Vedanta Resources Plc

Sustainability Governance System

Technical Standard
Biodiversity Management

Technical Standard– Biodiversity Management

Standard Title:	**Biodiversity Management**	**Date of Revision**	03/07/2014
Standard:	VED/CORP/SUST/TS 7	**Revision:**	v.3

Document Issue and Revision History		
DATE	**REVISION NUMBER**	**CHANGE SUMMARY**
30/09/2011	1	Initial issue.
17/12/2012	2	Revised version issued.
03/07/2014	3	Revised version issued.

Authorised by:	Roma Balwani
Signature	
Position:	Head - Sustainable Development and Communication

Confidentiality

This document and its contents are the copyright property of Vedanta Resources Plc. The release of this document to any third party outside of Vedanta is strictly prohibited without prior consent.

Contents Page

Technical Standard– Biodiversity Management

1. INTRODUCTION

Protecting and enhancing biodiversity is an integral part of Vedanta's commitment to sustainable development. In recognition of this commitment and in accordance with our biodiversity policy this Standard aims to facilitate the integration of biodiversity and ecosystem service conservation into decision making processes for new and existing projectsand/or operations and to help ensure that all necessary measures are taken to avoid, minimize and in some cases compensate for the impacts of our projects. The assessment and management of biodiversity and ecosystem service impacts shall be considered as part of the overarching environmental and social impact assessment and therefore this document should be read in conjunction with the *Conducting ESIAs to International StandardsTechnical Standard*.

2. SCOPE

This Technical Standard is mandatory and applies to all Vedanta subsidiaries, operations and managed sites, including new acquisitions, corporate offices and research facilities and to all new and existing employees and contractors working on Vedanta projects.This Standard is applicable to the entire operationlifecycle (including exploration and planning, evaluation, operation and closure).This Technical Standard should be considered with reference to the*Vedanta Biodiversity Management Policy*.

3. DEFINITIONS

Definitions of key terms used in this document are shown in the following table.

Term	Definition
Affected Communities	Local communities directly affected by the new or existing project.
Alien (Non-Native) Species	An alien or non-native plant or animal species is one that is introduced beyond its original range of distribution.
Baseline Biodiversity Survey	A survey of the habitats and species in the project area to determine the biodiversity baseline and may include identification of Legally Protected Areas and Internationally Recognised Areas, critical and endangered habitats, natural and disturbed habitats, and alien (non-native) species of flora and fauna and shall address biodiversity attributes of all forms (e.g. water, land, flora, fauna, etc.).
Biodiversity	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 (*cf*. United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity).
Biodiversity Management Plan (BMP)	A document that sets out the organisational arrangements to eliminate, minimize, mitigate and manage impact to all biodiversity attributes associated with an operation or new project.The plan shall

Term	Definition
	be commensurate with the level of risk identified.
Critical Habitat	Critical habitats are areas with high biodiversity value, including (i) habitat of significant importance to Critically Endangered and/or Endangered species; (ii) habitat of significant importance to endemic and/or restricted-range species; (iii) habitat of significant importance to globally significant concentrations of migratory species and/or congregatory species; (iv) regionally significant and/or highly threatened or unique ecosystems; and/or (v) areas which are associated with key evolutionary processes(IFC Performance Standard Guidance Note 6).
Critically Endangered and Endangered species	Species listed on the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List of Threatened Species.
Cumulative Impacts	Based on the IFC description, cumulative impacts are those that result from the incremental impact of the project when added to other existing, planned and reasonably predictable future projects and developments.
Direct Impacts	Based on the IFC description, direct impacts are impacts that result directly from project activities, such as habitat loss and disturbance, emissions and effluents, alterations of hydrology and land forms, loss of ecosystem services or access to such services, etc.
Ecosystem Services	The benefits that people, including businesses, derive from ecosystems. Ecosystem services are organized into four types of services: (i) provisioning services, which are the products people obtain from ecosystems; (ii) regulating services, which are the benefits people obtain from the regulation of ecosystem processes; (iii) cultural services, which are the nonmaterial benefits people obtain from ecosystems; and (iv) supporting services, which are the natural processes that maintain the other services (IFC Performance Standard Guidance Note 6).
ESIA (Environmental and Social Impact Assessment)	A formalised process designed to identify and assess environmental and social impacts associated with a project, along with the mitigation measures and management arrangements for ensuring such measures are implemented.
ICMM (International Council on Mining and Metals)	The International Council on Mining and Metals (ICMM) was established in 2001 and seeks to drive performance improvement through its members which comprise 20 mining and metals companies as well as 30 national and regional mining associations and global commodity associations.
IFC (International	Member of the World Bank that finances and provides advice to

