

Environmental Assessment and Review Framework (EARF)

September 2013

Myanmar: Enhancing Rural Livelihoods and Incomes

Prepared by Ministry of Livestock, Fisheries and Rural Development (MLFRD) for the Asian Development Bank.

CURRENCY EQUIVALENTS

(as of 3 September 2013)

Currency unit	–	kyat(MK)
MK1.00	=	\$0.001
\$1.00	=	MK969.60

ABBREVIATIONS

ADB	–	Asian Development Bank
CDD	–	community driven development
CSO	–	civil society organization
EA	–	executing agency
EARF	–	Environment Assessment and Review Framework
IEE	–	Initial Environment Examination
NGO	–	nongovernment organization
PIU	–	Project Implementing Unit
PMU	–	Project Management Unit
RF	–	resettlement framework
REA	–	Rapid Environmental Assessment
SPS	–	Safeguards Policy Statement
TDC	–	township development committee
VDP	–	village development plan
VT	–	village tract

NOTE

In this report, "\$" refers to US dollars.

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Enhancing Rural Livelihoods and Incomes Project (herein after the Project) will implement 'grassroots' interventions based on a community-driven development (CDD)¹ approach aimed at stimulating economic activities in rural areas of Myanmar. This will be achieved through income enhancing rural livelihood interventions including rehabilitation, upgrading and provision of new productive village level infrastructure and livelihoods. Economic and financial benefits are expected from the reduction of transaction costs and improved input supplies through direct cash payments to the rural population participating in the Project's rural infrastructure activities.

2. The Project operates in four regions and one state: (i) Ayeyawady Delta Region, (ii) and (iii) Mandalay and Magway regions in the Central Dry Zone, (iv) Taninthayi Region, and (v) Shan State. This will enable the piloting of different interventions based on topography, agricultural production systems, and natural resource management regimes. The focus on these geographic areas will also allow for direct linkages and potential upscaling through ADB's agriculture and natural resources operational program in Myanmar for 2013–2016.²

3. The Project will focus on two inter-related sets of activities: (i) improvements and upgrades of social and productive infrastructure; and (ii) improvement of capacities of communities, Project line agencies at the local and state levels, and to a lesser degree at the central levels.³ Envisaged interventions include community-prioritized interventions such as development of small-scale infrastructure at the village tract level, *inter alia*, community irrigation and drainage systems, rural access roads, bridges and foot-paths, potable water systems at the village level, and provision of social infrastructure such as community health centers, enhancement of existing or provision of new education facilities, and rural electrification needs at the household level. Support will also be extended for cottage/home based small scale industries such as lacquer work and handicraft production. Training for enhanced livelihood opportunities will include functional English literacy training, skills development for the emerging tourism market, and training for improved crop production, agricultural diversification, and agribusiness, especially in the Delta and the dry zone.⁴ The primary focus will be on confidence building at local levels by re-invigorating cooperative societies, self-help groups, and traditional rural level leadership as key local level centers for planning and development.

4. The Project will provide block grants with appropriate safeguards to Village Tracts⁵ to undertake priority small scale social and productive infrastructure subprojects based on Village Development Plans (VDPs) prepared on a participatory basis and consistent with Township

¹ Community-driven development (CDD) involves a degree of devolution of responsibility to communities for managing their development, including the design and implementation of projects. CDD models support the social and economic empowerment of the rural poor, especially vulnerable population groups, including women and disadvantaged communities.

² Pipeline investments include a project on 'Irrigation Command Area Development in the Dry Zone (2015, firm; \$75 million) and the Flood Control and Drainage Management Project in the Delta (2016, standby; \$50 million).

³ The design will accommodate no less than 65% of funds for infrastructure and livelihood improvements and around 35% for capacity building interventions.

⁴ The Dry Zone offers ample opportunities for agricultural diversification into horticulture, livestock and poultry, while the Ayeyawady offers increasing opportunities for commercial (small-scale) fisheries development.

⁵ Village tracts constitute the lowest administrative level of Government. A typical village tract is organized under a township, comprises 4–5 villages, with administrators elected by heads of households.

Development Plans.⁶ The block grants will support a positive list of subprojects in the first year of implementation (Table 1), and an ‘open menu’ of activities to be applied from year 2, subject to a negative list provided in Table 2⁷, based on community-identified development priorities. Labor for these interventions will be recruited from among the village residents with a primary focus on providing employment to the poorer and more vulnerable households, largely cash for work initiatives with some proportion “in kind”. The focus will be on supporting local development and service delivery needs identified by the communities themselves. Technical supervision will ensure that basic technical standards are met during construction. A commitment (by the beneficiaries) to operation and maintenance (O&M) will be made a requirement for approval of the proposed activities within the VDPs. Nongovernment organizations (NGOs) or firms will be recruited to facilitate community interactions, assist local authorities and communities in the preparation of VDPs, and in the design and supervision of these civil works in collaboration with relevant engineers in Township Development Committees (TDCs).⁸ Capacity for participatory planning, budgeting, and implementation of subprojects⁹ will be developed at the village tract level.

5. This CDD approach requires the development of a mechanism for review and assessment of the environmental impacts of the subprojects prior to their implementation to ensure compliance with the ADB Safeguards Policy Statement (SPS) 2009, as well as those of the Government of Myanmar. The size and scale of activities will be limited by the size of block grants of up to \$27,000 each. The project has, therefore, been assigned environmental category B according to the SPS 2009. The Environmental Assessment and Review Framework (EARF) guides the screening of all subprojects under the Project, sets out institutional arrangements in relation to environmental management and monitoring and defines environmental assessment guidelines.

6. **Implementation Arrangements.** The Ministry of Livestock, Fisheries and Rural Development will be the executing agency (EA) for the Project, and will delegate responsibility for project management to a Project Management Unit (PMU) under the Department of Rural Development (DRD) responsible for overall management and coordination of the project. The EA is responsible for the compliance with the environmental safeguard measures set out in this EARF. The PMU will be headed by a project director and a deputy project director/project manager who is responsible for management and supervision of the activities. The implementing agency will be the DRD at the township level, with four Project Implementing Units (PIUs) established, one in each of the Project regions/state¹⁰ to coordinate the sub-project activities at the village tract level.

7. The PMU will include technical and accounting staff, including a finance officer (accountant), procurement officer, block grant manager, infrastructure officer (engineer), and a safeguard specialist.¹¹ For rural infrastructure engineering design and supervision, the township DRD offices will serve as a technical hub to provide engineering services, including construction

⁶ Successful experiences and lessons learned in the Dry Zone regarding the village development committee (VDC) model under LIFT and other UN Programs, with livelihood subgroups to assist beneficiaries in larger communities, will be examined for potential transferability and/or adaptation to the other project regions as well.

