

# NATIONAL DISABILITY & DEVELOPMENT FORUM (NDF) SHAHEED BENAZIR ABAD



## ENVIRONMENTAL SAFEGUARD POLICY

*ALL POLICIES HAVE BEEN APPROVED IN THE GENERAL BI-ANNUAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
MEETING HELD AT NDF OFFICE, NAWABSHAH ON DATED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2017*



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### **Vision**

To promote a society in which everybody including poor, marginalized and disadvantaged communities have equal opportunities and facilities and work to their potential and be self-reliant with justice, equity and pride.

### **Mission**

Empowerment of people with disabilities through awareness, access to health, education, livelihood & recreational services

Enhancing the life standard in qualitative and quantitative terms so as to integrate the marginalized and vulnerable sections and help them to participate in the mainstream society.

### **Introduction**

National Disability & Development Forum (NDF) was established in 2002 by group of young persons with disabilities to advocate the rights, safe & dignified access of persons with disabilities (including women, men, children, young & ageing people) towards the basic human needs i.e. Food, Shelter, Health, Environment, Education & Empowerment, NDF adhering twin track approach, decided its operations in two major components.

- **Service Delivery**
- **Advocacy**

*Service delivery* refers to inclusion of people with disabilities in mainstream activities.

*Advocacy* refers to advocate the rights of people with disabilities at District, National and international level.



### OUR COMMITMENT FOR SAFGUARDING ENVIRONMENT

#### 1. NDF's Environmental Policy:

The NDF's Environment Policy provides an overarching framework for addressing the environmental issues facing- Pakistan, particularly pollution of fresh water bodies and coastal waters, air pollution, deforestation, loss of biodiversity, desertification, natural disasters and climate change. It also gives directions for addressing the cross sectoral issues as well as the underlying causes of environmental degradation and meeting international obligations.

NDF strongly believes on no harm policy

#### I. Goal:

The NDF's Environment Policy aims to protect, conserve and restore Pakistan's environment in order to improve the quality of life of the citizens through sustainable development.

#### II. Objectives

The prime objectives of the NDF's Policy are:

- (a) Conservation, restoration and efficient management of environmental resources.
- (b) Creation of a demand for environment through mass awareness and community mobilization.

#### Sectorial Guideline:

- To raise awareness in order to ensure sustainable management of natural forests in Pakistan.
- To raise awareness for reducing greenhouse gases in order to effectively address challenges posed by climate change and to protect the ozone layer.
- NDF promotes the use of alternate and renewable energy sources i.e Solar and Wind power etc.
- NDF will ensure that all environment related policies, projects and programs are gender-sensitive and promote empowerment of women and transgender.
- No harm or disturbance will be made to natural resources. Trees, Water bodies etc



## NDF ENVIRONMENTAL SAFEGUARD POLICY

2. NDF carries out a detailed screening before execution of any intervention and only those activities are considered where there exist a minimum or Low risk.

### Screening criteria

Will the activities...	YES	NO
<b>Natural Resources</b>		
Accelerate erosion by water or wind?		
Reduce soil fertility and/or permeability?		
Alter existing stream flow, reduce seasonal availability of water resources?		
Potentially contaminate surface water and groundwater supplies?		
Involve the extraction of renewable natural resources?		
Lead to unsustainable use of renewable natural resources such as forest products?		
Involve the extraction of non-renewable natural resources?		
Restrict customary access to natural resources?		
Reduce local air quality through generating dust, burning of wastes or using fossil fuels and other materials in improperly ventilated areas?		
Affect dry-season grazing areas and/or lead to restricted access to a common resource?		
Lead to unsustainable or unnecessarily high water extraction and/or wasteful use?		
<b>Ecosystems and Biodiversity</b>		
Drain wetlands, or be sited on floodplains?		
Harvest wetland plant materials or utilize sediments of bodies of water?		
Lead to the clearing of forestlands for agriculture, the over-harvesting of valuable forest species?		
Promote in-forest bee keeping?		
Lead to increased hunting, or the collection of animals or plant materials?		
Increase the risks to endangered or threatened species?		
Introduce new exotic species of plants or animals to the area?		
Lead to road construction or rehabilitation, or otherwise facilitate access to fragile areas (natural woodlands, wetlands, erosion-prone areas)?		
Cause disruption of wildlife migratory routes?		
<b>Agricultural and Forestry Production</b>		
Have an impact on existing or traditional agricultural production systems by reducing seed availability or reallocating land for other purposes?		
Lead to forest plantation harvesting without replanting, the burning of pastureland, or a reduction in fallow periods?		
Affect existing food storage capacities by reducing food inventories or encouraging the incidence of pests?		
Affect domestic livestock by reducing grazing areas, or creating conditions where livestock disease problems could be exacerbated?		
Involve the use of insecticides, herbicides and/or other pesticides?		
<b>Community and Social Issues</b>		
Have a negative impact on potable water supplies?		
Encourage domestic animal migration through natural areas?		
Change the existing land tenure system?		
Have a negative impact on culturally important sites in the community?		



## **NDF ENVIRONMENTAL SAFEGUARD POLICY**

Increase in-migration to the area?		
Create conditions that lead to a reduction in community health standards?		
Lead to the generation of non-biodegradable waste?		
Involve the relocation of the local community?		
Potentially cause or aggravate land-use conflicts?		

This screening criteria provides additional questions to ascertain whether these proposed activities should be categorized as “very low risk:”

- If the answers to ALL the questions that follow are “NO,” then the proposed natural resource-based activity is considered “very low risk.”
- If the answer to ANY question is “YES,” the activity CANNOT be considered “very low risk.”