

ANGLO**GOLD**ASHANTI

MANAGEMENT STANDARD		
BIODIVERSITY		
POLICY CUSTODIAN	Corporate Environment Department	
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1 INTRODUCTION

“Biological diversity” (biodiversity) “means the variability among living organisms from all sources including, inter alia, terrestrial, marine and other aquatic ecosystems and the ecological complexes of which they are part; this includes diversity within species, between species and of ecosystems”¹.

Underpinning this standard are two of AngloGold Ashanti’s values, which state that:

- The communities and societies in which we operate will be better off for AngloGold Ashanti having been there.
- We respect the environment.

The company’s integrated environment and community policy recognises that we will:

- comply with all applicable laws, regulations and requirements.
- manage efficiently and safely the resources under our stewardship and respect the values, traditions, and cultures of the local and indigenous communities in which we operate;
- contribute to biodiversity protection in our areas of operation.

Additionally, through membership of the International Council on Mining and Metals AngloGold Ashanti (AGA) is committed to certain standards in regard to biodiversity management.

This standard will be accompanied by a guideline that will provide practical guidance on how to implement the standard.

2 OBJECTIVE

The objective of this standard is to ensure that AngloGold Ashanti’s activities from exploration to closure consider and incorporate biodiversity protection measures into site environmental management systems in line with host country requirements and the company’s values, business principles, policies, standards and commitments.

3 ACCOUNTABILITY AND RESPONSIBILITY

Accountability for implementing this standard lies with the manager in control of the site or activity. The manager in control of the site is also accountable for communicating the standard to employees and contractors whose roles impact biodiversity. Implementation work can be delegated to designated person(s) with appropriate authorities provided that they understand their role(s) and responsibilities in achieving the standard objective.

4 SCOPE

- 5.1 The requirements of this management standard apply to all AGA managed land.
- 5.2 Onsite contractors and subcontractors involved in activities that could affect biodiversity are required to abide with the site’s Biodiversity Action Plan.
- 5.3 In the case of a joint venture where AGA is the non-managing partner and an equivalent standard is not in place, the managing entity must be encouraged to apply this standard.

¹ Convention on Biological Diversity, Article 2.



5 REQUIREMENTS

5.1 Legal and Other Requirements

- 5.1.1 AGA sites must comply with all applicable laws, regulations and any other obligations in regard to biodiversity.
- 5.1.2 Unless explicitly permitted in terms of the World Heritage site's establishment, no mining or exploration activity may take place in a World Heritage site.
- 5.1.3 Exploration and mining activities must be stopped if they negatively impact the outstanding universal value of an adjacent World Heritage site.
- 5.1.4 No exploration or mining activities may be undertaken if, after a risk assessment (see section 5.2.1), they would likely result in a net reduction in the global or national/regional population over time of a Critically Endangered or Endangered species on the IUCN Red List².

5.2 Baseline, Risk and Impact Assessment

- 5.2.1 A baseline biodiversity study and risk assessment must be performed at all sites and must assess the likelihood of exploration and mining activities impacting on biodiversity, including direct and indirect impacts. The level of detail must reflect the level and nature of impacts and legal and other obligations. Appropriate controls to mitigate identified risks must be defined in a Biodiversity Action Plan.
- 5.2.2 Prior to commencing exploration on a new project, a desktop biodiversity study of the project's area of influence must be carried out to identify any Critically Endangered or Endangered species on the IUCN Red List and other species or ecological communities protected under local legislation that may be impacted by exploration activities. Field-based assessments must be conducted prior to on-ground exploration if there is a risk of impact on environmentally sensitive areas, threatened species or endangered ecological communities or if required by law or other obligations.
- 5.2.3 All operations should share baseline biodiversity information with appropriate government agencies, national and/or international biodiversity research units or databases.

5.3 Integrated Biodiversity Management

- 5.3.1 The Biodiversity Action Plan must be incorporated as appropriate into the site's environmental management system (EMS) and/or environmental procedures.
- 5.3.2 The IUCN Red List must be reviewed at least annually to check the conservation status of species found on the site and the Biodiversity Action Plan must be revised if necessary.
- 5.3.3 In areas of critical habitat, there must be no material measurable adverse impacts on the biodiversity values for which the habitat was designated or on the ecological processes supporting those values.
- 5.3.4 At new operations, mitigation measures must be designed to achieve no net loss of biodiversity and in areas of critical habitat to achieve net gain of the values for which the habitat was designated.
- 5.3.5 Closure planning must meet the requirements of the AngloGold Ashanti Closure Planning Management Standard (STD 06). Closure plans must be designed to, as far as is reasonably practicable, restore the native and/or pre-mining ecosystems and establish sustainable ecosystems that are compatible with

² See <http://www.iucnredlist.org/>.



neighbouring ecosystems, where appropriate. Restoration and rehabilitation strategies must take into account biodiversity risks and ecosystem services.

5.3.6 Management measures must be adopted to prevent the establishment of invasive or alien species or pathogens that could impact the local biodiversity. The use of alien species may be considered only after consultation with government and local stakeholders.

5.3.7 The site should, as appropriate, promote local understanding of biodiversity conservation.

5.4 Review

Biodiversity management measures must be reviewed and updated when significant changes are made to the operation or key information becomes available.

6 GLOSSARY

5.1. 'Project' refers to an exploration project or a new mine expansion.

5.2. 'Operation' refers to a producing mine.

5.3. A 'new operation' is one that has not yet commenced production.

5.4. 'Site' is used when referring collectively to operations and projects.

5.5. 'Outstanding universal value'³ means cultural and/or natural significance which is so exceptional as to transcend national boundaries and to be of common importance for present and future generations of all humanity. The World Heritage Committee considers a property as having outstanding universal value if it meets the requirements set out in section II.D of the Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention (2013).

5.6. 'Critical habitats'⁴ are areas with high biodiversity value, including: (i) habitat of significant importance to Critically Endangered or Endangered species², endemic or restricted-range species, or globally significant concentrations of migratory or congregatory species; (ii) highly threatened or unique ecosystems; (iii) associated with key evolutionary processes; or (iv) areas so designated by an appropriate government agency.

5.7. 'Ecosystem services'⁵ are services that people obtain from the environment. They are the transformation of natural assets (soil, plants and animals, air and water) into things that we value. They can be viewed as **provisioning**, such as food and water; **regulating**, for example, flood and disease control; **cultural**, such as spiritual, recreational, and cultural benefits; or **supporting**, like nutrient cycling that maintain the conditions for life on Earth.

³ 'Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention', WHC.13/01, UNESCO (2013), para 49, p14.

⁴ International Finance Corporation Performance Standard 6 (2012), p4.

⁵ 'Biodiversity glossary', IUCN, <http://www.iucn.org/what/biodiversity/about/>.