⁷ The negative list is also applicable to Year 1 subprojects.

⁸ The Mission also undertook its own internal review and due diligence regarding the technical and organizational capacities of existing local NGOs and INGOs as well as township development committees (TDCs) and also examined their experience in implementing community driven development projects.

⁹ Including thorough capacity development on financial management, procurement, and safeguard systems.

¹⁰ Only one PIU will be established for both the Mandalay and Magway regions in the Central Dry Zone.

¹¹ Additional environmental and safeguard officers will be provided in each of the PIUs.

support to village tracts and supervision of civil works, to specifications. Consultants and/or NGO's will be recruited using competitive selection procedures to conduct technical audits and monitor the implementation of civil works interventions. Consistent with the decentralized focus of interventions, the Chief Minister's Office at the region/state level, through the Rural Development and Poverty Alleviation Committees, will play an important role to coordinate and facilitate inter-ministerial coordination, organize community activities, and monitor the implementation of the project in the participating townships.

8. The elected village tract forums will be the main decision making body responsible for the community block grants and implementing the sub-projects based on village tract/village development plans prepared by the village tract development support committees and endorsed by the township development and implementation committees. Community facilitators will be engaged to support the village tract forums in conducting community facilitations, support community mobilization and project planning.

9. The Government has established a Project Steering Committee (PSC) chaired by the Union Minister, President's Office, Dr. U Soe Thein and an inter-ministerial technical committee at the central level under the national CDD project to oversee and provide direction to project implementation. The Project will work with the same arrangements and will not require a separate steering committee to be constituted. The PSC will meet every 6 months after grant effectiveness or more frequently as needed. Within 2 weeks after each meeting, the PSC will submit a copy of the minutes of the meeting, in English to ADB, and in Burmese to relevant Project staff and units.

II. ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR SUBPROJECTS

A. Overview of Type of Subprojects to be Assessed

10. The Project will identify priority investments for all five regions/state as part of a coherent single investment package framework through extensive consultations with the local authorities at local and district levels and potential beneficiary communities with a focus on prioritizing activities based on their potential for (i) poverty reduction; (ii) livelihood improvement and/or income generation; and (iii) absence of external funding and commitment by the regional government to the objectives of the project.

11. NGOs or firms will be recruited to mobilize communities, facilitate community interactions, and assist local authorities and community leaders in the preparation of VDPs, and in the design and supervision of these civil works in collaboration with relevant engineers in TDCs. The financing modality will be the provision of equal value block grants that will be made available to the screened and selected communities (within village tracts). The basis for screening and selection of communities will include their poverty profile and extent of infrastructure deficits, with the worst-off communities receiving priority under the Project.

12. A total of six townships will be selected for the Project. The Project aims to cover a total of 96 village tracts distributed as 16 per township. Funds allocation will be on the basis of \$27,000 per village tract repeated in a total of three cycles for the project duration. Based on this, a total of 288 discrete subprojects will be implemented by the Project to cover all participating village tracts. Each selected village tract will have every individual village covered under the block grant allocation.

13. The cycle of the village development plans contains four steps:

- (i) First, community facilitators supported by village volunteers use a range of participatory methods to identify their priority needs, the priority interventions to meet these needs (captured in a village development plan), and the priority groups that benefit from these interventions, including the poor and marginalized groups.
- (ii) Second, the village tract development support committees review the respective village development plans and prioritize the interventions against the needs of the tract and the available funding envelope in a 3-year village tract development plan. This plan also lays out how the various population groups in the tract benefit from the priority subprojects, as well as operations and maintenance considerations of the subproject per year to directly respond to the priority needs.
- (iii) Third, the township development committees review the village tract development plans against existing sector plans and other known assistance to the township and endorse the first development plan of each village tract.
- (iv) Fourth, the village tract development support committees report back to the villagers. If there is a complaint with regard to the priorities presented in a village tract development plan, the village tract forum will be required to reassess the priorities and submit a revised plan to the township level for endorsement, as warranted.

14. Community facilitators and village volunteers assist the villagers and village tract development support committees in the preparation of their plans. They also ensure that separate consultations are held with women and men in the village to identify their respective needs and priorities. They are in turn assisted by the PIUs and the NGOs or firms supporting them. As secretariat to the TDCs, the DRD office at the regional level facilitates the deliberations of this committee.

15. The village and village tract development plans are updated annually in advance of the next allocation cycle. The villagers and village tract development support committees re-evaluate their needs and adjust the priority interventions as necessary. The township development committees endorse significant deviations from a previous tract development plan but otherwise receive the updated plans for information only. In case of any complaint about the updated village tract development plan, the village tract development support committees are required to re-assess the priorities and submit a revised plan.

B. Sub-project Eligibility

16. During the first year of implementation only a “positive list” of subprojects is eligible. To allow a learning-by-doing approach, such subprojects for funding in the first year of implementation are simple to design and implement. These include small works for rehabilitation, minor extension and some new construction of community interventions that use a standardized design, and for which procurement needs from outside the tract are minimal. The first year positive list is presented in Table 1. These subprojects are also subject to a number of criteria as presented in Table 2.

Table 1: Positive List for the First Year of Implementation

Rural Social Infrastructure (“Hard Sectors”) Accounts for 65% of the Project funds		
Sector	Type of Infrastructure	Types of Eligible Sub-Project Intervention
Health	a) Village Health Clinic	a) Build new clinic/ Rehabilitate existing one,

