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Combined Project Information Documents / Integrated Safeguards Datasheet (PID/ISDS)

Appraisal Stage | Date Prepared/Updated: 18-Apr-2018 | Report No: PIDISDSA23497

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

Country Cote d'Ivoire	Project ID P160418	Project Name CI: Cote d'Ivoire E-Agriculture Project	Parent Project ID (if any)
Region AFRICA	Estimated Appraisal Date 18-Apr-2018	Estimated Board Date 31-May-2018	Practice Area (Lead) Transport & Digital Development
Financing Instrument Investment Project Financing	Borrower(s) Republic of Cote d'Ivoire	Implementing Agency Ministry of Digital Economy and Post	

Proposed Development Objective(s)

The Project Development Objective is to increase access to digital services and leverage digital platforms to improve farm productivity and access to markets.

Components

Extending connectivity in rural and remote areas
Digital services for sustainable agricultural development
Rehabilitation of rural roads to access agriculture production areas
Project Coordination and Communication

Financing (in USD Million)

Financing Source	Amount
International Development Association (IDA)	70.00
Total Project Cost	70.00

Environmental Assessment Category

B - Partial Assessment

Decision

The review did authorize the preparation to continue



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Other Decision (as needed)

B. Introduction and Context

Country Context

1. Côte d'Ivoire is a lower-middle-income economy with a widening urban/rural gap that hinders the achievement of shared prosperity and poverty elimination – With a population of 23.7 million, the Gross National Income per capita (Atlas method) was US\$ 1,420 in 2015, which is 13% lower than the Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) regional average (US\$ 1,637). Around 54% of its population lives in urban areas, and the population and the economy are highly concentrated around the economic capital Abidjan. Rural population in Cote d'Ivoire has increasingly suffered from poverty during the last 25 years.¹ Rural poverty has significantly increased since the end of the 1980s, and the rural/urban gap has widened. 57% of the rural population is below the national poverty line, whereas this rate is 21 percentage points lower for the urban population (36%) and the Northern regions are the most afflicted. The widening gap between the North and South of the country help explain why Côte d'Ivoire still stands at the 172nd place in the world in the most recent global UNDP-HDI ranking (2016). The rural population still suffers from political crises, deterioration of governance and social services, and unstable revenues. At least three main challenges explain the increase in rural poverty over the past 25 years: (a) political crises; (b) deterioration of governance and social services; and (c) unstable revenues.

2. The rural population has suffered from deterioration of governance and cuts in expenditures in social services as well as poor infrastructure – Since the political crises of the year 2000s, the rural population has suffered from a combined deterioration in: (i) the governance structure;² and (ii) cuts in health and education expenditure under structural adjustment programs that aimed at reestablishing macroeconomic stability.³ The infrastructure gap between the more affluent urban areas and the poor rural areas is compelling: 33% of the urban population has access to improved sanitation facilities compared to 10% of the rural population; 88% of the urban population has access to electricity compared to 29% of the rural population.⁴ For ICT, 16% of households in urban areas has access to the internet compared to only 2% in rural areas.⁵

3. Unstable revenues and poor productivity of the rural economy, especially for agriculture, hinders poverty reduction – The agriculture sector is an important driver of Côte d'Ivoire's economy, accounting for 22% of GDP and more than 75% of exports. Three out of four working adults living in rural areas are employed by the agriculture sector.⁶ Despite its critical importance to the economy, the sector has had only a modest impact on

¹ World Bank, Côte d'Ivoire SCD – From Crisis to Sustained Growth, 2015 (pp.ix-x); IFAD, [Rural poverty in the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire](#).

² "Good governance encompasses, *inter alia*, concrete measures against corruption, an improved public administration, and – as emphasized by stakeholders – enhanced access to justice, and more transparent and predictable relations between government and the private sector." (World Bank, Côte d'Ivoire SCD – From Crisis to Sustained Growth, 2015, p.xvii).

³ World Bank, Côte d'Ivoire SCD – From Crisis to Sustained Growth, 2015 (p.x).

⁴ World Bank, World Development Indicators (most recent year is 2015 for sanitations facilities – cf. [Table 3.12](#) – and 2012 for electricity).

⁵ Gallup Survey, 2015.

⁶ World Bank, Côte d'Ivoire SCD – From Crisis to Sustained Growth, 2015 (p.xiii); at a national level (urban and rural population), half of



income growth and poverty reduction in rural areas. The agriculture sector – and especially primary products – are highly sensitive to fluctuations in international prices which in turn have an adverse and volatile impact on revenues for rural households.

4. To tackle these challenges, the country has implemented reforms that have significantly contributed to an overall improvement in governance and the business environment, making the country more attractive to private investment – Although the country has been a relatively weak performer on the World Bank Ease of Doing Business Index (DBI), the business environment has improved significantly during the last five years – from 177th in 2013 to 139th in 2017 based on DBI7 – making Cote d'Ivoire one of the ten fastest reforming countries two years in a row (2014 and 2015). The World Economic Forum (WEF) Global Competitiveness Index also captures this improvement, with Côte d'Ivoire rising from 131st in 2012 to 91st in 2016. The authorities remain focused on improving crucial infrastructure, particularly in the energy and transport sectors, and increasing attention will turn to investment in communications infrastructure, as well as the education and healthcare system. They will continue to look abroad to finance much of the sizeable infrastructure investment that is underway.

Sectoral and Institutional Context

B.1. Rural economy and rural agriculture sectoral

5. The rural economy is dominated by the agriculture sector, which is mostly made of: (i) export-oriented cash crops; and (ii) food crops and animal and fish production for domestic consumption – The cash crops subsector is made of cocoa, coffee, rubber, oil palm, cotton, and cashews. Cote d'Ivoire is the world's largest producer and exporter of cocoa beans and a significant producer and exporter of coffee and palm oil. Cash crops benefit from the bulk of agricultural investment and usually involve more sophisticated production techniques. Cash crops suffer from limited value chain integration among farmers, intermediaries and processors, which prevents the country from increasing downstream transformation of its food production. Cash crop agriculture is potentially lucrative, but it also entails considerable risk, as volatile international commodity markets determine export prices. The food crop subsector is made of plantains, yams, cassava, maize, rice, and livestock. It is characterized by traditional practices and receives little support from either the public or private sectors (except for rice and maize). The relatively strong performance of the food crop subsector is critical to food security in Côte d'Ivoire and has enabled the country to become self-sufficient in most key staple crops (except for wheat, rice and dairy). This subsector is often neglected in agricultural research and sector development strategies, and thus food production tends to be small-scale, traditional, and mostly informal. Nevertheless, prices of food crops are less impacted by international price volatility, and compared to cash crops often represent greater economic security but tend to offer more limited returns.

6. Women in agriculture face particular challenges in Côte d'Ivoire. With 6.5% of women owning land alone, compared to 30.9% of men, they face limited access to credit and income-generating opportunities, overall.⁸ When looking at the poorest quintile, the challenge is even more apparent, with women owning 7.7% of land alone, compared to 50.3% of men. A recent CGAP survey of smallholder households also revealed interesting dynamics: smallholder households tend to be male-dominated (90% men versus 10% women), with women having limited decision-making roles in household agricultural activities. Households that are female-headed

the population is employed by the Agriculture sector.

⁷ World Bank, [Ease of Doing Business in Côte d'Ivoire](#), 2017.

⁸ <WBG Gender Data portal source and CDI gender consultation report>



are typically led by widows.⁹ Early evidence on intra-household resource allocation in Côte d'Ivoire also shows that women and men respond differently to positive shocks. When rainfall increased for crops grown by women, household expenditure on food increased, suggesting increased well-being for the household, more broadly.¹⁰ With respect to the crops of interest, women predominate in these value chains, although specific data are currently lacking.

