

Session 8: Complying with the Fund's Environmental and Social Policy and Gender Policy

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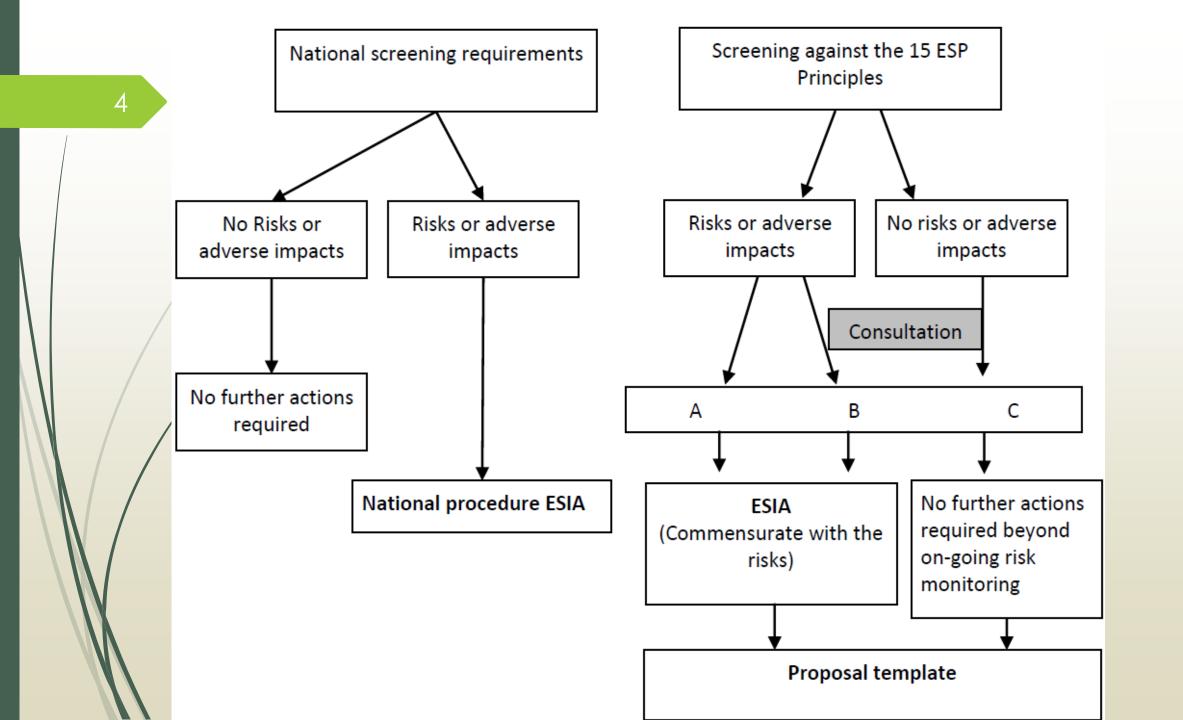
Climate Finance Readiness Seminar for NIEs #3

Main characteristics of the ESP

- Goal: avoid unnecessary environmental and social harms as a result of AF-funded projects/programmes
- Compared to other, similar policies e.g.
 World Bank, African Development Bank similarities and differences
- Underlying principles and concepts:
 - Not prescriptive on how compliance is achieved or demonstrated
 - Evidence-based
 - Risk-based

Main characteristics of the ESP (ctd.)

- Underlying principles and concepts: (ctd.)
 - Safeguarding efforts commensurate with the risks
 - Categorisation
 - Risks to be screened against 15 principles
- Integrated in Direct Access modality
 - Key role for IEs (and EEs)
 - Screening for risks → risk/impact assessment
 → Environmental and Social Management
 Plan → monitoring and reporting
 - Link with the Environmental and Social management System of the IE



Purpose

- Guidance is provided on the meaning of each of the 15 ESP Principles and on how they should be interpreted in the practical and concrete context of Fund-supported projects/programmes.
- While an IE may assess compliance with the ESP and its principles using the most suitable and appropriate means that it chooses, examples are provided below to provide further clarity.
- Guidance document for Implementing Entities on compliance with the AF ESP

Principle 1: Compliance with the Law

Projects/programmes supported by the Fund shall be in compliance with all applicable domestic and international law.

Principle 1: Compliance with the Law

In support of the Proposal, the <u>IE will provide</u>, when relevant, a description of the legal and regulatory framework for any project activity that may require prior permission (such as planning permission, environmental permits, construction permits, permits for water extraction, emissions, and use or production or storage of harmful substances). For each such a requirement, the IE will describe the <u>current</u> status, any steps already taken, and the plan to achieve compliance with relevant domestic and international laws.

