) are currently pending decision by the Board.

The Request relating to the *India: Green National Highways Corridor Project* was deferred for six months until January 2026, after an eligibility assessment.

After eligibility assessments, two Requests relating to *Ecuador: Strengthening the National Statistical System in Ecuador Project* and *India: Amaravati Integrated Urban Development Program*, were not recommended for investigation.

One Request related to *Pakistan: Khyber Pass Economic Corridor Project* recommended for investigation, was transferred for dispute resolution upon agreement by the Requesters and the Borrower. This was in addition to another Request relating to a project in Viet Nam, which was already undergoing dispute resolution: *Viet Nam: Vietnam Coastal Cities Sustainable Environment Project – Second Request*.

During Fiscal Year 2025, the Panel also completed investigation into the *Tanzania: Resilient Natural Resource Management for Tourism and Growth (REGROW) Project*.

The Inspection Panel Framework for Proportionality Criteria and Modalities for Independent Verification of Management Action Plan Implementation gives the Panel a mandate to request the approval of the Board to undertake an independent verification of the implementation of a Management Action Plan (MAP). The Panel submitted its first recommendation to verify the implementation of a MAP that was designed to address the Panel's findings of non-compliance related to the investigation into the *Togo, Western Africa: West Africa Coastal Areas Resilience Investment Project, Additional Financing, and Global Environment Facility (GEF)*.

III.

STATUS OF CASES



01.

REGISTRATION

A. REGISTERED

During Fiscal Year 2025, the Panel assessed the technical admissibility of eight Requests for Inspection. Of these, six Requests were registered relating to Bank-funded projects in Serbia, Pakistan, Ecuador, Tajikistan, and two in India. The details of these cases are presented in the succeeding sections.

B. NOT REGISTERED

Two Requests for Inspection relating to Bank-funded projects in Nigeria and Poland were determined to be inadmissible and therefore the Panel did not register these Requests. The reasons for non-registration are explained in the table below.

PROJECT	REASON FOR NOT REGISTERING THE REQUEST
Nigeria: Ibadan Urban Flood Management Project	After the Panel verified the admissibility criteria and posted the Notice of Receipt, Bank Management informed the Panel that following its direct engagement with the project-affected persons (PAPs) including the Requesters, the issues were resolved, and the PAPs confirmed their satisfaction with the received compensation for any harms caused. The Panel also obtained written confirmation from the Requesters that confirmed their receipt of adequate compensation. Therefore, the Panel considered that the issues raised by the Requesters were addressed, and they were no longer adversely affected by the Project. See the full Notice of Non-Registration here: Nigeria: Ibadan Urban Flood Management Project .
Poland: Odra-Vistula Flood Management Project – Tenth Request	The Panel determined that at the time of the receipt of the Request the Project's loan financing had already been fully disbursed and therefore the Request could not be admitted as set out in paragraph 15 (c) (i) of the Resolution. See the full Notice of Non-Registration here: Poland: Odra-Vistula Flood Management Project – Tenth Request .

02.

ELIGIBILITY

Of the six Requests registered during the fiscal year, six underwent eligibility assessment. Two Requests from Serbia and Tajikistan are pending Board decision on the Panel's Report and Recommendation. In one Request from India, the Panel deferred for six months its recommendation for investigation while the Requests from Ecuador and another from India were not recommended for investigations. The Request from Pakistan was recommended for investigation and is currently undergoing the dispute resolution process, along with the earlier case in Viet Nam. See details of each case below:

A. CASES AT ELIGIBILITY - PENDING BOARD DECISION

SERBIA

PUBLIC SECTOR EFFICIENCY AND GREEN RECOVERY DEVELOPMENT POLICY LOAN

PROJECT INFORMATION

Project No.	P164575
Region	Europe and Central Asia
IBRD Loan Amount	EUR82.6 million
Board Approval Date	April 29, 2021
Closing Date	December 31, 2022

The project development objective is to support the Government of Serbia's efforts to (i) increase public-sector efficiency and transparency and (ii) initiate a green recovery.

THE REQUEST

On March 31, 2024, a Request for Inspection was submitted by A11—Initiative for Economic and Social Rights (the A11 Initiative), a nongovernmental organization in Belgrade, Serbia, representing six individuals living in Serbia, some of whom belong to the Roma community. The A11 Initiative asked Amnesty International—an international civil society organization—to serve as their advisor in the Panel process.

The Request alleged four main adverse impacts resulting from the enactment of the Law on Social Card and, consequently, the Bank's support, as part of its development policy financing, for the establishment of the Social Card Registry (SCR). First, the Request said the SCR negatively affected approximately 44,000 beneficiaries, and the implementation of the Law on Social Card has had a disproportionately negative impact on the social protections of vulnerable citizens—including members of the Roma community—and on their access to financial social benefits. Second, the Request claimed that the Law on Social Card was enacted without prior public consultation, and that the algorithm used to determine whether beneficiaries meet the criteria for financial social assistance was not publicly available, despite repeated requests to the Government for information. Third, the Request alleged that those adversely affected were unable to seek remedy through appropriate administrative means. Fourth, the Request contends the Law on Social Card does not align with a human rights-based approach to data management due to the undisclosed algorithm, the centralization of data in a single register, non-compliance with the data minimization principle, and the lack of adequate oversight of a semi-automated decision-making system. The Request alleged the Registry exacerbates existing flaws in the system that discriminates against the Roma people.

The Panel verified the technical admissibility of the Request for Inspection and issued the Notice of Registration on August 24, 2024.

PANEL'S ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT AND RECOMMENDATION

The Panel verified the technical admissibility of the Request for Inspection and issued the Notice of Registration on August 27, 2024. The Panel received the Management Response to the Request for Inspection on September 27, 2024. Following this, the Panel proceeded to assess the eligibility of the Requesters and the Request and, on November 12, 2024, submitted its Report and Recommendation to the Board of Executive Directors.

As of June 30, 2025, the Panel's Report and Recommendation was pending Board decision.

TAJIKISTAN**SUSTAINABLE FINANCING FOR ROGUN HYDROPOWER PROJECT****PROJECT INFORMATION**

Project No.	P181029
Region	Central Asia
IDA Credit Amount	US\$350.00 million
Board Approval Date	December 17, 2024
Closing Date	June 30, 2029

The project development objective is to increase supply of clean, affordable, and climate resilient hydroelectricity for consumers in Tajikistan and the Central Asia region by 2 terawatt hours.

TAJIKISTAN**TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR FINANCING FRAMEWORK FOR ROGUN HYDROPOWER PROJECT****PROJECT INFORMATION**

Project No.	P178819
Region	Central Asia
IDA Credit Amount	US\$15.00 million
Board Approval Date	June 12, 2023
Closing Date	December 31, 2026

The project development objective of the TA is to strengthen the Rogun HPP Project's financial and commercial frameworks, enhance its environmental and social sustainability, improve transparency, and support establishment of Rogun HPP Project's benefit sharing program.

THE REQUEST

On February 24, 2025, the Panel received a Request for Inspection from two individuals, one based in Turkmenistan and the other in Uzbekistan, who claim to represent their respective communities. The Request alleges that the Rogun Hydropower Project is likely to cause wide-ranging socioeconomic and ecological harms downstream of Tajikistan's Vakhsh Hydropower Cascade including in the two riparian countries, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. The Request alleges that the Bank did not comply with its Environmental and Social Framework and the Project's Environmental and Social Management Plan and Environmental and Social Commitment Plan were not "robust". The Request further alleges that the Bank's "errors and omissions" in the design and implementation of the Hydropower Project will likely contribute to ecological harm and associated negative environmental, social, and human health impacts for downstream communities. The Request also alleges a lack of meaningful consultation and stakeholder engagement in the two riparian countries.

The Panel verified the technical admissibility of the Request for Inspection and issued the Notice of Registration on April 8, 2025.

THE PANEL'S ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT AND RECOMMENDATION

The Panel verified the technical admissibility of the Request for Inspection and issued the Notice of Registration on April 8, 2025. The Panel received the Management Response to the Request for Inspection on May 23, 2025. Following this, the Panel assessed the eligibility of the Requesters and their Request and, on June 26, 2025, submitted its Report and Recommendation to the Board of Executive Directors.

As of June 30, 2025, the Panel's Report and Recommendation was pending Board decision.

B. ELIGIBILITY DEFERRED

INDIA

GREEN NATIONAL HIGHWAYS CORRIDOR PROJECT

PROJECT INFORMATION

Project No.	P167350
Region	South Asia
IBRD Credit Amount	US\$500 million
Board Approval Date	March 27, 2020
Closing Date	December 31, 2025

The project development objective is to demonstrate safe and green National Highway corridors in selected Indian states and enhance the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways's institutional capacity in mainstreaming safety and green technologies.

THE REQUEST

On February 5, 2025, the Inspection Panel received a Request for Inspection concerning this Project. The Request was signed by 109 individuals who either live or own shops in the district of Farrukhabad in Uttar Pradesh, India. The Request raises concerns about the Project's widening and fencing off of an existing road that runs through a community market and the plan to construct tollbooths for a toll plaza beside the community. According to the Request, the toll plaza and widened road will obstruct access to the community market, shops, houses, and a school. The Request alleges the toll plaza is being constructed in front of the school gate, thereby blocking access for approximately 367 students. According to the Request, the Project will threaten community members' livelihoods, as shop-owners may "lose their businesses and face unemployment." The Request also states homeowners near the road are concerned they will lose permanent access to their properties once construction is completed. Lastly, the Request claims neither the Bank nor the National Highway Authority of India visited their community to consult them about the Project.

The Panel verified the technical admissibility of the Request for Inspection and issued the Notice of Registration on March 14, 2025.

