

REPUBLIC OF THE GAMBIA



Regional Solar Park of The Gambia (P504421)

Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP)

June 2024

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Abbreviations and Acronyms

BESS	Battery Energy Storage System
CBO	Community Based Organization
COVID-19	Coronavirus Disease 2019
DOA	Department of Agriculture
DLS	Department of Lands and Survey
DLS	Department of Lands and Surveys
DPPH	Department of Physical Planning and Housing
DPWM	Department of Parks and Wildlife Management
ESIA	Environmental and Social Impact Assessment
ESS	Environmental and Social Standard
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
GBV	Gender Based Violence
GM	Grievance Mechanism
GoTG	The Government of The Gambia
GRC	Grievance Resolution Committee
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
ISP	Independent Service Providers
IPP	Independent Power Producers
KII	Key Informant Interview
LGA	Local Government Authorities
LRR	Lower River Region
MECCNAR	Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, and Natural Resources
MOFEA	Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs
MOGCSP	Ministry of Gender, Children, and Social Protection
MSME	Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
NAWEC	National Water and Electricity Company
NCAC	National Council of Arts and Culture
NEA	National Environment Agency
NGO	Non- Government Organization
NRA	National Roads Authority
OMVG	Organisation pour la Mise en Valeur du Fleuve Gambie
PAP	Project Affected Person
PURA	Public Utilities Regulatory Authority
PDO	Project Development Objective
RAP	Resettlement Action Plan
SSCT	Sexual Exploitation and Abuse/Sexual Harassment Compliance Team
SEA	Sexual Exploitation and Abuse
SEP	Stakeholder Engagement Plan
SH	Sexual Harassment
STD	Sexually Transmitted Diseases
VAC	Violence Against Children
WB	World Bank

GLOSSARY OF KEY TERMS

Consultation: The process of gathering information or advice from stakeholders and taking these views into account when making project decisions and/or setting targets and defining strategies.

Engagement: A process in which a company builds and maintains constructive and sustainable relationships with stakeholders impacted over the life of a project. This is part of a broader “stakeholder engagement” strategy, which also encompasses governments, civil society, employees, suppliers, and others with an interest in the Project.

Grievance Mechanism: A process for receiving, evaluating, and addressing project-related complaints from citizens, stakeholders, and other affected communities.

Stakeholders: Persons or groups who are directly or indirectly affected by a project, as well as those who may have interests in a project and/or the ability to influence its outcome, either positively or negatively; workers, local communities directly affected by the project and other stakeholders not directly affected by the project but that have an interest in it, e.g., local authorities, neighboring projects, and/or nongovernmental organizations, etc.

Stakeholder Engagement Plan: A plan which assists investors with effectively engaging with stakeholders throughout the life of the project and specifying activities that will be implemented to manage or enhance engagement.

Complainant: An individual, group, association, or organization that submits a verbal or written complaint

Grievance/Complaint: an expression of dissatisfaction that stems from real or perceived issues, typically referring to a specific source of concern and/or seeking a specific solution. For this GM, real and perceived impacts are treated equally and given the same due process. The term grievance and complaint are used interchangeably in this document.

Sexual exploitation: any actual or attempted abuse of a position of vulnerability, differential power, or trust for sexual purposes, including, but not limited to, profiting monetarily, socially, or politically from the sexual exploitation of another.

Sexual abuse: actual or threatened physical intrusion of a sexual nature, whether by force or under unequal or coercive conditions.

Sexual harassment: Any unwelcome sexual advances, request for sexual favors, verbal or physical conduct or gesture of a sexual nature, or any other behavior of a sexual nature that might be reasonably expected or perceived to cause offense or humiliation to another when such conduct interferes with work; is made a condition of employment; or creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive work environment.

Survivor: A survivor is a person who has experienced the SEA/SH incident in the context of the Project

Vulnerable Groups: Individuals and groups, who by virtue of gender, ethnicity, age, physical or mental disability, economic disadvantage, sexual orientation and gender identity, or social status may be more adversely affected by a Project than others and who may be limited in their ability to claim or take advantage of development benefits.

Introduction

The World Bank is financing the preparation of the Regional Solar Park of The Gambia (P504421) for the implementation of a competitive bidding program to mobilize private investments for the development of a (50MW Solar PV + 18MWh BESS) in Soma, The Gambia.

The Project Development Objective is to support the Government of The Gambia (GoTG) in piloting the implementation of a sustainable solar and battery energy storage system (BESS) competitive bidding which will involve:

- Implementation Capacity Strengthened to at least 15 officials of The Government of The Gambia
- MW of RE capacity added under financed projects - 50MWp
- Amount of private finance leveraged - \$40m
- Megawatt Hours (MWh) of storage added under financed projects - 18MWh

This Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) outlines how, when, and the ways in which the project team will inform, communicate, and consult with stakeholders including vulnerable groups and individuals in an inclusive, transparent, and participatory way. It also includes a mechanism by which stakeholders can raise concerns, provide feedback, or lodge complaints related to the project during its implementation. The SEP has been prepared according to the Environmental and Social Standard 10 (ESS 10) on Stakeholder Engagement and Information Disclosure of the World Bank's Environmental and Social Framework (ESF).

It will cover the whole life cycle of the Project. This SEP is a living document which may be updated anytime during project implementation to capture issues that could arise to address changing circumstances.

The overall objectives of the SEP as stated in the ESS 10 are to:

- Identify all stakeholders and ensure their participation in all stages of the project cycle;
- Establish a systematic approach to stakeholder and citizen engagements that will help to identify stakeholders and build and maintain a constructive relationship with them, in particular with project-affected parties;
- Assess the level of stakeholder interest and support for the project and to enable stakeholders' views to be considered in project design and environmental and social performance;
- Promote and provide means for effective and inclusive engagement with project-affected parties throughout the project cycle on issues that could potentially affect them;
- Ensure that appropriate project information on environmental and social risks and impacts is disclosed to stakeholders, especially to the vulnerable individual and groups, in a timely, understandable, accessible, and appropriate manner and format taking special consideration for the disadvantaged or vulnerable groups and address their concerns and feedback during subproject activities implementation; and,
- Provide project-affected parties, including vulnerable persons and groups, with accessible and inclusive means to raise issues and grievances and allow the Project Implementing Entity and its Project Implementation Unit to respond to and manage such grievances, especially, those coming from the vulnerable persons and groups.

1.1 Project Objectives

The Project Development Objective is to support the Government of The Gambia (GoTG) in piloting the implementation of a sustainable solar and battery energy storage system (BESS) competitive bidding process to attract investments from private sector with a Private Public Partnership (PPP). In this regard, the Project aims to improve the diversification and resilience of the Gambian electricity sector by

strengthening the institutional framework, leverage additional private capital, address concerns of energy security and diversifying the energy sources.

Project Components

As currently designed, the project comprises the following:

Component 1- Transaction support for IPP Selection competitive bidding (US\$1,300,000).

Component 1 will finance transaction advisory support (legal, procurement, financial and technical) to The Government of The Gambia in the preparation and implementation until financial close of a 50 MWp solar plant with 18MWh battery storage in Soma. The main requirements under component 1 include (i) the completion of the resettlement action plan (RAP) for all project affected persons by The Government of The Gambia, (ii) support the Government of The Gambia in developing and implementing the tender for the competitive bidding of the solar park and (iii) commercial and financial close reached by the selected IPP with the support and monitoring from the transaction advisors and the Government of The Gambia.

Component 2- Capacity Building (US\$ 50,000) - This will finance support for relevant members of the Public Private Partnership- Technical committee (PPP-TC) to build relevant internal capacity on the conduct of bankable solar and battery storage tenders. The ultimate aim is to reduce the Government of The Gambia's reliance on external transaction advisors for competitive selection processes. Component 2 will include (i) study tours in the sub-region to countries who have recently commissioned competitively procured solar parks (ii) training/knowledge exchange workshops and (iii) capacity building from the transaction advisors hired for the RSPG.

1.2 Summary of the main activities of the Proposed Solar Project that will be prepared through the RESP Grant

A brief description of the proposed solar project is given below:

- **PV Design Description** - Phase-1, planned on the West, a total area of 76.38 ha is needed to reach the capacity of 50 MWp. For Phase-2 (east and west) 153.62 ha. is needed to reach the capacity of 100 MWp.
- **Module** - The solar PV modules (monocrystalline and polycrystalline module) technology was studied as part of the feasibility study analysis, but simulations were done using LR5-66 HBD 500 M Bifacial.
- **Module Structure** – All the mounting structures were also studied by the feasibility study. However, the Study left the decision on choice on the type of mounting systems to the IPP to make.
- **Inverter** - The inverter technology to be used is reported Sungrow (SG250HX) with a capacity of 225 kWac.
- **BESS Design Description** - considered the main C rates, or BESS capacities, that would be the most economically competitive based on the current market price and volume of Li-Ion cells from leading manufacturers and integrators.

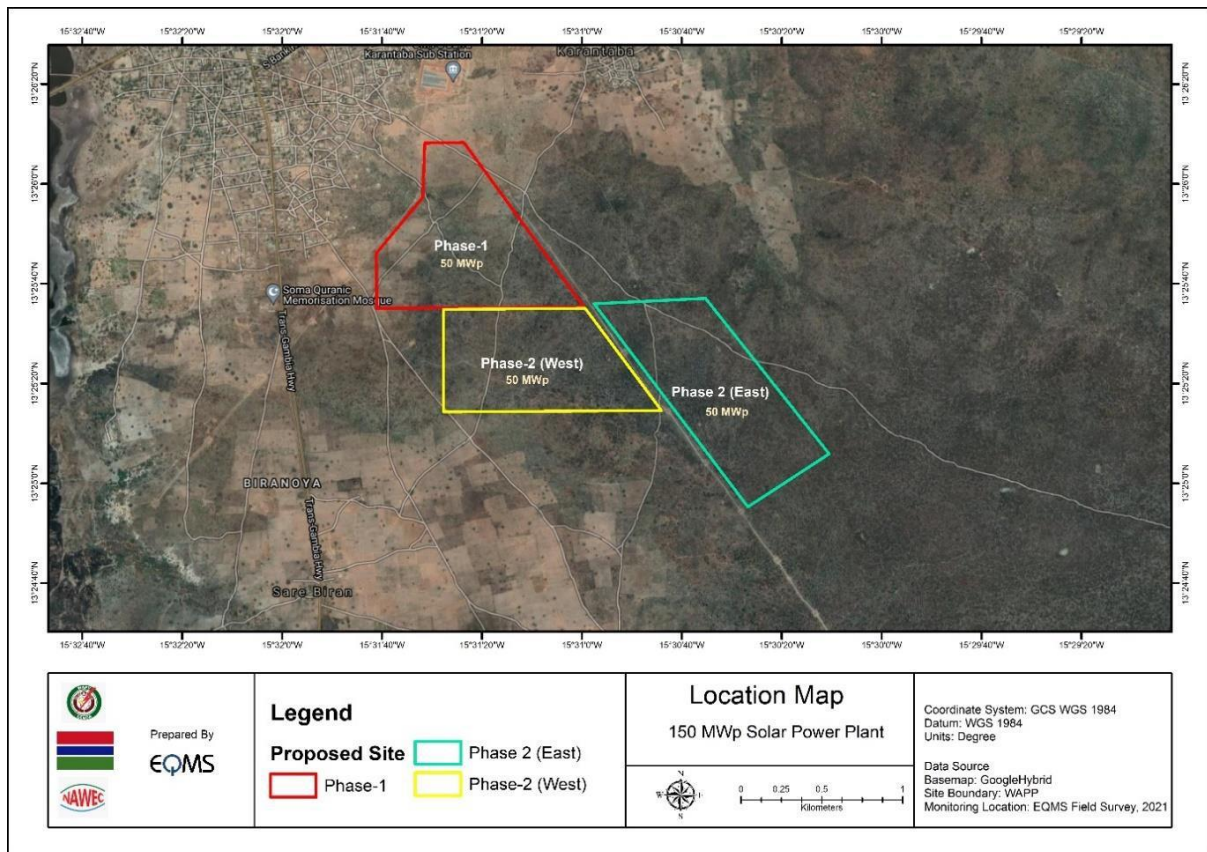
The key components of the Project are the power arrays which are composed of Photovoltaic (PV) panels that convert solar energy (radiation from the sun) into electricity. Throughout the site, the total number of PV Panels will be just over 300,000. In addition, there are infrastructure and utilities which will serve the Project and which include a road network (access road, main road, and service road), a separate entrance gate for each phase, a perimeter fence, HV/MV substation, and control room,

transformer stations, overhead line, underground cabling, battery energy storage area, auxiliary buildings (guardhouse, control-monitoring-video surveillance, spare parts storage), vehicle parking area, water tank, other buildings deemed necessary by the IPP. In addition, the Project will be connected to the existing OMVG substation.

1.3 Project Intervention zones

The proposed project is located near the Karantaba village and soma town in the Jarra West District of the Lower River Region of The Gambia. The proposed project site is located at latitude 13°25'54.37"N and longitude 15°31'0.06"W. The proposed site is predominantly considered a flat terrain. Highlands are observed at the East and South-East sides of the proposed project site. Approximately 76.38 ha. of land is required for Phase-1 and 153.62 ha. of land for Phase-2 (both phase-2 east and phase-2 west). The location of the project site has been presented in Figure 1.