7. The traditional food crops are mostly produced in the poorer Northern regions, whereas the cash crops are produced in the richer Southern regions – Adding to the North/South social and economic disparities, the country falls into two distinct agricultural regions: the dry savannah in the North and the forest region in the South. Rural poverty has traditionally been significantly higher in the North – where the potential for agriculture has not yet been realized – whereas the South benefits from higher and more reliable rainfall and better soils and produces most of the export crops. However, both the North and South suffer from low agricultural productivity, high cost of inputs, considerable post-harvest losses, inadequate use of modern farming techniques, lack of modernization and mechanization, all contributing to a decline in agricultural production.¹¹

8. Rural economy, and especially rural agriculture, suffers from five gaps crippling economic productivity and related to: (i) Enabling environment; (ii) Access to land; (iii) Access to finance; (iv) Skills and technology; and (v) Physical capital – Poor performance in agriculture undermines shared prosperity and poverty elimination, with five major gaps hindering the development of the rural agriculture sector:¹²

- a. **Gap #1: Lack of accurate data and enabling environment gap** – The agriculture sector lacks good and accurate data; for example, the latest available National Agricultural Census is now 16 years old (2001). The lack of accurate data hinders the elaboration and implementation of sound policies and strategies, and prevents the design and conduct of impact evaluation research.¹³ The agriculture sector also suffers from an inadequate national and foreign investment framework, and the sector is still severely disadvantaged by a distortive policy framework (taxes on export commodities), coupled with a strong urban bias in development spending.
- b. **Gap #2: Access to land gap** – Lack of access to land is a major cause of rural poverty in SSA, and Cote d'Ivoire is no exception. Small-scale producers of food crops have access to about half the amount of land available to large-scale producers of export crops and they suffer from low productivity because of the small size of their lands.¹⁴ The 1998 Law on Rural Land required farmers to register their land within ten years, but very few farmers had the knowledge, means, and skills to do so. A new Law in August 2013 extended the deadline by ten years, and as of 2014 only 0.09%

⁹ Riquet et al. CGAP, National Survey and Segmentation of Smallholder Households in Côte d'Ivoire. 2017.

¹⁰ Duflo. Intrahousehold Resource Allocation in Côte d'Ivoire: Social Norms, Separate Accounts and Consumption Choices. 2004 in Learning on Gender and Conflict in Africa (LOGiCA) in Côte d'Ivoire Gender Background Note. 2013.
<http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/862941468261557867/C%3B4te-dIvoire-gender-background-note>

¹¹ World Bank, Côte d'Ivoire SCD – From Crisis to Sustained Growth, 2015 (p.54).

¹² ECOWAS-UEMOA-CILSS, Alliance Globale pour l'Initiative Résilience AGIR, Rapport des Priorités Resilience Pays (PRP) Côte d'Ivoire, 2014 ; World Bank, Côte d'Ivoire SCD – From Crisis to Sustained Growth, 2015 (p.55-66).

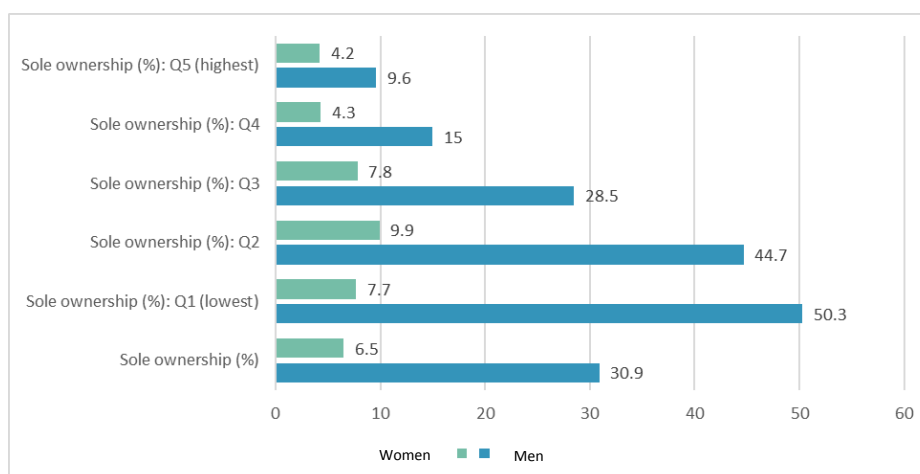
¹³ Without much sector impact analysis, the sector has been subjected to ineffective policies including high indirect and direct taxes on export commodities which have prevented small farmers from earning more revenues: the 2015 World Bank SCD calculated that a 10 percent decrease in the export tax would boost net revenue by 22 percent, which in turn would improve the living conditions of roughly 4 million Ivoirians.

¹⁴ IFAD, [Rural poverty in the Republic of Cote d'Ivoire](#), accessed in January 2016; World Bank, Côte d'Ivoire SCD – From Crisis to Sustained Growth, 2015, (p.55): "Agriculture in Cote d'Ivoire is dominated by smallholder farmers, the majority of whom use traditional practices and rely on family labor. Data from the most recent Agricultural Census (2001) estimated that there are 8.3 million farmers nationwide, of whom 49 percent are women. The average cultivated area for each household is about 3.89 hectares, but 80 percent of households cultivate less than 2 hectares." ().



of the total agriculture land is registered (i.e. 20,000 out of 23 million hectares). Food insecurity risk is twice higher for farmers not owning property than for land owners¹⁵ and lack of land certificates is worse for women farmers who face additional gender-related constraints, including legal or social norms that prevent them from inheriting or simply owning land. As highlighted below, the gaps between men and women in land ownership are large. Furthermore, this is evident across all quintiles (See Figure 1).

Figure 1: Rates of men and women who own land alone (by quintile, 2012)¹⁶



- c. **Gap #3 – Access to finance gap** – Cote d'Ivoire is one of the least developed countries in the region for rural development finance, and there is a lack of financing services for the agriculture sector. Access to credit by small farmers is acutely limited due to the virtual absence of financing structures such as rural microfinance institutions and rural banks. Moreover, private banks are reluctant to provide loans to rural small-scale farmers as they see them as cumulating too many risks: low levels of capitalization, unstable revenue flows, lack of formal credit history, difficulty in evaluating small farmers' repayment capacity, lack of collateral such as titled land, the influence of exogenous factors such as weather conditions, and the limited legal avenues for enforcing contracts. Where credit is available, interest rates are often too high compared to the average rate of return of farmers' investments. This translates into a low bank account ownership rate and a low percentage of adults having the possibility to benefit from a mortgage. The financing obstacle faced by the agriculture sector in Cote d'Ivoire is thus similar to the rest of SSA: only about 1% of commercial lending in SSA goes to agriculture, mostly to large-scale farmers.¹⁷ In addition, despite significant growth in mobile money over the last decade, there are still wide gender gaps in mobile money account ownership and usage: in Côte d'Ivoire 28% of male adults own a mobile money account compared to 20% of female adults¹⁸.
- d. **Gap #4 – Skills and technology gap** – In 2011, 62% of teenagers in the Northwest region were unschooled compared to the national average of 42%, and only 8% of young people aged 15-24

¹⁵ ECOWAS-UEMOA-CILSS, Alliance Globale pour l'Initiative Résilience AGIR, Rapport des Priorités Resilience Pays (PRP) Côte d'Ivoire, 2014.

¹⁶ World Bank Group Gender Statistics

¹⁷ UNCTAD, Commodities & Development Report, 2015 (p.21).

¹⁸ Findex, 2014 figures, <http://datatopics.worldbank.org/financialinclusion/indv-characteristics/gender>



completed their secondary education compared to the national average of 27%.¹⁹ The combination of low level of education and other gaps highlighted above (such as access to finance) leads to a low usage of technology and agriculture inputs – such as equipment and fertilizers. Several market failures characterize inputs markets, including: inconsistent rules and standards requirements, unrealistic standards, and lack of equipment and capacity at the rural level to ensure compliance. Moreover, the cost of technology and agriculture inputs for smallholders tend to be too high due to several factors²⁰: (i) weak bargaining power of smallholders; (ii) poor transportation and energy infrastructure; (iii) lack of market information; (iv) lack of knowledge of farmers concerning the use of inputs; and (v) limited access to finance.

