

# Equator Principles – Past & Present

First Group Workshop for the UNEP FI Biodiversity & Ecosystem Services Workstream

April 5, 2007 Sharon Maharg WestLB New York, Sustainability Management

### Project Finance at WestLB in 2001

- Sustainability Management Department did not exist
- No sustainability global communications strategy
- Equator Principles had not yet been established
- No support network with IFC and the other leading Equator Banks
- No affiliation with United Nations Environment Programme FI (UNEP FI)
- No contact with the International NGOs
- No track record for environmental and social risk management

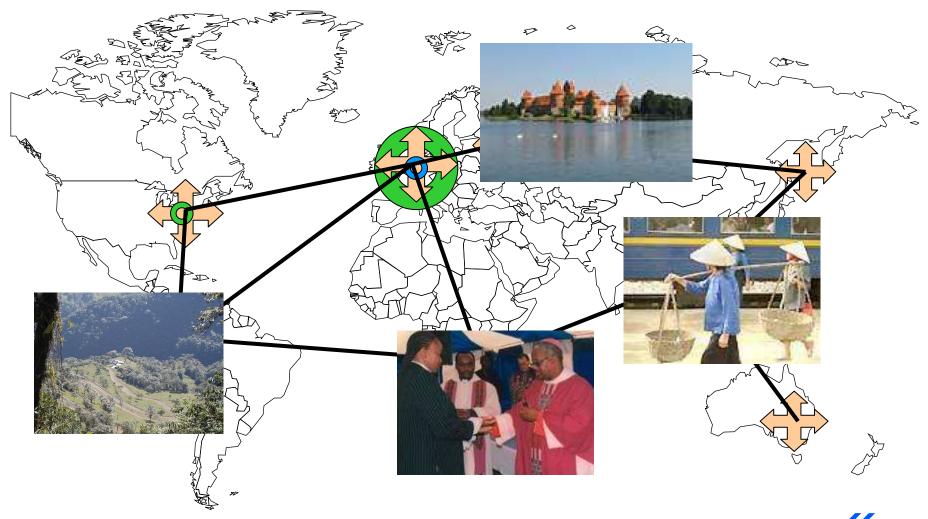


## **Eye Openers for WestLB – OCP**





### The Death of Distance



WestLB New York Sustainability Management Sharon Maharg

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### The Death of Distance

- Before Government as regulator
- Now New regulators and stakeholders
  - Ministry of the Environment
  - Ministry of Energy & Mines
  - Ministry of Health
  - Local Communities
  - NGOs and Media
  - Insurers
  - Customers
  - Employees
  - ..



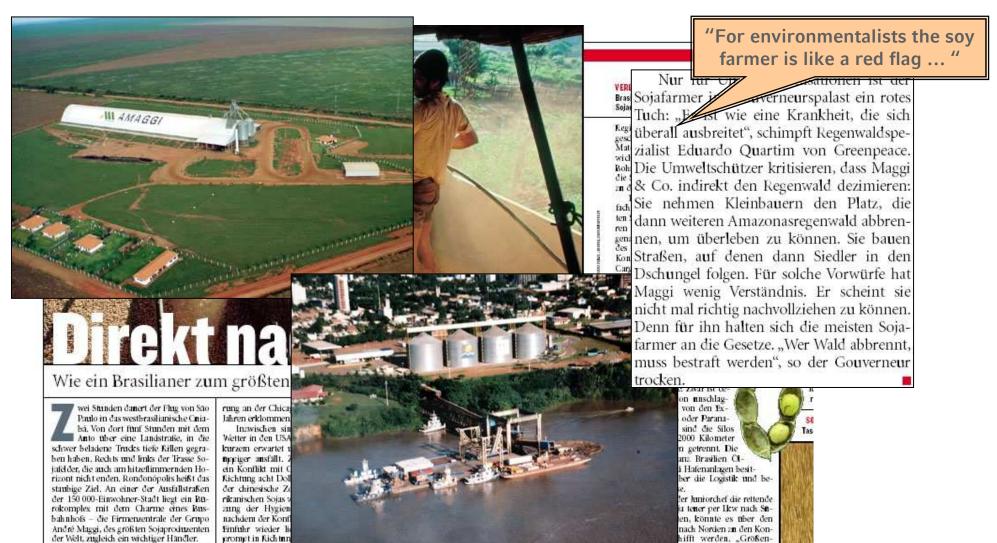


## **Eye Openers for WestLB – BTC**





## Eye Openers for WestLB – André Maggi Group





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## The Triple Bottom Line

WestLB's goal in managing sustainability is to strike a balance between ...

... economic,

... environmental

... and social interests.





