WORLD BANK GROUP
Environment & Natural Resources

Africa Centers of Excellence for Development Impact

Environment and Social Safeguards – Executive presentation

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Overview of the Bank's Safeguard Policies

The Bank has developed its safeguards policies to help ***ensure that projects proposed for Bank financing are environmentally and socially sound and sustainable***, and thus to ***improve decision making***

The Ten Plus Two (10+2) Safeguard Policies

OP/BP 4.00: Piloting Country System -- Thou shalt explore piloting country system

OP/BP 4.50: Disclosure Policy: Thou shalt Disclose information

OP/BP 4.01 : Environmental Assessment -- Thou shalt Assess potential Environmental & Social Impacts of projects early in the project cycle;

OP/BP 4.04: Natural Habitats -- Thou shalt preserve Critical Natural Habitats, and acceptably mitigate damage to other Natural Habitats;

OP/BP 4.36 : Forestry -- Thou shalt encourage sustainable forest management and preserve critical forest ecosystems;

OP 4.09: Pest Management -- Thou shalt support environmentally & socially sound Pest Management;

OP/BP 4.12 : Involuntary Resettlement-- Thou shalt restore and improve income earning capacity of Involuntarily Resettled people.

OP/BP 4.10 : Indigenous Peoples -- Thou shalt avoid and mitigate adverse impacts on Indigenous Peoples;

OP/BP 4.11 : Physical Cultural Resources --Thou shalt avoid, minimize and/or acceptably mitigate negative impacts on Cultural Property;

OP/BP 4.37: Safety of Dams -- Thou shalt apply ESIA and detailed plans for Safe construction and operation of Dams;

OP/BP 7.50: International Waterways --Thou shalt require notifications and agreement between states/parties in International Waterways;

OP/BP 7.60 : Projects in Disputed Areas --Thou shalt identify problems in Disputed Areas.

Safeguards Reflect Core Values

Summary

- Safeguards serve the dual goals of **ensuring sustainability** and **improving decision making**
- Safeguards represent **core values of the Bank**
- Safeguards are **important** in the regional **development agenda**
- Safeguards functions as an integrated system involving **Compliance, Quality Enhancement and Risk management**
- We must overcome **numerous operational challenges** to effective implementation
- We all have a **shared interest** in making these policies work for development

OP 4.01 Environmental Assessment

Objectives:

- Ensure that all proposed Bank projects are environmentally sound and sustainable
- Inform decision makers about environmental risks, through appropriate analysis of actions and of their likely environmental impacts
- Ensure adequate mechanisms are built into project design to address identified risks

Triggered when:

- One or more project activity has **potential** to cause adverse environmental impacts in its area of influence

Environmental Categorization

Category A

- Impacts are **sensitive, diverse, cumulative, irreversible and/or unprecedented**
- Comprehensive EA and EMP
- Consultation on EA ToRs as well as draft EA

Category B

- Impacts are **site-specific, reversible in nature, less adverse** than those of Category A
- Mitigation measures can be designed and implemented more readily
- More flexible EA requirements
- Consultation on draft EA

Category C

- Minimum to no adverse environmental impacts
- No stand-alone EA required.

Category FI *(Financial Intermediary)*

- Could include A, B and/or C level subprojects
- EA work required for subproject investments should be scaled to expected level of impacts

OP 4.01 Environmental Assessment

Key Issues

"Umbrella policy"; cross-references other policies including social

Varied instruments

- Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment, Sectoral EA, Regional EA, investment-specific EIA, environmental audit, frameworks (i.e. ESMF)
- EMP includes measures for compliance with all applicable environmental safeguards if no stand-alone plans are required

OP 4.11 Physical Cultural Resources

Objective:

Avoid or mitigate adverse impacts on physical cultural resources to avoid:

- Permanent reduction in local or national patrimony
- Loss of information about the past
- Loss for humanity in spiritual, social, and economic terms

Review of ACE III project

Purpose and objectives of the ESMF

The ***Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF)*** of the Africa Excellence Centers for Development Impact Project aims to provide a general view of the environmental and social conditions under which the Project is implemented.

