Session Overview

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Session title</strong></th>
<th>Lessons from the field when implementing human rights impact assessments (HRIA)</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Date</strong></td>
<td>Monday 14 November 2016</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Time</strong></td>
<td>15:00-16:20</td>
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<td><strong>Room</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Moderator</strong></td>
<td>Sarah Zoen, Oxfam</td>
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</tbody>
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| **Speakers**       | Fernanda Hopenhaym, PODER Mexico  
                      Michael Clements, Lawyers for Human Rights South Africa  
                      Renata Albuquerque, CPT Brazil and Gustavo Ferroni, Oxfam Brazil  
                      Diego Melo, Tierra Digna Colombia  
                      Aung Kyaw Soe, Myanmar Centre for Responsible Business  
                      *Breakout session will also include Heather Eisenlord, International Senior Lawyers Project and Cathrine Poulsen-Hansen, Programme Manager Corporate Engagement Danish Institute for Human Rights |
| **Organizers**     | BHRRC, DIHR, FIDH, Oxfam, PODER  
                      *Spanish and French translation will be available |

Presenter Bios

- Aung Kyaw Soe is Manager for the Extractives Program at the Myanmar Centre for Responsible Business (MCRB).
- Cathrine Poulsen-Hansen is Program Manager Corporate Engagement at the Danish Institute for Human Rights.
- Diego Melo is a human rights activist and a researcher at Tierra Digna, Center of Social Justice Studies.
- Fernanda Hopenhaym is PODER's deputy director, and leads the work related to business and human rights in the organization.
- Gustavo Ferroni is a policy and advocacy advisor with Oxfam Brazil and closely supporting CPT on their HRIA.
- Heather Eisenlord is Director for Economic Justice and Accountability at International Senior Lawyers Project.
- Michael Clements heads the Environmental Rights Program at Lawyers for Human Rights in South Africa, where she focuses primarily on the rights of mining-affected communities.
• Renata Albuquerque is a journalist and advisor with the Brazilian NGO, Comissão Pastoral da Terra - Pastoral Land Commission, working on land rights for local communities.
• Sarah Zoen is Senior Advisor, Private Sector Department at Oxfam America and manages their community-based human rights impact assessment program.

Aim of the session

We will discuss different approaches to improving human rights impact assessments, including community participation, in the context of business and human rights. In a global economy, where investments have the potential to contribute to but often jeopardize sustainable development and the enjoyment of human rights, it becomes especially important to embed human rights due diligence processes as part of risk assessments, on the side of corporations as well as on the side of communities.

The session will also be an opportunity for peer-learning on community leadership on human rights impact assessments around the world. These initiatives seek to highlight processes driven by the rights-holders for identifying, preventing, mitigating, and remedying human rights abuses by companies as “good practice” implementation of the UN Guiding Principles. We will explore what conditions are needed for a community-led HRIA to change conditions on the ground. Representatives from different regions (Latin America, Africa, and Asia) will share their experiences in human rights impact assessment processes, how methodologies have been adapted to different contexts and elaborate on the benefits and challenges for the communities.

The initiatives that will be presented promote transparency and access to information and provide options on assessing leverage as well as leadership at the community level. The central role of rights-holders in discussions and decisions surrounding company projects that impact them can and should be the way forward.

Format of the session

• Part 1 will be structured as a panel with a series of questions for presenters around 40 minutes
• Part 2 will be smaller breakout sessions based on 4 different themes (facilitated by thematic leads) related to human rights impact assessment and will last around 30 minutes with a short report back. *One of the breakout groups will be conducted in Spanish.*

Session organizers

This session is a collaboration between Business and Human Rights Resource Centre, International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH), Oxfam, Project on Organizing, Development, Education, and Research (PODER) and the Danish Institute for Human Rights.