

# ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL POLICY

Instituto Dominicano de Desarrollo Integral



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## Introduction

The Dominican Institute for Integral Development (IDDI) is a non-profit organisation governed in accordance with the provisions of Law 520 and with legal status granted by Presidential Decree No. 2067 of 8 June 1984.

IDDI promotes, through integral development, alternative solutions to the social and economic problems affecting the population of the Dominican Republic.

IDDI, like any other organisation independent of its nature, must adhere to best practices in order to maintain its sustainability and ensure commitments to donors and partners for the development of activities that provide for good governance.

For this reason, IDDI adopts the Environmental and Social Policy to establish principles, standards, guidelines and procedures to assess environmental and social risks and impacts and to establish measures and plans to reduce, mitigate or offset those risks.

Environmental and Social Standards contribute to the benefit of the environment and its citizens. The standards will: a) help achieve good practice related to environmental and social sustainability; b) meet national and international environmental and social obligations; c) improve actions aimed at non-discrimination, transparency, participation, accountability and governance; and d) improve sustainable development outcomes through continuous stakeholder engagement.

This Reference Manual compiles information on the Environmental and Social Principles in order to establish a standardised and strictly compliant framework for projects and programmes developed by IDDI in the Dominican Republic with the Adaptation Fund and other donors.

## IDDI Environmental and Social Policy Statement



*Instituto Dominicano de Desarrollo Integral, Inc.*

### **DECLARACIÓN DE LA POLÍTICA AMBIENTAL Y SOCIAL DEL IDDI**

Creado en el 1984 en conformidad con las disposiciones legales de la República Dominicana (Ley 520, modificada por la Ley 122-05 sobre la Regulación y Fomento de las Asociaciones sin Fines de Lucro), el Instituto Dominicano de Desarrollo Integral, Inc. (IDDI) es una organización privada sin fines de lucro cuyo principal objetivo es contribuir a la transformación del ser humano, su familia y las comunidades en las cuales vive, enfocándose en las personas, para que estas, tanto en su colectivo como individualidad, puedan contar con una oportunidad razonable para vivir una vida saludable y productiva, acorde a sus necesidades, intereses y potencialidades. El IDDI está comprometido a evitar cualquier daño social o ambiental adicional o innecesario que pueda ir en detrimento del hábitat, la salud pública o de comunidades en vulnerabilidad.

Por esto la organización se compromete a no formular, o proveer fondos a proyectos y/o programas que apoyan este tipo de actividad, consecuentemente promoviendo condiciones más sustentables para las futuras generaciones, además de inspirar al desarrollo de soluciones innovadoras que contribuyan al logro de un impacto positivo con la mínima cantidad de daño social y ambiental.

Dada la filosofía del IDDI, todos los actores claves, especialmente los empleados que trabajan directamente con los beneficiarios y clientes deben estar alineados con la misión, visión y valores institucionales. Esto incluye el compromiso hacia iniciativas sociales y ambientales que buscan reducir todos los daños innecesarios.

La organización apoya la Política Social y Ambiental del Fondo de Adaptación, y se acogerá a esta para futuros proyectos a ser implementados. El establecimiento de altos estándares para sus propios programas y las comunidades en las cuales el IDDI trabaja, es un enfoque que ha funcionado, asegurando así el logro de un desarrollo sostenible positivo.

#### **El compromiso**

IDDI ha aceptado, apoya y planea promover los principios sociales y ambientales del Fondo de Adaptación, las cuales fueron establecidas en noviembre de 2013 y revisadas en marzo de 2016 y que se mencionan a continuación:

1. Cumplimiento de la ley
2. Acceso y equidad
3. Grupos Marginados y Vulnerables
4. Derechos Humanos
5. Igualdad de Género y Empoderamiento de las Mujeres
6. Derechos laborales básicos
7. Pueblos Indígenas
8. Reasentamiento involuntario
9. Protección de los Hábitats Naturales
10. Conservación de la Diversidad Biológica



