

THE DANISH INSTITUTE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS PRINCIPLES OF ENGAGEMENT IN CONTRACTED ADVISORY SERVICES

As part of its legal mandate to protect and promote human rights, the Danish Institute for Human Rights – Denmark’s National Human Rights Institution (“the Institute”) can provide various actors, including state entities, other national human rights institutions, intergovernmental organisations, development finance institutions, as well as business or multi-stakeholder initiatives etc. (“organisations”) with contracted advisory services on human rights. This work is conducted with due regard to the following Principles:

- 1) The Institute is a National Human Rights Institution mandated by law to protect and promote human rights. The primary objective of the Institute in its contracted advisory engagements is to advance human rights.
- 2) The work of the Institute is guided by a human rights-based approach¹.
- 3) The organisations we advise engage with the Institute in good faith with the aim of advancing human rights enjoyment and sustainable development for all.
- 4) The Institute is an impartial, independent human rights institution, and does not offer public endorsements of specific organisations. Further, a commercial engagement between the Institute and any actor does not imply endorsement by the Institute.
- 5) The Institute carries out screenings ahead of any potential engagement with an organisation.
- 6) All external communication by organisations we engage with touching on their individual or joint work with the Institute must be agreed to prior to publication. Any use of the Institute’s name or branding must be agreed to prior to publication. All communication must be factually correct and must not indicate endorsement by the Institute.
- 7) The Institute will disclose the identities of the organisations we engage with and will disclose information on the content of the engagement through the Institute website. This is in compliance with the legal framework applicable to Danish public sector and state institutions, as applicable to the Institute, including the Danish Access to Public Administration Files Act, the Danish Public Administration Act and the Danish Archives Act.
- 8) For any information marked as confidential the Institute may make exemptions from access to information as per Principle 7) above through a process of redaction. Any such information clearly marked as confidential may be exempt from public access to information in order to protect certain interests including:
 - a) Material public financial interests, including interests relating to public commercial activities;
 - b) Interests of individual persons in protecting information on their personal or internal, including financial, circumstances; and
 - c) Material financial interests of individual persons or private enterprises in protecting technical information or processes and business or operating information.
- 9) Organisations with which the Institute engages are encouraged to communicate externally on their work with the Institute, including by disclosing project outputs from their cooperation with the Institute where relevant.
- 10) The Institute publicly disseminates knowledge and experiences gained through its advisory services to advance human rights.
- 11) The Institute continuously monitors, reviews and assesses the results of its advisory services. These principles are annexed to the Institute’s contracts on advisory services. The Institute continuously monitors engagements to ensure compliance with these principles.

¹ A human rights-based approach means that individuals and communities should know their rights. It also means that they should be fully supported to participate in the development of policy and practices which affect their lives and to claim rights where necessary.
<https://www.ohchr.org/documents/publications/faqs.pdf>