

**Democratic Republic of Congo**

**Regional Great Lakes Integrated Agriculture  
Development Project**

**ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL REPORTS SUMMARY**

**May 2016**



## ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL REPORTS SUMMARY

### 1. Introduction

The Regional Great Lakes Integrated Agriculture Development Project supports the development of selected value chains in the Great Lake Region, which include the countries of Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Burundi, Rwanda and Tanzania. The project investment area covers a corridor that is 508 km long and up to 50 km wide, alongside the national road No. 5 (RN5) connecting Bukavu (Capital of Sud-Kivu Province) to Kalemie (Capital of Tanganyika Province). The area encompasses about 9.5 million inhabitants (around 6.5 million for the 6 departments of Sud-Kivu Province and 3 million for Kalemie department). It implies that, administratively, two provinces (Sud-Kivu and Tanganyika) and seven departments and municipalities (Bukavu, Kabare, Kalehe, Walungu, Uvira, Fizi and Kalemie) are covered. The focus area of project investments is the 508 km corridor between Bukavu – Uvira – Kalemie on the border between DRC, Rwanda, Burundi and Tanzania, with Lake Kivu in the north and Lake Tanganyika in the South. The Ruzizi River and its plains, is a major part of the corridor. Investing in that corridor, is part of the larger World Bank Great Lake initiative to contribute to peace in the region, community resilience and post-conflict reconstruction. The current project covers DR Congo (DRC). The project design will expand to include Burundi as soon as the situation there stabilizes; project support for Burundi will be processed as a second series of projects (SOP).

The project development objectives (PDO) are “**to increase agricultural productivity and commercialization in targeted areas in the territory of the Recipient and improve agricultural regional integration; and (ii) to provide immediate and effective response in the event of an eligible crisis or emergency.**”. The targeted beneficiaries are local communities alongside the identified corridor. The project encompasses three main components:

- **Component 1: Agriculture Value Chain Development;**
- **Component 2:** Support for the development of the private agro industrial sector, including agro-industrial parks and access to business development services; and
- **Component 3:** Regional integration.

Subcomponents include: (i) Enhancing productivity and market linkages of selected value chains; (ii) Development of critical market infrastructure for improved market access; (iii) Improving the business environment and access to finance; (iv) Support development of competitive and inclusive agro-industrial parks based on market demand and economic, social, and financial viability; (v) Regional cooperation and joint natural resource management; and (vi) Regional agricultural research for development and promotion of other strategic value chains. Analytical work and consultations with Provincial and local stakeholders, resulted in the selection of three main agricultural value chains to be strengthen along the corridor, namely: rice; cassava; and livestock/dairy value chains. The allotted budget to the project for DRC, amounts to US\$152.70

Million; of which US\$150 million from IDA and US\$2.70 million from the Japan Policy and Human Resources Development Fund (PHRD).

Project implementation is expected to generate palatable socio-economic benefits: facilitate access to production areas in both provinces; increase agricultural production, facilitate product processing and market access; enhance food security; strengthen community resilience and contribute to regional integration. However, project investments may also induce adverse environmental and social impacts. Consequently, five environmental and social safeguards instruments have been prepared in line with domestic regulations, international conventions and World Bank safeguard policies, in the aim to mitigate potentially adverse environmental and social impacts. The instruments prepared are: (1) an Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF); (2) a Pest and Pesticide Management Plan (PPMP); (3) an Indigenous People Planning Framework (IPPF); (4) a Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF); and (5) a Riparian Notification Letter. These safeguards instruments were prepared through a participatory approach through citizen engagement, including local stakeholders, provincial and national stakeholders. The findings were subject to public consultations and endorsement in the two beneficiary provinces, including the participation of representatives of national environmental authorities, the civil society and the donor community.

## **2. Outputs**

### **2.1. Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF)**

The Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) describes the major environmental and social constraints in the targeted project areas. The framework provides an analysis of the environmental and social landscape of the investment corridor, especially in relation to various ecological systems and the social fabric of the area, including Indigenous People (IPs) and conflicts between various ethnic groups. Challenges identified include, but are not limited to: poor management of forest and faunal resources; poor enforcement legislations and regulations; weak biodiversity conservation practices; deficient involvement of civil society; recurrent land and natural resources based conflicts between various ethnic groups and IPs rights.

The ESMF also includes key elements of the environmental and social management plan (ESMP): selection procedures (screening); implementation and monitoring measures; institutional analysis and responsibilities, and budget. Furthermore, it incorporates guidelines for institutional capacity building mechanisms and measures, awareness raising measures, the legal framework for agro-forestry and pasture exploitation, provisions for the preparation and implementation of environmental and social management manuals and guidelines for studies (NIES/ESIA) and monitoring / evaluation.