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## *Instituto Dominicano de Desarrollo Integral, Inc.*

11. Cambio Climático
12. Prevención de la contaminación y eficiencia de los recursos
13. Salud Pública
14. Patrimonio Físico y Cultural
15. Conservación de Tierras y Suelos

### **Compromiso para Afrontar los Riesgos Sociales y Ambientales**

Para evaluar y afrontar los riesgos, el IDDI tiene la responsabilidad de implementar en los programas y proyectos presentes/futuros evaluaciones de riesgo desde las etapas de diseño, y si los mismos son aprobados, dicha evaluación deberá ser consistente con el criterio desarrollado para su monitoreo durante la implementación. De manera similar, para los subbeneficiarios o sub-ejecutores, bajo la supervisión del IDDI, estos aspectos serán tomados en consideración desde las etapas iniciales para su aprobación.

### **Capacidad para Afrontar los Riesgos Ambientales y Sociales**

En relación con las competencias del IDDI para afrontar directamente los Riesgos Ambientales y Sociales, las mismas dependerán del nivel de riesgo la organización pueda identificar en los programas y/o proyectos.

Para asegurar que todas las Entidades Ejecutoras locales tengan conocimiento de sus posibles impactos y cómo afrontarlos, estarán involucradas en la fase inicial de la planificación de cualquier proyecto/programa apoyado por el Fondo. Los resultados de la evaluación ambiental y social y el borrador de la evaluación ambiental y social, incluyendo cualquier plan de gestión de gestión propuesto, se pondrán a disposición de las consultas públicas que sean oportunas, efectivas inclusivas y celebradas sin coacción y de forma adecuada para las comunidades que se vean directamente afectadas por el proyecto/programa propuesto. IDDI tiene una cantidad significativa de personal calificado y con experiencia, el cual puede proveer instrucciones detalladas en cómo manejar ciertas situaciones que puedan afectar considerablemente la fase de implementación e impactos de un proyecto. En los casos en donde el IDDI no tiene la capacidad, propuestas de personal técnico especializado en la materia serán solicitadas, para asegurar que todos los aspectos necesarios han sido cubiertos para evitar cualquier riesgo adicional o innecesario.

Nombre y título: DAVID LUTHER, DIRECTOR EJECUTIVO

Firma: 

Fecha: JUNIO 2020



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## **IDDI's commitment to compliance with the Environmental and Social Policy**

The Dominican Institute for Integral Development, through its Board of Directors, Executive Management, Area Directors, Coordinators, Collaborators and Volunteers, is committed to the fulfilment of the SAPs and GPs and to ensure their correct execution, scope and objectives.

IDDI has placed its experience, knowledge, resources and action strategies at the service of an Agenda for the Integral Development of the most vulnerable communities of the Dominican Republic, which aims at sustained, egalitarian and inclusive growth that contributes to reducing poverty, inequality and unemployment; that seeks to strengthen governance; that involves society through the generation of social and human capital.

These objectives, of transcendental importance, focus on environmental protection and conservation as a transversal axis. Therefore, in coordination with partners and collaborators, IDDI is committed to the conservation and sustainable use of natural capital and the environment, which are fundamental supports and sources of development.

Throughout its history, IDDI has been developing a clear environmental strategy oriented towards two objectives: i) to generate and permanently improve regulatory frameworks, spaces and processes that promote responsible environmental and social management, and ii) to support government institutions and local actors in the conservation and sustainable use of their natural resources and ecosystem services.

IDDI's Board of Directors has appointed experts in the Social, Gender, Environmental and Monitoring areas to follow up on compliance with environmental and social principles, as well as the continuous monitoring of mitigation measures adopted for programmes and projects throughout their implementation cycle.

