



Climate Change

Environmental and Social Standard 9 (ESS9)*



WHAT IS THE PROPOSED STANDARD ABOUT?

The proposed standard strengthens the current ADB approach to climate change and supports ADB alignment with the Paris Agreement and climate change strategy and action plan. The proposed ESS9 builds on the requirements under Environmental Safeguards, including sections on Pollution Prevention and Abatement covering greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.

* The full text of ESS9 is at [Safeguard Policy Review: Draft Policy | Asian Development Bank \(adb.org\)](https://www.adb.org/who-we-are/safeguards/safeguard-policy-review/draft-policy). <https://www.adb.org/who-we-are/safeguards/safeguard-policy-review/draft-policy>. This information brochure was prepared based on the consultation draft of the proposed Environmental and Social Framework (ESF) for information purpose only. Guidance from the ADB Board of Directors will be sought on the full text of the proposed ESF as part of the Working Paper, scheduled in Q4 2023. The final ESF will be considered for approval by the ADB Board of Directors in 2024.



**SAFEGUARD
POLICY REVIEW
AND UPDATE**





The objectives of environmental and social standard (ESS9) are to:

- minimize absolute and relative greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions attributable to a project by considering alternatives, and monitor and report project-related GHG emissions, where applicable; and
- manage project-related climate risks and contribute to enhancing climate resilience.



WHAT ARE THE NEW AND IMPROVED POLICY PROVISIONS?

1



Project related Greenhouse Gas Emissions

The proposed standard retains the project-related GHG emission monitoring and reporting requirements of the Safeguard Policy Statement (SPS), but adjusts the threshold of GHG emissions from 100,000 tons CO₂e per year to 20,000 tons CO₂e per year. This aligns with the ADB GHG emissions guidelines.

2



Climate risk assessment and management

Under this proposed standard, borrower/client undertakes project-level climate risk assessment and implements adaptation measures. Through this standard, appropriate climate change adaptation and resilience measures to address identified climate risks of a project will be considered, in a manner proportionate to the nature and scale of the potential risks. It also requires that climate change risks assessed through ESS9 will be considered and integrated as appropriate with risks assessed by other relevant ESSs.

