

REPUBLIC OF COTE D'IVOIRE**Cashew Value Chain Competitiveness Project
(P158810)****ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL REPORTS SUMMARY****1. INTRODUCTION**

1. In the framework of the Cashew Value-Chain Competitiveness Project, six (06) safeguard policies were triggered. There are: OP 4.01 “*Environmental Assessment*”, OP 4.04 “*Natural Habitats*” OP 4.09 “*Pest Management*”, OP 4.11 “*Physical cultural resources*” OP 4.12 “*Involuntary Resettlement*”, OP 4.36 “*Forests*”. Thus, three (03) safeguard instruments and one (01) Terms of Reference (ToR) have been prepared, reviewed by bank’s specialists, consulted upon and disclosed within Cote d’Ivoire on April 5, 2017 and at the World Bank website on April 6, 2017. Those safeguard documents are:

- Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF).
- Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF).
- Integrated Pest Management Plan (IPMP).
- Terms of Reference of SESA.

2. OUTPUTS**2.1. Environmental and Social Management Framework**

2. With the support of the World Bank, since May 2016, the Government of Côte d'Ivoire has undertaken the preparation of the Cashew Value Chain Competitiveness Project (CVCCP -"PACCVA" in French). This project aims is to increase cashew productivity, quality and value-added focusing on small farmers and SMEs in producing areas of Côte d'Ivoire.

3. The implementation of the project will be carried out through the four (4) following components:

- Component 1: Improving the Organization and governance of the cashew value chain.
- Component 2: Cashew growers productivity enhancement and improved market access
- Component 3: Support to private investment in processing capacity and market linkages.
- Component 4: Program coordination, monitoring and knowledge management.

4. Under these components, the Project will finance a number of interventions at critical point along the cashew value chain with a focus on: (i) increasing RCN productivity on-farm, improving quality and lowering aggregation costs; (ii) accelerating private investment in new processing capacity through the provision of carefully designed and located physical infrastructure that increases operational efficiency and significantly lowers the initial cost of investment; (iii) improving the policy and regulatory framework for the sustainable development of the cashew value chain in Côte d’Ivoire, including building capacity in all functions along the value chain (technical and managerial skills, knowledge and innovation); and (iv) facilitating market development and trade.

5. Activities planned under the Project are likely to have positive impacts on the socio-economic situation but also negative impacts on the biophysical and human components in the project area. On the environmental side, for instance, they could generate technological (industrial) risks, disruption of the

living environment, production of solid and liquid waste, occupation of private land (development of agro-industrial zones and rural roads), pollution of natural resources (water, air, soil) and use of phytosanitary products, including pesticides to improve productivity and storage of cashew. On the social side, the main concerns are youth unemployment, overcrowding, land tenure problems and risk of conflicts between farmers and pastoralists.

6. Based on the planned activities, this operation was rated **Category “A”**, and six safeguard policies were triggered by the Project. There are: OP 4.01 “Environmental Assessment”, OP 4.04 “Natural Habitats”, OP 4.09 “Pest Management”, OP 4.11 “Physical cultural resources”, OP 4.12 “Involuntary Resettlement”, and OP 4.36 “Forests”.

7. The political and legal context of the PACCVA's environmental sector and areas of intervention are marked by the existence of relevant policy documents, including: The White Paper on the environment, elaborated in 2004, the National Reforestation Program (2006-2015) to completing the Master Plan for the Forestry Sector (1988-2015), the national program for sustainable management of urban waste (2002), and the framework policy document on sanitation (1998). Implementation of these policies required prior definition of an institutional, legislative and regulatory framework in which environmental actions in Côte d'Ivoire are now taking place. These include: (i) on the legislative level, Law No. 96-766 on the Environment Code which was promulgated on 3 October 1996; and (ii) at the regulatory level, Decree No. 96-894 of 8 November 1996 setting rules and procedures applicable to environmental impact assessment of development projects. Other relevant laws reinforce this legal corpus, namely Law No. 98-755 of 23 December 1998 on Water Code, Law No. 2014-138 of 24 March 2014 on Mining Code, Law No. 2014 - 427 of 14 July 2014 on Forestry Code and regulations governing expropriation for reasons of public utility. There are also international laws such as conventions ratified by the country and especially the World Bank's safeguard policies.