Figure 1: Location Map of the Proposed Project Site



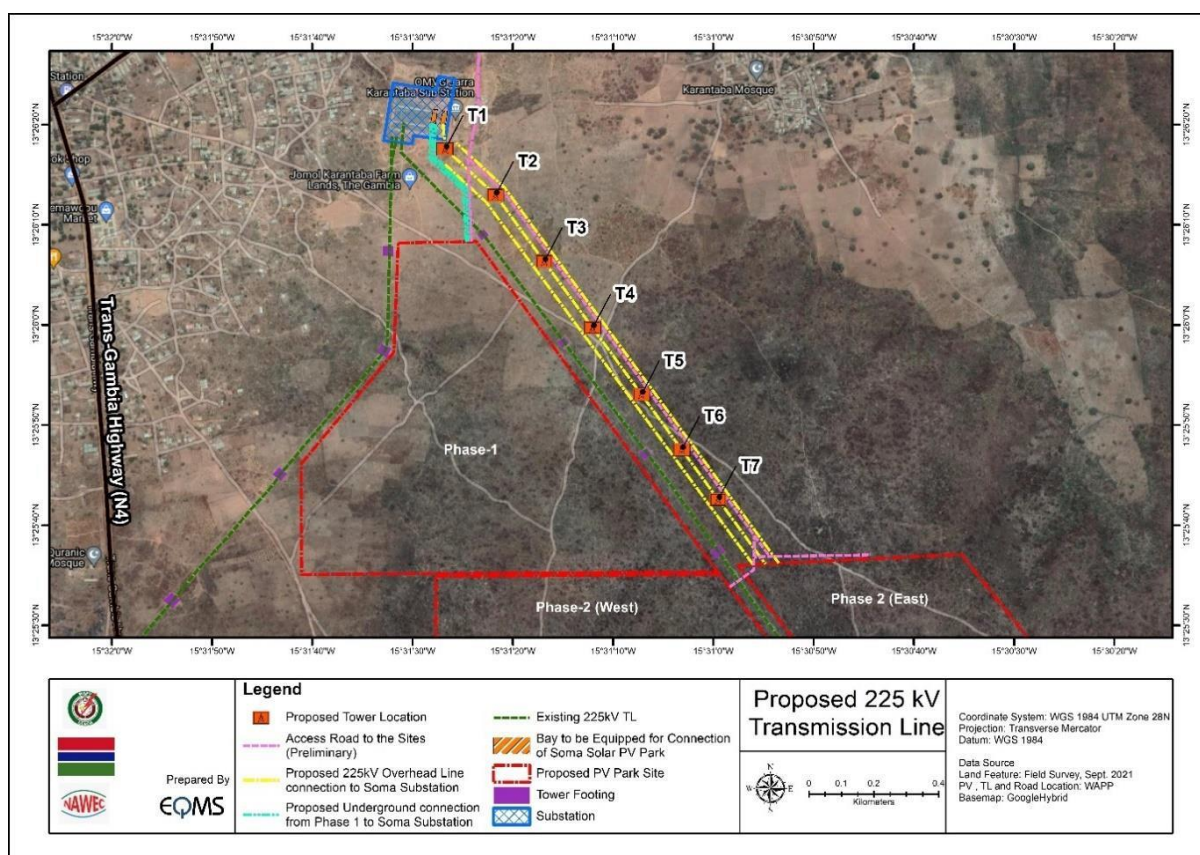
According to the feasibility study for the proposed PV park, due to the proximity between the project site and the Soma 225 kV substation, a relatively short section of underground line for phase-1 and an overhead line for phase-2 have been proposed. The Phase-1 site and the OMVG Soma Substation are very close (~400m) to each other and shall be connected via underground cable hence avoiding OHL/OHL crossings. Suitable land rights must be secured for the underground cable corridor as part of the project works (~15m width).

The Phase-2 site and the OMVG Soma substation are around 1.600 km from each other and shall be connected via an overhead line. Due to the short line length of only seven OHL towers, both termination type towers have been proposed. The preliminary line routing is indicated on the layout drawing available in Figure 2.

Figure 2: Location Map of Proposed 225 kV Substation and Transmission Line

Source: EQMS, March 2022

1.4 Potential Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts



Pre-construction Phase

Positive Impacts

The major positive E&S impacts during the preconstruction phase anticipated are:

- Limited employment and job opportunities for both skilled and unskilled workers in connection with the preliminary survey, studies, and licensing/approval from government departments.
- No resettlement and rehabilitation are required for this project.

Negative Impacts

The major negative E&S impacts during the preconstruction phase anticipated are:

- Approximately 230 hectares of land will be required for the establishment proposed solar park.
- 12 individual landowners from Soma and community land owned by the Karantaba community will lose their land as well as economic displacement and livelihoods.
- Project site will be converted into an industrial area from agricultural land and Savana grassland with trees, shrubs, and herbs.

Construction Phase

Positive Impacts

The major positive E&S impacts during the construction phase anticipated are:

- Direct and indirect employment opportunities for skilled, semi-skilled, and unskilled workers.
- Positive socio-economic development for the region.
- Indirect economic opportunities in terms of small businesses, setting up of food shops, laundry, contractual workers, rental of housing and other structures, etc.
- Temporary revitalization of the local economy with the revival of activities generated by the work
- Creation of income-generating activities that would contribute to alleviate the poverty of local communities through small-scale trade services and alike. These activities will greatly benefit women who will assumably propose commercial activities around the site
- Increase in income, especially for women who will exploit the business opportunities around the construction sites (sale of food, laundry cleaners for the workers, etc.)
- Development of subcontracting activities for local companies/boost for the creation of new ones
- Strengthening of local expertise with job creation (drivers, electricians, laborers, machine operators, mechanics, masons, etc.).

Negative Impacts

The major negative E&S impacts during the construction phase anticipated are:

- During the construction phase, 2,807 trees will be removed from the proposed solar park site which will lead to the potential loss of biomass in the project area.
 - Dust from increased vehicle movement across dirt/unpaved roads, especially during windy conditions, construction of approach roads, loading and unloading equipment, and earthworks such as levelling, grading, and excavation works.
 - Air quality will be impacted by the exhaust emission from the construction vehicles and heavy equipment such as bulldozers, excavators, dump trucks, compactors, and DG sets.
 - Ambient noise will be caused by the operation of earthmoving and excavation equipment, concrete mixers, operation of DG sets, movement of vehicles, cranes, and the transportation of equipment, materials, and people.
 - The faunal species will be disturbed due to high noise during construction activities.
 - Due to the removal of trees/vegetation, the existing terrestrial ecosystem of the project site will be severely affected and avifauna, herpetofauna, mammals, and wildlife will be displaced.
 - Construction wastes, such as metal cutting, debris, and packaging materials, may contaminate soil at the site of construction.
 - Liquid and solid wastes will be generated from the construction labor camp facilities and improper disposal can pollute soil quality as well as the water quality.
 - Accidental spillage or inappropriate management of fuels, engine oil, and hazardous chemicals during the maintenance and replacement of vehicles and equipment can pollute the soil.
 - population influx in the project area can lead to unwarranted pressure on key local infrastructures such as food, water, healthcare, electricity, road, traffic, etc. This could lead to an increase in STD, GBV, SEA/SH, injuries, and loss of life or properties. It can also lead to price inflation. Land loss because of acquisition of land for the Solar Park.
 - Loss of livelihoods, and source of livelihoods because of the acquisition of land and during
-

work

- Loss of agricultural land
- Restrictions on land use and access to natural resources that affect a community or groups
- Relocation of people without formal, traditional, or recognizable usage rights, who are occupying or utilizing land prior to a project-specific cut-off date
- Displacement of people as a result of project impacts that render their land unusable or inaccessible
- Restrictions on access to land or use of other resources including communal property and natural resources such as timber and non-timber forest products, medicinal plants, hunting and gathering grounds and grazing and cropping areas within a community to lose access to resources
- In addition to the general occupational and community health and safety concerns, women workers and women living in settlements near the proposed project site may be at greater risk of physical or sexual harassment.
- Traffic will be increased, and road accidents may occur.

Operations Phase

Positive Impacts

The major positive E&S impacts during the operation phase anticipated are:

- Skilled workers to operate the power plant and semi-skilled workers, in limited numbers, for housekeeping and security-related jobs, on the payroll.
 - Indirect economic and employment opportunities in terms of small businesses, setting up of food shops, laundry, contractual workers, structures rent, etc.
 - No significant air quality impact is envisaged.
 - Ambient noise will be limited due to the limited number of vehicular movements, noise from inverters and transformers, and repair and maintenance works of solar panels.
 - The implementation of the solar energy project will have a positive impact on the environment as it will use renewable and domestic energy resources and will avoid about 180,000 tons of CO₂ per year for an installed capacity of 150 MWp.
 - Improved household efficiency which in turn will lower some of the burdens of work on women and elderly peoples who are largely responsible for household chores (*i.e., cleaning, washing, ironing, cooking, etc. that must be done regularly at home*). With electricity, the households may be able to acquire smaller and energy-efficient appliances
 - Improved in delivery of basic socioeconomic services and businesses (*i.e., electricity is necessary for medical facilities, business development, etc.*)
 - Extension of network coverage for electricity which supports local development opportunities
 - Development of public lighting, lengthening the daily socioeconomic services (*i.e., markets and shops services remain open till late night, etc.*) and improvement of security conditions for the neighborhoods
 - Improvement of children education since they will be able to do their homework the night thanks to electricity and some schools can have fans to allow some refreshed air during hot days
 - Improvement of health facilities, the clinics in those areas can be connected to the grid and, also new ones can be opened since electricity is available. That will allow health facilities access and improve services since stable electricity will be available
 - Secure distribution with the cessation of activities of self-producers of electricity
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Negative Impacts

The major negative E&S impacts during the operation phase anticipated are:

- Groundwater can be polluted due to accidental leakage and spills of oil.
- Improper storage and disposal of municipal solid waste and wastewater from the site office and broken PV panels from maintenance activity will impact soil quality.
- There is potential for avian distraction due to glare/reflection from solar panels.
- There are many occupational hazards associated with solar PV if sufficient precautions are not taken during the operation stages.
- Repair and maintenance activities will lead to the generation of hazardous wastes from PV module cleaning, defunct/damaged photovoltaic cells, and wastewater from domestic sources. Improper disposal of waste may lead to contamination of soil and groundwater, which could result in indirect impacts on humans, flora, and fauna.
- Increased traffic and risk of accidents
- Potential for increased OHS and Community health and safety risks during construction

Decommissioning Phase

Positive Impacts

The major positive E&S impacts during the decommissioning phase anticipated are:

- Employment opportunities will be generated temporarily.

Negative Impacts

The major negative E&S impacts during the decommissioning phase anticipated are:

- Loss of jobs for operations phase workforce
- Fugitive dust emissions from demolition activities.
- Exhaust emissions from machinery and heavy equipment.
- Noise levels will be increased due to the movement of vehicles and operation of DG set and other stationary machines, and physical presence of workers, etc.
- Increased traffic during the disassembly of the infrastructure.
- Soil contamination due to leakage from machinery and vehicles and the collection of remaining oil/lubricants in the plant.
- Potential for contamination of groundwater resources resulting from improper management of sewage and accidental spills/leaks at the storage areas.
- A large volume of waste including solid, liquid, hazardous, and e-waste will be generated.
- Potential for increased OHS and Community health and safety risks, as compared from the operations phase.

2 Brief Summary of Stakeholder consultations during project identification and preparation stages

2.1 Methodology

The project will apply the following principles for stakeholder engagement:

- **Openness and life-cycle approach:** public consultations for the project(s) will be arranged during the whole lifecycle, carried out in an open manner, free of external manipulation, interference, coercion, or intimidation.
 - **Informed participation and feedback:** information will be provided to and widely distributed among all stakeholders in an appropriate format; opportunities are provided for communicating stakeholders' feedback, for analyzing and addressing comments and concerns.
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- **Inclusiveness and sensitivity to stakeholder needs:** stakeholder identification is undertaken to support better communications and build effective relationships. The participation process for the projects is inclusive. All stakeholders are always encouraged to be involved in the consultation process. Equal access to information is provided to all stakeholders. Sensitivity to stakeholders' needs is the key principle underlying the selection of engagement methods. Special attention is given to vulnerable groups, in particular women, youth, elderly, and the cultural sensitivities of diverse ethnic groups. Women and girls should be independently consulted in safe and enabling environments, with female facilitators leading the group discussion, especially with regard to sensitive topics regarding SEA/SH risk and insecurity.
- **Flexibility:** if social distancing inhibits traditional forms of engagement, the methodology should adapt to other forms of engagement, including various forms of internet communication.

An extensive stakeholder consultation was undertaken as part of the ESIA and land acquisition activities. During the ESIA, the key stakeholders consulted include the host community (Soma and Karantaba) and other stakeholders i.e., landowners/users, female groups, MECCNAR, NEA, MOPE, MOGCSP, NAWEC, OMVG, PURA, DPWM, DOL, DOF, DOA, DPPH, WRD, Governor of LRR, Alkalos of Soma and Karantaba, Chief of Jarra West District, VDCs of Karantaba and Soma, Gambia Fire and Rescue Service, Police Force, etc. and shall be continued throughout the project lifecycle. A public consultation meeting was conducted at Karantaba, Jarra West District under LRR, The Gambia on 16th September 2021 to disseminate project-related information, identify and address legislative, community, and environmental concerns and seek information on appropriate mitigation for project negative impacts. In addition, a workshop was conducted from 5 to 9 December 2022 at Mansakonko Area Council Conference Hall, Jarra West District, Lower River Region, The Gambia to disclose the ESIA and RAP report prepared for the proposed project and get stakeholders feedback on the submitted report to finalize the report.

The key concerns and recommendations from the consultation process are given below:

Project Perception: The proposed project has been accepted by government and local stakeholders including landowners, community peoples, and female groups during the series of consultations. All are informed about the proposed project and possess a positive perception of the country's development.

Document Sharing: Project information needs to be disclosed through VDCs, Alkalos, and local community people. Final ESIA and RAP reports will be shared by the project authority.

Landownership: It was confirmed that the proposed land for the project belongs to the individual landowners of Soma and the community land of Karantaba. Landownership was confirmed in the presence of the Chief, VDC, Alkalos, Physical Planning Officer, and landowners. There is no habitation/settlement inside the project boundary.

Consideration: Requested to exclude the NEA dumping area, cattle track from the project boundary area and grazing area need to be marked by fencing. During the study, NEA dumping areas, grazing fields, and cattle tracks were identified and excluded from the project boundary. In addition, the project boundary will be well-fenced.

Impacts: Agricultural land will be impacted where Groundnut, Maize, and Coose are common crops produced. Adequate compensation will be provided for the crop loss considering the market price.

The project site is not under a protected area, nominated park, or wildlife sanctuary. Tree felling, if unavoidable, shall be done only after the compensatory plantation of at least three saplings for every tree cut is done.

GBV/SEA/SH: During the discussion with the female group opined that GBV/SEA/SH may arise during the construction and operation period of the project. Worried about the newcomers because they might disturb their daily life. A grievance mechanism will be developed to keep a record of GVB/SEA/SH and resolve these issues. In addition, the code of conduct will be followed by the contractor.

Compensation: Regarding the compensation issues, expect the market price of the loss of land and the economic value of the crops and trees. Affected persons preferred compensation in cash or cheques. However, there is no alternative government land for the alternative compensation of land for land. Fair compensation will be provided as per the existing laws and regulations of The Gambia and the Environmental and Social Framework of the World Bank.

