

Key Social Aspects

The purpose of this agenda item is to reach agreement on the social aspects to be included in the Protocol.

Information to assist the considerations of the Forum member on this agenda item is derived from three sources:

1. The list of aspects identified by Forum members as missing from Section B in their responses to Survey 1.
2. The summary of key aspects listed in the minutes of Meeting 1, grouped by economic, technical and governance issues; environmental issues; and social issues. These were compiled from Survey 1 results and discussion at Meeting 1.
3. Forum member ratings of the importance of the existing Section B aspects in Survey 1.

Key Social Aspects

1. **ASPECTS MISSING FROM SECTION B** **Identified from Survey 1 of Forum Members**

Note that the social aspects are in bold.

- Greenhouse gas emissions, climate change risks, carbon footprint, cost of carbon
- Transboundary issues
- Linkages with comprehensive energy planning
- Demonstrated need
- Operational risks
- **Increased voice for project affected peoples in all stages of planning process**
- **More attention to downstream effects and communities**
- **Indigenous peoples**
- **Resettlement**
- Alternatives analysis
- Conflict should be included in B1.
- Governance
- Corruption
- Transparency, accountability
- Revenue transparency
- **Poverty?**
- **Communications**
- **Conflict analysis**
- **Gender**
- **HIV/AIDS**
- Financial viability / bankability, i.e. a project's ability to access capital
- Economic viability
- Accountability and transparency.

It should be noted that four respondents were satisfied with the existing aspects.

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2. SUMMARY OF KEY ASPECTS GROUPED BY THEME
From minutes of Forum Meeting 1

Economic, technical and governance issues (13)

- Political risk and regulatory approval (B1, A3)
- Economic / financial viability (B2, A6, A7)
- Reliability & efficiency (B 4, A10, A11)
- Project management plan (B5)
- Site selection & design optimization (B6, A4)
- Safety (B11, A15)
- Government and proponent policies (A2)
- Design, construction and operational risks, and sustainability performance of suppliers (A5)
- Markets, innovation and research (A8)
- Demonstrated need for project (A1) / Linkages with comprehensive planning / Strategic Assessment (new proposal)
- Governance, corruption, accountability, transparency; revenue transparency (new proposal)
- Communications (new proposal)
- Transboundary issues (new proposal)
- Conflict analysis / national security (new proposal)
- Operational risks (new proposal)

Environmental issues (13)

- Environmental impact assessment and management plan (B13, A17)
- Threshold and cumulative impacts (B14)
- Construction and associated infrastructure impacts (B15)
- Land management and rehabilitation (B16)
- Aquatic biodiversity (B17)
- Environmental flows and reservoir management (B18)
- Sedimentation and erosion (B19)
- Water quality (B20)
- Extent and severity of environmental impacts (A18)
- Air, water & soil emissions + waste management (A19)
- GHG emissions, climate change risks, carbon footprint, cost of carbon (A20, new proposal)

Social issues (13)

- Additional benefits and capacity building (B3, A9)
- Community and stakeholder consultation and support (B7, A12)
- Increased voice for project affected peoples in all stages of planning process / grievance mechanisms (new proposal)
- Social impact assessment and management planning (B8, A13)
- Extent and severity of economic and social impacts B9, A14)
- Public health (B10)
- Employee safety (A15)
- Cultural heritage (B12, A16)
- Dispute resolution / complaints mechanisms (new proposal)
- More attention to downstream effects and communities (new proposal)
- Indigenous peoples (new proposal)
- Poverty (new proposal)
- Gender (new proposal)
- HIV/AIDS (new proposal)

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3. IMPORTANCE OF SECTION B ASPECTS

Results of Survey 1 of Forum Members

Note that the social aspects are circled.

	Importance of Aspect	Ave	Consensus	Min	Max
B13	Environmental impact assessment / mgmt	8.5	H	7	9
(B8)	Social impact assessment / mgmt	8.1	M	6	9
B6	Site selection & design optimisation	8.1	M	5	9
(B9)	Impacts on directly affected stakeholders	8.0	M	6	9
B18	Environmental flows / reservoir mgmt	8.0	M	6	9
(B7)	Community & stakeholder consultation / support	7.9	M	5	9
B17	Aquatic biodiversity	7.7	M	6	9
B2	Economic viability	7.7	M	5	9
B20	Water quality	7.7	M	6	9
B14	Threshold & cumulative impacts	7.5	M	6	9
B19	Sedimentation & erosion	7.5	M	6	9
(B12)	Cultural heritage	7.5	M	5	9
B16	Land mgmt / rehab	7.3	M	5	9
B15	Construction impacts	7.3	M	5	9
B1	Political risk / regulatory approval	7.1	L	4	9
B3	Additional benefits	7.1	M	5	9
(B11)	Safety	7.1	L	4	9
B5	Project management plan	6.9	M	5	9
B4	Operational reliability & efficiency	6.7	M	5	8
(B10)	Public health	6.4	L	4	9
	Average	7.5			

(key for importance of aspect rating: 9 = extremely, 7 = very, 5 = reasonably, 3 = partly, 1 = not at all)
 (key for consensus rating: VH – 1 pt between min/max, H – 2 pts, M – 3-4 pts, L – 5 pts)

5 aspects with average score 8 or above:

- B13: Environmental impact assessment and management plan (high level of consensus)
- (B8): Social impact assessment and management plan (medium consensus)
- B6: Site selection and design optimisation (medium consensus)
- (B9): Predicted extent and severity of economic and social impacts on directly affected stakeholders (medium consensus)
- B18: Environmental flows and reservoir management (medium consensus)

12 aspects with average score between 7-8 (majority have a medium level of consensus)

3 aspects with average score below 7:

- B5: Project management plan (medium consensus)
- B4: Planned operational efficiency and reliability (medium consensus)
- (B10): Enhancement of public health and minimisation of public health risks (low consensus)