



# Standard 10

## **10 SOCIAL BASELINE AND IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT**

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### **10.1 OBJECTIVE**

The objective of this Standard is to outline the requirements for establishing appropriate social baseline information and to identify and manage the positive and negative impacts from Site activities on local stakeholders.

### **10.2 REQUIREMENTS**

#### **10.2.1 Compliance**

- Impact assessments will be conducted in compliance with national legal requirements and will align with the IFC Performance Standard 1.

#### **10.2.2 Social Baseline**

- Socio-economic, anthropologic, geo-political and health baseline data will be collected in the advanced feasibility phase. This social baseline data shall thereafter be reviewed and updated after significant changes to the project/site (e.g., new tailings storage facility, additional resettlement, etc.) and at least every five years. The nature and extent of the baseline data update should reflect anticipated impacts.
- Within five years of the end of the life of mine the social baseline data shall be updated within the previous three years, in order to inform Site Social Closure Plans in line with the B2Gold Social Performance Standard 8 – Social Closure.
- Sites will coordinate with stakeholders in establishing and updating social baseline data in a culturally appropriate manner.

#### **10.2.3 Identification and Assessment of Social Impacts**

- Social Impact Assessments will occur during the advanced feasibility stage as part of a socio-economic and environmental impact assessment process. Updates of an appropriate scale and scope shall be conducted at least every five years and when there is a change in site activities that may have a significant impact on local stakeholders.
- Within five years of the end of the life of mine, Social Impact Assessments shall be updated within the previous three years, in order to inform Site Social Closure Plans in line with the B2Gold Social Performance Standard 8 – Social Closure.
- Potential social impacts will be included in a site Risk Register.



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- Sites will consult with local stakeholders to establish a consultation process to review and gather stakeholder input on potential social impacts and Social Management Plans.
- Special engagement will be conducted to identify potential impacts to vulnerable groups.
- The main findings of Social Impact Assessments will be made available to local stakeholders in the national and local language(s).

#### **10.2.4 Implementation and Acting Upon Findings**

- Sites will establish a Social Management Plan to maximize positive impacts and to minimize potential negative impacts. The Social Management Plan will integrate prevention and mitigation actions to be included into site designs, plans and processes in order to minimize negative impacts.
- Site senior Management shall review and approve the Social Management Plan.
- Sites will ensure sufficient resources and training to implement the Social Management Plan.
- Sites will coordinate with suppliers and third parties and will use leverage to address impacts.

#### **10.2.5 Monitoring and Communication**

- Sites will annually review the effectiveness of Social Management Plans, processes and controls, including input from affected stakeholders, and adjust plans and processes accordingly.
- Site senior management will approve the annual review of the Social Management Plan.
- Sites will report quarterly to Corporate and Corporate will report to the Health, Safety, Environment, Social and Security (HSESS) Board Committee on the management of significant social impacts.
- Sites will communicate the nature and management of social impacts internally and externally.

### **10.3 REFERENCE MATERIAL**

#### **10.3.1 Guidelines and Tools**

[Performance Standard 1](#) by International Finance Corporation (IFC); available in English, Spanish, French, Portuguese, Turkish, Russian, Chinese and Arabic

[Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights](#) (UNGPs) by United Nations (UN); available in English, French, Spanish and others.

### **10.4 TERMS AND DEFINITIONS**

**Closure:** Refers to the period of time and associated actions that occur at a site when the site activities (e.g. exploration or ore-extraction activities) are diminishing or have ceased, and final decommissioning and site reclamation is being completed.

**Site:** For the purposes of this Standard, sites include B2Gold offices, operating mines, satellite mines (either independently or included within an operating mine's reporting), construction sites, and legacy sites; and, does not include exploration (unless otherwise expressed), joint-venture sites (non-management roles), relinquished sites, non-active sites, and sites under care and maintenance.

**Stakeholder:** Any individual or group that is impacted by or has an interest in B2Gold and its activities. Stakeholders may include locally affected communities or individuals and their formal and informal



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representatives, employees and contractors, national or local government authorities, politicians, religious leaders, civil society organizations and groups with special interests, the academic community, or other businesses or groups.

**Vulnerable persons:** people who by virtue of gender, ethnicity, age, physical or mental disability, economic disadvantage or social status may be more negatively impacted than others, and who may not be as able to take advantage of project benefits.

## 10.5 DOCUMENT CONTROL

Revision	Approved	Date	Description
Final	Ken Jones	29 November 2020	Original 2020 issue of the B2Gold Social Performance Standards