

Asks on World Bank CPS/F Consultations with Civil Society:

Before the beginning of the process, the Bank should negotiate with the government to agree on the mechanism that will be used for the preparation of the document. The agreed upon mechanisms should in turn be officially documented. The Bank should encourage the government to approve simultaneous disclosure at the time the final draft is submitted to the World Bank's Board for approval. Simultaneous, or at least timely, translation into Arabic should be procured to ensure real and effective access to information that is necessary for meaningful participation of the public and/or civil society. This shall also be mainstreamed throughout the below asks:

Ideal Timeline:

Phase One – Announcing the commencement of preparations for the Country Partnership Strategy (CPS)

- Bank announces via email, social media, press release & country page that it will be preparing a CPS and details of the consultation process, and a timeline. Bank also explains what a CPS is and what decisions the Bank is hoping to take throughout the consultation process.
- Bank also releases the most recent ISN mid-term review/evaluation taking into account the opinion of the societies (residents) in the locations affected by the Bank's projects under the strategy paper currently/previosly in place, by way of conducting surveys and considering the opinion of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) working on the ground.
- The Bank invites CSOs to send studies they might have, which could be useful in drafting the new CPS.

Phase Two - Release of the first draft and inviting CSOs for consultation

- Bank releases Draft 1 of country context and draft pillars document, which provide the public with an understanding of what the Bank's assumptions and priorities are. The Bank also posts all documents, studies and statistics related to those pillars whether prepared by Bank's experts, government, academics or civil society. (Should the Bank develop a CPF, the Systematic Country Diagnostic should be consulted on at this stage, given that it lays out the studies, assumptions and country context).
- Simultaneously with the aforementioned, at the time of the release, the Bank announces via e-mail, social media, press release, and country page, as well as other appropriate local media outlets, that it will accept input via the internet from the time of release of the draft until the completion of the consultation meetings (input should be allowed for no less than one month).
- The Bank announces the schedule for the consultation meetings, which should start at least one month after the date of the release of the draft to allow time for participants to consider it before participating in the sessions.
- One month from the date of the release of Draft 1, the Bank holds face-to-face consultations in the following governorates of the country, according to the geographic population distribution:
 - i. Cairo region and its capital city of Cairo: includes the Cairo, Giza and Qalyubia Governorates.
 - ii. Alexandria region and its capital city of Alexandria: includes the Alexandria and Beheira Governorates, and the Nubaria and Matrouh areas.
 - iii. Delta region and its capital city of Tanta: includes the Monufia, Gharbia, Dumyat, Kafr el Sheikh, and Dakahlia Governorates.

- iv. Suez Canal region and its capital city of Ismailia: includes the Sinai, Port Said, Ismailia, Suez, and Sharqia Governorates.
 - v. Northern Upper Egypt region and its capital city of Minya: includes the Beni Suef, Minya and Fayoum Governorates and Northern part of the Red Sea Governorate.
 - vi. Asyut region and its capital city of Asyut: includes the Asyut Governorate and the New Valley.
 - vii. Southern Upper Egypt region and its capital city of Aswan: includes the Sohag, Qina and Aswan Governorates, and the Southern part of the Red Sea Governorate.
- Consultations at this stage should mainly comprise CSOs. All consultations should be open and not only by invitation.
 - Consultations should begin with a half-day presentation with Q&A about the Bank's role in the country, the Bank's boundaries for operation, and CPS (how the Bank develops it, timeline for its development, its role in shaping the framework of the Bank's operations).
 - Online input should only be closed upon completion of the final consultation meeting.

Phase Three – Revision of the CPS draft

- Bank revises the country context and pillars based on input from civil society and other stakeholders.
- During this period, the Bank evaluates the mechanism that has been adopted in the consultation sessions through input via the online consultations hub, e-mail or regular mail, social media pages and so forth. The Bank then modifies the

mechanisms according to that evaluation, in preparation for the second round of consultations.

Phase Four – Publishing the second draft and inviting civil society for consultation

- Bank releases Draft 2 of the country context with tracked changes and comments explaining what was changed and why. The Bank provides an adequate explanation of what was not adopted and the reasons behind it. In this draft the Bank also includes more details of the key pillars it has selected, along with explanations for why the Bank is the best suited to provide expertise/lending in those key pillars and what potential operations within these pillars would look like.
- The Bank publishes Draft 2 and opens online input (for a period of one month at least). The bank announces the draft and the mechanism through which it will accept input, as well as the schedule for the dates of the consultation sessions, which should begin after one month from the date of publication of the draft, using the same methods that have been used to announce the first draft.
- One month after publishing Draft 2, the Bank holds consultation meetings in the same areas where the sessions on the initial draft were held, and following the mechanism that has been modified according to the results of the evaluation of the first phase of consultations. The bank also invites participants from the regions / areas / provinces that are key focus areas according to the draft; as well as other interested parties / experts in the sectors that have been highlighted as pillars of the draft strategy.
- At this stage the consultation sessions should be with multiple parties (civil society, government representatives from the different ministries, private sector, academics...etc.). During those sessions, participants are to be divided into groups

based on expertise or specialization, where each group discusses one of the pillars/sectors provided in the strategy.

- Online input should remain open until the completion of the sessions.

Phase Five – Final Draft

- Bank prepares final draft of document for Board approval.
- The final document should be disclosed simultaneously when it is sent to the Board and not after it has been already discussed and voted on. This would be in accordance with the initial agreement with the government prior to the beginning of the strategy preparation process. At this time, the Bank should hold an open and recorded meeting to share the final document and be open to questions.

All documentation/meetings/materials should be available in Arabic.