

AI Policy Exceptions

Under the AI Policy, any information in the World Bank's possession that is not on the list of 10 exceptions is available to the public.

1. Personal information
2. Communications of Governors and/or Executive Directors' Offices
3. Ethics Committee
4. Attorney-Client Privilege
5. Security and Safety Information
6. Separate Disclosure Regimes
7. Confidential Client/Third Party Information
8. Corporate Administrative
9. **Deliberative Information***
10. Financial Information
 - A. Forecasts*
 - B. Analysis*
 - C. Transactions*
 - D. Banking and Billing

* Eligible for declassification

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THE WORLD BANK Policy on ACCESS TO INFORMATION

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Civil Society
www.worldbank.org/civilsociety

Consultations
consultations.worldbank.org

Safeguards
www.worldbank.org/safeguards

For more information please visit:

www.worldbank.org/wbaccess



Unlocking the Power of Information

Background

The World Bank Policy on Access to Information (**AI Policy**), effective since July 1, 2010, constitutes a major shift in the Bank's approach to disclosure of information. The AI Policy provides for the disclosure of more information than ever before.

AI Policy Highlights

- Maximizing access to information
- Clear list of exceptions
- Safeguarding the deliberative process
- Clear procedures for disclosing information
- Right to appeal
- Simultaneous disclosure of some Board Papers
- Declassification of certain types of information (after 5, 10, or 20 years).

By providing timely and relevant information, the AI Policy helps to enhance good governance, public ownership, and development effectiveness.

Transparency | Accountability | Results

Other World Bank Group AI Policies

- IFC: www.ifc.org/disclosure
- MIGA: www.miga.org/access
- INT: www.worldbank.org/integritypolicies
- IEG: ieg.worldbank.org/access_to_information



Open Development



Access information and tools without any restrictions. www.worldbank.org/open

Open Data: Provides access to development data freely and openly. data.worldbank.org

Open Finances: Financial data on World Bank Group activities. finances.worldbank.org

Open Knowledge Repository: Official open access repository for World Bank research outputs and knowledge products. openknowledge.worldbank.org

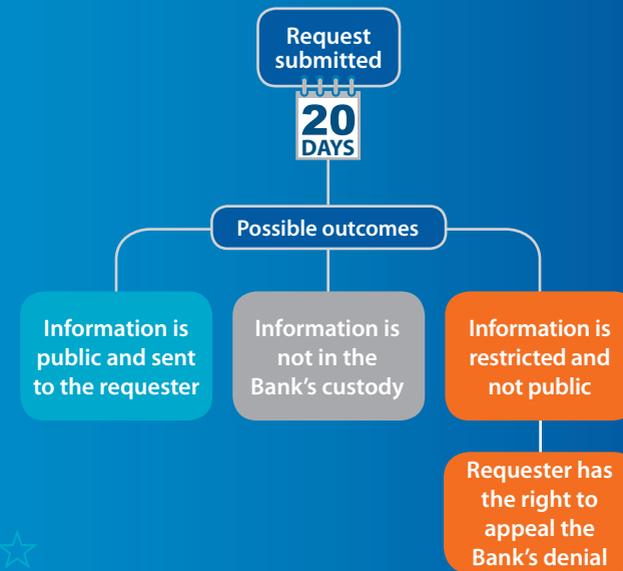
How to Request Information



For information that is not available on the Bank's website, the public may submit a request through the **AI portal** at www.worldbank.org/wbaccess

Include a detailed description of the information requested: title, publication dates, or any other helpful details to identify the requested information.

The Bank makes its best effort to respond within 20 working days. In some cases, the Bank may need additional time to respond to requests.



World Bank Information



Countries: www.worldbank.org/countries



Topics: www.worldbank.org/topics



Documents & Reports: www.worldbank.org/documents



Projects: www.worldbank.org/projects



Policies & Procedures: www.worldbank.org/policies

1985: First Directive on Disclosure issued by the Bank, establishing presumption in favor of disclosure

1993: Information Disclosure Policy revised to release greater range of documents. Historical records since 1946 added to Documents & Reports

2002: World Bank approves the AI Policy. Paradigm shift to presumption of disclosure, list of exceptions and appeals process

2009: Launch of Open Finances platform, which provides interactive data on the Bank's financial activities

2010: Modification to the AI Policy to clarify declassification of certain board records

2011: Modification to the AI Policy to clarify application to Board of Governors records. **5th Anniversary of the AI Policy**

1985

1993

2002

2003

2009

2010

2011

2012

2013

2014

2015



1985: First Policy on Information Disclosure approved. Project Information Document (PID) is introduced

1993: World Bank adopts Translation Framework, which broadens access and dissemination to larger audience

2002: Open Data initiative is launched, enabling free access to more than 2,000 development indicators and project data. **AI Policy becomes effective**

2009: Creation of Open Knowledge Repository and Open Access Policy, for free access to all research and knowledge products

2010: Mainstream citizen engagement, including beneficiary feedback, in Bank supported operations

Archives



The Archives website holds information from 1946 to present, and provides access to a wide range of development knowledge.

www.worldbank.org/archives

World Bank Group Archives Holdings: Enhanced access to archival holdings and digitized declassified records.

archivesholdings.worldbank.org

Oral Histories: Over 200 interviews with World Bank staff from the 1940s to present.

oralhistory.worldbank.org

Appeals Process



If the Bank denies access to information, you may file an appeal. Appeals may be filed electronically or by mail.

The Access to Information Committee (AIC) – an administrative body under Bank Management – serves as the first level of appeals.

An independent AI Appeals Board (AIAB), consisting of three international experts, serves as the second and final recourse for certain types of appeals.

The sole remedy available to those who prevail in the appeals process is to receive the information requested.

Summaries of Requests



The World Bank discloses on a regular basis summaries of the information requests submitted by the public, when permission to disclose was granted by the requesters. These summaries can be found at

www.worldbank.org/wbaccess/summariesofrequests

Decisions on Appeals



All decisions on appeals by the AIC and the AIAB are publicly available at

www.worldbank.org/wbaccess/appeals

InfoFinder App



Features an icon-based design that enables mobile users around the world to access the AI Policy and to search World Bank projects, documents, and other information. Available in the app store.

apps.worldbank.org

AI Policy Interpretations



The AIC has the authority to interpret the AI Policy in line with its guiding principles. All interpretations issued by the AIC are available at

www.worldbank.org/wbaccess/AIPolicy/Interpretations