

ETHIOPIA



COMPLIANCE MONITORING CHECKLIST FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AND MINE SAFETY MANAGEMENT OF GOLD AND RELATED MINES OPERATION PROJECTS

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INTERNATIONAL TRAINING PROGRAMME 308

Mine Water & Mine Waste Management



Sweden
Sverige



THE CHANGE PROJECT

The mining sector has its own specific environmental, social and mine safety protection provisions in its legislation in Ethiopia. However, the legislation still lacks detailed information with regard to environmental and social management for all sorts of mining. Consequently, large number of mining activities, including metallic mineral mining have very loose compliance monitoring mechanisms in place.

In absences of strong regulatory tools such as legislation, it is evident that participating on mining sector related international training is important for developing countries like Ethiopia where there is no strong and comprehensive legal and policy frameworks responsible for Environmental and social management in mining. Hence, formulating complementary regulatory tools such as a checklist for compliance monitoring is important to curb the recurrent environmental and social management problems in mines sector of Ethiopia.

The aim of this checklist is to be used as an assessment tool to investigate conformance with compliance criteria of environmental and mine safety managements of gold and other related metallic mineral mining activities. The compliance criteria considered for this checklist design includes legal and regulatory requirements, standards, available guidelines, and any other specified requirements and international good practices. The goal of the formulation of the checklist is therefore to have additional supportive and complementary regulatory tools that will provide comprehensive information about the compliance status of gold and other related metallic mines operation.

1. Ground and Surface Water Management				
1.1 Are Monitoring Procedures in place?		Implemented? N/A		Remarks/Comments
Yes	No	Yes	No	
1.2 Are adequate measures taken to prevent contamination of surface, ground and soil by the effluents from storage water?				
1.3 Do measures of monitoring point in place?				
1.4 Is there monitoring equipment working properly?				
1.5 Is there any Water management in place (e.g. Recycling, Treatment)?				
1.6 Is there any water table measurement / monitoring mechanisms in place?				
1.7 Are water discharge licenses Valid?				
1.8 Is amount of water consumption regularly Monitored?				
2. Air Quality Management				
2.1 Is there air quality monitoring mechanism in place? Monitoring equipment in place?				
2.2 Does the fugitive dust generated from mine workings and crushing plants comply with international emission standards?				
2.3 Do the fugitive dusts within the working environment comply with the national occupational health and safety standards?				
2.4 Do the mining activities employ any dust suppression measures?				
2.5 Are stockpiles of dusty materials covered?				
2.6 Are all vehicles carrying dusty loads covered/covered over prior to leaving the site?				
2.7 Are demolition work areas watered?				
2.8 Are dusty roads paved and /or sprayed withwater?				
2.9 Are dust controlled during percussive drilling/rock breaking?				
2.10 Are fans and equipment well maintained?				
2.11 Are there enclosure around the dust-generating activities?				
2.12 Are speed control measures applied?				
2.13 Are dust from the tailing dam controlled?				

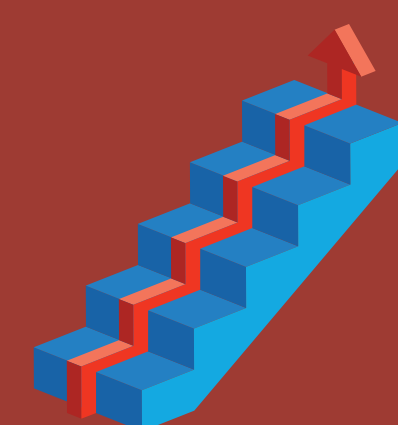
Part of the checklist.



SIGNIFICANCE FOR THE PEOPLE AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Through proper implementation of this project it is believed among the stakeholders that this change project will significantly improve the current trends in regulating gold and related mining project activities in their comply with available legal and policy requirements. It will alert not only operators but also regulators in their monitoring abilities for better environmental and mine safety managements. It is when mines operators comply with nationally enacted legal regime and international good practices that environment and related issues might be protected. For example, when mines is properly and regularly monitored potential adverse environmental and health impacts will be minimized and biodiversity lost due to mines operation might be restored to the state of previous conditions; landforms and land use management also might be improved and so doing this project improve environment and life of local people significantly.

- Benefit mining operators in promoting best practice
- Enhance monitoring capacity of regulators
- Serve as bridge between mining operators and regulators
- Build trust between regulators and operators



RESULTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

The checklist preparation has passed through the endorsement of change project by the Environment and Community Development Directorate (ECDD) of the MoMP and OMDA. The team has met and discussed on the framework and contents of the proposed checklist and after coming into consensus on what to put in the checklist, each member has been given a task on assessment of Ethiopian mining sector scenario and international good practices on some compliance monitoring procedures. Accordingly, desk review being undertaken, on the subject matter, available national legal frameworks and international good practices, including the training materials delivered during international training on Mine Waste and Mine Water, that was conducted in Malå, Sweden, were also assessed and reviewed to enrich the checklist contents. The previous compliance monitoring reports conducted by different organization and individuals that have been undertaken for various purposes were also exploited to comprehensively formulate the checklist.



THE WAY FORWARD

The checklist is intended to aid mines regulators and operators in assessing the conformity with available legal requirements. The users of the checklist are required to improve or update the checklist whenever legal and policy requirements are changed. Therefore it is recommended that users of the tool required updating and/or improving the tool and strengthening environmental and social management activities in the mining sector. Until then it is recommended for regulators and operators to follow and work on this checklist.

The change project team also aim to continuously improve the regulatory presented in the project as it will be implemented and tested. Eventually a feedback session can be conducted with stakeholders as the checklist will be rolled out.

In an effort to start this activity, the team in collaboration with and financial support of Canadian International Recourses and Development Institute (CIRDI) managed to conduct stakeholder's consultative workshops during April 5-8, 2021 at Bishoftu town, located adjacent to Addis Ababa. The workshop provided insightful information and communication platform not only for the change project but for also all issues with regard to Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA), and Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) formulation in mining sector in general. The participants of the workshop have given valuable and constructive comments on the displayed checklist. Further communication of the result is expected to be presented in a near future to mining companies and other relevant stakeholders. This will be conducted either through face-to-face interview and discussion or through dissemination of the result by electronic media and receiving valuable comments.



Stakeholders' consultative workshop.