

A large, diverse crowd of people is shown in a public setting, likely a conference or town hall. In the foreground, a man with glasses and a green plaid shirt has his right hand raised. The background is filled with many other people of various ages and ethnicities, some looking towards the camera and others looking away. The overall atmosphere appears to be one of active participation and engagement.

# IMPROVING E&S OUTCOMES CONSIDERATIONS, LESSONS, AND RECOMMENDATIONS FROM CIVIL SOCIETY

**CLAIRE MIRANDA**

GCF ASIA STRUCTURED DIALOGUE – ES SESSION  
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A regional alliance of peoples' movements, community organizations, coalitions, NGOs and networks in – India, Bangladesh, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Philippines, Indonesia and in other parts of Asia.

[www.apmdd.org](http://www.apmdd.org) | Units 1806-1807 Tower C, Mplace South Triangle, South Triangle, Quezon City, Philippines

**CSO observers in the GCF** ensure the protection of the environment, respect for human rights, and the participation and inclusion of people directly affected by climate change in various policies implemented as well in the programs and projects supported by the Fund.





# Environmental and Social Considerations not new in the region

- ASEAN and its proposed rights-based approach for environmental impact assessment
- Korean Environmental Assessment (EA) System and EIA Law
- Malaysia requires a Social Impact Assessment in mining operations in the country

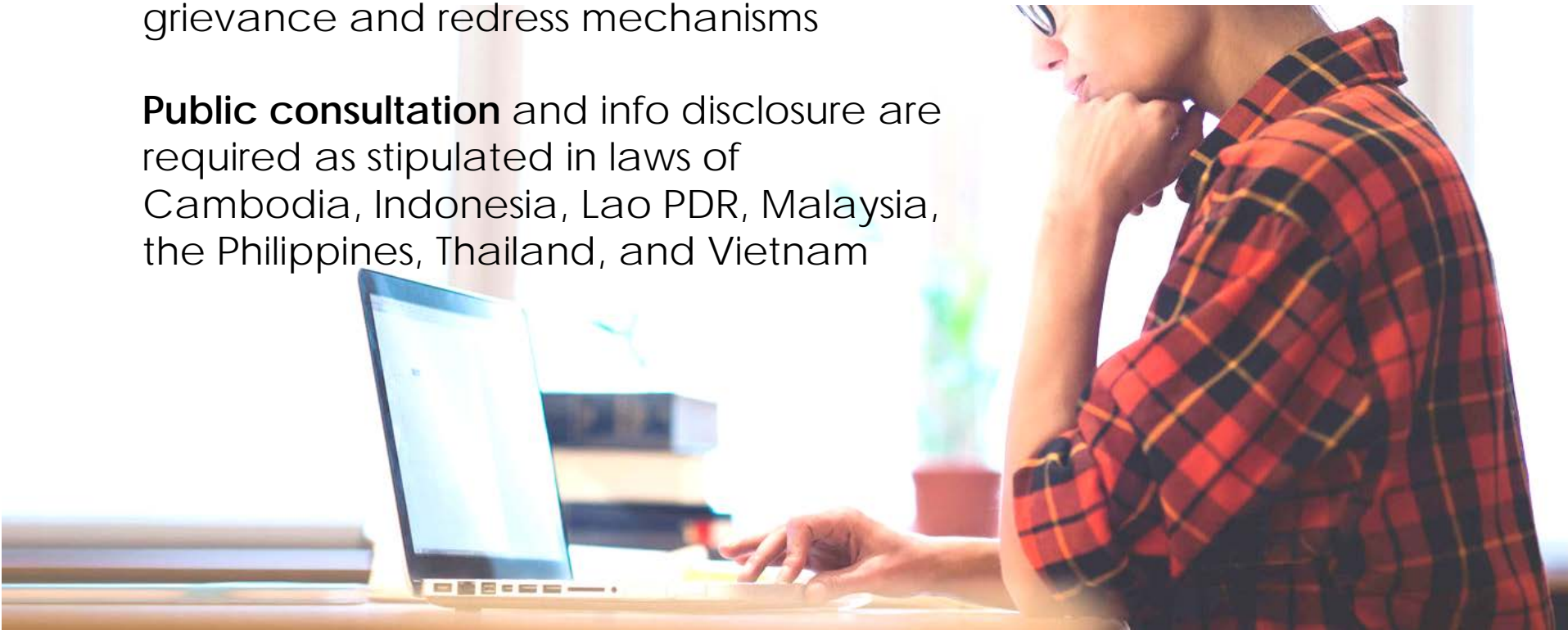


# Information Disclosure and Public Consultation, now mandatory

Since 2015, Indonesians are able to track illegal activities and forest activities through the **Forest Information** released by the Ministry of Environment and Forestry.