8. With the above in mind, the challenge will therefore be to combine both the development of the Project's activities with the requirements of environmental and social management.

9. **Environmental and social benefits.** Activities under the PACCVA will provide environmental and social benefits to the people in the project area. These benefits include increasing customer satisfaction, improving smallholder production, improving feeder roads and post-harvest infrastructure, improving the business environment, improving financing instruments, creating a cashew processing industry, effective development of national, regional and international markets for cashew products, job creation and poverty reduction. Other benefits will be better management of pesticides and reduction of various forms of pollution, management of solid and liquid waste.

10. **Negative impacts.** These negative will include potential loss of plant species, waste production, risks of soil, water and air pollution, noise, risks of accidents at work and traffic, social conflicts between local populations and site staff in the event of non-recruitment of local populations, etc.

11. The environmental and social impacts and risks listed above require different alternatives or measures for eliminating, reducing or compensating for their negative impacts. In addition to the measures identified in the Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP), it is necessary to:

- put in place a monitoring and evaluation system that ensures that the project activities guaranty protection of the physical and social environment;
- implement the waste management plan;
- implement training programs and communication strategies tailored to each level of the service delivery chain for better accountability of actors in order to reduce various types of pollution;

- implement measures to improve the positive environmental and social impacts of the Project, as the use of alternatives to reduce and recycle waste;
- incorporate binding clauses as part the DAO that require the company's Environmental Health and Safety Plan be approved before the work is actually started.

12. **The institutional framework for the implementation of the ESMF** involves several actors and technical structures, the most significant of which are:

- The Steering Committee (SC) : The Steering Committee will monitor the registry and budgeting of the environmental and social due diligence from the Work Plan and Annual Budget (WPAB) ;
- The Project Coordination Unit (PCU) which should ensure the effective consideration of environmental and social issues foreseen as part of the implementation of Project activities;
- The National Environment Agency (ANDE) which will proceed with the examination and approval of the environmental classification of sub-projects, as well as the approval of environmental and social impact assessments (ESIAs). It will also provide external monitoring;
- Decentralized Technical Services (STD by its French acronym): The STDs are constituted by the Regional and Departmental Directorates of the Ministries of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD – “MINADER” in French); Industry and Mines (MIM); Health, Environment and Sustainable Development (MINSÉDD). These regional and departmental directorates of the project's intervention zones are concerned and will be associated with all activities implemented in their fields and zones of action during and after the Project;
- Municipalities: They will participate in environmental and social monitoring through their municipal technical services;
- Cashew Sector: The Cotton and Cashew Council will also be involved in the implementation of the PACCVA-ESMF (identification of sub- projects, screening, etc.);
- Construction companies They will be responsible for the implementation of the ESMF and the drafting of implementation reports of the ESMF through their Environmental Expert;
- Owner’s Engineer: The Environmental Expert within their organization will be responsible for the day-to-day monitoring of the implementation of the ESMF and the drafting of an environmental and social monitoring report to submit to the Project Coordination Unit (PCU);
- NGOs: In addition to social mobilization, they will participate in the awareness building among the populations concerned and the monitoring of the implementation of the ESMF by means of inquiries of the principal actors of the PACCVA.

13. The ESMP includes the screening process, the key elements of environmental and social management (institutional and technical capacity building measures, training and sensitization measures, good practices in environmental management and waste management, provision for the implementation of ESIA and monitoring/evaluation of the project activities) as well as the program for implementation and monitoring of the measures, institutional responsibilities and budget.

