

Bhutan Trust Fund for Environmental Conservation (BT FEC)

Environmental & Social Management Policy Framework (ESMP)

In the context of BT FEC's overriding concern for environmental stewardship all BT FEC grant projects, through both its core and non-core financing arrangements, require to comply with the BT FEC's Environmental and Social Management Policy Framework (ESMP). The framework comprises of each project adequately consider all grant projects to assess, identify and built in environmental and social impacts from the project design through implementation phase.

In order to ensure compliance to this policy project proposals should include an Environmental and Social Assessment covering the following aspects;

- Articulation of the project and need for Environmental and Social Assessment
- Objective of the Environmental and Social Assessment
- Environmental and Social impact analysis of the proposed project
- Environmental and Social Management Plan

The ESMPF should be developed covering the following aspects of the proposed project and its impacts;

1. Description of the Proposed Project;

- Project Objectives and coverage
- Alignment with the national and priorities and the themes for BT FEC support including alignment with
 - Environmental conservation
 - Sustainable management of Biodiversity
 - Climate Change Priorities
 - Poverty alleviation priorities
 - Gender mainstreaming priorities
- Project Area Profile
- Project Location
- Project Components or outputs

2. Description of Project Baselines

- Country level overview on political environment Socio-economic Environmental scenario
- Environmental Overview and baselines
 - a. *Demography and gender*
 - b. *Climate, Water and Hydrology*
 - c. *Topography and Geology*
 - d. *Economic activities and practices*
 - e. *Physical and Cultural Resources*

3. Environmental and Social Assessment

- f. Existing environmental and social pressures in the project area

- g. Potential Environmental and Social Impacts of the proposed project
- h. Overall impacts by components and activities including impacts in terms of:
 - i. Compliance with national and int. law
 - ii. Access (to all beneficiaries) and Equity
 - iii. Marginalization's and Vulnerable groups (non should be marginalized)
 - iv. Human rights
 - v. Gender equality and women empowerment
 - vi. Core labour rights
 - vii. Indigenous people
 - viii. Involuntary Settlement (should avoid)
 - ix. Protection of Natural Habitats (should be respected)
 - x. Conservation of Biological Diversity (to be preserved and invasive species to be avoided)
 - xi. Climate Change (to be avoided)
 - xii. Pollution Prevention and resource efficiency
 - xiii. Public health
 - xiv. Physical and cultural heritage
 - xv. Lands and soil Conservation (should not affect)

The potential impacts must be identified and potential mitigation measures identified as per the Environmental and Social Impact Matrix of BTFEC's Program/Project Appraisal:

Environmental and Social Principles	Project Output	Description of Risks/ Impacts	Severity			Safeguards/ Mitigation Measure	Responsible	Current Status
			L	M	H			
Compliance with the Law								
Access and Equity								
Marginalized and Vulnerable Groups								
Human Rights								
Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment								
Core Labour Rights								
Indigenous Peoples								
Involuntary Resettlement								
Protection of Forests and Natural Habitats								
Conservation of Biological Diversity								
Climate Change								
Pollution Prevention & Resource Efficiency								
Public Health								

Physical and Cultural Resources/Heritage								
Lands and Soil Conservation								
Poverty alleviation								
Disaster Management capability								
Pests and disease management								
Trans boundary issues								

4. Social and Environmental Management Policy Framework

The ESMPF, where identified to be required should include the following;

- *Implementers Site-Environmental Management Plan,*
- *Evidence based compliance and monitoring,*
- *Grievance management,*
- *Institutional Arrangements for its implementation and*
- *Costs*