



The World Bank

RCI- Emissions Reduction Program for Tai National Park (P170309)

Environmental and Social Review Summary
Concept Stage
(ESRS Concept Stage)

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**BASIC INFORMATION****A. Basic Project Data**

Country	Region	Project ID	Parent Project ID (if any)
Cote d'Ivoire	AFR	P170309	
Project Name	RCI- Emissions Reduction Program for Tai National Park (P170309)		
Practice Area (Lead)	Financing Instrument	Estimated Appraisal Date	Estimated Board
Environment & Natural Resources	Investment Project Financing	23-Oct-2019	27-Feb-2020
Borrower(s)	Implementing Agency(ies)		
Cote d'Ivoire Republic			

Proposed Development Objective(s)

The objective of the of the program is to make payments for measured, reported and verified Emission Reductions (ER) from reduced deforestation (ER payments) in the Tai national park area Emission Reductions Program, and distribute ER payments according to an agreed Benefit Sharing Plan.

Financing (in USD Million)	Amount
Borrowing Country's Fin. Intermediary/ies	0.00
Forest Carbon Partnership Facility	82.50
Total Project Cost	82.50

B. Is the project being prepared in a Situation of Urgent Need of Assistance or Capacity Constraints, as per Bank IPF Policy, para. 12?

No

C. Summary Description of Proposed Project [including overview of Country, Sectoral & Institutional Contexts and Relationship to CPF]

The proposed program has two components:

Component 1: Payments of emission reductions generated by the Tai ER-P following measurement, reporting and verification (MRV)



1. Deforestation, forest degradation, enhancement of carbon stock and associated emission reductions in the Taï ER-P area will be measured every two years by the MRV unit of the SEP-REDD+. The government of Côte d'Ivoire intends to report to the FCPF Carbon Fund every two years starting in 2022. The verification will take place every two years following the submission of the GHG emission reductions report. Payments by the FCPF Carbon Fund to the government of Côte d'Ivoire will be made upon verification of the emission reductions.

2. The proposed project will pay up to US\$ 82.5 million for the effective delivery of GHG emission reductions, duly verified over a five-year period (2020-2024) in accordance with the FCPF Carbon Fund's Methodological Framework and resulting from the Taï ER-P implementation. This amount corresponds to the purchase of 75% of the estimated emission reductions in that five-year period according to the Taï ER-PD.

Component 2: Distribution of the emission reductions in accordance with a Benefit Sharing Plan validated by the Government and acceptable to the World Bank: ER payments will be distributed accordingly to a Benefit Sharing Plan, which will be adopted by the Government in 2019. The benefit sharing plan will be based on the beneficiaries, principles and arrangement identified in the ER-PD. SEP-REDD+ coordinates the finalization of the benefit sharing plan with all relevant stakeholders.

3. The Emission Reductions Payment Agreement (ERPA), to be signed between the World Bank as the trustee of the FCPF Carbon Fund and the Ministry of Economy and Finance of Côte d'Ivoire will specify the technical and financial arrangements of the Taï National Park Area Emission Reductions Payments Project based on the Taï ER-PD and a due diligence focused on benefit sharing arrangements among program stakeholders, and safeguards implementation.

4. **The Taï ER-P is fully in line with the existing Country Partnership Framework (CPF) FY16-FY19** based on three major focus areas: (i) sustaining strong private sector-led growth; (ii) building human capital for inclusive growth, social cohesion and youth employment; and (iii) strengthening public financial management and accountability. The ER-P activities lend significant support to the objectives of the first focus areas, mainly *Objective 1: Improve productivity in agriculture/agribusiness value chains* and *Objective 4: Formalize and enhance access to land for business and agriculture* through support to the zero-deforestation agriculture policy in collaboration with the cocoa industry and enhancement of public-private partnership for sustainable management of activities in Classified Forests.

5. **The Taï ER-P also contributes directly to the Africa Climate Business Plan (ACBP) announced at the COP21 in Paris, specifically, the action area' "creating climate-resilient landscapes in the World Bank"** for which the Côte d'Ivoire is a key partner for implementation for coastal management and transport in addition to forest management. The objective of the ACBP is to help client countries access climate finance opportunities that can act as incentives to shift toward more sustainable practices. In this goal, the World Bank is supporting country efforts to improve governance systems, address drivers of deforestation, and engage communities in improving practices with better benefit sharing.