14. The implementation of the activities will be carried out under the coordination of the monitoring missions and under the supervision of the Environmental Specialist (ES) and the Social Development Specialist (SDS) of Project Coordination Unit (PCU) with the involvement of Environmental and Social Respondents (ESR) of technical services, Delegations of the Cotton-Cashew-Council, and NGOs. The monitoring program will focus on ongoing monitoring, supervision and annual evaluation. External monitoring will be provided by ANDE through establishment of protocol between the project and ANDE. Members of the Steering Committee and the World Bank will also be involved in the supervision of the project activities.

15. The table below summarizes the institutional arrangements for the implementation of the ESMP.

Table 1. Institutional arrangements for the implementation of the ESMP.

No	Activity	Responsible	Support/Collaboration	Delivery mechanism
1.	Identification of the locale / site and principal technical characteristics of the sub-project	Municipal government Prefectures Beneficiary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decentralized Technical Services • Beneficiary 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PCU
2.	Environmental selection (screening-filling out of forms) and determination of the type of specific safeguard instrument (ESIA, RAP, environmental and social audit, social audit, etc.)	Environmental & Social Experts of the PACCVA (ES - SDS/PCU)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beneficiary; • Municipal government • ES - SDS/PCU • ESR/DTS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental & Social Experts of the PACCVA (ES - SDS/PCU) • Environmental and Social Respondents (ESR)
3.	Approval of the categorization for the entity responsible of the environmental impact assessments and the World Bank	PACCVA Coordinator	ES-SDS/PCU	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ANDE • World Bank
4.1.	Preparation of the specific E & S safeguard instrument for Category A			
	Preparation and approval of the Terms of Reference	Environmental & Social Experts of the PACCVA (ES - SDS/PCU)	ANDE	World Bank
	Completion of the study and related public consultation		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procurement Specialist (PS) • ANDE ; • Municipal government 	Consultant
	Validation of the document and obtaining the environmental certificate		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procurement Specialist (PS) • Municipal government 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ANDE, • World Bank
	Publication of the document		PACCVA Coordinator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Media ; • World Bank
4.2.	Preparation of the specific E & S safeguard instrument for Category B or C			
	Preparation and approval of the Terms of Reference	Environmental & Social Experts of the PACCVA (ES - SDS/PCU)	Technical head of the activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ANDE, • World Bank
	Completion of the study and related public consultation		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procurement Specialist (PS) • ANDE ;Municipal government 	Consultant
	Validation of the document and obtaining the environmental certificate		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PS • Municipal government 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ANDE, • World Bank
	Publication of the document		PACCVA Coordinator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Media ; • World Bank
5.	(i) Integration within the Request for Proposal (RFP) file of the sub-project, in the environmental and social clauses ; (ii) approval of the ESMF-construction site	Technical head of the activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist (M&E S) • PS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental & Social Experts of the PACCVA

No	Activity	Responsible	Support/Collaboration	Delivery mechanism
6.	Implementation of the environmental and social clauses	Environmental & Social Experts of the PACCVA (ES - SDS/PCU)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procurement Specialist • Technical head • Financial Management Specialist (FMS) • Municipal government • Others 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction companies • Consultants • NGO • Others
7.	Internal monitoring of the implementation of environmental and social measures	Environmental & Social Experts of the PACCVA (ES - SDS/PCU)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • M&E Specialist • Financial Management Specialist (FMS) • Municipal government 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Owner's Engineer
	Dissemination of the internal monitoring report	PACCVA Coordinator	Environmental & Social Experts of the PACCVA (ES - SDS/PCU)	Environmental & Social Experts of the PACCVA (ES - SDS/PCU)
	External monitoring of the implementation of environmental and social measures.	ANDE	Environmental & Social Experts of the PACCVA (ES - SDS/PCU)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PACCVA • ESR/DTS • Municipal government • NGO
8.	Social and environmental monitoring	Environmental & Social Experts of the PACCVA (ES - SDS/PCU)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ANDE • Municipal government • Beneficiary (CCA) • ESR/DTS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Laboratories/specialized centers • NGO
9.	Capacity strengthening of actors for social and environmental implementation	Environmental & Social Experts of the PACCVA (ES - SDS/PCU)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Other social and environmental specialists • Procurement Specialist • FMS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultants • Competent public structures
11.	Audit of the implementation of social and environmental measures	Environmental & Social Experts of the PACCVA ES -SDS/PCU	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Other social and environmental specialists • Procurement Specialist • ANDE • Municipal government 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultants

