

## International policies and standards

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International Finance Corporation (IFC)

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The IFC standards are generally regarded as the guiding standard in the extractive sector, with the expectation that companies comply with them or model their own corporate standards on them

### Introduction

In a number of countries there has been an increase in legislation regulating land access and resettlement however, most countries still have limited applicable laws dealing with only some of the relevant issues, for example compensation, expropriation and building standards. Areas that are often poorly addressed include community engagement, livelihoods, monitoring and evaluation, and reporting. As a result, the reality is that mere compliance with national requirements does not always enable a company to fully address key social risks and challenges.

A range of useful good practice policies, standards and guidance have been published by a number of institutions. An important starting point when undertaking land access and resettlement is to fully understand both the legislative framework and relevant policies and standards.

This module provides an overview of key international policies and standards that companies need to consider, challenges in this context, lessons from experience and recommendations.

Standards and guidance documents related to land access and resettlement include the following:

- International Finance Corporation (IFC) (discussed in more detail below)
- World Bank (discussed in more detail below)
- European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) (discussed in more detail below)
- Asian Development Bank—Safeguard Policy Statement (Safeguard Requirements 2: Involuntary Resettlement) (Asian Development Bank 2009) and “Handbook on Resettlement: A Guide to Good Practice” (Asian Development Bank 1998)
- Inter-American Development Bank—Operational Policy OP-710 (Inter-American Development Bank 1998)
- African Development Bank Group—Integrated Safeguards System (Operational Safeguard 2) (African Development Bank Group 2013)
- Japan Bank for International Cooperation—“Guidelines for Confirmation of Environmental and Social Considerations” (involuntary resettlement) (Japan Bank for International Cooperation 2002).