#### EP as part of internal decision making for client and WestLB

#### Client:

Identification	Quantificatio	n Structure	Evaluation & Control
Environment Social & Ethnic Health	Environmental & Social Impact Assessment (ESIA)	Environmental Management Plan (EMP) Resettlement Action Plan	Environmental Audit Contingency Plan
	Environmental Risk Assessment		

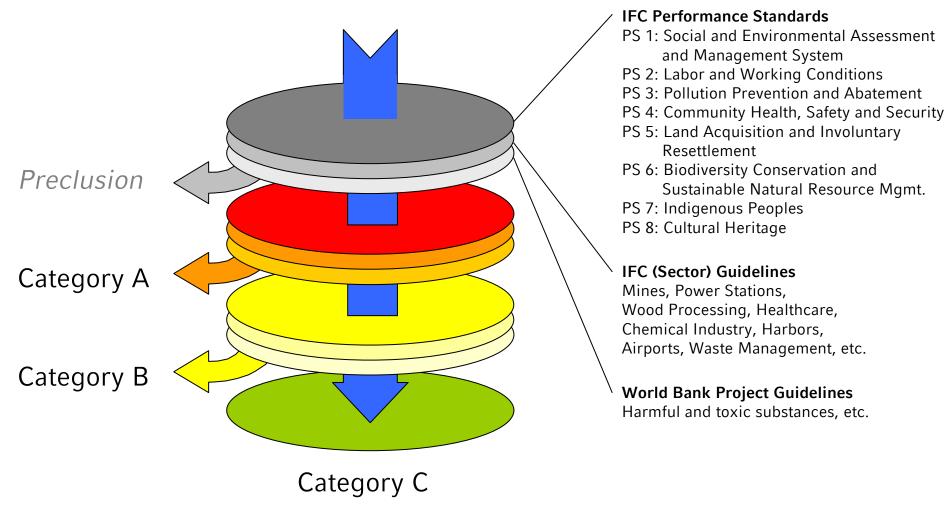
#### WestLB:

Project Screening Process

Undertaken parallel to client's own environmental & social due diligence



#### Systematic project categorization





## **Project Categorization**

#### **Precluded Investments:**

- Conversion or degradation of a critical natural habitat
- Utilization of forced labour or harmful child labour
- Major/direct suppliers utilize forced labour or harmful child labour

### **Category A:**

- Negatively/materially impacts a vulnerable indigenous community
- Converts or degrades a natural habitat
- Impacts non-replicable cultural property
- Results in involuntary resettlement of more than 50 people through physical relocation or economic displacement
- Involves diverse or unprecedented environmental or social impacts
- Involves forestry operations in a low or middle-income country



### **Project Categorization**

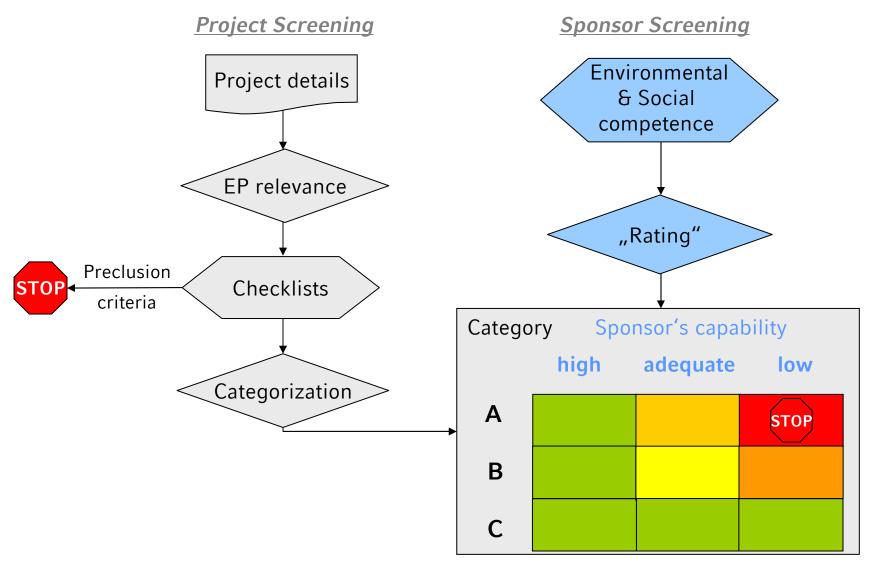
### **Category B:**

- Involves construction of a dam in excess of 15 m in height or 10-15 m in height with unusual design complexities
- Utilizes synthetic chemical pesticides
- Procures or formulates any synthetic chemical pesticides
- Impacts a waterway which forms a boundary between or runs through 2 or more countries
- Impacts one or more environmental (i.e. air or water quality) or social matters

### **Category C:**

By default all other projects should be categorized as a C







### EP – Risk Management for Project Finance in Latin America

- New Deal Committee
- Preliminary assessment- prepare the EP Form and determine Category
- EP Form signed by Originations and SuMa is included in credit application

#### For Category A & "Big B" projects:

- Senior management approval required prior to taking reputation risk
- Review financing proposal and term sheet
- Assist in selection of external consultants
- Communicate directly with the project's sponsors and consultants
- Perform on-site environmental and social due diligence: pre-closing, during construction and operations phases
- Review project company's and consultants' periodic reports
- Support syndication efforts
- Perform on-going monitoring for the life of the facility





The application of the Equator Principles along with close involvement by Sustainability Management enables WestLB to lead sensitive, high profile, complex transactions.

