The ESG Advisory for Asia Pacific is a key part of our ambition to broaden IFC’s influence and deepen its impact in moving the private sector in emerging markets towards sustainability. Our programs across Asia focus on providing integrated ESG support and offer tailored advice and guidance to clients (public and private sector) in the areas of increasing board effectiveness, improving the control environment, and family business governance, as well as to financial institutions to improve their environmental and social performance and sustainability. Our advisory services also help support ESG improvements and reform efforts in emerging markets, while leveraging and integrating knowledge tools, expertise, and networks at the global and regional levels.

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Webinar Invitation
Role of the Biodiversity Management and Action Plan for Hydropower Sustainability

Tuesday - April 20, 2021
19:00-20:30, Nepal time
Duration: 1.5 hours

About the webinar
Development projects such as hydropower projects are encouraged to develop a Biodiversity Management Plan (BMP) and/or a Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) to detail their approach to mitigating impacts on biodiversity. These plans facilitate implementation by developers, contractors, and partners. This webinar will present a model approach to support design and implementation based on the mitigation hierarchy to avoid and reduce impacts on biodiversity during construction and operation phases. Approaches for restoring and offsetting biodiversity through green projects will also be discussed. All contents of the Upper Trishuli-1 BMP will be presented.

Panelists

Leeanne Alonso
Senior Manager, Environment and Social
International Finance Corporation

Leeanne Alonso earned a PhD in Biology from Harvard University with focus on biodiversity and tropical ecology. As Director of the Rapid Assessment Program (RAP) from 2000-2011 and as Global Biodiversity Analyst for the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) from 2011-2016, Leeanne organized and led over 45 field expeditions to document biodiversity in remote parts of the world. Currently, Leeanne is a Senior Consultant to the International Finance Corporation (IFC) where she evaluates alignment with international lender’s environmental standards, particularly IFC’s Performance Standards, and advises on biodiversity management. Leeanne is also a founder of the Women in Nature Network (WiNN) which aims at connecting and supporting women to enhance women’s leadership in nature conservation.

Moderated by:

Leeanne Alonso
Senior Manager, Environment and Social
International Finance Corporation

Panelists

Kate Lazarus
Senior Asia ESG Advisory Lead, IFC

Kate Lazarus is the Senior Asia ESG Advisory Lead in IFC’s Environment, Social and Governance (ESG) Advisory for Asia Pacific, an advisory service focused on helping the activities of Asian companies to align with best practices of the world’s leading financiers on ESG. Cambridge University, UK, 2005, Postgraduate Diploma in Environment, Social and Governance, with distinction. Dr. Lazarus has over 20 years of experience in the financial services sector and has been with IFC for over 13 years. She is an International Fellow of the World Economic Forum (WEF) and a member of the IFC’s Global ESG Advisory Team.

Dipesh Bista
Senior Manager – Environment and Social
Nepal Water and Energy Development Company (NWEDC)

Dipesh Bista is a graduate in M Eng. with specialization in Ecology and Environment and has more than 18 years’ experience as an environmental and social specialist in natural resource management and renewable energy vector projects. He has ten years of experience in hydropower projects in planning, development and execution of environmental and social safeguards. Dipesh also has ample experience in planning and execution of environmental and social safeguard studies and working with IFC policy instruments of the international financing institutions. Currently he is the Senior Manager – Environment and Social with Nepal Water and Energy Development Company (NWEDC) where he manages the Sustainability and External Relations portfolio of the organization. The portfolio demands planning and execution of E&S studies, stakeholder engagement and management, and community IHM monitoring.

AGENDA

19:00-19:10 Welcome Remarks & Housekeeping
19:10-19:30 Role of the biodiversity management and action plan for hydropower sustainability
Leeanne Alonso
Biodiversity Consultant, IFC

19:30-20:00 Case study: Biodiversity Management Plan for Upper Trishuli-1 Hydropower project, Nepal
Dipesh Bista
Senior Manager – Environment and Social, NWEDC

20:00-20:30 Q & A
Moderated by:

Leeanne Alonso
Biodiversity Consultant, IFC

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Leeanne Alonso (IFC) and Dipesh Bista (NWEDC) present a model approach to support design and implementation based on the mitigation hierarchy to avoid and reduce impacts on biodiversity during construction and operation phases. Approaches for restoring and offsetting biodiversity through green projects will also be discussed. All contents of the Upper Trishuli-1 BMP will be presented.

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