

Barro Blanco / 14-0002

Complainant: M-10 movement and the Cacica General de la Comarca Ngäbe-Buglé

Date Filed: May 5, 2014

Last update: May 29, 2015

Case Status: Open - Monitoring

Complaint

The Barro Blanco project is a 28.56 MW hydroelectric project located on the Tabasara River in Panama. The Project Company is Generadora del Istmo S.A. (GENISA).

In May 2014, a complaint was lodged by the M10 movement and the Cacica General of the Comarca Ngäbe-Buglé. The complainants believe the project will have a significant negative impact on their livelihoods and territories. FMO is alleged of breaching its Environmental & Social Policy, Human Rights Policy and Corporate Governance Policy.

PROJECT INFORMATION

CLIENT

[Generadora del Istmo S.A.](#)

COUNTRY

[Panama](#)

SECTOR

[Energy](#)

TOTAL FMO FINANCING

[USD 27.82 MLN](#)

Action taken

FMO acknowledged the receipt of the complaint with a letter to the complainants and forwarded the complaint to the Independent External Panel (hereafter: the Panel). The Panel assessed the complaint and determined it was admissible under the criteria of the Complaints Mechanism. DEG had received a similar complaint in April 2014, which was also determined to be admissible under the criteria of the Complaints Mechanism. After consultation with the complainant, GENISA FMO and DEG (hereafter: the Parties), the Panel decided to assess both complaints as one and conduct a compliance review of FMO's and DEG's compliance with their own standards. The Panel has performed on site visits and has had discussions with the Parties and other stakeholders in this complaint. The client has been cooperating on a voluntary basis, since the Complaints Mechanism became effective after the financing agreement with the client was signed.

Based on their review, the Panel concluded in their final report (available in [English](#) and [Spanish](#)) on the level of FMO's and DEG's compliance with their own standards. The Management Board of FMO and DEG have written an official joined Management Response in response to the report of the Panel (available in [English](#) and [Spanish](#)).

Status

With the publication of the compliance review report, the process of the complaint under the Independent Complaints Mechanism policy is completed. As mentioned in the Management Response, FMO will follow-up on the recommendations made. This process will be monitored by FMO's Complaints Office.

