

**Review and Update of the World Bank’s Environmental and Social Safeguard Policies**

**Phase** 3

**Feedback Summary**

**Date: 11 January 2016**

**Location: Yaoundé, Cameroon**

**Audience: Non-Government Stakeholders**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **ESF** | **Issue** | **Items** | **Feedback** |
| Vision | Human Rights | 1. Approach to human rights in the ESF | * How are Ministry of Justice and “Commission de Droit de l’Homme” involved? * How can World Bank help advance “human rights issues” in Cameroon? |
| ESP/  ESS1 | Non-discrimination and vulnerable groups | 1. Explicit listing of specific vulnerable groups by type/name (age, gender, ethnicity, religion, physical, mental or other disability, social, civic or health status, sexual orientation, gender identity, economic disadvantages or indigenous status, and/or dependence on unique natural resources) 2. Specific aspects of the non-discrimination principle in complex social and political contexts, including where recognition of certain groups is not in accordance with national law | * Mention of disability and other groups is welcomed. What will this mean for the disabled (and other groups)? |
| Use of Borrower’s Environmental and Social Framework | 1. Role of Borrower frameworks in the management and assessment of environmental and social (E&S) risks and impacts where these will allow projects to achieve objectives materially consistent with Environmental and Social Standards (ESSs) 2. Approach for making decision on the use of Borrower frameworks, including the methodology for assessing where frameworks will allow projects to achieve objectives materially consistent with the ESSs, and the exercise of Bank discretion 3. Role of Borrower frameworks in high and substantial risk projects | * Please clarify (1) the give-and-take of the World Bank on applying Borrower’s EIS framework and (2) the acceptability threshold for risk avoidance or mitigation |
| Co-financing/ common approach | 1. Arrangements on E&S standards in co-financing situations where the co-financier’s standards are different from those of the Bank |  |
| Adaptive risk management | 1. Approach to monitoring E&S compliance and changes to the project during implementation | * CSOs can and should play important role in monitoring |
| Risk classification | 1. Approach to determining and reviewing the risk level of a project |  |
| ESS1 | Assessment and management of environmental and social risks and impacts | 1. Assessment and nature of cumulative and indirect impacts to be taken into account 2. Treatment of cumulative and indirect impacts when identified in the assessment of the project 3. Establishing project boundaries and the applicability of the ESSs to Associated Facilities, contractors, primary suppliers, FI subprojects and directly funded sub-projects 4. Circumstances under which the Bank will determine whether the Borrower will be required to retain independent third party specialists | * Appreciate additional focus on social. |
| Environmental and Social Commitment Plan (ESCP) | 1. Legal standing of the ESCP and implications of changes to the ESCP as part of the legal agreement | * Will this ESCP be binding? * What remedies will the Bank have? |
| ESS2 | Labor and working conditions | 1. Definition and necessity of and requirements for managing labor employed by certain third parties (brokers, agents and intermediaries) 2. Application and implementation impacts of certain labor requirements to contractors, community and voluntary labor and primary suppliers 3. Constraints in making grievance mechanisms available to all project workers 4. Referencing national law in the objective of supporting freedom of association and collective bargaining 5. Operationalization of an alternative mechanism relating to freedom of association and collective bargaining where national law does not recognize such rights 6. Issues in operationalizing the Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) provisions/standards | * Need to define. |
| ESS3 | Climate change and GHG emissions | 1. The relation between provisions on climate change in the ESF and broader climate change commitments, specifically UNFCCC 2. Proposed approaches to measuring and monitoring greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in Bank projects and implications thereof, in line with the proposed standard, including determining scope, threshold, duration, frequency and economic and financial feasibility of such estimation and monitoring 3. Implications required for the Borrower of estimating and reducing GHG emissions for Bank projects, in line with the proposed standard |  |
| ESS5 | Land acquisition and involuntary resettlement | 1. Treatment and rights of informal occupants and approach to forced evictions in situations unrelated to land acquisitions 2. Interpretation of the concept of resettlement as a “development opportunity” in different project circumstances |  |
| ESS6 | Biodiversity | 1. Operationalization of the provisions on primary suppliers and ecosystem services, especially in situation with low capacity 2. Role of national law with regard to protecting and conserving natural and critical habitats 3. Criteria for biodiversity offsets, including consideration of project benefits 4. Definition and application of net gains for biodiversity |  |
| ESS7 | Indigenous Peoples | 1. Implementation of the Indigenous Peoples standard in complex political and cultural contexts 2. Implementation of ESS7 in countries where the constitution does not acknowledge Indigenous Peoples or only recognizes certain groups as indigenous 3. Possible approaches to reflect alternative terminologies used in different countries to describe Indigenous Peoples 4. Circumstances (e.g. criteria and timing) in which a waiver may be considered and the information to be provided to the Board to inform its decision 5. Criteria for establishing and implementation of Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) 6. Comparison of proposed FPIC with existing requirements on consultation 7. Application of FPIC to impacts on Indigenous Peoples’ cultural heritage | * Appreciation for World Bank presence at meeting in Johannesburg. * There is need for programs that support Indigenous Peoples |
| ESS8 | Cultural Heritage | 1. Treatment of intangible cultural heritage 2. Application of intangible cultural heritage when the project intends to commercialize such heritage 3. Application of cultural heritage requirements when cultural heritage has not been legally protected or previously identified or disturbed | * Would this also cover sacred forests? |
| ESS9 | Financial Intermediaries | 1. Application of standard to FI subprojects and resource implications depending on risk 2. Harmonization of approach with IFC and Equator Banks |  |
| ESS10 | Stakeholder engagement | 1. Definition and identification of project stakeholders and nature of engagement 2. Role of borrowing countries or implementing agencies in identifying project stakeholders | * Public participation is crucial * The Bank should engage with CSOs for project implementation; * How can women’s organizations become involved in monitoring of a project? |
| General | EHSG and GIIP | 1. Application of the Environmental, Health and Safety Guidelines (EHSGs) and Good International Industry Practice (GIIP), especially when different to national law or where the Borrower has technical or financial constraints and/or in view of project specific circumstances |  |
| Feasibility and resources for implementation | 1. Implementation and resource implications for Borrowers, taking into account factors such as the expanded scope of the proposed ESF (e.g., labor standard), different Borrower capacities and adaptive management approach 2. Mitigation of additional burden and cost and options for improving implementation efficiency while maintaining effectiveness |  |
| Client capacity building and implementation support | 1. Funding for client capacity building 2. Approaches and areas of focus 3. Approach to implementing the ESF in situations with capacity constraints, e.g., FCS, small states and emergency situations | * Capacity building at the country level is needed and very important to the successful implementation of the ESF. * Capacity building for CSOs and contractors should also be considered. |
| Disclosure | 1. Timing of the preparation and disclosure of specific environmental and social impact assessment documents (related to ESS1 and ESS10) | * Is the ESF document available to the public? How comprehensive are the plans? |
| Implementation of the ESF | 1. Bank internal capacity building, resourcing, and behavioral change in order to successfully implement the ESF 2. Ways of reaching mutual understanding between Borrower and Bank on issues of difficult interpretation |  |
| Other issues | | | * Ecological health services introduction in the ESF is good. * Conflict and lack of clarity of the roles and responsibilities between implementing government agencies. |