THE MANAGEMENT RESPONSE

The Panel received the Management Response to the Request for Inspection on May 5, 2025. The Management Response noted that the original layout of the toll plaza in the 2019 Detailed Project Report required land acquisition that would have affected shops and the school mentioned in the Request. In response to community concerns and following a 2021 court decision, the layout was revised to eliminate land acquisition and the demolition of structures. This change was communicated to the affected households, with further adjustments made to shift the toll administration building and booths away from nearby buildings. According to Management, despite the revisions, the community remained dissatisfied and filed a complaint with the Bank's Grievance Redress Service. Thus, Management responded to these concerns and requested that works be halted to consider alternatives. The Response further stated that Management required the Borrower to assess impacts of the toll plaza on livelihoods, road safety, and access to schools, and to provide mitigation and compensation as needed under the Resettlement Policy Framework. Management also advised additional community consultations.

Subsequently, in March 2025, the Borrower informed the Bank it would discontinue construction of the toll plaza at the original site and relocate it about one kilometer away to a site requiring no land acquisition or demolition. Notices were issued in April 2025 to inform residents of the relocation decision, and a joint site visit by the Project Implementing Unit and the Bank was held on April 30, 2025, with direct community interaction.

In conclusion, Management stated that by moving the toll plaza away from its original site, the concerns raised in the Request are "fully addressed," and therefore the Requesters' rights and interests have not been, nor will be, adversely affected by non-compliance with Bank policies and procedures.

THE PANEL'S ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT AND RECOMMENDATION

The Panel submitted its Report and Recommendation to the Board of Executive Directors on June 4, 2025, initially recommending an investigation to the Request for Inspection. Following this, prior to the Board having approved the investigation, Management sent the Panel an

Addendum to its initial Management Response on June 11, 2025, acknowledging the lapses in the Bank's application of its policies and procedures and six actions designed to address the residual harms suffered by the Requesters. The Panel met with the Requesters on June 16, 2025, to inform them of the proposed actions set out in the Management's Addendum and to get their views. After the meeting, the Requesters sent an email to the Panel expressing their agreement with the proposed actions and their gratitude.

Following the agreement from the Requesters, on June 18, 2025, the Panel revised its initial recommendation for an investigation and deferred its decision for six months to allow time for the actions to be implemented. On July 3, 2025, the Board approved the Panel's recommendation to defer its decision by six months. The Panel will issue a new recommendation at the end of the six-month period.

C. INVESTIGATION NOT RECOMMENDED

ECUADOR

STRENGTHENING THE NATIONAL STATISTICAL SYSTEM IN ECUADOR PROJECT

PROJECT INFORMATION

Project No.	P178564
Region	Latin America and Caribbean
IBRD Credit Amount	US\$80 million
Board Approval Date	June 30, 2022
Closing Date	July 28, 2027

The project development objective is to improve the national statistical capacity of Ecuador in the production and dissemination of timely and high-quality economic and sociodemographic statistics for evidence-based policymaking.



THE REQUEST

On September 11, 2024, the Inspection Panel received a Request for Inspection from seven leaders of six local organizations: the Federation of Indigenous and Peasant Organizations of Azuay, the Water Board of Victoria del Portete and Tarqui, the Association of Afro-Descendants Cimarrón, the Black People's Social Organization, the Transgender Project—Different Bodies Equal Rights, and La Colectiva.Ec. The six organizations authorized the Bank Information Center—a US-based nongovernmental organization—to advise them during the Panel process. The Requesters did not ask for confidentiality.

The Request claimed that the Bank-financed Project has supported implementation of the 2022 Population and Housing Census (the "2022 Census" or "Census") conducted by Ecuador's National Institute of Statistics and Censuses (Instituto Nacional de Estadística y Censos—INEC). The Requesters alleged that the 2022 Census has underreported minority group populations—including communities of Indigenous Peoples, Afro-Ecuadorians, Montubios (Pueblos Indígenas, Afroecuatorianos y Montubios, PIAM), and members of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex plus (LGBTI+) population—and consequently may exclude them from receiving public services and social benefits. The Request also claimed harm to girls and women due to inappropriate questions that "normalize" underage pregnancies, undervalue care and housework, and insufficiently recognize women who head households.

The Request alleged five main issues. First, that the 2022 Census has not sufficiently allowed the PIAM minority groups to self-identify and thereby be counted as members of a diverse set of peoples and indigenous nationalities. Second, the Census results are contributing to these minority groups losing collective rights and reducing their access to basic public goods and services. Third, the Census results are causing the loss of affirmative action benefits for these minority groups. Fourth, the Census has provided the LGBTI+ population with insufficient options for identifying their sex, gender identity, and sexual orientation, and this population fears the resulting consequences for related public policies. Fifth, the Census has reinforced attitudes harmful to women and girls such as insensitivity to and normalization of underage pregnancy, undervaluing care and housework, and insufficient recognition of women heading households. Furthermore, the Request raised concerns about stakeholder engagement, consultation, and dissemination of Census-related information.

The Panel verified the technical admissibility of the Request for Inspection and issued the Notice of Registration on October 21, 2024.

THE MANAGEMENT RESPONSE

On November 20, 2024, Management submitted its response to the Request. Management stated that the Bank carried out its due diligence appropriate to the environmental and social risk of the Project as set out in the Bank's Environmental and Social Framework. It added that the 2022 Census followed international good practice regarding self-identification and that there was no evidence to suggest a systemic problem regarding Census design and data collection. Management also stated that the United Nations Population Fund's (UNFP) preliminary evaluation of the Census indicated it was of good quality, measured in terms of coverage and accuracy. According to Management, the omission rate—a key measure of coverage—was 4.6 percent, meeting international standards for good quality, and was lower than in other Latin American countries. Also, according to Management, various indices of accuracy such as Whipple, Myers, and UN gender ratios had been applied and the Census scored well on all measures.

With respect to LGBTI+ underrepresentation concerns, Management stated that the Project consulted LGBTI+ organizations. Management added that the questions about gender identity and sexual orientation are part of the Government's 2022-2025 Diversity Action Plan to promote the rights and inclusion of LGBTI+ people and that these questions were optional due to their sensitive nature. The Management Response stated that enumerators received specific training and a manual on how to ask these questions. Regarding concerns about women's issues and Census questions on female adolescent fertility, Management also stated that involvement of women's organizations in the consultation was robust. The Response added that the Ministry of Women and Human Rights coordinated input from women's organizations focused on gender issues. The Response further stated that Census design systematically incorporated a gender perspective, including use of gender-neutral language and exclusion of discriminatory terms. Questions related to adolescent fertility were also in line with UNFP guidelines and international practices. The Management Response also stated that the Project complied with the Bank's Environmental and Social Standard 7 on Indigenous Peoples, as meaningful consultations with PIAM at national, regional, and local levels were conducted, and their feedback was incorporated in the Census design.

THE PANEL'S ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT AND RECOMMENDATION

On December 24, 2024, the Panel submitted to the Board its Report and Recommendation recommending not to investigate the Request and the Board approved the recommendation on January 15, 2025.

In its assessment, the Panel determined that Criterion (b) of the Panel's technical eligibility requirements was not met. Criterion (b) requires that: "Request does assert in substance that a serious violation by the Bank of its operational policies and procedures has or is likely to have a material adverse effect on the Requester."

While the Panel acknowledged the concerns the Requesters raised regarding the Census, the Panel could not establish a "direct" link between the alleged harms—such as loss of self-identification, collective rights, and affirmative action—and any action or omission of the Bank with regards to the Project. The Panel considered that the allegations related to the LGBTI+ population constitute "non-accomplishments and unfulfilled expectations" and not "a material deterioration compared to the without-project situation" as required by paragraph 39 of the Panel's Resolution. While the Panel recognized the Census as the main source of sociodemographic information providing data to guide public policy, it observed that policymaking is based on several inputs and deliberations, and therefore, policy decisions are not based solely on Census results.

INDIA

AMARAVATI INTEGRATED URBAN DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

PROJECT INFORMATION

Project No.	P507508
Region	South Asia
IBRD Credit Amount	US\$800 million
Board Approval Date	December 19, 2024
Closing Date	December 31, 2029

The project development objective is to strengthen the institutional framework and infrastructure planning and delivery for inclusive and sustainable urban growth in Amaravati.

THE REQUEST

The Inspection Panel received a Request for Inspection on October 18, 2024, from four individuals and on November 9, 2024, eight executive members of a farmers' federation in the Amaravati Capital Region confirmed in writing their support for the Request. The Request stated that the Amaravati Integrated Urban Development Program (AIUDP) was linked to the Amaravati Sustainable Infrastructure and Institutional Development Project (ASIIDP), a project under preparation for Bank financing in 2018-2019, that was also related to the development of Amaravati Capital City. The Panel had recommended ASIIDP for investigation in March 2019 for non-compliance with respect to Bank Policy livelihood restoration requirements until the Government of India withdrew its request for financing in April 2019, at which time the Panel updated its recommendation to not investigate.

The Request highlighted that ASIIDP had been classified as Category A for environmental and social impacts. It raised "serious concerns" that AIUDP, to be financed under the Bank's Program-for-Results (PforR) Policy, would lower the environmental and social safeguard standards that should be applied and would also risk overlooking ASIIDP's legacy issues such as human rights violations, involuntary resettlement, displacement of local communities, an "illegal" land pooling scheme (LPS), and the intimidation and coercion of landowners. The Request also claimed loss of livelihoods, the risk of food insecurity, and ongoing and future environmental and socioeconomic harm. In addition, it alleged lack of meaningful consultation and disclosure of information, as well as poor labor standards and conditions for construction workers.

