



OED REACH

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IDA: A Comprehensive Review

- In the *IDA12 Replenishment Report*, OED was asked to review the actions of the IDA10 and 11 programs and to conduct an interim review of IDA12. The international study team of independent experts is now in place, the study plan has been outlined, and work has begun.
- In accordance with the request, the review will assess IDA's performance in implementing the specific recommendations in each of the three replenishment reports and will explore how well key elements of the IDA program are working.
- Reflecting the major areas of emphasis in the IDA10-12 reports, the review will focus on six priority program areas (poverty reduction, social sector development, gender, environmental sustainability, private sector development, and governance) and four priority process reforms (enhanced country assistance strategies, design, and implementation; performance-based allocation; participation; and aid coordination)
- At a time of increased attention to development effectiveness, the review offers an opportunity to explore the extent of the policy and operational changes that have been made in the IDA program over the last seven years—within the Bankwide context of the renewal and change; to provide an independent assessment of IDA's development effectiveness; and to draw lessons for future replenishments consistent with the CDF principles.

IDA—Approaching 40 Years of Lending

IDA was created in 1960 to provide development assistance to the poorest Bank member countries, those unable to borrow on IBRD terms. It has since become the Bank's largest source of concessional aid (providing close to US\$90 billion in loans through FY99); an important contributor of advice and analysis on development strategies and issues; and a key mechanism for aid coordination. IDA is often seen as the leader in policy and process innovation within the Bank Group.

What Has Been Achieved?

The IDA10, 11, and 12 replenishment reports have called for a sharpened focus on poverty reduction, environmental sustainability, and good governance; more selective and participatory approaches to country assistance programming; and increased emphasis on aid coordination. The IDA Review will explore both the extent of implementation of these commitments and their contribution to progress on the ground.

Main questions to be addressed will include:

- To what extent has IDA acted, or is in the process of acting, in response to the specific undertakings in the IDA10, 11, and 12 replenishment reports?
- To what extent has IDA made progress in its mission to support programs to reduce poverty and improve the quality of life in client countries?
- What factors have contributed to IDA's effectiveness and what factors have constrained it?
- What implications for the future can be drawn from the experience of recent years?

The Analysis

The review will utilize a combination of cross-country, country-specific, and product- and services-specific analysis. Assessments will be based on Bank documentation, studies, OED and other evaluations, external literature, and interviews and surveys of individuals within the Bank, borrower countries, and other partner agencies.

To deepen and complement the ten thematic assessments, the IDA program will be reviewed in selected countries. This work will draw heavily on Country Assistance Strategies, OED Country Assistance Evaluations, and QAG and other Bank reviews, as well as in-country consultations with government officials, representatives of civil society and the private sector, and other development partners.

The Consultative Process

Throughout the review, consultations will be held with the Board and the IDA deputies, and with interested and knowledgeable individuals in international research institutions and NGOs.

Opportunities for consultation will be provided by periodic briefings of CODE and the IDA deputies; two IDA Review Global Consultation Forums (December 1999 and Fall 2000), which will involve some 40 researchers and NGO and private sector representatives from IDA donor and recipient countries; and two report review meetings with the advisers. Background studies will also be available for review and comment on an IDA Review website.

The IDA Review Team

The IDA Review will be carried out by an independent team of current and former Bank staff and outside consultants, including the task manager for the review, Catherine Gwin, former senior vice president of the Overseas Development Council; Stephen Eccles, former World Bank vice president and controller; Bernard Wood, former director of the OECD/DAC Secretariat; and current and former Bank staff members Dan Morrow, Pierre Landell-Mills, Jed Shilling, and Malcolm Rowat. In addition, a small group of international advisers will provide guidance to the review. Advisers include: Amba-

sador Ingo Bjork-Klevby, Swedish Ambassador to Kenya; Nancy Birdsall, former executive vice-president of the IDB and current senior associate, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace; Kwesi Botchwey, former Minister of Finance, Ghana, and current director, African Research and Programs, Harvard Center for International Development; and Mohamed Syduzzaman, chair, BOC, Bangladesh, and former World Bank alternate executive director.

Actions and Planned Activities

- As part of the Review's design phase, consultations were held during the Annual Meeting with deputies and representatives of borrowing countries.
- Scoping papers for each of the ten major topic reviews have been prepared and were discussed with the advisory group and Bank staff at a series of October workshops.
- A draft Approach Paper was reviewed by CODE on October 25, 1999, and resubmitted for approval on a non-objection basis.
- Plans have been made for the first Global Consultation Forum, to be held in Bonn in early December, to explain and seek comments on the design of the review.
- A briefing will be given by the IDA Review task manager to the NGO-World Bank Committee during of their meeting of December 6–10.
- IDA deputies will be briefed on work in progress in the late spring.
- In-country consultations will take place in mid-2000.
- A Progress Report will be submitted to CODE and the IDA deputies in July 2000
- The Second Global Consultation Forum will be held in the fall of 2000.
- The final report will be issued in March 2001.

