Safeguards - environmental and social standards for projects

Implementing organisations are expected to apply the ZUG Safeguards, which are based on the Performance Standards on Environmental and Social Sustainability of the International Financial Corporation (IFC). The systematic consideration of safeguards is a precaution taken to avoid potential negative impacts of projects on people or the environment. This enhances the overall quality of project planning and implementation. Please note that Performance Standard 1 does not apply to projects.

For the project outline, applicants are expected to rate the risk of the project (high, medium, low, does not apply) based on a screening of all Performance Standards and to describe measures to avoid and mitigate the risks. The risk category will not have an impact on the project selection process. However, in case of potential risky activities, relevant instruments for risk mitigation, monitoring and management have to be included in the project concept.

If the risk categorization changes during project implementation, this has to be communicated to the ZUG immediately.