The Panel verified the technical admissibility of the Request for Inspection and issued the Notice of Registration on December 17, 2024.

THE MANAGEMENT RESPONSE

The Panel received the Management Response on February 10, 2025. The Response stated that AIUDP had only been approved recently, and Management considered the Request to be premature. Management added that it was confident that the concerns and allegations included in the Request are sufficiently addressed through the Program design.

Management stated that ASIIDP's Investment Project Financing was materially different in terms of its scope, objectives, planned investment activities, and risk levels from AIUDP, which emphasizes a holistic and sustainable model of urban development. It describes how AIUDP is adopting a more integrated approach with a broader scope that emphasizes institutional and systems strengthening as a core element in the mobilization of financing and a central focus on inclusive socioeconomic development for current and future residents of the area.

It acknowledged the land pooling carried out at scale between 2015 and 2019, noting the package of socioeconomic measures in place to support those affected and viewed social risks associated with land pooling as mitigable. Management also acknowledged concerns about procedural fairness in the LPS but considered evidence of systemic issues lacking. Nonetheless, Management stated that social audits have been commissioned that will focus on the land assembly process, the impacts on landowners, agricultural laborers and the landless, and the effectiveness of mitigation measures designed to address impacts on livelihoods. Management stated that the findings and recommendations of these audits will be required to be addressed during the implementation of the Program.

Management highlighted that an assessment of the management systems of AIUDP's implementing agencies had showed broad alignment with Program requirements and recommended gap-filling measures that have been incorporated in the Program Action Plan for implementation to further strengthen the Project's systems. Regarding environmental concerns, the Response stated there were no sensitive receptors nearby and that high-risk activities are excluded from the Program. It explained that measures were proposed to enlarge and protect water bodies for ecological balance and flood resilience, adding that a comprehensive flood management strategy designed to safeguard natural flows and adjacent wetland conservation is under continuous development.

The Response also addressed the Requesters' concerns in relation to working conditions, consultations, and grievance redress, stating that reports of poor working conditions referred to earlier activities and that AIUDP would follow labor standards, with oversight from consultants and a local non-governmental organization engaged by the Project and supported by Bank specialists. Management stated that extensive public consultations showed broad support for the Amaravati city development. The Public Information Centers and a grievance mechanism, established in 2014, with several submission avenues, were highlighted by Management, which added that mechanisms would be further strengthened during implementation.

THE PANEL'S ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT AND RECOMMENDATION

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) is co-financing the Program and the ADB's Compliance Review Panel (CRP) received the same Request from the same Requesters. The Panel and the CRP agreed, for reasons of efficiency, to work jointly on the eligibility assessment. This included a joint Panel and CRP mission to India.

On April 11, 2025, the Panel submitted to the Board its Report and Recommendation recommending to not investigate the Request. The Report and Recommendation was approved by the Board on April 29, 2025. In its report, the Panel acknowledged the serious concerns Requesters had raised. The Panel observed that the issues raised were mainly legacy issues largely linked to the land assembly process that started in 2015. The Panel met with people affected by earlier city development activities and noted that the harms described were related to the effects from when the city development was canceled and the implementation of the city Master Plan was delayed until 2024 when implementation of the city development was re-started.

The Panel noted the Requesters had linked the AIUDP with the Bank's earlier preparation to finance the ASIIDP and believed the Panel's 2019 recommendation to investigate ASIIDP on livelihood restoration remained valid. The Panel observed that this was not the case. It noted as the material difference the fact that the AIUDP is not providing Investment Project Financing but PforR Financing with a focus on building the institutional capacity of the Borrower and its implementing agencies, including helping them manage environmental and social risks. The Panel observed Management's acknowledgement of the many environmental and social risks relating to AIUDP. The Panel also noted that the Program continues the process of assessing impacts related to legacy issues as well as potential future risks in accordance with the adaptive risk management approach of PforR Financing and the applicable PforR Policy and Directive to continuously strengthen systems and capacity to mitigate these risks alongside the implementation of the Program.

The Panel considered the Request premature. Specifically, the Panel did not consider that the Request met Criteria (b) of its technical eligibility criteria, which requires that: "the Request does assert in substance that a serious violation by the Bank of its operational policies and procedures has or likely to have a material adverse effect on the Requester." The Panel recognized that all issues, including legacy issues and potential future risks, were undergoing further assessment. Therefore, the Panel, at this stage of Project development, was unable to determine to what extent any harm related to the allegations of the Requesters could be linked to the Program.

D. INVESTIGATION RECOMMENDED – CURRENTLY UNDER DISPUTE RESOLUTION

PAKISTAN KHYBER PASS ECONOMIC CORRIDOR PROJECT

PROJECT INFORMATION

Project No.	P159577
Region	South Asia
IDA Credit Amount	US\$460.6 million
Board Approval Date	June 14, 2018
Closing Date	May 28, 2026

The project development objective is to expand economic activity between Pakistan and Afghanistan by improving regional connectivity and promoting private-sector development along the Khyber Pass corridor.



THE REQUEST

On June 1, 2024, the Panel received a Request for Inspection signed by 448 individuals living in the area under consideration for the Southern Link Road (SLR) development Project in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Province, Pakistan.

The Request raised five main concerns specific to the design and route alignment of the SLR—a new, four-lane road to be constructed as part of the Project. First, Requesters raised concerns about the impact of land-take required for the road, which Requesters claimed will cause substantial displacement and loss of livelihood of project-affected people and that, based on

previous experience with a non-Bank funded project in the area, compensation would be inadequate, and payments would be delayed. Second, there were concerns that the Project-supported road will heighten tensions and conflicts in the Project area, resulting in increased violence. Third, the Request alleged that the SLR's design—particularly its elevation—will impact traditional cultural practices in homes adjacent to the road, and that the road alignment will damage physical cultural resources. Fourth, the Request claimed community members and elected local authorities were neither informed nor meaningfully consulted about the SLR, including the road's proposed alignment, its viability, and its economic benefits. Fifth, the Requesters raised concerns about environmental and noise pollution worsening as a result of the SLR, and they claimed the publicly disclosed Project documents lack feasible solutions to these concerns.

The Panel verified the technical admissibility of the Request for Inspection and issued the Notice of Registration on July 8, 2024.

THE MANAGEMENT RESPONSE

The Management Response, submitted on August 9, 2024, stated that the Bank's policies and procedures had been properly applied, and that the Requesters' rights or interests had not been adversely affected. It emphasized that the Project was still in its early stages, with no land acquisition or road construction yet underway, making the Request premature. Management noted that the final road alignment had not been determined under the Design-Build modality contract strategy, and that all impacts and risks identified in the Request had already been considered in the project's design, environmental assessments, and mitigation measures. Once the alignment was finalized, the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) and Resettlement Action Plan were to be updated with further consultations.

Regarding resettlement and compensation, Management assured that the Project would comply with both the Bank's Involuntary Resettlement Policy (OP 4.12) and Pakistan's Land Acquisition Act of 1894. Compensation was to be provided at replacement cost to both owners and users of land, verified by an External Monitoring Agent before construction began. A Livelihood Restoration Plan was also being prepared to support vulnerable groups through training and income-generation activities. Management further clarified that preliminary land acquisition notifications did not affect land use rights, and compensation would be offered if any damage occurred during surveys.

The Response also addressed broader risks, including potential conflict, cultural concerns, and environmental impacts. Management stated that measures such as strong security arrangements through the Frontier Constabulary and a Security Management Plan would help mitigate risks of conflict or violence. Privacy concerns related to cultural practices like purdah would be addressed through design features and grievance mechanisms, while any graves found would only be relocated with family and religious consent. Consultations had already involved hundreds of affected people, with further intensified engagement planned. Finally, environmental and noise impacts were said to have been covered under the ESIA and Environmental and Social Management Plan, which were to be updated once the final road alignment was set.

THE PANEL'S ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT AND RECOMMENDATION

On its assessment, the Panel determined that the Requesters and the Request for Inspection met the technical eligibility criteria set out in the Panel Resolution. The Panel considered the alleged

harms to be plausibly linked to the Project and considered that the allegations and concerns raised in the Request, taken together, constitute potentially serious harm and policy non-compliance. Based on the Panel observations and review, the Panel recommended conducting an investigation into the allegations of material adverse impacts, and related compliance with the applicable World Bank policies, in relation to: (i) livelihoods, as the resettlement process has started before the road alignment has been finalized, impacting landowners' ability to sell or improve land assets; (ii) lack of meaningful consultation with potentially affected communities, including their inability to share an alternative road alignment; and (iii) community concerns in relation to renewed and increased conflicts and violence that the SLR may bring. On October 11, 2024, the Board approved the Panel's recommendation to investigate the Request.

THE DISPUTE RESOLUTION PROCESS

As per the Inspection Panel and Accountability Mechanism resolutions, following the Board approval of the Panel's recommendation to investigate, the Accountability Mechanism Secretary (AM Secretary), as Head of the Dispute Resolution Service (DRS), offered the Requesters and Borrower the opportunity to pursue a dispute resolution process facilitated by the DRS.

On November 14, 2024, the AM Secretary reported to the Board, the Inspection Panel, and Bank Management that the Parties had voluntarily agreed to engage in the dispute resolution process. The dispute resolution process occurs within one year with a possible extension of six months. As of June 30, 2025, the Panel was holding its investigation in abeyance until the conclusion of the dispute resolution process.

VIET NAM

VIETNAM COASTAL CITIES SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT PROJECT– SECOND REQUEST

PROJECT INFORMATION

Project No.	P156143
Region	East Asia and the Pacific
IBRD Loan & IDA Credit Amounts	IBRD Loan Amount: US\$34.2 million IDA Credit Amount: US\$156.4 million
Board Approval Date	May 5, 2017
Closing Date	June 30, 2024

The project development objective is to increase access to sanitation services and improve the operational performance of sanitation utilities in the Project cities.

