

Revised July 2015

"OP/BP4:02" *Environmental Action Plans*", were revised on July 2014 and July 2015 to take into account the recommendations in "World Bank Group A New Approach to Country Engagement" (R2014-0089), which were approved by the Executive Directors on May 22, 2014. As a result of these recommendations, ; [OP/BP 13.16](#), *Country Portfolio Performance Reviews* has been retired, [OP/BP 2.30](#) *Development Cooperation and Conflict* references to ISN were replaced by CEN and included in the Country Engagement Directive; [OP 1.00](#) *Poverty Reduction* footnote 2 has been deleted; [BP 3.10](#), *Financial Terms and Conditions of IBRD Loans, IBRD Hedging Products, and IDA Credits*, [OP/BP 4.02](#) *Environmental Action Plans*, [OP 8.00](#), *Rapid Response to Crises and Emergencies*, [OP 11.00](#), *Procurement* have also been updated to reflect editorial changes.

## Environmental Action Plans

1. The Bank's<sup>1</sup> role in preparing and implementing an Environmental Action Plan (EAP) is primarily to provide advice and help arrange technical assistance, if requested to do so by the government. The degree of Bank involvement depends on the capacity of the government to design and manage the process. Within the Bank, the responsibility for assisting in and monitoring the preparation of an EAP rests primarily with the concerned country management unit (CMU), supported by the Regional environmental and sector unit (RESU). Additional support may be requested from other Bank units with particular expertise, such as the Networks and the Legal Department.

### Bank Review

2. Bank staff review the draft EAP, keeping in mind its usefulness in scope and content as a policy and investment planning document, and provide comments to the government. Bank staff also determine whether the EAP is supported and endorsed by the government agencies that need to approve it formally.
3. The CMU, the RESU, and the relevant sector units (SUs) review the completed EAP and provide comments to the government on technical issues and the main environmental concerns.

### EAP Monitoring

4. Bank staff periodically monitor and evaluate progress in implementing the EAP's action program, discuss their findings with the government, and identify and promote corrective actions. Bank staff encourage and support the government's efforts to periodically update the EAP in light of new information and changing priorities. If the government so requests, Bank staff assist in identifying financial resources and expertise to update the EAP.

### Integration into Country Development Planning and Bank Work

5. As part of regular country partnership management, Bank staff identify potential gaps in country capability for EAP preparation, monitoring, and updating. The CMU estimates when the entire EAP, or portions of it, will need to be monitored, reviewed, and updated for inclusion in the Bank's Country

<sup>1</sup> "Bank" includes IBRD and IDA.

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Partnership Framework. The CMU and appropriate SU ensure that the Bank's country economic and sector work, country economic memoranda, Country Partnership Framework, and Policy Framework Paper integrate and properly reflect the findings of the EAP and identify areas in which environmental questions remain. Bank staff may also need to integrate EAP information into the Project Appraisal Document and Program Document for investment and development policy lending operations.

6. The RESU reviews the appropriate Bank documents to ensure that environmental actions identified and recommended in the EAP have been adequately taken into account.

7. Bank staff promote coordination among the efforts of the various aid agencies participating in the EAP process.

### **Status Reports and Release of the EAP**

8. As appropriate, the CMU informs the executive directors of the status of the EAP through the Country Partnership Framework (CPF).<sup>2</sup> In addition, IDA periodically reports to the Board on the status of the EAPs for IDA countries. When the government permits, the CMU makes copies of the EAP available to the executive directors on request. Once the Bank has officially received the EAP and has obtained the government's consent, the CMU sends a copy of the EAP to the InfoShop, through which interested parties may obtain it.

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<sup>2</sup> See World Bank Group Directive – Country Engagement