- e. **Gap #5 – Physical capital gap** – While several crops such as cashew (*anacarde*), maize and tomatoes are produced in the Northern regions, main markets destinations are located in the Southern regions, including the port of Abidjan for exports and urban domestic markets – domestic market sometimes offer greater opportunities to smallholders than export markets.²¹ This implies that an efficient transportation network must be available throughout the whole territory to link production areas to: (i) the port of Abidjan international output market; and (ii) the domestic consumption areas spread around the country. Hence, having reliable infrastructures – such as road networks, storage facilities, electricity, and telecommunications – is essential to the efficiency of the agriculture sector. However, Cote d'Ivoire's rural infrastructure needs additional investments to be rehabilitated and extended. Currently, as much as 90% of the paved network in Cote d'Ivoire is between 15 to 40 years old, while routes coatings are generally designed and built for a lifetime of 15 years²²; as a consequence, about 40 percent of the road network is not or only partially useable.²³ In addition to the lack of reliable roads, the lack of efficient public transportation services also hinders the economic development of rural agriculture: smallholders often use public transportation such as passenger buses to take their products to distant markets, and this inadequate transportation mode leads to bruising and damage to the products, thus reducing its quality and market value. The electricity network is no better as all departments of the Northern half of the country had coverage rates below the national average in 2011. Among them, five departments had less than 15% of their localities connected to electricity²⁴. The lack of reliable electricity is an impediment to well-functioning rural markets as limited access to storage facilities and unreliable electricity supply result in post-harvest losses. Most farmers often rely on open-air storage and need to sell quickly their products – sometimes at a significantly low price – before it rots.²⁵

9. **The agriculture sector in Côte d'Ivoire is experiencing the adverse effects of climate change** – The negative effects of climate change include decrease in rainfall²⁶, persistent dry seasons, and an increase of flooding incidents. Côte d'Ivoire experiences high risks of water scarcity and extreme heat as well as river

¹⁹ African Development Bank, Cote d'Ivoire Economic Outlook, 2015 (p.14).

²⁰ UNCTAD, Commodities & Development Report, 2015 (p.19).

²¹ In Cote d'Ivoire transactions in local urban markets for staple foods represented about \$1.1 billion compared with revenue of \$0.63 billion from exports in 2009 (cf. UNCTAD, Commodities & Development Report, 2015, p.22).

²² African Development Bank, Cote d'Ivoire Economic Outlook, 2015 (p.14).

²³ World Bank, Côte d'Ivoire SCD – From Crisis to Sustained Growth, 2015 (pp.58-59).

²⁴ African Development Bank, Cote d'Ivoire Economic Outlook, 2015 (p.14).

²⁵ In 2011, post-harvest losses represented nearly 30 percent of the total national food production estimated at 10.5 tons, leading the country to import food products to meet the needs of its population (the needs were estimated at around 11.1 tons in 2012).

²⁶ World Bank Climate Variability Tool, Consulted on 25 February 2018.



flooding;²⁷ Climate projections (CMIP5) show that maximum daily temperatures, number of hot and very hot days, as well as annual severe drought likelihood are expected to increase throughout the coming century.²⁸ Irrigation infrastructure have the potential to reduce the detrimental effect of climate change through ensuring reliability in water supply for agriculture, but they suffer from a lack of monitoring and maintenance by public services as well as inadequate community involvement.

10. Several public and private institutions drive the agriculture sector, generating a fragmented knowledge and negatively affecting the efficiency of the government's action on the sector; the sector would thus strongly benefit from a stronger coordination for data and knowledge gathering, sharing, and dissemination

– The agriculture sector is jointly supervised by the *Ministère de l'Agriculture et du Développement Rural* (MINADER) and the *Ministère des Ressources Animales et Halieutiques* (MIRAH), with the strong implication of the *Ministère des Eaux et Forêts* (MINEFF) and the *Ministère de l'Environnement et du Développement Durable* (MINEDD). The MINADER and MIRAH both have their own internal statistics and planning department: the *Direction Générale de la Planification, du Contrôle des Projets et des Statistiques* (DGPPS, at MINADER) and the *Direction de la Planification, des Statistiques et des Programmes* (DPSP, at MIRAH). The MINADER and MIRAH also supervise – with other ministries – several public institutions in charge of agriculture and rural development, including the *Agence Nationale d'Appui au Développement Rural* (ANADER), the *Centre National de Recherche Agronomique* (CNRA), the *Fonds Interprofessionnel pour la Recherche et le Conseil Agricole* (FIRCA), the *Office National de Développement de la filière Riz* (ONDR), and the *Office d'Aide à la Commercialisation des Produits Vivriers* (OPCV). Several branches of agriculture also have their own organizations, including the *Chambres d'Agriculture de Côte d'Ivoire*, the *Association Nationale des Organisations Professionnelles Agricoles de Côte d'Ivoire* (ANOPACI), the *Conseil Café Cacao* (CCC), the *Association des Professionnels de Caoutchouc Naturel de Côte d'Ivoire* (APROMAC), etc. The sector would thus greatly benefit from a stronger coordination in data and knowledge gathering, sharing, and dissemination.

11. To address the main gaps to fast and sustainable development of the agricultural sector, the Government has developed several strategies, including the National Agricultural Investment Program (NAIP) and the e-Agriculture Strategy

– The NAIP is the agricultural pillar of the country's National Development Plan (NDP). The first NAIP (NAIP #1) was a US\$4 billion program over the 2010-2015 period, aimed at promoting a diversified mix of strategic cash and food crops for growth and food security. It was organized around six programs: (i) crops productivity and competitiveness; (ii) development of agricultural supply chains; (iii) sector governance; (iv) capacity building; (v) sustainable management of fisheries; and (vi) rehabilitation of forest and wood industry. The government launched the second phase of the NAIP in November 2017 for the 2018-2025. period The Government has also developed a comprehensive national e-Agriculture strategy in 2012, and updated it in 2014. This strategy has the aim of modernizing the country's agricultural sector and enhancing its productivity with an increase in the country's export of cocoa, coffee and other produce, and a decrease in food imports. The strategy requires suitable access to information services and data centers as part of an ICT package aiming to make real-time market information systems available via mobile phones and tablets. Finally, other sectoral strategies include: (a) the *Loi d'orientation agricole* (Loi n° 2015-537 du 20 juillet 2015); (b) the *Stratégie Nationale de Développement de la filière Riz 2012-2020* (SNDR); (c) the *Plan Stratégique de Développement de l'Élevage, de la Pêche et de l'Aquaculture* (PSDEPA 2014-2020); (d) the *Stratégie Nationale de Développement de la Mécanisation Agricole* (SNDMA); and (e) the *Programme National de Sécurisation du Foncier Rural* (PNSFR).

²⁷ ThinkHazard, Consulted on 25 February 2018.

²⁸ World Bank Group Climate Change Knowledge Portal, Consulted on 25 February 2018.



B.2. Digital economy sectoral and institutional context

12. The ICT institutions and the enabling environment have drastically improved during the last five years thanks to the creation and revamping of key institutions and the introduction of new legal and regulatory frameworks – Overall, the ICT enabling environment has drastically improved during the last five years. Each year, the World Economic Forum (WEF) performs a global ranking of the ICT sector in each country by measuring the Network Readiness Index (NRI). One sub-index of the NRI is the 'ICT Environment sub-index' reflecting both the 'Political and regulatory environment' and the 'Business and innovation environment'. In 2012, Côte d'Ivoire ranked as one of the worst country in the world regarding the 'ICT Environment sub-index', being at the 130th place (out of 142 countries). In less than 5 years, Côte d'Ivoire has risen at the 72nd place (out of 139 countries) in 2016 for the 'ICT Environment sub-index' (on the overall Network Readiness Index, Côte d'Ivoire has risen from 122nd to 106th during 2012-2016): no other country monitored by the WEF has enjoyed such a drastic rank increase during the 2012-2016 period for the 'ICT Environment sub-index'.