Dedicated project staff (environmentalist and social scientist) and NGOs will implement the safeguards instruments, under the supervision of project management and the monitoring by Bank team's safeguards specialists. Additional monitoring will be executed by the Congolese Environment Agency (CEA) and the two Provincial Environmental Coordinators (PEC) whose

capacity will be strengthened early on in the project implementation process, particularly the capacity of the provincial level staff.

The estimated cost for mitigating potentially adverse environmental impacts amount to **USD 2 120 000**. Below is an estimated breakdown over a period of five years.

<b>Activities</b>	<b>Cost (USD)</b>
<b>Technical and monitoring actions</b>	<b>1 970 000</b>
Elaboration and implementation of NIES/ESIA	1 600 000
Elaboration of a manual of judicious agricultural, forestry and pasture practices	40 000
Surveillance and monitoring / evaluation of program activities	250 000
Mid-term and final assessment of environmental and social measures	80 000
<b>Training and sensitization actions</b>	<b>550 000</b>
<b>Training on :</b> Environmental and Social Management Domestic Environmental Legislation and procedures Social and environmental follow-up measures Hygiene and safety follow-up standards Judicious agricultural, forestry and pasture practices World Bank Safeguard Policies	50 000
<b>Raising awareness and sensitization on :</b> Environmental and social issues of PICAGL activities, the involvement of local actors, etc. (conduction of campaigns); Safety and hygiene at work; Judicious agricultural, forestry and pasture practices; Behaviors, attitudes and practices (BAP) regarding water-borne diseases, sexually transmitted infections (STI) and HIV-AIDS, etc.	100 000
<b>Overall cost of environmental costs : 2 120 000 USD (to be included in the PICAGL cost)</b>	

## **2.2 Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF)**

The resettlement policy framework (RPF) covers project activities that are likely to induce land acquisition. The rationale for preparing an RPF, rather than a detailed Resettlement Action Plan (RAP), has been dictated by the state of project preparation. A RAP is site specific and based on detailed technical studies, which are yet to be completed. Hence, an RPF was prepared as a guideline for addressing potentially adverse social impacts of project investments. The purpose of the RPF is to clarify resettlement principles, organizational arrangements, and design criteria to be applied to subprojects to be prepared during project implementation.

The RPF addresses the major issues related to land acquisition, (Expropriations /Compensation / Involuntary Resettlement), and emphasizes the need to prepare detailed RAPs for subprojects if land acquisition has been identified an issue. It provides an outline/guideline for the preparation of a Resettlement Action Plan/s; the later will be prepared prior to the commencement of civil works. The plans will identify people and properties negatively affected by project investments, and include land tenure analyses. The RAPs should be prepared in line with the guidelines provided in this RPF. Subproject resettlement plans consistent with the RPF will be subsequently prepared as need be, and will be submitted to the Bank for approval after once detailed technical studies have been completed. The preparation of the RAP(s) will provide further opportunities to carry out consultations with various stakeholders: provincial and local administrations; NGOs, indigenous peoples; farmers; and pastoralists. The RAPs will be instrumental in providing the exact number of project affected persons, including vulnerable persons. At this stage, 500 persons are estimated to be adversely affected by the project.

In addition, the RPF establishes the general rules which will serve as a guide for all resettlement operations, which will have to take into account the following steps: (i) determination of the project/sub-project(s) to be financed; (ii) information of the concerned authorities (decentralized regional entities (ETD)); (iii) RAP elaboration, if necessary; and (iv) RAP approval and dissemination. The RPF also includes a socio-economic analysis of the potentially adverse social impacts of project activities at implementation. Social impact assessments will be keys, in preparing, not only the RAPs, but also in assessing other social risks. Involuntary resettlement (in terms of expropriation or relocation of assets – land, buildings, kiosks, or self-subsistence production tools) will be avoided as much as possible.

The coexistence in DRC, of two systems of land management (formal laws and customary laws – usufruct tradition), combine with high population density in Eastern DRC, including the project area of investments, is prone to competing disputes over land/natural resources, at local community level. Consequently, the RAPs will include land tenure analyses, and consultations, which are expected to result in practical, site specific solutions.

These land tenure analyses should enable to:

- Facilitate the identification of areas (land, landscapes, water) prone to disputes, and those that are not;
- Facilitate dialogue and improve relations between communities with competing land rights and possibly contribute to reducing conflicts and promoting peace;
- Facilitate dialogue and improve relations between private landowners and landless households;
- Facilitate dialogue and help develop a "win-win" partnership in implementing farming systems that favor profitable economic sectors and environmental safeguard;
- Facilitate dialogue that result including indigenous peoples to enjoy shared prosperity;
- Facilitate dialogue that will provide women farmers a platform to negotiate farmland without male intermediaries.

