



## E&S Eligibility Criteria for Hydro Power Projects

In the following, the term “Project” refers to the hydropower project considered for financing, including all of its associated facilities as defined by EBRD 2014 Environmental and Social Policy. This includes typically, but not limited to, access roads, temporary sites, borrow and spoil areas, and the connection to the grid.

The eligibility criteria below are organized with reference to EBRD Performance Requirements (PR), as defined in EBRD 2014 Environmental and Social Policy (ESP).

EBRD ESP (2014)	Eligibility Criteria	Descriptor	Evidence
PR1	<b><i>Regulatory Compliance:</i></b> The Project complies with the requirements of national environment, health and safety law	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Project, or proposed Project, has all the necessary permissions and permits required under national law.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The developer has undertaken an Environmental Impact Assessment ("EIA") where required by national authorities and that EIA has been disclosed to the public in accordance with national requirements.</li> <li>The developer has obtained the required licences and permits to build and operate the Project.</li> </ul>
PR1	To-date, the Project complies with applicable EBRD Performance Requirements on environment, health and safety directives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Beyond the national legal requirements, the Project complies with EBRD Performance Requirements and the relevant EU directives.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The developer has undertaken a review of compliance gaps, and has taken corrective actions where gaps were identified.</li> <li>The developer has undertaken a full Environmental Impact Assessment where it would be required under relevant EU directives or EBRD Performance Requirements; that EIA follows EU standards and has been disclosed to the public in accordance with EU requirements and EBRD Performance Requirements.</li> </ul>

<b>EBRD ESP (2014)</b>	<b>Eligibility Criteria</b>	<b>Descriptor</b>	<b>Evidence</b>
PR1	The Project does not fall into the A Category list as set out in Annex 2 of EBRD ESP 2014 )	<p>The developer has assessed and demonstrated that the Project:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• does not create a Large “Dam” as defined by the International Commission on Large Dams (ICOLD)</li> <li>• does not include the Construction of high voltage overhead electrical power lines.</li> <li>• Is not planned to be carried out or likely to have a perceptible impact on sensitive locations of international, national or regional importance</li> <li>• will not result in significant adverse social impacts to local communities or other project affected parties.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The developer has had the site visited and the design, construction and operating plans reviewed by environmental and social specialists.</li> <li>• If the Project falls under Category A, the developer Environmental and Social Impact Assessment which meets the EBRD applicable PRs</li> </ul>
PR1	The Project shall be developed with due consideration of cumulative impacts on the water basin resulting from existing or planned developments or programs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Each new Project has to take into account the local conditions and baseline data, including existing, planned or permitted projects and programs related to land or water use.</li> <li>• An assessment has to be made of the cumulative impact of the existing and planned HEPPs in the same catchment area.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The environmental audit or environmental impact assessment should demonstrate that the expected overall cumulative impact of developments in the water basin (including the Project) have been assessed and are/will be mitigated to an acceptable impact.</li> </ul>
PR3	Waste management: the developer has a plan to manage construction and operation wastes in compliance with national regulations and EBRD PR.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All the liquid and solid wastes generated during construction must be sorted, collected and disposed/treated through authorised companies.</li> <li>• All the wastes captured at the intake of the hydropower scheme must be collected and disposed to an authorised site.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The developer has anticipated the volumes of wastes he will have to manage, and has a strategy to manage wastes through authorised companies.</li> </ul>

EBRD ESP (2014)	Eligibility Criteria	Descriptor	Evidence
PR3	Erosion control: the developer has a plan to minimize erosion risks and revegetate all temporary or disposal sites after construction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maximize the re-use of spoils</li> <li>• Minimize the number and size of borrow areas</li> <li>• Top soil is collected and stored in appropriate manner</li> <li>• All temporary or spoils disposal sites are revegetated with native species at the end of construction</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The developer has an erosion control plan in place</li> <li>• The contractors are contractually bound to implement the plan</li> </ul>
PR1 & PR6	<p><b>Water Flow:</b> An inventory of water users that might be impacted by the Project and an aquatic biodiversity baseline were undertaken. On this basis, the flow regime required to preserve other water uses and aquatic biodiversity was defined. The Project is designed to maintain this flow regime.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain a minimum wetted channel perimeter, at all control structures, with a flow in the river that satisfies the environmental and social needs throughout the year.</li> <li>• Project economic viability to be based on flow required for river to sustain existing environment and social needs.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Justification must be provided in the light of the requirement to provide an adequate flow for fish, wildlife and water quality.</li> </ul>
PR1 & PR6	<p><b>Water Quality:</b> The Project does not contribute to deterioration of water quality during construction, commissioning or operation.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Project has minimal impact on water quality in the head pond, bypassed reach and the reaches downstream of the tailrace and diversion dams / dykes.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Project has not contributed to a deterioration of water quality post construction.</li> </ul>