Expectations: Expectations from the projects are employment opportunities for the affected families and their kids as well as the local community according to their skills and experiences. Besides, prefer the road, hospitals, markets, female vegetation garden, youth center, community development centers, and shopping malls from the project authority as a part of community development. People also expect to benefit from increased availability of reliable power.

Local people will get priority based on their education, skills, and experiences. The project authority will initiate a CSR program as part of community development.

Grievances: All types of grievances should be given a high priority to resolve quickly. The involvement of local leaders is required to avoid biasness. Local leaders have been proposed to the Grievance Resolution Committee.

3. STAKEHOLDER IDENTIFICATION AND ANALYSIS

Overall, the very purpose of stakeholder identification is to determine groups and individuals likely to be directly or indirectly affected (positively or negatively) or to have an interest in the project. In order to develop an effective plan, the identification of stakeholders takes account of the interests of the stakeholders in the project, participation needs, level of vulnerability, expectations in terms of participation and priorities of the stakeholders.

Project stakeholders are defined as individuals, groups, or other entities who:

- (i) are impacted or likely to be impacted directly or indirectly, positively or adversely, by the Project (also known as 'affected parties'). This includes project beneficiaries; and
- (ii) may have an interest in the Project ('interested parties'). They include individuals or groups whose interests may be affected by the Project and who have the potential to influence the Project outcomes in any way.

Cooperation and negotiation with the stakeholders throughout the project development process often also require the identification of persons within the groups who act as legitimate representatives of their respective stakeholder group, i.e., the individuals who have been entrusted by their fellow group members with advocating the groups' interests in the process of engagement with the project. Community representatives may provide helpful insight into the local settings and act as main conduits for dissemination of the Project-related information and as a primary communication/liaison link between the Project and targeted communities and their established networks. Verification of stakeholder representatives (i.e., the process of confirming that they are legitimate and genuine advocates of the community they represent) remains an important task in establishing contact with the community stakeholders. Legitimacy of the community representatives can be verified by talking informally to a random sample of community members and getting their views on who can be representing their interests in the most effective way.

3.1 Methodology

To identify the stakeholders, the following activities were undertaken:

- a) Meetings with different public institutions and the main project stakeholders
 - b) Review of the relevant literature
 - c) Consultations with the direct and indirect stakeholders.
- **Affected Parties** –These are stakeholders likely to be affected by the Solar Park because of actual impacts or potential risks to their physical environment, health, security, cultural practices, well-being, or livelihoods and may include individuals or groups, including local communities, persons, groups and other entities within the project area of influence that are directly influenced (actually or potentially) by the project and/or have been identified as most susceptible to change associated with the project, and who need to be closely engaged in identifying impacts and their significance, as well as in decision-making on mitigation and management measures. This group includes Project Affected People (PAPs) who may be negatively impacted by the project's development through loss of land, livelihoods, or from potential nuisance's (noise, dust, traffic) or other social-cultural impacts. It also includes project beneficiaries, i.e. the communities that will benefit from the electricity generated by the Solar Park.
 - **Other Interested Parties** – refers to individuals, groups, or organizations with an interest in the Solar Park and electricity it will produce, which may be because of the project location, its

characteristics, its impacts, or matters related to public interest. For example, these parties may include regulators, government officials, the private sector, the scientific community, academics, unions, women’s organizations, other civil society organizations, and cultural groups.

- **Vulnerable Groups** – persons who may be disproportionately affected or further disadvantaged by the project(s) as compared with any other groups due to their vulnerable status^{5F1} and that may require special engagement efforts to ensure their equal representation in the consultation and decision-making process associated with the project.

3.2 Affected Parties

Affected Parties include landowners at the Solar Park area, local communities living in and around the Solar Park. Table below, provides the affected parties in terms of those likely to be affected negatively directly and others likely to be affected positively.

Table 1: Summary of Stakeholders showing their roles and interest in the project

Group/Parties	Stakeholders
Affected Parties	<p>People affected by the Project: landowners, female groups, agricultural laborers, local community from affected villages, and vulnerable groups, project beneficiaries. Directly impacted communities include the village of Karantaba and the town of Soma.</p>
Interested Parties	<p>Central Government: Ministry of Petroleum and Energy, National Water and Electricity Company Limited, Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Natural Resources, National Environment Agency, Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs, Public Utilities Regulatory Authority, Ministry of Lands and Regional Government and its Physical Planning and Housing Department, Department of Forestry, Ministry of Agriculture, Department of Parks and Wildlife Management, Ministry of Health and Social Welfare and its Department of Health Services, National Council for Arts and Culture, Department of Women’s Affairs, Department of Youth and Sport, and National Disaster Management Agency, the private sectors and all those who depends on electricity for their business or activities.</p> <p>Local Government Officials: Governor of Lower River Region, Chief of Jarra West District.</p> <p>Community Leaders and Representatives of Affected Groups in Districts and Settlements: Seyfos (Districts), Alkalos, Village Development Committees, active NGOs, Religious bodies, Youth Groups, and Cultural groups.</p> <p>Other power actors: WAPP, NAWEC, PURA, OMVG.</p> <p>Private Sector: Private sector actors (national and international) who would be interested in contracts associated with the project (studies, construction, supervision, audits etc..)</p>

The details of the consultation with all stakeholders are attached in Annex 4. X

¹ Vulnerable status may stem from, among other things, an individual’s, or group’s race, national, ethnic, or social origin, color, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, language, religion, political or other opinion, property, age, culture, literacy, sickness, physical or mental disability, poverty or economic disadvantage, and dependence on unique natural resources.

3.3 Disadvantaged and Vulnerable Groups

Vulnerability may stem from a person's origin, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, health condition, economic deficiency and financial insecurity, disadvantaged status in the community (e.g., minorities or fringe groups), or dependence on other individuals or natural resources, etc. Due to their status, they may not be adequately consulted about the project partly because of their inability to attend meetings or failure to understand the language that the meeting is being conducted. These and other factors can combine to reduce their access to potential project benefits. This category will therefore require specific measures and/or assistance to address their vulnerability to certain risks, including SEA/SH and VAC. Within the Project, the vulnerable or disadvantaged groups will include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Sex workers
- Female-headed households,
- People living with HIV/AIDS and other chronic diseases
- Women leading business
- Women farmers
- Farmers including women farmers
- Persons living with disability in the project areas
- Elderly (65 years old for the male and female persons in project areas)

To ensure adequate engagement with the vulnerable individuals and groups often requires the application of specific measures and assistance aimed at facilitating their participation in project-related decision-making so that their awareness of and input to the overall process are commensurate to those of the other stakeholders.

3.4 Summary of project stakeholder needs

Table 2 below presents a summary of the needs of different groups of stakeholders in terms of language, means of communication and any special needs.

Table 2: Summary of project stakeholder needs

Stakeholder Groups	General Composition	Language requirements	Preferred means of communication (e-mail, phone, radio, letter)	Special needs (Access, meeting times etc.)
Government Ministries & Technical Depts.	Comprise advisers/experts in Energy, finance, local government authorities, trade, gender, and youth affairs	English	Letters, emails, meetings/workshops & video conferencing	Need to have advance notice for meetings and should preferably take place during working days
Media	Several outlets including print and electronic, (radio, newsprint, and television)	English Local Languages	Mails, email,s meetings & video conferencing	Need to have advance notice for meeting and should preferably take place during working hours
Local Communities (e.g., village of Karantaba)	Men, women, young people, and the elderly who live in villages and neighborhoods bordering areas where solar park, transmission lines or access roads are being built.	Local languages	Prospectus, fliers, Communication through radios and television, community meetings, Creation of WhatsApp group	Information in local languages through private/community radios
Disadvantaged and Vulnerable groups	Comprise women, the elderly, and persons with	Local languages	Prospectus, fliers,	Targeting with special assistance of NGOs

	disabilities, persons suffering from HIV/AIDS and other chronic diseases, sex workers		Communication through radios and television Creation of WhatsApp group, focus group meetings with groups of vulnerable peoples, community meetings	Information in local languages through private/community radios
Contractors and service providers	These include firms to carry out the construction works and provide supplies etc.	English and local languages	Letters, emails meetings, announcements through the media, informational sessions on project opportunities	Need to give information wide publicity through media when tenders are placed.

4. STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN (SEP)

4.1 Purpose and Timing of Stakeholder Engagement Plan

Stakeholder engagement is an inclusive and iterative process conducted throughout the project life cycle. It is a process that enables the project to engage beneficiaries and stakeholders regularly to improve the environmental and social sustainability of the Project, enhance project acceptance, and make a significant contribution to successful project design and implementation.

4.2. Proposed strategy for consultation

Table 3: Proposed strategy for consultation

Project stage	Topic of consultation / message	Method used	Timetable	Target stakeholders	Responsibilities
1. BEFORE APPRAISAL					
Development of E&S documents (RAP, ESIA, & SEP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project benefits & risks • Stakeholder consultation requirements • Gender • Vulnerability groups • GM Procedures including SEA/SH reporting procedures • Land requirements for project activities • NCAC and local communities and NGOs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key Informant Interviews • Focus group discussions • Meetings with women groups (women led businesses, and women in communities affected) facilitated by a woman 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Before appraisal/approval of the Project 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Government technical departments • Governors • Landowners • Local communities • NGOs active in the area • Vulnerable groups including women and girls 	PIU and Consultants
2. IMPLEMENTATION PHASE					
Sensitization of E&S instruments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LMP, SEP, RAP, and ESMP requirements • GM procedures including SEA/SH reporting • Messages on SEA/SH and VAC risk mitigation and response • Role of the communities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meetings • Workshops • Community/local radios • Traditional notifications including drama groups, town criers • Separate meetings with community women in small groups facilitated by a woman • Billboards 	At the start of the project and throughout the implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local communities • Vulnerable groups including women (sex workers, child vendors) • Village development committees • Governors • Community elders-chiefs and Alkalos • SEA/SH service providers 	PIU

<p>Information & Sensitization about ESIA & RAP Preparation et implementation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ESIA, ESMP, RAP • Start date of civil work • Impacts, mitigation measures • SEA/SH and VAC Action Plan • Cut of date, compensation measures • Assistance of PAP & vulnerable persons 	<p>Meetings</p> <p>Workshops</p> <p>Community/local radios</p> <p>Traditional notifications drama groups, town criers</p> <p>Separate meetings with community women in small groups facilitated by a woman</p> <p>Billboards</p>	<p>At the start of the project and throughout the implementation</p>	<p>Government technical departments</p> <p>Governor</p> <p>Local communities</p> <p>Vulnerable groups including women (sex workers, child vendors)</p> <p>Village development committees</p> <p>Community elders-chiefs and Alkalos</p> <p>SEA/SH service providers</p>	<p>PIU, Contractors, and Consultants</p>
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4.4 Proposed strategy to incorporate the view of vulnerable groups

The project will carry out targeted stakeholder engagement with vulnerable groups to understand their concerns and needs in terms of accessing information on the project. These will include arranging special meetings with them at a more convenient place and time (not during mosque day, or during time women are at the market or busy with child rearing duties, accommodating methods and places to ensure elderly and persons with disabilities are included, safe/confidential spaces for women, led by women, etc.). Similarly, women and girls, for instance, should be independently consulted in safe and enabling environments and grouped by age ranges with female facilitators leading the group discussions, especially in the case of sensitive topics such as SEA/SH risk and sex workers. During the project phase, and after the RETIF, it is also recommended to closely work with NGO specialized in working with vulnerable groups so that the right approach will be taken to incorporate their views and concerns. For the physically challenged persons with visual and hearing impairment, for example this may require providing transportation to the meeting venue and having the information translated into sign language.

4.5 Reporting back to stakeholders

The Ministry of Petroleum and Energy through the NAWEC PIU will document all program activities, and the consolidated reports will be made available to the stakeholders and the relevant authorities. As necessary during project implementation, the SEP will be periodically revised and updated to ensure that the information presented therein is consistent and is the most recent. The review will also assess whether the identified methods of engagement remain appropriate and effective in relation to the project context and specific phases of the development. Any major changes to project related activities will be reflected in the SEP.

Information on public engagement activities undertaken by the Project will be conveyed to the stakeholders through publication of the reports on the project website, social media, PIU office etc

4.6 Communication plan

The proposed stakeholder engagement strategy presented above will help increase awareness raising among the stakeholders, particularly amongst the most vulnerable about the project and its activities and their roles in its implementation. To ensure an effective delivery system, NAWEC PIU will develop a communication plan that takes account of the stakeholders' needs and preferences in terms of information during the implementation of the RETIF.

5 Resources and Responsibilities for implementing stakeholder engagement activities

5.1. Resources

The environmental and social Specialist recruited by the PIU will be in charge of stakeholder engagement activities and the team will oversee the consultation/communication activities of the SEP to be carried out by the Consultants, the contractors and the Project itself.

5.2. Management functions and responsibilities for managing the Stakeholder Engagement Plan

Overall responsibility for the project will lie with the Ministry of Petroleum and Energy and NAWEC, which will host the Project Implementation Unit that will be responsible for the day-to-day management and coordination of project activities. The MOPE, NAWEC, and the PIU for this project. Once the project becomes effective capacity building of the PIU will be required to improve the PIU's ability to manage the environmental and social risks (including SEA/SH risks) of the project.

- **The PIU** will oversee the day-to-day management of the project. This includes coordinating and overseeing implementation of this SEP and communication activities
- **The environmental and social team of the PIU** will be directly responsible for coordinating the implementation of the stakeholder engagement activities, in consultation with other members of the PIU.
- **The E&S Specialist** will be responsible for the coordinating the implementation of the GM
- The media (both print and electronic as well as private or public) in close collaboration with the Project Team will carry information about the project to the wider public.

The stakeholder engagement activities will be documented through:

- Monthly/quarterly reports
- MOPE and NAWEC websites, (social media, including Facebook page, and other sites), radio (both national and local) and television
- Letters and press releases

The Stakeholder engagement plan will be incorporated in the Project Implementation Manual and the Annual Work Plan and Budget.

6 GRIEVANCE MECHANISM (GM)

The Grievance Mechanism (GM) is designed with the objective of resolving disputes at the earliest possible time before they escalate, to respond to misconduct or abuse committed by project associated staff and personnel, and for stakeholders (PIU and their consultants, IPP, Private sector bidding on contracts, support staff) to be able to engage the project and ask questions and raise concerns without fear of reprisals. Project-affected persons should be heard and be able to voice concerns, and as such, they must have access to fair, transparent, and accessible means to address their concerns and views related to the project.