The costs related to the implementation of the RAP/s will be calculated in conjunction with the preparation of the RAPs, the RPF provides an estimate and guidelines to that effect. The overall

costs of resettlement/rehabilitation include: (i) RAP preparation and compensation costs: land purchase/loss, compensation (agriculture, forestry, lodging, entities, etc.); (ii) implementation cost for the RAPs; (iii) the costs of sensitization campaign, public consultation and capacity building; and (iv) the costs of monitoring and evaluation.

Based on : (i) the potential impacts and the expected persons who may be affected by the Project; (ii) the areas required for the implementation of the subprojects; and (iii) the costs to the land acquisition process, the overall cost for resettlement/rehabilitation has been estimated at about **US\$1,000,000**. A rough breakdown of the amount transpires as follows::

- Land needs (resettlement / compensation) which amounts to about **US\$600,000**. It should be pointed out that the estimated number of PAP is subject to change in function of the sub-projects selected sites.
- Costs of activities pertaining to possible RAPs implementation, monitoring-evaluation process, capacity-building and sensitization campaign are estimated to a total of **US\$400,000**.

The RPF in its draft final form, was subject to national consultations with local, provincial, national and international stakeholders.

### **2.3. Indigenous People Planning Framework (IPPF)**

The project area, along the Bukavu – Uvira – Kalemie corridor, is partially inhabited by indigenous people (IP) known as Batwa, who live in either own camps or in villages, in cohabitation with various Bantu groups. Some of the camps are more recent, the results of internal migration due to recurrent, unpredictable violence and social insecurity in the IPs camps and villages of origin located further West.

The Batwa in Eastern DRC, are recognized as indigenous people by the DRC state, by neighboring communities and by international conventions. To mitigate potential negative impacts of the project on the IPs, OP 4.10 has been triggered. Consequently, an indigenous people’s planning framework (IPPF) was prepared. The purpose of the IPPF is to ensure that IPs will benefit from the project on equal footing as other ethnic groups in the project area. The preparation of the IPPF included consultations with the Batwa people and other stakeholders. Moreover, the draft final IPPF was subjected to consultations with IP communities, local, provincial and national stakeholders. The findings of the IPPF suggest that, the primary sources of livelihood of the Batwa, and their lifestyle have been organically linked with forest resources. Hunting and gathering have been their main sources of living, gradually, however, they are in the transition of becoming subsistence farmers, the challenge has been access to land. Currently, in the project area, most Batwa have become totally or partially relegated to low wage agricultural manpower, usually marginalized and socially excluded. The Batwa are now, not only distinguished by their culture, but also by r extreme poverty. In the first six months of project implementation, the IPPF will be replaced by an indigenous peoples plan (IPP). The IPP will be prepared, in a process will be based on of free, prior, and informed consultations with indigenous people and comprehensive social assessments. The IPP will identify operational opportunities and concrete, site specific investments that will ensure the inclusion of the Batwa in sharing the benefits of the project. Part of the IPP

activities will draw from the lessons of the Bank financed PRO-ROUTE project, which has, among others, facilitated the acquisition of 4000 hectares of land for various IP communities in the Tanganyika district, the most southern part of the Bukavu – Uvira –Kalemie corridor. The land issue is, however, more severe in Southern Kivu province than in the Tanganyika province. The IPP activities and approach will therefore be site and community specific.

At the outset, the IPPF made the following recommendations, in view of ensuring the inclusion of the IPs, in the project implementation process, ensuring their shared benefits and reducing social risks:

- Establish transparent criteria in the allocation of project benefits; e.g. (i) hiring of manual labor, (ii) access to land and (iii) assistance in agriculture inputs;
- Establish a project communication strategy which includes communication with IPs;
- Incorporate IPs in the citizen engagement process, including the monitoring process.

In detail, the IPPF identified the following actions, which will be further analyzed and reviewed in conjunction with the preparation of the IPP. Among others, the budget of the IPP investment activities is likely to be doubled or more.

N°	Activity	Cost (USD)
01	Identification of the civil society organization acting on behalf of the IP and strengthening their capacity for leadership and project monitoring/evaluation within their communities	30.000
02	Community relays training in each IP camp within the project area in order to ensure the IPDTP extension service	40.000
03	Carrying out raising awareness and sensitization campaigns to mobilize IP by themselves, within the project area ( in each province)	80.000
04	Elaboration of the IP Plan (IPP)	150.000
05	Provision for involvement of IP and their representatives in the monitoring/ evaluation process within their different project area	50 000
06	Support IP in citizenship-related activities	50 000
	<b>TOTAL AMOUNT (USD)</b>	<b>400 000</b>

## 2.4. Pest Management Plan

Agriculture is one of the most chemical consuming sectors in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). More than half of the DRC importation value derives from pesticides and fertilizers. These latter, are products manufactured to reduce, eliminate or prevent the proliferation of pests; some of which are used in public health whilst a larger amount is rather utilized in agricultural and agro-forestry sectors. Nonetheless, while removing pests, these products present possible or permanent



hazards to the fauna, the flora as well as to people and their environment, due to their toxic and pollutant impacts.

