Have never been given the chance to propose ideas for development projects.

Did not participate in any activities to measure the real value of their homes, land and resources that would be lost or destroyed.

Do not know how to file a complaint about the project.

Did not participate in any activities to measure the real value of their homes, land and resources that would be lost or destroyed.

We exposed companies that were abusing community rights and those that were polluting. We took companies that were polluting to court.

They called relocation, but they did not give us land to relocate to. Just a little money, which we did not want.

Poverty will only end if people’s rights are respected.

Believe the most important way to measure the benefits of a development project is to see if it improves quality of life and if it respects and protects human rights.

Have never been given the chance to propose ideas for development projects.

Have received some form of compensation, but their development priorities for the country or region were not met.

Believe that the project was designed to benefit private companies.

Were forced to move because of violence and coercion.

Develop a project that preserves sustainable livelihoods and has no negative impact on the environment and ecology.

People who are affected by the project should always be involved in the planning process.

A good consultation should not include soldiers. People should be allowed to talk freely and the information must be given in advance for people to read and consult.

The government thinks just digging everywhere is development. What we have here is not development, it is killing us slowly.

Poverty will only end if people’s rights are respected.

A good consultation should not include soldiers. People should be allowed to talk freely and the information must be given in advance for people to read and consult.

Ensure that development projects have no negative impact on the environment.

People who are affected by the project should always be involved in the planning process.

Believe that the project was designed to benefit private companies.

Who received some form of compensation said their needs were not met.

Treat resettlement as its own development project.

Pursue project designs that uphold human rights.

Utilize information from community monitoring.

Ensure accountability for any harm caused.

Always take a human rights approach to development.

1. Start with a people’s plan
   - Have a consultation based on the opinions of people who will be directly affected by the project, not only with government officials.

2. Address barriers to real participation
   - A good consultation should not include soldiers. People should be allowed to talk freely and the information must be given in advance for people to read and consult.

3. Pursue project designs that uphold human rights
   - Develop a project that preserves sustainable livelihoods and has no negative impact on the environment and ecology.

4. Ensure local knowledge informs project design
   - People who are affected by the project should always be involved in the planning process.

5. Treat resettlement as its own development project
   - They call it relocation, but they did not give us land to relocate to. Just a little money, which we did not want.

6. Utilize information from community monitoring
   - We exposed companies that were abusing community rights and those that were polluting. We took companies that were polluting to court.

7. Ensure accountability for any harm caused
   - The government thinks just digging everywhere is development. What we have here is not development, it is killing us slowly.

8. Always take a human rights approach to development
   - Poverty will only end if people’s rights are respected.

Based on one of the most extensive community-led surveys on global development, involving 800 people in 8 countries, these 8 steps show how local expertise can ensure development benefits more people.

IAP’s Global Advocacy Team Initiative brings together community organizers, who experience development projects first hand, to conduct community-led research and mobilize their communities to change how development is conceived and implemented. The collective work led to a full report with local findings and recommendations to change how development is practiced. Read the report: bit.ly/backtodevelopment