

COMMUNITIES POLICY

Achieving our long-term goals depends on our ability to build relationships with the communities in which we operate and to enrich their lives through our participation. We seek to establish enduring relationships that uphold the principles of human rights and are characterised by mutual respect, active partnership and long-term commitment that ensure that long-term sustainable benefits can be maximised for local communities, regional and national stakeholders and the company.

We achieve this by:

- **Encouraging the taking of person responsibility** for our community relationships by everyone involved with Base, clearly describing responsibilities in role descriptions and contracts and providing the requisite capacity and resources to do so.
- **Engaging continuously, honestly and transparently with all stakeholders** in a culturally appropriate way that enables us to understand our impacts and work with them to develop strategies to address their concerns and aspirations.
- **Prioritising initiatives that directly address food insecurity and poverty.**
- **Empowering local communities** through culturally appropriate and gender balanced capability building programmes that maximise the sustainable economic benefits from our operations without creating dependency.
- **Participating, in collaboration with others,** in regional development, training and employment and small business opportunities.
- **Working with host governments** and other organisations to foster wider participation in community development and to create transparency in respect of the economic benefits arising from our operations.
- **Establishing and developing a social management system,** aligned with all legal requirements as well as the Equator Principles and IFC Performance Standards, that seeks to elevate community engagement within Base to a recognised strategic competitive advantage.
- **Protecting cultural and natural resources** and sharing benefits in the event of direct impact through existing community development frameworks.
- Undertake our activities in such a way that **minimises impacts on community health and safety.**