13. The major improvement of the international ranking of the ICT sector in Côte d'Ivoire is partly explained by several reforms lead by the five main institutions that drive and supervise the ICT sector – The *Ministère de la Communication et de l'Economie Numérique et de la Poste* (MICENUP) is the Ministry in charge of the ICT and digital economy in Côte d'Ivoire, and the MICENUP has revamped the telecom law in 2012.²⁹ The legislation is now aligned with regional recommendations and covers major areas such as convergence, universal service, license and authorizations, relevant markets and market power, and consumer protection.³⁰ The National Regulatory Authority (NRA) is the *Autorité de Régulation des Télécommunications de Côte d'Ivoire* (ARTCI),³¹ a fully-equipped NRA dealing with licensing, consumer protection, wholesale market regulation, and telecom spectrum management. The three main additional institutions are: (i) the *Agence Nationale du Service Universel des Télécommunications* (ANSUT) that ensures the implementation of universal service programs on behalf of the state and manage investment operations funded by the state in the field of ICT; the *Agence Ivoirienne de Gestion des Fréquences radioélectriques* (AIGF) focused on radio frequency management; and (iii) the *Société Nationale de Développement Informatique* (SNDI), a state-owned company under the supervision of the Prime Minister, in charge of Information Technology and Information System projects for the Government.³² In 2017, the Government passed a General Law on the Information Society (*Loi d'Orientation sur la Société de l'Information*) that provides a framework to support the dissemination of information and communication technologies within the economy.

14. Although the ICT sector, and especially the mobile sector, is performing well in Côte d'Ivoire, it has mostly benefited the affluent urban and educated population – The ICT sector in Cote d'Ivoire has consistently expanded during the last few years; it generated a total revenue of 982.5 billion FCFA in 2013 (US\$ 1.6 billion),

²⁹ Until 2012 the main legislation covering the telecommunication sector was the Law No. 95-526 of 7 July 1995 (Code des Télécommunications); as this legislation was outdated, it was fully revamped by the Ordonnance n° 2012-293 of 21 march 2012.

³⁰ Moreover, the Government has introduced a tax break for the ICT sector in August 2015 with a VAT exoneration and reduced custom duties for ICT and electronic equipment, and this measure should last until the end of 2018 (cf. Abidjan.net, [Les prix des ordinateurs, tablettes, téléphones portables vont baisser en Côte d'Ivoire](#), November 2015).

³¹ The ARTCI was created in 2013 by merging two institutions, the previous *Agence des Télécommunications de Cote d'Ivoire* (ATCI) – in charge inter alia of telecom spectrum management, licensing, and wholesale pricing – and the *Conseil des Télécommunications de Côte d'Ivoire* (CTCI) – in charge inter alia of monitoring the market competition dynamics, ensuring the compliance with the license obligations, and solving litigations.

³² In 2011, the Government adopted the e-GOUV scheme, which consists of two major axes – e-Administration and e-Services. The SNDI is working to implement ICT solutions in all government activities, including finance, health care, and education, with the goal of providing, by the year 2020, all government services available online in developed countries (cf. IDAL, [ICT Ivory Coast market](#), 2015, p.6).



contributed to 8% of the country's GDP, and provided around 5,400 direct jobs.³³ The recent performance of mobile service (voice and SMS) in Côte d'Ivoire has been buoyant, driven by a healthy competition among the three main mobile operators (Orange, MTN, and Moov). The mobile connection penetration (number of total SIM divided by total population) reached 126% at the end of 2017, compared to 89% for West Africa region and 77% for Sub-Saharan Africa (Figure 2). Despite these robust mobile service performances an important share of the population is still offline. The World Bank indicator 'Internet users' (percentage of the population that have used the internet – from any location and with any type of device – during the last 12 months) show that only 27% of the population of Cote d'Ivoire has accessed internet at least once during the previous 12 months in 2016, compared to an average of 30% for lower-middle-income countries (Figure 3). Moreover, the use of internet – mostly through mobile broadband, as fixed broadband connectivity is marginal – is concentrated in the most affluent, educated and urban population centers. In 2014, 15% of the Cote d'Ivoire urban population used internet on a weekly basis, but this rate drops to only 3% for the rural Cote d'Ivoire population (Figure 4). In a similar fashion, only 1% of those having achieved at most primary education level use internet on a weekly basis compared to 19% for those having reached at least a secondary education level (Figure 5). And, while very limited sex-disaggregated data exist, GSMA's Intelligence Consumer Survey highlights the differences between men and women with respect to mobile phone ownership and internet usage. The report found that in Cote D'Ivoire, women are 9 percent less likely than men to own a mobile phone and 48 percent less likely to use the internet.³⁴ In addition, a small survey conducted in partnership with the World Wide Web Foundation found that among the 120 people who did not have access to the Internet, 88% were women.³⁵

Figure 2: Evolution of mobile penetration (combined 2G and 3G, % population, 2013-2017)

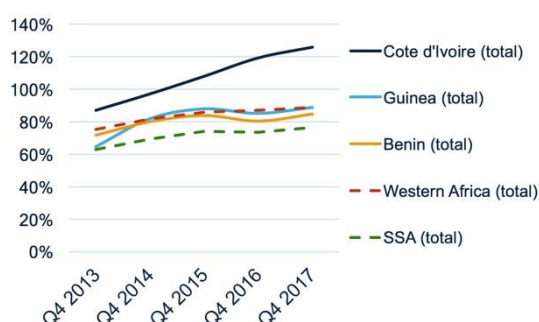
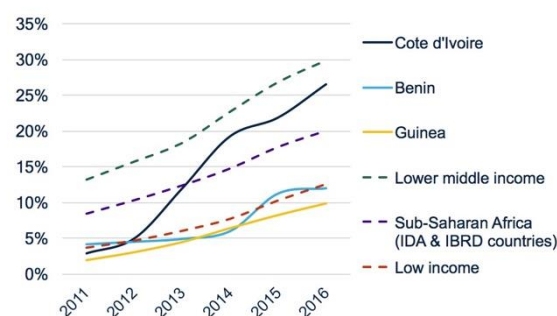


Figure 3: % of internet users (with averages for income grouping of countries, 2006-2015)



Data Source: GSMA Intelligence, World Bank Development Indicators.

³³ Cf. Journal du Net, [Les TIC en Côte d'Ivoire](#), December 2014 ; BizTech Africa, [Ivory Coast moves to close digital divide](#), February 2015.

³⁴ GSMA. 2016. Connected Societ, Consumer barriers to mobile internet adoption in Africa.

³⁵ World Wide Web Foundation. Women's Rights Online Report Card on Côte d'Ivoire: http://webfoundation.org/docs/2017/11/CI-GenderReport_English_Template_Screen.pdf



Figure 4: % of weekly internet use amongst rural vs. urban population (2014)

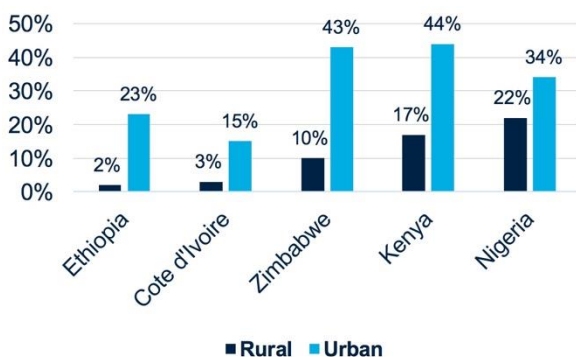
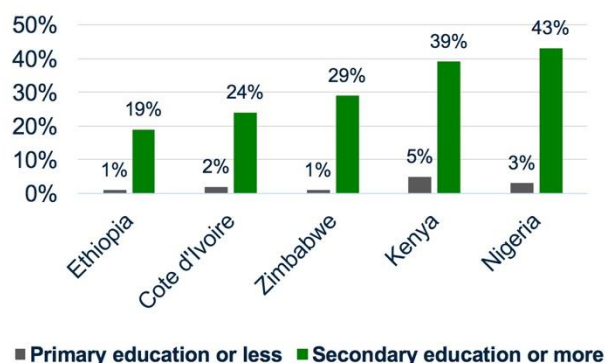


Figure 5: % of weekly internet use amongst different education level (2014)



Data Source: Gallup, Africa Online – Media Use in Sub-Saharan Africa, 2015.