NAWEC has already established a GM aims to be effective and responsive to address project complaints and concerns at project-level so that grievances are not referred to the court system for resolution, which is often not timely, financially feasible or accessible to all. A functioning, inclusive and accessible grievance mechanism is essential for social sustainability of the project.

The present GM responds to concerns and grievances of PAPs related to the environmental and social performance of the project. The grievance mechanism provided below will set out specific procedures to manage SEA/SH complaints ethically and confidentially accompanied by an appropriate response protocol allowing access to GBV services (at minimum medical, psychosocial, and legal) through referrals.

The Project will make available grievance forms in the affected village (Alkalo or VDC of Karantaba) as an accessible venue for filing a grievance. In addition, the project has a toll-free number 1266 for easier access to lodge complaints. A literate member of the VDC or the community will help in completing the forms. Codes of conduct will be developed and signed by these people to ensure that they will respect the confidentiality of the complaints

6.1 Principles of GM

The GM will adopt the following six core principles to enhance its effectiveness:

- a. **Fairness:** Grievances will be treated confidentially, assessed impartially, and handled transparently.
- b. **Objectivity and independence:** The GM will operate independently of all interested parties in order to guarantee fair, objective, and impartial treatment to each case. Officers working under the GM will have adequate means and powers to investigate grievances (e.g., interview witnesses, access records).
- c. **Simplicity and accessibility:** Procedures to file grievances and seek action will be made simple enough that project beneficiaries can easily understand them. Project beneficiaries will have a range of contact options/reporting channels including, at a minimum, a telephone number (free number), an email address. The design of the NAWEC PIU GM is such that it is accessible to all stakeholders, irrespective of where they live, the language they speak. The GM has not complex processes that create confusion or anxiety (such as only accepting grievances on official logging standard forms or through grievance boxes in government offices). Safety and accessibility of contact options/reporting channels will be confirmed during community consultations including with women in separate groups animated by a woman.
- d. **Responsiveness and efficiency:** The GM will be improved to be responsive to the needs of all complainants. Accordingly, all officers handling grievances will be trained to take effective action upon, and respond quickly to, grievances and suggestions. Officers in charge of SEA/SH complaints will receive additional training on confidential handling of sensitive information and survivor-centered approach.

- e. **Speed and proportionality:** All grievances, simple or complex, will be addressed and resolved as quickly as possible. The action taken on the grievance or suggestion is expected to be swift, decisive, and constructive.
- f. **Participatory and socially inclusive:** All project-affected persons – community members, members of vulnerable groups, project implementers, civil society, and the media - are encouraged to bring grievances and comments to the attention of project authorities. Special attention is given to ensure that poor and disadvantaged groups, including those with special needs, can access the GM.

The key objectives of the GM are:

- Record, categorize and prioritize the grievances according to severity and immediacy of the issue, and provide timely, fair, accountable resolution to grievances at the project level
- Ensure multiple and accessible channels for all stakeholders, especially those who are vulnerable or disadvantaged
- Settle the grievances via consultation with all stakeholders (and inform stakeholders of the solutions, obtain their views on the outcome, and ensure they understand possible next steps to escalate if they are not satisfied with the outcome)
- Prevent the risks and mitigate the impacts of SEA/SH by facilitating access to GBV service, raising awareness on SEA/SH amongst workers and community and enforce sanctions against perpetrators in line with the code of conduct of the project
- Forward any unresolved cases to the relevant authority
- Regularly analyze grievances to assess if there are systemic issues in the project that should be addressed to mitigate the same types of issues being reported and use adaptive management strategies to limit the recurrence of the same type of grievances through E&S management measures.

The GM operates within the existing legal, cultural and community context of The Gambia. It will also take into consideration World Bank procedures and recommendations regarding complaint handling and monitoring and reporting on their resolution. Complainants are encouraged to use the amicable grievance mechanism that has been put in place by the project, and they are also free to use the national judicial system at any time to address their grievances.

6.2 Structure of the GM

The GM shall consist of (i) project level grievance resolution; and (iii) national legal level.

6.2.1 Project-level Grievance Resolution Committee

The Grievance Resolution Committee will be responsible for receiving and resolving complaints in a fair, objective, accountable, effectively, timely and accountable manner in all phases of the project lifecycle. It will deal with all grievances that have not been resolved at the local level.

The broad responsibilities of the GRC include:

- Developing and publicizing the grievance management procedures
- Receiving, reviewing, investigating, and keeping track of grievances
- Adjudicating grievances
- Monitoring and evaluating the fulfillment of agreements achieved through the grievance mechanism.

The composition of the GRC at the Project site in Soma LRR will be as follow:

The Governor (Chairman)

Regional Forest Officer

Regional Gender Officer (Women Bureau)

Regional Community Development Officer

Regional Physical Planning Officer

Representative from Area Council

Regional Agric Director

Regional NEA Officer

Regional Health Officer.

Environment Specialist from NAWEC

Social Safeguard Specialist from NAWEC (Scribe)

The district Chief, Alkalo (Village Head) and aggrieved person are non-permanent members of the GRC.

The GM will establish ethical, confidential, and survivor-centered procedures for managing sensitive complaints. All SEA/SH complaints will be provided with referral to GBV service providers (if not already offered at local level) and will be verified and addressed by a restrained group within the GRC led by GBV Specialist and consisting of persons with experience in working on GBV related issues.

Escalation of Grievances

If the complaint is not resolved to the satisfaction of the aggrieved party by the Grievance Redress Committee, it will then be referred by the NAWEC PIU Project Coordinator to the National Steering Committee (NSC).

The NAWEC National Steering Committee (NSC) is composed of:

- Permanent Secretary Ministry of Petroleum and Energy
- National Environment Agency
- Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs
- Managing Director of NAWEC
- NAWEC PIU Project Coordinator
- Director of Petroleum, Water and Electricity Regulation at Public Utility Regulation Authority
- Permanent Secretary Ministry of Lands and Local Government
- Permanent Secretary Office of the President
- Permanent Secretary Ministry of Women's and Social Welfare

The NSC (will meet at least once per month) will be required to address the concern within 30 days the request for escalation was made.

Should measures taken by the National Steering Committee fail to satisfy the complainant, the aggrieved party is free to take his/her grievance to the Gambia judicial court (District Tribunals or Magistrates Court).

6.2.3 National legal level: If the GRC and the PSC do not provide a satisfactory resolution for the PAP, he or she will be advised to seek resolution of grievances through the judicial system as provided for in the Constitution 1997 and other relevant laws. The related legal costs will be borne by the complainant.

6.2.4 Grievance Mechanism Procedures for complaints unrelated to SEA/SH and VAC

The community will be informed and sensitized about the existence and use of the GM (through radio notices, billboards, community meetings, Imam and with some awareness trainings by the PIU prior to the starting of the resettlement process and of the various uptake options where complaints can be submitted. These uptake channels can include:

- Toll-free telephone hotline
- E-mail
- Letter to project focal points in the regions
- Complaint form to be lodged via any of the above channels
- Walk-ins may register a complaint on a grievance logbook at various easily accessible facilities.

The following procedures will be followed in treating complaints:

Step 1: Receipt and registration of complaints

The channels for receiving complaints will be diversified as indicated above. Oral complaints must be transcribed in writing before the rest of the process to ensure traceability (by the secretariat). Any complaint, whether verbal or written, is immediately recorded in a Grievance logbook for non-SEA/SH complaints is in Annex. The complainant shall receive an acknowledgment of receipt within 48 hours of filing his/her complaint.

Step 2: Investigation of complaints

A sorting is carried out by the complaint handling bodies to distinguish between sensitive (i.e., SEA/SH/VAC) and non-sensitive complaints, considering the precise criteria retained by the Project Implementation Manual. Non-sensitive complaints will be dealt with by the GRC. Sensitive complaints, after registration by the E&S Specialist, are immediately transmitted to Service Providers to address SEA/SH. The time required to analyze a non-sensitive complaint shall not exceed seven (7) days after receipt of the complaint.

Step 3: Investigation to verify the merits of the complaint

At this stage, the information and evidence will be gathered to determine the validity or otherwise of the grievance and to provide solutions to the grievance raised. Specific expertise may be requested by the GRC if such expertise is not available from within the GRC. The maximum period for this phase is ten (10) working days. If further investigation is required, the complainant should be informed accordingly specifying the deadline when a reply will be provided.

Step 4: Response proposals

Based on the findings of the investigations, a written reply will be sent to the complainant highlighting the validity or otherwise of the claim. If valid, the complaint will be informed in writing and/or in the preferred format or method indicated by the complainant (email, letter, SMS, phone) the conclusions of the investigations, the solutions adopted, the means of implementing corrective measures, the schedule implementation and budget. If the complainant was made anonymously, the project will post the resolution on the project website under a specific section reserved for grievance resolution notices, and on Facebook. During stakeholder meetings about the grievance process, stakeholders will be told where to find information related to anonymous complaints and will be encouraged to visit the project website

and follow the project's Facebook page for regular updates. The proposed response is made within five (5) working days after the investigations. Similarly, if the complaint is found to be unjustified, a written notification will be sent in the same format to the complainant.

Step 5: Review of responses in case of non-resolution at first instance.

In the event of dissatisfaction, the complainant may contest the measures adopted. The complainant could request a review of the resolutions of the Grievance Resolution Committee. The period allowed for this is a maximum of fifteen (15) working days from the date of receipt of the notification of the decision to contest the decision by the complainant. In such circumstances, the Committee has ten (10) working days to review its decision and propose additional measures, if necessary, which the complainant should be notified in writing.

Step 6: Implement corrective measures

The implementation of the measures adopted by the grievance resolution committee cannot take place without the prior agreement of both parties, especially the complainant, to avoid all forms of dissatisfaction and abuse. The procedure for implementing the corrective action(s) start five (05) working days after the complainant acknowledges receipt of the letter notifying him of the solutions adopted and his agreement to the decision to the measures proposed.

Step 7: Judicial settlement

If all attempts at an amicable resolution are not acceptable to the complainant, the latter may resort to the judicial system. All measures must be taken to promote the amicable settlement of complaints (except for complaints relating to SEA/SH) through the mechanism set up for this purpose, but complainants are free to opt for a judicial procedure if they wish. Thus, complainants must be informed of their freedom to have recourse to the judicial system. Legal costs or costs related to legal recourse will be borne by the complainant.

Step 8: Completion or termination of the complaint

The procedure will be closed by the GRC if the mediation is satisfactory for the parties, in which case the complainant is required to confirm satisfaction of the resolution in writing. The file is closed after five (05) working days from the date of implementation of the corrective decision, which will then be documented.

Step 9: Reporting

All complaints received will be recorded in the grievance logbook for non-SEA/SH complaints and once resolved the resolution should be recorded within ten (10) working days whether the complainant accepts the resolution or not. This operation will make it possible to document the entire complaint management process and to draw the necessary lessons through a simple and adapted database designed for this purpose. The database will also flag the most frequently submitted issues and the places from where the most complaints originate or recurring topics and propose corrective measures to the project if they frequently occur. This will also be reported to communities during stakeholder meetings to demonstrate that corrective actions were taken to address systemic or recurring problems. During the mid-term survey/consultations, the project will also ask stakeholder about the effectiveness, accessibility, reliability, and responsiveness of the GM and seek feedback on recommended changes if any. Such changes will be communicated to stakeholders using the various methods (i.e., social media, community consultations, website, etc.).

Step 10: Archiving

The project will establish a physical and electronic filing system for filing complaints. Archiving will take place within five (05) working days of the end of the reporting. All the supporting documents for the meetings that will have been necessary to reach the resolution will be recorded in the complaint file. The archiving system will provide access to information on: i) complaints received; ii) solutions found; and iii) unresolved complaints requiring further action. The Grievance Logbook is provided (**in annex 3**) and will be transferred to an excel spreadsheet and will also be retained in physical hardcopy.

6.2.4 Sensitive Complaints (involving SEA/SH and VAC)

For complaints regarding SEA/SH and VAC, the procedure of receiving and treating the complaint will be different from the procedure for general complaints outlined above. At all times, the approach for such issues will follow a survivor-centered approach, will ensure confidentiality, and take action only with survivor's informed consent. The security of the involved parties will not be breached. A mechanism in the form of **SEA/SH Compliance Team** will be set up to manage cases of SEA/SH as well as issues related to violence against children (VAC). The membership of the SEA/SH Compliance Team will include:

- a. *A social or environmental safeguards officer (who will have capacity training by the E&S Specialist)*
- b. *The E&S Specialist*
- c. *A representative from a local service provider with experience in GBV and VAC (the 'Service Provider').*
- d. *A representative from the NAWEC, that will be trained in GBV mitigation and management strategies in line with WB standards*

These members will be specially trained on the management and review of SEA/SH complaints, the importance of a survivor-centered approach, as well as guiding principles for survivor care and management of SEA/SH data and claims. If permitted by the survivor, a representative from a service provider should participate in the management committee to provide advocacy on behalf of the survivor and ensure that survivor care principles are respected throughout the process. Below are the procedures for managing the grievance mechanism for SEA/SH-related incidents.

6.3. Procedures for the Management of SEA/SH-Related Complaints

Step 1: Uptake

A complainant who wishes to lodge an SEA/SH-related grievance may use any trusted channel made available to her or him by the project to file a complaint with the project GM. The project should identify secure, confidential, and accessible entry points through which survivors will feel safe and comfortable making reports (e.g., an anonymous complaint box, grievance form, telephone, service provider, community-based structure, or focal point, etc.).

A complaint intake form should be completed by the appropriate actor after having obtained the survivor's written consent to proceed with the grievance. If the complainant has not yet been referred for services, the intake actor should confirm whether the survivor wishes to receive support, and if so, obtain the survivor's consent to be referred for appropriate care and connect the survivor with locally available providers or arrange for remote support where needed. Medical, psychosocial, and legal aid services

should at least be made available, other services as well if possible (for example, socio-economic, security and legal.).

Where community-based uptake points are utilized, these actors must be trained on how to receive and refer SEA/SH cases in accordance with survivor care principles, how to apply active listening techniques, and how to complete and store intake forms safely and confidentially^{7F2}.