India's **Right to Information Act**, not only includes details about projects, but also provides research and training, as well as grievance and redress mechanisms

**Public consultation** and info disclosure are required as stipulated in laws of Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, the Philippines, Thailand, and Vietnam





# Rights of women and IPs recognized

- **CEDAW** mandates states to mainstream gender in all its policies and promote women's empowerment
- **UNDRIP** serves as an important standard to respect and eliminate violation against the rights of indigenous peoples



A close-up, slightly blurred photograph of a hand holding a yellow pencil, writing on a spiral-bound notebook. The notebook's silver spiral binding is visible on the left side. The background is out of focus, showing more of the notebook and the hand. The text is overlaid on a semi-transparent white rectangular area in the center of the image.

# **KEY CONSIDERATIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS**

# Information disclosed are often limited, mostly delayed



- Information that are 'too technical' often exclusive to project proponents
- Details are disclosed AFTER the project has commenced, a point when affected communities can no longer suggest/object
- Availability of information in local language and must take into consideration gender and cultural sensitivity
- Provide information for grievance and redress



# Stakeholder engagement – not only for compliance, should be meaningful and sustained



Stakeholder engagement must include among others, **communication** **capacity building if needed,** **and sustained cooperation** between the project proponents, investors, and affected communities (direct and indirect)

# Consultation among affected communities is an iterative process

FPIC requires the conduct of a **series of consultations, dialogues, exchanges, and interactions** between indigenous peoples and those requiring their consent and agreement for the entire cycle of a project from planning, implementation and monitoring.





# Women often treated as “victims”, instead as agents of change

Insufficient gender analysis often discounts women's strategic needs; gender considerations often revolve around participation and tend to overlook empowerment





# GOOD PRACTICES



## Resolve trash to cash: providing social and economic security to Women of Kolkata (India)

Launched in 2012, the project funded by UNEP, Indo-Bhutan Trust Fund, SAARC Development Fund and PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) aimed to address the unregulated solid waste of urban poor communities in Kolkata.

After **several consultation and needs assessment**, the project identified women's economic empowerment as the main driver to attain the project's adaptation goal.





## Community based water management in Temanggung, Central Java (Indonesia)

YAKKUM Emergency Unit, having the knowledge and technology to install a new water management system, conducted **needs assessment, spent time on community immersion and provided capacity building programs** among community members BEFORE the project design.

After being able to understand the situation and appreciate the value of sustainability, the members of community designed the project and is now collectively managing their own Aquaponics (providing food supply) and Water Systems (providing clean water).





## Strengthening the Resilience of Smallholder Farmers in the Dry Zone to Climate Variability and Extreme Events in Sri Lanka (GCF Project approved at B13)

- Approved in June 2016 at B13
- One of the projects that conducted thorough stakeholder consultation – **field visits, discussion with community members, meetings with Ministers and experts** – led to take into consideration varying degrees of vulnerabilities



# GCF offers hope

Geared towards transformational paradigm shift and promises to do so in a way that not only prevents harm, but also does good and promotes sustainable impacts

- Environmental and Social Policy
- Indigenous Peoples Policy
- Gender Policy (to be updated to GESI Policy)





# The role of Civil Society

Among other tasks, CSOs study funding proposals, and reach out to the communities potentially affected, in order to understand what the project or program may actually involve, beyond what appears on paper.





# Key recommendations for the GCF

- Enhance public consultation to include a wide array of stakeholders
- Stakeholder participation must be sustained, and must ensure ownership (build capacity and knowledge of stakeholders) so they can contribute to the implementation and throughout the project cycle
- Come up with an exclusion and prohibited activities list (i.e. large hydro, nuclear, large biomass, activities that will affect voluntary isolated IP groups)
- Expand information disclosure to ensure that they are gender responsive, culturally appropriate and are available in local languages
- IRM and/or grievance mechanisms at the AE and project level must be accessible and available to affected/potentially affected persons/groups