15. On the supply side, there are significant mobile coverage gaps for rural areas – The regulator ARTCI has identified that around half of the 8,518 localities (*localités*) in Côte d'Ivoire were not covered by any mobile service; the uncovered localities represent 23% of the total population. Mobile operators have confirmed that they reached their profitability frontier and that extending their coverage would not be sufficiently profitable at this stage due to: (i) the lower population density in rural areas which increases the Capital Expenditure (CAPEX) per subscriber; and (ii) the lower purchasing power of subscribers which drives down the Average Revenue Per User (ARPU). Mobile broadband coverage with 3G is even worse, with coverage maps showing vast swaths without any coverage. To counter this market failure, the ANSUT is currently deploying a national 7,000 km long fibre backbone to cover rural areas, and ARTCI is elaborating a “white zone” program to increase rural coverage. However, this will be insufficient to achieve mobile broadband coverage for all as the number of mobile sites should be at least tripled: each operator has deployed between 1,600 and 2,000 mobile sites in Côte d'Ivoire, a relatively low number compared to European countries that achieved acceptable level of coverage and services (in Romania, a country that is 30% smaller in area and with a similar population size, the regulator calculated that 6,000 sites were required to cover 99% of the population).



Figure 6: 2G coverage by *département* (% pop., 2016)

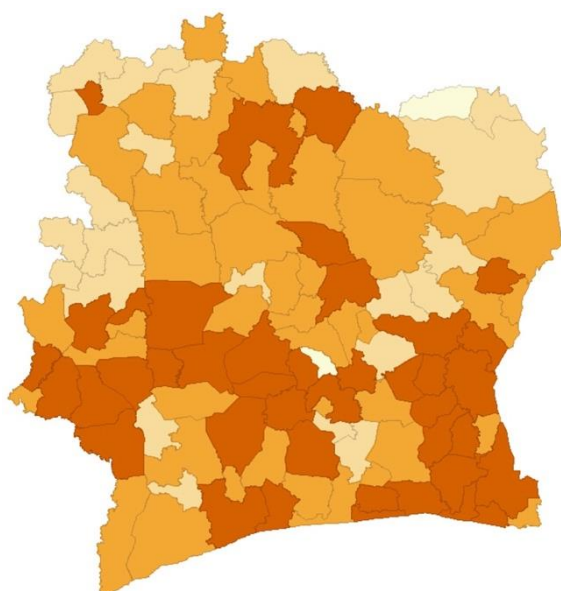
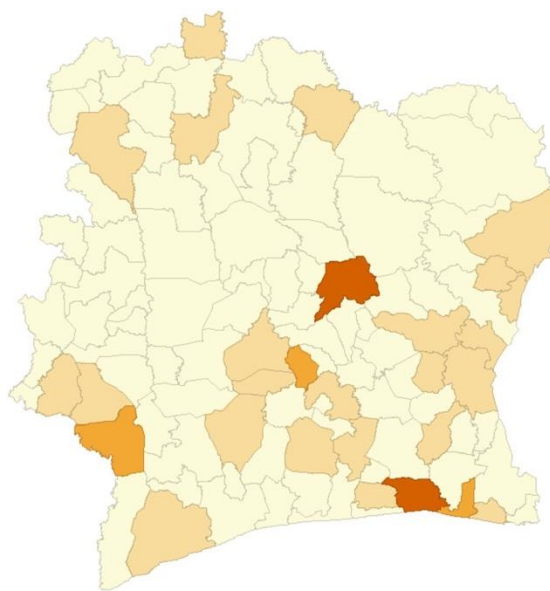


Figure 7: 3G coverage by *département* (% pop., 2016)



Source: ICT Unit based on ARTCI data (base maps from [United Nations OHCA-CI and CNTIG](#))

C. Proposed Development Objective(s)

Note to Task Teams: The PDO has been pre-populated from the datasheet for the first time for your convenience. Please keep it up to date whenever it is changed in the datasheet. *Please delete this note when finalizing the document.*

Development Objective(s) (From PAD)

To improve access to affordable broadband in rural communities and leverage electronic platforms to improve farm productivity and access to markets.

Key Results

16. The PDO Level Results Indicators are:

- a. Local population, especially women and smallholders benefit from an increase in coverage of ICT services and increase in ICT usage (voice, SMS, and internet access);
- b. As a result of increased use of digital solutions, smallholders in targeted area benefit from an increase in revenue from selected crop;.



17. Intermediary indicators will include: (i) volume of sales of selected crops; (ii) the reduction in postharvest losses by selected producer organizations supported by the project; (iii) number of km of rehabilitated or maintained rural access roads; and (iv) increase in digital literacy for targeted female beneficiaries.

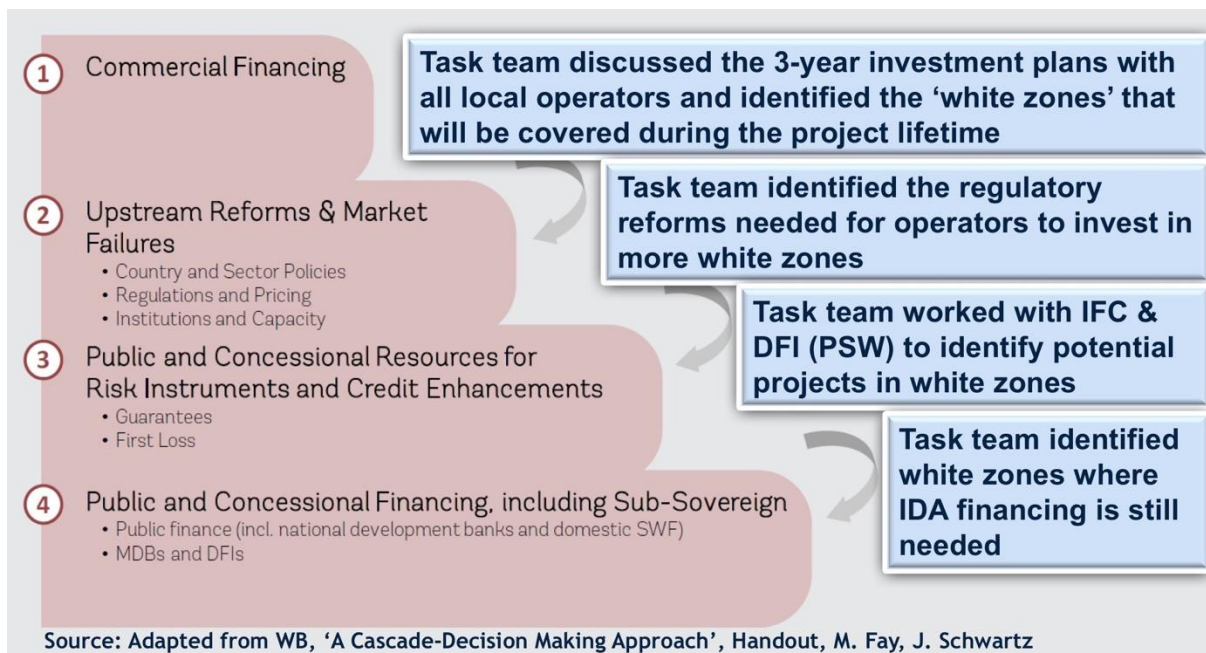
D. Project Description

18. To achieve the Project Development Objectives, the proposed project includes three main components (for a total estimated cost of US\$70.00 million), and a fourth component on Project Management:

- a. **Component #1 Extending digital connectivity in targeted rural and remote areas** – Extension of coverage of ICT services in rural areas, leading to the increase in the number of individuals, public administrations, and businesses that will be able to access both mobile services (voice and SMS) and the internet;
- b. **Component #2 Digital services for sustainable agricultural development** – (i) Improvement of agricultural services delivery in rural areas, and development of local content, applications, and services, through the setting up of electronic platforms; (ii) Promotion of the development of digital services for rural development (with an emphasis on e-Agriculture); and (iii) Rehabilitation of rural roads to access agriculture production areas.
- c. **Component #3 Rehabilitation of rural roads to access agriculture production areas.**

19. **Component #1 Extending digital connectivity in targeted rural and remote areas (estimated cost US\$32.70 million)** – Component 1 will contribute to achieving the PDO by increasing coverage of digital services in rural areas. The design of Component 1 is based on the Cascade Approach (Figure 8). A set of criteria (cf. Annex 1) was established for: (i) the identification of target areas (where the infrastructure needs to be deployed); and (ii) infrastructure financing.