16. The roles and responsibilities as described above will be integrated into the Project Implementation Manual (PIM).

17. Key indicators to be monitored include:

- the number of sub-projects that have been subject to environmental and social screening;
- the number of ESIAS carried out and published;
- the number of sub-projects that have been subject to environmental monitoring and reporting;
- Number of actors trained / sensitized in environmental and social management;
- Number of awareness campaigns carried out.

18. The costs of the environmental measures of 517,000,000 FCFA (US\$1,034,000) are spread over the five (5) years of the funding of the Project. These are summarized in the table below.

Table 2. Costs of environmental measures related to the project

N°	Activities	Cost (FCFA)
1	Institutional, technical and monitoring measures	467 000 000
2	Training	35 000 000
3	Sensitization measures	15 000 000
	TOTAL COST (FCFA)	517 000 000
	TOTAL COST (\$US)	1 034 000

19. For the preparation of the ESMF, consultation meetings with stakeholders were held from 20 November to 03 December 2016. The main actors were administrative managers, technical structures, farmers and population in the localities of Korhogo, Boundiali, Mankono, Bondoukou, Bouaké and Katiola.

20. The objective of these consultation meetings was to inform stakeholders about the project (objective, components, impacts and mitigation and improvement measures), to get their opinions and concerns and to set foundations for a concerted and sustainable implementation of the Project for their involvement in decision-making. Beyond the appraisal of the project, the general consensus was based on land tenure, expropriation for public utility, unsustainable agricultural and phytosanitary practices, quality of cashews, diseases and pests in cashew farms and the state of rural roads.

21. Ultimately, the environmental and social management of the PACCVA will be based on the implementation of the ESMF, PMP and RPF safeguard instruments and the Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA) of the agro-industrial zone. The SESA will cover the environmental and social aspects directly related to the establishment of the agro-industrial zone as well as the indirect and wider environmental and social implications.

2.2. Pest Management Plan (PMP)

22. With the support of the World Bank, since May 2016, the Government of Côte d'Ivoire has undertaken the preparation of the Cashew Value Chain Competitiveness Project (CVCCP -"PACCVA" in French). This project aims is to increase cashew productivity, quality and value-added focusing on small farmers and SMEs in producing areas of Côte d'Ivoire. It is listed as a national priority in the country's 2016-2020 National Development Plan (NDP) and National Agricultural Investment Plan (NAIP).

23. The implementation of the project will be carried out through the four (4) following components: (i) Component 1: Institutional support and governance of the cashew value chain; (ii) Component 2: Improvement of productivity and access to markets; (iii) Component 3: Support to private investment in processing capacity and market linkages; (iv) Component 4: Project coordination.

24. Due to the nature, characteristics and importance of the work to implement, the project was classified in category “A” according to the World Bank's environmental and social categorization criteria. The following six (6) operational policies for environmental and social safeguards are triggered: (i) OP 4.01 "Environmental Assessment"; (ii) OP 4.09 "Pest Management"; (iii) OP 4.04 "Natural Habitats"; (iv) OP 4.11 "Physical Cultural Resources", (v) OP 4.12 "Involuntary Resettlement” and (vi) OP 4.36 "Forests".