Term	Definition
Finance Corporation)	private sector ventures and projects in developing countries.
Indirect Impacts	Based on the IFC description, indirect impacts are impacts that result indirectly from project activities, such as accidental introductions of alien invasive species, project-induced access by third parties, in-migration and associated impacts on resource use.
Internationally Recognised Area	Exclusively defined as UNESCO Natural World Heritage Sites, UNESCO Man and the Biosphere Reserves, Key Biodiversity Areas, and wetlands designated under the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance (the Ramsar Convention)(IFC Performance Standard Guidance Note 6).
IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature)	A democratic membership union with more than 1,000 government and NGO member organizations, and almost 11,000 volunteer scientists in more than 160 countries which supports scientific research, manages field projects all over the world and brings governments, non-government organizations, United Nations agencies, companies and local communities together to develop and implement policy, laws and best practice.
'Like for Like or Better' Principle	In relation to biodiversity offsets, the adoption of this principle indicates that the offset must be designed to conserve the same biodiversity values that are being impacted by the project (an "in-kind" offset) or, that where the biodiversity to be impacted by the project may be neither a national nor a local priority, and there are other biodiversity attributes of higher priority for conservation or need of protection, an "out-of-kind" offset that involves "trading up" may be designed (IFC Performance Standard Guidance Note 6).
Legally Protected Area	A clearly defined geographical space, recognized, dedicated and managed, through legal or other effective means, to achieve the long-term conservation of nature with associated ecosystem services and cultural values (IUCN definition).
Mitigation Hierarchy	The prioritised list of mitigation measures that shall be used to determine the most appropriate measures for mitigating impact on biodiversity attributes. The hierarchy starts with elimination of impact, followed by use of engineering controls to reduce at source, impact reduction measures, offsetting and restoration of damage caused by the project.
Modified Habitat	Areas that may contain a large proportion of plant and/or animal species of non-native origin, and/or where human activity has substantially modified an area's primary ecological functions and species compositions. Modified habitats may include areas managed for agriculture, forest plantations, reclaimedcoastal zones, and reclaimed wetlands(IFC Performance Standard Guidance Note 6).

Term	Definition
Natural Habitat	Areas composed of viable assemblages of plant and/or animal species of largely native origin, and/or where human activity has not essentially modified an area's primary ecological functions and species compositions(IFC Performance Standard Guidance Note 6).
Offset	Measurable conservation outcomes resulting from actions designed to compensate for significant adverse biodiversity impacts arising from project development and persisting after appropriate avoidance, minimization and restoration measures have been taken(IFC Performance Standard Guidance Note 6).
Operation(s)	A location or activity that is operated by a Vedanta Company and is part of the Vedanta Group. Locations could include mines, refineries, ports or transportation activities, wind farms, oil and gas development sites, offices including corporate head offices and research and development facilities.
Project	Any planned or proposed change to either an existing site or to a Greenfield, undeveloped site which may be small, medium or large in scale – for example ranging from a building extension on an existing site, to construction of a facility comprising office buildings, to development of a new mine.
Residual Impacts	Residual impacts are significant project-related biodiversity and ecosystem services impacts that remain after on-site mitigation measures have been implemented.
Social and Environmental Management System (SEMS)	A SEMS defines the Company's organizational structure, responsibilities, practices and resources for managing and monitoring its activities and performance on social and environmental issues.
Vedanta Company	A subsidiary of Vedanta Group either fully or majority owned that has its own management structure (e.g. Hindustan Zinc Limited, Vedanta Aluminium Limited, Sterlite Industries limited, etc.).