Figure 8: Cascade-Decision Making Approach used by the team to structure Component 1



- a. **(Sub-Component #1.1) Review and assessment of the ICT enabling environment: legal and institutional framework (estimated cost US\$2.55 million)** – Sub-component 1.1 will consist in a series of technical assistance to strengthen capacity of key stakeholders (i.e. ICT Ministry MENUP, the Regulatory Authority ARTCI, the universal service agency ANSUT, the national digital agency ANSUT) in defining, enhancing, and enforcing an enabling environment conducive to providing ICT coverage in rural areas. This subcomponent will fund legal review of the current environment and identify bottlenecks that hamper private investment (stage 2 of the Cascade Approach, see Figure 7 above).
- b. **(Sub-Component #1.2) Supporting the extension of ICT coverage in targeted rural areas using Open Access PPP arrangements (estimated cost US\$30.15 million)** – In areas where public funding is not immediately needed, IFC may envisage to partner with potential investors, using the new Private Sector Window (PSW) IDA Facility to go beyond its standard market/risks framework (stage 3 of the Cascade Approach, see figure 7 above). Although IFC involvement in the proposed project is not guaranteed, a joint World Bank/IFC team holds regular meetings with the client to determine the best approach. In areas where public subsidy is needed (stage 4 of the Cascade Approach), the project will implement competitive awards of “least-cost” capital subsidies through an output-based aid (OBA) tender process to private operators in order to subsidize ‘Open Access’ broadband infrastructure in targeted areas which are commercially not viable (for an ICT infrastructure ‘Open Access’ refers to a best practice whereby the infrastructure is caricaturized by a wholesale, transparent, non-discriminatory, fair, and effective access for all market players, cf. Annex 1 for more details). IDA funds will be managed by the MICENUP according to a Manual of Operations developed for the sole purpose of white zones coverage. When designing the PPP, the guiding principle is that public intervention should limit as much as possible the risk of crowding out or replacing private investments, of altering commercial investment incentives, and ultimately of distorting competition (cf. Annex 1 for more details).



20. **Regions identified as priority for Component #1 through the selection criteria** – Three districts have been identified by the client as priority for component 1: (i) District of Denguélé; (ii) District des Savanes; (iii) and the Bounkani Region (District of Bouna). These three districts are particularly affected by low connectivity and productivity issues (see Figure 6 & Figure 7 above), including related to climate change impacts. The project will not be able to cover the three regions entirely, the Cascade-Decision Making Approach will be used to narrow down the geographical scope of Component 1.

21. **Component #2 Digital services for sustainable agricultural development (estimated cost US\$12.50 million)** – The project will aim to promote a better use of ICT in rural areas within the main economic activities of the targeted regions of this project. The proposed activities will lay the foundation for better technology diffusion for improved productivity and sustainable agricultural systems as well as better access to markets information. The activities will also help improve data, information and knowledge services management in planning, design, implementation, and delivery of agricultural services to stakeholders in agriculture value chains – especially smallholders – through the use of appropriate Digital tools and applications including data-driven agronomy, location-based services, Internet of Things (IoT), and Artificial Intelligence (AI), etc. It will also help develop access to markets through the rehabilitation of selected rural access roads in the targeted regions. It will build up on previous support provided by the West Africa Agricultural Productivity program (PPAAO/WAAPP). The WAAPP helped establish an electronic extension platform (e-Extension) that will be strengthened and operationalized through this component.

- a. **(Sub-Component #2.1) Smart Agriculture and Producer Organizations (US\$0.50 million)** – This sub-component supports farmers organized around a commodity of common interest and builds their capacity in climate smart production management and marketing, etc. The project will identify farmers who are engaged in agricultural production of the selected commodities in the targeted project areas and build their capacity in climate smart agricultural production, management and marketing, etc. This approach has been utilized extensively as the initial step in on-farm productivity improvements, and provides an effective means to deliver training, inputs and marketing support to smallholder farmers. This activity involves targeting, enrollment, organization into producer organizations and registering producers and producer organizations digitally. The project will facilitate the formation or consolidation of farmer groups into more formal structures, if desired by group members. It will provide basic digital literacy skills as well as business development skills training using digital platforms to help project beneficiaries with financial literacy, business planning, negotiation, and marketing, etc. A targeted public education campaign, and behavioral change communication will help the small farmers and producer organizations become aware of the benefits, and practice the learnings from the trainings to use digital tools and platforms. The project will analyze and address possible obstacles for women to meaningfully participate in and benefit from POs as well as identify locally relevant climate change impacts and focus capacity building to equip farmers with the knowledge and practical skills to become more resilient to these impacts.
- b. **(Sub-Component #2.2) Capacity Building in digital solutions in agriculture (US\$2.00 million)** – The main objective of this sub-component is to strengthen the capacity of the MARD and relevant agricultural agencies at all stages of data collection and management to improve the design, implementation and evaluation of policies and programs for sustainable agricultural development at the national and local levels. This data to decision-making value chain consists of the collection of relevant data, validation and processing of data, and dissemination and use of this data for decision-making in the design, implementation and evaluation of programs and policies in the



agricultural sector. More specifically, the sub-component will provide technical assistance to: (i) identify the various institutions in the public, private, non-governmental sector at the national and targeted districts level who are involved in the data to decision making value chain in the agricultural sector; (ii) support the capacity strengthening of Ministry staff and such relevant agencies in digital tools and applications for data collection and management (iii) provide technical assistance to improve the enabling environment for agricultural data, including a review of current status of policies, laws and regulations make recommendations for the revision of laws and regulations; and (iii) review and upgrade as needed the current strategy and action plan for the development, dissemination and use of agricultural data.

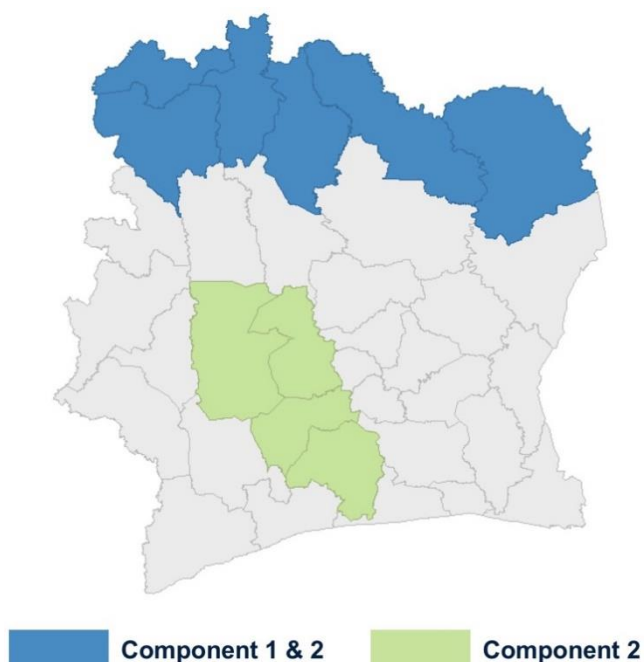
- c. **(Sub-component #2.3) Digital Platform for the Ministry of Agriculture (US\$2.00 million)** – The main objective of this sub-component is to strengthen the MARD communication system. The existing communication system is lacking modern technology and appropriate services coverage. The project will refurbish it and enable the free flow of data, information and knowledge throughout the central administration, regional and local offices. The sub-component will also help establish an Intranet network for the MINADER.
- d. **(Sub-component #2.4) Digital Ecosystem and e-Agricultural Services (US\$8.00 million)** – The main objective of this sub-component is to provide close to real time agricultural advisory services to small-scale farmers in the project areas for increased productivity. This sub-component will tackle the problems faced by small-scale farmers in the targeted project areas: (i) lack of easily accessible, affordable and useful close to real time, reliable and relevant data, information and knowledge services on agriculture and climate to obtain timely advice to improve crop and livestock productivity and income generation; (ii) lack of digital skills and low levels of literacy, little or no access to learning opportunities to relevant information and knowledge to access local, national, regional and international markets, (iv) very low levels of internet connectivity at affordable prices to enable them to access various information and knowledge materials which are freely available in the world wide web., The following activities are proposed to address the above problems through the strengthening of the existing e-extension platform. As aforementioned, the Bank-funded WAAPP helped establish an electronic extension platform (e-Extension) that will be strengthened through this component. The sub-component will specifically aim to: (i) establish and operationalize call centers and voice message services for agricultural information and knowledge in the selected value chains; (ii) promote awareness and information campaigns for small-scale farmers in selected value chains, targeted end-users of the e-agriculture services; (iii) finance the acquisition of necessary equipment and materials, including computers, software and communication materials necessary of the good functioning of the e-extension platform. The sub-component will also help provide the local agriculture extension services agency (ANADER) with a toll-free number for a more efficient outreach from farmers. Support will be provided to pilot: (i) community owned data, information and knowledge services; and (ii) community radios stations in project districts to enable rural households to exchange information and knowledge and obtain daily updated on climate, markets and new technologies. The project will also promote digital innovation systems for agriculture through: (i) establishment and operationalization of an Agricultural Observatory (ii) the design and organization of App Challenges to develop or enhance digital solutions for agriculture e-services; and (iii) technical assistance and financial support to scale up and mainstream relevant digital solutions emerging for the App Challenges.



