



Cross Sector Biodiversity Initiative

ICMM
International Council
on Mining & Metals

IPIECA



Rio Conventions Pavilion, Fri 23 Nov, 13:15 – 17:00

The Mitigation Hierarchy and Emerging Technologies

Organized by the Cross-Sector Biodiversity Initiative (CSBI) and the Equator Principles Association

Objective

The Mitigation Hierarchy and Emerging Technologies Workshop will take place on the 23rd of November at the CBD COP 14. This session will focus on the mitigation hierarchy, one of the tools proven to be of fundamental importance to industry and finance for effective biodiversity management.

The first half of the afternoon, sponsored by the Cross-Sector Biodiversity Initiative (CSBI), will address the question *“Where are we in terms of global application of the mitigation hierarchy?”* by reviewing industry practices, trends in host country laws and regulations, and supporting tools and technologies. Speakers will explore best practices within all four stages of the mitigation hierarchy: Avoidance, Minimization, Restoration, and Offsets.

The second half of the afternoon, sponsored by the Equator Principles Association, will tackle the question *“where are we going from here and what tools can help us get there?”* Speakers will share emerging industry trends in biodiversity data sharing and emerging technologies in the biodiversity data collection and monitoring space that have the potential to improve our ability to effectively implement the mitigation hierarchy.

About the Organizers

The Cross Sector Biodiversity Initiative is a partnership between [IPIECA](#), the [International Council on Mining and Metals](#) (ICMM) and the [Equator Principles Association](#), the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), the International Finance Corporation (IFC) and the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) to develop and share good practices related to biodiversity and ecosystem services in the extractive industries. CSBI put together the Mitigation Hierarchy, Biodiversity Baseline and Timeline Tools which we discuss with stakeholders and the

broader global biodiversity community. CSBI does this to both encourage others to use the mitigation hierarchy, streamline the approach in policies and solicit feedback to every improve upon our resources and tools.

[The Equator Principles \(EPs\)](#) is a risk management framework, adopted by [94 global financial institutions](#) in 37 countries, for determining, assessing and managing environmental and social risk in projects and is primarily intended to provide a minimum standard for due diligence and monitoring to support responsible risk decision-making.

Programme

Time	Sessions
13:15	<p>Panel and Discussion with Audience: Biodiversity Impact Avoidance – the Cross-Sector Biodiversity Initiative</p> <p>The first panel will discuss what avoidance is, why it is important, and how companies avoid biodiversity impacts using best practice tools and guidance.</p>
	<p>Moderator - Frazer Lanier, VP Environmental and Social Risk Management, Citigroup Frazer Lanier will present the Cross Sector Biodiversity Initiative and the tools the CSBI has provided publically to support the practical and effective implementation of the mitigation hierarchy.</p> <p>The Biodiversity Consultancy, Jonathan Ekstrom Jonathan Ekstrom will answer the following questions: What does it mean to avoid? How do you avoid to the fullest extent possible? Is there a point to alternatives analyses, does the process have any real additive value? Can a company fully avoid impacts?</p> <p>Chairperson, FLEDGE, Bala Pisupati Bala Pisupati will discuss how offsets are evolving in Asia. Are offsets translating into better avoidance? How has BBOP influenced the community’s understanding of the Mitigation Hierarchy and avoidance specifically.</p> <p>Chief Environment and Biodiversity Division, MoE Nepal - Yajna Nath Dahal Yajna Nath Dahal will guide the audience through the case study: Integrating Climate Resilience and Natural Capital in Mega Project Planning and Designing, The Case of Shifting of East-West Railway Alignment to Avoid Chitwan National Park Nepal.</p> <p>Chief Natural Resources Officer, The African Development Bank, Rose Mwebaza Rose Mwebaza will discuss how the African Development Bank (AfDB) has improved and expanded its lending program objectives to include biodiversity conservation, more specifically the implementation of the mitigation hierarchy. Rose Mwebaza will share how AfDB is supporting regional governments to make investment and infrasture decisions with biodiversity impacts in mind to better avoid at the most preliminary stage.</p>
14:00	<p>Panel and Discussion with Audience: Biodiversity Impact Minimization and Restoration</p> <p>The second panel will discuss what it means to adequately mitigate biodiversity impacts, Successful examples of mitigation at the corporate level and what Key Performance Indicators companies use to demonstrate minimization and restoration.</p>

