Using Fairness and Competence as Key Factors to Gain Support from Indigenous People in Guatemala



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Presentation Overview

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- Stakeholder Engagement and FPIC
- Fairness and Competence Framework
- Key factors for effective stakeholder engagement
- Case study
- Final Thoughts









Stakeholder Engagement- PS1

- Basis for building strong, constructive, and responsive relationships
- Analysis, planning, disclosure, dissemination of information, consultation and participation, grievance mechanism, and ongoing reporting to Affected Communities
- Ongoing process

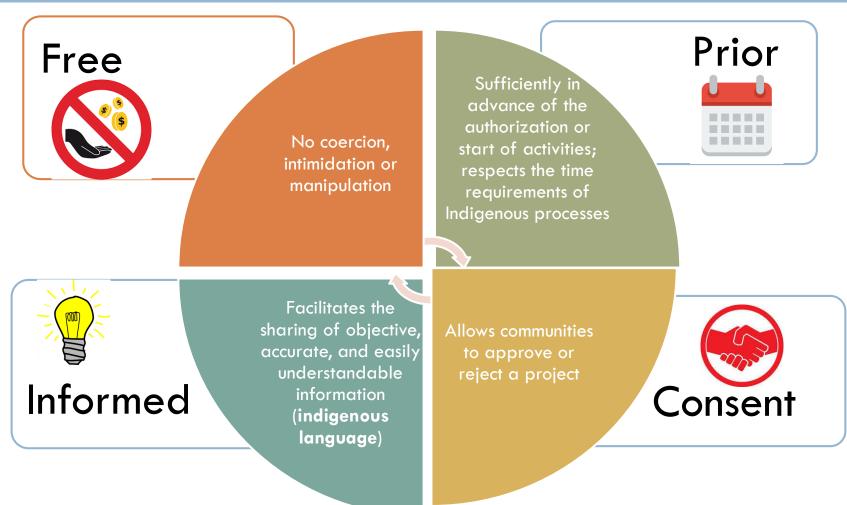






Free, Prior and Informed Consent- PS7

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United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, 2007

Key Factors to Gain Support (Participant's perceptions)

Procedural Justice Theory

- Fairness in the decision-making process is key to obtain the community support of the decisions
- People's feelings of being treated fairly are important
- A fair process should allow for all interested/affected parties to assume a legitimate role in the decision-making process



Key Factors to Gain Support (Participant's perceptions)

Fairness and Competence Theory

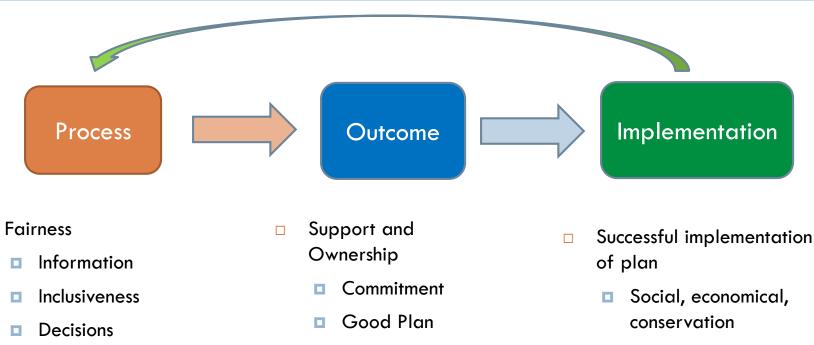
- A fair process is important but does NOT ensure the competence of the decision process
- Competence refers to procedures (rules/ regulations) to accomplish effective communication and understanding among participants (specific for each community)
- An effective communication develops an implicit commitment between participants to cooperate





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Key Factors to Gain Support (Participant's perceptions)



- Competence
 - Process

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Knowledge

- Support
- Local Network
 - livelihood
 - relationships

Participants actions

GUATEMALA

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- 3rd largest country in Central America (Approximately 11 times smaller than South Africa)
- 17 million people (41%
 Indigenous, 41% Mestizo, 18%
 white)
- 23 Maya Languages

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- Systematic opposition to development projects
- Drug and human traffick areas







TRECSA PROJECT*

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- 866 km of T-Line (230 kV)
- 11new substations, and expansion of 12 existing substations
- □ 347 communities (90% indigenous)
- Financed by EDC and Citibank-EP Banks
- Construction started in 2012 (70% of construction)
- 69 variations (15 social reasons)
- 5606 Easements, 26 relocations
- Project monitoring for Lenders by Ramboll











