

Corporate Social Responsibility Policy



Policy

DATE
OCTOBER 2018

DATE OF REVISION
JUNE 2020

OBJECTIVE

EKF wants to contribute to environmental and social sustainability and believes that we have an ethical and corporate responsibility for ensuring the greatest possible level of sustainability in the business transactions that we participate in. Based on international standards in this area we set high standards for customers, our stakeholders, suppliers and ourselves. Based on our experience with risk management and corporate social responsibility we work proactively with our customers and other stakeholders to establish common values. Furthermore, in international for a, we work for high common CSR standards for Danish and international financial institutions, thus contributing to fair and equal competition to the benefit of our customers.

BACKGROUND

Under the Act on EKF Denmark's Export Credit Agency, our CSR efforts are based on international standards to ensure that EKF works for sustainability in Danish export.

SCOPE

EKF's CSR policy applies to all of EKF. All internal policies, guidelines and procedures regarding human rights, the environment, anti-corruption and tax planning must be outlined in accordance with this CSR policy.

DEFINITIONS

CSR:

CSR refers to the actions companies take to incorporate human rights, environmental and anti-corruption concerns into their business operations and interactions with stakeholders.

International standards:

OECD guidelines and principles relevant to CSR, in particular OECD Multinational Enterprise Guidelines and OECD 'Common Approaches'.

- UN guidelines and principles, in particular the principles of the UN Global Compact in the area of human rights, labour rights, the environment and anti-corruption as well as the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (human rights defined as in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. Together they are called the International Bill of Human Rights).

Equator Principles

Regulation and principles outlined by the Danish government, the EU and the OECD

IFC Performance Standards for Environmental and Social Sustainability (Performance Standards).

Description

Establishing common values

EKF's own CSR efforts as well as our customers' efforts in this area must add value to EKF, our customers as well as society. Based on EKF's experience in assessment and handling of CSR issues in business transactions EKF cooperates with our customers proactively to ensure that EKF's customers and other stakeholders have access to knowledge of what is required to secure international financing. In this way, EKF will promote the prevention of potential CSR risks threatening the customer's business transaction. This way, among others, EKF's business transactions help to create value for companies, employees and the local community.

Risk-based approach to assessment and handling of environmental and social issues

CSR is an integral part of EKF's role as an export credit agency. Through a risk-based approach to due diligence of environmental and social issues EKF handles possible substantial impacts early in the life cycle of the transactions. In that connection, EKF wants to ensure the best possible cooperation with our customers and other stakeholders in our transactions on handling environmental and social issues.

Risk management and responsibility

Environmental and social issues are an integral part of EKF's risk assessment of business transactions. All transactions are screened systematically in order to assess whether the transaction may have a negative impact on the environment, human rights and social issues. EKF benchmarks our business transactions against international standards and follows up on any relevant transactions.

EKF is a financial company, and our role is to issue guarantees and loans. In this role, we will seek to exercise our ability to influence as early as possible, i.e. before issuance and thereby contribute to a responsible handling of environmental and social issues related to transactions.

EKF finds it important that the business transactions in which we participate should be both legal and standard from a fiscal point of view. EKF does not participate in business transactions that are evident of aggressive tax planning. This is assessed on a case-by-case basis. Aggressive tax planning is characterised by business transactions with a lack of real content engineered with a primary purpose of achieving fiscal benefits.

As a knowledge company, EKF's employees are crucial, and we give high priority to job satisfaction, development and a satisfactory work-life balance.

Openness and cooperation

We are open and accommodating, offering information about our CSR activities while protecting the confidentiality of our customers. We take part in proactive dialogues with our stakeholders about CSR. Through the stakeholder dialogue, EKF wants to create transparency about EKF's CSR efforts and their progress in individual transactions. Through the business transactions that we are party to, we cooperate with our customers on solving the CSR issues related to their projects. We acquaint ourselves with our customers' business areas to ensure an optimal handling of CSR issues in specific transactions. In this way, our customers are well equipped for their dialogues with their customers.

Application of CSR principles

EKF works for a uniform and ambitious application of CSR principles. The aim is to prevent competitive distortion by ensuring that companies are met with the same high CSR standards from Danish and international financial institutions.

REPORTING AND DOCUMENTATION

EKF reports to the UN Global Compact, the OECD and the Equator Principles annually regarding EKF's CSR activities. Furthermore, EKF reports on CSR in accordance with The Danish Presentation of Accounts Act, § 99.a and 99.b. The report is subject to approval by EKF's Board of Directors.

REFERENCES

External commitments regarding CSR:

Act on EKF Denmark's Export Credit Agency

The Government's Action Plan for Corporate Social Responsibility

The Danish Presentation of Accounts Act

Act on Measures to Prevent Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing No 1022 of 13 August 2013

Notice of written internal rules under the Money Laundering Act

UN Global Compact

UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights

OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises

OECD Recommendation of the Council of the Supported Export Credits and Environmental and Social Due Diligence (Common Approaches)

OECD Convention on Combating Bribery of Foreign Public Officials in International Business Transactions

OECD Principles and Guidelines to Promote Sustainable Lending Practices in the Provision of Official Export Credits to Low income Countries

External commitments regarding CSR voluntarily adopted by EKF:

Berne Union Guiding Principles

Equator Principles