



ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL AND CLIMATE CHANGE MASTERCLASS

Bangkok, Thailand

30 September - 03 October, 2024

Overview

In the realm of development financing, defining and endorsing ESC safeguards has become common practice. ESC safeguards encompass a variety of standards set by almost all major development agencies and finance institutions (DFIs) as well as national environmental and social management policies and legislation. Projects receiving funding must adhere to these standards alongside local regulations.

ESC safeguards are effective tools for project managers aiming to protect the environment and maximize benefits for affected communities and society.

However, despite the availability of comprehensive frameworks, implementing and ensuring compliance at the project level remains a challenge.

Whether you're currently navigating the stringent requirements established by development finance institutions (DFIs) or adhering to national environmental regulations, ESC safeguards guarantee that each action you undertake contributes to preserving and enhancing sustainability and overall impact.

Overview

For acquisition purposes, demonstrating mastery of ESC standards, and showcasing your commitment to sustainability and social responsibility, will give you a competitive edge in the market and make your organization stand out.

In this training you'll tackle real-life challenges head-on, armed with the latest strategies and insights. Enroll now and equip yourself with the tools and expertise needed to make a positive impact through ESC safeguards.

This masterclass aims to bridge the gap between project developers, managers, and ESC specialists, providing essential knowledge and skills for meaningful and successful introduction, application, and compliance with ESC standards.

ESC
Standards

Compliance
Techniques

Regulatory
Navigation

Sustainability
Practices

Project
Management

Real-life
Application

Training Objectives and Contents

The training will center on the essential aspects of ESC standards, delving into their purpose, significance, and implementation strategies tailored to your specific local context. Throughout the program, you'll explore the following key topics:

The interplay between projects, decision-making, and Sustainable Development

Understanding the pivotal role of ESC safeguards in today's complex and rapidly evolving world

Strategies for aligning DFI safeguards with national Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) systems

Analysis of case studies showcasing the application of selected ESC standards

Identification of core challenges and provision of practical solutions

Conducting critical reviews and appraisals of projects

Techniques for enhancing project implementation and ensuring effective follow-up

Prepare to gain invaluable insights and practical skills to elevate your approach to ESC standards and make a lasting impact within your local community

Who Should Participate?

This program is designed for individuals with diverse roles and responsibilities, including:



ESG specialists and consultants leading environmental and social impact assessments, either independently or as specialized sub-consultants



Professionals from Development Finance Institutions (DFIs) tasked with reviewing and approving ESIA reports by consultants, as well as overseeing compliance auditing during project implementation



Senior managers from development agencies responsible for strategic planning and acquisition



Project managers, including procurement specialists, monitoring and evaluation teams, as well as those focusing on natural resources, climate, and social inclusion



Regulatory authorities involved in administering the ESIA process, conducting reviews, issuing approvals, and auditing compliance

What are the Benefits for You?

For ESC specialists and Consultants:

- Gain a deeper understanding of DFI ESC Safeguard requirements, expanding your client base.
- Ensure compliance with all DFI ESC Safeguard standards.
- Align ESIA reports with ESC Safeguard requirements, from terms of reference to Environmental and Social Management Plans (ESMPs).

For Professionals from DFIs:

- Understand the correlation between DFI ESC Safeguards and national ESIA systems, ensuring alignment.
- Learn about core challenges and practical solutions.
- Develop skills to review and critically appraise ESIA reports.
- Build capacities to conduct compliance audits effectively.

For senior management and acquisition staff:

- Ensure your organization's proposals and bids reflect proficiency in ESC standards, demonstrating a commitment to sustainability and social responsibility.

What are the Benefits for You?

For project management teams:

- Enhance your understanding of DFI ESC Safeguard requirements.
- Align various organizational requirements, including internal project cycles, lender stipulations, and national ESIA systems for streamlined processes.
- Ensure compliance with all DFI ESC Safeguard standards.
- Integrate ESC requirements across all project management aspects, from design to procurement, monitoring and evaluation, construction, and operation.

For Regulatory authorities:

- Deepen understanding of DFI ESC Safeguard requirements.
- Align ESC safeguards with national ESIA systems for cohesive regulation.
- Conduct critical reviews of ESIA reports.
- Enhance decision-making capabilities related to sustainable development.
- Perform follow-up inspections and compliance audits effectively.

Day-wise Training Programme

Day 1

Understanding environmental, social, and climate safeguards and risks in the project life cycle

Day 2

Environmental and social assessments

Day 3

Climate assessments; environmental, social and climate risk management plans; procurement and pricing for esc

Day 4

Implementation of ESC safeguards and closure

Who will Guide Your Learning Journey?

Bryony Walmsley



Bryony Walmsley has more than 43 years' experience in environmental and social impact assessment, starting in Canada in 1980, but she has lived and worked in southern Africa since 1983. She has extensive experience in all aspects of ESIA practice including participating in, managing, reviewing and auditing ESIA's for a range of projects throughout Sub-Saharan Africa.