Rural Social Infrastructure(“Hard Sectors”) Accounts for 65% of the Project funds		
Sector	Type of Infrastructure	Types of Eligible Sub-Project Intervention
	b) Village Tract Health Centre	b) If rehabilitating existing one, Project provides funding for At least one Qualified Nurse to be stationed there for one year; or if Project builds a new one, the Ministry of Health has to provide assured funding for one qualified Nurse for one year
Education	a) Primary Schools (yrs 1 to 6) b) Middle Schools(years 7-9)	a1) largely rehabilitation but new buildings in exceptional cases; a2) in the Delta with flood prone areas, extension of buildings to add one floor upstairs ¹² ; Solar power ¹³ , and few basic Indian Made \$ 100 Computers ¹⁴ b)Rehabilitation only of Middle schools only a few will be done; Provide Internet access to primary and middle schools
Transportation	a) Minor Rural roads ¹⁵ Farm to market type b) Jetties ¹⁶ and ramps in the Delta region	a) Minor roads to connect farm centres to main road or markets; b) Jetties are primarily for the Delta Region to assist with boat access which is the main mode of transport anywhere away from the main road and also to some extent in other regions/state
Water supply and Sanitation	a) Water Supply for schools and clinics and some households b) Sanitation in the form of water tight septic tanks for health clinics, schools community gathering places / centres	a) Boreholes drilled by simple cable tool and tripod method usually 2 inch diameter and usually down to 150 feet (around 30 m); complete ¹⁷ with Myanmar Made hand pumps; and ground level cement concrete water tanks ¹⁸ b) Properly made water tight septic tanks of 2 separate compartments and with removal of solids after 4 or 5 years from the first tank; with proper toilet house ¹⁹ at ground level
Electricity Supply	a) Stand Alone fixed roof top Solar Power for individual households b) Solar Powered portable Lanterns	a) Stand alone solar power supply by a solar panel with storage batteries and inverter and at least 4 fluorescent tube lights on the basis of one system per selected household b) Solar powered large Lantern which can be carried by hand; three per household, and three households can receive these lantern packages for the cost of one standalone household power supply
Livestock and	Small household level fish/	These are to support improvement in livelihoods and

¹² In flood prone areas and for schools with only ground floor buildings, extension of the building by adding one floor upstairs so the children can study.

¹³ Four or five solar panels with storage batteries and Inverters to provide fluorescent tube light and enough power to run 4 to 6 simple computers.

¹⁴ These will be the simple computers produced for schools and costing only \$100/= or so each and which will be used as teaching/learning tools. It is estimated that 4 to 6 such computers will be adequate for any one school.

¹⁵ These will only be the 3.3 metre wide (10 feet wide in the earlier years) and with rolled compacted sub base, base and top course, all in earthworks without any asphalt , and maximum distance to be 2 miles (3.2 Km) per instance

¹⁶ These will be made entirely of local sawn wood and Bamboo; 3.3 m wide, and about 13.2 m long on average and each can be constructed in 2 weeks, and estimated to cost some Kyat 1.6 million each.

¹⁷ Estimates in the Delta Region were about XX

¹⁸ Usual capacity of 1,600 gallons for schools and costing around Kyat 1.8 million each and smaller Household ones costing some Kyat 0.8 million.

¹⁹ Estimated cost for one toilet house and one two chambered septic tank, and other fittings are around Kyat 0.8 million.

Rural Social Infrastructure(“Hard Sectors”) Accounts for 65% of the Project funds		
Sector	Type of Infrastructure	Types of Eligible Sub-Project Intervention
Fisheries	shrimp raising/crab fattening ponds, in all Project regions/state except the Dry Zone	income generation as well as the increased intake of animal protein at household levels.
Rural Markets	Minor assistance with betterment of existing Markets	Can include the betterment of existing facilities to enable agricultural producers to collectively deal with Wholesale buyers to achieve better prices for their produce. This can involve minor civil construction additions to existing markets
Minor scale Irrigation and Drainage	Minor scale irrigation and drainage for community operated small schemes	Possibilities include small scale irrigation betterment, also conjunctive use of shallow ground water with surface water in the dry zone; Protection of small irrigated areas in the Delta which are prone to crop loss in times of floods
Social Welfare and community empowerment and livelihood betterment	Construct Community Centres or Gathering Places, particularly in Old Bagan villages which produce artisan made Lacquer ware and traditional hand woven cloths	Construction of Community Centres which will also serve as gathering places for the community and include sections which serve as facilities for exhibiting local handicrafts and produce, which will attract tourists and visitors as buyers. These are to increase the income generated presently through these activities. These can also serve as centres for minding small children as crèches and nurseries.

17. During the second and later years of implementation, all types of subprojects are eligible for funding, except those included in a negative list presented in Table 2.

Table 2: Negative List of Subprojects during Project Implementation

Subprojects are not eligible for funding if they:	
1	Exclude the poor or marginalized population groups;
2	Do not provide equal pay for equal work for women and men;
3	Finance private goods;
4	Have a negative environmental impact that cannot be adequately mitigated, or trigger a category A for environment according to ADB's SPS 2009;
5	Are financed, or scheduled to be financed, by the Government of Myanmar or other development partners;
6	Contain the purchase or use of drugs, military equipment or other potentially dangerous materials and equipment; or
7	Are implemented using forced or under-aged labour.

III. COUNTRY'S ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND REVIEW PROCEDURES

18. Sub-projects financed under ADB's CDD project will comprise small-scale social and productive infrastructure works that could potentially generate local and temporary minor adverse environmental and social impacts. Consequently the project triggers both ADB and the safeguards requirements from the Government of Myanmar. Efforts towards strengthening country safeguards are being made. However, considering the lack of completed applicable country safeguard requirements, the ADB's safeguard requirements prevail.

19. While existing laws and regulations in force in Myanmar have to date been considered insufficient to identify and mitigate the project's potential negative environmental and social impacts according to ADB safeguard policies, there have been recent efforts towards strengthening country safeguards. An environment law became effective on 30 March 2012 but regulations and standards have not yet been issued. There are also other laws with environmental policy implications such as the 1992 Forest Law and a number of international laws and conventions that Myanmar has ratified. In follow up to promulgation of the Environmental Conservation Law in March 2012, a new Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry (MOECAF) was formed in mid-2012. Since October 2012, a new Environmental Conservation Department within MOECAF has been the focal point for environmental management matters including environmental safeguards. Implementation arrangements for the Environmental Conservation Law are elaborated in the Environmental Conservation (framework) Rules, finalized in early 2013. Subsequently Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Procedures have been prepared, detailing out the procedural aspects and implementation responsibilities. These procedures are approaching finalization. Work has also commenced on preparation of corresponding Environmental Quality Standards, as required under the Environmental Conservation Law, and EIA technical guidelines.

20. At the midterm review, the Government of Myanmar and ADB will review the EARF, including, *inter alia*, the country environmental safeguards system and the negative list, and update it, as required, based on the experiences gained during implementation and consultations with community facilitators, and the MOECAF, PMU and PIU staff.

IV. PROCEDURES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

21. Overall, the potential for negative environmental impacts for small scale infrastructure subprojects is limited, localised and most such impacts are reversible and can be mitigated. Yet, given that the locations of the subprojects are unknown at this stage, which could be adjacent to sensitive or protected areas, there is a need to ensure that only activities that have a minimal negative impact on the environment are selected, and that the requirements for impact assessment, monitoring and management are met in a cost-effective way. Similarly, compliance with ADB's environmental safeguard requirements and with the Environmental Conservation Law must be achieved in an efficient and pragmatic manner, as reflected in the present procedures to be used for subprojects under the Project.