If the survivor chooses to be referred for services only and not to file a complaint, then the survivor's wishes must be respected; the service provider can then ask if the survivor consents to share basic case information in order to assist the project to track the cases that choose not to access the GM. The survivor always retains the right to be referred for services whether there is a link established between the project and the incident in question.

Any information collected about a survivor, or the alleged perpetrator must be recorded and maintained separately from other grievance documentation, in a secure and lockable space, with strictly limited access.

Step 2: Sort and process

Once the complaint has been formally received by the dedicated GM operator (E&S Specialist of NAWEC PIU) for processing sensitive complaints (position to be determined pending the PIU being set up), with informed survivor consent, the GM focal point (for the SEA/SH GM) should verify that the complainant has been offered the opportunity to receive services, and if not, ensure that the survivor is referred for necessary services upon obtaining the survivor's informed consent.

The complaint should then be triaged as a SEA/SH complaint and the coordinator for the verification structure notified that a SEA/SH complaint has been received and will need review. The E&S Specialist of NAWEC PIU will inform the World Bank project lead, within a 24-hour period that a SEA/SH complaint has been received. The E&S Specialist needs only to share the nature of the case, the age and sex of the complainant (if known), whether there is a link with the project (if known), and whether the survivor has been referred for services. Absolutely no identifying information for the survivor or the alleged perpetrator may be shared with either the PIU or World Bank focal points.

Step 3: Acknowledge receipt

The E&S Specialist should ensure that the complainant receives a document acknowledging formal receipt of the SEA/SH grievance within three days of the complaint being filed. Delivery of the acknowledgement to the complainant will depend upon how the complaint was initially received; if, ideally through a service provider, then all communication with the survivor can be done through the service provider.

Step 4: Verification process

The verification process for a SEA/SH grievance will be handled by the E&S Specialist.. The E&S Specialist will also make its recommendations to the alleged perpetrator's employer or manager as to appropriate disciplinary sanctions per the code of conduct, type of incident, and the appropriate labor laws and regulations. Potential disciplinary sanctions for alleged perpetrators can include, but are not limited to, informal or formal warnings, loss of salary, and suspension or termination of employment.

It should be noted that the objective of the verification process is to examine only whether there is a link between the project and the reported SEA/SH incident and to assure accountability in recommending

² It is recommended that the intake forms etc. are stored in a lockable space with limited access by GBV service providers or the GSVCT level to reduce the risks of breach of confidentiality and security.

appropriate disciplinary measures. The verification process establishes neither the innocence nor the guilt of the alleged perpetrator as only the judicial system has that capacity and responsibility. In addition, all final decisions regarding disciplinary actions will rest solely with the employer or manager of the alleged perpetrator; the SSCT can make only its recommendations.

Step 5: Monitor and evaluate

Monitoring of the SEA/SH complaints will be important to ensure that all complainants are offered appropriate service referrals, that informed consent is obtained in all cases for both filing of grievances and service referrals, and that all grievances are handled safely and confidentially, and in a timely manner. Any information shared by the E&S Specialist with the PIU or World Bank will be limited as noted above under Step 2. The project E&S Specialist should establish information-sharing protocols with service providers in order to ensure safe and confidential sharing of case data as well as appropriate closures of SEA/SH cases.

Step 6: Feedback to involved parties

Once the verification process has been concluded, the result of the process shall be communicated first to the survivor within fourteen days, ideally through the service provider, to allow the survivor and relevant advocates the appropriate amount of time to ensure adequate safety planning as needed. Once the survivor has been informed, the alleged perpetrator can be informed of the result as well.

If either party disagrees with the result, s/he can appeal the decision via the GM appeals process and must file an appeal within fourteen days of receipt of the verification result.

6.4 Resources and Responsibilities for Implementing Stakeholder Engagement Activities

a. Management Functions and Responsibilities

During the implementation phase of the Project, the grievance mechanism shall carry out the following:

- Use existing Grievance Resolution Committee (GRC) set up for WB financed projects with NAWEC, and determine a sitting allowance for GRC members
- Establish multiple grievance uptake locations and multiple channels for receiving grievances (for example: PIU office, NAWEC Head Office, Governor Office, Village Development Committees (VDC) etc.
- Fixed service standards (transparency, fairness, accountability, timeliness) for grievance resolution and adjudication process
- A reliable and effective reporting and recording system (grievance register, complaints logbook – both hard copy and e-copy)
- A clear and transparent procedure for assessing and responding to the grievance
- Capacity building of both actors working in the GM and community of how the GM works
- Develop an SEA/SH and VAC Prevention and Management Plan
- Setting up the SEA/SH Compliance Team
- Undertake the mapping for services

7 MONITORING AND REPORTING

7.1 Monitoring of the implementation of the SEP

The E&S Specialist in collaboration with the M&E specialists of the PIU will be responsible for monitoring the implementation of the SEP.

Several Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) will be monitored by the project on a regular basis, including the following parameters:

- Number of consultation meetings and other public discussions done in line with what is outlined in this SEP
- Number of community sensitization and training on GM handling activities
- Number of sensitization activities with project workers and relevant stakeholders on Codes of Conduct and SEA/SH- GM processes
- Number of press releases published which are often broadcasted in local, regional, and national and social media channels
- Number of training program on GM management for project affected stakeholders
- Number of grievances from staff and communities
- Number of grievances received from persons or vulnerable groups
- Number of grievances resolved within the prescribed timeline
- Percentage of complaints received regarding SEA/SH that had been referred to GBV services for medical, psychosocial and/or legal assistance.

The report of the monitoring will be in the activity report, to be prepared every three months (quarterly), highlighting the mobilization actions put in place specifically, the problems encountered, and the solutions provided to resolve them. These reports will be shared with other stakeholders, including the World Bank.

8. BUDGET

To ensure full implementation of the activities envisaged in this plan, the budget below has been prepared with indicative cost of the activities which comes to about USD 57,000.00 (Ninety Thousand Dalasi).

Table 5: Budget for the implementation of the SEP

Activity	Responsibility	Date of commencement	Cost in Dalasi	Cost in USD
Information Dissemination of the SEP	PIU	After approval of IDA	150,000	2,205
Radio programs	PIU		900,000	13,235
Stakeholder Engagement/Communications	PIU	After approval of IDA	500,000	7,352
Preparation and production of publicity materials	PIU with support of the NAWEC Communication Team	Throughout project implementation	250,000	3,676
Management of complaints not related to SEA/SH and VAC - Sensitization and training of management committees and office supplies	PIU	Before the start of works	250,000	3,676
Total			2,050,000	30,144

Exchange rate: 1USD= GMD 68.00

Annex 1: Sample Form for recording consultations with stakeholders

Date of Consultations		
Venue of the meeting		
Topic of consultations		
Stakeholders Present	Name and Function	Organization/Community
	1.	
	2.	
	3.	
	4.	
	5.	
	6.	
	7.	
	8.	
	9.	
10.		
Discussion points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • • • 	
Recommendations		

Annex 2: Sample of a Feedback form

Address of the CPCU	Date of Consultation	Venue of Consultation
Name and Status of Stakeholder	Address: Telephone:	Email:
Issues Raised	Summary of the results of the consultations	
Have we left out any point or issue of concern or discussion which was raised earlier?		
Have we left out any important information?		
Is there another important stakeholder that should be consulted?		
What interests you most in the project?		
What information would you like the project to share with you? Through which channels? Do you have limitations in accessing information such as lack of access to mobile phones (including access to SMS, calling), lack of access to the internet and computers, require assistance to read/write, mobility issues (i.e lack of access to transportation), disabilities, other? Do you use social media such as Facebook, other?		

What are your suggestions and recommendations to improve this project? What concerns you about this project?

Annex 3: Grievance Logbook for non-sensitive complaints (separate logbook and intake form for SEA/SH related complaints will be developed before start of project activities)

Case number	Date Claim Received	Name of Person Receiving Complaint	Where/how the complaint was received	Name & contact details of complainant (if known)	Content of the claim (include all grievances, suggestions, inquiries)	Was Receipt of Complaint Acknowledged to the Complainant? (Y/N – if yes, include date, method of communication)	Expected Decision Date	Decision Outcome (Include names of participants and date of decision)	Was Decision communicated to complainant? Y/N If yes, state when and via what method of communication	Was the complainant satisfied with the decision? Y/N If no, explain why and if known, will pursue	Any follow up action?
01											
02											
03											
04											
05											
06											

Annex 4: Record of consultations with key project stakeholders

Summary of Consulted Groups

Location	Consulted Groups	Total Number of Participants	Gender of the Participants		Consultation Tools Used	Date
			Male	Female		
Institutional Consultations						
Kanifing	National Water and Electricity Company (NAWEC)	4	4	-	Key Informant Interview	September 2021
Kanifing	National Environmental Agency (NEA)	3	2	1	Key Informant Interview	September 2021
Mansakonko	Governor, LRR	25	24	1	Meeting	December 2021
	Governor, LRR	18	18	-	Meeting	December 2022
Soma	Chief of Jarra West District	3	3	-	Key Informant Interview	December 2022
Soma	Department of Parks and Wildlife	4	3	1	Key Informant Interview	September 2021
Soma	Department of Livestock	3	2	1	Key Informant Interview	September 2021
Soma	Department of Forestry	4	3	1	Key Informant Interview	September 2021
Jenoi	Department of Agriculture	4	3	1	Key Informant Interview	September 2021
Soma	Department of Physical Planning and Housing	3	2	1	Key Informant Interview	September 2021
		5	4	1		December 2022
Soma	Gambia Fire and Rescue Service	5	4	1	Key Informant Interview	September 2021
Karantaba	Government authorities and local representatives	26	24	2	Meeting	September 2021
Public Consultation						
Karantaba	Public Consultation with Soma and Karantaba	57	54	3	Meeting	September 2021

	Communities					
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Individual Consultations

Soma	Village Development Committee	4	4	-	Key Informant Interview	December 2022
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Location	Consulted Groups	Total Number of Participants	Gender of the Participants		Consultation Tools Used	Date
			Male	Female		
	Alkalos	3	3	-	Key Informant Interview	December 2022
Karantaba	Village Development Committee	4	3	1	Key Informant Interview	December 2022
	Alkalos	3	2	1	Key Informant Interview	December 2022


Focus Group Discussions

Soma	Landowners	15	15	-	Focus Group Discussion	December 2022
	Female Group	15	-	15	Focus Group Discussion	December 2022
	Female Group	16	-	16	Focus Group Discussion	December 2022
	Community Peoples	15	15	-	Focus Group Discussion	September 2022
Karantaba	Landowner	15	15	-	Focus Group Discussion	December 2022
	Female Group	45	-	45	Focus Group Discussion	September 2021
	Community Peoples	15	15	-	Focus Group Discussion	September 2021


Workshop

Area Council, Masakonko	Governing Bodies/Authorities, VDC, Alkalos	24	21	3	Workshop	December 2022
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Annex 5: Meeting Minutes Of The Consultation And Photographs Of Participants

A	Project Title	ESIA and RAP for a future 150 MWp WAPP Regional Solar Power Park in The Gambia	
	Name of Stakeholder	National Water and Electricity Company Ltd.	
B	<i>Important Notice: This document provides a working summary of the main facts captured during the consultation/key- informant interview held and should not be treated as a formal minute. It is therefore deliberately not exhaustive or chronological. Its purpose is to capture significant information/feedback and is not intended for official review or approval.</i>		
	Basic details		
C	Location	Kanifing	
	Date:	14 th September 2021	
	Attended By (Name)	Designation	Contact Number
D	Alh. Amadou S. Diallo	Environment Safeguard	+2209964161
	Md. Najmul Hossein	Senior Consultant, EQMS	+8801673821812
	Sarane Hydera	Consultant, Mahfous	+220 9962025
	Purpose of Consultation		
E	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introducing Information sharing about the site visits. Invitation to join the consultation meeting. 		
	Key Points Discussed		
F	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consultant team and NAWEC personnel introduce each other. Consultants briefly discussed the ESIA and RAP study and field visit schedules. NAWEC assures support for the proposed project study. Consultants invited NAWEC personnel to join consultation meetings at Soma and Karantaba during the site visit. 		

Consultation with National Environmental Agency (NEA)

A	Project Title	ESIA and RAP for a future 150 MWp WAPP Regional Solar Power Park in The Gambia	
	Name of Stakeholder	National Environmental Agency	
B	<i>Important Notice: This document provides a working summary of the main facts captured during the consultation/key-informant interview held and should not be treated as a formal minute. It is therefore deliberately not exhaustive or chronological. Its purpose is to capture significant information/feedback and is not intended for official review or approval.</i>		

	Basic details		
C	Location	Kanifing	
	Date:	14 th September 2021	
D	Attended By (Name)	Designation	Contact Number
	Abdur Samadon Hydra	Regional Program Officer	+220 9502012
	Md. Najmul Hossein	Senior Consultant, EQMS	+8801673821812
	Ndey Sireh Hydera	Environmental, Mahfous	+2207410858
	Sarane Hydera	Consultant, Mahfous	+220 9962025
E	Purpose of Consultation		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information sharing • Information collection regarding the project and its environment • Assessing Impact Perception • Involving in Mitigation Planning 		
F	Key Points Discussed		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He knew about the proposed solar park project but did not know the exact location where the proposed project will be established. • He is positive because the solar park project will not harm the health of the population and the environment of the locals. • He opined that local people would get the energy facilities easily and local employment will create. • The possible impact will be the loss of vegetation, farmlands, and flora & fauna. • Environmental pollution and the mentioned impacts will be affected to a certain degree. • Proper mitigation measures should be taken according to the impacts. • Windstorms, loss of biodiversity, changes in the landscape, and runoff of the water are possible disasters in the AOI. • He recommended environmental monitoring at all stages of the project • He suggests consulting with the local people of the relevant communities that will be affected. 		