The ESMF, conceived at the beginning of the Project development process (when the sites have not yet been identified), aims to manage the project from an environmental and social point of view and contribute to the reduction of associated environmental and social costs.

Major structural investments

The main work that will likely to be undertaken under the ACE Impact Project and that may have an environmental and social impact is as follows:

- Construction of new buildings or other facilities within the current boundaries of university campuses;
- Extension of current buildings and facilities; and
- Rehabilitation of old buildings and facilities, including repair of recent buildings that do not meet current standards.

Positive impacts and risks

The Project will have *many positive effects,* which should be sustained over the long term

- **The activities planned under the Project *exclude any form of land or property acquisition* or resettlement or physical displacement of populations**

- It will help fight poverty and boost shared prosperity, as well as encourage investment in knowledge and skills in all sub-sectors of education

- It will make possible promising investments in regional infrastructure and economic integration, with a focus on initiatives to produce highly qualified human resources for priority growth sectors

- It will promote awareness among all national stakeholders about the environmental and social issues of Project activities and respect for the environment and the essential principles of sustainable development.

Main Risk during the pre-construction phase

- The neglect of the environmental and social aspects and their low consideration during the technical studies and / or the preparation of unsatisfactory environmental and social assessments.

- The lack of information about the Project and the weak participation of the main stakeholders in decision making.

- Failure to take into account in the design of the buildings of the :

  - Effects of climate change (choice of materials, technological options for construction, etc.)
  - Gender approach (e.g., in relation to sufficient number of separate men's and women's washrooms, installation of lavatories, sinks and urinals, etc.).
  - Issues related to the access to buildings of persons with disabilities

Main risks during the works

- ***Air quality, noise, water and sanitation, waste:*** Pollution and nuisance (noise, dust) due to the construction of facilities. Solid and liquid waste from construction sites

- ***Vegetation and soils :*** Uprooting of trees and cutting of shrubs made necessary by certain activities, with reduction of green spaces. Localized soil degradation

- ***Hygiene, health and safety of workers, residents and users :*** Accidents caused by construction machinery traffic and possible non-compliance with safety instructions. Risk of accidents around excavations and open trenches that are unreported, unmarked and poorly lit

- ***Natural risks :*** Some of the proposed developments could be affected by the risks associated with the effects of climate change - floods caused by heavy rains

- ***Risks of conflicts between the workers and local populations :*** Impacts on university campuses, with the likely restriction of vehicle and pedestrian traffic in the vicinity of construction sites, noise and dust-related inconvenience, space congestion caused by building materials

- ***Physical cultural resources :*** Some historic and archaeological buildings may be affected by the work and some excavations may reveal archaeological and historical remains

Main risks during the operation phase

Potential negative risks should generally be due to:

- Inadequate design
- Lack of a system for the collection and transfer of waste, in particular domestic waste
- A possible lack of an effective, regulatory and adapted sanitation system
- Lack of regular maintenance procedures
- Insufficient enforcement of security measures
- Lack of appropriate measures for people with disabilities
- Inadequate stakeholders' engagement
- Lack of effective grievance redress mechanism (GRM) in place

Main recommendations of the ESMF

A	**ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SCREENING**	By Project effectiveness, each participating university must have prepared the description of its subproject (buildings to be built or rehabilitated).
B	**QUALIFIED STAFF**	Each selected university will use the services of a qualified person (appointed or recruited), who will be in charge of implementing the safeguards measures, including monitoring, surveillance, control and evaluation of risk mitigation measures, and keep the partnership links with governments
C	**OPERATIONAL MANUAL**	The Project's Operational Manual must include a section on the basic principles and regulatory measures of the ESMF (including screening procedures, shared responsibilities and monitoring / control measures)
D	**INFORMATION, SENSITIZATION & TRAINING ON ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL MANAGEMENT ISSUES**	Information and sensitization sessions on ESM will be provided to the representatives of the institutional stakeholders involved in the implementation of the Project, including the companies in charge of the works.
E	**GRIEVANCES MANAGEMENT**	Creation of a system for grievances management within each participating university / center regarding environmental and social safeguards-related grievances.

Questions?