A. Step 1: Screening of subprojects and preparation of environmental safeguard measures

22. The Project has been identified as category B for environment. Before the start of any construction of subprojects, ADB's screening procedure will be applied and conducted by the PIUs, using ADB's rapid environmental assessment (REA) checklist (Attachment 1), based on which the categorization of the subproject is determined²⁰ (see Attachment 2 for the environment categorization form). The PIUs, with support from the international and national environmental safeguard specialists, in partnership with the relevant village tract development support committee and community facilitators, carry out the environment screening and send

¹. The subprojects will be categorised as one of the two environmental categories for ADB projects as follows: (i) Category B: subproject is likely to have potential adverse environmental impacts that are less adverse than those of category A projects. These impacts are site-specific, few if any of them are irreversible, and in most cases mitigation measures can be designed more readily than for category A projects; and (ii) Category C: subproject is likely to have minimal or no adverse environmental impacts. Category A subprojects which are likely to have significant adverse environmental impacts that are irreversible, diverse, or unprecedented will not be selected.

the REA checklist and the environment categorization form to the PMU for approval, as part of the subproject design. The two Environmental Codes of Practice developed under the World Bank's Community Driven Development Project will be used as reference for subproject design.

23. If a subproject is classified as category B for environment, the relevant PIU, with support from the firms/NGOs will prepare an Initial Environmental Examination (IEE). The IEE report shall include an EMP detailing the following: (i) mitigation measures for all identified adverse impacts during pre-construction, construction and operation stages of the project, (ii) monitoring measures to assess environmental performance and impacts to ambient environment possibly resulting from the project, in line with ADB SPS 2009. All IEEs will be submitted by the MPU to the Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry (MOECAAF) for approval before being submitted to ADB.

24. The REA checklist, the environment categorization form, and the IEE (where applicable) of the first proposed subproject of each type will be submitted to ADB for review and approval prior to construction (prior-review procedure). If the quality of all documentation is acceptable and consistent with ADB's SPS 2009, then the subsequent forms can be approved by the Project Director before being submitted to ADB for information (post-review procedure). The final IEEs will be available for disclosure on ADB's website in the English language. No subprojects with significant environmental adverse impacts (category A) will be selected.

B. Step 2: Implementation, monitoring and reporting of safeguard measures

25. The PMU and PIUs are responsible for the overall implementation of the subproject safeguard measures laid out in the Rapid Environment Assessment checklist (for category C subprojects) or the IEE (for category B subprojects).

26. Village tract forums, in collaboration with community facilitators and village volunteers, monitor the implementation of the safeguards measures, including the REA and the IEE. The village tract forums confirm the proper application of the measures and notify the township development committees that a subproject is ready for implementation.

27. Throughout the implementation of a subproject, the village volunteers monitor any negative impacts that may arise. Community facilitators regularly visit villages and receive feedback. If villagers have any questions or grievances that cannot be answered at the community level, they are encouraged to seek clarifications and solutions through the Project's grievance redress mechanism presented in Section IV.

28. The village tract forums summarize environmental safeguard related activities in their monthly reports to the relevant PIUs for consolidation and submission to the PMU. These reports also include a short report on any environmental management plan that was completed during the reporting period.

29. The PIUs will conduct environmental monitoring of at least 10% of randomly selected subprojects annually for category C subprojects. The PIUs will conduct annual environmental monitoring of all category B subprojects with participation from the MOECAAF staff.

30. The PMU will report to ADB of the Project's performance on environmental safeguards. For efficient implementation of the Project, the environmental reporting schedule should coincide with the overall Project progress reporting schedule. The environmental monitoring reports will be made available for disclosure on ADB's website.

31. ADB reviews the REA checklists, and the IEEs including EMPs and environmental monitoring plans, on a random basis and carries out field trips to verify safeguard compliance.

V. GRIEVANCE REDRESS MECHANISM

32. The grievance redress mechanism (GRM) is meant for people seeking satisfactory resolution of their complaints on the environmental performance of the Project. The mechanism will ensure that (i) the basic rights and interests of every affected person by poor environmental performance of the project are protected; and (ii) their concerns arising from the poor environmental performance of the project during the phases of design, construction and operation activities are effectively and timely addressed.

33. The PMU, PIUs, the village tract forums and the community facilitators will make the public aware of the GRM through public awareness campaigns, training and capacity building. The PMU and PIUs will each nominate and train their environmental safeguard officers and the community facilitators to be a Grievance Point Person (GPP) for environment-related issues. Any person who has complaints regarding the environmental performance of the subproject during pre-construction, construction and operation phases shall have access to the GRM described in the subsequent section.

34. The PMU and PIUs through their GPPs shall ensure that:

- (i) The GRM and the contact details of the GPPs are publicly disclosed, and posted in the offices of the affected communes and in strategic places of the subproject's area of influence;
- (ii) The GRM is accessible to all affected communities;
- (iii) The public, especially the residents and passers-by in the vicinities of influence of the subproject, are aware of their rights to access, and shall have access to, the mechanism free of administrative and legal charges; and
- (iv) A registry of grievances received is maintained for reporting to ADB and higher Government authorities on associated follow-up, resolution or non-resolution of issues.

35. Households or groups of households wishing to complain about the effects of construction works on their property, production system, economic well-being, spiritual life, quality of surface and ground water, quality of air, health, safety, welfare, or any other assets of their lives shall make their complaint using the standard complaints form provided by the GPPs.

36. The Grievance Investigation and Resolution process is outlined below:

- (i) Step 1: The complaint form will be sent by affected person or persons (APs), affected household (AH) or groups of households directly to the relevant GPP in the PIU office, or to the relevant community facilitator, who will then submit the form to the relevant village tract forum and relevant GPP in the PIU office within one working day. The PIU GPP will acknowledge and keep a record of the complaint form.
- (ii) Step 2: If the complaint is judged as valid, within 10 working days from the date the complaint is received, the relevant PIU's GPP will organize meetings with the APs or AHs and the relevant agencies/contractors/sub-contractors, with participation from the relevant community facilitator and the village tract forum representative, to discuss how to resolve the matter. All meetings will be recorded and copies of the minutes of meetings will be provided to APs/AHs.