THE REQUEST

On August 27, 2023, the Inspection Panel received a request submitted by 31 individuals from the Project area of Nha Trang City, Khanh Hoa Province, Viet Nam. The Panel issued a Notice of Receipt on September 8, 2023, and registered the Request on September 25, 2023.

The Request raised the following, interrelated allegations concerning the resettlement process. It said the restrictions placed on the properties of affected households in the Ngoc Hiep Resettlement Site (NHRS) since 2016 effectively kept owners from applying for new land certificates or repairing or renting their structures. The Request claimed inconsistent application of resettlement policies and that related consultations resulted in unfair treatment of some affected households by the Project. The Request also alleged that the adequacy of the valuation methodology used for Project-related resettlement created unfairly low compensation packages for the affected households. The Request claimed there was intimidation during the resettlement process, and that households were excluded from the resettlement process for having complained about aspects of the Project.

The Panel verified the technical admissibility of the Request for Inspection and issued the Notice of Registration on September 25, 2023.

THE MANAGEMENT RESPONSE

Bank Management provided its Responses to the allegations made in the Request and the additional issues raised on November 8 and December 20, 2023, respectively. Management stated that it had complied with Bank policies and procedures applicable to the matters raised in the Request and that the Requesters' rights or interests have not been, nor will they be, directly and adversely affected by a failure of the Bank.

THE PANEL'S ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT AND RECOMMENDATION

On January 22, 2024, the Panel issued its Report and Recommendation recommending an investigation. On February 5, 2024, the Board approved this recommendation.

THE DISPUTE RESOLUTION PROCESS

As per the Inspection Panel and Accountability Mechanism resolutions, following the Board approval of the Panel's recommendation to investigate, the Accountability Mechanism Secretary (AM Secretary), as Head of the Dispute Resolution Service (DRS), offered the Requesters and Borrower the opportunity to pursue a dispute resolution process facilitated by the DRS.

On March 12, 2024, the AM Secretary reported to the Board, the Inspection Panel, and Bank Management that the Parties had voluntarily agreed to engage in the dispute resolution process. The dispute resolution process occurs within one year with a possible extension of six months. On March 7, 2025, the dispute resolution process was extended for six months with a final deadline of September 11, 2025.

As of June 30, 2025, the Panel was holding its investigation in abeyance until the conclusion of the dispute resolution process.

03.

INVESTIGATION

During Fiscal Year 2025, the Panel completed one investigation of a Request for Inspection in Tanzania. In the same fiscal year, the Board approved Management's proposed Management Action Plan to address the Panel's findings of non-compliances.

TANZANIA RESILIENT NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT FOR TOURISM AND GROWTH (REGROW)

PROJECT INFORMATION

Project No.	P150523
Region	Eastern and Southern Africa
IDA Credit Amount	US\$150 million
Board Approval Date	September 27, 2017
Closing Date	February 28, 2025

The project development objective is to improve management of natural resources and tourism assets in priority areas of Southern Tanzania and to increase access to alternative livelihood activities for targeted communities.





THE REQUESTS

On June 20, 2023, a First Request for Inspection was submitted by two individuals from Tanzania. The Request stated that the Project provided direct, material, policy, and institutional support to Tanzania National Parks (TANAPA) for the management of Ruaha National Park (RUNAPA), including equipment used for patrols. The Request alleged that TANAPA rangers practiced "extreme cruelty" while conducting cattle seizures and engaged in "extrajudicial killings" and the "disappearance" of community members. The Requesters claimed that over the past two years TANAPA had seized large numbers of their cattle to the detriment of pastoral livelihoods. They also alleged that cattle seizures have harmed several Indigenous Peoples groups, including Maasai, Sukuma, and Datoga pastoralists, who inhabit the Project area. Additionally, the Request claimed that communities in five registered villages located inside RUNAPA with a population of more than 21,000 people were under threat of eviction.

During the course of the investigation, the Panel received a Second Request for Inspection on May 3, 2024, from the same Requesters. The Second Request stated that a new Government Notice (GN-754) issued on October 20, 2023, modified the boundary of RUNAPA to include at least "23 legally registered villages" within RUNAPA, portending imminent harm to these communities in addition to the ongoing impact from escalating seizures of cattle and farm equipment. The Request reiterated that GN-754 could trigger the eviction of communities living within the park boundaries.

MANAGEMENT RESPONSES

In its First Response on August 18, 2023, Management stated that the serious allegations regarding conflicts between pastoralists and the Government's conservation efforts predated the Project and were unrelated to it. According to Management, its initial review found no connection between the alleged abuses and the Project, or that they resulted from non-compliance with Bank policy. Management said the Bank nevertheless raised its concerns with the Government and requested that the alleged incidents be examined and addressed by the competent national authorities.

The Bank undertook missions in March and April 2024, following which it suspended disbursements on April 18, 2024 and requested the Government of Tanzania to clarify its plans regarding resettlement. In response to the Second Request, Management provided a Second Response acknowledging that the Project had not sufficiently assessed nor addressed the key risks related to resettlement, confrontations, and livelihood restrictions in and around RUNAPA.

THE PANEL'S ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT AND RECOMMENDATION

The Panel submitted its Report and Recommendation recommending an investigation on September 19, 2023. On November 15, 2023, the Board approved the recommendation.

As per the Inspection Panel and Accountability Mechanism (AM) Resolutions, following the Board's approval of the Panel's recommendation to investigate, the AM Secretary offered the Requesters and the Borrower (the Parties) the option of entering into a dispute resolution process facilitated by the Dispute Resolution Service. On December 11, 2023, the AM Secretary informed the Board and the Panel that there was no agreement from the Parties to engage in dispute resolution. On December 14, 2023, the Panel published its Investigation Plan on its website and commenced its Investigation.

After the Panel had received the Second Request for Inspection on May 3, 2024, it recommended to the Board on May 17, 2024, that the ongoing investigation also include the allegations raised in the Second Request. The Panel considered GN-754 and the changed park boundary a new circumstance that suggested a plausible link between the Project and the alleged harm. On May 24, 2024, the Board approved the Panel's recommendation.

The AM Secretary again offered the parties the option of dispute resolution and on May 31, 2024, informed the Board and the Panel that there was no agreement to do so. On June 1, 2024, the Panel included the claims raised in the Second Request for Inspection in the ongoing investigation and published the updated Investigation Plan.

PANEL INVESTIGATION

The Panel submitted its Investigation Report on September 16, 2024. In the report, the Panel highlighted the following findings:

1. Project Scope

Bank policy requires that projects evaluate potential impacts in their area of influence, with these areas defined to include those used for livelihood activities (hunting, fishing, grazing, gathering, agriculture, etc.). The Panel observed that the Project correctly defined its area of influence as the four national parks that were included in the REGROW Project and adjacent villages. However, the Panel observed that during implementation, the Project largely focused on smaller geographical areas limited to specific Project-related infrastructure improvements within the four parks and the strengthening of alternative livelihoods for targeted communities adjacent to them. The Panel found that, although the Project had complied with Bank policy regarding the definition of the Project area of influence, Project documents did not adequately identify the extent of human settlement within the southern part of RUNAPA—specifically the villages that remained within RUNAPA resulting from changes made by Government to the park's boundaries in 2008 (GN-28) and 2023 (GN-754). In consequence, the Panel found the Project did not sufficiently consider the social risks in the southern part of RUNAPA, including the risk of resettlement.

Findings of Non-Compliance

The Panel found that the Project did not adequately identify the extent of human settlement within the southern part of RUNAPA and did not sufficiently consider the related social risks from the enforcement of park management laws by TANAPA.

2. Involuntary Physical Resettlement

The Panel observed that the Project was not intended to acquire land or implement any activity that would cause involuntary resettlement. However, the Panel noted that the Project knew early on that some villages were located inside RUNAPA and that a legacy of boundary tensions existed. The Panel observed that Project documents reported earlier Government efforts to resettle people out of RUNAPA based on GN-28, but that these efforts had been discontinued. Therefore, the Panel noted that, although the Bank was aware of legacy issues, it did not gather sufficient information on the villages remaining within RUNAPA and the livelihoods sustained in the park by the local community members. Without such information, the Bank was unable to identify the extent to which park boundary enforcement would impact livelihoods. The Panel learned that the boundary changes introduced in October 2023 with GN-754 had resulted in five villages remaining inside RUNAPA and at risk of physical resettlement being enforced.

During Project preparation, the Government and the Bank had agreed that any resettlement taking place in the Project area would comply with the Bank's Involuntary Resettlement Policy. The Panel noted that a Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF) had been developed for the Project area that was to be used in the event of any Government-sponsored involuntary resettlement activities. The Panel observed that there was evidence of the Government planning the resettlement of communities residing within RUNAPA and that in October 2022 a government representative had announced that the villages inside RUNAPA would be relocated, with occupants provided notifications of potential land acquisition in accordance with national legislation.

The Panel found that, although the Project had prepared an RPF, early resettlement activities were underway without its use or the application of other Bank Involuntary Resettlement Policy provisions relating to physical resettlement.

Findings of Non-Compliance

The Panel found that early resettlement activities were underway without the application of the Bank Involuntary Resettlement provisions relating to physical resettlement.