## Scope

The Environmental and Social Policy applies to all initiatives developed by IDDI with a vision for sustainable development that addresses important areas such as strict adherence to legal regulations, non-discrimination, gender equity, climate change mitigation and adaptation, biodiversity, community health and safety, and stakeholder participation, while promoting greater responsiveness to changing project circumstances through adaptive management and active stakeholder participation.

As a standardised and flexible document, it can be adapted to the requirements of donors, partners and is compatible with the environmental and social policies of Dominican Government institutions.

**In all projects and programmes to be implemented by IDDI, it is committed to:**

- Comply with the Environmental and Social Policy and the Gender Policy, with compliance with the law, people's rights, equality and inclusion, care for the environment and its resources.
- Identify and assess the environmental and social impacts of each programme or project and their mitigation measures if applicable.
- Formulate an environmental and social management plan (ESMP) aimed at preventing and avoiding, or otherwise minimising, the impacts of the project on workers, communities and the environment.
- Follow up on compliance with safeguards and environmental and social impact management measures in a timely manner through a monitoring plan and adjust these measures according to the evolution of impacts during the different phases of the project cycle.
- Promote informed, timely, effective and transparent participation of communities and stakeholders; provide the means to maintain such participation throughout the project cycle; and ensure that all relevant information for this purpose is made available in a timely manner.
- Develop institutional, technical and financial capacities to implement and monitor the project's prioritized impact management measures strategy.
- Identify and/or present to the extent possible, complementary actions to the programme that address climate risks and/or enhance environmental and social improvements.



## Objectives

- Ensure that disadvantaged or vulnerable people and groups have access to the benefits generated by programmes and projects, in an inclusive and legally compliant manner and in continuous defence of human rights.
- Recognise the importance of strengthening national environmental and social management systems, and support dialogue with all stakeholders to strengthen management capacities and good practices.
- Increase transparency and improve project design and implementation through ongoing stakeholder engagement and information dissemination by developing engagement plans and publishing documents on environmental and social issues.

## Principles (Safeguards)

The 15 environmental and social principles that form part of the ESP form the basis for identifying and managing environmental and social risks. IDDI's overall environmental and social commitment through compliance with the Principles is fundamental to ensuring that projects and programmes implemented ensure that no actions are taken that unnecessarily harm the environment, public health or vulnerable communities.

As part of the responsibilities of Adaptation Fund project/programme implementers, IDDI assumes the following principles:

**Principle 1: Compliance with legislation.** The projects or programmes implemented by IDDI will ensure compliance with all applicable national and international legislation, which is a mandatory principle.

**Principle 2: Access and Equity.** Projects or programmes implemented by IDDI shall ensure fair and equitable access to benefits in a manner that is inclusive and does not impede access to basic services and shall ensure that existing inequalities are not exacerbated, particularly with regard to marginalised or vulnerable groups.

**Principle 3: Marginalised and vulnerable groups.** Projects or programmes implemented by IDDI will avoid creating any disproportionate adverse effects on marginalised and vulnerable groups, including children, women and girls, the elderly, indigenous peoples, tribal groups, displaced persons, refugees, people living with disabilities and people living with HIV/AIDS.

**Principle 4: Human rights.** Projects or programmes implemented by IDDI shall respect and promote international human rights.

**Principle 5: Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment.** Projects or programmes implemented by IDDI will be designed and executed in such a way that both women and men (1) have equal opportunities to participate according to the gender policy of the Adaptation Fund; (2) receive comparable social and economic benefits; and (3) do not suffer disproportionate adverse effects during the development process.

**Principle 6: Fundamental labour rights.** Projects or programmes implemented by IDDI will comply with the core labour standards identified by the International Labour Organisation.

**Principle 7: Indigenous Peoples.** IDDI shall ensure compliance with the United Nations Declaration and applicable regulations on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

**Principle 8: Involuntary Resettlement.** Projects or programmes to be implemented by IDDI shall be designed and executed in such a way as to avoid or minimise the need for involuntary resettlement.