She has worked with IFAD as a consultant since 2016 and she also acts as a free-lance consultant for several UN organizations and development banks such as the World Bank, IFC and African Development Bank. She is a frequent guest lecturer at the University of Cape Town and mentors and trains young professionals regularly. She has authored several books and publications and is currently a Director of the Board of the International Association for Impact Assessment.

Who will Guide Your Learning Journey?

Rik Delnoye



Rik has over 30 years of experience in rural development and has worked for a broad range of organizations including the public sector, agro-cooperatives, private sector and research institutes. This has provided him with a deep understanding of the various perspectives regarding pro-poor development and a natural ease in engaging with many different stakeholders. Having gained professional experience in about 15 countries, he also possesses a broad geographical oversight of developments in his professional fields, yet with over 20 years of experience in Southeast Asia alone, he has a particularly solid and profound understanding of the institutional setting and developments in the Southeast Asian region.

He has been in leading positions over the last decades and successfully led various international and multi-sector teams in long- and short-term assignments. Rik is an experienced trainer/coach and has been developing and implementing various comprehensive capacity-building trajectories including project management, socio-economic targeting and safeguards and climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies.

Who will Guide Your Learning Journey?

Susmita Bandyopadhyay



Susmita is an Environmental and Social Safeguard specialist with more than decades of experience in international development and agriculture sectors. Presently she is engaged as an Environment and Social Safeguard consultant specializing in the social and environmental performance, compliance and governance of projects/activities subject to international financing standards of various MFIs including IFAD, World Bank, IFC, ADB, AIIB and so forth. She is responsible for the safeguards compliance of technical assistance and loan/grant projects.

Working in different socio-economic and cultural setups has strengthened her ability to translate technical and cross-country knowledge into practical applications and contributions to country and sector strategies in the area of environmental and social safeguards.

Susmita holds a BA in Social Science (University of Kolkata, India), a Masters in International Relations (Jadavpur University, India) and a PhD in International and Area Studies (Jadavpur University, India).

Value Chain Capacity Building Network (VCB-N)

Value-chain Capacity Building Network is the largest regional network providing professional advisory services and capacity building on agricultural Value Chain and Market System Development (VC & MSD) in the Asia and Pacific Region (APR). It was established in 2016 by IFAD IFAD-funded Regional Training Network- RTN Project with the intention to build an economically viable capacity-building network that continues to deliver services to IFAD and other donors and development projects with the components and mandates of pro-poor value chains and market systems development. The network invests in the professional development of the regional agricultural value chain practitioners by leveraging their capacity. The network also allows donors and implementing agencies to identify suitable service providers and invest their money in the right cause.

Currently, the VCB-N brings in expertise from 6 countries (Bangladesh, India, Vietnam, Cambodia and Indonesia) and 7 organizations that specialize in professional capacity building and consultancy services for value chain and market systems development. We connect and operate through a pool of local and international stakeholders incorporated from local NGOs, INGOs, research, training and financial institutes, Government agencies, the private sector, AgriTech startups, agricultural product suppliers and such. Both individual and institutional value chain actors can become a part of our network and make informed decisions in order to better integrate with the market. All our members, referred to as Centres of Excellence (CoE), have track records in professional development training on VC & MSD.

Value Chain Capacity Building Network (VCB-N)

Forthcoming Trainings by VCB-N and Its Members

Executive Training on Agricultural Market Systems for Women's Economic Empowerment and Climate Resilience

By Innovision Consulting

October 5-7, 2024; Siem Reap, Cambodia

October 1-3, 2024; Hanoi, Vietnam

Status: Registration Ongoing

SUSTAIN SECAP Training for IFAD Project Management Units (PMUs)

Bangladesh: August 3-6, 2024

Status: Invitation Only

India: August 10-13, 2024

Status: Invitation Only

Nepal: September 24-2, 2024

Status: Invitation Only

Enroll your Team Today for an Exceptional Learning Experience!

Group registration fee (5 or more participants): **USD 1250 per participant**

Individual registration fee: **USD 1500**

Take Advantage of Our Early Bird Offer

**Register by July 31, 2024, and enjoy a generous 25% discount
on the training fee!**

Programme fees are payable exclusively via bank transfer. On acceptance of an application, an invoice and banking details will be provided for your reference.

Fees will cover hotel accommodation, breakfast and lunch throughout the training. Participants are responsible for their travel arrangements (including visa), transfers and other subsistence costs. Please note that banking charges for fund transmission are not included. Kindly ensure that ALL banking fees (both sending and receiving charges) are covered by the initiating bank or sender.

Application Procedure

Submit your application at: vcbn.communications@gmail.com

Applications close on Thursday 1st August 2024 (or earlier if the programme capacity is reached!)

Upon receipt of your application form, notification of acceptance will be communicated via e-mail. If you do not receive an email within one week of the application closing date, please contact us for confirmation.

Professional working proficiency in written and spoken English is essential for ensuring your seat.

Participants can expect to engage in six to eight hours of daily class time, with additional preparation ranging from one to two hours nightly, depending on task requirements. Sponsors will be informed of any significant participant absences.