4. PROGRAMME REQUIREMENTS

All Vedanta subsidiary companies and operations are required to follow the requirements listed below with regards to the mechanisms for identifying, evaluating, preserving, protecting and managing biodiversity that may be impacted by an existing or proposed Vedanta operation, facility or project.

4.1. General Requirements

a) Arrangements shall be created, implemented and maintained so that the requirements of applicable local, regional, national legislation are complied with.

b) Arrangements shall also be implemented to ensure conformance to the requirements of the *IFC Performance Standards.*

c) The key IFCprovisions are summarised as follows*:*

- *Performance Standard 1 – Assessment and Management of Social and Environmental Risks and Impacts* –The objectives of this standard are to identify and assess social and environment impacts, both adverse andbeneficial, in the project's area of influence; to avoid, or where avoidance is not possible, minimize, mitigate, or compensate for adverse impacts on workers, affected communities, and the environment; to ensure that affected communities are appropriately engaged on issues that could potentially affect them and to promote improved social and environment performance through the effective use of management systems. The key considerations in so far as they relate to this Technical Standard are: the need to undertake a risk and impact assessment; the need for a management programme of mitigation and performance improvement measures; community engagement; monitoring and reporting, and
- *Performance Standard 6 – Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Natural Resource Management* – The objectives of this standard are to protect and conserve biodiversity and to promote sustainable management and use of natural resources through the adoption of practices that integrate conservation needs and development priorities. The key considerations in so far as they relate to this Technical Standard are: biodiversity impact assessment; impact management / mitigation in areas of modified, natural and critical habitats; protection, promotion and enhancement of Legally Protected and Internationally Recognised Areas; and control against the introduction of invasive alien (non-native) species.

4.2. Existing Operations

This section is relevant to all of Vedanta's existing operationsincluding but not limited to offices, manufacturing sites, distribution infrastructure, mines, etc.

4.2.1. Biodiversity Risk Screening Assessment

a) All Vedanta Companies shall conduct a basic screening assessment to identify known or suspected sensitive biodiversity areas and ecosystem services within each owned/managed operation and facility, as well as identify areas outside the footprint that may be impacted as a result of operations.

b) This screening assessment shall be achieved using for example the IBAT (or other internationally recognised proprietary) database as well as by referring to other available sources of information as appropriate such as government management strategies or action plans, media and the internet to determine the need and priority to further examine biodiversity and ecosystem services issues on the basis of their value. Any Legally Protected Areas, Internationally Recognised Areas, Globally Important Sites for Biodiversity shall be identified during the screening assessment and managed accordingly (see Sections 4.2.2 and 4.2.3 below).

The distance criteria used in the screening assessment (using IBAT or another internationally recognised tool) should reflect the true area of influence of an active mine / operation or a proposed project. The screening tool should be able to identify a potential 'critical habitat' as required by IFC Performance Standard 6.

c) Where operations are likely to adversely impact ecosystem services, a review of priority ecosystem services shall be undertaken. These include 1) ecosystem services most likely to be impacted by 0perations, resulting in adverse impacts to Affected Communities, and 2) ecosystem services on which operations depend.

Priority ecosystem services shall be identified through desk-based research and consultation with relevant stakeholders that may include local communities, NGOs, and government bodies, as well as sponsors or managers of local areas designated to be of biodiversity and ecosystem services importance. An ecosystem dependency and impact assessment may be conducted in order to identify critical ecosystem services in the area.

d) The outcome of this exercise shall be a prioritised list of all sites on the basis of risk. Sites situated in an area of high biodiversity value and/or sites that support vulnerable ecosystem services, and sites that are located outside an area of high biodiversity value but which have the potential to impact such an area will be classified as high risk. Medium risk sites shall be deemed to be sites that have limited potential to adversely impact biodiversity or ecosystem services due to either the nature of the existing biodiversity or ecosystem services, or due to their distance from such areas. All other sites will be deemed to be low risk sites.

