



Environmental governance, sustainable development and enhanced stability and security

Alistair Clark



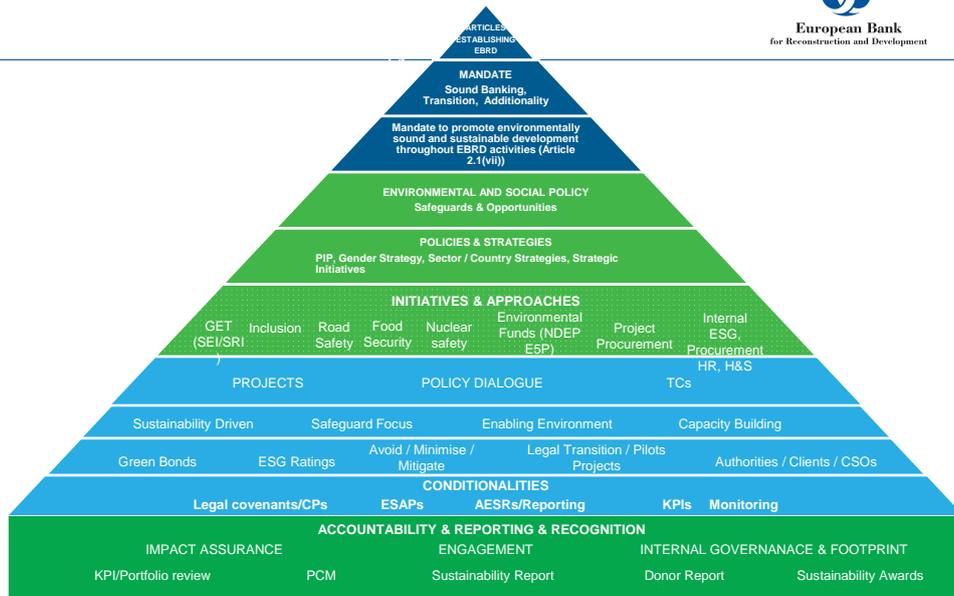
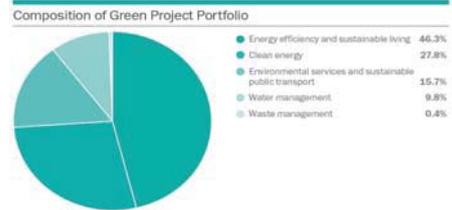
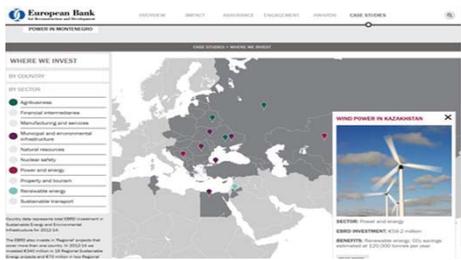
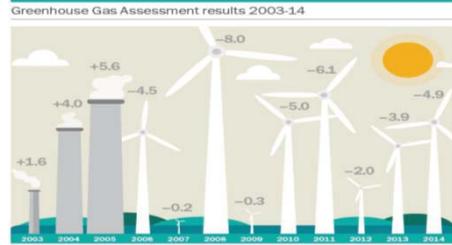
Context



- EBRD : a multilateral development bank which is project based
- Working throughout the OSCE region
- Largest investor in the region
- Predominantly private-sector
- Environmental and Social issues are at the core of the institution
- 30 % ABV is related Climate Finance
- New Initiatives to invest 4 billion Euro in Green Economy by 2019
- Manage large scale Environmental Funds for Donors (Chernobyl Shelter Fund etc)
 - Several billion Euros

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2014 Key Sustainability Facts



Wiki Definition



Environmental governance is a concept in political ecology that advocates sustainability as the supreme consideration for managing all human activities—**political, social and economic**.

Governance includes government, business and civil society, and emphasizes whole system management.

To capture this diverse range of elements, environmental governance often employs alternative systems of governance, for example watershed-based management.

Important in the OSCE arena

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Five Issues for Environmental Governance



1. Evidence-based data (UNEP, EAA, WHO, Country sources)
2. Policy, Legislation/ Regulation, Conventions/ MEA
3. Public Consultation
4. Access to Justice
5. Civil Society

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2 Policy, Legislation/ Regulation, Conventions/ MEA

EBRD's Environmental and Social Policy and 10 Performance requirements for projects

- EU and Local legislation as the standard
- European Principles for the Environment
- Core labour standards
- Human rights
- Aarhus and Espoo UNECE Conventions
- Exclusion Lists



2 Policy Language: International MEAs

8. EBRD recognises the ratification of **international environmental and social agreements, treaties and conventions by its countries of operations**. Within its mandate, EBRD will seek to structure the projects it finances so that they are guided by the relevant principles and substantive requirements of **international law**. The EBRD will not knowingly finance projects that would contravene country obligations under relevant international treaties and agreements, as identified during project appraisal.

