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# ADB Safeguard Policy Review and Update: Sexual Exploitation, Abuse, and Harassment (SEAH)

## REGIONAL CONSULTATIONS

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30-31 May 2022



SAFEGUARD  
POLICY REVIEW  
AND UPDATE

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# Quick Reminders



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Please introduce yourself in the meeting chat box by typing in your  
**NAME, DESIGNATION, and ORGANIZATION.**

- ✓ If possible, join from a quiet, distraction-free area
- ✓ Ensure your audio and video are working
- ✓ Put your mic on mute when you are not speaking
- ✓ Virtually raise your hand on the Zoom feature to raise a point or question
- ✓ Be respectful to other joining participants
- ✓ Be conscious of time as per the agreed agenda

# Simultaneous interpretations available!

Penerjemahan Simultan tersedia!

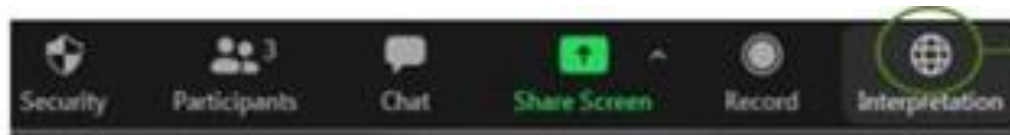
提供同声传译服务!

មានផ្តល់ការបកប្រែប្រដេញ!

ທ່ານສາມາດຮັບຟັງການແປເປັນພາສາຂອງທ່ານໄດ້!

Chúng tôi cung cấp phiên dịch đồng thời!

1



**Please click on the Interpretation button at the Zoom bar on the bottom of your screen.**

Silakan klik tombol Interpretation pada fitur Zoom di bagian bawah layar Anda.

请点击屏幕底部Zoom工具栏上的传译按钮.

សូមចុចលើប៊ូតុងបកប្រែសញ្ញារូបផែនដី នៅផ្នែកខាងក្រោមអេក្រង់របស់លោកអ្នក។

ກາລຸນາກົດປຸ່ມເພື່ອຮັບຟັງການແປພາສາຜ່ານລະບົບ Zoom ທີ່ຢູ່ທາງຂ້າງລຸ່ມຫນ້າຈໍຂອງທ່ານ

Đề nghị nhấp chuột vào nút phiên dịch (Interpretation) trên thanh công cụ Zoom ở phía dưới màn hình của bạn.

2

## Languages available:

Bahasa yang tersedia:

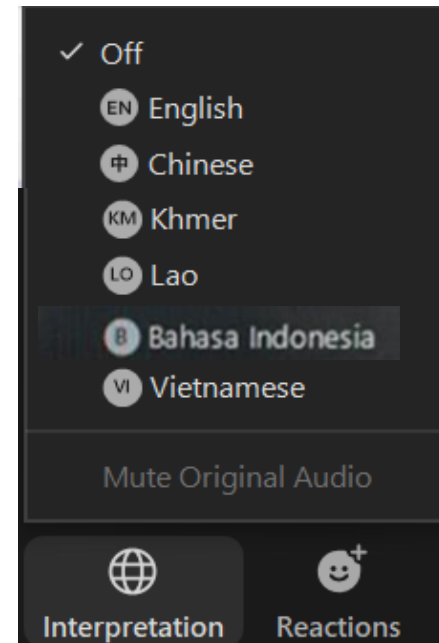
语言服务:

ភាសាដែលមាន:

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Ngôn ngữ sử dụng:

- **Bahasa Indonesia**  
Bahasa Indonesia
- **Chinese**  
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ພາສາລາວ
- **Vietnamese**  
Tiếng Việt





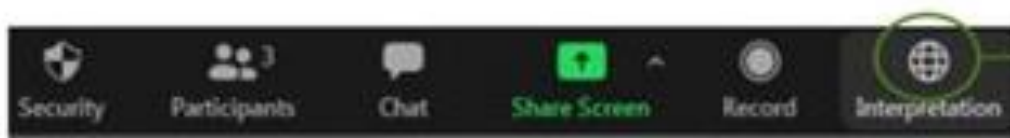
# Simultaneous interpretations available!

