

Reporting on Equator Principles

Rabobank plays a very small role in international project finance. In 2007 11 projects in OECD countries received more than 10 million euro in finance (the threshold for the application of the Equator Principles). These projects were four wind farms, six bioethanol plants and a biomass fermentation plant. These were assessed as being Category B. CSR issues relating to wind energy include the impact on birds and bats, visual pollution, soil contamination (onshore wind turbines) and the potential side effects associated with offshore wind turbines, while the carbon balance is an important issue in bioethanol production. Important aspects of the impact assessment include the presence of the necessary environmental permits, as these impose requirements in relation to the above issues. In 2007 the Equator Principles were included more clearly in the Rabobank Group credit manual, and a formal Equator Principles procedure was developed in line with the CSR assessments introduced at Rabobank at the end of 2006. The new procedure will be incorporated into the internal control structure of Rabobank International Renewable Energy and Infrastructure Finance, which is responsible for assessment in the context of the Equator Principles.

Report about Equator Principles (number of projects reviewed)

EP Category	2007	2006
A (significant adverse impact)	0	0
B (potential adverse impact)	11	5
C (no impact)	0	0
Total	11	5