34. stakeholder engagement should be carried out bearing in mind the spirit and principles of the **UNECE Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-Making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters**. For projects subject to ESIA that have the potential to have significant environmental impacts across international boundaries, the Bank will encourage the approach of the **UNECE Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context**, regardless of geographical location of a project or its potential impacts.....

Other Initiatives

EBRD has signed

- the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI)
 - ✓ Reporting on natural resource projects on status of EITI in the country
 - ✓ Capacity building, as needed
- the International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI)
 - ✓ Quarterly reporting to IATI

3 Public Consultation

- Stakeholder Engagement Plans on projects—identify stakeholders and how the client intends to communicate with them
- Particular attention given to vulnerable groups
- Identify information that will be in the public domain and readily accessible
- Consultation must be culturally appropriate
- Stakeholders must be told of the final decision and how their comments have been taken into account
- Regular information during project implementation



Capacity Building for Clients



Educate clients on:

- *Why* transparency and consultation are advantageous to the project and client
- *How* consultation could be more meaningful in this location
- *How* the client can support the authorities who are undertaking consultation and clarify what information is needed, timetables, resources, etc.
- *How* to evaluate comments and “take them into account”
- *How* to encourage the use of the client’s grievance mechanism to allow early resolution of problems, where possible

4 Access to Justice Client Grievance Mechanisms



Grievance mechanism for the public and to be responsive to concerns and complaints

- Clients need to understand the problems their operations may be causing and try to prevent or resolve problems at the earliest possible stage
- Our experience—people rarely use these mechanisms—send complaints to civil society, authorities, or the banks first
- When EBRD receives a complaint, we first ask if they have tried to solve it directly with the client
- Exception—issues of integrity, fraud, corruption
- People always have recourse to normal legal processes



4 Access to Justice Project Complaint Mechanism (PCM)



- Any individual who believes they have been harmed by an EBRD project can file a complaint
- Reviewed by external expert to determine if eligible to process
- Problem-solving mechanism—can the PCM facilitate discussion between the complainant and the client?
- Compliance review—has EBRD followed its policies?
- Public reporting of complaints, findings, action plans, updates on implementation of action plans

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5 ENGAGEMENT WITH CIVIL SOCIETY



- A vibrant civil society is an essential component of any democracy.
- We recognise CSOs as important stakeholders that can promote local ownership of the transition process towards well-governed, sustainable and inclusive economies.
- In addition, our engagement with CSOs enhances the Bank's own accountability and transparency.
- Through their valuable local knowledge, CSOs often help us deliver better projects and policies in transition countries.
- In 2015, more than 3,100 CSO representatives were registered with the EBRD and nearly 300 civil society stakeholders participated in over 20 thematic meetings that we organised.

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Security and Stability: Environmental Governance is at the core



Water/ Energy Nexus

- Hydropower in Central Asia and the Caucasus
 - Regional issues
 - Protected areas
- Water stress in Southern Mediterranean
 - Sustainable agriculture
- Hydropower in the Balkans
 - Protected areas
- Energy security: Ukraine energy efficiency programs

Multilateral Environmental Funds: EBRD



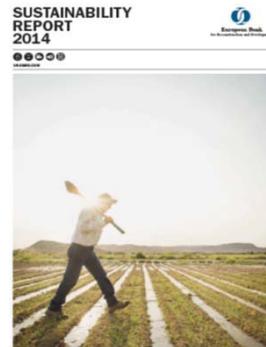
- Chernobyl Shelter Fund (Ukraine)
- Nuclear Decommissioning Accounts (Bulgaria, Lithuania and Slovakia)
- Northern Dimension Environmental Action Plan (Russia and Belarus)
 - Decommissioning Northern Nuclear Submarine Fleet (Russia)
 - Water and wastewater projects (Russia and Belarus)
- Eastern Europe Environmental and Energy Efficiency Partnership (Ukraine, Moldova, Georgia and Armenia)
- Central Asian Uranium extraction

2014 Sustainability Report Highlights



EBRD's Sustainability Report is an important accountability and communications tool:

- Three key themes: IMPACT – ASSURANCE – ENGAGEMENT
- It is available on-line and in print
- <http://www.ebrd.com/sustainability-report-2014>



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