25. The implementation of the PACCVA in particular, components 2 and 3 could directly or indirectly stimulate the use or increase the quantity of pesticides and other methods of pest control. In other words, the constraints of crop production would lead to the use of pesticides by producers to improve their productivity. In this respect, and in order to comply with national requirements and the World Bank's environmental and social safeguard policies, in particular OP4.09 on pest management, the Government elaborated this **Pest Management Plan (PMP)** to ensure rational use of pesticides in integrated pest and weed control.

26. The general objective of the PMP is to prevent or mitigate the impacts of pests and pesticides on human and biological environment and to provide an effective pest control framework. Specifically, it includes:

- identification of all potential environmental and health risks related to the use of pesticides under the project;
- proposal for a pest management plan;
- definition of the institutional arrangements for monitoring and surveillance to be taken before, during and after the implementation of the Project and activities for avoiding, suppressing, mitigating or compensating for environmental impacts and health risks.

27. The plan also highlights the different categories of actors whose roles and modes of involvement have impacts that can differentially influence the effectiveness of environmental and health management. These actors include ministries in charge of Environment, Agriculture, Health, Commerce as well as private operators, local authorities, laboratories and research institutions, health and environmental NGOs, producer organizations, etc.

28. This document complements two other framework documents governing environmental management and compensation for communities likely to be affected by the project activities. These documents are the ESMF and the Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF).

29. On the legislative level, phytosanitary protection in Côte d'Ivoire is governed by Decree No. 159 / MINAGRA of 21 June 2004 prohibiting 67 active ingredients used in manufacturing of plant protection products used in agriculture, and Decree 89 -02 of 04 January 1989 on approval of manufacture, sale and use of pesticides in Côte d'Ivoire. This regulatory scheme concerns health protection of plants and plant products by preventing and combating harmful organisms both at the level of their introduction and that of their spread within the national territory, in order to safeguarding and guaranteeing the physical and biological environment ensuring sustainable development. This regulatory scheme is being restructured as a result of Côte d'Ivoire's accession to the regulation document c / reg.3 / 05/2008 harmonizing the rules governing registration of pesticides in the ECOWAS area. This document was adopted at the sixtieth

ordinary session of the ECOWAS Council of Ministers in Abuja on 17 and 8 May 2008. In addition, Côte d'Ivoire has signed and ratified several international legal instruments relating to chemicals.

30. With regard to biophysical and human environments and socio-economic activities, the PMP identifies the existing environmental and social potentialities in terms of soil, water and biodiversity resources. It also gives an idea of the state of degradation of these natural resources and the environmental and socio-economic stakes in the project areas, particularly in relation to the development of the project activities.

31. In the area of intervention of the PACCVA, in addition to cashew, cash crops are mainly cotton, sugar cane, coffee, cocoa, rubber, palm oil. Food crops include maize, rice, etc. Vegetable crops are tomatoes, carrots, etc. The main cashew pests that prevail in this area are: anthracnose, Oidium, pestalotiosis, rust, bacteriosis, and virus diseases. Discussions with some stakeholders demonstrated the use of pesticides for the treatment of these pests in cashew farms and the storage facilities for agricultural products in the Project area. The vast majority of producers still consider chemical control as the only method of preventing pests and parasites. Most producers use unregistered pesticides. The main reason of using these unregistered pesticides includes:

- their lower cost compared to registered pesticides;
- their availability (sold on local markets);
- insufficient technical training and difficulties in effective control of pesticides used;
- difficult access to registered pesticides (in terms of proximity).

32. Therefore, this PMP pays particular attention to the following aspects:

- information, sensitization, capacity building of the various actors in the cashew sector on methods of responsible and efficient use of phytosanitary products in general and pest and pesticides management in particular;
- support for getting appropriate equipment and infrastructure; and
- support for application of certain regulatory provisions.