- (iii) Step 3: The relevant PIU project manager shall take such mitigation measures as agreed in meetings from step 2 within 10 working days, or some other period acceptable to the parties referred to in step 2.
- (iv) Step 4: When the complaint is resolved, the Complaint Form needs to be signed by the AP/AH, the relevant community facilitator, and the relevant village tract forum representative, and annotated at each stage of process by the relevant PIU with copies to be sent to the PMU.
- (v) Step 5: If no understanding or amicable solution is reached, or if no response is received from the relevant PIU within 10 working days after the registration of complaint, the AP/AH can appeal to the PMU. The PMU GPP will acknowledge and keep a record of the complaint form. The PMU will organize meetings with the AP/AH and the relevant agencies/contractors/sub-contractors if any, with participation from the relevant community facilitator, the village tract forum representative and the PIU representative, to discuss how to resolve the matter. The PMU will take mitigation measures within one month of receiving the appeal.
- (vi) Step 6: When the complaint is resolved, the Complaint Form needs to be signed by the AP/AH, the PMU and the relevant PIU representative with copies to be sent to ADB.
- (vii) Step 7: If the AP/AH is still not satisfied with the decision of the PMU or in the absence of any response within the stipulated time, the AP/AH as a last resort may submit his/her case to the court, whose decision is final.

VI. STAFFING REQUIREMENTS AND BUDGET

37. Implementing the environmental assessment and review procedures will require the following staff and budget (Table 3).

Table 3: Budget Estimate for the Environmental Safeguard Activities for the Project²¹

Items by Input	Unit	Number of units	Unit cost (\$)	Total cost (\$)
International Environmental Safeguard Specialist	person-month	2	15,400	30,800
Per diem for International Environmental Safeguard Specialist	day	60	150	9,000
International travels	round trip	2	3,500	7,000
National Environmental Safeguard Specialist	person-month	24	1,000	24,000
Field visits	trip	48	500	24,000
Total				94,800

38. Services of an International Environmental Safeguard Specialist (IESS) for two person months on an intermittent basis will be acquired for the development and training of the environmental safeguard guidelines, development and application of the REA checklists, development of the sample IEEs for category B subprojects of different types, and development of an appropriate environmental monitoring schedule of the subprojects identified. The IESS will also train the national environmental safeguard specialist and environmental safeguard officers in applying the EARF. The terms of reference for the IESS is found in Attachment 3.

²¹ Costs for subproject-specific mitigation and environmental management activities will be included in the subproject budget. Training costs on environmental safeguards are included in the overall Project training budget.

39. Concurrently with the IESS, a National Environmental Safeguarding Specialist (NESS) will be hired for 24 months on an intermittent basis for the duration of the Project to provide support in the development of the environmental safeguard guidelines, facilitate consultations, support the monitoring and supervision, and support the environmental reporting requirements. The NESS will ensure that the Project is implemented in accordance with the environmental safeguard requirements of ADB and the Government of Myanmar. The terms of reference for the NESS is presented in Attachment 4.

RAPID ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT (REA) CHECKLIST

Instructions:

- (i) The project team completes this checklist to support the environmental classification of a project. It is to be attached to the environmental categorization form and submitted to the Environment and Safeguards Division (RSES), for endorsement by Director, RSES and for approval by the Chief Compliance Officer.
- (ii) This checklist focuses on environmental issues and concerns. To ensure that social dimensions are adequately considered, refer also to ADB's (a) checklists on involuntary resettlement and Indigenous Peoples; (b) poverty reduction handbook; (c) staff guide to consultation and participation; and (d) gender checklists.
- (iii) Answer the questions assuming the "without mitigation" case. The purpose is to identify potential impacts. Use the "remarks" section to discuss any anticipated mitigation measures.

Country/Project Title:

Sector Division:

Screening Questions	Yes	No	Remarks
A. Project Siting			
Is the Project area adjacent to or within any of the following environmentally sensitive areas?			
▪ Cultural heritage site			
▪ Legally protected Area (core zone or buffer zone)			
▪ Wetland			
▪ Mangrove			
▪ Estuarine			
▪ Special area for protecting biodiversity			
B. Potential Environmental Impacts			
Will the Project cause...			
▪ impairment of historical/cultural areas; disfiguration of landscape or potential loss/damage to physical cultural resources?			
▪ disturbance to precious ecology (e.g. sensitive or protected areas)?			
▪ alteration of surface water hydrology of waterways resulting in increased sediment in streams affected by increased soil erosion at construction site?			
▪ deterioration of surface water quality due to silt runoff and sanitary wastes from worker-based camps and chemicals used in construction?			
▪ increased air pollution due to project construction and operation?			
▪ noise and vibration due to project construction or operation?			
▪ involuntary resettlement of people? (physical displacement and/or economic displacement)			
▪ disproportionate impacts on the poor, women and children, Indigenous Peoples or other vulnerable groups?			

Screening Questions	Yes	No	Remarks
▪ poor sanitation and solid waste disposal in construction camps and work sites, and possible transmission of communicable diseases (such as STI's and HIV/AIDS) from workers to local populations?			
▪ creation of temporary breeding habitats for diseases such as those transmitted by mosquitoes and rodents?			
▪ social conflicts if workers from other regions or countries are hired?			
▪ large population influx during project construction and operation that causes increased burden on social infrastructure and services (such as water supply and sanitation systems)?			
▪ risks and vulnerabilities related to occupational health and safety due to physical, chemical, biological, and radiological hazards during project construction and operation?			
▪ risks to community health and safety due to the transport, storage, and use and/or disposal of materials such as explosives, fuel and other chemicals during construction and operation?			
▪ community safety risks due to both accidental and natural causes, especially where the structural elements or components of the project are accessible to members of the affected community or where their failure could result in injury to the community throughout project construction, operation and decommissioning?			
▪ generation of solid waste and/or hazardous waste?			
▪ use of chemicals?			
▪ generation of wastewater during construction or operation?			

Climate Change and Disaster Risk Questions	Yes	No	Remarks
The following questions are not for environmental categorization. They are included in this checklist to help identify potential climate and disaster risks.			
▪ Is the Project area subject to hazards such as earthquakes, floods, landslides, tropical cyclone winds, storm surges, tsunamis or volcanic eruptions and climate changes (see Appendix I)?			
▪ Could changes in precipitation, temperature, salinity, or extreme events over the Project lifespan affect its sustainability or cost?			
▪ Are there any demographic or socio-economic aspects of the Project area that are already vulnerable (e.g. high incidence of marginalized populations, rural-urban migrants, illegal settlements, ethnic minorities, women or children)?			
▪ Could the Project potentially increase the climate or disaster vulnerability of the surrounding area (e.g., increasing traffic or housing in areas that will be more prone to flooding, by encouraging settlement in earthquake zones)?			

