

Industry Risk Guidance

Source:

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Found: 23 August 2007

In 2006 we extended our industry specific risk guidance to cover over 50 environmentally and socially sensitive sectors. These span ten broad industries outlined below.

These guidance notes include an overview of each industry's regulatory situation, and guidance about the measures we would expect companies in that sector to be taking to identify and control any risks.

For example, health care companies may need to consider the disposal of surgical waste. Likewise, the question of recycling and product stewardship is becoming more pressing for telecoms companies.

The revised guidance also places far greater emphasis on aspects of social issues and human rights - an area of increasing concern for Non Government Organisations (NGOs).

This guidance now covers the following sectors, and a number of sub-sectors within them:

- Agriculture and fisheries
- Metals and mining
- Oil and gas
- Power generation, supply and distribution
- Chemicals, pharmaceuticals manufacturing and bulk storage
- General manufacturing
- Utilities and waste management
- Infrastructure
- Service industry
- Forestry and logging

Whilst developing our own revised guidelines we went further, and collaborated with the United Nations Environment Programme – Finance Initiative (UNEP FI) in the creation of a practical 'toolkit'. We worked with specialist environmental consultants URS and environmental stakeholders on this toolkit, making it available to the UNEP FI's 170 member institutions to help inform their own lending and risk management decisions. This would be especially useful for the smaller and regional banks, who recognise that this is a major issue for them, but may have fewer resources to devote to it.

The aim was to create a set of guidance notes that would cover key aspects of environmental risk assessment, whether for small loans or major project finance, and to give equal importance to the social as well as the environmental aspects of assessment.

[Read more about this area](#), including our project finance transactions [link broken on August 23 2007].

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