3. Restriction of Access

The Panel observed that the Project had conducted a gap analysis of national legislation and the Bank's Involuntary Resettlement Policy. The analysis found that under Tanzanian law, displaced persons cannot claim compensation payments as a result of restriction of access that is not aligned with Bank policy. When access restrictions to legally designated parks and protected areas result in loss of livelihoods, Bank policy requires measures to be developed and implemented to assist those displaced in order to restore, or even better, to improve their livelihoods. The Panel notes that this requirement was particularly relevant to the increased restriction of access resulting from TANAPA's increased capacity to patrol the Project area imposed on community members who have lived in and around national parks and protected areas for decades, and who have maintained their livelihoods, including grazing livestock, based on accessing park resources. The Panel observed that, notwithstanding the legality of TANAPA's cattle seizures, the Project failed to assess the impact of restricting access to legally designated parks and protected areas and, associated with this, the potential for the use of force in restricting such access on the livelihoods of pastoralists.

Moreover, although the Project had developed a Process Framework to help mitigate the occurrence and severity of tensions and conflicts between TANAPA and communities near the parks, it had not been designed to cover the Project area in its entirety nor was it used to help mitigate negative impacts on livelihoods or the potential use of force. Therefore, the Panel found that Management did not recognize that Project support of park management would invariably restrict access to legally designated parks and protected areas, including the southern part of RUNAPA, and that this could result in adverse impacts on livelihoods linked to the Project.

Findings of Non-Compliance

The Panel found that the Project did not recognize that support for park management would invariably restrict access to legally designated parks, adversely impacting livelihoods.

4. Park Management and Law Enforcement

The Panel observed that during Project preparation background information on serious incidents committed by TANAPA was publicly available and a known legacy issue. The Panel also observed that the Project identified existing and ongoing conflicts in RUNAPA, principally related to the 2008 park boundary changes. However, the Panel observed that Management's assessment of TANAPA did not evaluate its mandate and legal framework, its law enforcement role, and the implications of its activities on the safety and well-being of communities, particularly those that live within the park boundaries. The Panel noted serious omissions including the lack of analysis even after TANAPA's adoption of a paramilitary system in November 2018. The Panel found that Tanzania's Wildlife Conservation Act and the General Orders of the Wildlife and Forest Conservation Services that inform TANAPA operations had not been reviewed for the Project. It concluded that, had they been considered, the Bank would have recognized that TANAPA was legally permitted to use force that was disproportionate when not facing imminent threat, which essentially permitted the use of excessive force.

The Panel observed that the Bank did not assess TANAPA's field operations, operational standards and procedures, or its capacity and training, even though the Project provided equipment and infrastructure to improve patrols. Until the suspension of disbursement in April 2024, Management also did not require TANAPA to regularly report on patrolling activities or serious incidents, leaving Management unaware of such events. The Panel found this omission led to no measures being identified to address weaknesses in TANAPA's capacity and concluded that, by not assessing TANAPA's needs, capacity, and institutional capabilities, the Bank failed to consider human health and safety as part of the Project's environmental and social aspects. In addition, the Panel observed that the Project did not adequately consider the implications of pre-existing conflicts over the use of park resources and that, by supporting TANAPA's patrolling capacity, the Project contributed to an increased risk of conflict as well as involuntary resettlement arising from restricting access to legally designated parks.

Findings of Non-Compliance

The Panel found that the Project was not in compliance with the Bank's policies requiring a project to take into account human and health safety and institutional capabilities related to the environmental and social aspects. This resulted in an inadequate assessment of the risks of exposure of communities to the potential use of excessive force by TANAPA rangers.

5. Project Supervision

The Panel observed that the Bank undertook regular supervision missions but noted that social specialists on these missions narrowly focused on the Project component designed to strengthen livelihoods in the priority villages outside the parks. The Panel also observed that after the allegations of TANAPA's use of excessive force against community members were first made in April 2023 the Bank did not change the composition of its supervision teams to include relevant expert support to understand these allegations or respond to them until December 2023. The Panel noted that Management also did not identify or record the serious reports of excessive violence, including during cattle seizures related to restriction of access to legally designated parks as well as other incidents. Therefore, the Panel found that while the frequency of supervision missions was adequate, prior to December 2023 Management supervision was insufficient and did not consider TANAPA's operations and reported serious incidents in RUNAPA warranting supervision. The Panel also found that supervision did not recognize that an involuntary resettlement process in the villages located inside RUNAPA had been initiated.

Findings of Non-Compliance

The Panel found that expertise engaged during Project supervision was initially not commensurate to the risks and reported allegations of involuntary resettlement and the use of excessive force until December 2023.

MANAGEMENT REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS AND MANAGEMENT ACTION PLAN

On February 28, 2025, Management submitted its Report and Recommendation to the Board. It acknowledged the Panel's Investigation Report and reiterated its earlier statement in the Second Management Response that key risks had not been fully assessed or addressed during Project preparation and supervision. As a result, the Project's design and implementation failed to provide adequate risk mitigation measures related to resettlement, law enforcement and conflicts, and livelihood restrictions.

Management reported that the Government of Tanzania had confirmed in writing that it had no intention of resettling people living in registered villages inside RUNAPA for the foreseeable future. It also explained that instances of non-compliance in the Project led the Bank to invoke its contractual remedies, resulting in the suspension of disbursements on April 17, 2024. Subsequently, the Government of Tanzania canceled the Project on November 6, 2024. Management noted, however, that despite the cancellation, the Government remained committed to working with the Bank on the implementation of the Management Action Plan (MAP).

Management acknowledged challenges during the MAP consultation process but maintained that the MAP would adequately address the Panel's findings and provide meaningful support to local communities in and around RUNAPA. The MAP broadly encompassed the following elements: 1) technical support to the Borrower in securing financing (including a US\$2.8 million grant from a Trust Fund and IDA-financed operation) partly aimed at addressing the findings of the Panel and aligned with the Country Partnership Framework; 2) strengthening of the grievance redress mechanism including the establishment of a Bank country office hotline for grievance reporting; 3) convening of a workshop with development partners to discuss good international practices in protected area management—including responsible enforcement of restrictions, conflict avoidance, community engagement, and benefit sharing; and 4) the preparation of an Interim Guidance Note on Managing Risks of Projects Involving Protected Areas, to be followed by a Good Practice Note on the same topic.

BOARD DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF THE MANAGEMENT ACTION PLAN

On April 1, 2025, the Board discussed and approved the MAP. The Board emphasized that the MAP included the preparation of two new community-driven operations aimed at providing support to vulnerable communities and responding to the Panel's investigation. The Board recognized the importance the Project had to Tanzania's development objectives and stressed the need to learn from the implementation challenges that led to the Panel investigation.

During the Board discussion, the Panel also expressed its intention to submit for Board approval a Recommendation for Verification of the MAP implementation. As of June 30, 2025, the Panel was finalizing its Recommendation for Verification.

04.

VERIFICATION

A. VERIFICATION RECOMMENDED

TOGO, WESTERN AFRICA:

WEST AFRICA COASTAL AREAS RESILIENCE INVESTMENT PROJECT, ADDITIONAL FINANCING, AND GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY (GEF)

PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Nos.	P162337, P176313, P092289
Region	Western and Central Africa
IDA Credit/Grant Amount	IDA Credit Amount: US\$120 million IDA Grant Amount: US\$70 million
Board Approval Date	April 9, 2018
Closing Date	December 31, 2026

The project development objective is to strengthen the resilience of targeted communities and areas in coastal Western Africa.



THE REQUEST

The Request for Inspection was submitted on August 4, 2021, by community members living in the Project area on the Togolese coast. The Request involved two subprojects of the West Africa Coastal Areas Project—the Combined Works (construction of new structures and the rehabilitation of existing structures, mainly groynes) and the Emergency Protection Measures (short-term protection against erosion through the installation of concrete pipe walls).

The Panel registered the Request on September 7, 2021. In the first Report and Recommendation dated November 8, 2021, the Panel deferred its recommendation for six months. Thereafter, the Panel recommended an investigation on June 8, 2022, and the Board approved the Panel's recommendation to investigate on June 23, 2022.

PANEL INVESTIGATION

On September 13, 2022, the Panel posted its Investigation Plan on its website and initiated the investigation, which covered (i) the coastal protection and resilience measures and their impact on communities and their livelihoods, (ii) the alleged harm from the involuntary resettlement process, including the inadequacy of compensation, (iii) insufficient disclosure of information, consultation, and access to grievance redress mechanisms (GRMs), and (iv) Project supervision.

The Panel submitted its Investigation Report on April 20, 2023. It highlighted the following key findings:

- i. Fishers, Value Chain, and Livelihoods. The Panel found that the Project lacked a thorough understanding of the community's beach seine-fishing method and its value chain, particularly concerning mareyeuses—fishmongers. Beach seine-fishing is labor-intensive and involves vulnerable groups like women and children. The Panel noted that the Project's mitigation efforts aimed at promoting income-generating activities were insufficient and failed to address the most affected community members.
- ii. The Emergency Works. The Panel found that classifying the Emergency Works as Category C resulted in the omission of a detailed Environmental and Social Impact Assessment. Such an assessment could have identified health and safety risks that were created by the construction and broken pipes. The Panel noted the reports of injuries and damage to fishing equipment caused by the pipes. The Panel concluded that working conditions were hazardous and lacked safety measures. Furthermore, no consideration was given to decommissioning the pipes despite knowing they were a temporary solution.
- iii. Resettlement. The Panel agreed with Management that the Project minimized resettlement but found socioeconomic data lacking, particularly regarding home-based mareyeuses and dependents. It noted insufficient support to restoring the livelihoods of resettled community members, and their participation was limited to compensation negotiations that occurred after the majority of resettlement decisions had already been made.
- iv. The Combined Works. The Project analyzed various designs to address coastal erosion, initially including the Kpémé to Aného area, which was later excluded. The Panel found that the Project did not consider the impact of this exclusion. The Panel believes the groynes built west of Kpémé will disrupt sediment flow, potentially increasing erosion and flooding, which could lead to more frequent flood events elsewhere.