D. Environmental and Social Overview



D.1. Project location(s) and salient characteristics relevant to the ES assessment [geographic, environmental, social]

The Taï national park area Emission Reductions Program (Taï ER-P) covers five contiguous regions¹ in the South-West of Côte d'Ivoire covering an area of 4.6 million hectares, of which 20.2% is covered by forests (935,752 ha). The program area includes zones with different legal status, state of conservation and management arrangements: (i) The Rural domain, (ii) 24 classified forests² under the supervision of SODEFOR including some management partnership with NGOs, the private sector and cocoa small-scale holders, and (iii) National parks and reserves including the Mont-Peko national park and the Taï national park - N'zo natural reserve complex, managed by OIPR, constituting the largest West African primary tropical forest under protection.

D. 2. Borrower's Institutional Capacity

The borrower has an acceptable legal and regulatory environmental and social framework. The National agency called *Agence Nationale de l'Environnement* (ANDE) is the entity that oversees the approvals of environmental and social studies and monitoring and evaluation of such studies at the national level. The unit is well staffed, but its capacities are considered as moderate and Capacity building is required to enable this national body to play its role fully, particularly in the context of the implementation of the new Environmental and Social standards of the ESF.

In addition, the Bank identified the need to hire a full time dedicated Environmental safeguards specialist and a Social safeguards specialist. Capacity building efforts to support project implementation will be done by implementing recommendations contained in the safeguards instruments prepared for the program. The PIU will also receive guidance from the Banks' environmental and social specialists in the Program team so that they are able to lead the implementation of: ESS1 (Assessment and Management of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts); ESS2 (Labor and Working Conditions); ESS3 (Resources Efficiency and Pollution prevention and Management); ESS4 (Community Health and Safety); ESS5 (Land Acquisition, Restrictions of Land Use and Involuntary Resettlement); ESS6 (Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Management of Living Natural Resources) and ESS10 (Stakeholder Engagement and Information Disclosure). In addition, community liaison officers will be mobilized at the local level to support the implementation and monitoring of the stakeholder engagement plan.

II. SCREENING OF POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL (ES) RISKS AND IMPACTS

A. Environmental and Social Risk Classification (ESRC)

Moderate

The expected environmental and social impacts of the program will be overall positive. The ER-Program will finance investments such as: Fuelwood plantation; Food plantation and fuelwood associations; Alternatives to wood energy - utilization of agricultural residues and timber; Small-scale timber

¹ Cavally, Nawa, San Pedro, Guémon and Gboklè

² Classified forests of 1. Bolo-Est, 2. Bolo-Ouest, 3. Cavally, 4. Cavally-Mont-Sainte, 5. Dakpadou, 6. Dassioko, 7. Duekoue, 8. Flansobli, 9. Goin-Débé, 10. Haute-Bolo, 11. Haute-Dodo, 12. Kouin, 13. Krozalie, 14. Monogaga, 15. Mont-Kourabahi, 16. Mont-Tia, 17. Niégré, 18. Niouniourou, 19. Okromoudou, 20. Port-Gauthier, 21. Rapides-Grah, 22. Scio, 23. Semien et 24. Tyonle



plantation and protection of private and community forests, and carbon finance transactions. Some of the mentioned activities would lead to the loss or the disruption of income or livelihood activities for individuals or groups of people, restriction of resources access. Based on activities nature and their magnitude, potential adverse impacts on environment and communities are expected to be site specific, manageable on an acceptable level and reversible.

Efforts will be made to strengthen the Borrower's capacity to implement the provisions of the new Environmental and Social Framework"

Both from a social and environmental perspective the ESRC is considered to be **Moderate** under the World Bank's ESF.

B. Environment and Social Standards (ESSs) that Apply to the Activities Being Considered

B.1. General Assessment

ESS1 Assessment and Management of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts

Overview of application of ESS1:

To date, the sites of the expected investments are not known with certainties. However, the ESS requires that an environmental and social impacts and risks assessment be conducted prior to Board approval. An environmental and social risks assessment is required to be conducted and strong measures advocated to mitigate the specific risks and impacts according to the relevant Environmental and Social Standards. This includes measures to address GBV/SEA. To comply with this standard, the relevant safeguards instrument to be developed, is an Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) that will include measures to address all the environmental and social risks and impacts assessed for environmentally and socially friendly implementation of the ER-Program's activities. As the ER-Program belongs the REDD+ readiness process (P149801), the ESMF developed for REDD+ will serve as a guidance for the ER-Program.

