

# ALL ABOUT ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL ASSESSMENT

## **PROCEDURE: E&S ASSESSMENT ON AN APPLICATION FOR COVER**

Every application for credit insurance is accompanied by an appendix entitled *Global Impact, Environmental and Social Assessment*, which contains two parts.

If the project meets one of the two eligibility criteria of the first part (amount of the contract > €10M and/or location of the operation in a sensitive zone), a thorough environmental and social analysis must then be conducted by Bpifrance Assurance Export. The second part of the appendix, which contains a more detailed environmental and social assessment questionnaire, must then be completed.

For investment insurance applications, the Environmental and Social Assessment appendix also has two parts. The first is routinely completed; whereas the second is only completed if the investment is part of a sector of activity or environment deemed to be environmentally and socially sensitive.

The information gathered in the appendix must allow Bpifrance Assurance Export to classify the project into one of the following three categories, according to the importance of its environmental and social impacts:

- Category A: project with significant potential impacts, for which an environmental and social impact assessment is required. This category of operations requires in-depth environmental and social analysis as well as risk monitoring;
- Category B: project with lower potential impacts, for which additional information may be required. This category of operations requires a less detailed environmental and social analysis, as risk monitoring is not systematic;
- Category C: project with little or no environmental and social impact. This category of operations does not require a detailed environmental and social analysis. No risk monitoring will be required.

Operations must be assessed against sectoral or specialised standards, guidelines or other nationally and internationally recognised standards, with the most stringent standards being applied. As part of the assessment and monitoring of operations, Bpifrance Assurance Export may need to request additional information and perform on-site audits.

If necessary, Bpifrance Assurance Export's cover may be subject to environmental and social conditions in order to ensure compliance with the standards in force, on the basis of the opinion of Bpifrance Assurance Export and, where applicable, the relevant technical government departments.

## TRANSPARENCY: PUBLICATION OF E&S INFORMATION

Bpifrance Assurance Export respects the right of the public regarding access to information concerning covered projects.

There are two components to the transparency framework:

- **Ex-ante transparency:** prior to the decision to grant cover, for projects under investigation that have been classified as category A. This *ex-ante* transparency is provided particularly for civil society and the local populations affected by the projects.

For projects classified as category A, Bpifrance Assurance Export requests to receive all relevant environmental and social information, in particular the environmental or social impact assessment (ESIA), the environmental and social management plan (ESMP), and the Resettlement Action Plan (RAP) for displaced persons as applicable. In line with the OECD Common Approaches, Bpifrance Assurance Export will transparently release the published documents (ESIA). At the request of the buyer or exporter, any information in these documents in which the disclosure would undermine the commercial or industrial confidentiality of the export may be previously redacted.

The *ex-ante* transparency period begins on the date the information is made available on the Bpifrance website, for at least 30 calendar days before the final commitment to provide support.

- **Ex-post transparency:** after the decision to grant cover, for projects classified as category A or B and those relating to contracts worth more than €10 million, obtained by French companies and covered by Bpifrance Assurance Export. This *ex-post* transparency is carried out on a quarterly basis. It provides a description of the projects and, as applicable, the essential information on their environmental and social consequences as well as the requirements of Bpifrance Assurance Export in terms of monitoring.

This document is provided for information purpose only. It does not constitute and should not be construed as a contractual offer from Bpifrance Assurance Export. Bpifrance Assurance Export does its best effort to ensure that the information contained in this document is kept up-to-date, but it reserves the right at any time and without further notice to modify its content and its form.

### Bpifrance Assurance Export

Acting on behalf, on the account and under the supervision of the State, in accordance with article L. 432-2 of the French Insurance Code  
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