22. **Regions and value-chains identified as priority for Component #2 through the selection criteria** – Value-chains identified by the Ministry of Agriculture as priorities (with an emphasize on staple food) for this component are: (a) maize, manioc, rice; (b) plantain, yam (igname); (c) shea (karité); and (c) poultry. Taking into account the regions where these value-chains are predominant, the component will target the following districts and regions: regions already included in Component 1 – District of Denguélé, District des Savanes, and the Bounkani Region (District of Bouna) – plus the District of Sassandra-Marahoué, and the District of Gôh-Djiboua. These crops fall to a large extent under the informal agriculture sector. Producers and farmers for these crops are predominantly women.

23. **Component #3 Rehabilitation of rural access roads (US\$19.50 million)** – This component will finance the technical feasibility studies, environmental and social assessments and works related with the rehabilitation of about 500km and the maintenance 2000km in a period of four years. The total maintained linear of rural road will be about 2000km (500km/year). This component will tackle the problems of access to markets for small-scale farmers in project targeted areas. It will focus on critical rural roads allowing access to targeted production zones and markets in the areas of Divo, Daloa, Gagnoa, Korhogo, Boundiali and Bouna.

Figure 9: Regions identified as a priority for Component 1 & Component 2



Map source: ICT Unit, base maps from [United Nations OHCA-CI and CNTIG](#).

24. **Component #4 Project implementation (US\$5.00 million)**– This Component will support the setting up of a dedicated Project Implementation Unit (PIU) and will also cover training, office equipment, operating costs, audits and communications as well as Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E), environmental and social studies, their implementation and/or the monitoring of their implementation.



E. Implementation

25. **The project will be implemented by the Ministry of Communication, Digital Economy, and Post (MICENUP), in coordination with the Ministry of Agriculture (MINADER)** – The Project Coordination Unit (PCU) will be anchored at the MICENUP and headed by the Coordinator for the National e-Agriculture Program. A focal technical team will be established at the MINADER to oversee the implementation of Component 2 under the coordination of the PCU. The Coordination team is familiar with project management and has extensive experience with other donors' funded programs. In addition, the team on the MINADER side is very familiar with World Bank-funded operations and will be able to advise their counterpart at the MICENUP. Nonetheless, a full assessment of both ministries implementing units will be carried out to ensure they have the appropriate capacity strengthening for project execution and fiduciary management.

26. **For the rehabilitation / construction and maintenance of rural roads:** Component 3 will implement a program for the rehabilitation and maintenance of rural roads linking the main production areas of Divo, Daloa, Gagnoa, Korhogo, Boundiali and Bouna. The program will align with the mechanism proposed by the new national road maintenance strategy that has already been developed and is being adopted. Thus, priority roads will be identified each year by AGEROUTE and the producers and beneficiaries. However, since the producers do not yet have sufficient capacity to carry out rural road rehabilitation activities it is plan that National Road Execution Agency (AGEROUTE) be responsible for the implementation of the program under a delegated contract management contract to be signed with the PCU.

Note to Task Teams: The following sections are system generated and can only be edited online in the Portal.

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F. Project location and Salient physical characteristics relevant to the safeguard analysis (if known)

In terms of infrastructure, the project will target exclusively the three Districts of the northern part of the country: District of Denguélé, District of Savanes, and District of Bouna. As part of component 1, the project will finance the construction of towers (passive infrastructure) and/or bury fiber optic links. In the case of fiber optic, the fiber will be buried along roads or railways, or installed on the ground cable of power lines. Therefore, the fiber optic infrastructure will be installed along existing infrastructure, with negligible impact on the environment and the population. Regarding the towers, some towers may be installed on private properties depending on the site and expected coverage. However, it is again expected that the installation of towers will have negligible impact on the environment, and minimal impact on the neighboring communities. Analysis will be carried out on a case by case basis. For the second component project will be implemented in the following areas: (i) District of Denguélé; (ii) District des Savanes; (iii) the Bounkani Region (District of Bouna); (iv) District of Sassandra-Marahoué; (v) and the District of Gôh-Djiboua.



G. Environmental and Social Safeguards Specialists on the Team

Abdoul Wahabi Seini, Social Safeguards Specialist

Fatoumata Diallo, Social Safeguards Specialist

Abdoulaye Gadiere, Environmental Safeguards Specialist

SAFEGUARD POLICIES THAT MIGHT APPLY

Safeguard Policies	Triggered?	Explanation (Optional)
Environmental Assessment OP/BP 4.01	Yes	The project will fund the construction of towers, ICT infrastructures and the deployment of fiber optic. These constructions may entail potential adverse impacts on the environmental components. However, as the exact locations of those activities are unknown to date, an Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) has been developed, reviewed, consulted upon and disclosed both within Cote d'Ivoire on March 7, 2018 and at the World Bank's Website on March 9, 2018.
Natural Habitats OP/BP 4.04	No	The project activities will not be implemented in areas hosting natural habitats.
Forests OP/BP 4.36	No	The project will not support activities related to forest exploitation or management or might have potential adverse impacts on forested areas.
Pest Management OP 4.09	No	The project does not involve pest management
Physical Cultural Resources OP/BP 4.11	Yes	Activities supported by the ongoing bank's funded operation such as the construction of towers, ICT infrastructures and the deployment of fiber optic will unquestionably involve excavations with possibilities to discover Physical cultural resources. However, the triggering of this policy does not entail the preparation of a specific safeguard instrument. A specific chapter was included in the ESMF to provide guidance in case of physical cultural resources will be discovered.
Indigenous Peoples OP/BP 4.10	No	The Project location does not cover Indigenous Peoples as defined by the World bank
Involuntary Resettlement OP/BP 4.12	Yes	These planned interventions are not expected to lead to significant land acquisition or significant restriction of access to sources of livelihood. However, the implementation of the pools or



antenna may lead to lands acquisition. As the specific sites or impacts of envisioned physical investments are yet not known, a Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF) consistent with OP 4.12 has been prepared by the Borrower, reviewed and cleared by the team and disclosed in-country on March 7, 2018 and at Bank web site on March 13, 2018. The RPF will be used as a guide to conduct specific Resettlement Action Plans (RAPs) as needed, to implement the mitigation measures of negative impacts on Project Affected People (PAPs)

Safety of Dams OP/BP 4.37	No	The project will not finance dams, not rely on dams.
Projects on International Waterways OP/BP 7.50	No	The project is not expected to affect international waterways
Projects in Disputed Areas OP/BP 7.60	No	The project will not be located in a disputed area.

KEY SAFEGUARD POLICY ISSUES AND THEIR MANAGEMENT

A. Summary of Key Safeguard Issues

1. Describe any safeguard issues and impacts associated with the proposed project. Identify and describe any potential large scale, significant and/or irreversible impacts:

Activities under PSDEA are expected to provide environmental and social benefits to the people in the project area. These benefits include better access to ICTs in the agricultural sector, improvement of surveillance of environmental conditions and monitoring of agriculture and livestock, existence of a reference system for all interventions in the field of hydro-agricultural improvements at national level, contributing to the sustainability and profitability of hydro-agricultural improvements, anticipating decision-making by stakeholders or the government, creating jobs and reducing poverty.

