

PMU's Policy for human rights

Focus: Strengthening of people's rights that influence the quality of their lives.

Key words: rights-based, ownership, culture, religion, respect, basic values, representation

"... He will bring justice to the nations", "... a light for the Gentiles to open eyes that are blind, to free captives from prison and to release from the dungeon those who sit in darkness."

(Isaiah. 42:1, 7)

"Let justice roll on like a river, righteousness like a never-failing stream!" (Amos 5:24)

"Then the Lord said to Cain, Where is your brother Abel? I don't know, he replied. Am I my brother's keeper?"

(Genesis 4:9)

Background and purpose

PMU aims to contribute to ensuring people's basic rights. This means that through its rights-based approach, PMU will promote ways in which societies operate that consider the rights of individuals and communities to their own life styles. Ownership and equality are central themes.

Policy

PMU operates on the principle that all its work, both in Sweden and globally, aims at strengthening human rights. These rights comply with those contained within the various United Nations conventions on human rights. PMU will give priority to promoting the right to freedom of religion particularly in countries where Christians are in the minority.

- Human rights are defined in terms of all people without exception, are born free with equal value and rights. This means that human rights are an integral part of international law that lays a foundation for the way people live together in societies and how they relate to one another. These rights should be respected so that the power of the state and other authorities over individuals and communities are restricted.
- Human rights should be visible through ensuring that care of people is the central focus. Practically, this means that there should be a fair distribution of resources, power and influence, rights etc. between individuals, communities and other actors in society.
- Governing bodies within a society have the responsibility to ensure that human rights are promoted and protected according to the principle: People first and then the organisation. Practically, this means that the state, organisations and governing bodies are responsible for ensuring the rights of individuals and communities and that the voices of marginalised peoples are raised by those who are stronger and more influential.

Scope of the policy

The policy influences all work financed by PMU. This means that all interventions must consider a rights-based perspective in both its design and objectives.

Implementation of the policy

Implementation of the policy takes place continually in all stages of project development from project idea, contextual analysis, project design and follow-up and evaluations. It is expressed also in the formulation of goals and in the interventions visible impact. The policy should also portray PMU's process of learning and dialogue within the global networks it participates in.

Responsibilities and execution

All sections of PMU as an organisation are responsible to make sure regular updates of the policy are received and to reflect over how the policy is practically implemented.

Follow-up and evaluation of the policy

Execution of the policy is continually followed up by PMU's Leadership Team or by a person appointed by the Team. This is carried out annually in the form of a workshop.

Indicators

- Society is characterised by people who have the right to their own life style and the right to change and reform what they see as needed improvements.
- Rights are defined as all people are born free and have equal value and rights.
- The state and business sector respect human rights.
- Human rights are made visible by the fact that people are the focus of attention in the distribution of power, resources and influence (people first and then organisation)
- Fair and equal exchanges take place between individuals and communities.
- Governance of movements, organisations, teams and communities is characterised by responsible management of human rights.
- Those who are strong and influential in society take responsibility to express the voice of marginalised communities and individuals.