EBRD Discussion Points

1. Roles (Bank and Client)
2. Harmonisation between IFIs
3. Language/translation
4. Restrictions on disclosure
1. Roles (Bank)

- EBRD provides routine information on Bank structure, policies, strategies, procedures, financing.

- With regard to projects, the Bank provides summaries of what is being financed, and more detail on complex projects, including environmental and social summaries.

- Public consultation on draft sector and country strategies, governance policies.
Roles (Client)

- Performance requirements are designed to make the client develop and take responsibility for…
  - Identifying stakeholders who may be affected by or are interested in the project
  - Providing relevant information
  - Implementing a grievance mechanism to handle complaints

- Focus is on the client’s ability to develop and maintain communication with the people they may impact or who are interested in the project.
2. Harmonisation between IFIs

- IFI working groups (environmental, social, compliance, etc.) discuss how to harmonise where possible
- Geographical scope of institutions differs
- Mandates of institutions differ (e.g., EBRD, World Bank group)
- Policies are largely consistent, with some differences
- Most institutions undertake a benchmarking exercise as part of policy revision to see where they are in relation to other institutions
Where we operate
January 2012

Countries of prospective EBRD operations
Southern and eastern Mediterranean
31. Egypt
32. Jordan
33. Morocco
34. Tunisia

In 2011 the EBRD launched donor-funded activities in the southern and eastern Mediterranean (SEMED) region, in support of the countries which are undergoing important political and economic reforms.

EBRD countries of operations
Central Europe and the Baltic states
01. Croatia
02. Czech Republic*
03. Estonia
04. Hungary
05. Latvia
06. Lithuania
07. Poland
08. Slovak Republic
09. Slovenia

South-eastern Europe
10. Albania
11. Bosnia and Herzegovina
12. Bulgaria
13. FYR Macedonia
14. Romania
15. Montenegro
16. Serbia

Eastern Europe and the Caucasus
17. Armenia
18. Azerbaijan
19. Belarus
20. Georgia
21. Moldova
22. Ukraine

Central Asia
23. Kazakhstan
24. Kyrgyz Republic
25. Mongolia
26. Tajikistan
27. Turkmenistan
28. Uzbekistan
29. Russia
30. Turkey

*as of the end of 2007, the EBRD no longer makes investments in the Czech Republic.
EBRD region of operations

- EBRD is the *European Bank* for Reconstruction and Development; majority-owned by European countries/institutions

- Signatory to the *European Principles on the Environment*

- Environmental standards based on EU environmental law, where these can be applied at the project level, and best international practice

- Other banks operate in other regions, and therefore may reflect regional variations, but general principles are largely consistent
3. Language/translation

- EBRD requires that the information provided to local people be meaningful
- Environmental and social impact assessments must be disclosed in (official) local language
- Issues:
  - Some other institutions only require the non-technical summary to be available in local language or in their offices, and not in areas local to the project
  - Some NGOs have been concerned that an ESIA is not always available in English
4. Restrictions on disclosure

- Confidential information (each institution defines confidentiality, normally in its information disclosure policy).

- Information that is prohibited to be disclosed by law (e.g., stock market restrictions on future investments that could cause market distortions) have delayed disclosure (e.g., after specific decision-point or market investment).

- Proprietary information that belongs to third parties, which has only been provided to the institution for the purposes of due diligence or monitoring.

Note that EBRD has the right to disclose information if there is imminent harm to public health or safety or the environment.
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2008 Environmental and Social Policy:

2011 Public Information Policy:
http://www.ebrd.com/about/policies/pip/pip.pdf

2009 Project Complaint Mechanism
http://www.ebrd.com/pages/project/pcm/about.shtml

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