Independent Consultation and Investigation Mechanism

Roster of Independent Experts of the Compliance Review Phase

Terms of Reference

Background

The IDB Group is the main source of financing for economic, social, and institutional development in Latin America and the Caribbean. It provides loans, grants, guarantees, policy advice, and technical assistance to the public and private sectors of its borrowing countries. The Group is composed of three institutions: the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), IDB Invest (formerly the Inter-American Investment Corporation) and the Multilateral Investment Fund (MIF).

The Independent Consultation and Investigation Mechanism (MICI) is the IDB Group’s accountability mechanism. It reports directly to the Executive Boards of Directors of the Group’s member institutions. MICI handles complaints from groups of individuals or communities who allege that they have been or may be affected by IDB Group-financed operations as a result of non-compliance with IDB Group operational policies.

One of MICI’s functions is Compliance Review, in which it acts as an investigator by conducting a fact-finding inquiry into the issues raised in the complaints to establish whether the IDB Group has failed to comply with any of its Relevant Operational Policies and, if so, whether it has caused harm to the complainants. The outcome is a report of its findings that is submitted to the Board of Executive Directors of the relevant Group institution for consideration.

As provided in its operating Policies (MICI-IDB Policy and MICI-IIC Policy), the investigations are conducted by an Investigative Panel comprised by the Compliance Review Coordinator, who serves as the Chair of the Panel, and two additional independent technical experts who will be selected from a pre-established Roster maintained by the Mechanism.

MICI is renewing its Roster of Independent Technical Experts and has initiated a process to receive statements of interest from consultants from IDB Group member countries who believe they meet the requirements for inclusion in the Roster.

Call for Statements of Interest to join the Roster of Independent Technical Experts

Required Profile

Those interested in joining the Roster must be experts who are recognized for their technical ability and moral integrity and meet the following profile:

- At least a master’s degree, preferably a PhD, in a relevant discipline (environmental science, social science, economics, engineering, law, or other relevant areas for IDB Group operations).
- Over 15 years of demonstrable experience in the design, execution, and/or supervision of development projects with special emphasis on the application of environmental and social safeguards to indigenous issues, environmental and social impacts, public participation, community engagement, involuntary resettlement, economic displacement, environmental services, and compliance with environmental and social regulations in the private and public spheres.
- Fluency in spoken and written Spanish and English. Proficiency in Portuguese and French is an asset.
- In-depth knowledge of the environmental and social safeguards used by International Financial Institutions, preferably the IDB Group and/or the International Finance Corporation. Experience in non-judicial grievance mechanisms and their investigative role is an asset.
- Outstanding ability to interpret and apply rules and policies to operational contexts.
- Demonstrable ability to clearly analyze and synthesize information from multiple sources, many of them confidential.
- Outstanding ability to write high quality reports that provide objective and factual information on the documentation analyzed and events that have taken place in order to present solid evidence-based conclusions.
- Availability to travel to the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean, particularly to rural and remote areas of the region.
- Demonstrated independence from the IDB Group’s operational departments and Management.
- Ability to work remotely and independently within pre-established time limits.
- Experience in economic, social, and sustainable development, preferably in Latin America and the Caribbean.
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills particularly sensitive to diverse environments.

Description of the Roster of Independent Experts

The Roster is made up of independent consultants with proven experience in the different areas covered by the IDB Group’s operations and the application of its Relevant Operational Policies. Roster members should have extensive experience and proven analytical skills to contribute substantively, objectively, and impartially to investigations on a variety of social, environmental, and transparency issues.

Being a member of the Roster does not give rise to any rights or obligations of any kind. Its purpose is to have an identified group of consultants independent of IDB Group Management with demonstrable experience in various technical areas and proven investigative skills that meet the recruitment conditions established in the Inter-American Development Bank’s contracting policies.

In general, MICI will only require the services of the Roster when the Board of Executive Directors authorizes an investigation, after which MICI may select some of the members of the Roster to form the Investigation Panel, or when MICI requires a specific technical opinion that may be provided by one of the members of the Roster.

In cases where a Roster member is selected to participate in an investigation, MICI will extend specific terms of reference to the services that will be required of the expert and the period during which they need to be provided. Remuneration will be determined in accordance with the parameters established by the Bank for the procurement of specific deliverables, the required expertise, and the services to be rendered. Travel expenses, if required, will be reimbursed in accordance with Bank Policies.
The selection of experts to work on a particular investigation will depend on the expertise required, the availability of the experts’ time, and the resources available. The general responsibilities of all investigations include document review, field visits, technical analysis, and the preparation of reports, as well as direct interaction with local communities, civil society, governments, private companies, and IDB Group staff.

The outputs produced by the experts will be incorporated into the Compliance Review Report, but MICI will be responsible for the preparation of the Report and its final conclusions.

Inclusion in the Roster is for a maximum of three years from the appointment date, and may be renewed by mutual agreement.

For more information about MICI, please visit our website: [www.iadb.org/mici](http://www.iadb.org/mici)