



EQUATOR PRINCIPLES BASED ASSESSMENT SOLUTIONS

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HOW DO YOU ENSURE YOU HAVE MANAGED PROJECT RISKS EFFECTIVELY?

EQUATOR PRINCIPLES BASED ASSESSMENT SOLUTIONS FROM SGS

The Equator Principles are a framework and set of guidelines for evaluating social and environmental risks in project finance activities. In these principles, the financial industry has a set of environmental and social benchmarks for managing these risks in development project finance globally. By thoroughly adopting and auditing the Equator Principles in relation to your projects, you can show banks, sponsors, investors, government agencies and other stakeholders your commitment to social and environmental responsibility.

ABOUT THE EQUATOR PRINCIPLES

Launched in the summer of 2003, the Equator Principles were at the time supported by some of the leading global financial institutions representing roughly 30% of project finance transactions. They have now been adopted by a total of 67 financial institutions covering more than 93% of all project finance deals with a capital cost above \$10 million.*

Covering ten key areas, the Equator Principles provide a common baseline and framework for the implementation of internal environmental and social procedures and standards for project financing activities across all industries:

- Principle 1: Review and Categorisation of Projects;
- Principle 2: Social and Environmental Assessment;
- Principle 3: Applicable Social and Environmental Standards;
- Principle 4: Action Plan and Management System;
- Principle 5: Consultation and Disclosure;
- Principle 6: Grievance Mechanism;
- Principle 7: Independent Review;
- Principle 8: Covenants;
- Principle 9: Independent Monitoring and Reporting; and
- Principle 10: Reporting.

More information is available at:
www.sgs.com/equator_principles.

THE BENEFITS

At a time when financial institutions have been under pressure for a perceived lack of transparency and risk management in other areas of their business, adherence to the Equator Principles will go a long way to safeguarding investments in project finance.

To this end, we provide a variety of services addressing these needs, including:

- Environmental and Social Assessment to sponsors (as per Principle 2);
- Independent Reviews for banks, in particular Mandated Lead Arrangers (as per Principle 7);
- Independent Monitoring and Reporting (as per Principle 9); and
- Gap analysis of environmental management systems.

Our expertise in independent auditing and verification can help your projects meet the most widely recognised standards in the areas of Forestry, Energy, Bio-fuels sustainability, Environment, Health and Safety, or Labour conditions, minimising your project related risks and protecting your reputation.

EQUATOR PRINCIPLES RELATED TRAINING

We offer a wide variety of training courses for all levels of ability and awareness. Our Equator Principles training course portfolio is designed to meet the requirements of any organisation, and includes:

- Equator Principles Awareness Training; and
- Developing an Equator Principles Sustainable Management Systems.

Please visit www.sgs.com/training to view the course schedules in your region.

OTHER SERVICES RELATED TO THE EQUATOR PRINCIPLES

SGS continues to offer environmental and social audit support for projects as they become operational. This includes Sustainability Customised Audit Solutions leading to third party Environmental Management System Certification ISO 14001:2004 and Social Accountability 8000 standard certification.

If you are a bank or an investor and you need to identify and address technical risks as they arise, SGS offers a full range of services based on our worldwide industry expertise. Learn more about how SGS ensures sector development across extensive markets in the area of project finance by visiting www.sgs.com/projectfinance.

SGS is also known for its solutions against other needs related to environmental and quality management as well as continuous improvement:

- Integrated Management Systems: your quality management systems can be audited and certified simultaneously with other management systems which you have implemented; and
- Audit solutions against additional, bespoke quality performance criteria: SGS can help develop the performance criteria and the checklist or simply check performance against existing measures.

WHY SGS?

SGS is the world's leading inspection, verification, testing and certification company. Recognised as the global benchmark for quality and integrity, we employ over 59 000 people and operate a network of more than 1 000 offices and laboratories around the world. We are constantly looking beyond customers' and society's expectations in order to deliver market leading services wherever they are needed.

Partnering with SGS opens the door to better performing processes, increasingly skilful talent, consistent and compliant supply chains and more sustainable customer relationships delivering profitable competitive advantage. Work with the global leader and take your commitment to the next level.

We have a history of undertaking and successfully executing large-scale, complex international projects. With a presence in every single region around the globe, our people speak the language and understand the culture of the local market and operate globally in a consistent, reliable and effective manner.

**TO LEARN HOW SGS CAN HELP YOU
EXCEED CUSTOMER EXPECTATIONS, VISIT
WWW.SGS.COM/EQUATOR_PRINCIPLES
OR CONTACT [EQUATOR-PRINCIPLES@
SGS.COM](mailto:EQUATOR-PRINCIPLES@SGS.COM) FOR MORE INFORMATION.**

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