MANAGEMENT ACTION PLAN

On June 2, 2023, Management submitted the Management Report and Recommendation (MRR) to the Board. On September 12, 2023, the Board met to consider the Inspection Panel's Investigation Report, and approve Management Action Plan (MAP), covering the following actions:

- i. Environmental and Social Screening for Emergency Works. The Borrower would hire a contractor to monitor pipe integrity and manage repairs in the Emergency Works area and hire community members to assist with that monitoring. Bank Management would review the contract scope and provide recommendations as necessary.
- ii. Construction of Emergency Works and Working Conditions. The Borrower would advise communities about the availability of GRMs for claims related to injuries or unpaid wages that would need to be filed by the end of 2023. Bank Management would review the outreach about GRMs to affected communities.
- iii. Livelihood Restoration. The Borrower would commission an audit of the resettlement process, and Management would review both the proposed terms of reference and audit report for clearance by the Bank.
- iv. Impact from the Combined Works on the Fishing Community. The Borrower would prepare a subproject to support economic activities and improve resilience of those living in the coastal zone. Management would provide technical assistance and clearance to the Borrower on the design process. In coordination with the United Nations' Food and Agriculture Organization, Management would also commission a study on beach seine-fishing in West Africa, looking at challenges related to coastal erosion.

The Board of Executive Directors approved the MAP and Management committed to providing the First Progress Report on the implementation of the MAP in September 2024. On September 30, 2024, Management submitted to the Board its first report on the progress of MAP implementation ("Progress Report").

RECOMMENDATION FOR VERIFICATION

Based on the Progress Report, the Panel assessed the implementation of the MAP using the Framework for Proportionality Criteria and Modalities for Independent Verification of Management Action Plan Implementation. This framework uses the following risk-based parameters as its basis: (i) urgency for redress, (ii) risk of repetitive harm, (iii) number and vulnerability of project-affected people, (iv) complexity of the case, and (v) risk of retaliation against Requesters. Further, the Panel sought input from the Bank's Group Internal Audit and Management, which was included in its Recommendation for Verification.

The Board approved the Verification Recommendation on June 30, 2025, where the Panel proposed to complete its verification within three months from the Board approval.

IV. OTHER HIGHLIGHTS OF FISCAL YEAR 2025



WORKING GROUPS – RESTRUCTURING OF ACCOUNTABILITY AT THE WORLD BANK:

During Fiscal Year 2025, the Inspection Panel participated and engaged in the following working groups:

a. External Review Team—Related Board Decision and ERT Recommendations

The “Toolkit Reforms” approved by the World Bank’s Board of Executive Directors in 2018 and 2020 for the Bank’s accountability system included a provision for an external review to be conducted after three years, with the objective of assessing the system’s effectiveness, efficiency, and development impact. In line with this, an External Review Team (ERT) was commissioned by the Board’s Committee on Development Effectiveness (CODE) to carry out the review.

Beginning in the second quarter of FY24 through the first quarter of FY25, the Panel actively participated in a series of meetings and interviews facilitated by members of the ERT. This engagement also included the submission of memoranda and written comments on specific topics relevant to the review. On September 18, 2024, CODE convened to discuss and formally approve the ERT’s Final Report and Recommendations. Following this approval, the Panel continued to engage with and support CODE in advancing the next steps stemming from the ERT’s findings and proposals. On January 8, 2025, the Board approved the restructuring of the Accountability Mechanism into two separate entities: (i) the Inspection Panel and (ii) the Dispute Resolution Service (DRS) to operate as two parallel units independently reporting to the Board, and eliminated the role of the Accountability Mechanism Secretary.

b. Implementation of six recommendations by the External Review Team (ERT)

Following the Board decision of January 8, 2025, a working group was established to review the implementation of six of the ERT recommendations. These included: 1) review of investigation report by Requesters prior to Management Action Plan consultations, 2) dissemination of information about the Accountability Mechanism (AM), 3) stronger governance process established to systematically measure and monitor AM effectiveness, 4) branding strategy for the AM, DRS, and Inspection Panel, 5) cooperation with other Independent Accountability Mechanisms (IAMs) in dispute resolution processes, 6) regularly planned external reviews.

The working group included representatives from the Inspection Panel, DRS, the Human Resources Department, the Legal Department and the Vice-Presidency of Operational Policy and Country Services.

c. Amendments to the Resolution and Operating Procedures

The Legal Department reviewed the two resolutions governing (i) the Inspection Panel and (ii) the AM and DRS. The objective of this was to propose amendments and a merger of the resolutions to reflect the January 8, 2025, decision. The Board of Executive Directors approved the revised Resolution on March 7, 2025. The Panel contributed to the review of the revised Resolution.

d. World Bank Group Accountability Mechanisms Integration

In line with the One World Bank vision, the CODE Chair and Vice-Chair requested the formation of a working group to review the possibility of integrating the Compliance Advisor Ombudsman (CAO), Inspection Panel, and DRS into one World Bank Group accountability mechanism. The objective of the review, which was continuing as the fiscal year ended, was to support CODE in determining potential pathways for this integration. The working group identified areas where the processes of these entities are similar, where they differ, and where they are closely aligned but not fully compatible. The working group includes the Inspection Panel, DRS and CAO.

IAMNET – MANILA (OCTOBER 1-4, 2024)



On October 1-4, 2024, representatives from 24 Independent Accountability Mechanisms (IAMs) gathered in Manila for the 21st IAMnet Annual Meetings. The opening remarks of the Asian Development Bank's President, Masatsugu Asakawa, emphasized that IAMs must be cognizant of the expanding mandate of international finance institutions, and, thus, harmonizing approaches will be vital given the increasing co-financing between and among development banks.

During the four-day meeting, the Inspection Panel delegation actively participated in plenary and breakout sessions covering various topics, including remedy and responsible exit, handling complaints within the context of mutual reliance and co-financing, and policy reviews of IAMs—with six IAMs undergoing such reviews during the fiscal year—as well as the use of artificial intelligence.

IAMnet 2024 also highlighted climate change as a key topic, with Inspection Panel Chairperson Mark Goldsmith moderating a plenary discussion. Mr. Goldsmith observed that, "with 45 percent of the World Bank's financing targeted at climate change-related initiatives, there has never been a more critical time for IAMnet to consider the new accountability challenges arising in this area."

ANNUAL MEETINGS 2024 CIVIL SOCIETY POLICY FORUM (OCTOBER 24, 2024)



In conjunction with the World Bank Annual Meetings, the World Bank Accountability Mechanism and the International Accountability Project (IAP) organized the 2024 Civil Society Policy Forum, titled “Accountability Challenges in FCV-Affected Countries.” Ibrahim Pam, then incoming Chairperson of the Inspection Panel, was one of the speakers at the forum, alongside AM Secretary Orsolya Székely, IAP Program Coordinator John Mwebe, and Doussouba Konaté, Executive Director of Accountability Lab Mali. Abdoul Salam Bello, a member of the World Bank Board of Executive Directors, moderated the discussion.

During his remarks, Mr. Pam emphasized the critical importance of safe access to accountability. He noted that since its establishment in 1993, the Inspection Panel has provided a citizen-driven, bottom-up accountability mechanism. However, in fragile, conflict-affected, and violent (FCV) contexts, the shrinking of civic space threatens both citizen-driven accountability and the Panel’s ability to function effectively. Mr. Pam identified the risk of reprisals as “the biggest challenge that we face in FCV countries” and outlined the Panel’s approach to addressing this risk through comprehensive risk analyses and the implementation of preventative measures.

WASHINGTON, D.C.-BASED IAM COMPLIANCE STAFF KNOWLEDGE SHARING SESSION (JANUARY 23, 2025, AND JUNE 25, 2025)



On January 23, 2025, Inspection Panel staff met with the compliance staff of Washington, D.C.-based IAMs, including CAO and MICI, the IAM of the Inter-American Development Bank, to exchange ideas, methodologies, and best practices. This meeting was part of a biannual series designed to foster collaboration and mutual learning. Such engagements provide valuable opportunities for compliance staff to share knowledge and experience in addressing accountability and oversight challenges.

Following the January session, the Inspection Panel hosted the third D.C.-based IAM Compliance Staff meeting on June 25, 2025. The discussions focused on topics such as Management Action Plan verification and monitoring, as well as intake processes.

JOINT ADB COMPLIANCE REVIEW PANEL AND WORLD BANK INSPECTION PANEL WORKSHOP



The Panel team, represented by staff members Serge Selwan and Rupes Kumar Dalai, was invited by the ADB's accountability mechanism to its annual retreat. During the retreat, the Panel presented and discussed compliance work, lessons learned over the past 30 years, data management, and case handling from intake to verification. Colleagues from ADB's accountability mechanism expressed their appreciation of the Panel's work, knowledge, and rigor. They look forward to another opportunity of collaboration to ensure that accountability mechanisms learn from each other by sharing their knowledge.

INSPECTION PANEL STRATEGIC PLANNING WORKSHOP (FEBRUARY 5-6, 2025)



On February 5–6, 2025, the Inspection Panel team held a strategic planning workshop. This two-day workshop provided dedicated time for Panel members and staff to discuss the action plan for the upcoming Fiscal Year 2026. Three working groups were formed to develop an action plan for the following workstream: (1) compliance-related case work, (2) thematic work, and (3) engagement, outreach, and communications. Each group presented its proposed action plan to the Panel, followed by in-depth discussions. The workshop also served as a platform for comprehensive discussions on the structural changes resulting from the January 8, 2025, Board decision.

