

“Making the right impact?”

Expert workshop on evaluating Human Rights Impact Assessments (HRIAs) in trade and investment regimes

17-18 September 2014
Ecumenical Institute « Château de Bossey », Switzerland

Wednesday, 17 September 2014

Salon Blanc, Château de Bossey

09:30-09:45	<p>Welcome, opening and introduction of participants:</p> <p><i>Ayush Bat-Erdene</i>, Chief, Right to Development Section, OHCHR</p> <p><i>Hubert Schillinger</i>, Director, FES Geneva office</p>
09:45-10:45	<p>Session 1: What are human rights impact assessments and how do they fit within the universe of impact assessments?</p> <p>Moderator: <i>Simon Walker</i>, Chief, Civil, Political, Economic, Social and Cultural Rights Section, OHCHR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Simon Walker</i>: Introduction of Human Rights Impact Assessment; - <i>Eitan Felner</i>: Introduction of the World Bank study, February 2013, which reviewed Human Rights Impact Assessments with a focus on the literature, differences with other forms of assessment and relevance for Development. <p>Interactive discussion</p>
10:45-11:00	Coffee Break

11:00-12:30	<p>Continuation...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Mark Wielga</i>: Nomogaia's experience conducting HRIAs on large footprint capital projects and developing, testing and perfecting a methodology for conducting corporate HRIAs. <p>Interactive Discussion</p>
12:30-14:00	Lunch Break
14:00-16:00	<p>Session 2: Why are HRIAs an issue of concern, specifically in the fields of trade and investment? What is the current situation in HRIAs of trade and investment? What challenges and opportunities exist in the use of HRIAs in trade and investment agreements?</p> <p>Moderator: <i>David Luke</i>, Coordinator, Africa Trade Policy Centre, UNECA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Lloyd Lipsett</i>: video message on sector-wide assessments and reaching multistakeholder consensus; - <i>Andrea Shemberg and Andrea Saldarriaga</i>: Presentation of the key characteristics of investment agreements that should help shape the discussion around HRIAs in this context; - <i>Marina Durano</i>: how human rights impact assessments create an avenue for policymakers to link trade policy directly with intended beneficiaries; - <i>Thomas Braunschweig</i>: introduction of the project report "Owning seeds, accessing food - a human rights impact assessment of Upov 1991 based on case studies in Kenya, Peru and the Philippines". <p>Interactive discussion</p>
16:00-16:30	Coffee/Tea Break
16:30-18:00	<p>Break-out session I</p> <p>Participants will be asked to work in smaller groups. Details will be explained at the workshop.</p>

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10:00-10:45	Wrap-up of break-out sessions in plenary and summary of Day 1
10:45-13:00	<p>Session 3: What is the way forward for future assessments in trade and investment? How should different actors, including OHCHR and NGOs design their active engagement in this field, and what are the specific tools and context-specific guidance and/or training and quality control that could be successfully developed?</p>

	<p>Moderator: <i>Roberto Bissio</i>, Coordinator, Social Watch and Executive Director, Third World Institute</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Olivier de Schutter (via Skype)</i>: Presentation of the Guiding principles on human rights impact assessments of trade and investment agreements; - <i>Claire O'Brien</i>: Perspectives on impact assessment tools and their uses from the field of business and human rights - <i>James Harrison</i> will discuss the need for the development of context-specific resources to support HRIAs of particular human rights issues that arise in relation to trade agreements, and the need for piloting of assessments by actors who have high levels of credibility in the international community. <p>Interactive discussion</p>
13:00-14:30	Lunch Break
14:30-16:00	<p>Break-out session II</p> <p>Participants will be asked to work in smaller groups. Details will be explained at the workshop.</p>
16:00-16:15	Coffee/Tea Break
16:15-16:45	<p>Wrap-up in plenary, final round of discussion and next steps</p> <p>Moderator:</p> <p><i>Susan Mathews</i>, Human Rights Officer, Right to Development Section, OHCHR</p> <p><i>Yvonne Theemann</i>, Program Officer, Trade and Development, FES Geneva office</p>
16:45-17:00	Closing of workshop