# **BEST 2.0+ ESMS Questionnaire**

**Instructions:**

• To be completed by the applicant: please answer all the questions, except when instructed to skip to a question or to the next section

• When answering a “Yes / No” question, please tick the box

• When a box is provided for more details, please type your answer in the box. Please give as much details as you feel is appropriate

(you may be asked to provide additional details if necessary)

• If you have any difficulty answering any questions, please contact your BEST 2.0+ Regional Focal Point

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| Potential Impacts Related to ESMS Standards | | |
| Involuntary Resettlement and Access Restrictions | | |
| 1. 1. Does the project include activities that might restrict peoples’ access to land or natural resources and as such might impact livelihoods?   *Potential activities include:*  *- designating new Protected Areas or enlarging the boundaries of existing ones;*  *- developing Protected Area management plans that include use restrictions;*  - *assessing impact of resource use to as an input for defining changes of management plans*  *- improving enforcement of Protected Area regulations (e.g. training guards, providing monitoring and/or enforcement equipment, providing training*/*tools for improving management or anti-poaching effectiveness);*  *- constructing physical barriers that prevent people accessing certain places;*  *- changing how specific natural resources are managed – to a management system that is more restrictive on how the resources are used;*  *If you answered Yes to Questions 1, please answer the questions in the rows below.*  *If you answered No, please skip to Section B2.* | Yes /  No | Reviewer comment  Standard Triggered?  Yes /  No /  TBD  Comment:  If possible indicate probability (unlikely, likely, almost certain) and magnitude (minor, moderate, major) of the identified impacts.  Are further assessments required to better understand the impacts and identify mitigation measures? What specific topics are to be assessed?  Have measures for avoiding impacts already been considered? Are they sufficient?  Action(s) required: |
| 2. Explain whether assessments have been undertaken to understand potential impacts on the livelihood of local communities.  *Please specify the groups affected by restrictions (including women and ethnic/indigenous groups) and provide details about impacts.* | |
| 1. 3. If impacts have been identified, have options been considered to avoid restrictions? 2. *Please explain.* | |
| 4. If this is not possible, will the project include measures to minimize negative impacts (e.g. access to alternative resources or support to develop alternative livelihood/ income sources)?  *Please describe the measures.* | |
| Indigenous Peoples | | |
| 1. 1. Will the project activities be implemented in an area or territory inhabited by or used by indigenous peoples, tribal peoples, or other traditional peoples?   *Indigenous peoples include:*   1. *People who identify themselves as being indigenous;* 2. *Tribal peoples whose social, cultural, and economic conditions distinguish them from other sectors of society, and whose status is regulated by their own customs/traditions, or by special laws/regulations;* 3. *Traditional peoples not necessarily called indigenous or tribal, but who share the same characteristics (see b., above), and whose livelihoods are closely connected to ecosystems and ecosystem goods and services.*   *If Yes, go to Question 3.*  *If No, go to Question 2.* | Yes /  No | Reviewer comment  Standard Triggered?  Yes /  No /  TBD  Comment:  If possible indicate probability (unlikely, likely, almost certain) and magnitude (minor, moderate, major) of the identified impacts.  Are further assessments required to better understand the impacts and identify mitigation measures? What specific topics are to be assessed?  Have measures for avoiding impacts already been considered? Are they sufficient?  Action(s) required: |
| 1. 2. Even if indigenous peoples are not found at the project site, is there still a risk that the project could affect the rights and livelihoods of indigenous peoples? 2. *If Yes, go to Question 3.* 3. *If No, go to Section B3* | Yes /  No |
| 1. 3. Describe the indigenous groups present in the project site, or likely to be affected by the project. 2. *Include information on:*   *-their geographic distribution in relation to the project area*  *- their use of (and dependency on) natural resources;*  *- their characteristics that qualify them to be considered indigenous peoples, including how they identify themselves and how they are referred to by the Government (i.e. indigenous peoples, minorities, tribes, etc.).* | |
| 1. 4. Have you already consulted with the relevant indigenous peoples to discuss the project and its activities and support a better understanding of potential impacts upon them?   *Please provide details* | Yes /  No |
| 1. 5. Is there a risk that project activities might affect the livelihood of the indigenous peoples/local communities? 2. *If Yes, how will you avoid or mitigate these impacts?* | Yes/  No |
| Cultural Heritage | | |
| 1. 1. Will the project be implemented in an area that includes: 2. - important\* cultural resources such as burial sites, buildings, or monuments of archaeological, historical, artistic, religious, spiritual, or symbolic value? 3. - any natural features or resources that are of cultural, spiritual, or symbolic significance (such as sacred natural sites, ceremonial areas, or sacred species)?   (\**as recognized either through an official designation, or through the perception of local communities*) | Yes /  No | Reviewer comment  Standard Triggered?  Yes /  No /  TBD  Comment:  If possible indicate probability (unlikely, likely, almost certain) and magnitude (minor, moderate, major) of identified impact.  Are further assessments required to better understand the impacts and identify mitigation measures? What specific topics are to be assessed?  Have measures for avoiding impacts already been considered? Are they sufficient?  Action(s) required: |