With regards to identification of potential a critical habitat, the screening exercise should be considered only as a preliminary screening. Further interpretation, consultation with experts and detailed research is required with regards to any National / International protected or recognised areas, in order to fully determine whether a habitat is indeed 'critical'.

e) On the basis of the assigned priority rating of each site a Biodiversity Management Plan (BMP) shall be prepared and implemented to manage and mitigate impacts on biodiversity attributes.

f) Reference shall be made to the Biodiversity Screening Assessment Guidance for further guidance on the methodology.

4.2.2. Biodiversity Management Plan

a) All operationsshall develop, implement, and maintain aBiodiversity Management Plan (BMP) to eliminate, minimize, mitigate and manage impact to all biodiversity attributes. Risk management measures outlined in the BMP shall be commensurate with the level of risk identified during the Biodiversity Risk Screening Assessment.

b) For operations and facilities that have been identified as high risk, the collection of further information shall be undertaken in order to inform the development of the BMP.

For critical habitat determination, a more robust approach for new projects with a clearly documented output is to be adopted (due to the increasing reluctance amongst Lenders to invest in any projects which will seriously degrade such habitats and/or result in a net loss of critically endangered or endangered species).

c) For high risk operations and facilities, the BMP shall include provision for the followingissues.For medium and low risk facilities the following issues may be included as appropriate on the basis of an assessment of local needs and requirements.

- Contribution to, and conformance with, any national and international biodiversity strategies and action plans relating to the biodiversity attribute(s) of legally protected or internationally recognised area(s) identified in the risk screening exercise and the attribute(s) outside these areas that may also be vulnerable to impact;
- Development of sustainable land management practices in partnership with local communities;
- Integration of biodiversity conservation with business needs through the project lifecycle, including decommissioning, closure and rehabilitation;
- Operational activities and arrangements for preventing the discharge of harmful substances and introduction of invasive species into the environment;
- Habitat protection and restoration,land disturbance and rehabilitation;
- Planning and preparation for potential climate change impacts that could disrupt or change the availability of ecosystem services utilised by the site;
- Changes in biodiversity attributes arising from project and non-project factors;
- Arrangements for adapting management and mitigation responses as necessary to accommodate changes in biodiversity attributes;
- Societal values and conflicting uses in the context of ecosystem services, as determined through stakeholder consultation and an assessment of ecosystem impacts and dependencies;
- Affected communities' ownership and access rights to ecosystem services,as determined through stakeholder consultation and an assessment of ecosystem impacts and dependencies;
- Impacts on landscape / ecological processes as a result of site operations and activities;
- Transboundary impacts, and
- Cumulative effects.

d) The BMP shall detail the arrangements for the periodic internal and external reporting (as required) of the impact management activities.

e) The BMP shall detail arrangements in place to ensure that primary suppliers of commodities and products are evaluated such that supply chain risk in relation to habitat destruction and biodiversity loss is minimised (See also Vedanta Technical Standard TS06 on *Supplier and Contractor Management*).

f) The BMP shall be integrated into an Environmentaland SocialManagement Plan where appropriate (See also the Vedanta Technical Standard TS08 on *Conducting ESIA's to International Standards*).

4.2.3. Legal and Other Requirements

a) All Vedanta Companies shall identify all relevant local, regional and national legislative requirements on land management and biodiversity conservation that are relevant to each of its owned and/or managed operations and facilities.

b) Arrangements shall be established to ensure compliance with all such requirements, and to surpass them where practicable.

c) All applicable international conventions shall be identified and complied with in all jurisdictions in which it operates.

d) All Vedanta Companies with operations located within 5km of an Internationally Recognised Area or Legally Protected Area shall:

- Demonstrate that the proposed development is legally permitted;
- Follow any government-recognised management plans for the area;
- Consult with stakeholders including protected area sponsors and managers, Affected Communities, and Indigenous Peoples on the proposed project; and
- Implement additional programs to promote and enhance conservation in the area.