Appendix: Environments, Hazards and Climate Change

Environment	Natural Hazards and Climate Change
Arid/Semi-arid and desert environments	Low erratic rainfall of up to 500 mm rainfall per annum with periodic droughts and high rainfall variability. Low vegetative cover. Resilient ecosystems & complex pastoral and systems, but medium certainty that 10–20% of drylands degraded; 10-30% projected decrease in water availability in next 40 years; projected increase in drought duration and severity under climate change. Increased mobilization of sand dunes and other soils as vegetation cover declines; likely overall decrease in agricultural productivity, with rain-fed agriculture yield reduced by 30% or more by 2020. Earthquakes and other geophysical hazards may also occur in these environments.
Humid and sub-humid plains, foothills and hill country	More than 500 mm precipitation/yr. Resilient ecosystems & complex human pastoral and cropping systems. 10-30% projected decrease in water availability in next 40 years; projected increase in droughts, heatwaves and floods; increased erosion of loess-mantled landscapes by wind and water; increased gully erosion; landslides likely on steeper slopes. Likely overall decrease in agricultural productivity & compromised food production from variability, with rain-fed agriculture yield reduced by 30% or more by 2020. Increased incidence of forest and agriculture-based insect infestations. Earthquakes and other geophysical hazards may also occur in these environments.
River valleys/deltas and estuaries and other low-lying coastal areas	River basins, deltas and estuaries in low-lying areas are vulnerable to riverine floods, storm surges associated with tropical cyclones/typhoons and sea level rise; natural (and human-induced) subsidence resulting from sediment compaction and ground water extraction; liquefaction of soft sediments as result of earthquake ground shaking. Tsunami possible/likely on some coasts. Lowland agri-business and subsistence farming in these regions at significant risk.
Small islands	Small islands generally have land areas of less than 10,000km ² in area, though Papua New Guinea and Timor with much larger land areas are commonly included in lists of small island developing states. Low-lying islands are especially vulnerable to storm surge, tsunami and sea-level rise and, frequently, coastal erosion, with coral reefs threatened by ocean warming in some areas. Sea level rise is likely to threaten the limited ground water resources. High islands often experience high rainfall intensities, frequent landslides and tectonic environments in which landslides and earthquakes are not uncommon with (occasional) volcanic eruptions. Small islands may have low adaptive capacity and high adaptation costs relative to GDP.
Mountain ecosystems	Accelerated glacial melting, rockfalls/landslides and glacial lake outburst floods, leading to increased debris flows, river bank erosion and floods and more extensive outwash plains and, possibly, more frequent wind erosion in intermontane valleys. Enhanced snow melt and fluctuating stream flows may produce seasonal floods and droughts. Melting of permafrost in some environments. Faunal and floral species migration. Earthquakes, landslides and other geophysical hazards may also occur in these environments.
Volcanic environments	Recently active volcanoes (erupted in last 10,000 years – see www.volcano.si.edu). Often fertile soils with intensive agriculture and landslides on steep slopes. Subject to earthquakes and volcanic eruptions including pyroclastic flows and mudflows/lahars and/or gas emissions and occasionally widespread ashfall.

ENVIRONMENT CATEGORIZATION

Date: _____

A. Instructions

- (i) The project team completes and submits the form to the Environment and Safeguards Division (RSES) for endorsement by RSES Director, and for approval by the Chief Compliance Officer (CCO). OM F1/OP on Safeguard Review Procedures (paras. 4-7) provides the requirements on environment categorization.
- (ii) The classification of a project is a continuing process. If there is a change in the project components or/and site that may result in category change, the Sector Division submits a new form and requests for recategorization, and endorsement by RSES Director and by the CCO. The old form is attached for reference.
- (iii) In addition, the project team may propose in the comments section that the project is highly complex and sensitive (HCS), for approval by the CCO. HCS projects are a subset of category A projects that ADB deems to be highly risky or contentious or involve serious and multidimensional and generally interrelated potential social and/or environmental impacts.

B. Project Data

Country/Project No./Project Title :

Department/ Division :

Processing Stage :

Modality :

Project Loan Program Loan Financial Intermediary General Corporate Finance

Sector Loan MFF Emergency Assistance Grant

Other financing modalities:

C. Environment Category (please tick one category based on the set of criteria in **OMF1** (paras. 6-7))

New Recategorization — Previous Category []

Category A

Category B

Category C

Category FI

D. Basis for Categorization/ Recategorization (please. attach supporting documents):

- REA Checklist
- Project and/or Site Description
- Other: _____

E. Comments

Project Team Comments

RSES Comments

F. Approval

Proposed by:

Endorsed by:

Project Team Leader, {Department/Division}

Director, RSES

Date:

Date:

Endorsed by:

Approved by:

Highly Complex
and Sensitive
Project

Director, {Division}

Chief Compliance Officer

Date:

Date:

TERMS OF REFERENCE INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL SAFEGUARD SPECIALIST

A. Introduction

1. The Enhancing Rural Livelihoods and Incomes Project (herein after the Project) will implement 'grassroots' interventions based on a community-driven development (CDD)¹ approach aimed at stimulating economic activities in rural areas of Myanmar. This will be achieved through income enhancing rural livelihood interventions including rehabilitation, upgrading and provision of new productive village level infrastructure and livelihoods. Economic and financial benefits are expected from the reduction of transaction costs and improved input supplies through direct cash payments to the rural population participating in the Project's rural infrastructure activities.

2. The Project operates in four regions and one state: (i) Ayeyawady Delta Region, (ii) and (iii) Mandalay and Magway regions in the Central Dry Zone, (iv) Taninthayi Region, and (v) Shan State. This will enable the piloting of different interventions based on topography, agricultural production systems, and natural resource management regimes. The focus on these geographic areas will also allow for direct linkages and potential upscaling through ADB's agriculture and natural resources operational program in Myanmar for 2013–2016.²

3. The Project will focus on two inter-related sets of activities: (i) improvements and upgrades of social and productive infrastructure; and (ii) improvement of capacities of communities, Project line agencies at the local and state levels, and to a lesser degree at the central levels.³ Envisaged interventions include community-prioritized interventions such as development of small-scale infrastructure at the village tract level, *inter alia*, community irrigation and drainage systems, rural access roads, bridges and foot-paths, potable water systems at the village level, and provision of social infrastructure such as community health centers, enhancement of existing or provision of new education facilities, and rural electrification needs at the household level. Support will also be extended for cottage/home based small scale industries such as lacquer work and handicraft production. Training for enhanced livelihood opportunities will include functional English literacy training, skills development for the emerging tourism market, and training for improved crop production, agricultural diversification, and agribusiness, especially in the Delta and the dry zone.⁴ The primary focus will be on confidence building at local levels by re-invigorating cooperative societies, self-help groups, and traditional rural level leadership as key local level centers for planning and development.

