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director-general's bulletin

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ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL MANAGEMENT AT FAO

I am pleased to announce the launch of FAO's Environmental and Social Management Guidelines (ESMG) and FAO Grievance Handling Mechanism.

The application of the new environmental and social safeguards shall be subsumed into FAO projects, with the aim of helping manage environmental and social components through compliance, risk and an outcome based approach. They will be implemented through the new project cycle and replace the Environmental Impact Assessment Guidelines for FAO Field Projects of 2011.

The FAO Grievance Handling Mechanism outlines guidelines for management of potential grievances/complaints relating to environmental and social aspects of FAO projects.

The Environmental and Social Unit within Climate, Energy and Tenure Division (NRC) will be responsible for the overall implementation of the environmental and social management standards, while the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) is responsible for the grievance handling.

FAO's Environmental and Social Management Guidelines (<http://www.fao.org/3/a-i4413e.pdf>) and Grievance Handling mechanism (<http://www.fao.org/aud/en/> and <http://www.fao.org/aud/48643/en/>) come into effect on 15 March 2015.

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Director-General