समकालीन भाषांतरण उपलब्ध है!

رواں ترجمے کے لئے دستاب زبانیں

Осуществляется синхронный перевод!

1



**Please click on the Interpretation button at the Zoom bar on the bottom of your screen.**

कृपया ज़ूम बार के इंटरप्रीटेशन (Interpretation) बटन पर क्लिक करें जो आपके स्क्रीन के निचले भाग में है।

اپنی سکرین کے بالکل نیچے زوم کی بار پر گلوب کی تصویر والے انٹرپریٹیشن یعنی ترجمہ کے بٹن پر کلک کریں۔

Нажмите на кнопку «Перевод» внизу экрана.

2

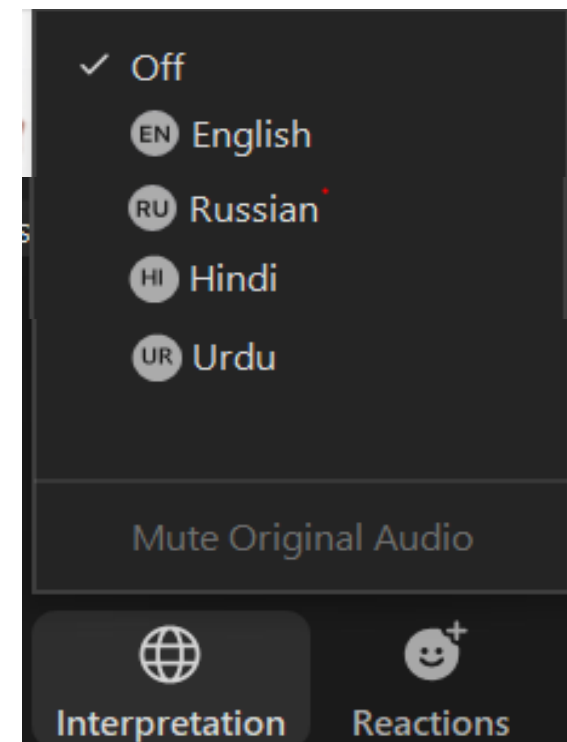
## Languages available:

उपलब्ध भाषाएं:

دستیاب زبانیں

Выбор языка:

- **Hindi**  
हिंदी
- **Urdu**  
اردو
- **Russian**  
Русский язык

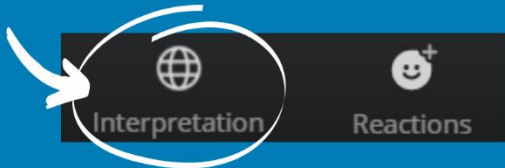




## HOW TO LISTEN TO INTERPRETATIONS

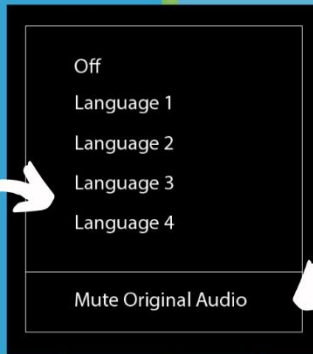
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Click on the Interpretation button at the bottom of your Zoom screen.

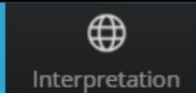


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Select your preferred language among the list of available interpretations.



Click Mute Original Audio to mute the English audio.

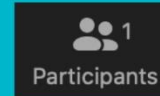


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## CHANGING YOUR NAME ON ZOOM

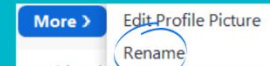
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Click on the Participants button at the bottom of your Zoom screen



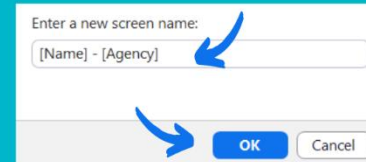
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On the right hand of your screen, look for your name. Click on the More button on the right side of your name.