| 2. Will the project involve development of infrastructure (visitor track, fences etc.), construction of buildings, excavating/moving earth, or other physical changes to the environment that might affect known or unknown (buried) cultural resources? Is there a risk that the project will restrict access to cultural resources or natural features with cultural significance?  *If yes please provide details and explain how these risks will be managed* | Yes/  No |
| 1. 3. Will the project promote the use of (or the development of economic benefits from) cultural resources or features?   *Relevant activities might include:*  *promoting traditional medicinal knowledge;*  *promoting sacred or traditional techniques for processing plants, fibres, or metals;*  *promoting traditional arts, music, etc.*  *If Yes, please provide details and describe how equal sharing of benefits will be ensured* | Yes /  No |  |
| Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Use of Natural Resources | | |
| 1. 1. If the project will develop infrastructure for Protected Area management or visitor use or promote ecotourism, is there a risk of negative impacts on biodiversity (for example on threatened species) due to waste disposal, disturbance, noise etc?   *If Yes please provide details and explain how these risks will be managed.* | Yes /  No | Reviewer comment  Standard Triggered?  Yes /  No /  TBD  Comment:  If possible indicate probability (unlikely, likely, almost certain) and magnitude (minor, moderate, major) of identified impacts.  Are further assessments required to better understand the impacts and identify mitigation measures? What specific topics are to be assessed?  Have measures for avoiding impacts already been considered? Are they sufficient?  Action(s) required: |
| 1. 2. Will the project include the introduction of non-native species or the production of living natural resources (e.g. agriculture, aquaculture etc.) where non-native species might be introduced by accident? 2. *If Yes, please explain how you will manage the risk of non-native species developing invasive behaviour.* | Yes /  No |
| 3. Does the project promote the use of resources from natural habitats (such as timber or non-timber forest products) within the project area? Or will the project procure natural resource commodities (e.g. timber for watch tower construction) that might affect areas of high biodiversity value outside the project area?  *If Yes, please explain how you will ensure that harvest rates are controlled/monitored to ensure that the use is sustainable.* | Yes/  No |
| 1. 4. Does the project expect to use pesticides, fungicides, herbicides or biological pest management techniques?   *If Yes, please provide details, including whether alternatives have been considered, and how risks of adversely affecting biodiversity and human health are avoided.* | Yes /  No |
| Other negative Social Impacts | | |
| 1. 1. Will the project influence land tenure arrangements or community-based property rights to land or resources and is there a risk that this might adversely affect peoples’ rights and livelihoods? Consider in particular impacts on transhumant pastoralist, vulnerable groups, different gender etc.?  * *If Yes please provide details and explain how these risks will be managed* | Yes /  No | Reviewer comment  Standard Triggered?  Yes /  No /  TBD  Comment:  If possible indicate probability (unlikely, likely, almost certain) and magnitude (minor, moderate, major) of identified impacts.  Are further assessments required to better understand the impacts and identify mitigation measures? What specific topics are to be assessed?  Have measures for avoiding impacts already been considered? Are they sufficient?  Action(s) required: |
| 1. 2. Is there a risk that the project could have impacts on people, that are inequitable or discriminatory (i.e. through unjustified preferential treatment of certain groups or by negatively affecting certain parts of society more than others)?  * *Consider people living in poverty, marginalized/excluded individuals and groups. Explain how you avoid that privileged groups may capture benefits unfairly.* * *If Yes please provide details and explain how these risks will be managed* | Yes /  No |
| 1. 3. Is there a risk that the project could create (or worsen) conflicts between communities, groups, or individuals?  * *If Yes please provide details and explain how these risks will be managed* | Yes /  No |
| 1. 4. Is there a risk that the project could create (or worsen) inequalities between women and men, or negatively impact the situation or livelihoods of women or girls, including through gender-based violence?  * *If Yes please provide details and explain how the project will avoid such risks, including gender-based violence.* | Yes /  No |
| 1. 5. Is there a risk that the project might negatively affect a community’s health and safety?  * *Consider risks of spreading diseases, human-wildlife conflict, exposure to hazardous substances, provision of equipment/machinery without appropriate safety instructions or accidental hazards caused by structural elements built by the project (e.g. new infrastructure or buildings such as watch towers, canals, water reservoirs). If Yes please provide details and explain how these risks will be managed* | Yes /  No |
| 6. Is the project (or project partners) engaging or working with law enforcement personnel including collaboration with government forest guards, Protected Area rangers and community rangers)?  *If Yes please explain how the project will ensure that potential safety risk for communities and/or individuals (in particular women) are avoided? Consider impacts from inappropriate use of force or weapons, including physical confrontation, torturing, threatening, abuse of power, sexual harassment or violence against women.* | Yes /  No |  |
| Climate change | | |
| 1. 1. Is the project site prone to any specific climate-related hazards (floods, droughts, landslides, etc.)? 2. *If Yes please provide details* | Yes /  No | Reviewer comment  Is there any risk identified?  Yes /  No /  TBD  Comment:  If possible indicate probability (unlikely, likely, almost certain) and magnitude (minor, moderate, major) of identified impacts.  Are further assessments required to better understand the impacts and identify mitigation measures? What specific topics are to be assessed?  Have measures for avoiding impacts already been considered? Are they sufficient?  Action(s) required: |