<b>EBRD ESP (2014)</b>	<b>Eligibility Criteria</b>	<b>Descriptor</b>	<b>Evidence</b>
PR6	<p><b><i>Fish Passage and Protection:</i></b> The Project has minimal impact on local fish populations, provides effective fish passage for local and migrating fish species and also protects fish from entrainment.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There should be minimal loss of fish or fish habitat.</li> <li>• Project preserves resident fish communities.</li> <li>• Project preserves ability of fish population to reproduce and feed.</li> <li>• Fish passage structures shall be designed to meet the swimming capacity of the species identified during the baseline. Naturalized fish path options shall be studied first before concrete structures are proposed.</li> <li>• Flows in the bypassed reach and downstream of the tailrace are adequate to support aquatic and riparian species at pre-Project ranges.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information has been gathered on both the local and migrating fish populations.</li> <li>• The developer understands the particular structure and needs of the fish within the area of the Project.</li> <li>• The developer has provided adequate mitigation measures to ensure that the eligibility criteria are met.</li> </ul>
PR1 PR6	<p><b><i>Watershed Protection:</i></b> The Project does not negatively impact environmental conditions in the watershed.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Project does not affect the integrity of the existing ecosystem either upstream or downstream of the Project.</li> <li>• Additional components of the Project e.g. access roads, power-lines and generation facilities have minimal impact on the riparian environment.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An assessment of impacts associated with additional components has been made.</li> <li>• An assessment of upstream and downstream impacts has been made.</li> <li>• Adequate mitigation measures have been provided to ensure the eligibility criteria are met.</li> </ul>

EBRD ESP (2014)	Eligibility Criteria	Descriptor	Evidence
PR6	<p><b><i>Threatened &amp; Endangered Species Protection:</i></b></p> <p>The Project does not negatively impact any threatened or endangered species (at the regional, national or international level) nor any areas designated for their protection.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Project is not constructed on a protected or sensitive river.</li> <li>• The Project does not threaten or harm the habitat or migration patterns of endangered species, threatened species or species of regional concern.</li> <li>• The Project has no significant impact on existing wildlife habitat and populations.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sensitive or protected areas on or around the river have been identified.</li> <li>• Endangered or threatened species present in the area of, or downstream from, the Project have been identified, with reference at least to national regulations and to IUCN and CITES lists.</li> <li>• The developer has assessed the potential impact of the Project on any such areas or species.</li> <li>• The developer has provided adequate mitigation measures to ensure that the eligibility criteria are met.</li> </ul>
PR8	<p><b><i>Cultural Issues:</i></b></p> <p>The Project does not inappropriately impact cultural property</p>	<p>Cultural property includes sites having archaeological (prehistoric), paleontological, historical, religious and unique natural values. Cultural property therefore includes remains left by previous human inhabitants and unique natural features such as canyons and waterfalls.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cultural property in the vicinity of the Project has been identified.</li> <li>• Adequate mitigation measures have been put in place to ensure eligibility criteria are met.</li> </ul>
PR10	<p><b><i>Community Issues:</i></b></p> <p>The Project does not reduce local community use of (or access to) either the river or the surrounding lands.</p> <p>The Project does not create risk to the local communities, in particular with regards to rapid flow variations</p>	<p>The Project does not stop or limit local communities' ability to utilise the river to provide a livelihood, i.e. by fishing, as a leisure amenity or to utilise the land around the river where they may rely on the river for irrigation purposes.</p> <p>The developer has undertaken a comprehensive review of the possible rapid flow variations scenarios, has evaluated the corresponding risks and has put in place appropriate mitigation measures.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local community uses of the river have been identified.</li> <li>• The locally affected community has been notified and consulted prior to the development of the Project.</li> </ul> <p>The local communities have been informed of the risks associated with the construction and operation of the hydropower scheme, and adequate mitigation measures have been agreed to ensure that eligibility criteria are met.</p>

<b>EBRD ESP (2014)</b>	<b>Eligibility Criteria</b>	<b>Descriptor</b>	<b>Evidence</b>
PR10	<i>Public Consultation/Stakeholder Engagement</i>	<p>Community acceptance of a project will greatly assist in the implementation of that project. To achieve community acceptance, it is necessary to identify stakeholders and impacted communities and provide them an opportunity to have input into the decision making process. Affected stakeholders should participate in the development and implementation of any required mitigation measures.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The locally affected community has been notified and consulted prior to the development of the Project.</li> <li>• Implement a Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP)</li> <li>• A formal grievance mechanism has been developed and implemented by the developer to cover both the construction and operational phases of the project. The mechanism has been publicised on bulletin boards in public venues in local communities and via local media (newspapers/radio)</li> <li>• A communication records procedure has been developed which will log the key information provided to stakeholders .</li> </ul>