3

Click on the Rename button, type in your Name and Agency, then click OK.

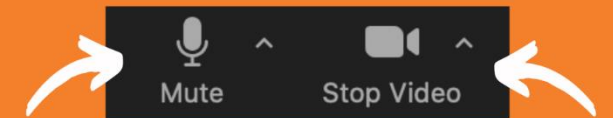
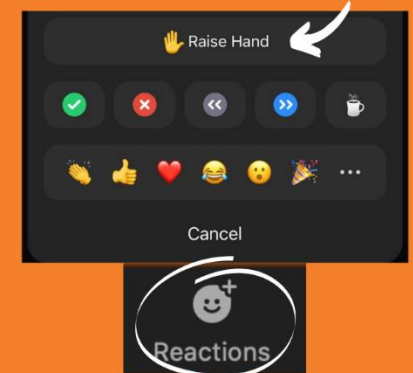


## USING ZOOM BUTTONS



Send a message, question or feedback by clicking the chat button.

To comment or raise a question live in the language you prefer, click on the smile icon (Reactions button), and then click on Raise Hand.



To speak and unmute yourself, click on the microphone icon.

To show your video, click on the video icon.





The Safeguard Policy Review and Update Phase 2 consultations provide opportunities for stakeholders to express their views and opinions on ADB's environmental and social safeguards in the most meaningful and safest manner possible.

All stakeholders are encouraged to articulate their inputs and concerns during these consultation sessions. By joining these sessions (and as noted in paragraph 47 of the Stakeholder Engagement Plan) stakeholders are consenting to the video and audio recording of these consultations and their subsequent release. ADB will prepare consultation summaries and disclose them publicly. This will ensure the accuracy and transparency of proceedings.

Stakeholders wishing to exclude themselves from such recordings are asked to contact the Safeguards Policy Review and Update Secretariat at [safeguardsupdate@adb.org](mailto:safeguardsupdate@adb.org) within 2 weeks of this session to share their exceptions and exclusions.



The recordings and documentation allow the ADB to review, consider and respond to, if necessary, any comments and inputs made. Background materials on the thematic areas have been released in preparation for the consultations and dialogues.

All types of feedback are welcome. These will not be used for the purposes of retaliation, abuse, or any other kind of discrimination.

If you have any issues or concerns on the disclosure, recording, confidentiality, potential risks, abuse, or any kind of discrimination during the consultations, or wish to exclude yourself from the recording of events and discussions, please contact the Secretariat at [safeguardsupdate@adb.org](mailto:safeguardsupdate@adb.org).



# AGENDA



## SAFEGUARD POLICY REVIEW AND UPDATE



1. **Introduction** (5mins)  
Azim Manji, Session Moderator and Stakeholder Engagement Team Leader, Safeguards Division (SDSS), Sustainable Development and Climate Change Department (SDCC)
2. **Welcome and Overview of the Safeguard Policy Statement (2009) and Update Process** (10 mins)  
Bruce Dunn, Director, Safeguards Division (SDSS), Sustainable Development and Climate Change Department (SDCC)
3. **Session 1: Introduction and Background** (10 mins)  
Samantha Hung, Chief of Gender Equality Thematic Group, Sustainable Development and Climate Change Department (SDCC)
4. **Session 2: Study Findings and Key Issues** (20 mins)  
Malika Shagazatova, Social Development Specialist (Gender and Development), Sustainable Development and Climate Change Department (SDCC)
5. **Break** (5 mins)
6. **Session 3: Moderated Discussion** (70 minutes)  
Moderated by: Zeinab Elbakri, Senior Consultant, Gender and Safeguards, Sustainable Development and Climate Change Department (SDCC)
7. **Event Evaluation** (5 mins)
8. **Wrap up** (5 mins)  
Bruce Dunn, Director, Safeguards Division (SDSS), Sustainable Development and Climate Change Department (SDCC)



# Welcome Remarks

Bruce Dunn, Director, Safeguards Division (SDSS), Sustainable Development and Climate Change Department (SDCC)



