

Bhutan Trust Fund for Environmental Conservation (BT FEC)

Environmental & Social Management Framework (ESMF)

In the context of BT FEC's overriding concern for environmental stewardship for 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 Framework. 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 ESMF 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 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

- a. Existing environmental and social pressures in the project area
- b. Potential Environmental and Social Impacts of the proposed project
- c. Overall impacts by components and activities including impacts in terms of:
 - i. Compliance with national and international law

- ii. Access (to all beneficiaries) and Equity
- iii. Marginalization's and Vulnerable groups (none should be marginalized)
- iv. Human rights
- v. Gender equality and women empowerment
- vi. Core labor 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. Land 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:

Project Output/activity	Environmental and Social Principles	Description of Risks/Impacts	Severity			Safeguards/Mitigation Measure	Responsible	Current Status
			L	M	H			
	ESS							
	Compliance to legal and regulatory requirements							
	Protection of Forests and Natural Habitats							
	Conservation of Biological Diversity							
	Pollution Prevention							
	Resource Efficiency							
	Lands and Soil Conservation							
	Physical and Cultural Resources/Heritage							
	Indigenous Peoples							
	Involuntary Resettlement							
	Public Health							
	Access and							

	Equity						
	Marginalized and Vulnerable Groups						
	Human Rights						
	Core Labour Rights						
	Poverty alleviation						
	Disaster Management capability						
	Pests and disease management						
	Trans boundary issues						
	Climate Change						
	Gender Equity						
	Gender inclusiveness						
	Women's Empowerment						
	Fraud and Corruption						
	Financial risk						
	Procurement risk						
	Governance and operational risk						
	Access and equity						
	Others (which are not covered above)						
	Institutional capacity						

4. Environmental & Social Management Framework

The ESMF, 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*