To mitigate the potentially adverse impacts of the pesticides on humans as well its environment is a priority, for both the public and the private sector.

Currently, however, Act No. 11/022 of 24 December 2011 pertaining to Agriculture is virtually the only domestic text that comprehensively addresses pesticide management at the chain value scale (import, storage, transportation, use, containers disposal ...) associated with the Act, is the Decree 05/162 of 18 November 2005 pertaining to plant protection regulations. Building on the decree, the Central Government is preparing a chemical certification system, based on hazard assessment and management and which sets up a monitoring mechanism for major hazard and agricultural calamities prevention.

A Pests and Pesticides Management Plan (PPMP)" has been prepared for the project, it does not only concur with OP 4.09, it also fills the gaps in the government policy framework.

The preparation of the PPMP is justified by the fact that, some project activities are likely to result in increased use of pesticides, this practice of pest control might be harmful from the environmental and social viewpoints, unless controlled.

The PPMP builds on interviews with provincial and central government administration as well as with the beneficiary population (importers, resellers, distributors, agronomists and farmers) and a series of surveys carried out to collect information on the current situation of pest control and pesticide management. The findings of the consultations and surveys, suggest that there are weaknesses at all levels of the system; from the identification of pesticides needs to the disposal of obsolete pesticides and empty containers through the purchase process and the use of pesticides on crops and stored stocks. But, the major concern is the marketing and distribution of unlicensed and often banned products and the absence of the implementation of the plant protection and pesticides control legislation.

To address these challenges, the PPMP suggests a number of measures and actions to be taken. The entities which will ensure the monitoring, the evaluation of compliance with the PPMP are identified. These entities are either public services, agricultural producers or the project management units.

Key actions to be taken are as follows:

- Capacity building of concerned project sector stakeholders (provincial and local level) in terms of pest and pesticide management;
- Training and sensitization of producers and farmers through on farm training:
  - Strengthening of integrated pest management (use, storage, transportation and disposal of containers);
  - Strengthening of crop pest integrated control;
  - Support to farmers' organizations
- Community sensitization and awareness raising activities;
- Regular monitoring and evaluation.

The estimated cost for the implementation of the PPMP amounts to US\$837,000. This budget covers:

- Strengthening of the institutional and regulatory framework for pest and pesticide management;
- Capacity building of institutional actors and local users;
- Improvement of pesticides management systems; and
- Monitoring and evaluation.

## **2.5. Process Framework (CF)**

The CF has been prepared to support potential restrictions of access to natural resources, as a result of project activities when protecting agricultural land where you have competing land use rights.

The requirements of OP 4.04 "natural habitats"; OP 4.36 "Forests" were largely taken into account in preparing the CGES, including protective measures for classified forests and natural reserves. Similarly, to comply with OP 4.12 "Involuntary Resettlement", a Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF) has been prepared, as well as an Indigenous Peoples Planning Framework (IPPF). Furthermore, to fully comply with OP 7.50 "projects on international waterways", an Exception memo to the Riparian Notification Requirement to riparian countries was prepared and approved by the regional Vice Presidency on March 9, 2016..

Four protected areas are found in the project investment area:

- The Kahuzi-Biega (PNKB) located in the Province of South Kivu, which covers an area of 6,000 km<sup>2</sup>
- The Itombwe Natural Reserve located in the province of South Kivu, in the northwest of Lake Tanganyika and covers approximately 12,000 km<sup>2</sup>.
- The domain and game reserve of Luama (alternative spelling Lwama) in northern Katanga, with an extension towards the North Kivu and Maniema Province Established in 1935, this area covers an area of about 343,500 ha.
- The Ngamikka National Park (Ngandja-Misotshi-Kabili-Kabobo) being created. It is located between Lake Tanganyika and RN5, straddling the territory of Kalemie (Province of Tanganyika) and Fizi (South Kivu Province).

The project area also includes important aquatic ecosystems formed by Lake Kivu, Lake Tanganyika and the Ruzizi River. This is one of the richest freshwater ecosystems in the world and a "hot spots" of global biodiversity.

The project will not only pay special attention to protected areas, rivers and lake ecosystems, but also to buffer zones, which often suffer from outdated or inexistent management plans. As part of the project preparatory works, a Master Plan for the Development of the Bukavu – Kalemie Corridor value chains is being prepared and will include: watersheds; lakes; river water surfaces; protected natural areas and investment areas/opportunities – agriculture – forestry and pastoralism.