



ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL FRAMEWORK

ESS10: STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION DISCLOSURE

CONTEXT

In August 2016, the World Bank's Board of Executive Directors approved the Environmental and Social Framework (ESF), which will go into effect in 2018 and progressively replace the Bank's Safeguards. The ESF protects people and the environment from potential adverse impacts that could arise from Bank-financed projects, and promotes sustainable development. Within the ESF, ten Environmental and Social Standards set out responsibilities for Borrowers. The Standards are designed to help Borrowers manage project risks and impacts as well as improve environmental and social performance, consistent with good international practice and national and international obligations.

Overview

Open and transparent engagement between the Borrower and project stakeholders is an essential element of good international practice. Effective stakeholder engagement can improve the environmental and social sustainability of projects, enhance project acceptance, and make a significant contribution to successful project design and implementation. Stakeholder engagement is an inclusive process conducted throughout the project life cycle. Where properly designed and implemented, it supports the development of strong, constructive and responsive relationships that are important for successful management of a project's environmental and social risks.

Objectives

The Environmental and Social Standard on Stakeholder Engagement and Information Disclosure (ESS10) requires Borrowers to:

- Establish a systematic approach to stakeholder engagement that helps Borrowers identify stakeholders and maintain a constructive relationship with them
- Assess stakeholder interest and support for the project and enable stakeholders' views to be taken into account in project design
- Promote and provide means for effective and inclusive engagement with project-affected parties throughout the project life-cycle

- Ensure that appropriate project information is disclosed to stakeholders in a timely, understandable, accessible and appropriate manner

Highlights

ESS10 emphasizes stakeholder engagement throughout the project life-cycle, and requires a Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP).

It encourages early identification of stakeholders, both project-affected parties and other interested parties.

Under ESS10, engagement must be proportionate to the nature, scale, risks and impacts of the project, and appropriate to stakeholders' interests.

ESS10 specifies process and criteria for information disclosure and meaningful consultation.

It requires an accessible and inclusive grievance mechanism, proportionate to risks and impacts.

More information

The full text of the Environmental and Social Framework (ESF) is available at www.worldbank.org/esf

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