World Bank Environmental and Social Policies

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The World Bank
World Bank Group Commitment

“The World Bank Group is committed to supporting countries in reducing poverty and building shared prosperity in a sustainable manner.”* 

- **To end poverty and promote shared prosperity** all aspects of social and environmental sustainability must be taken into consideration

- **Protecting the environment and the world’s poorest and most vulnerable people** in our projects are central to this vision

* World Bank Group Strategy, October 2013, p. 5
How are these Aspects Considered?

- A number of Safeguards *Operational Policies* (OPs)
- Short, focused statements that establish the parameters for the conduct of operations and govern Bank projects and activities

- Board approved mechanisms
- Integration of env. & social considerations into decision-making
- Promote participatory and transparent development process
- A set of specialized tools
- Do not address all env. & social aspects
World Bank Safeguards Policies

1. Environmental Assessment (OP 4.01)
2. Natural Habitats (OP 4.04)
3. Forests (OP 4.36)
4. Pest Management (OP 4.09)
5. Physical Cultural Resources (OP 4.11)
6. Safety of Dams (OP 4.37)
7. Indigenous Peoples (OP 4.10)
8. Involuntary Resettlement (OP 4.12)
9. Projects on International Waterways (OP 7.50)
10. Projects in Disputed Areas (OP 7.60)
11. Piloting the Use of Country Systems (OP 4.00)
12. Applying World Bank Group Performance Standards
   Access to Information
Addressing Transboundary impacts in the World Bank

• **OP/BP 4.01 Environmental Assessment**
  
  - “EA takes into account the natural environment (air, water, and land); human health and safety; social aspects (involuntary resettlement, indigenous peoples, and physical cultural resources); and transboundary and global environmental aspects”
  
  - The Bank does not finance project activities that would contravene country obligations under relevant international treaties and agreements.
Addressing Transboundary impacts in the World Bank

• **OP/BP 7.50 International Waterways**
  
  – The notification to the other riparians of the proposed project is required at the earliest possible stage.
  
  – If the other riparians raise objections to the proposed project, the Regional Vice President of the Bank seeks the advice of the Managing Director and the Legal Vice Presidency and may appoint independent experts to examine the issues.
Transboundary Impacts Assessment in MNA Region

- Assessment of the transboundary impacts is not explicitly required in the most of the MNA countries except:

- **Yemen** - Environment Protection Law (No. 26 of 1995) requires that EIA should include:
  - “The extent to which areas outside the national sovereignty may be affected by the proposed activity”

- **Lebanon** - Required in the EIA regulations:
  - “determine the global and transboundary impacts”
Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)

• The World Bank recognizes SEA as a key means of integrating environmental and social considerations into policies, plans and programs, particularly in sector decision-making and reform.

• The Bank is committed to promoting the use of SEA as a tool for sustainable development.
  – *Strategic Environmental Assessment in the World Bank: Learning from Recent Experiences and Challenges* (World Bank, 2012)
  – *Strategic Environmental Assessment in Policy and Sector Reform: Conceptual Model and Operational Guidance* (World Bank, University of Gothenburg, Swedish EIA Centre and Netherlands Commission for Environmental Assessment, 2010).
Evolving Safeguards Issues
A Changing World

• Issues our clients face have changed dramatically over the last 20 years
• Many clients’ as well as the World Bank’s ability to manage these issues have significantly improved
• World Bank modernization effort
• 2010 IEG evaluation *Safeguards and Sustainability Policies in a Changing World: An Independent Evaluation of World Bank Group Experience*
• 2012/2013 multi-stakeholder consultation underlined need for change
Proposed Environmental and Social Framework

World Bank Vision Statement on Sustainability

World Bank Responsibilities

- Environmental and Social Policy
  - procedures

Borrower Responsibilities

- Environmental and Social Standards 1-10

- Implementation Guidance
  - Information Management Systems

- Guidance Notes, Case Studies and Tools

- Mandatory elements of the proposed Framework
- Non-mandatory elements of the proposed Framework

Projects
## Borrower Requirements: Standards

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Standard</th>
<th>Building on</th>
<th>Modernizing</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ESS1: Assessment and Management of ESS Risks and Impacts</td>
<td>OP/BP4.01 (Environmental Assessment)</td>
<td>Non-discrimination, adaptive management, time frame for compliance</td>
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<tr>
<td>ESS2: Labor and working conditions</td>
<td>OP/BP4.01 and EHS Guidelines</td>
<td>Prohibiting child labor and forced labor, focus on OHS, grievance mechanism</td>
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<tr>
<td>ESS3: Resource Efficiency and Pollution Prevention</td>
<td>OP4.09 (Pest Management) and EHS Guidelines</td>
<td>Efficient management of energy, water, and other resources and materials</td>
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<tr>
<td>ESS4: Community Health and Safety</td>
<td>OP/BP4.37 (Safety of Dams) and EHS Guidelines</td>
<td>Focus on risks and impacts on communities through design and safety of infrastructure, equipment, products, services, traffic, and hazardous materials</td>
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<td>ESS5: Land Acquisition, Restrictions on Land Use and Involuntary Resettlement</td>
<td>OP/BP4.12 (Involuntary Resettlement)</td>
<td>Greater clarity on treatment of state land, land titling, access to common resources, voluntary transactions, force evictions</td>
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<td>ESS6: Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Management of Living Natural Resources</td>
<td>OP/BP4.04 (Natural Habitats) and OP/BP4.36 (Forests)</td>
<td>Requirement to assess and mitigate impacts on biodiversity</td>
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<td>ESS7: Indigenous Peoples</td>
<td>OP/BP4.10 (Indigenous Peoples)</td>
<td>Clearer definitions, introduction of FPIC in specified circumstances</td>
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<td>ESS8: Cultural Heritage</td>
<td>OP/BP4.11 (Physical Cultural Resources)</td>
<td>Adopt chance find procedure, enhanced consultation with affected communities</td>
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<td>ESS9: Financial Intermediaries</td>
<td>OP/BP 4.01</td>
<td>Establish E&amp;S procedures commensurate with FI nature, risk level and impact</td>
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<tr>
<td>ESS10: Information Disclosure and Stakeholder Engagement</td>
<td>Consolidates WB engagement provisions</td>
<td>Meaningful consultation, access to information and grievance redress</td>
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Consultations in the Middle East and North Africa Region

- Phase 1 consultation in 2012 in Cairo and Rabat
- Phase 2 consultation in Dec. 2014 in Cairo and Beirut, and February 2015 in Tunis and Rabat
- Consultation with the Islamic Development Bank in November 2014
- Consultation with the Arab Coordination Group in March 2015
Thank You