Tell the World Bank:

END

Impoveryshment

Safeguard People and the Planet.

Because development shouldn't leave people worse off.

JOIN US FRIDAY, APRIL 15 2016 12 -1 PM
EDWARD R. MURROW PARK
IN FRONT OF THE WORLD BANK
19TH ST NW & H ST NW,
WASHINGTON, DC

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As the World Bank prepares to host finance ministers from across the globe in Washington DC April 15-17, civil society organizations are calling on the Bank and its member countries to **ensure that development activities protect people and the planet.**

While the World Bank’s stated goal is to eliminate poverty and promote sustainable development, too often World Bank-financed development projects are implemented without concern for the priorities and human rights of poor communities. Rather than alleviating poverty, World Bank-financed projects too often leave communities more impoverished.

**Over the last decade, projects funded by the World Bank have physically or economically displaced an estimated 3.4 million people,** forcing them from their homes, taking their land or damaging their livelihoods. World Bank financing through financial intermediaries has been linked to a string of violent conflict and human rights abuses. The World Bank is presently supporting privatization schemes which deprive communities of essential affordable public services.

The World Bank has expressed an interest in financing more megaprojects such as big hydroelectric dams, and increasing investment in fragile and conflict affected countries, meaning that human rights risks associated with Bank activities will only increase.

**The World Bank is right now in the final stages of revising its entire suite of social and environmental policies.** These safeguard policies are designed to prevent harm to people and the environment. While World Bank president Jim Kim has touted the opportunity to strengthen and modernize the safeguards and has committed to ensuring that they are in no way diluted, the Bank is proposing to eliminate key requirements on due diligence and disclosure and to build in new loopholes where the safeguards’ protections won’t apply. Key protections for indigenous peoples, workers, communities, and the environment hang in the balance. The outcome of this process will have a ripple effect across other public and private investors globally, from national governments to private corporations to climate finance.

Join us **Friday, April 15 at noon to tell the Bank to strengthen the safeguards** to protect human rights and end forced evictions and impoverishment, and to tell President Kim to keep his commitment to No-Dilution of the safeguards. We will be joining the Raise the MIC coalition to raise our voices during the World Bank Spring Meetings and ask that the Bank end impoverishment.

Because development shouldn’t leave people worse off!