



QUESTIONNAIRE FOR AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY (SECTOR RELATED QUESTIONS)

The completion of this questionnaire is voluntary. However, replying to the relevant questions as completely as possible will facilitate and speed up the assessment of the environmental, social and human rights impacts of the project for which the German export supplies or services offered for cover are intended. This – together with the questionnaire not related to a particular sector, the completion and submission of which should also be considered in order to speed up the assessment procedure – can replace the description of the environmental, social and human rights impacts in the memorandum.

The questionnaire provides guidance on what information may be important for this sector. It is based on the World Bank/IFC General Environmental Health and Safety (EHS) Guidelines, the EHS Guidelines for Annual Crop Production, the EHS Guidelines for Perennial Crop Production and the EHS Guidelines for Forest Harvesting Operations. Additional information on the applicable standards can be found at the [AGA Portal](#).

This is a list of possible questions. Depending on the individual case only some of them, or perhaps also additional information, may become relevant in the course of the application procedure. Because of the specific features of each project further clarification may be required.

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A. Agriculture

A.1. Water consumption / water management

- Please describe the project's water management.
- Is the project area an area where water is scarce?
- Please describe to what extent the water consumption (fresh and groundwater) affects the ecology of the environment and/or the water supply to the local population.
- What methods/measures are used to preserve water for irrigation, avoid evaporation and seepage losses and utilise rainwater?
- Will a water management logbook be kept?

A.2. Soil erosion and loss of soil productivity

- What measures are taken to avoid a loss or the minimisation of the productive capacity of the soil and sedimentation of surface water bodies (e.g. Integrated Nutrient Management (INM), use of crops suited for the local environment, avoidance of soil compaction by means of using appropriate machinery, inter-cropping)?

A.3. Use and handling of pesticides

- Please state to what extent pesticides are used and what measures are taken to minimise the use of pesticides.
- Has an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) strategy been implemented and is it documented in a Pest Management Plan?
- Are any pesticides used that have been categorised by the WHO in hazard classes 1a and 1b? If so, what pesticides?
- Are any pesticides used that have been categorised by the WHO in hazard class II? If so, what pesticides?
- Are the requirements of the International Code of Conduct on the Distribution and Use of Pesticides and the requirements of the Revised Guidelines for Good Labelling Practice for Pesticides of the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) adhered to?
- Please provide information on the handling of pesticides.
 - How is a secure storage, etc. guaranteed?
 - Is the personnel properly trained?

A.4. Eutrophication of water bodies

- How is an eutrophication of water bodies in the surroundings avoided?
- How is the need for the application of nutrients/fertilisers evaluated?
- What precautionary measures are taken when nutrients/fertilisers are applied?
- Please provide information on the handling and storage of the nutrients/fertilisers.

- Please complete the table below:

Water/ soil /produce quality guidelines			
Parameter	Media	Guideline Value	Project Value
Pesticides, nitrates, coliform or other potential agricultural contaminants	Irrigation water	Concentrations should not exceed national irrigation water quality standards or, in their absence, internationally recognized guidelines (e.g. WHO Water Guidelines applicable to irrigation water quality) ^a	
Pesticides, nitrates, coliform or other potential agricultural contaminants	On-site water supplies	Concentrations should not exceed national drinking water quality standards or, in their absence, internationally recognized guidelines (e.g. WHO Irrigation or Drinking Water Guidelines for compounds potentially present in on-site groundwater wells or surface waters) ^b	
Nutrient balance	On-site soil	Nutrient surpluses should remain stable; nitrogen surplus should be preferably below 25kg/ha/yr ^c	
Pesticides	On-site soil and produce	Below applicable tolerance levels ^d	
Notes: ^a WHO Guidelines for the Safe Use of Wastewater, Excreta and Greywater. Volume 2: Wastewater Use in Agriculture http://www.who.int/water_sanitation_health/wastewater/gsuweg2/en/index.html ^b WHO Guidelines for Drinking Water Quality http://www.who.int/water_sanitation_health/dwg/en/ ^c Agriculture Indicator Fact Sheet, European Environment Agency, Nitrogen surplus from agricultural land, 2001. http://themes.eea.europa.eu/Sectors_and_activities/agriculture/indicators/nutrients/nutrients.pdf See also Roy et al. (2006) Plant nutrition for food security, a guide for integrated nutrient management. ^d Examples of potentially applicable pesticide tolerance requirements include the Food and Agriculture Organization Codex Alimentarius' Maximum Residue Limits in Foods and the US Code of Federal Regulations Title 40, Part 180 — Tolerances and Exemptions from Tolerances for Pesticide Chemicals in Food, the latter of which applies to crops sold in the United States.			
Source: WORLD BANK/IFC EHS Guidelines ANNUAL CROP PRODUCTION 2007, page 12			

A.5. Monoculture, biodiversity and ecosystems

- What precautionary measures have been taken to counteract potential threats to the ecology/biodiversity through monoculture (e.g. soil degradation, pest infestation)?
- How is the loss of genetic resources avoided (protection of biodiversity)?
- How is genetic variability guaranteed?
- Will genetically modified organisms be used?
- How are invasive plants prevented from entering the project area?
- Does the project affect any sensitive areas (National Parks and other protected areas identified by national or international law and other sensitive locations of international, national or regional importance such as wetlands, forests with high biodiversity value, areas of archaeological or cultural significance and areas of importance for indigenous peoples and other vulnerable groups)?

- Please provide information on any international certificates (Fairtrade, Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil, Rainforest Alliance, etc.) that exist.
- How is the project area to be used after the end of the agricultural activities?