Operations planned to take place within such areas shall secure the necessary approvals for activities from the responsible government agencies, and shallensure that project activities and biodiversity and ecosystem services management are consistent with any national land use, resource use, and management criteria for the area. All relevant stakeholders shall be consulted, including (but not limited to) protected area sponsors, Affected Communities, and Indigenous Peoples.

e) Natural habitats shall not be degraded unless Vedanta Companies can demonstrate that there is no viable alternative area of modified habitat for development, and that stakeholder consultation has established the views of stakeholders on the proposed development.

f) Vedanta shall consider opportunities to enhance habitat and protect and conserve biodiversity in modified and natural habitats as part of their operations beyond the scope of legal compliance and the requirements of international standards.

g) Vedanta Companies shall take measures to preventthe introduction of invasive alien (non-native) plant or animal species, or pests and pathogens, to the site. Vedanta Companies must:

- Ensure that there is no deliberate introduction of highly invasive alien species (even if this is permitted under existing regulatory frameworks);
- Conduct a risk assessment to determine the potential for invasive behaviour prior to the introduction of any alien species, and ensure that any such introductions are carried out in accordance with the relevant existing regulatory frameworks;
- Implement measures to avoid any accidental introductions of alien species for example through transportation of soils and sediments, plant materials, or ballast water; and
- Endeavour not to spread alien species already established in the region into new areas, and take measures to eradicate any such species in the site as practicable.

4.2.4. Biodiversity Gains and Offsets

a) Net positive gains shall be designed for any critical habitat impacts that cannot be avoided.

b) Mechanisms shall be created and implemented to achieve no net loss and to improve biodiversity wherever possible.

c) The mitigation hierarchy shall be followed when managing biodiversity impacts. Avoidance and then mitigation of negative impacts shall be prioritised as far as possible. Biodiversity offsets shall be a final resort for compensating for any impacts that remain after avoidance and mitigation measures have been implemented. The consideration of offset mechanisms

shall adhere to the 'like-for-like or better' principle and shall conform to legal requirements and international best practice standards.

d) The offset package shall consider as relevant and appropriate the provision of compensation packages for Affected Communities impacted by the development project and offset.

4.2.5. Measuring and Monitoring

a) Using the GRI Mining and Metals Sector Supplement (GRI version 3 Indicator Protocols Set – Environment - Mining and Metals Sector Supplement) each Vedanta Company shall monitor performance in managing biodiversity issues.

b) Each Vedanta Company shall develop performance indicators on the basis of corporate and legal requirements and using the following GRI Mining and Metals Performance Indicators:

- EN11 – Location and size of land owned, leased, managed in, or adjacent to, protected areas of high biodiversity value outside protected areas;
- EN12 – Description of significant impacts of activities, products, and services on biodiversity in protected areas and areas of high biodiversity value outside protected areas;
- MM1 – Amount of land (owned or leased, and managed for production activities or extractive use) disturbed or rehabilitated;
- EN13 – Habitats protected or restored;
- EN14 – Strategies, current actions, and future plans for managing impacts on biodiversity;
- MM2 – The number and percentage of total sites identified as requiring biodiversity management plans according to stated criteria, and the number (percentage) of those sites with plans in place;
- EN15 – Number of IUCN Red List species and national conservation list species with habitats in areas affected by operations, by level of extinction risk.

c) On the basis of the risk classification, each operation or facility shall establish arrangements for monitoring its performance against the relevant indicators established by the Company.