Consultation with the Governor of LRR (Ex. Governor)


A	Project Title	ESIA and RAP for a future 150 MWp WAPP Regional Solar Power Park in The Gambia	
B	Name of Stakeholder	Governor, LRR	
	<p><i>Important Notice: This document provides a working summary of the main facts captured during the consultation/key-informant interview held and should not be treated as a formal minute. It is therefore deliberately not exhaustive or chronological. Its purpose is to capture significant information/feedback and is not intended for official review or approval.</i></p>		
C	Basic details		
	Location	Mansakonko	
	Date:	15 th December 2021	
	Attended By (Name)	Designation	Contact Number

D	[REDACTED]	Deputy Governor, LRR	[REDACTED]
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	██████████	Chief, Jarra West	██████
	██████████	Environmentalist, Mahfous	██████
	██████████	Surveyor, Mahfous	██████
	██████████	VDC Secretary	██████
	██████████	Landowner	██████
	██████████	Landowner	██████
	██████████	Landowner	██████
	██████████	Landowner	██████
	██████	VDC Chairman	██████
	██████████	Alkalo Rep	██████
	██████████	Landowner	██████
	██████████	Landowner	██████
	██████████	Landowner	██████
	██████████	Adviser VDC	██████
	██████████	PRO VDC	██████
	██████████	Landowner	██████
	██████████	Landowner	██████
	██████████	Landowner	██████
	██████████	Landowner	██████
	██████████	Landowner	██████
	██████████	Landowner	██████
	██████████	Physical Planning Officer LRR	██████
	██████████	Head of Safeguard Unit, NAWEC	██████
	██████████	Senior Energy Officer, MOPE	██████
	Purpose of Consultation		
E	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information sharing • Concern and recommendations • Finalize the demarcated site 		
	Key Points Discussed		
F	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On behalf of the Governor, the Deputy Governor of LRR welcome all and indicated the importance of the consultation meeting for the smooth and successful implementation of the project. • Mr. Yaya Jarjusey, Chief of Jarra West District, reiterated and assures the participants that the project belongs to the entire country, and we should all put the country first in whatever we do. • Mr. Bafoday of MOPE introduced the project followed by a PowerPoint presentation of the proposed project site by the Consultant (Mahfous). • The technical and financial implications of moving the project site further away from the OMVG substation were explained, putting into consideration minimizing/zeroing the negative social and environmental impact on the community. Emphasis was made on the road of access to the transmission line to the OMVG substation. 		


- The residents of Karantaba voiced their concerns regarding their development agenda for the community. However, they were requested to document all these concerns with the consultant for further negotiation with the government which they accepted.
- They also welcome the idea of the IPP initiative as outlined during the introduction of the project and the roles of the stakeholders involved in the project (WAPP, NAWEC, MOPE).
- Mr. Seedy, Village Development Committee Secretary also elaborated on the project map and explained to the elders using their local landmarks for better comprehension.
- The meeting ended with the assurance that all World Bank Social and Environmental standards procedures, and guidelines will be adhered to and strictly followed.

Consultation with the Governor of LRR (Current Governor)

A	Project Title	ESIA and RAP for a future 150 MWp WAPP Regional Solar Power Park in The Gambia	
	Name of Stakeholder	Governor, LRR	
B	<i>Important Notice: This document provides a working summary of the main facts captured during the consultation/key- informant interview held and should not be treated as a formal minute. It is therefore deliberately not exhaustive or chronological. Its purpose is to capture significant information/feedback and is not intended for official review or approval.</i>		
	Basic details		
C	Location	Mansakonko	
	Date:	12 th December 2022	
	Attended By (Name)	Designation	Contact Number
	[REDACTED]	Governor LRR	-
	[REDACTED]	Chief Jarra West District	-
	[REDACTED]	Physical officer, LRR	-
	[REDACTED]	State intelligent service commander	-
	[REDACTED]	Chief Surveyor	-
	[REDACTED]	Alkalo's Son	-
	[REDACTED]	Farmer	-
	[REDACTED]	Farmer	-
D	[REDACTED]	Farmer/Blacksmith	-
	[REDACTED]	Carpenter	-
	[REDACTED]	VDC Secretary	-
	[REDACTED]	Masoner	-
	[REDACTED]	Farmer/Businessman	-
	[REDACTED]	Social security employee	-
	[REDACTED]	Barch messenger	-
	[REDACTED]	VDC	-
	[REDACTED]	Masoner	-
	[REDACTED]	Plumber	-

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information sharing Demarcation of the proposed site Concern and recommendation
F	<p>Key Points Discussed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The chief chaired the meeting and thanks to the newly appointed Governor the Karantaba community people were present in the meeting. Consultants briefly explained the purpose of the meeting and the main constraint that's causing delays in finalizing the report. Mr. Seedy jobe, the VDC Secretary asked about the changes in the phases, and the consultants explain briefly the reasons for changing the phases. He also voiced a request regarding an access road, for the people to have access to their farms behind the project site. Bakary Sanneh responded by stating that since the inception, during the first meeting held at the governor's office chaired by the former Governor, who told all the participants from all the communities around the proposed project site that they would be seeing the Consultants frequently on site executing their work whenever they need your services, they let you know. The Governor on behalf of the Government welcome all participants and indicated the importance of the consultation meeting for the smooth and successful implementation of the project. He further outlined the benefits and development opportunities that come with a stable supply of electricity in a community. Governor also added that all lands belong to the Government however that does not mean the Government will take any land from anybody without following the proper procedure and regulations in the Land Act of the country. Mr. Essa Fatty VDC Chairman thanked the Governor and the Chief for inviting them to the finalization meeting with regard to the project. He welcomed the project wholeheartedly to the fullest, the initial shifting of the Project site away from the village was requested by the community due to the closeness of the site to the village, and he further explained that the reason was for the future development and expansion of their village. The rest of the participants individually express support for the project and assured the Governor and Chief that they accept the size of the land the project would take from Karantaba. The meeting ended with the assurance that all the participants agreed that they would comply with the implementation of the project to the actual proposed size of phase 2. In conclusion, all the participants and authorities present agreed on the successful implementation of the project at the proposed site and the size of the land.

Consultation with the Chief of Jarra West District

A	Project Title	ESIA and RAP for a future 150 MWp WAPP Regional Solar Power Park in The Gambia	
B	Name of Stakeholder	Chief of Jarra West District	
	<i>Important Notice: This document provides a working summary of the main facts captured during the consultation/key-informant interview held and should not be treated as a formal minute. It is therefore deliberately not exhaustive or chronological. Its purpose is to capture significant information/feedback and is not intended for official review or approval.</i>		
C	Basic details		
	Location	Soma	
	Date:	8 th December 2022	

D	Attended By (Name)	Designation	Contact Number
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	██████████	Chief, Jarra West	██████████
	██████████	Project Manager, EQMS	██████████
	██████████	Principal Consultant, EQMS	██████████
	Purpose of Consultation		
E	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information sharing Information collection regarding the project and its environment Assessing impact perception Involving in mitigation planning 		
	Key Points Discussed		
F	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Chief welcomed the proposed project for the county's development. The approximate land price for the size of 25 x 25 meters is 150,000 Dalasi. It varies from location to location. Landowners will pay the land tax during the land procurement. Compensation for the community land should be sent to the VDC's account. Alkalos of the respective village will be the bearer of the cheque. He informed that there is no additional government land to compensate against land for land demand. 		

Consultation with the Department of Livestock (DOL)

A	Project Title	ESIA and RAP for a future 150 MWp WAPP Regional Solar Power Park in The Gambia	
	Name of Stakeholder	Department of Livestock	
B	<p><i>Important Notice: This document provides a working summary of the main facts captured during the consultation/key-informant interview held and should not be treated as a formal minute. It is therefore deliberately not exhaustive or chronological. Its purpose is to capture significant information/feedback and is not intended for official review or approval.</i></p>		
	Basic details		
C	Location	Mansakonko	
	Date:	14 th September 2021	
	Attended By (Name)	Designation	Contact Number
D	Madou Camara	Regional Livestock Officer	3938553
	Md. Najmul Hossein	Senior Consultant, EQMS	+8801673821812
	Ndey Sireh Hydara	Environmentalist, Mahfous	+2207410858
	Purpose of Consultation		
E	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information sharing Information collection regarding the project and its environment Assessing impact perception Involving in mitigation planning 		
	Key Points Discussed		
F	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> He knows the proposed solar park project and its location. Cattle, sheep, and goats are the animals used as livestock in the project area. 		


	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He opined that the proposed project would impact cattle grazing. He proposed to make an alternative designated grazing area for the animals. The land should have a water source and enough production of pasture. • He suggests fencing the cattle track area or to choose an alternative route for the cattle track with the consultation of the local community. • If relocation is required, he requested to convince the people of the presence of livestock and other stakeholders. • He shared that there is no dairy farm activity in the project boundary. He also informed Karantaba has a project in the future where it will be commercial. • Most of the households have poultry farming in the backyard in the project area.
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Consultation with the Department of Forestry (DOF)

A	Project Title	ESIA and RAP for a future 150 MWp WAPP Regional Solar Power Park in The Gambia	
B	Name of Stakeholder	Department of Forestry	
	<i>Important Notice: This document provides a working summary of the main facts captured during the consultation/key-informant interview held and should not be treated as a formal minute. It is therefore deliberately not exhaustive or chronological. Its purpose is to capture significant information/feedbacks and is not intended for official review or approval.</i>		
C	Basic details		
	Location	Soma	
	Date:	14 th September 2021	
D	Attended By (Name)	Designation	Contact Number
	██████████	Regional Forestry Officer	██████████
	██████████	Senior Consultant, EQMS	██████████
	██████████	Environmentalist, Mahfous	██████████
E	Purpose of Consultation		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information sharing • Information collection regarding the project and its environment • Assessing impact perception • Involving in mitigation planning 		
F	Key Points Discussed		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The project site is not under a protected area, nominated park, or wildlife sanctuary. There may be a designated community forest however it will be checked by the DOF. • There is a possibility of forest fire in the project area. • During the forest fire, small trees and animals become injured and die. He also informed the manmade fire that occurs during the dry season. • Most of the local people give fire to the forest for charcoal. For hunting they also use fire. • During the dry season (December to June) forest department supports the local community with the fire in the forest. • The project proponent must take permission from the director of the forest department at Banjul before cutting the trees in the project area. • To mitigate the impact, the project proponent must plant trees in an alternative location. 		


	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NAWEC will do MOU with the forest department and will pay the forest department for the restoration of the forest or plant the trees in another location. For one tree 1,000 GMD is needed to pay the forest department for purchase, maintenance, and labour cost.
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Consultation with the Department of Agriculture (DOA)


A	Project Title	ESIA and RAP for a future 150 MWp WAPP Regional Solar Power Park in The Gambia	
	Name of Stakeholder	Department of Agricultural	
B	<p><i>Important Notice: This document provides a working summary of the main facts captured during the consultation/key-informant interview held and should not be treated as a formal minute. It is therefore deliberately not exhaustive or chronological. Its purpose is to capture significant information/feedback and is not intended for official review or approval.</i></p>		
	Basic details		
C	Location	Jenoi	
	Date:	15 th September 2021	
	Attended By (Name)	Designation	Contact Number
D	██████████	Regional Agricultural Officer	██████████
	██████████	Senior Consultant, EQMS	██████████
	██████████	Environmentalist, Mahfous	██████████
	Purpose of Consultation		
E	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information sharing • Information collection regarding the project and its environment • Assessing impact perception • Involving in mitigation planning 		
	Key Points Discussed		
F	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He knows the proposed solar park project and its location. • Groundnut, Maize, Coose, Cowpea are common crops produced in the project area. The agricultural department always encourages mixed farming. • The production of groundnuts is 2.6 tons/Hectare area. The market price of groundnuts is 45-50 Dalasi/Kg. Millets production is 2.0 tons/Hectare and the market price per kg is 22-30 Dalasi. • They sell their product at the community level. They also come to town and village markets to sell the crops. • Agricultural land will be impacted due to the proposed solar park. • There is no available data on farmers involved in agriculture in Jarra West. • Most of the women are involved in agricultural practice and selling the crops in the market. • The environmental pollution will be a minimum and short time. Only land will lose and farmers will be affected badly. Proper compensation is needed for the farmers. • The proposed solar park will help the agriculture sector in irrigation. • For agricultural production, depending on rainwater and irrigation system is not required. 		

Consultation with Gambia Fire and Rescue Service

A	Project Title	ESIA and RAP for a future 150 MWp WAPP Regional Solar Power Park in The Gambia
B	Name of Stakeholder	Gambia Fire and Rescue Service

	<p><i>Important Notice: This document provides a working summary of the main facts captured during the consultation/key-informant interview held and should not be treated as a formal minute. It is therefore deliberately not exhaustive or chronological. Its purpose is to capture significant information/feedback and is not intended for official review or approval.</i></p>		
C	Basic details		
	Location	Soma Fire Station	
	Date:	15 th September 2021	
D	Attended By (Name)	Designation	Contact Number
	██████████	Senior Divisional Fire Officer	██████████
	██████████	Senior Consultant, EQMS	██████████
	██████████	Environmentalism, Mahafous Engg. Consultants	██████████
E	Purpose of Consultation		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information sharing • Information collection regarding the project and its environment • Assessing impact perception • Involving in mitigation planning 		
F	Key Points Discussed		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is no obstacle to reaching the project site. • The solar park project will provide easy access to electricity and due to the project, the local area will be developed. • In the fire station, they have a fire-fighting bus and one vehicle for the car accident. The capacity of the truck is 1,000 liters. They need at least 2/3 fore engine to combat the incidents. • A total of 48 staff are working in this station. They do weekly mock drills. Not enough equipment to fight in large incidents. • They suggest arranging firefighting training for any fire accidents. • The mock drill is very important for the project, and it should be done every quarter. • They suggest taking permission from the authority and the fire station will always support the project at any time of the call. 		


Consultation with the Department of Parks and Wildlife (DOPW)

A	Project Title	ESIA and RAP for a future 150 MWp WAPP Regional Solar Power Park in The Gambia	
B	Name of Stakeholder	Department of Parks and Wildlife	
	<p><i>Important Notice: This document provides a working summary of the main facts captured during the consultation/key-informant interview held, and should not be treated as a formal minute. It is therefore deliberately not exhaustive or chronological. Its purpose is to capture significant information/feedbacks and is not intended for official review or approval.</i></p>		
C	Basic details		
	Location	Banjul	
	Date:	13 th September 2021	

D	Attended By (Name)	Designation	Contact Number
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		Senior Consultant, EQMS	
		Environmentalist, Mahfous	
	Purpose of Consultation		
E	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information sharing Information collection regarding the project and its environment Assessing impact perception Involving in mitigation planning 		
	Key Points Discussed		
F	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The species are not seen as previously found in the area due to the reason of salt intrusion, climate change, land degradation, etc. They don't have an updated list of species. The number of species is becoming less because of the cutting of trees. Bird migration in The Gambia is very typical. Most of the birds migrate from South Africa, East Africa, and Europe also. Soma and Japineh are the hotspots of migratory birds because the wetlands and ecologically suitable for the birds. 		