Principle 2: Access and Equity

Projects/programmes supported by the Fund shall provide fair and equitable access to benefits in a manner that is inclusive and does not impede access to basic health services, clean water and sanitation, energy, education, housing, safe and decent working conditions, and land rights. Projects/programmes should not exacerbate existing inequities, particularly with respect to marginalized or vulnerable groups.

Principle 2: Access and Equity

- The process of allocating access to project/programme benefits should be fair and impartial.
- Not impede access of any group to essential services and rights

Principle 3: Marginalized and Vulnerable Groups.

Projects/programmes supported by the Fund shall avoid imposing any disproportionate adverse impacts on marginalized and vulnerable groups including children, women and girls, the elderly, indigenous people, tribal groups, displaced people, refugees, people living with disabilities, and people living with HIV/AIDS. In screening any proposed project/programme, the implementing entities shall assess and consider particular impacts on marginalized and vulnerable groups.

Principle 3: Marginalized and Vulnerable Groups.

- identify and quantify the groups mentioned
- Identify adverse impacts that each marginalized and vulnerable group are likely to experience
- Describe how the impacts are not disproportionate compared to nonmarginalized and non-vulnerable groups
- Describe monitoring

Principle 4: Human Rights

Projects/programmes supported by the Fund shall respect and where applicable promote international human rights.

Principle 4: Human Rights

- The host country or countries of the project/programme are cited in any Human Rights Council Special Procedures, be they thematic or country mandates
- Human rights issues should be an explicit part of <u>consultations</u> with <u>stakeholders</u> during the identification and/or formulation of the project/programme.

Principle 5: Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment

Projects/programmes supported by the Fund shall be designed and implemented in such a way that both women and men 1) have equal opportunities to participate as per the Fund gender policy; 2) receive comparable social and economic benefits; and 3) do not suffer disproportionate adverse effects during the development process.

Principle 5: Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment

- Do not include elements that are known to exclude or hamper a gender group based on legal, regulatory, or customary grounds
- Do not maintain or exacerbate gender inequality or the consequences of gender inequality.

Principle 6: Core Labour Rights

Projects/programmes supported by the Fund shall meet the core labour standards as identified by the International Labour Organization.

Principle 6: Core Labour Rights

The project/programme will incorporate the ILO core labour standards in the design and implementation of the project/programme and create awareness with all involved on how these standards apply.

Principle 7: Indigenous Peoples

The Fund shall not support projects/programmes that are inconsistent with the rights and responsibilities set forth in the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and other applicable international instruments relating to indigenous peoples.

Principle 7: Indigenous Peoples

- Identify the presence of indigenous peoples in the project/programme area
- Consistency with 2007 UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP)

Principle 8: Involuntary Resettlement

Projects/programmes supported by the Fund shall be designed and implemented in a way that avoids or minimizes the need for involuntary resettlement. When limited involuntary resettlement is unavoidable, due process should be observed so that displaced persons shall be informed of their rights, consulted on their options, and offered technically, economically, and socially feasible resettlement alternatives or fair and adequate compensation.

Principle 8: Involuntary Resettlement

Involuntary resettlement refers to both physical displacement (relocation or loss of shelter) and to economic displacement (loss of assets or access to assets that leads to loss of income sources or other means of livelihood).

Principle 9: Protection of Natural Habitats

The Fund shall not support projects/programmes that would involve unjustified conversion or degradation of critical natural habitats, including those that are (a) legally protected; (b) officially proposed for protection; (c) recognized by authoritative sources for their high conservation value, including as critical habitat; or (d) recognized as protected by traditional or indigenous local communities.

Principle 9: Protection of Natural Habitats

- identify: 1) the presence in or near the project/programme area of natural habitats, and 2) the potential of the project/programme to impact directly, indirectly, or cumulatively upon natural habitats.
- If such habitats exist and there is a potential of the project/programme to impact the habitat, the IE will:
- 1)Describe the location of the critical habitat in relation to the project and why it cannot be avoided, as well as its characteristics and critical value.
- 2) For each affected critical natural habitat, provide an analysis on the nature and the extent of the impact

Principle 10: Conservation of Biological Diversity

Projects/programmes supported by the Fund shall be designed and implemented in a way that avoids any significant or unjustified reduction or loss of biological diversity or the introduction of known invasive species.

Principle 10: Conservation of Biological Diversity

- identify:
- 1) the presence in or near the project/programme area of important biological diversity;
- 2) potential of a significant or unjustified reduction or loss of biological diversity, and
- 3) potential to introduce known invasive species.

Principle 11: Climate change

Projects/programmes supported by the Fund shall not result in any significant or unjustified increase in greenhouse gas emissions or other drivers of climate change.

Principle 11: Climate change

Compliance with the principle may be demonstrated by a risk-based assessment of resulting increases in the emissions of greenhouse gasses or in other drivers of climate change.

