

INTEGRATED SAFEGUARDS DATA SHEET

IDENTIFICATION / CONCEPT STAGE

Report No.: ISDSC17381

Date ISDS Prepared/Updated: 19-Apr-2016

I. BASIC INFORMATION

A. Basic Project Data

Country:	Bhutan	Project ID:	P159600
Project Name:	Strategic Program for Climate Resilience		
Team Leader(s):	Poonam Pillai, Dechen Tshering		
Estimated Date of Approval:	14-Apr-2016		
Managing Unit:	GSU18	Lending Instrument:	IPF
Sector(s):	General public administration sector (40%), General water, sanitation and flood protection sector (60%)		
Theme(s):	Natural disaster management (40%), Climate change (60%)		
Financing (in USD Million)			
Total Project Cost:	1.5	Total Bank Financing:	0
Financing Gap:	0		
Financing Source			Amount
Climate Investment Funds			1.5
Environment Category:	B - Partial Assessment		

B. Project Development Objective(s)

The main objective of the proposed activity is to strengthen the capacity of the RGoB in its effort to develop a Strategic Program for Climate Resilience (SPCR) for Bhutan, and undertake targeted technical studies to set foundational work which will help enable Bhutan to address climate vulnerability and change. The SPCR will be informed by extensive consultations with stakeholders and by the scope of the background technical studies. The intent is both to develop a national vision for addressing climate resilience and also identify a roadmap and investment priorities to support its implementation and build capacity through the process. Further, given that climate related issues are not just national but also have regional dimensions, the proposed SPCR will also help address how Bhutan can position itself in the region in terms of addressing its long term climate risks.

The proposed SPCR will build on activities already underway and existing information gaps. In a scoping mission in October 2015, stakeholder consultations were organized by the GNHC to undertake a scoping exercise and identify key sector priorities and concerns. A literature review has also been initiated to identify gaps and areas which require additional technical work. The proposed SPCR process builds on these activities to develop a long term strategic vision for climate resilience

in Bhutan.

Project beneficiaries here are defined as persons who have access to improved technical capacity and information for decision making. At the country level, the SPCR document will benefit Bhutan's key government agencies responsible for planning and integrating climate resilience into sector plans and programs. These include GNHC, NEC, DHMS and other sector agencies. Indirectly, the document should benefit citizens across the country, particularly climate vulnerable communities through the development of an integrative strategic national process.

C. Project Description

The proposed activity has three main components:-

Component 1: Preparation of the SPCR Report: (0.2 million)

The main objective of this component is to prepare an SPCR report that identifies a strategic vision and key priorities for climate resilience in Bhutan. The SPCR report which is a government owned document will identify three main pillars/focus areas prioritizing climate resilience. Funding will be used for (i) consultancies to prepare the SPCR document, (ii) sector specific reviews to assess impact of climate change in key sectors such as hydropower, agriculture, tourism, water resources, urban development, etc. (iii) analysis of policies and institutions and human resource capacity in key sectors, (iv) stakeholder consultations and (v) editing, publication and dissemination.

Component 2: Technical Studies to Support Preparation of the SPCR Document: (1.1 million)

The main objective of Component 2 is to support preparation of technical studies that will inform the preparation of the SPCR report and inform the pipeline investments. These include studies focusing on the following areas:

- (i) Capacity needs Assessment and Proposal for Training and Curriculum Development: (100k) – Ministry of Education and National Environment Commission Secretariat (NECS)
- (ii) Assessment of climate information gaps, development of climate maps/climate vulnerable areas and digital library of climate related information (DHMS) and development of sector specific climate services (250k) (In collaboration with WB) - DHMS
- (iii) Study on the potential role for private sector in Climate Change Adaptation to assess how private sector can be better engaged in addressing climate change challenges in Bhutan and what policy measures both by the Royal Government of Bhutan and also the development partners can take - (100k) (in collaboration with IFC and PPIAF)
- (iv) Preparation of Hazard and Exposure maps and Vulnerability Analysis to inform flood mitigation measures and Impact Based Forecasting in hotspot areas (250k): (to be undertaken in collaboration with Department of Engineering Services, DHMS, Department of Geology and Mines) (with WB collaboration)
- (v) Develop a Framework and design for Assessing Water Scarcity in priority water scarce aquifers (100k)
- (vi) Public expenditure review (100k) – GNHC and Ministry of Finance
- (vii) Development of Watershed Management Plans for Priority Basin (proposed) (100k) (alternately study could be done in a different sector—eg. Roads, Transport or Hydropower)
- (viii) Study on Urban Resilience focusing on adaptation and mitigation measures to highlight investment areas and recommendations for addressing urban resilience in Bhutan (100K) (In collaboration with WB)