33. The main hazards associated with the use of pesticides in the implementation of PACCVA are:

- **Human intoxication:** in most cases, many users of pesticides neglect or ignore the risks and dangers of pesticides. Therefore, they manipulate them without any precaution causing risks of poisoning.
- **Animal intoxication:** Pesticides also kill other non-target insects and birds that may be natural predators of pests. Similarly, water polluted by pesticides becomes dangerous for terrestrial (domestic and wild) and aquatic animals with the phenomenon of bioaccumulation thus endangering the entire food chain.
- **Water pollution:** Water is the main collector of surplus of pesticides. The principal lakes or rivers can thus be environmental components liable to be polluted leading to pollution of water table and thus of entering of the pesticides in the food chain.
- **Soil pollution:** Pollution of soils through increased use of pesticides contributes to kill both harmful insects and microorganisms in soils. However these microorganisms are important for removing soil nutrient deficiencies and stimulating respiratory and mineralization activities.
- **Air pollution:** Air pollution through increased use of pesticides has negative impacts on the quality of air. It could cause respiratory problems. It could also impact negatively beekeeping activities by reducing the population of bee.

34. Under the PACCVA, guidance on pest management will be based on the approach recommended for managing pest and parasites. For the cashew sector, an overview of the protocols recommended in the project, the suitable pesticides and the motivation for choosing them are given in the document. It should be noted that the recommended pesticides are selected from the list of phytosanitary products approved by WHO and ratified in Côte d'Ivoire.

35. The diagnosis of the pest situation and the use of pesticides in the PACCVA intervention area required the elaboration of an Action Plan to deal with the negative impacts of the use of pesticides on environment and people. This should help minimizing the anticipated negative impacts associated with the implementation of the Project activities. This Action Plan includes:

- Promoting the use of alternative pest management strategies in the project areas;
- Strengthening of controls during importation of phytosanitary products;
- Capacity building of key actors on the rational use of pesticides;
- Sensitization of producers on good practices of use of pesticides (transport, storage, applying, safety measures);
- Environmental monitoring of the physico-chemical quality of water resources (groundwater and ponds); and
- Health monitoring of pesticides users and management of empty containers.

36. Monitoring, supervision and annual evaluation of the implementation of the Action Plan will be done. The external monitoring would be carried out by Directorate of Plant Protection, Control and Quality (DPPCQ - "DPVCQ" in French), the Ivorian Anti-pollution Center (IAPC - "CIAPOL" in French) and National Agency for Environment (NAE - "ANDE" in French) whose capacities should be reinforced for this purpose. Members of the Steering Committee and the World Bank will also be involved in the supervision of the project activities.

37. The implementation of the recommended measures will be carried out under the coordination of the Environmental Specialist (ES) and the Social Development Specialist (SDS) of the project with involvement of Environmental and Social Respondents (ESR) at the level of each regional direction of Health, Environment and Sustainable Development Ministry involved in the Project implementation. The Project coordination will get support from DPVCQ, the Regional or Departmental Directorates of Agriculture and Rural Development, ANDE, municipalities, producer organizations and NGOs active in the project area.

38. The costs of the PMP are estimated at 410,000,000 XOF (USD 820 000). These costs are spread over the five (5) years of the Project implementation.

2.3. Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF)

39. The Government of Côte d'Ivoire, with the support of the World Bank Group, is committed to preparing a project to improve the competitiveness of the cashew sector. The latter plays an important role in Côte d'Ivoire, both socially and economically. It employs directly or indirectly nearly 250,000 producers and provides livelihoods to about 1.5 million people. Conscious of the enormous potential for growth and development in the sector, the Government has set itself the objective of increasing domestic processing of raw cashew nuts to a minimum of 50 percent of the total harvest. To this end, and on the basis of the preliminary analyzes of the sector, Côte d'Ivoire could benefit from an IBRD loan amounting to 175 million US Dollars in order to improve the performance and competitiveness of the sector. The project will also contribute to the reduction of poverty in rural areas by targeting small farmers and SMEs in the production areas of Côte d'Ivoire, mainly in the northern regions of the country.