Fairness and Competence of the Process

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 - Approval from all leaders and community members (Mayan languages)
 - Community engagement team locals (cultural process and language)
 - Workshops, individual, and group meetings
 - Newspapers, banners, specific information campaigns
 - National radio and television broadcasting
 - Constant communication of the process and outcomes (local and national)
- Conflict Resolution team of experts







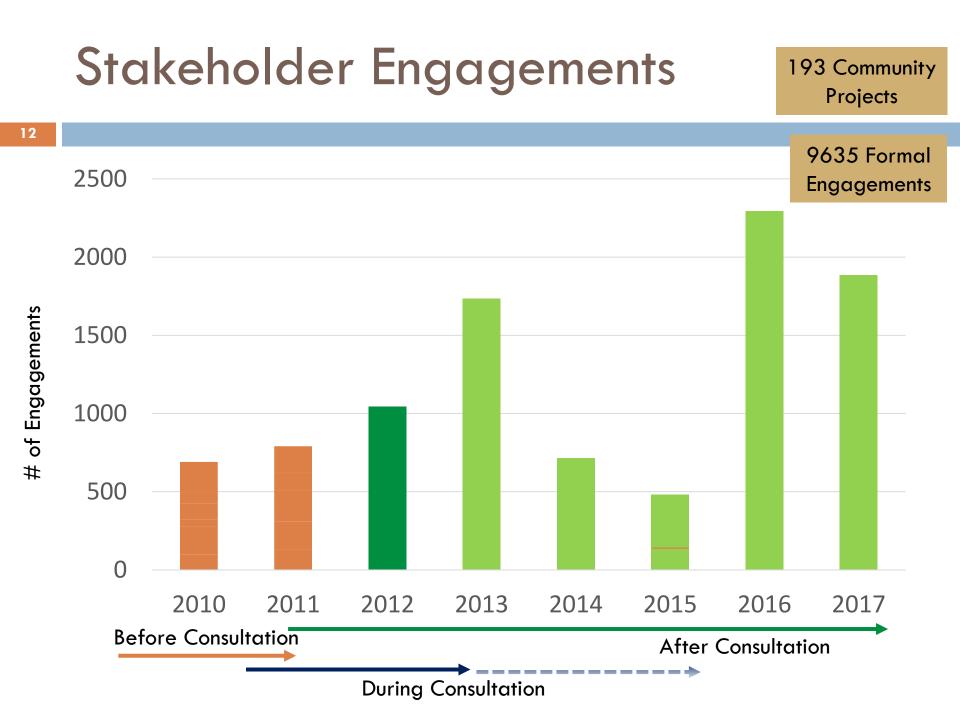




Consultation	Engagement Strategies
Before (2009-2011)	 Meetings with national/local government representatives Meetings with local and national community representatives Local & national newspapers, local radio, tv Surveys, workshops Consultation with leaders, property owners, school meetings 6 indigenous languages
During (2011-2013)	 Community engagement team – Locals (6 indigenous languages) Conflict resolution team of experts Formal consultation with national/local community representatives Meetings with national/local government representatives Decision making workshops Opinion surveys
After (2011-2017)	 Community engagement team – Locals (6 indigenous languages) Consultation with community leaders and representatives Conflict resolution team of experts TV documentaries Advisors for the National/local government







Implementation

Project

Community Development







Fairness and Competence of the Process

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"At the beginning, there was some confusion about the Project and some people thought that it was going to be a mine, then in 2010 Noe [Trecsa's social representative] appeared **and explained** [to All of] us that the Project will reinforce the electricity. **All community members met in an assembly and we all approved the Project**. This was 3-4 years ago."

> Member of the Community of Maria Tecun (2015). (Interview made while working at Ramboll)









Support and Ownership

"We have been requesting for many years the support from the local government and have not received"... "TRECSA is "the first company that gives us something, and we are very thankful to them".

COCODE member, Community of San Lorenzo. (Interview made while working at Ramboll)









Final Thoughts

- Fairness and Competence key factors to gain support
- People's feelings of being treated fairly are important
- Understand cultural and competent procedures
- Indigenous people should have a transparent and legitimate role in the decision-making process.
- Direct coordination with communities will promote mutual benefits and facilitates to maintain the social license
- Different levels of engagement
- Ongoing process through the life of the project





Thank you!

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