

The Environmental and Social Management Plan

The project's environmental integration, its authorisation and the maintenance of that authorisation are based on the quality of and compliance with the Environmental and Social Management Plan.

The measures set out in the ESMP must be realistic. Strong commitment from the operator regarding their technical and financial feasibility is required throughout the impact assessment process.

To ensure greater efficiency in monitoring and follow-up, each measure will identify:

- An operational manager (e.g. site manager, QHSE, etc.);
- One or more monitoring indicators (e.g. the presence of a storage facility for used oil, no waste left outside bins, etc.);
- The procedures for recording, archiving and consulting these indicators (e.g. keeping a logbook).

Legal framework

- Law No. 007/2014 of 1 August 2014 on the Protection of the Environment in the Gabonese Republic;
- Decree No. 00539/PR/MEFEPEPN of 15 July 2005 regulating Environmental Impact Assessments (still in force as at 31 May 2015);
- General Procedures Manual for Environmental Impact Assessments;
- Implementation Guide for the Procedures Manual for the Assessment of Environmental Impact Studies and the Monitoring of Projects in the buffer zones of National Parks. Version 1 – April 2015

Directorate-General for the Environment and Nature Conservation (DGEPN)

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THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

A tool for the success of your project



This project is funded by the EU.



A PROCESS IN 9 KEY STAGES

1 Submission of the project proposal

2 Preliminary assessment of the project

3 Drafting and finalising the terms of reference

4 Carrying out the study and public consultations



- These first four stages provide an opportunity for regular dialogue with, on the one hand, the environmental authorities and, on the other, the communities affected. The aim is to assess the project's feasibility and to take all environmental aspects into account during its design.
- Stages 2 and 4 necessarily involve site visits, carried out jointly with the authorities and as part of targeted expert assessments.
- At stage 4, the operator's environmental commitments are compiled into an Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP), which is included in the application dossier.

5 Submission of the impact assessment report

6 Review of the impact assessment

7 Decision by the competent authority



- These steps formally lead to the project or activity being authorised, or not.
- Authorisation is conditional upon the operator's compliance with its Environmental Management Plan (PGES).
- In the peripheral and buffer zones of national parks, the National Parks Agency (ANPN) issues a favourable opinion on the application.

8 Implementation of the project

9 Monitoring and follow-up



- Whilst carrying out the project or activity, the operator is required to verify that its Environmental Management Plan (EMP) is being properly implemented (self-monitoring).
- The authorities regularly monitor the implementation of the environmental measures set out in the Environmental Management Plan, make recommendations and, on this basis, maintain the operator's authorisation.