

**LIFE-BECKON**

*Boosting Energy Communities massive deployment by equipping local authorities with comprehensive technical assistance cookboOk, integrated services and capacity building*



Grant Agreement: 101076765

# Environmental and social action plan (ESAP)

**Author: Asier Larretxea Barja (WEG)**

The Environmental and Social Action Plan (ESAP) is a tool proposed to ensure that any outstanding environmental and social issues during the implementation of an energy community project is pre-assessed and monitored in a timely and appropriate manner, as well as to ensure continued compliance with environmental and social requirements and the requirements of national law

**DISCLAIMER**

Co-funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or CINEA. Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them.



## 1. Environmental and social action plan (ESAP)

The Environmental and Social Action Plan (ESAP) is a tool proposed to ensure that any outstanding environmental and social issues during the implementation of an energy community project is pre-assessed and monitored in a timely and appropriate manner, as well as to ensure continued compliance with environmental and social requirements and the requirements of national law.

The approach proposed is based on European Bank for Reconstruction and Development relative guidelines and template (<https://www.ebrd.com/documents/environment/47336-esap.pdf> )

The environmental and social action plan includes measures that the energy community is currently implementing or plans to implement to reduce the environmental, occupational, health and safety impacts that occur during the construction, operation, and decommissioning phases.

The Environmental and Social Action Plan addresses the following issues:

- the mechanisms of environmental and social management of the energy community, which are used to identify environmental and social risks, impacts and opportunities associated with its activities and financed operations, in particular, as well as how to manage these risks and impacts,
- working conditions and attitudes towards people in the working environment on the basis of their rights to volunteer work, decent and fair treatment, non-discrimination, equal opportunities, minimum working age, freedom of association and the right to bargain collectively, occupational health and safety workplace,
- measures taken to prevent and reduce pollution and how efficiently resources are used,
- potential problems related to the energy community and its activities, functioning, in particular, affecting local communities, their health and safety,
- issues related to land acquisition, forced relocation and economic relocation,
- impacts on biodiversity, ecosystem services and sustainable use of living natural resources and measures to manage and mitigate these impacts,
- protection of any cultural heritage that may be affected by the activities and / or activities of the energy community.

The ESAP is developed in tabular form (sample table 1) and it includes the following key elements:

- Action / Problem,
- Required reason / objective,
- Deadline / deadline for completion,
- Responsible person / unit to perform the task,
- Cost / financing,
- Other information or comments.

**Table 1. Template for developing an ESAP**

No	Action	Responsibility for environment risks/benefits	Legislative requirements / Best practices	Investment needs/ Resources / Responsible	Deadline for implementation	Objectives and criteria for evaluating successful implementation	Status
<b>1. Management system in the field of ecology and labour protection</b>							
<b>2. Environmental protection.</b>							
<b>3. Labour protection, and security</b>							
<b>4. Social issues (health, safety, and security of local communities).</b>							