Most of the adverse impacts and risks that would happen during construction and rehabilitation works are constituted by dust, noise and waste nuisance. No potential significant and irreversible adverse impact, direct or indirect, is expected to occur from project activities either during the construction or operation phase. That is why the project was rated as EA category "B".

The impacts and risks that the Borrower will prevent and monitor in the course of the project implementation are minor to moderate biophysical and social impacts related to: noise, increased dust in the local atmosphere, increased risk of accident and loss of vegetation.

It is expected that only a limited number of temporary displacement may occur during project implementation which shall be managed through the RPF. No RAP or ESIA has been prepared at this stage, as the exact location of the civil works is unknown.

2. Describe any potential indirect and/or long term impacts due to anticipated future activities in the project area: Digital infrastructure that will be financed by the project will have minimal or negligible impact on the long term.



Towers have a very limited foot prints of few square meters. Likewise, fiber optic infrastructure will be either buried at least 1 meter underground according to international standards, or installed on the ground wire cable of high/medium voltage power lines. Fiber optic does not contains any hazardous material. That means no potential indirect or long term or cumulative impacts are foreseen during project implementation and operational phases

3. Describe any project alternatives (if relevant) considered to help avoid or minimize adverse impacts.

In the proposed project, infrastructure investments will be primarily led and managed by private investors. Therefore, it is expected that digital infrastructure financed under this project will be reduced to the minimum necessary to deliver high quality service to the beneficiaries. Technology choices will be left to the private partners and operators. Additionally, the use of existing infrastructure, including the power lines and along roads will limit the physical footprint or impact of the construction activities and possible land acquisition.

4. Describe measures taken by the borrower to address safeguard policy issues. Provide an assessment of borrower capacity to plan and implement the measures described.

The project was rated as a category "B" and triggers three (03) safeguards policies. In order to prepare for addressing the potential negative impact, the Government has prepared two appropriate safeguards instruments: an Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) and a Resettlement Policy Framework(RPF). The ESMF outlines an environmental and social screening process for component's activities. It also includes: Guidelines for an Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA); Environmental Guidelines for Contractors as well as sub-contractors; and a summary of the World Bank's safeguard policies). It will also contain chapters to take into account Physical Cultural Resources matters. That means guidance and guidelines have been included in the ESMF to this end.

The RPF has been prepared by the government to address such circumstances and supervision and monitoring will identify if Resettlement Action Plans will need to be prepared during implementation to address any land acquisition or temporary displacement of livelihood activities. The RPF has been developed to address potential land acquisition or loss of economic activity on the part of individuals or groups of individuals in project intervention zones.

These two documents have been prepared, in full compliance with national legal and regulatory framework and World Bank safeguard policies, including a broad consultation framework involving all relevant stakeholder groups, both public and private, as well as civil society. After consultations, these two safeguard instruments have been disclosed within the country on March 7, 2018 and at the World Bank website in March 13, 2018.

A Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) was set up to allow stakeholders and interested parties to bring up any concern regarding the project to the PIU with the aim of finding a solution.

Safeguards documents include guidelines on Occupational, Health and Safety(EHS/OHS), and clearly mentions that the company Environmental and Social Management Plan (Works-ESMP) must be approved by the PIU and their partners prior to the works commencement. Moreover, the bidding documents and the contracts for main contractors as well as the sub-contractors must also include sections related to EHS/OHS.

With respect to potential labor influx, the project will establish guidance and rules for (i) contractors to enhance the ESMPs and workers contracts will include measures for managing the potential impacts of such an outside workforce on the local community. Specific details will be prepared during the investment activities for contractors who will bring in workers and operators from outside the area, and these are likely to be housed in work camps during construction

To ensure that the safeguard instruments prepared in line with policies triggered by the project are implemented properly, the PIU will hire an environmental safeguard specialist and a social safeguards specialist. The environmental safeguards specialist must have additional experience in EHS/OHS, and the social safeguards specialist in GBV, Social



inclusion and any labor related risk. Both specialists will be fully in charge of all aspects of environmental and social safeguards aspects and will regularly monitor all safeguard requirements. More specifically, the two specialists, the whole PIU, the implementing agencies as well as the other stakeholders will ensure that children are not employed in civil works as labor force.

World Bank implementing support missions will also include environmental and social safeguards specialists to ensure that all safeguard issues are addressed properly, in a timely manner.

5. Identify the key stakeholders and describe the mechanisms for consultation and disclosure on safeguard policies, with an emphasis on potentially affected people.

The key stakeholders are the beneficiary farmers, traders of agriculture products, communities, Ministry of agriculture and rural development, Ministry of livestock and halieutic resources, Ministry of communication, digital economy and Post (and their relevant agencies/departments); the participating municipalities and communes, NGOs and other relevant institutions.

One of the key principles of this project from the outset was to foster participation of all relevant stakeholders. This approach will be sustained throughout project implementation. The environmental and social assessment studies, namely the ESMF and RPF, were also carried out according to the same principle, using broad-based public consultation approach, involving the above stakeholder groups. The objective was to raise awareness of project activities and impacts and foster ownership on their part. All the relevant bodies have been adequately informed of the Project. Concerns of the communities and some details of consultations have been taken into account in the body of the report and other results provided as Annexes in the ESMF and RPF. The key concerns raised during the consultation process included: (i) permanent information and sensitization of the population, (ii) compensation process for those impacted by the project, (iii) participation of local population as employee on works they qualify for, (iv) development of access to homes, businesses and social infrastructure during the execution of works. All these concerns have been addressed in the alternatives proposed through the ESMF and the RPF.

B. Disclosure Requirements

Environmental Assessment/Audit/Management Plan/Other		
Date of receipt by the Bank	Date of submission for disclosure	For category A projects, date of distributing the Executive Summary of the EA to the Executive Directors
19-Feb-2018	08-Mar-2018	
"In country" Disclosure Cote d'Ivoire 07-Mar-2018 Comments		
Resettlement Action Plan/Framework/Policy Process		



Date of receipt by the Bank

02-Jan-2018

Date of submission for disclosure

13-Mar-2018

"In country" Disclosure

Cote d'Ivoire

13-Mar-2018

Comments

C. Compliance Monitoring Indicators at the Corporate Level (to be filled in when the ISDS is finalized by the project decision meeting)

OP/BP/GP 4.01 - Environment Assessment

Does the project require a stand-alone EA (including EMP) report?

Yes

If yes, then did the Regional Environment Unit or Practice Manager (PM) review and approve the EA report?

Yes

Are the cost and the accountabilities for the EMP incorporated in the credit/loan?

Yes

OP/BP 4.11 - Physical Cultural Resources

Does the EA include adequate measures related to cultural property?

Yes

Does the credit/loan incorporate mechanisms to mitigate the potential adverse impacts on cultural property?

Yes

OP/BP 4.12 - Involuntary Resettlement

Has a resettlement plan/abbreviated plan/policy framework/process framework (as appropriate) been prepared?

Yes

If yes, then did the Regional unit responsible for safeguards or Practice Manager review the plan?

Yes

The World Bank Policy on Disclosure of Information

Have relevant safeguard policies documents been sent to the World Bank for disclosure?

Yes



Have relevant documents been disclosed in-country in a public place in a form and language that are understandable and accessible to project-affected groups and local NGOs?

Yes

All Safeguard Policies

Have satisfactory calendar, budget and clear institutional responsibilities been prepared for the implementation of measures related to safeguard policies?

Yes

Have costs related to safeguard policy measures been included in the project cost?

Yes

Does the Monitoring and Evaluation system of the project include the monitoring of safeguard impacts and measures related to safeguard policies?

Yes

Have satisfactory implementation arrangements been agreed with the borrower and the same been adequately reflected in the project legal documents?

Yes

CONTACT POINT

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Borrower/Client/Recipient

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APPROVAL

Task Team Leader(s):	Marc Jean Yves Lixi Jean-Philippe Tre
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Approved By

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Practice Manager/Manager:	Boutheina Guerhazi	16-Apr-2018
Country Director:	Pierre Laporte	18-Apr-2018

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