

2008 Public Information Policy



Purpose of the Policy

To outline:

- how the EBRD discloses information and consults with its shareholders
- so as to promote better awareness and understanding of its operations and strategies

To ensure:

- that mutual trust is maintained between the Bank, its business clients and other partners



Main features of the Policy

Four categories of information

- Institutional information
- Information on Policies and Strategies
- Project-related information
- Accountability and governance information



2008 Policy Review

- Last triennial review of Policy in 2006
- Normally the next review would have taken place in 2009
- Current review brought forward to coincide with the review of the Environmental Policy in response to NGO requests at AM 2007



The review process

- Review preparation
 - Formation of inter-departmental working group
 - Reviewing the comments of Civil Society both at the 2007 Annual Meeting and those received subsequently
 - Bench-marking with other IFIs
 - Consultations with clients through the Banking Department
- Invitation to Comment on Review posted November 2007
- Draft Policy posted in February in parallel with the ESP
- Public consultations in the region : Budapest, Belgrade, Moscow, Tbilisi, Bishkek as well as London



New elements of the 2008 PIP (1)

- Scope of PIP widened to include Environmental and Procurement aspects of information
- Consultation period for draft Country Strategies extended from 30 to 45 days
- Commitment to more detailed content of PSDs including technical cooperation elements



New elements of the 2008 PIP (2)

- Plan to develop methods of communications with public other than Web
- Training programme for staff, particularly in ROs in implementation of the Policy
- Introduction of greater user-friendliness for public access to information in the PIP
- More clarity in the language of the various element of the Policy



New elements of the 2008 PIP (2)

Incorporation into PIP of mechanism for handling information

The mechanism:

- Introduced at the request of and in consultation with NGOs following the 2006 Policy review
- Activated 1 January 2007, provides dedicated contact point and web-based channel for requests
- Sets timeframe and mode of responses
- Provides appeal mechanism in the case of denials for information requests
- Aims at enhancing the Bank's ability to respond to the public



Supporting the Policy implementation through dialogue with Civil Society

- Informing relevant Civil Society Stakeholders about issues of interest
- Facilitating a meaningful dialogue between the Bank and Civil Society
- Responding to NGO requests for information

