

# ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL MANAGEMENT

## CHALLENGES

Projects with a focus on sustainable natural resource management and enhancement of local livelihoods operate in complex situations and may induce unintended adverse impacts on the population and the environment. Avoiding, minimizing and mitigating related risks and impacts is therefore considered of paramount importance for sustainability. International players in the development cooperation sector, such as World Bank, ADB, IDB, ADF, EBRD, KfW have developed environmental and social standards to better manage environmental and social risks of projects and to improve development outcomes. Accordingly, all project interventions have to be planned, carried out and monitored in compliance with all relevant national laws and regulations as well as the relevant international guidelines and standards. The elaboration and implementation of the relevant environmental and social instruments are participatory processes, requiring knowledge, time and resources. Respecting communities' decision-making procedures is mandatory both in the development of safeguard instruments, as well as part of an ongoing commitment to stakeholder engagement throughout the project cycle. Such processes need to be carefully integrated into project implementation.

## GFA CONCEPT AND SERVICES

GFA is fully committed to the application of environmental and social safeguards, due diligence and conflict-sensitive project management. We regard the integration of environmental and social management into the project implementation as a fundamental part of our services.

Responding to the importance and new requirements of our clients, GFA has endowed an internal capacity development process on environmental and social management. Moreover, supporting documents have been developed to facilitate our consultancy services. We have an extensive and steadily growing network of environmental and social management consultants. Our services include:

- Technical assistance to the project implementing partners on environmental and social standards and management
- Tailor-made development of environmental and social instruments compliant with relevant national and international laws and standards
- Capacity development of project stakeholders on environmental and social management, building a process-oriented learning environment
- Assurance that required environmental and social risk and impact management is duly integrated into the project planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation

Our implementation experience has led to best practices examples and in close exchange with our clients we have contributed to conceptualize processes and documents.



## PROJECT EXAMPLES

### COMMUNITY BASED SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT FOR WATER RESOURCES CONSERVATION IN MANIPUR, INDIA

The project aims at improving or restoring the climate resilience of upper watershed ecosystems and the adaptive capacity of forest dependent communities through sustainable community-based watershed management and improved livelihood opportunities. A comprehensive Environmental and Social Management Framework, including a Community Planning Framework as well as a Free Prior Informed Consent Guideline were developed and form the fundamental basis for cooperation with the communities, authorities, civil organizations and other stakeholders.

**KfW ▪ 2018-2025 ▪ contract value: 2,953,000 EUR**

### FEASIBILITY STUDY FOREST PROGRAMME VI: PROTECTION OF MANGROVE FORESTS, INDONESIA

The aim of the feasibility study was to analyse options on how to best support Indonesian efforts to establish sustainable management of mangrove ecosystems and design a KfW co-financed project on protection of mangrove forests. As part of the feasibility study, an Environmental and Social Impact Scoping was conducted. Based on a comprehensive desk review, meetings with stakeholders and site visits a preliminary risk assessment and recommendations for necessary mitigation measures and corresponding management documents compliant with national regulations and the relevant standards were developed, discussed and documented in a final report.

**KfW ▪ 2019 ▪ contract value: 207,545 EUR**