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# Session I: Introduction and Background

Samantha Hung, Chief of Gender Equality Thematic Group, Sustainable Development and Climate Change Department (SDCC)



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- ADB is updating the 2009 Safeguard Policy Statement (SPS)
- Sexual Exploitation, Abuse and Harassment (SEAH) is one of the analytical studies being conducted to feed into the Safeguard Policy Review and Update (SPRU).
- The study summarizes the key findings from benchmarking of current policy requirements on SEAH across peer Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs)
- The study complements a broader analytical study on Gender and Safeguards

# Background: SEAH and ADB institutional commitments

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# ADB Independent Evaluation Department (IED)

## *Finding on Gender and SEAH in SPS*



Lack of specific support on emerging issues such as SEAH at the work site and broader project impacts on communities



Safeguarding against SEAH cuts across environmental safeguards, health and safety, gender, and social protection and may require a more integrated approach



Integrated analysis by safeguards and gender team members would enhance synergies and reduce duplication.

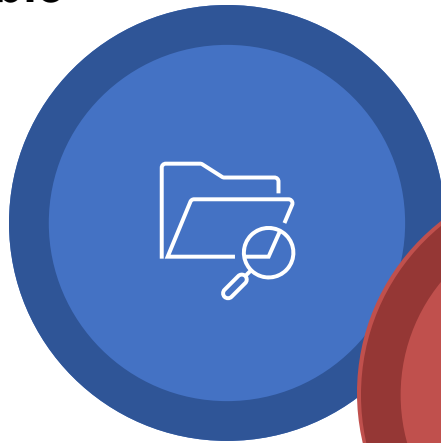


Importance of sufficient operational guidance through operational manuals, good practice notes, and training to ADB staff and clients

# Purpose, Scope and Methodology of Study



**Based on rapid desk study  
of publicly available  
information**



**Identification of best practice and  
current gaps in addressing SEAH**



**Compare ADB's 2009 SPS with  
international good practice on  
SEAH among MDBs**



**Propose ways for incorporation of  
current and emerging good practice on  
prevention, mitigation, and response to  
SEAH**



# Session 2:

## Study Findings and Key Issues

Malika Shagazatova, Social Development Specialist (Gender and Development),  
Sustainable Development and Climate Change Department (SDCC)



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# SEAH in Current ADB Policy Principles and Requirements



In the SPS (2009), safeguards are understood as seeking to avoid, minimize, or mitigate adverse environmental and social impacts, including protecting the rights of those likely to be affected or marginalized by the development process. No specific reference to Gender based violence (GBV) and/or SEAH

ADB's Gender and Development Policy (1998), additionally describes ADB's vision to 'do good', by investing in gender equality more widely and addressing "female-focused violence" specifically.

Social Protection Strategy (2001), also indirectly address many risk factors such as poverty, disability and unemployment, which make some groups more vulnerable to SEAH.

Strategy 2030 (2018) prioritizes gender equality as one of seven operational priorities. The Operational Plan for Priority 2 (OP2) Accelerating Progress in Gender Equality (2019-2024) calls for assessing project risks of SEAH, and human trafficking in the context of measures for eliminating GBV.



# Key Study Findings: Benchmarking Results

## **MDBs benchmarked with ADB regarding gender and SEAH in safeguards:**

- **Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB)**
- **European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)**
- **International Finance Corporation (IFC)**
- **Inter-American Development Bank (IDB)**
- **World Bank (WB)**

## **MDBs were benchmarked on the following areas**

- **SEAH in Safeguard Policy**
- **SEAH-specific provisions in Performance Standards/Requirements**
- **SEAH in Risk Assessment**
- **Guidance materials for Implementation Support**
- **SEAH Requirements in Procurement**

# Key Study Findings: SEAH in Safeguard Policies

## MDB Safeguard Policy

IDB has the most extensive GBV/SEAH-related provisions and requires borrowers to address gender-related risks including gender-based exclusion and sexual and gender-based violence (sexual exploitation, human trafficking) and the spread of sexually transmitted infections.