40. Some of the activities foreseen by the project to improve the cashew sector, notably its components 2 (productivity improvement and access to markets - improvement of feeder roads and post-harvest infrastructure) and component 3 (support private sector investment in processing - support for the development of adequate infrastructure for the cashew industry) are likely to result in land acquisition and/or restricted access to resources used by the populations. In addition to the impacts of resettlement, it should be noted that since the introduction of livestock in the 1970s, animal grazing has become a common phenomenon in rural areas. It causes damage to crops and is a source of regular and sometimes conflicts between farmers and herders, mainly in the northern and western regions of the country, the main areas of intervention of the project.

41. Mitigation of the negative social and economic impacts resulting from involuntary resettlement is a condition for harmonious development and better shared prosperity. This RFP is a safeguard instrument for the Government of Côte d'Ivoire to make resettlement a development opportunity for affected people in general and vulnerable groups in particular.

42. During the design and implementation phases of the cashew competitiveness project, all measures will be taken to avoid or minimize the potential impacts identified. The institutional mechanism for selecting and approving subprojects to be financed will ensure that activities with significant negative socioeconomic impacts on populations are not eligible. Also, the locations of the infrastructures to be built will be analyzed in order to avoid as much as possible the relocations of the populations and the degradation of their properties.

43. Post-independence land policies encouraged the transfer of land to foreigners to enhance the value of land for productive purposes. In 1998, the country undertook a deep land reform which led to the promulgation of the rural land law of 23 December 1998, as amended by the law of 14 August 2004. This text appears as a turning point for modern rural land law in Côte d'Ivoire and proposes to validate by certification and then by title deeds the customary rights or acquired land according to customary procedures. But ten years after its adoption, 98 percent of land rights still remain customary, reflecting the difficulties of law enforcement. This was verified in the field during the public consultations held in some villages in the project area.

44. In the case of unintended land acquisition, the project must ensure that fair and equitable compensation is provided for the losses incurred. The damage must be directly related to loss of land or restriction of access. Vulnerable persons should be given special attention in the implementation of the resettlement process. All expropriation and compensation measures will be carried out in accordance with national legislation and the Bank's Operational Policy 4.12. In case there are discrepancies between the two, the latter will be applied.

45. The precise determination of the number of people who will be affected by the project is not feasible at this stage of the project.

46. In the context of the preparation of possible Resettlement Action Plans, socio-economic studies will be carried out in order to know precisely the number and characteristics of the persons affected, once the settlement sites are finally fixed. However, given the nature of the investments to be made, it is hoped that the displacement of populations will be limited. The institutional capacities for the implementation of the resettlement process will be strengthened at the level of the structures responsible for the implementation of the project.

47. Training on OP 4.12 and national legislation, including expropriations, compensation and land will be considered. It would also be necessary for the project to contract with providers (NGOs, consultants) to support awareness-raising, negotiation of possible compensation, participation of

communities and displaced persons in the envisaged actions. Establishing a consultation strategy for resettled persons to enhance their participation in the design, implementation and monitoring and evaluation of resettlement activities is essential and in line with the Bank's policy on resettlement. The project will conduct information and consultation campaigns before the compensation or resettlement process is launched.

48. Several types of conflict could arise in the event of resettlement, thus justifying the existence of a mechanism to deal with certain complaints (settlement, administrative arrangements and recourse to justice). In order to resolve conflicts, it is always desirable to favor an amicable solution, but it may fail despite conciliation efforts. Recourse to justice will be the last alternative, but it is not a recommended route, as it can be time-consuming and costly for those affected and delay the implementation of the project. A follow-up plan will also be required to monitor the activities and carry out the necessary assessments in order to assess the performance (efficiency, effectiveness) of the implementation of possible resettlement plans.

49. An indicative budget of US \$ 1,416,8891 has been established to enable the Cashew competitiveness project to take into account the cost of resettlement in its budget estimates and requests from the State of Côte d'Ivoire.

¹ *By considering the day (20.02.2017) exchange rate corresponding to 1 US Dollar for 618,256 CFA Francs.*