

Environmental and Social Standards Task Force (ESSTF)

Tenth Meeting –September 17 9:00 am EDT

Attendees:

Scott Lampman (USAID)
Camila Monteiro (Individual)
Sean Nazerali (BIOFUND, Mozambique)
Sebastian Spitzer (KfW Competence Center)
Sebastien Cognet (KfW Competence Center)
Kathy Mikitin (Individual, Task Force facilitator)

Minutes of August 13 Meeting

Owing to travel, Kathy was not able to prepare the draft minutes. These will be circulated at a later date.

Welcome to Sebastien Cognet

Sebastian Spitzer introduced his colleague Sebastien Cognet. Sebastien brings not only experience gained in Central and East Africa, but also familiarity with Conservation Trust Funds.

The addition of an experienced practitioner is a major plus for the group.

KfW Survey

Sebastian explained that a recent survey sent to EFs/CTFs from the KfW Competence Center is intended to increase the understanding of the portfolio so that better support can be provided to operational teams. Emails were sent by KfW project managers to EFs/CTFs asking them to provide general information on the work they are carrying out in addition to information on how they approach environmental and social risks. Each regional team in KfW has a few CTFs in their portfolio, but there is no consolidation of the information on the 20+ Funds.

Sean suggested that they take a look at the results and analysis of the survey launched early on by the Task Force and that KfW share its results with the TF when they are available. Note: The raw survey data and PowerPoint reviewed by the TF were sent after the meeting.

Sebastian mentioned that the cover email sent with the survey made reference to an ESMS as a vehicle to identify, assess and address any negative environmental and social impacts from projects supported by a given CTF. He wanted to clarify that KfW also sees an ESMS as having the potential to produce benefits for a project.

Camila gave an illustration based on recent work she had carried out. Using a survey that was intended to identify a project's potential negative impacts, additional activities were identified

that could bring enhanced benefits. The changes in project design that were required did increase costs, however. It remained to be seen whether the donor would agree to the higher project cost.

The different aims of an ESMS will need to be taken into account in whatever framework the Task Force comes up with.

Evolution of ESMS Over Time

Kathy explained the visual presentation she toyed with after attempting and failing to define ESMS in terms of the stage of an EF/CTF. The problem with definition that focused on the EF/CTF is that at this point in time, EFs/CTFs that are both nascent and very mature are faced with putting an ESMS in place. The question that is often asked is “where do we start?”

The bubble diagram merely shows where EFs/CTFs will put their efforts at varying stages of developing an ESMS. KfW indicated that it helped them understand the journey.

A matrix prepared by Camila took the components one step further by showing for each component of an ESMS, what changes can take place as the ESMS matures. Associated costs were also identified in a separate line.

There was general agreement that the matrix was the correct move toward the framework that the Task Force would like to deliver. The next meeting would focus on the matrix and those who could would work to add content.

Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for October 1 at 9 am EDT. The focus of the meeting will be on adding content to the matrix prepared by Camila.