Consultation with the Department of Physical Planning and Housing (DPPH)

A	Project Title	ESIA and RAP for a future 150 MWp WAPP Regional Solar Power Park in The Gambia	
	Name of Stakeholder	Department of Physical Planning and Housing	
B	<p><i>Important Notice: This document provides a working summary of the main facts captured during the consultation/key-informant interview held and should not be treated as a formal minute. It is therefore deliberately not exhaustive or chronological. Its purpose is to capture significant information/feedback and is not intended for official review or approval.</i></p>		
	Basic details		
C	Location	Soma	
	Date:	27 th September 2021	
	Attended By (Name)	Designation	Contact Number
D		Physical Planning Officer, LRR	
		Senior Consultant, EQMS	
		Environmentalist, Mahfous	
	Purpose of Consultation		
E	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information sharing Information collection regarding the project and its environment Assessing Impact Perception Involving in Mitigation Planning 		
	Key Points Discussed		

F

- The land type of the proposed project site is a customary land tenure system.
- The existing land use in the proposed area is agriculture. Farmers are encouraged to mixed farming on their land.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They don't have the exact number of land ownership at present until the survey is conducted. • The typical land purchase system is willingly buying and selling from both parties. Alkalos can transfer their land also. • The frequency of updating the land record is very low and Kabilos took the decisions about their land. • There is no ongoing land acquisition in the area excluding this solar park project. • There is no governmental-specific purchase rate in the proposed project area. They mostly depend on the market value.
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A	Project Title	ESIA and RAP for a future 150 MWp WAPP Regional Solar Power Park in The Gambia	
	Name of Stakeholder	Department of Physical Planning and Housing	
B	<p><i>Important Notice: This document provides a working summary of the main facts captured during the consultation/key-informant interview held and should not be treated as a formal minute. It is therefore deliberately not exhaustive or chronological. Its purpose is to capture significant information/feedback and is not intended for official review or approval.</i></p>		
	Basic details		
221C	Location	Mansakonko	
	Date:	December 2022	
	Attended By (Name)	Designation	Contact Number
D	██████████	Regional Physical Planning Officer	██████████
	██████████	Project Manager, EQMS	██████████
	██████████	Principal Consultant, EQMS	██████████
	Purpose of Consultation		
E	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information sharing • Information collection regarding the project and its environment • Assessing impact perception • Involving in mitigation planning 		
	Key Points Discussed		

F

- The proposed project land belongs to the individuals of Soma and the community of Karantaba.
- The lands are used partially for the cultivation of ground nuts, Maize, and coose.
- He assures the support of the identification of the land and the owners during the identification. Further, the physical planning officer will also confirm it.
- MOPE will pay the compensation through NAWEC, and an appointed NGO will work during the implementation of the project.
- NAWEC will be in charge of the allocated land after the acquisitions from the individuals and community.
- There is no alternative government land to compensate the people of the land for land. So, cash compensation is preferable.
- Payment for the community land will be given to the VDC's account.
- PPO will prepare the documents during the land procurement for the proposed project.
- Compensation for the loss of land will be given at the present market value.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Different species of trees are existing in the project boundary. • Valuation of trees will be based on the local market price and also required to consider during the budget for the next 5-10 years of fruit trees. • For the timber trees, the forest officer will define the economic value.
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Consultation with the Alkalo of Karantaba

A	Project Title	ESIA and RAP for a future 150 MWp WAPP Regional Solar Power Park in The Gambia	
B	Name of Stakeholder	Alkalo	
	<i>Important Notice: This document provides a working summary of the main facts captured during the consultation/key-informant interview held and should not be treated as a formal minute. It is therefore deliberately not exhaustive or chronological. Its purpose is to capture significant information/feedback and is not intended for official review or approval.</i>		
C	Basic details		
	Location	Karantaba	
	Date:	December 2022	
D	Attended By (Name)	Designation	Contact Number
	██████████	Alkalo Karantaba	██████████
	██████████	Environmentalist, Mahfous	██████████
E	Purpose of Consultation		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information sharing • Information collection regarding the project and its environment • Assessing impact perception • Involving in mitigation planning 		
F	Key Points Discussed		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • About two thousand inhabitants are residing in the Karantaba village. • Most families are living together as extended families. • Most of the land is used for farming and cultivation. On the other side, these are also used for animal rearing and grazing land. • Most of the land is used on a leased based. They took the land on verbal agreement from the landowners and after the cultivation, they return their land. It is mostly treated as a gift. • In Karantaba village, most of the people are engaged in farming activities. • Masonry, carpentry, and driving are common skill sets that the community possessed. • Women are mostly doing household chores. Besides, they have involvement in farming vegetables and harvesting rice. They also collect fuelwood from the nearest location. • There is no possibility of social conflict within the village. • It would be a great opportunity for the youth and local people as well to be engaged in the project activities. Local people should be given priority. • If land acquisition is required, proper market value should be paid. • Believe that any development activity will enhance community development. 		

Consultation with the Alkalo of Soma

A	Project Title	ESIA and RAP for a future 150 MWp WAPP Regional Solar Power Park in The Gambia	
	Name of Stakeholder	Alkalo (Representative)	
B	<i>Important Notice: This document provides a working summary of the main facts captured during the consultation/key-informant interview held, and should not be treated as a formal minute. It is therefore deliberately not exhaustive or chronological. Its purpose is to capture significant information/feedbacks and is not intended for official review or approval.</i>	-	
	Basic details		
C	Location	Soma	
	Date:	7 th December 2022	
	Attended By (Name)	Designation	Contact Number
D	██████████	Alkalo Soma	██████████
	██████████	Project Manager, EQMS	██████████
	██████████	Principal Consultant, EQMS	██████████
	Purpose of Consultation		
E	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information sharing Information collection regarding the project and its environment Assessing impact perception Involving in mitigation planning 		
	Key Points Discussed		
F	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> About fifteen thousand habitants are residing in the Soma. Most families are living together as extended families. Most of the land is used for farming and cultivation. On the other side, these are also used for animal rearing and grazing land. Required lands for the project have already been demarcated in presence of the Chief, VDC, and Physical Planning Officer. The land belongs to the proposed projects owned by individuals of Soma. No community lands inside the project boundary. Requested to pay the compensation in a timely. Believe that any development activity will enhance community development. 		

Consultation with the VDC of Karantaba

A	Project Title	ESIA and RAP for a future 150 MWp WAPP Regional Solar Power Park in The Gambia	
	Name of Stakeholder	Village Development Committee (VDC)	
B	<i>Important Notice: This document provides a working summary of the main facts captured during the consultation/key-informant interview held, and should not be treated as a formal minute. It is therefore deliberately not exhaustive or chronological. Its purpose is to capture significant information/feedbacks and is not intended for official review or approval.</i>		
	Basic details		
C	Location	Karantaba	

Date:	19 th November 2021	
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	Attended By (Name)	Designation	Contact Number
D	[REDACTED]	Karantaba VDC	[REDACTED]
	[REDACTED]	Principal Consultant, EQMS	[REDACTED]
	[REDACTED]	Environmentalist, Mahfous	[REDACTED]
E	Purpose of Consultation		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information sharing Information collection regarding the project and its environment Assessing impact perception Involving in mitigation planning 		
F	Key Points Discussed		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The consultant briefly discusses the proposed project and VDC welcome the proposed project. Before the project study, requested to share the information/documents related to the project VDC asked what positive benefits the project will bring to community development. He said that the people will lose their lands and required the proper compensation for their loss. Worried about the affected people that may not receive the compensation as per the market value in a timely. Expecting job opportunities for the local communities in the project. All types of grievances should be given a high priority to resolve quickly. The involvement of local leaders is required to avoid the biasness. 		

Consultation with the VDC of Soma


A	Project Title	ESIA and RAP for a future 150 MWp WAPP Regional Solar Power Park in The Gambia	
B	Name of Stakeholder	Village Development Committee (VDC)	
	<i>Important Notice: This document provides a working summary of the main facts captured during the consultation/key-informant interview held and should not be treated as a formal minute. It is therefore deliberately not exhaustive or chronological. Its purpose is to capture significant information/feedbacks and is not intended for official review or approval.</i>		
C	Basic details		
	Location	Soma	
	Date:	7 th December 2022	
D	Attended By (Name)	Designation	Contact Number
	[REDACTED]	VDC Chairman Soma	[REDACTED]
	[REDACTED]	Project Manager, EQMS	[REDACTED]
	[REDACTED]	Principal Consultant, EQMS	[REDACTED]

E	Purpose of Consultation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information sharing Information collection regarding the project and its environment Assessing impact perception Involving in mitigation planning
F	Key Points Discussed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The consultant briefly discuss the proposed project and VDC welcome the proposed project. Expecting land loss, and grazing fields as possible negative impacts. However, positively electricity will be available, and income-generating activities will also create opportunities for the locals. Alternative grazing fields will be identified by them. However, the land should have a water source and enough production of pasture. He raised his concerns regarding the compensation of the affected people. Cheque or Cash can be the preferred payment method as compensation. All types of grievances should be given a high priority to resolve quickly. The involvement of local leaders is required to avoid biasness.

Consultation with Landowners of Soma

A	Project Title	ESIA and RAP for a future 150 MWp WAPP Regional Solar Power Park in The Gambia	
B	Name of Stakeholder <i>Important Notice: This document provides a working summary of the main facts captured during the consultation/key-informant interview held, and should not be treated as a formal minute. It is therefore deliberately not exhaustive or chronological. Its purpose is to capture significant information/feedbacks and is not intended for official review or approval.</i>		
Basic details			
C	Location	Soma	
	Date:	8 th December 2022	
D	Purpose of Consultation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information sharing Information collection regarding the project and its environment Assessing impact perception Involving in mitigation planning 		
E	Key Points Discussed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants know about the proposed solar project and are informed from the different meetings held during the visits of officials, the Chief, VDC, Alkalos, and the Governor. The land is used for farming. There is no informal user of the land. Most owners used it for cultivation. Participants are expecting hospitals, markets, female gardens, youth centers, community development centers, and shopping malls from the project authority as a part of community development. They also demanded training on vocational and agricultural issues to enhance their skills. Employment opportunities for the affected families and their kids. 		

Consultation with Landowners of Karantaba

A	Project Title	ESIA and RAP for a future 150 MWp WAPP Regional Solar Power Park in The Gambia	
	Name of Stakeholder	Landowners	
B	<i>Important Notice: This document provides a working summary of the main facts captured during the consultation/key-informant interview held, and should not be treated as a formal minute. It is therefore deliberately not exhaustive or chronological. Its purpose is to capture significant information/feedbacks and is not intended for official review or approval.</i>		
	Basic details		
C	Location	Karantaba	
	Date:	December 2022	
	Purpose of Consultation		
D	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information sharing Information collection regarding the project and its environment Assessing impact perception Involving in mitigation planning 		
	Key Points Discussed		
E	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Landowners know about the project at the initial level that a solar power plant is going to be set up. They welcome the proposed project and agree to support the project. The major livelihood activity of the community is agriculture. They generally practice mixed farming on their land. The major crops in the area are groundnut, maize, coose, etc. They sell their products in the community. The market price of the land in the Soma area is 150,000 to 300,000 Dalasi per hectare which is based on land location. Most of the participants are expecting compensation in cash. They also believe that employment opportunities will be created according to their skills and experiences. 		

Consultation with the Female Group of Soma

A	Project Title	ESIA and RAP for a future 150 MWp WAPP Regional Solar Power Park in The Gambia	
	Name of Stakeholder	Female Group	
B	<i>Important Notice: This document provides a working summary of the main facts captured during the consultation/key-informant interview held and should not be treated as a formal minute. It is therefore deliberately not exhaustive or chronological. Its purpose is to capture significant information/feedback and is not intended for official review or approval.</i>		
	Basic details		
C	Location	Soma	
	Date:	7 th December 2022	
	Purpose of Consultation		

D

- Information Sharing
- Information collection regarding the project and its environment
- Assessing Impact Perception

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Involving in Mitigation Planning
	Key Points Discussed
E	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In the Soma area, females are not given any land to own. There is no land for females in the project boundary. Female supports agricultural farming besides male households. Participants are involved in selling agricultural products locally. In response to SEA/SH and GBV, this happened in the area in past years. However, the situations are better now and the cases are not found. Due to influx of the labor, and grils abuse, teenage pregnancy can be a serious social issue. Female participants expect hospitals, gardening spaces, shops, and employment opportunities from the project authorities. There are no restrictions on working outside of the house.

A	Project Title		ESIA and RAP for a future 150 MWp WAPP Regional Solar Power Park in The Gambia
	Name of Stakeholder		Female Group
B	<i>Important Notice: This document provides a working summary of the main facts captured during the consultation/key-informant interview held, and should not be treated as a formal minute. It is therefore deliberately not exhaustive or chronological. Its purpose is to capture significant information/feedback and is not intended for official review or approval.</i>		
	Basic details		
C	Location	Soma	
	Date:	7 th December 2022	
	Purpose of Consultation		
D	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information Sharing Information collection regarding the project and its environment Assessing Impact Perception Involving in Mitigation Planning 		
	Key Points Discussed		
E	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants opined that livelihood depends on small businesses locally selling the products. The major livestock reared by the community is cattle, sheep, and goat. Poultry rearing is also seen in families. SEA/SH/GVB is not common now. They already overcome this situation and every family member is aware now of these issues. Business, employment opportunities, and hospitals are the major expectations from the project authority for the village development. There is no restrictions on working outside of the house. 		

Consultation with the Female Group of Karantaba

A	Project Title		ESIA and RAP for a future 150 MWp WAPP Regional Solar Power Park in The Gambia
	Name of Stakeholder		Female Group


B

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	<i>treated as a formal minute. It is therefore deliberately not exhaustive or chronological. Its purpose is to capture significant information/feedback and is not intended for official review or approval.</i>		
	Basic details		
C	Location	Karantaba	
	Date:	September 2021	
	Purpose of Consultation		
D	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information Sharing • Information collection regarding the project and its environment • Assessing Impact Perception • Involving in Mitigation Planning 		
	Key Points Discussed		
	E	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Women in Karantaba are involved in gardening and doing household chores. There are no restrictions to work for women outside of their houses. • Women reported assisting in farming and cultivation. They were also involved in livestock rearing. The daily activities start in the early morning with cooking, cleaning, taking care of the children, etc. Women also collect fuelwood from the nearest forests. • The men are the household head. They always discuss with the other family members the decisions. Women can participate in the discussion meeting. • Women reported they own land by inheritance and buy/lease. They do not have their land in the project boundary as owners. • In the case of finance and access to banking, the women have a bank account in their name and operate them. • They are expecting that road and transportation will be developed. • Most of the participants are worried about the newcomers because they might disturb their daily life. But they prefer to engage the community members to work according to their skills and experiences in the proposed solar power plant project. • They were expecting land compensation compatible with the market price. 	