Principle 12: Pollution Prevention and Resource Efficiency

Projects/programmes supported by the Fund shall be designed and implemented in a way that meets applicable international standards for maximizing energy efficiency and minimizing material resource use, the production of wastes, and the release of pollutants.

Principle 12: Pollution Prevention and Resource Efficiency

- minimize in a reasonable and cost-effective way the resources that will be used during implementation. This applies to all sources and forms of energy, to water, and to other resources and materials inputs.
- minimize the production of waste and the release of pollutants (including GHGs).

Principle 13: Public Health

Projects/programmes supported by the Fund shall be designed and implemented in a way that avoids potentially significant negative impacts on public health.

Principle 13: Public Health

Possible public health impacts of a project/programme can be determined by assessing its impact on a range of so-called determinants of health. Public health is determined not just by access to medical care and facilities and lifestyle choices, but also by a much broader set of social and economic conditions in which people live.

Principle 14: Physical and Cultural Heritage

Projects/programmes supported by the Fund shall be designed and implemented in a way that avoids the alteration, damage, or removal of any physical cultural resources, cultural sites, and sites with unique natural values recognized as such at the community, national or international level. Projects/programmes should also not permanently interfere with existing access and use of such physical and cultural resources.

Principle 14: Physical and Cultural Heritage

- The IE will identify the presence of cultural heritage in or near the project/programme. If cultural heritage exists, the IE will:
- Describe the cultural heritage, the location and the results of a risk assessment analysing the potential for impacting the cultural heritage; and
- Describe the measures to be taken to ensure that cultural heritage is not impacted, and if it is being accessed by communities, how this access will continue.

Principle 15: Lands and Soil Conservation

Projects/programmes supported by the Fund shall be designed and implemented in a way that promotes soil conservation and avoids degradation or conversion of productive lands or land that provides valuable ecosystem services.

Principle 15: Lands and Soil Conservation

- Soil conservation
- The IE will identify:
- 1) the presence of fragile soils (e.g. soils on the margin of a desert area, coastal soils, soils located on steep slopes, rocky areas with very thin soil) within the project area or
- 2) project/programme activities that could result in the loss of otherwise non-fragile soil.

Principle 15: Lands and Soil Conservation

- Valuable lands
- The IE will identify productive lands and/or lands that provide valuable ecosystem services within the project/programme area.

THE GENDER POLICY

Link with AF Environmental and Social Policy

- The Gender Policy (GP) builds on the ESP, in particular its principles on
 - Access and Equity
 - Marginalised and vulnerable groups
 - Human rights
- The GP expands the ESP principle of Gender equity and women's empowerment' to gender equality: equal rights, responsibilities and opportunities and access of women and men; equal consideration of their respective interests, needs and priorities

THE GENDER POLICY

Gender Policy in project/programme proposals

- Comprehensive
- Initial gender assessment
 - Selecting gender-responsive indicators
 - Designing gender-responsive implementation and monitoring arrangements
- Screening of proposals for gender responsiveness by AFS and partners
- Consultation of stakeholders in a genderequal way
- Tiered approach to roll-out

Case Study

Purpose: to practise the ESP risk identification process in the preparation of project/programme concepts or proposals

- Fictitious project in fictitious country (Chef Islands) in fictitious Ocean
- Concept stage: limited (TOR)
- Identify applicable principles
- Identify risks + justification:
 - Not prescriptive on how compliance is achieved or demonstrated
 - Evidence-based
 - Risk-based

Description of the project

- the coastal ring road on this small island state is subjected to frequent flooding due to rise in sea level
- Construction of a by-pass on higher land in one area to avoid the area subject to flooding
- AF funds requested for design, construction and maintenance capacity building

Description of the project – some details

- Lack and high cost of importing construction materials > use of shell mounds as aggregate for concrete
- New right of way through agriculture lands, forest and villages
- Some rock blasting required on steep slopes

Description of the environment and social conditions

- the island is the centre of a Marine Protected Area
- Mixed ethnic groups on the island, indigenous and long-term immigrants.
 Capital: mixed, rural: separate
- Some houses will need to be moved
- Traditional roles for men, women and children in fishing
- Shell mounds, traditional, burial grounds
- Breeding location for rare bird



	Checklist of environmental and social principles	No further assessment required for compliance	Potential impacts and risks – further assessment and management required for compliance
	Compliance with the Law		
	Access and Equity		
	Marginalized and Vulnerable Groups		
	Human Rights		
	Gender Equity and Women's Empowerment		
	Core Labour Rights		
$/\lfloor$	Indigenous Peoples		
	Involuntary Resettlement		
	Protection of Natural Habitats		
	Conservation of Biological Diversity		
	Climate Change		
	Pollution Prevention and Resource Efficiency		
	Public Health		
	Physical and Cultural Heritage		
	Lands and Soil Conservation		





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