DATA HARMONIZATION INITIATIVE (MARCH 5-6, 2025)

A Panel team represented by staff members Cristiane Bena Dias and Rupes Kumar Dalai participated in a Data Harmonization Initiative organized by the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) in London on March 5-6, 2025, along with the DRS, CAO, MICI and the IAMs of the EBRD and the European Investment Bank. During the session, participants worked toward a consensus on the fundamental principles that will guide the sharing, management, usability, and disclosure of the case-related data of IAMs. The session aimed to agree on a core set of common publicly available data parameters that all participating IAMs can systematically record and share.

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF IMPACT ASSESSMENT (IAIA)—44TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE (MAY 1-4, 2025)



The IAIA's 44th annual conference was held in Bologna May 1-4, 2025, focusing on the theme "Impact Assessment in the Age of Artificial Intelligence." The conference featured 127 technical presentations organized around four main themes:

- Impact of AI on impact assessment
- Data-driven innovation in processes, approaches, methodologies, and tools
- Evidence-based policymaking
- Environmental, social, and governance considerations

Panel Member Evelyn Dietsche, along with staff members Cristiane Bena Dias and Kojo Bedu-Addo, attended the conference and participated in sessions related to multilateral development banks. A key takeaway from the conference was that while AI is a valuable tool to assist in Environmental and Social Impact Assessment, development and the implementation of relevant mitigation measures, it should be used to complement—not replace—human judgment, technical skills, and capabilities.

SPRING MEETINGS 2025 CIVIL SOCIETY POLICY FORUM (APRIL 24, 2025)

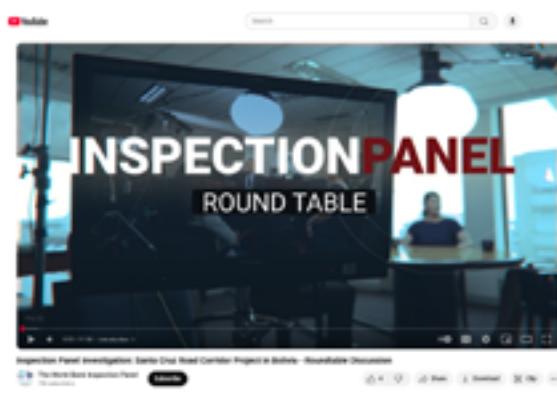


On April 24, 2025, the World Bank Group Spring Meetings hosted a panel discussion titled "Ensuring Accountability: The Challenges and Opportunities Posed by the Full Mutual Reliance Framework". This panel was hosted in the wake of the Full Mutual Reliance Framework (FMRF) Agreement signed between the World Bank and the ADB in February 2025.

Inspection Panel Chairperson Ibrahim Pam and Ramanie Kunanayagam, Chairperson of the ADB Compliance Review Panel, emphasized that the framework must not undermine the rights of complainants or restrict access to IAMs. Civil society organizations (CSOs) expressed concern that, under the FMRF, communities may be compelled to use the lead financier's IAM, potentially limiting their avenues for remedy. CSOs also highlighted the risks faced by marginalized groups and called on institutions to uphold the highest standards of accountability. The discussion acknowledged the inherent tension between increasing efficiency and maintaining strong accountability, with consensus that the framework must not dilute safeguards. Panelists, who also included Parameswaran Iyer, World Bank Executive Director, Maninder Gill, Environmental and Social Director at the World Bank, Stephanie Amoako, Policy Director of Accountability Counsel, and Prabindra Shakya, Convenor, Asia Indigenous Peoples Network on Extractive Industries and Energy agreed on the need for ongoing, meaningful dialogue between civil society and financial institutions to address the concerns raised during the forum.

ENGAGEMENT, OUTREACH, AND COMMUNICATIONS

BOLIVIA – SANTA CRUZ ROAD CORRIDOR PROJECT: ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION VIDEO



The Inspection Panel released a roundtable discussion video on the Bolivia—Santa Cruz Road Corridor Project. In the video, then Chairperson Mark Goldsmith, together with investigation officers Camila Amaral and Ayako Kubodera, examined the Project, outlined the concerns raised by the Requesters, highlighted the key findings of the case, and discussed the Management Action Plan prepared in response to the Panel's findings. Watch the video here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HSM9ifMYwI>

COP29 IN BAKU



On November 20, 2024, Chairperson Ibrahim Pam moderated a COP29 side event titled: "Why Accountability is Key to a Successful Just Transition." In line with the pressing topic discussed during the IAMnet 2024 in Manila, this session focused on challenges faced by accountability mechanisms in addressing climate-related complaints and explored solutions on how to strengthen accountability.

CSO DIALOGUES (OCTOBER 30, 2024, AND JUNE 25, 2025)

The Inspection Panel values its engagement with civil society organizations (CSOs). In Fiscal Year 2025, the Panel met with CSO representatives on two occasions. At the October 30, 2024, meeting, the Panel presented its current casework and discussed the External Review Team's final report and recommendations. At the June 25, 2025, meeting, the Panel presented updates on casework and held a discussion on accountability issues raised by CSOs, including the potential integration of World Bank Group accountability mechanisms. In both meetings, CSOs provided feedback on the Panel's work, raised important questions, and proposed actions to address the issues discussed.

EXTERNAL SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

During Fiscal Year 2025, the Panel participated in various speaking engagements. These opportunities allowed the Panel to engage with stakeholders, showcase its work, and discuss pressing issues related to accountability in development. Over the course of the year, the Panel reached out to a diverse audience, including university students, compliance professionals, civil society representatives, and World Bank Group staff. Below are the highlights of these engagements:

Speaking Engagement at the Inter-American Development Bank (December 3, 2024)



Chairperson Ibrahim Pam spoke at a panel discussion on the topic "Addressing Corruption and Integrity Risks in Climate Finance." This conference was organized by the Office of the Sanctions Officer, the Climate Change and Sustainable Development Sector, Climate Change Division, Amazon ACU, Office of Institutional Integrity, IDB Invest, the World Bank's Office of Suspension and Debarment, the Green Climate Fund's Independent Integrity Unit, the International Anti-Corruption Academy, and Transparency International.

Speaking Engagement at Fletcher School (March 24, 2025)



Mr. Pam led the discussion on the topic "Accountability in Development Finance: The World Bank Inspection Panel" with students at the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Tufts University.

Speaking Engagement at the 22nd International Forum on Ethics and Compliance in Paris, France (March 27, 2025)



Senior Policy Adviser Serge Selwan represented the Inspection Panel at the 22nd International Forum on Ethics and Compliance.

Speaking Engagement at Institut d'études Politiques de Paris (April 8, 2025-Sciences Po Menton Campus and April 11, 2025-Le Havre Campus)



Mr. Pam spoke on the topic of accountability in development at the research university Sciences Po in Paris on April 8 and 11, 2025.

Speaking Engagement at MICI Seminar (June 11, 2025)



On June 11, 2025, Investigations Officer Camila Jorge de Amaral participated as a speaker in the seminar titled "Right to Complain: Grievance Mechanisms on International Finance Projects", organized by MICI, the Independent Consultation and Investigation Mechanism of the Inter-American Development Bank.

Speaking Engagement at American University (June 12, 2025)



On June 12, 2025, Mr. Selwan spoke to students in the LLM Program in Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law at the Washington College of Law of American University.

American University and Norwegian University of Life Sciences Student Visit (June 17, 2025)



On June 17, 2025, students from American University and the Norwegian University of Life Sciences visited the World Bank in Washington, D.C., to engage in a discussion with Messrs. Pam and Selwan, as well as Orsolya Székely, Head of the Dispute Resolution Service (DRS), and DRS Head of Operations William Romans.

Keynote Address at the Africa Green Economy and Sustainable Institute (June 19, 2025)



On June 19, 2025, Mr. Pam delivered a keynote address during the launch of the Africa Green Economy and Sustainability Institute.

Speaking Engagement at the World Bank Group Women for Development Alliance (June 30, 2025)



On June 30, 2025, Mr. Pam joined an important conversation hosted by the World Bank Group Women for Development Alliance on "Accountability Functions: Driving Progress Towards Women's Inclusion."

STAFFING AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

BOARD APPOINTMENT OF A NEW PANEL MEMBER



With the end of term of Mark Goldsmith, Dr. Ajay Achyutrao Deshpande was appointed as the third Panel Member. Dr. Deshpande is an environmental governance expert with over 30 years of experience in compliance, policy, and sustainability. He holds a Ph.D. in Environmental Engineering and an LLB, with expertise in pollution control, ESG, and circular economy. He has served in key roles at India's National Green Tribunal and the Asian Development Bank, and currently teaches at IIT Bombay on environmental policy and sustainability while driving research and thought leadership in environmental governance, climate action, and circular economy.

ONBOARDING OF NEW PERSONNEL

During the fiscal year, the Panel onboarded the following staff:

Kojo Bedu-Addo, who joined in January 2025 as Senior Social Development Specialist; Dion Lorenz L. Romano, who transitioned to a role as an Extended-Term Consultant in October 2024 to continue supporting the Panel's core functions; and Monique Pelloux Patron, who joined in June 2025 as Senior Program Assistant.

On June 9, 2025, the Panel also welcomed Truman Scholar, Kaylyn Ahn, who joined the Panel as summer intern for eight weeks.

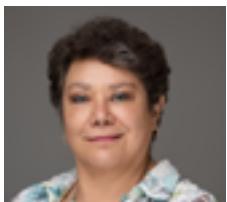
In addition, the Panel Chairperson and the Head of DRS selected Luigi Laraia as Executive Secretary to support both the Inspection Panel and DRS in administrative, secretariat, and budget matters. Mr. Laraia joined in June 2025.