4. The Project will provide block grants with appropriate safeguards to Village Tracts⁵ to undertake priority small scale rural infrastructure subprojects based on Village Development

¹ Community-driven development (CDD) involves a degree of devolution of responsibility to communities for managing their development, including the design and implementation of projects. CDD models support the social and economic empowerment of the rural poor, especially vulnerable population groups, including women and disadvantaged communities.

² Pipeline investments include a project on 'Irrigation Command Area Development in the Dry Zone (2015, firm; \$75 million) and the Flood Control and Drainage Management Project in the Delta (2016, standby; \$50 million).

³ The design will accommodate no less than 65% of funds for infrastructure and livelihood improvements and around 35% for capacity building interventions.

⁴ The Dry Zone offers ample opportunities for agricultural diversification into horticulture, livestock and poultry, while the Ayeyawady offers increasing opportunities for commercial (small-scale) fisheries development.

⁵ Village tracts constitute the lowest administrative level of Government. A typical village tract is organized under a township, comprises 4–5 villages, with administrators elected by heads of households.

Plans (VDPs) prepared on a participatory basis and consistent with Township Development Plans.⁶ The block grants will support a positive list of subprojects in the first year of implementation (Table 1), and an ‘open menu’ of activities to be applied from year 2, subject to a negative list provided in Table 2, based on community-identified development priorities. Labor for these interventions will be recruited from among the village residents with a primary focus on providing employment to the poorer and more vulnerable households, largely cash for work initiatives with some proportion “in kind”. The focus will be on supporting local development and service delivery needs identified by the communities themselves. Technical supervision will ensure that basic technical standards are met during construction. A commitment (by the beneficiaries) to operation and maintenance (O&M) will be made a requirement for approval of the proposed activities within the VDPs. Nongovernment organizations (NGOs) or firms will be recruited to facilitate community interactions, assist local authorities and communities in the preparation of VDPs, and in the design and supervision of these civil works in collaboration with relevant engineers in Township Development Committees (TDCs).⁷ Capacity for participatory planning, budgeting, and implementation of subprojects⁸ will be developed at the village-tract level.

5. This CDD approach requires the development of a mechanism for review and assessment of the environmental impacts of the infrastructure subprojects prior to their implementation to ensure compliance with the ADB Safeguards Policy Statement (SPS) 2009, as well as those of the Government of Myanmar. The size and scale of activities will be limited by the size of block grants of up to \$27,000 each. The project has, therefore, been assigned environmental category B according to the SPS 2009. The Environmental Assessment and Review Framework (EARF) developed under the Project guides the screening of all subprojects under the Project, sets out institutional arrangements in relation to environmental management and monitoring and defines environmental assessment guidelines.

B. Scope of work

6. The International Environmental Safeguarding Specialist (IESS) will be engaged for one month at the start of Project implementation, and for another month in the second year, or when at least 20 subprojects have been identified, whichever is earlier. The IESS will develop a number of critical tools that will be used during Project implementation to ensure its compliance with the environmental safeguard requirements of ADB and the Government of Myanmar. Concurrently with the IESS, a National Environmental Safeguard Specialist (NESS) will be engaged for 24 months over the project implementation period to provide support with the development of the environmental safeguard guidelines and to facilitate consultations.

C. Detailed tasks

7. The IESS will undertake the following tasks:
- (i) Update the Project Environmental Assessment and Review Framework (EARF) as required;

⁶ Successful experiences and lessons learned in the Dry Zone regarding the village development committee (VDC) model under LIFT and other UN Programs, with livelihood subgroups to assist beneficiaries in larger communities, will be examined for potential transferability and/or adaptation to the other project regions as well.

⁷ The Mission also undertook its own internal review and due diligence regarding the technical and organizational capacities of existing local NGOs and INGOs as well as Township Development Committees (TDCs) and also examined their experience in implementing community driven development projects.

⁸ Including thorough capacity development on financial management, procurement, and safeguard systems.

- (ii) Develop detailed environmental safeguard guidelines for project implementation and the identification and design of subprojects to be funded under the Project. Reference is made to the two Environmental Codes of Practice developed under the World Bank's Community Driven Development Project as a basis to develop these guidelines where applicable.
- (iii) Review and update the rapid environmental assessment (REA) checklists for subprojects and train the NESS and environmental safeguard officers on the application of these checklists;
- (iv) Develop the REA Checklists and Environmental Categorization forms of all the subprojects identified in the positive list of subprojects presented in the EARF;
- (v) Develop an appropriate environmental monitoring schedule and a template environmental monitoring report for the Project;
- (vi) Train the NESS, the environmental safeguard officers and the engineers and technicians at the Project Management Unit (PMU) and Project Implementation Units (PIUs) in applying the EARF and familiarise the NESS with ADB environmental safeguard procedures and requirements, including implementation, monitoring and reporting;
- (vii) Identify subprojects that are most likely to fall into category B for environment; and
- (viii) Develop at least two Initial Environmental Examinations (IEEs) for subprojects that are most likely to fall into category B for environment.

D. Duration

8. The services of the IESS will be required for a period of two months. The IESS will be based at the PMU, with travels to the PIU offices and the field as required.

E. Qualifications

9. The IESS will have the following qualifications:
- (i) Minimum experience of 10 years in rural development and environmental safeguards;
 - (ii) At least a master's degree in environmental engineering, environmental management or relevant areas;
 - (iii) Significant community development experience;
 - (iv) Familiarity with rural development issues in Myanmar and in the region;
 - (v) Ability to develop and maintain close association with government agencies and communities;
 - (vi) Strong analytical, communication, documentation and presentation skills with experience in facilitating and chairing meetings with multiple stakeholder groups;
 - (vii) Good organizational and planning skills and an ability to adhere to deadlines;
 - (viii) Excellent writing skills; fluency in written and spoken English; and
 - (ix) Previous experience with the ADB or World Bank would be a distinct asset.