**Principle 9: Protection of natural habitats.** IDDI will ensure that its programmes and projects are designed to avoid or mitigate unwarranted conversion or degradation of critical natural habitats, including those that: (a) are legally protected; (b) are officially proposed for protection; (c) are recognised by authoritative sources for their high conservation value, including as critical habitat; or (d) are recognised as protected by local traditional or indigenous communities.

**Principle 10: Conservation of biological diversity.** Projects or programmes Implemented by IDDI shall be designed and executed in such a way as to avoid any significant or unwarranted reduction or loss of biological diversity or the introduction of known invasive species.

**Principle 11: Climate Change.** Projects or programmes implemented by IDDI shall take into account the avoidance of actions that promote significant or unwarranted use of greenhouse gas emissions or other drivers of climate change.

**Principle 12: Pollution Prevention and Resource Efficiency.** Projects or programmes implemented by IDDI will be designed and executed in a manner that meets applicable international standards to maximise energy efficiency and minimise the use of material resources, the production of waste and the emission of pollutants.

**Principle 13: Public Health.** Projects or programmes implemented by IDDI will be designed and executed in a manner that avoids potentially significant adverse effects on public health.

**Principle 14: Physical and Cultural Heritage.** Projects or programmes implemented by IDDI shall be designed and executed in a manner that avoids the alteration, damage or removal of any physical cultural resources, cultural sites and sites with unique natural values recognised as such at the community, national or international level.

**Principle 15: Land and soil conservation.** Projects or programmes implemented by IDDI will be designed and executed in a manner that promotes soil conservation and avoids degradation or conversion of land that is productive or provides valuable ecosystem services.

## Incorporation of ESP's in IDDI programs

IDDI has incorporated the ESPs into its activities taking into consideration the environmental, social, economic and gender impacts that these may have and is committed to deepen its actions to generate a positive change; seeking to eliminate and/or minimize negative impacts, which are detrimental to the environment or to the key actors involved in its activities.

Acción Ambiental	Plano Social	Acciones de Género
Comply with and disseminate strict compliance with legal frameworks, regulations and national and international declarations on environmental management	Compliance and disseminate strict compliance with legal frameworks, regulations and declarations that guarantee the rights of individuals	Comply with and disseminate strict compliance with legislation, regulations and declarations on gender equality and inclusion issues
Promote strategic alliances to carry out environmental protection and conservation activities at national and international level.	Confirm our commitment to perform ethically, fairly and responsibly with our team and stakeholders; through the establishment of the Code of Ethics and acting in accordance with what it establishes.	Sensitize and train the work team to be able to promote spaces to search for better alternatives for the involvement of women in decision-making spaces, productive activities and access to financing.
Record, quantify and disseminate the environmental impacts achieved in our services and work; through the establishment of metrics and indicators.	Monitor the rights of people and compliance with regulations in the field of work, health, safety and inclusion, working for all sectors without distinction of any kind	Stimulate the empowerment of women in all activities, programs and projects of the Foundation, through equal power relations that shorten social gender gaps, and promote their economic autonomy.
Promote the implementation of good operational practices that lead to the conservation and protection of the environment both within the IDDI and in the activities, programs and projects.	Encourage the formation of strategic alliances that promote good social performance, the improvement of livelihoods and the articulation of the community fabric through capacity building.	Promote the full and effective participation of women, through equal opportunities, for decision-making in the programs and projects managed by IDDI.
Develop programs to train managerial staff, employees, collaborators, and stakeholders on environmental issues for their proper appropriation and replication	Sensitize and train the work team and our stakeholders on social issues for their proper appropriation and replication	Implement the gender equality approach in all work, services and activities supported by IDDI
Promote the use of efficient equipment, both internally and externally within the organization, to achieve better use of energy.	Record, quantify and disseminate the impacts achieved in our services and work; through the establishment of metrics and indicators.	Incorporate indicators of processes and results on gender equality in the design of IDDI programs and projects, and follow up through their implementation, monitoring, evaluation and closure.