A.6. Waste

- What considerations have been made with regard to the treatment and disposal of waste and do these meet the buyer country's standards?
- How are crop residues dealt with?
- How are pesticide packaging and containers and obsolete pesticides disposed of?

A.7. Emissions

- Please describe the measures taken to avoid and control air emissions (CO₂, SO₂, NO_x, dust, ammonia, dioxins and furans).

A.8. Occupational health and safety

- What safety measures and/or control systems are planned to prevent accidents?
- How are safety and health (in particular with regard to the operation of machines, exposure to pesticides and volatile organic matter as well as fire and explosion hazards) guaranteed at the workplace?
- What average and maximum noise exposure is to be expected in the production? What safety measures are taken at workplaces where the noise exposure exceeds 85 dB(A)?
- How are subcontractors integrated into the health and safety measures on site?
- Please make accident statistics for the past two years available to us.

A.9. Community health and safety

- What measures are taken to minimise impacts and possible risks for adjacent communities in particular with regard to exposure to pesticides, exposure to pathogens and obnoxious odours and emissions caused by the burning of crop waste?
- Does the project involve resettlements (both physical and economical resettlements (loss of assets or access to assets that leads to loss of income sources or other means of livelihood)) or land expropriation?
- How has the acquisition of the required land through land grabbing (illegitimate or illegal appropriation of land) been prevented?
- What measures are/have been taken to guarantee that affected persons' right of way is not impeded?

B. Forestry

B.1. General questions

- Are plantation forests or managed natural forests concerned?
- Are the areas certified in accordance with the internationally recognised certification standards FSC (Forest Stewardship Council) or PEFC (Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification) or similar?

B.2. Monoculture, biodiversity and ecosystems

- Does the project affect any sensitive areas (National Parks and other protected areas identified by national or international law and other sensitive locations of international, national or regional importance such as wetlands, forests with high biodiversity value, areas of archaeological or cultural significance and areas of importance for indigenous peoples and other vulnerable groups)?
- What effects does the project have on rare or endangered species of animals and plants and their habitats?
- Please describe the measures taken to avoid and/or control the loss of biodiversity.
- How are invasive plants prevented from entering the project area?
- How is a sustainable use of resources guaranteed in the case of tropical rainforests?
- Please describe the measures taken to counteract potential threats to the ecology through monoculture (e.g. soil degradation, pest infestation).

B.3. Water quality

- Please describe the measures taken to control and prevent impacts on water quality and quantity as well as riparian zones and wetlands.
- Will a riparian zone management plan be implemented?
- Is the water supply to the local population or the ecosystem endangered due to a falling groundwater table?
- Are meteorological impacts, such as e.g. draught or mudflows, to be expected due to a falling groundwater table caused by the project area?

B.4. Soil erosion and loss of soil productivity

- Please describe how soil erosion (e.g. due to heavy rainfalls) as a result of forest clearances and the construction of access roads etc., which could have a negative impact on vegetation, agriculture and water bodies, is to be avoided.
- What measures are taken to maintain soil productivity?

B.5. Use and handling of pesticides

- Please state to what extent pesticides are used and what measures are taken to minimise the use of pesticides.
- Has an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) strategy been implemented and is it documented in a Pest Management Plan?
- Are any pesticides used that have been categorised by the WHO in hazard classes 1a and 1b? If so, what pesticides?
- Are any pesticides used that have been categorised by the WHO in hazard class II? If so, what pesticides?
- Are the requirements of the International Code of Conduct on the Distribution and Use of Pesticides and the requirements of the Revised Guidelines for Good Labelling Practice for Pesticides of the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) adhered to?

- Please provide information on the handling of pesticides.
 - How is a secure storage, etc. guaranteed?
 - Is the personnel properly trained?

B.6. Visual impacts

- How are negative visual impacts (in particular with regard to other forms of forest use such as tourism and recreation) avoided and/or minimised?

B.7. Occupational health and safety

- What safety measures and/or control systems are planned to prevent accidents?
- How are safety and health (in particular with regard to the handling of cutting equipment, falling trees and the use of cables to extract logs, operation of machines and vehicles, isolated workers, noise and vibrations, fire hazard and exposure to pesticides) guaranteed at the workplace?
- What average and maximum noise exposure is to be expected in the production? What safety measures are taken at workplaces where the noise exposure exceeds 85 dB(A)?
- How are subcontractors integrated into the health and safety measures on site?
- Please make accident statistics for the past two years available to us.

B.8. Community health and safety

- What measures are taken to minimise impacts and possible risks for adjacent communities in particular with regard to exposure to pesticides, increased traffic, fire, consumption of water resources?
- Does the project involve resettlements (both physical and economical resettlements (loss of assets or access to assets that leads to loss of income sources or other means of livelihood)) or land expropriation?
- How has the acquisition of the required land through land grabbing (illegitimate or illegal appropriation of land) been prevented?
- What measures are/have been taken to guarantee that affected persons' right of way is not impeded?

B.9. Regional development

- How is the project area to be used after the end of the forestry activities?
- Are new settlements in previously undeveloped areas planned due to the project?
- Has a sustainable afforestation management plan been drawn up?

C. Additional information

Additional information on the **Common Approaches**, our **environmental, social and human rights due diligence** and the **applicable standards** can be found at:

<https://agaportal.de/en/main-navigation/schnellzugriff-aga-konsortium/verantwortung>

The **World Bank/IFC EHS Guidelines** can be found on the website:

http://www.ifc.org/wps/wcm/connect/topics_ext_content/ifc_external_corporate_site/ifc+sustainability/our+approach/risk+management/ehsguidelines.