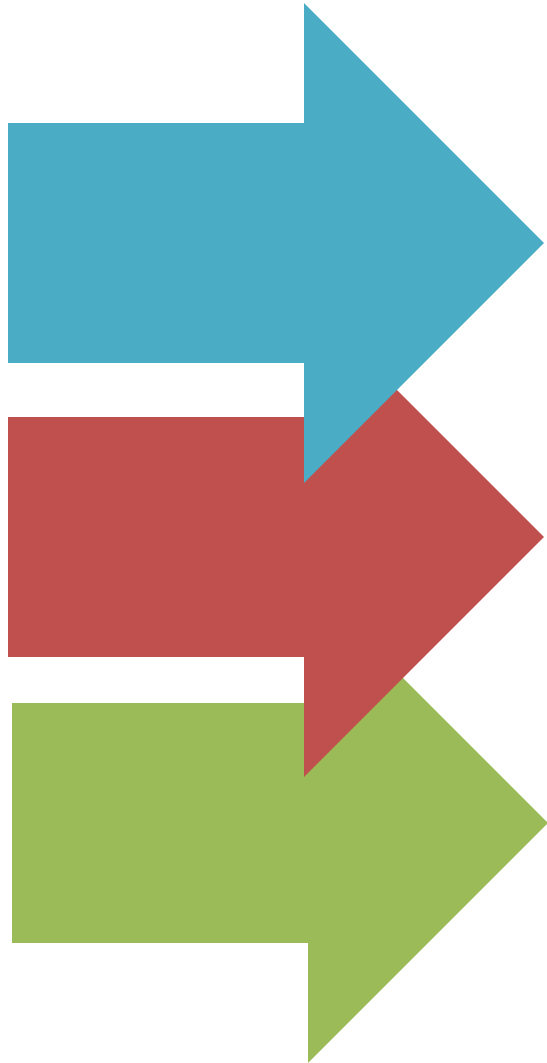
EBRD has an overall commitment to prevent and address any form of violence and harassment.

AIIB committed to support its Clients' efforts to identify and address the risks of sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA), sexual harassment (SH), and GBV, including intimidation in its Projects.

**WB and IFC safeguards policies do not specifically refer to GBV and SEAH, but they use other operational tools**

# Key Study Findings:

## *SEAH Specific Provisions in Performance Standards/Requirements*



**Among all MDBs, IDB has the most comprehensive coverage of SEAH with explicit mention of SEAH-related considerations across various standards in addition to a stand-alone gender standard. Requirements include risk assessment, contractor sexual harassment policies and Code of Conduct, sensitization of workers and communities and Grievance Redress Mechanism.**

**EBRD: SEAH is part of Performance Requirements (PR) 2 : Labor and Working conditions and PR4: Health, Safety and Security**

**AIIB: GBV and SEA/SH related requirements included in Environmental and Social Standard (ESS) 1: Environmental and Social Assessment and Management; require managing risks of project-related GBV to project-affected persons and communities, and Project workers.**

# Key Study Findings:

## *Guidance Materials for Implementation Support*



The WB uses a Good Practice Note (GPN) on addressing SEAH in projects with large infrastructure works (2020). While the GPN is advisory in nature, WB uses procurement requirements for contractor accountability.

WB and EBRD apply risk-screening tools to determine the level of SEAH risks specific to projects and include appropriate and proportional mitigation measures

Attention to SEAH is incorporated into the WB project cycle through a SEAH online risk assessment tool, stakeholder engagement, requirements for Codes of Conduct, procurement, reporting and Grievance Redress Mechanism

IFC and EBRD developed practical guidance for private sector “Addressing gender-based violence and harassment. Emerging good practice for the private sector”