TERMS OF REFERENCE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL SAFEGUARD SPECIALIST

A. Introduction

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2. The Project operates in four regions and one state: (i) Ayeyawady Delta Region, (ii) and (iii) Mandalay and Magway regions in the Central Dry Zone, (iv) Taninthayi Region, and (v) Shan State. This will enable the piloting of different interventions based on topography, agricultural production systems, and natural resource management regimes. The focus on these geographic areas will also allow for direct linkages and potential upscaling through ADB's agriculture and natural resources operational program in Myanmar for 2013–2016.²

3. The Project will focus on two inter-related sets of activities: (i) improvements and upgrades of social and productive infrastructure; and (ii) improvement of capacities of communities, Project line agencies at the local and state levels, and to a lesser degree at the central levels.³ Envisaged interventions include community-prioritized interventions such as development of small-scale infrastructure at the village tract level, *inter alia*, community irrigation and drainage systems, rural access roads, bridges and foot-paths, potable water systems at the village level, and provision of social infrastructure such as community health centers, enhancement of existing or provision of new education facilities, and rural electrification needs at the household level. Support will also be extended for cottage/home based small scale industries such as lacquer work and handicraft production. Training for enhanced livelihood opportunities will include functional English literacy training, skills development for the emerging tourism market, and training for improved crop production, agricultural diversification, and agribusiness, especially in the Delta and the dry zone⁴. The primary focus will be on confidence building at local levels by re-invigorating cooperative societies, self-help groups, and traditional rural level leadership as key local level centers for planning and development.

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⁵ Village tracts constitute the lowest administrative level of Government. A typical village tract is organized under a township, comprises 4–5 villages, with administrators elected by heads of households.

(VDPs) prepared on a participatory basis and consistent with Township Development Plans.⁶ The block grants will support a positive list of subprojects in the first year of implementation (Table 1), and an ‘open menu’ of activities to be applied from year 2, subject to a negative list provided in Table 2, based on community-identified development priorities. Labor for these interventions will be recruited from among the village residents with a primary focus on providing employment to the poorer and more vulnerable households, largely cash for work initiatives with some proportion “in kind”. The focus will be on supporting local development and service delivery needs identified by the communities themselves. Technical supervision will ensure that basic technical standards are met during construction. A commitment (by the beneficiaries) to operation and maintenance (O&M) will be made a requirement for approval of the proposed activities within the VDPs. Nongovernment organizations (NGOs) or firms will be recruited to facilitate community interactions, assist local authorities and communities in the preparation of VDPs, and in the design and supervision of these civil works in collaboration with relevant engineers in Township Development Committees (TDCs).⁷ Capacity for participatory planning, budgeting, and implementation of subprojects⁸ will be developed at the village-tract level.

5. This CDD approach requires the development of a mechanism for review and assessment of the environmental impacts of the infrastructure subprojects prior to their implementation to ensure compliance with the ADB Safeguards Policy Statement (SPS) 2009, as well as those of the Government of Myanmar. The size and scale of activities will be limited by the size of block grants of up to \$27,000 each. The project has, therefore, been assigned environmental category B according to the SPS 2009. The Environmental Assessment and Review Framework (EARF) developed under the Project guides the screening of all subprojects under the Project, sets out institutional arrangements in relation to environmental management and monitoring and defines environmental assessment guidelines.

B. Scope of work

6. The National Environmental Safeguard Specialist (NESS) will be engaged for 24 months on an intermittent basis over the implementation period of the Project. The NESS will ensure that the Project is implemented in accordance with the environmental safeguarding requirements of ADB and the Government of Myanmar. The NESS will be attached to the PMU and will coordinate and facilitate all related monitoring and reporting activities.

C. Detailed tasks

7. The NESS, in collaboration with the International Environmental Safeguard Specialist (IESS), the environmental safeguard officers at the Project Management Unit (PMU) and the Project Implementation Units (PIUs), the Project staff, implementing partners and stakeholders, will undertake the following tasks:

- (i) Assist the PMU and PIUs to comply with the ADB and Government of Myanmar environmental safeguard requirements;
- (ii) Coordinate and facilitate all environmental safeguarding monitoring and reporting activities for the Project;

⁶ Successful experiences and lessons learned in the Dry Zone regarding the village development committee (VDC) model under LIFT and other UN Programs, with livelihood subgroups to assist beneficiaries in larger communities, will be examined for potential transferability and/or adaptation to the other project regions as well.

⁷ The Mission also undertook its own internal review and due diligence regarding the technical and organizational capacities of existing local NGOs and INGOs as well as Township Development Committees (TDCs) and also examined their experience in implementing community driven development projects.

⁸ Including thorough capacity development on financial management, procurement, and safeguard systems.

- (iii) Assist the IESS in preparing detailed monitoring schedules as well as conducting the monitoring environmental reports for submission to ADB to ensure that the environmental safeguard requirements associated with the selected subprojects are effectively met;
- (iv) Train relevant staff from the villages, village tract forums, and the township development committees, in environmental safeguard requirements for the Project;
- (v) Assist the village facilitators and volunteers, village tract forums, and the PIUs in integrating environmental safeguard guidelines into the subproject design, implementation and monitoring;
- (vi) Provide training to engineers and technicians in the PMU and PIU to implement and monitor environmental safeguard measures set out under the EARF;
- (vii) Liaise on environmental matters with other technical agencies, including the MOECAAF that will provide support services to the Project;
- (viii) Assist the PMU and PIUs in applying the ADB Rapid Environmental Assessment (REA) checklists, and the environment categorization forms for subprojects;
- (ix) Assist the PMU and PIUs in the preparation of Initial Environmental Examinations (IEEs) for category B subprojects;
- (x) Assist the PMU and PIUs in obtaining endorsement of the IEEs from the MOECAAF and in obtaining approval of the IEEs from ADB;
- (xi) Apply the set of environmental safeguard guidelines that will be developed to all subprojects by the IESS to ensure that the subprojects are designed in a way that does not alter the environmental classification of the Project in accordance with ADB's Safeguard Policy Statement 2009;
- (xii) In the case of category C subprojects, assist the PMU and PIUs in notifying ADB of the screening findings and the categorisation of the subproject;
- (xiii) Keep a detailed record of the public consultation activities and ensure that the public has access to public documents related to the environmental safeguarding process; and
- (xiv) Provide training to the PMU and PIU grievance point persons (GPPs) in applying the grievance redress mechanism set out in the EARF.

D. Duration

8. The services of the NESS will be required for a period of 24 months. The NESS will be based at the PMU, with frequent travels to the PIU offices and the field as required.

E. Qualifications

9. The NESS will have the following qualifications:

- (i) Minimum general experience of 7 years in rural development and environmental safeguards;
- (ii) At least a bachelor's degree in environmental engineering, environmental management or relevant areas;
- (iii) Significant community development experience;
- (iv) Familiarity with rural development issues in Myanmar at sub-national and national levels;
- (v) Ability to develop and maintain close association with government agencies and communities;
- (vi) Strong analytical, communication, documentation and presentation skills with experience in facilitating and chairing meetings with multiple stakeholder groups;
- (vii) Good organizational and planning skills and an ability to adhere to deadlines;
- (viii) Excellent writing skills; fluency in written and spoken English and Burmese; and
- (ix) Previous experience with the ADB or World Bank would be a distinct asset.