Kojo Bedu-Addo



Dion Lorenz L. Romano



Monique Pelloux Patron



Kaylyn Ahn



Luigi Laraia

BUDGET UTILIZATION

During Fiscal Year 2025, the Inspection Panel had an allocated budget of US\$4.570 million. It utilized US\$ 3.951 million or 86.6 percent of that allocation.

Category	Amount
Salaries ²	1,441
Benefits ²	1,008
Communications & IT Services	55
Equipment & Building Services	92
Temporaries & ETCs	78
Consultants ³	827
Travel	391
Representation & Hospitality	7
Contractual Services	44
Other Expenses	10
Total Budget Spent	3,951
Total Budget Received	4,570

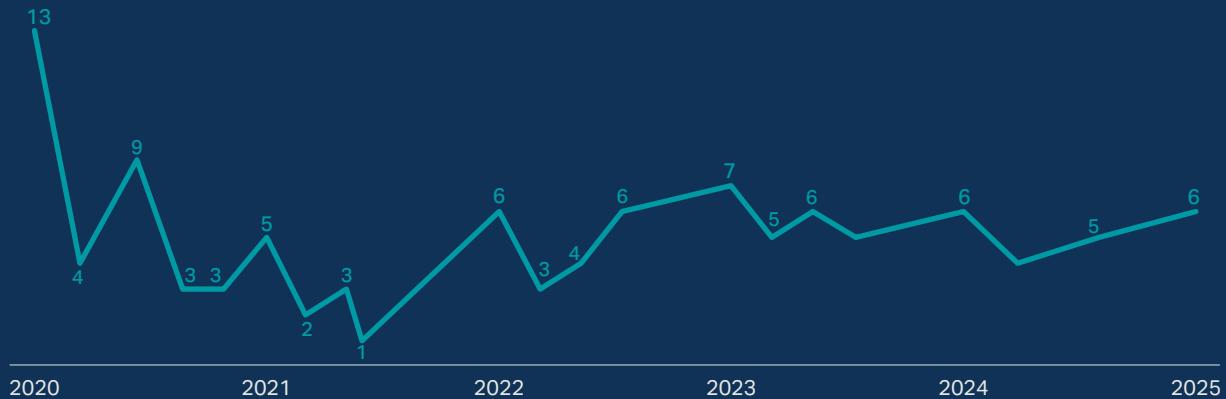
Notes:

- 1- All amounts are in thousands (multiply by 1,000).
- 2- Includes Chairperson's salary and benefits.
- 3- Includes Panel Members' fees.

APPENDIX I:

INSPECTION PANEL CASES GRAPHS (2020-2025)

CASES RECEIPT (FISCAL YEARS)



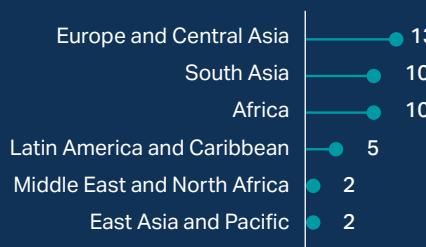
MAJOR POLICY ISSUES RAISED IN REQUESTS

Year Range: 2020 - 2025



REGIONAL DISTRIBUTION OF CASES

Year Range: 2020 - 2025



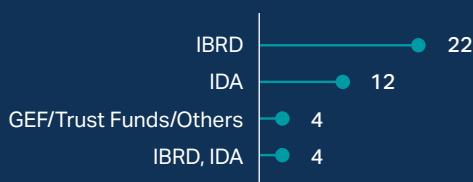
TYPE OF COMPLAINANTS

Year Range: 2020 - 2025



PROJECT FUNDING SOURCE

Year Range: 2020 - 2025



CASES SECTOR

Year Range: 2020 - 2025



CASES PROCESSING HISTORY

Year Range: 2020 - 2025



APPENDIX II: PROFILE OF PANEL MEMBERS AND PANEL STAFF PHOTOS



IBRAHIM PAM

Chairperson

Mr. Ibrahim Pam, a Nigerian national, was appointed to the Inspection Panel on January 1, 2023, and became Panel Chairperson on November 17, 2024. Mr. Pam is an accomplished international lawyer, analyst, and investigator with strong leadership experience, specialization in investigating mass crimes, human rights abuses, fraud, and financial crimes, and expertise in internal oversight and accountability of international institutions. His most recent position is Head ad interim of the Independent Redress Mechanism at the Green Climate Fund, and before that as pioneer Head of the Fund's Independent Integrity Unit since 2016.

Mr. Pam previously worked as an Analyst and Investigator in the Office of the Prosecutor at the International Criminal Court (ICC) 2005–2012, and then as Chief Investigator in the Integrity and Anti-Corruption Department of the African Development Bank 2012–2015. He was Team Leader and Resident Investigator at the United Nations Office of Internal Oversight Services for the UN Mission in South Sudan, with concurrent responsibility for the United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei, and additional assignments to the UN Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic 2015–2016. In 2000–2001, Mr. Pam worked as Special Legal Assistant to the Nigerian Truth Commission, which among other things dealt with environmental and human rights issues in the Niger Delta. From 2001–2005, he served as Chief Legal Officer in the Nigerian Anti-Corruption Commission where, as Lead Expert delegate for Nigeria, he participated in the drafting of the African Union Convention on Combating and Preventing Corruption, and the UN Convention Against Corruption. He also helped develop the General Principles for Review of Investigative Offices of the Conference of International Investigators. In 2018, on behalf of the host organization (the Green Climate Fund), he chaired the Conference of International Investigators, a forum for investigators of international organizations. He is also concurrently a Member of the Independent External Oversight Advisory Committee of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, and Chair of the Ad Hoc External Panel on Workplace Culture for the Office of the Prosecutor of the ICC. In addition, he serves as a Member of the Advisory Board of the African Association of International Law.

Mr. Pam holds a Bachelor of Laws (LLB. Hons) degree from the University of Jos, and a Master of Science degree in Criminal Justice Policy from the London School of Economics and Political Science. He is called to the Bar as a Barrister and Solicitor of the Supreme Court of Nigeria.



EVELYN DIETSCHE

Panel Member

Dr. Evelyn Dietsche joined the Panel for a five-year term commencing April 8, 2024. She is a German citizen resident in Switzerland with nearly 30 years of operational and strategic-managerial experience in the multinational corporate sector and the international advisory and consultancy business. A recognized international expert, Dr. Dietsche has extensive practical knowledge of natural resource governance, and has taught, supervised, published, and peer-reviewed research on this and related topics, including with the Centre of Energy, Petroleum, and Mineral Law and Policy at University of Dundee, Chatham House, the Centre for Social Responsibility in Mining at Queensland University, and the United Nations University World Institute for Development Economics Research.

Following an advisory position with the Namibian Ministry of Finance as a fellow of the Overseas Development Institute, Dr. Dietsche served the development consultancy Oxford Policy Management Ltd, based in the United Kingdom, as a fiduciary risk and public policy analyst for a variety of assignments mainly across Sub-Saharan Africa, the Caribbean, and the Middle East, and provided thought leadership for a multi-year initiative on leveraging and mitigating the impacts of the mining sector on developing countries, funded by the International Council on Mining and Metals in collaboration with the Commonwealth Secretariat and the World Bank. In 2009 she joined the social performance team of BG Group (now part of Shell) as sustainable development manager before setting up her own company in 2013 and continuing to provide BG Group and other extractive industry companies with hands-on, operational, and strategic advice on the macroeconomic and social impacts of their investments. In addition, she advised several multinational and bilateral development agencies on policies for the management of cumulative sector impacts, on local content and skills development, and on the impacts of climate policies. In 2020 she joined swisspeace, a peace and conflict research and practice institute affiliated with the University of Basel, Switzerland, to lead and develop the "Business & Peace" and "Resources & Conflict" programs.

Dr. Dietsche holds a PhD in Resources Sector Governance from the Centre for Energy, Petroleum and Mineral Law and Policy (University of Dundee, Scotland), an MSc in Development Economics from the School of Oriental and African Studies (University of London), and a MA in Public Policy and Management from Konstanz University (Germany).



AJAY ACHYUTRAO DESHPANDE

Panel Member

Dr. Ajay Deshpande, an Indian national, is a seasoned environmental governance and sustainability expert more than 30 years of experience in environmental compliance and governance. Holding a Doctorate in Environmental Engineering from IIT Delhi and a Bachelor of Laws (LLB) from Mumbai University, he specializes in pollution control, environmental governance and policy, climate change mitigation, environmental, social and governance (ESG), circular economy, and environmental safeguards. He has held key positions, including as Expert Member at India's National Green Tribunal (2013-2017) and Compliance Review Panel Member at the Asian Development Bank (2017-2022), advising on large-scale environmental restitution and sustainability projects. He has been an environmental regulator at Maharashtra Pollution Control Board (1997-2012) and has experience in environmental investigations, consultations, grievance redressal, enforcement, and compliance, besides environmental permitting. He has also worked in the consultancy area with M/s Water and Power Consultancy Services (India) Ltd from 1992-1997, working on Environmental and social impact assessment studies for river valley projects, hydropower and thermal power plants, and industrial pollution monitoring and abatement-related studies. He was also part of several national level committees working on environmental appraisals for developmental projects, formulation of environmental standards, and waste management.

Dr. Deshpande has played a pivotal role in shaping environmental policies, including contributions to India's environmental improvement action plans, Circular Economy Action Plan and Resource Efficiency initiatives. As an Adjunct Professor at IIT Bombay, he continues to teach environmental policy and sustainability while driving research and thought leadership in environmental governance, climate action and circular economy.

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Design and Typesetting: Marianne Amkieh and Dania Al-Kibbi