	<p>Moderator: Veronica Lo – Equator Principles Association</p> <p>The Biodiversity Consultancy, Jonathan Ekstrom Jonathan Ekstrom will provide a description of moving from one stage in the mitigation hierarchy to the next. He will also give an overview of the meaning of minimization and restoration techniques and specific examples and techniques.</p> <p>Science and Policy Interface/Biodiversity Monitoring Specialist – Department of Environmental Affairs, South Africa – Kiruben Naicker Kiruben Naicker will discuss the challenges and successes of South Africa’s experience with restoring wetland habitats and grasslands impacted by mining.</p> <p>CEO, Nature Metrics, Kat Bruce Kat Bruce will present DNA sequencing for restoration monitoring – how it works and the role of DNA sequencing technology throughout the mitigation hierarchy.</p>
14:45	Tea Break
15:00	<p>Panel and Discussion with Audience: Offsetting</p> <p>The panelists will explore offset policies around the world, what works and what doesn’t. The challenges and high price of offsetting as well as the case for voluntary offsets and payments for ecosystem services to make conservation of ecosystems profitable and self-perpetuating.</p>
	<p>Moderator: Veronica Lo, Equator Principles Association</p> <p>The Biodiversity Consultancy, Jonathan Ekstrom Jonathan will discuss the existing financial mechanisms and national policies that are enabling offsetting. He will also discuss effective and sufficient funding to achieve long- term conservation outcomes, and how we ensure that adequate financial resources are available.</p> <p>National Environment Management Agenda of Uganda, Francis Ogwal Francis Ogwal will speak about Uganda’s experience with hydropower and oil and gas offsets – emphasizing community and social aspects.</p> <p>Citibank - Frazer Lanier, VP Environmental and Social Risk Management Frazer will discuss how financial institutions mandate their clients to implement the mitigation hierarchy for biodiversity impacts. He will discuss whether companies account for and thus do a better job to avoid when internalizing the costs of offsets. Finally, he will present a couple of exciting new initiatives that are conservation financing through offsets.</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Emerging Technology to Support Application of the Mitigation Hierarchy</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Equator Principles Association</p>
16:00	<p>Panel and Discussion with Audience: New Technologies and the Future of the Mitigation Hierarchy – Sponsored by the Equator Principles</p> <p>The last session of the day will look at the future of the mitigation hierarchy. How are new technologies disrupting the way we collect biodiversity baseline data and monitor the impacts of development projects on global biodiversity? How can new initiatives help avoid these impacts and what are the latest techniques in mapping and financing offsets and avoidance.</p>

Moderator: Citibank - Frazer Lanier, VP Environmental and Social Risk Management

THE POTENTIAL OF DATA SHARING

Tim Hirsch, Deputy Chair of the GBIF secretariat

Tim will discuss GBIF leading to new innovations in biodiversity data sharing. How will open data sharing support the implementation of the mitigation hierarchy by companies in the future.

Head, Key Biodiversity Areas Secretariat, Andrew Plumptre,

Andrew Plumptre will discuss how Biodiversity Data Sharing from industrial projects can benefit the KBA platform and why this matters, as well as how KBAs can help companies avoid and offset.

THE FOREFRONT OF NEW TECHNOLOGIES

CEO, Nature Metrics, Kat Bruce

Kay will discuss DNA sequencing and how it can support the mitigation hierarchy. She will explain how it works and the power of proxy data to show abundance through monitoring.

UNDP/UN Biodiversity Lab: Jamison Ervin Manager Nature for Development Program

Currently, many countries lack access to geospatial data due to limitations in data availability and technical capacity. Jamie will discuss the UNDP Nature for Development Lab, which provides spatial data through a free, cloud-based tool and is looking for ways to digitize/visualize countries' land based INDCs per the Paris Accord. She will explain how this can help governments and companies work more effectively in applying the mitigation hierarchy.