

Noblesfontein Wind Farm was funded by a member of the World Bank. As such, the project has to meet all the principles established on a risk management framework called [Equator Principles \(EP\)](#)

The Equator Principles apply globally to all industry sectors and to four financial products:

1. Project Finance Advisory Services,
2. Project Finance,
3. Project-Related Corporate Loans, and
4. Bridge Loans.

The relevant thresholds and criteria for application are described in detail in the Scope section of the Equator Principles.

Equator Principles Financial Institutions (EPFIs) commit to implementing the EP in their internal environmental and social policies, procedures and standards for financing projects. They will not provide project finance or project-related corporate loans to projects where the client will not, or is unable to, comply with the Equator Principles. While the Equator Principles are not intended to be applied retroactively, EPFIs will apply them to the expansion or upgrade of an existing project where changes in scale or scope may create significant environmental and social risks and impacts, or significantly change the nature or degree of an existing impact.

The Equator Principles have greatly increased the attention and focus on social/community standards and responsibility, including robust standards for indigenous peoples, labour standards, and consultation with locally affected communities within the Project Finance market. They have also promoted convergence around common environmental and social standards. Multilateral development banks, including the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, and export credit agencies through the OECD Common Approaches are increasingly drawing on the same standards as the Equator Principles.

The Equator Principles have also helped spur the development of other responsible environmental and social management practices in the financial sector and banking industry (for example, Carbon Principles in the US, Climate Principles worldwide) and have provided a platform for engagement with a broad range of interested stakeholders, including non-governmental organisations (NGOs), clients and industry bodies.