4.2.6. Knowledge and Awareness

a) Arrangements shall be implemented to support biodiversity, ecosystem services and conservationresearch efforts carried out by local, regional and national research groups in order to further knowledge and understanding of biodiversity attributes in Vedanta's areas of operation.

b) Mechanisms shall be created and implemented to provide information and raise awareness among employees, customers and suppliers and other stakeholders to enhance knowledge and understanding of biodiversity and conservation issues.

4.3. New Projects

a) For any new project that is planned, an initial assessment shall be undertaken to determine if it will be necessary to undertake a formal international standard Environmental and Social

Impact Assessment (ESIA). Reference shall be made to the provisions of local legislative requirements and to the IFC Performance Standard PS1 on the Assessment and Management of Social and Environmental Risks and Impacts.

b) For projects that require an ESIAthe *Technical Standard on Conducting ESIA to International Standards* shall be followed. Reference should also be made to the Vedanta *New Projects, Planning Processes and Site Closure* Management Standard.

c) For projects that do not fall within the scope of an ESIA (such as a small scale modifications to existing buildings), a biodiversity risk screening assessment shall be undertaken as described in 3.2.1 and the potential impacts subsequently managed as required in accordance with the provisions of a biodiversity management plan as described in Section 3.2.2.

4.3.1. Impact Assessment

a) The scope of the ESIA will depend on the nature and scale of the project and sensitivities of biodiversity attributesin the project area but in any case shall include:

- Desktop study and consultations;
- Baseline biodiversity survey;
- Assessment of ecosystem services;
- Impact and dependency assessment;
- Reporting, and
- A Biodiversity Management Plan.

b) For all new projects biodiversity attributes and ecosystem services in the proposed area shall be identified and potential project impacts and dependencies assessed.

c) The ESIA shall assess both direct and indirect project-related impacts on biodiversity and ecosystem services, and shall identify any significant residual impacts that will remain after mitigation measures have been implemented.

d) Vedanta shall ensure that the Baseline Biodiversity Survey establishes a core set of biodiversity assessment criteria (indicators) which will form the basis of impact analysis and the definition of mitigation and management measures.

4.3.2. BiodiversityManagement Plan

a) A Biodiversity Management Plan (BMP) shall be prepared for all new projects where a need has been identified during the impact assessment.

b) The BMP shall detail the actions that are identified during the impact assessment to prevent, minimise and mitigate impact to vulnerable biodiversity attributes and priority ecosystem services during the project lifecycle.

c) The BMP shall include as appropriate those considerations detailed in Section 3.2.2 (for biodiversity management associated with existing projects) as well as other considerations that arise out of the impact assessment and mitigation planning for the new project.

d) The BMP shall also include other items as necessary to ensure conformance with Vedanta's Biodiversity Management Policy.

e) The BMP shall be integrated into the Environmental and Social Management Plan described in the *Technical Standard on Conducting ESIA to International Standards.*

5. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Vedanta Resources, subsidiaries, businesses, operations and sites shall ensure that roles and responsibilities for implementing and complying with this Standard are allocated. Key responsibilities shall be included in job descriptions, procedures and/or other appropriate documentation.

6. COMPLIANCE AND PERFORMANCE

Each Vedanta operation shall ensure they comply with the requirements of this standard. Performance against meeting the requirements of this Standard shall be assessed periodically, documented and, where required, reported to Vedanta Group. The assessment of performance shall include setting and reporting on key performance indicators (KPIs) where these have been established at Vedanta Group, Company or local level. The evaluation of performance shall include, as a minimum, confirmation that:

- A biodiversity assessment comprising at a minimum a desk study, stakeholder consultations and baseline survey is undertaken for every potential project.
- Stakeholder engagement must be included as an essential component of the assessment and involves Affected Communities where they exist within the project area.
- The competence and credibility of all specialists (internal and external) that contribute to the biodiversity assessments and impacts management must be able to present evidence (such as training, certification, etc) to demonstrate this.
- The decision-making process involved in determining the need for a risk and impacts identification and assessment process and of the communication of the results to all stakeholders is fully documented.
- A Biodiversity Management Plan is documented and evidence of implementation and tracking of implementation is available.
- The data and findings of the impact assessment and management plan must be disclosed formally either as standalone reports or within the ESIA disclosure report and in a manner and form that is accessible to all stakeholders.
- Clear and transparent evidence of the adoption of the mitigation hierarchy must be available to support the proposed impacts management arrangements.
- All management and monitoring arrangements must be actively maintained and implemented and documentary evidence kept to demonstrate this.

7. SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Reference	Description
A-Z Areas of Biodiversity Importance	Developed by the UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre (WCMC) and partners, the A to Z is an online guide with detailed information for a number of recognized systems to prioritize and protect areas of biodiversity importance that fall into two main categories: areas under protected area frameworks that are supported by national or sub-national institutions as well as international conventions and programs, and global prioritization schemes that are developed by academic and conservation organizations. http://www.biodiversitya-z.org/
CITES – The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora	CITES is an international agreement aimed at ensuring that international trade in specimens of wild animals and plants does not threaten their survival. Around 25,000 plant species and 5,000 animal species are covered by the provisions of the Convention. The CITES website provides substantial resources on endangered species. http://www.cites.org/index.html
FAOForest Assessments, The Nature Conservancy, NatureServe, Global Forest Watch, Conservation International, the GEO GEOSS Africa Ecosystem Mapping Project.	Regional ecosystem mapping systems have been developed by these organisations for particular ecosystems and/or geographies and should be consulted as part of the baseline desk study as appropriate for the proposed project area.
Global Reporting Initiative (GRI)	The Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) is a network-based organization that produced an internationally applicable sustainability reporting and disclosure framework. The GRI periodically updates the framework and also provides sector-specific guidance onits application to environmental, social and governance performance. http://www.globalreporting.org/Home
Integrated Biodiversity Assessment Tool (IBAT)	A tool designed to facilitate access to accurate and up-to-date biodiversity information to support critical business decisions. The tool is the result of a ground-breaking conservation partnership among BirdLife International, Conservation International, IUCN and UNEP WCMC. https://www.ibatforbusiness.org/
IFC Biodiversity Guide	Provides further information to guide IFC clients in the development of Biodiversity Action Plans and also provides further information on how businesses can address biodiversity in their business activities. http://www.ifc.org/ifcext/sustainability.nsf/Content/BiodiversityGuide

Reference	Description
IFC Performance Standards Guidance Notes	Provides detailed guidance for adopting and implementing the requirements of the different Performance Standards. http://www.ifc.org/ifcext/sustainability.nsf/Content/PerformanceStandards
World Heritage Convention– The Convention Concerning the Protection of World Cultural and Natural Heritage (UNESCO, 1972)	Aims to identify and conserve the world's cultural and natural heritage. Its World Heritage List contains sites of outstanding cultural and natural value. http://whc.unesco.org/en/conventiontext

8. REVIEW

This Technical Standard shall be periodically audited and reviewed to determine its accuracy and relevance with regard to legislation, education, training and technological changes. In all other circumstances, it shall be reviewed no later than 12months since the previous review.

9. RELATED DOCUMENTATION

A summary of the references and supporting documents relevant to this document is provided in the following table.

Doc. Ref.	Document name
	Vedanta Code of Conduct
MS 03	New Projects, Planning Processes and Site Closure
TS 05	Stakeholder Engagement
TS 08	Conducting ESIA to International Standards
TS 06	Supplier and Contractor Management
GRI version 3	Indicator Protocols Set – Environment - Mining and Metals Sector Supplement
IFC Performance Standard PS1 and Guidance Note GN1 (v.1)	Performance Standard and Guidance Note 1 on the Assessment and Management of Social and Environmental Risks and Impacts.
IFC Performance Standard PS6 and Guidance Note GN6 (v.1)	Performance Standard and Guidance Note 6 on Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Management of Living Natural Resources.