Consultation with the Community People of Karantaba


A	Project Title	ESIA and RAP for a future 150 MWp WAPP Regional Solar Power Park in The Gambia	
	Name of Stakeholder	Community People	
B	<i>Important Notice: This document provides a working summary of the main facts captured during the consultation/key-informant interview held, and should not be treated as a formal minute. It is therefore deliberately not exhaustive or chronological. Its purpose is to capture significant information/feedback and is not intended for official review or approval.</i>		
			
	Basic details		
C	Location	Karantaba	
	Date:	September 2021	
	Purpose of Consultation		

D

- Information Sharing
- Information collection regarding the project and its environment
- Assessing Impact Perception
- Involving in Mitigation Planning

	Key Points Discussed
E	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community people in the project areas were adequately sensitized on matters relating to the project background. People highly appreciated and welcomed the proposed solar power plant project. Almost everybody said that they will support the project as this project will create employment opportunities and infrastructural development. All advised the consultants to take precautions in the environmental and social mitigations to avoid the various impacts anticipated during the construction and operation stages of the project. There is no such protected area in the proposed project boundary. Most of the participants believed that infrastructural development will be accelerated. Secondly, the majority also believed that basic services and business opportunities will also be increased. Land compensation should be compatible with the market price with the full replacement cost.


Consultation with the Community People of Soma

A	Project Title	ESIA and RAP for a future 150 MWp WAPP Regional Solar Power Park in The Gambia	
	Name of Stakeholder	Community People	
B	<p><i>Important Notice: This document provides a working summary of the main facts captured during the consultation/key-informant interview held, and should not be treated as a formal minute. It is therefore deliberately not exhaustive or chronological. Its purpose is to capture significant information/feedback and is not intended for official review or approval.</i></p>		
	Basic details		
C	Location	Soma	
	Date:	September 2021	
	Purpose of Consultation		
D	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information Sharing Information collection regarding the project and its environment Assessing Impact Perception Involving in Mitigation Planning 		
	Key Points Discussed		
E	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Almost everyone stated they would support the proposal since it will lead to the development of infrastructure and employment opportunities. Everyone recommended the consultants adopt safety measures in the environmental and social mitigations to avoid the various consequences predicted throughout the project's building and operation phases. The majority of participants thought that infrastructure development would quicken. The majority also thought that access to essential services and commercial possibilities would improve. 		

Public Consultation Meeting

A	Project Title	ESIA and RAP for a future 150 MWp WAPP Regional Solar Power Park in The Gambia
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B	Name of Stakeholder	Public Consultation with Soma and Karantaba Communities
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	<p><i>Important Notice: This document provides a working summary of the main facts captured during the consultation/key-informant interview held and should not be treated as a formal minute. It is therefore deliberately not exhaustive or chronological. Its purpose is to capture significant information/feedback and is not intended for official review or approval.</i></p>		
	Basic details		
C	Location	Karantaba	
	Date:	September 2021	
	Purpose of Consultation		
E	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information sharing • Information collection regarding the project and its environment • Assessing Impact Perception • Involving in Mitigation Planning 		
	Key Points Discussed		
	Name	Designation	Key Points Discussed
	Bafoday Sanyang	Senior Energy Officer, Ministry of Petroleum and Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Briefly share the project objectives and purpose of the consultation meeting. • Assessing the impacts of the projects on the community and individuals will be the priority. • Naming a project to a specific area/community is not important rather should be focused on the benefits of the project for the country of the Gambia.
	Kanteh	-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requested to disclose the project area which will be acquired and to assure fair compensation for the land.
	Mr. Wandifa Fofana	-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concern about the grazing area for the cattle.
F	Saidyabah	Livestock Officer, Jarra West	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explained the designated cattle grazing area and tracks for the livestock.
	Seedy	Secretary of VDC Karantaba	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explained the project area/boundaries for Phase-1 and Phase-2 for the residents to understand. • Proposed the name to be Soma-Karantaba Solar Park because the vast area of the project site is in Karantaba.
	Local People	Jarra Karantaba	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requested to disclose the affected community. • To ensure the employment of the youth from the local community.

Bakary Sanneh	Regional Physical Planning Officer	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Explained the role of the physical planning officer and the role of the Ministry of Lands and Local Government.• Share the Land Acquisition Act and informed that the government has the power to acquire any land for development projects for the benefit of the country and compensate the landowners.
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assured the community people that if they are not compensated properly, they have the right to sue the Government. Also assured that what happened in the OMVG project will not be repeated. Informed the possibly affected communities are Jarra Karantaba, Soma, and Kanikhunda. The land has not been acquired and affected landowners will be fairly compensated.
Alh Amadou S. Diallo	Environmental Safeguard Officer, NAWEC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The affected communities are to be considered first in terms of employment opportunities (provided they have the skills required) before considering outsiders.
Local People	Jarra Karantaba	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The concern of grazing the domestic animals if the project is established.
Lamin Fofana	-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To ensure the employment of the youth from the local community who are skilled laborers. The OMVG project denied employment because of not being certified as skilled.
Najmul Hossain	Senior Consultant, ESIA Consultant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Briefly discussed the project with a visual presentation. Informed that initially six sites were selected and after completing the site selection study, Soma-Karantaba is considered the most suitable site for the project which required a detailed study. The project is in its initial phase, and nothing has been finalized on the project site. Not to worry about noise, air, or water pollution because such types of impacts will be minimum during construction and insignificant during the operation phase. The main impact of the project will be the loss of farmlands. A designated grazing area will be demarked with a water source for the livestock in order to protect agricultural production and animal theft. Ensured the cattle tracks are far away from the project boundary. Opportunities for the locals will be available in different phases of the project.

Attendance List of Public Consultation

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (ESIA) AND RESETTLEMENT ACTION PLAN (RAP) FOR A 150 MWp WAPP REGIONAL SOLAR POWER PARK IN THE GAMBIA: PUBLIC CONSULTATION MEETING

Bafoday Sanyang	MOPE	SEO	bafoday@yahoo.com	30 ip
Alh. Amadou S. Falla	NAWEC	Env:diO	adhalba@nawec.gm	Handwritten signature
Bakary K. Saneh	Physical planning	MRR	bakarykasulye@gmail.com	Handwritten signature
✓ Seedy N. Jobe	Karantaba	secretary	seedyedemba52@gmail.com	Handwritten signature
✓ Lamin Xarboe	Karantaba		yerboe@hotmail.com	Handwritten signature
✓ Amadou Jobe	"	Mason		Handwritten signature
✓ Mahita Jobe	"	Painter		Handwritten signature
✓ Foday Jobe	"	Mason		Handwritten signature
✓ Camou Fofana	"			Handwritten signature
✓ Kawsu Fofana	"	Farmer		Handwritten signature
✓ Nday Sireh Hydar	Mahfous	Environment	n.sirehhydar@gmail.com	Handwritten signature
✓ Afang Momokou Jobe	Karantaba	Teacher		

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (ESIA) AND RESETTLEMENT ACTION PLAN (RAP) FOR A 150 MWp WAPP REGIONAL SOLAR POWER PARK IN THE GAMBIA: PUBLIC CONSULTATION MEETING

✓ Lamin Fofana	Karantaba	Building Construct		Handwritten signature
✓ Fatumata Fatty	"	House wife cleaner		Handwritten signature
✓ Alfally Fofana	"	Military officer		Handwritten signature
✓ Bulba Jobe	"	Nurse	bulbajobe8@gmail.com	Handwritten signature
✓ Famara Barrow	"	Nutritional Officer	Famara:Barrow@gmail.com	Handwritten signature
✓ Anula Soudkhan	Karantaba	Gardener		
✓ Fatatating Fofana	"	Gardener		Handwritten signature
✓ Sunkar Jobarteh	"	Gardener Petty trader		
✓ Mamuna Saneh	"	Gardener Petty trader		
✓ Lamin Jobe	"	Farmer		Handwritten signature
✓ Fatau Jobe	"	Gardener Farmer		
✓ Batib Jobe	"	Trader Gardener		Handwritten signature

Date:

ATTENDANCE LIST

Name	Institution	Position	Phone	Email	Signature	
✓ Jallow Jobe	Karantaba	Shop keeper				
✓ Seedr Hanjaba Fofana	Karantaba	Hotel				
✓ Manding Jobe	"	Health worker				
✓ Kabro Dibba	"	Farmer mason				
✓ Omar Fofana	"	Civil servant teacher			0921814172049.gm	
✓ Kebba Kanteh	Soma	Farmer				
Wandife Jobe	Karantaba	Farmer				
Elbrima Fofana	"	business				
✓ Albulacary Fofana	"	Electrical Engineer				
✓ Bafary Ni Jobe	"	CarPenter				

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✓ Momodu Nanna Fofana	Karantaba	Farmer				
✓ Momodu Kanuan Fofana	Karantaba	Fisher man				
✓ Lami Fofana	Karantaba	Seco without clothes seller				
✓ Afang Sabum Fofana	Karantaba	Farmer			0921814172049.gm	
✓ Florint Saidy Bah	Soma	Veterinary doctor				
✓ Alh. Free Fofana	Karantaba	Veterinary officer				
✓ Famara Fofana	Karantaba	Pro. Plumber				
✓ Mado Kady Jobe	Karantaba	Farmer				
✓ Sanna Fofana	Karantaba	Farmer				
✓ Kebba Jobe	Karantaba	Farmer				
✓ Lamin Dibba	Karantaba	Mason				
✓ Famara Fofana	Karantaba	Mason				

ATTENDANCE LIST

Date:

Name	Institution	Position	Phone	Email	Signature
✓ Fassa Falli	Karantaba	VDC P.R.O		Falla@47@gmail.com	[Signature]
✓ Alomo Dillo	Karantaba	Gardener Farmer			
✓ Saraha Drammeh	Karantaba	Gardener Peft trader			
✓ Alh. Wandifa Fofana	Karantaba	Farmer			
Momodou Kanawa Jobe	"	Chief Police			[Signature]
✓ Buraac Jobe	Alkalo Karantaba	Alkalo Farmer			
✓ Mamadi Kanteh	Jarra Soma	Teacher Farmer			[Signature]
✓ Elbahi Kanteh	Jarra Soma	Farmer		[Signature]	[Signature]
✓ Seedy Kanteh	Jarra Soma	Farmer			[Signature]
✓ Kalifa Jarjusey	Jarra Soma	Farmer			[Signature]

✓ Gesay Dillo	Karantaba	Naso			[Signature]

Photographs of Public Consultation Meeting



Bafoday Sanyang, MOPE shared the project background



Alh Amadou S. Diallo, NAWEC responds to the questions raised by the participants



Bakary Sanneh, Regional Physical Planning Officer discusses the land acquisition




Secretary of VDC Karantaba
expresses their concerns
issues, and expectations

Participants are sharing their
comments

A glimpse of public participation

Consultation with Governing Bodies/Authorities

A	Project Title		ESIA and RAP for a future 150 MWp WAPP Regional Solar Power Park in The Gambia																						
	Name of Stakeholder		Government authorities and local representatives																						
B	<p><i>Important Notice: This document provides a working summary of the main facts captured during the consultation/key-informant interview held and should not be treated as a formal minute. It is therefore deliberately not exhaustive or chronological. Its purpose is to capture significant information/feedback and is not intended for official review or approval.</i></p>																								
	Basic details																								
C	Location	Karantaba																							
	Date:	September 2021																							
D	<p>Purpose of Consultation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information sharing Information collection regarding the project and its environment Assessing Impact Perception Involving in Mitigation Planning 																								
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Diallo	National Water and Electricity Company	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He assured that the forest is outside of the project boundary. • NAWEC has signed an MoU with Forestry for its future projects.
Madou Camara	Regional Director Wildlife	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He raised the issue of cattle tracks and grazing areas. He fears that if the cattle tracks are impacted the animal will come nearer to farmlands and destroy livelihood. • He informed the participants that they are working on a project (EbA project) to identify and demarcate cattle tracks.
Abdou Samadou Hydera	National Environment Agency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NEA selected a waste dumping area and requested to exclude it from the project boundary.
Larri Jallow	Alkolo rep. Seno Bajonki	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He raised the issue of land disputes.
Najmul Hossain	EQMS Consulting Limited	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He shared a brief of the study with the participants and emphasized the importance of their involvement during demarcating of the study. • He assures that the forest park is not part of the project boundary. • He also informed the participants, that there will be no major environmental impacts due to the solar power plant project.

Attendance List of Government authorities and local representatives

Date:

Project Title: ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (ESIA) AND RESETTLEMENT ACTION PLAN (RAP)
FOR A 150 MW P WAPP REGIONAL SOLAR POWER PARK IN THE GAMBIA

MEETING WITH STAKEHOLDERS AT THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE MANSAKONKO ATTENDANCE LIST

Name	Institution	Position	Phone	Email	Signature
	Mahfous-EPS	Environment			
	EQMS	Environment Expert			
	Nawec	Env. Expert			
	Governors Office	Deputy Governor			
	District Chief	Head Chief			
	Kamankanda Aliikalo	Aliikalo			
	Jarravest Karantaba	Aliikalo			
	Diang East	Chief			
	GFRS	staff officer			

	SIS	Regional Director			
	Forestry Dept.	Regional Director			
	DDA-LRR	RAD-			
	NDMA	Coordinator			
	DLS-LRR	RLD			
	Mobilisation office	Senior Region office			
	Senou	chairman			
	Bajonki				
	Senou Bajuniki	V.D.C (Chairman)			
	Sonq	Aliikalo (Ton)			
	Senou Angalleh	Aliikalo			
	Pohi of	Regional Commissioner			
	Physical Planning Office				

	Gov. off.	Gov.			
	V.D.C	Karawala			
	NEA-LRR	NEA			
	sanikunda	Karawala			
	VDC	Auditor			
	para Karawala	VDC			
	VDC	secretary			
	VDC	Vice Chairman			
	VDC	Chairman			
	MOPE	CEO			