# High level comparative summary of approaches for addressing SEAH

Organization	SEAH in Policy Document	SEAH in other documents (Good Practice Note, Guidelines, Toolkits)	Uses SEAH risk assessment	SEAH requirements in procurement	Dedicated Staff for SEAH	Grievance Redress Mechanism required for SEAH	Internal protocols to oversee SEAH cases in operations
Example MDBs							
AiIB	✓	0	0	0	0	0	0
EBRD	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	0
IFC	x	✓	0	0	✓	0	0
IDB	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	0
World Bank	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Example Donors/Funds							
DFAT, Australia	✓	0	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Green Climate Fund	✓	0	0	✓	✓	✓	✓
FCDO, UK	✓	✓	0	✓	✓	✓	✓

# Key Study Findings: *Summary*

**In the area of protection against SEAH risks in operations, ADB is potentially at risk of falling behind other peer MDBs in terms of the existence of established approaches**

**Absence of common MDB good practice standards and requirements for addressing SEAH can create challenges for co-financing and may result in greater transaction costs for Borrowers.**

**Consistent approaches and requirements in procurement, reporting and service provision would make it easier for MDBs to collaborate on projects at country level, increasing efficiency**

# Proposed Directions for Addressing SEAH in ADB Financed Projects



## Good Practice Note on Addressing SEAH in ADB Financed Projects with Civil Works:

- Developed to support ADB staff, borrowers, executing and implementing agency (EA/IA) staff and contractors in designing and implementing measures to address SEAH
- Outlines responsibilities for incorporating, implementing, and monitoring and reporting.
- Provides guidance, a set of tools, check-lists, templates and minimum good practice standards that can be used by counterpart staff and contractors to tackle SEAH during project design and implementation
- Not yet ADB policy - the recommendations it provides are advisory in nature
- Proposed to be piloted in selected ADB developing member countries (DMCs)



# Key Issues for Further Consideration:

**Integrate SEAH risks in Project Risk Classification System**

01

**Include more customized GRM in the Stakeholder Engagement and Disclosure (SEID) policy standard**

03

**SEAH Guidance and Tools, and Bank Expertise on SEAH**

05

**Consider SEAH as a cross-cutting issue in the relevant Standards particularly for Community and Occupational Health and Safety, and Labor and Working Conditions**

02

**Additional due diligence requirements**

04

**Increase in staffing and technical assistance resources**

06



**We will be having a short break**



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# Discussion Guidance



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Time remaining for the break

**05:00**



## SEAH Risks

What are the key SEAH related risks that need to be considered in ADB financed operations?

## Challenges

What are some elements/challenges of the enabling environment (institutional and otherwise) for ensuring implementation of SEAH-related requirements as part of the Safeguards Policy?

## Requirements

What should be the key implementation requirements for effective prevention, mitigation and response to SEAH in ADB financed projects?

## Other Issues

?

# Session 3: Moderated Discussion

Moderated by: Zeinab Elbakri, Senior Consultant, Gender and Safeguards,  
Sustainable Development and Climate Change Department (SDCC)



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# Sequence for Q&A



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**1st sequence** – Open for statements and sharing of perspectives and recommendations (raised hands to speak)

**2nd sequence** – Questions sent in advance (through Zoom registration)

**3rd sequence** – Questions posted on the chat box and participants raising hands will be called in batches



## SEAH Risks

**What are the key SEAH related risks that need to be considered in ADB financed operations?**

## Challenges

**What are some elements/challenges of the enabling environment (institutional and otherwise) for ensuring implementation of SEAH-related requirements as part of the Safeguards Policy?**

## Requirements

What should be the key implementation requirements for effective prevention, mitigation and response to SEAH in ADB financed projects?

## Other Issues

?



# Quick Poll



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Please rate your satisfaction with today's session:

- 5** – Highly satisfied
- 4** – Somewhat satisfied
- 3** – Neutral
- 2** - Somewhat dissatisfied
- 1** – Very dissatisfied

Quick written feedback via [www.menti.com](https://www.menti.com)

Please Click the link on the chat box.

# Wrap Up and Synthesis

Bruce Dunn, Director, Safeguards Division (SDSS), Sustainable Development and Climate Change Department (SDCC)



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# THANK YOU!

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your feedback and  
suggestions

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