Areas where reliance on the Borrower's E&S Framework may be considered:

This operation will not use the Borrower's E&S Framework in the assessment, development and implementation of the program. However, it will comply with relevant national legal and regulatory requirements.

ESS10 Stakeholder Engagement and Information Disclosure

Overview of application of ESS10:

A Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) will be developed and disclosed. This plan will address specific risks identified by stakeholders and it will be updated as and when necessary. The objective is to have an overview of program stakeholders and establish a systematic approach for stakeholders



engagement, maintain a constructive relationship with them, take into account stakeholders' views, promote and provide means for effective and inclusive engagement with project-affected parties throughout the program life-cycle, and ensure that appropriate program information is disclosed to stakeholders in a timely, understandable, accessible and appropriate manner.

The SEP will include mechanisms for setting out a Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) based on the inclusive and participatory approach and put in place to deal any complaint in the context of the ER-Program.

B.2. Specific Risks and Impacts

A brief description of the potential environmental and social risks and impacts relevant to the Program.

ESS2 Labor and Working Conditions

Overview of the relevance of ESS2 for the project:

Relevant: Based on activities nature and their magnitude, the program will likely include only direct workers that are composed of activities' owners and their employees. Despite that, the program will need to meet requirements such as described in the ESS2 for terms and conditions of employment, non-discrimination and equal opportunity, worker's organizations, child labor, forced labor, a grievance mechanism and, occupational health and safety. Civil servants working in connection with the program full-time or part-time will remain subject to the terms and conditions of their existing public-sector employment or agreement, unless there has been an effective legal transfer of their employment or engagement in the program. However, the program will include a condition of effectiveness for Labor Management Procedures for both the direct workers and community workers if applicable. The ER-Package will also include a Grievance Redress Mechanism for labor disputes.

The borrower will apply the relevant provisions of this ESS and EHS in a manner proportionate to the nature and scope of the operation, the specific activities in which the community is engaged and the nature and potential risk and impacts to community workers.

ESS3 Resource Efficiency and Pollution Prevention and Management

Overview of the relevance of ESS3 for the project:

Relevant : The overall level of environmental risks associated with the program is moderate.

Vegetation and soil loss: The clearance and loss of areas of vegetation and faunal habitat will be minimal. The overall impact on vegetation will be minimal.

Air emissions: During the Program implementation phase, air emissions will be very low since vehicles and machinery will not be used. Only fugitive dust generated by activities implementation is expected.

Noise: The short-term and small-scale nature of the works during the Program implementation phase might not generate noise that might induce nuisance for people. However, the Environmental and Social Management Framework to be prepared by the borrower will include mitigation measures to



minimize and manage the noise levels such by applying standard restrictions to hours of site work that are close to communities.

Waste management: Based on the nature and the small-scale of activities to be implemented on the ground, no significant quantity of solid waste will be generated. It is anticipated that most of the solid waste will be composed of grass, woods, leaves which are biodegradable. Plastics used for nurseries are also expected but not a lot. However, a system that will help to collect plastics will be set up for their proper management.

Pest Management: Lastly, the program will encourage agricultural intensification that will likely result in an increase of agrochemicals. Based on the fact that, the ER-Program is the REDD+ product, the program will use the Pest Management Plan (PMP) prepared for the REDD+ to manage the potential risks and impacts of agrochemical use.

ESS4 Community Health and Safety

Overview of the relevance of ESS4 for the project:

Relevant: The program does not include activities that could affect communities Health or Safety. In addition the small-scale of the works to be done does not induce labor influx that might lead to social impacts (gender-based violence, sexual exploitation, communicable diseases) on local communities.

However, the use of agrochemicals may increase the community's exposure to hazardous materials depending on the nature and quantities of chemicals used. The ESMF makes use of the general and sector-specific EHSs for the identified subprojects in relation to the community health and safety. In addition, the PMP includes measures to manage, store, transport and dispose of hazardous materials and wastes and minimize community exposure to such hazardous materials.