These studies have been identified based on the consultations undertaken during the scoping mission in Oct-November 2015, the INDC and priorities identified by GNHC based on consultations with relevant agencies.

Component 3: Training, Capacity Building, Project Management and Monitoring and Evaluation: (0.2 million)

The main objective of this Component is to support project management which will include workshops and seminars, technical training, and monitoring and evaluation. Funding will be used to support GNHC in the management of this project, to undertake monitoring and evaluation. Funds will also be used to support training and capacity building relevant to the resilience agenda.

D. Project location and salient physical characteristics relevant to the safeguard analysis (if known)

All the activities to be supported by the project are related to technical studies, capacity building, consultations, trainings & workshops and the scope of project is nationwide. The nature of activities envisaged under the project suggests that environmental and social impacts of the project will be minimal, if any. OP/BP 4.01 is triggered considering that the TA activities like technical studies which are included in component 2 may have some impact on the environment. On the social front, the project will not involve any form of land acquisition, and neither any activities that will directly impact human populations. However, the main SPCR report as well as the technical studies commissioned to support the main report will examine measures for mainstreaming resilience into development planning in Bhutan focusing particularly on Bhutan's local communities, vulnerable groups, women and forest-dependent communities.

E. Borrower's Institutional Capacity for Safeguard Policies

The GNHC has worked with the Bank on Bank Executed TAs and is aware of safeguard requirements of the Bank but this is the first time that GNHC will be working with the Bank on a Recipient Executed Grant project. In case of any need of compliance to safeguard policies, support such as human resource, training and capacity building activities, for the management of social and environmental impacts/issues will be required during project implementation.

F. Environmental and Social Safeguards Specialists on the Team

Annu Rajbhandari (GENDR)

Bandita Sijapati (GSURR)

Drona Raj Ghimire (GEN06)

II. SAFEGUARD POLICIES THAT MIGHT APPLY

Safeguard Policies	Triggered?	Explanation (Optional)
Environmental Assessment OP/ BP 4.01	Yes	Since there are technical studies like watershed management plan included in component 2 which may have some implications on the environment, OP/BP 4.01 has been triggered. The project is categorized as "B".
Natural Habitats OP/BP 4.04	No	
Forests OP/BP 4.36	No	
Pest Management OP 4.09	No	
Physical Cultural Resources OP/ BP 4.11	No	
Indigenous Peoples OP/BP 4.10	Yes	

Involuntary Resettlement OP/BP 4.12	Yes	
Safety of Dams OP/BP 4.37	No	
Projects on International Waterways OP/BP 7.50	No	
Projects in Disputed Areas OP/BP 7.60	No	

III. SAFEGUARD PREPARATION PLAN

A. Appraisal stage ISDS required?: Yes

i. Explanation

ii. Tentative target date for preparing the Appraisal Stage ISDS
30-May-2016

B. Time frame for launching and completing the safeguard-related studies that may be needed. The specific studies and their timing should be specified in the Appraisal Stage ISDS.

IV. APPROVALS

Team Leader(s):	Name: Poonam Pillai, Dechen Tshering	
Approved By:		
Safeguards Advisor:	Name: Maged Mahmoud Hamed (SA)	Date: 25-Apr-2016
Practice Manager/ Manager:	Name: Bernice K. Van Bronkhorst (PMGR)	Date: 25-Apr-2016

¹ Reminder: The Bank's Disclosure Policy requires that safeguard-related documents be disclosed before appraisal (i) at the InfoShop and (ii) in country, at publicly accessible locations and in a form and language that are accessible to potentially affected persons.