

Collaborative learning projects on business and human rights underway in the oil and gas industry

11 November 2011

Last June saw the launch of IPIECA's Business and Human Rights Project: a new three-year initiative that leverages the collective experience and practical know-how of the association's members in the area of business and human rights.

Through IPIECA, this special project is furthering collaborative learning around due diligence and grievance mechanisms. Dedicated teams have been formed to design and execute multi-year work programmes in both areas. These programmes will contribute to the growing body of knowledge generated by the industry, as well as provide input into multi-stakeholder dialogues on business and human and relevant international guidance.

The first collaborative learning workshop on due diligence was convened in New York on October 20. The workshop included participation by the Danish Institute for Human Rights. It focused on promoting continuous improvement in corporate impact assessment processes through the sharing of technical insights and experiences from across the oil and gas industry.

The grievance mechanism work stream of IPIECA's Business and Human Rights Project will be structured around a series of pilot programmes undertaken by member companies. Through these pilots, IPIECA plans to collect first-hand data and analysis from diverse operating environments. This approach will enable IPIECA to generate learnings and innovations that can be applied more broadly to community engagement practices within the industry.

IPIECA has been working on human rights issues and raising awareness across the oil and gas industry since 2002. IPIECA continues to serve as a constructive forum to facilitate the exchange of industry practices and opportunities for continuous learning.

IPIECA is the global oil and gas industry association for environmental and social issues. It develops, shares and promotes good practices and knowledge to help the industry improve its environmental and social performance; and is the industry's principal channel of communication with the United Nations.

Company members include Addax Petroleum, BG Group, BP, Chevron, CNOOC, ConocoPhillips, eni, ExxonMobil, Hess, Hunt Oil, KPC, Mærsk, Marathon, Nexen, NOC Libya, Occidental, OMV, Petrobras, Petronas, Petrotrin, PTT EP, Qatargas, RasGas, Repsol, Saudi Aramco, Shell, SNH, Statoil, Talisman, Total and Woodside Energy.

Association members include African Refiners Association (ARA), American Petroleum Institute (API), Australian Institute of Petroleum (AIP), Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers (CAPP), Canadian Petroleum Products Institute (CPPI), European Petroleum Industry Association (EUROPIA), International Association of Oil & Gas Producers (OGP), Petroleum Association of Japan (PAJ), Regional Association of Oil and Natural Gas Companies in Latin America and the Caribbean (ARPEL), South African Petroleum Industry Association (SAPIA), the Oil Companies' European Association for Environment, Health and Safety in Refining and Distribution (CONCAWE), the UK Petroleum Industry Association (UKPIA) and the World Petroleum Council (WPC).

Inquiries: Roper Cleland. Email: roper.cleland@ipecica.org