ESS5 Land Acquisition, Restrictions on Land Use and Involuntary Resettlement

Overview of the relevance of ESS5 for the project:

Relevant: It is not anticipated that the program will lead to Land acquisition, Restrictions on Land use and Involuntary Resettlement. The sites of the expected realizations are not known with certainties to date. So, as a precautionary measure, a social risks assessment will be conducted and RPF or RAPs whenever the sites and type of investments are known with precision, will be developed and implemented properly. In case RAP is needed, that RAP will be prepared by the borrower, reviewed, consulted upon, approved and disclosed both within the country and on the World Bank's web site prior the commencement of the civil works.

A Resettlement Policy Framework(RPF) and a Process Framework(PF) were developed as part of the REDD+ process. Both documents will apply to ER-program's activities.

ESS6 Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Management of Living Natural Resources

Overview of the relevance of ESS6 for the project:



Relevant: The application of this ESS seeks to ensure that all precautions were taken in the ER-Program to protect biodiversity, as some activities like restoration and protection of the natural tree cover in classified forests could have potential adverse impacts on natural habitats.

The project will finance activities on promoting multipurpose tree nurseries, agroforestry and agribusiness value chain. These activities may have environmental and social impacts. The ESMF provides guidance on applying the mitigation hierarchy and the precautionary principles in the design and implementation of such activities to promote the sustainable management of natural resources and support livelihoods of local communities.

The ESMF developed as part of REDD+ process, includes a specific chapter on natural habitats protection.

ESS7 Indigenous Peoples/Sub-Saharan African Historically Underserved Traditional Local Communities

Overview of the relevance of ESS7 for the project:

Not relevant: There are no Indigenous Peoples/Sub-Saharan African Historically Underserved Traditional Local Communities in Cote d'Ivoire.

ESS8 Cultural Heritage

Overview of the relevance of ESS8 for the project:

Relevant: It is not anticipated that the program will impact cultural heritage. However, the operation could finance the realization of investments that will induce excavation during construction phase. The environmental and social assessment will confirm the existence of tangible or intangible cultural heritage. However, all construction contracts will include a "Chance Find" clause which will require contractors to stop construction in the event that cultural property sites are encountered during civil works.

The treatment of cultural heritage that may be encountered will follow a Chance Finds Procedure included in the ESMF. In addition, a Physical Cultural Resources Management Framework(PCRMF) was also developed as part of REDD+ process. That instrument will serve as a guidance for cultural heritage protection. Lastly, Environmental and Social Impact Assessments for the subprojects, will include a "chance find" procedure.

ESS9 Financial Intermediaries

Overview of the relevance of ESS9 for the project:

Not Relevant: This standard does not apply.

B.3 Other Relevant Project Risks

Overview of all potential risks of relevance for the project that may impact the environmental and social assessment:



No

C. Legal Operational Policies that Apply

OP 7.50 Projects on International Waterways No

Explanation: the ER-program will not finance activities that will affect International Waterways

OP 7.60 Projects in Disputed Areas No

Explanation: the program will not finance activities that will involve Disputed Areas

III. WORLD BANK ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL DUE DILIGENCE

A. Is a common approach being considered? No

B. Proposed Measures, Actions and Timing (Borrower’s commitments)

Actions to be completed prior to Bank Board Approval:

-Preparation of the Environmental and Social Commitment Plan (ESCP) with measure for addressing the environmental, social and labor risks identified in the project.

-Preparation of a draft Stakeholder Engagement and Plan (SEP)

-Preparation of the Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF)

-Preparation of the Pest Management Plan (PMP)

-Preparation of the Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF)

-Preparation of the Process Framework

- Preparation of the Grievance Redress Mechanism in the context of the project

Possible issues to be addressed in the Borrower *Environmental and Social Commitment Plan (ESCP)*:

Elaborate the stakeholder engagement plan as part of the Borrower's Environmental and Social Commitment Plan, Preparation ESIA's and RAPS, Preparation of PMP and a GBV/SEA plan, etc.

C. Timing

Tentative target date for preparing the Appraisal Stage ESRS 23-Oct-2019

IV. WORLD BANK ES OVERSIGHT

Corporate advice/oversight will be provided by an Environmental and Social Standards Adviser (ESSA) during project preparation Yes



V. CONTACT POINTS

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VI. FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

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VII. APPROVAL

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