

INTEGRATED SAFEGUARDS DATA SHEET

IDENTIFICATION / CONCEPT STAGE

Report No.: ISDSC13367

Date ISDS Prepared/Updated: 20-Oct-2015

I. BASIC INFORMATION

A. Basic Project Data

Country:	Benin	Project ID:	P155822
Project Name:	Nutrition Sensitive Agriculture & Capacity Building of Small & Marginal Farmers Project		
Team Leader(s):	Samuel Taffesse		
Estimated Date of Approval:	10-Feb-2016		
Managing Unit:	GFA01	Lending Instrument:	Lending Instrument
Sector(s):	Crops (80%), Animal production (20%)		
Theme(s):	Nutrition and food security (60%), Other rural development (40%)		
Financing (in USD Million)			
Total Project Cost:	2.475	Total Bank Financing:	0
Financing Gap:	0		
Financing Source		Amount	
Borrower		0	
Japan Policy and Human Resources Development Fund		2.475	
Environment Category:	B - Partial Assessment		

B. Project Development Objective(s)

The objectives of the PHRD grant are to support selected small and marginal farmers to diversify their production and to enhance the consumption of nutrient-dense foods.

The PDO will be achieved by: (a) promoting production of nutrient-dense foods (fruits and vegetables, pulses, dairy, non-wood forest resources or products, dairy and eggs, and aquaculture), both for consumption and commercialization; (b) reduction of post-harvest losses (including support to community food storage, processing and conservation) and support to market linkages; and (c) nutrition education for consumers and institutional and technical capacity development of local authorities and farmers on agriculture-nutrition linkages.

C. Project Description

This project design recognizes the potential of agriculture in contributing significantly to sustainable nutrition outcomes and the challenges faced to achieve that goal such as: limited product diversification, reliance of single (mostly) crop production; seasonality of food availability; limited

knowledge and capacity on nutrition and agriculture-nutrition linkages; weak local organizations; low consideration on women's contribution to agriculture and household food and nutrition security, particularly for the children aged less than 5 years; limited/inexistent tracking of agricultural investments' impact on food consumption and nutritional outcomes. The design also takes into consideration the limited resource envelope available and therefore will prioritize specific defined regions, leveraging resources from other projects in the sector and beyond.

The project will have three components: Component 1 will focus on improving food production and diversification. Component 2 will support value addition to agricultural products and access to markets. Component 3 will promote institutional and technical capacity development on agriculture-nutrition linkages, including nutrition education. The proposed grant will complement ongoing Bank-supported projects and national programs. In particular, the proposed project will: (i) complement the Bank-supported Multisectoral Food Health Nutrition Project by supporting communities with appropriate methods and technologies for diversified food production throughout the year (e.g., vegetables, fruits, small livestock), conservation (e.g., drying), storage (e.g., community grain banks) and transformation (e.g., fermentation, cheese production); and (ii) seek synergies with technology generation and adoption activities by the Bank-funded West Africa Agricultural Productivity Program as well as value chain improvement activities by the Bank-supported Agricultural Productivity and Diversification Project.

Component 1: Production intensification and diversification: The aim of this component is to support the intensification and diversification of food production by promoting and providing agricultural inputs, technologies and services related to the diversification of production. This activity will be linked to research and will use various community channels such as farmer field schools and extension workers. Agricultural inputs will include improved variety seeds, fertilizers, as well as livestock and fisheries inputs. The services will consist in technical assistance in farming activities. Where feasible, the practice of mix-cropping and mix-farming will be encouraged. This component will work with and build on the farmer organizations' platform established under the IDA Agricultural Productivity and Diversification Project. A list of improved on-farm and post-harvest technologies has been identified for the targeted value chains by the IDA project and the PHRD supported project will make use of this readily made list. Further, the proposed Grant also will build on the experience gained by the IDA project in dissemination of planting materials and promotion of best farms management practices through farmers field schools. Partnership with the IDA's West Africa Agricultural Productivity Program will be instituted to extend the demand based agricultural technologies and adoption system to small and marginal farmers towards diversification of their products to include high nutrient crops varieties including introduction of new crops from their partnering institutions research fields. The project will target areas that are covered both by the IDA APDP and the Multi-sectoral FoodHealth and Nutrition Project (MFHNP), so as to crowd-in support by strengthening synergies with IDA projects and partnering with other interventions in agriculture and other sectors involved in nutrition.

Component 2: Value addition and market linkages: The aim of this component is to reduce food losses and seasonality in food availability as well as increase the market value of foods by: (i) improving access to storage and conservation facilities, as well as nutrition-sensitive processing technologies; and (ii) support to the creation of formal links between private sector and farmer associations. The aim of this priority area is to complement diversification activities implemented through component 1 by supporting farmer organizations to engage with private sector and build partnerships between farmers and private sector operators including small and medium scale food processing industries. This should be a "win-win" partnership where both part will benefit. The

strengthening of farmers' associations will therefore be very useful. In fact, the more the small scale farmers' associations are strengthened, the better they can defend their interest and be competitive. The support will include preparation of business plans; marketing, demand creation and facilitating partnership with the private sector – Business Partnership (BP). At least 30 BPs are expected to be supported under this component. The range of support will vary from assistance in marketing, facilitation of local processing, and development of supply line for nutrient-dense foods (including biofortified crops, fortified fertilizers, or fortified processed foods). Small innovation fund (matching grant) will be allocated to help BP undertakings and support investment. Eligible expenditure for support as an investment under this component will include: small micro irrigation for home garden vegetable crops; acquisition of improved agricultural technologies and tools; micro-and-small scale processing equipment; technology and tools that reduce waste such as post-harvest loss; livestock rearing activities that are directly related to enhancing nutritional impact; support to post-harvest quality enhancing and processing activities. Forty-percent of the Grant will be allocated to women beneficiaries and special support will be provided to them to prepare proposal, such as business plan preparation. Priority will be given to those activities that can demonstrate improved nutritional outcome and contribute to climate smart agriculture. This component will be aligned with the IDA Agricultural Productivity and Diversification Project and to leverage additional resource for financing this component's activities.

Component 3 : Capacity development on nutrition-sensitive agriculture and nutrition education: The aim of this component is to promote consumption of nutrient-rich foods and build the capacity of local authorities and farmer organisations to promote nutrition-sensitive agriculture through (i) nutrition education for farmers and consumers, (ii) capacity development of national and local authorities on agriculture-nutrition linkages; (iii) support to multi-sectoral coordination for nutrition; (iv) integrating nutrition outcome indicators in the monitoring and evaluation of agricultural projects, starting with the PHRD and IDA supported agriculture project. This component will align its activities with the Multi-sectoral Food Health Nutrition Project and support the involvement of stakeholders working in agriculture in multi-sectoral efforts to improve nutrition with a focus on improved infant and young child feeding practices and knowledge on care practices. The activities will include organization of nutrition trainings, development of food recipes books based on locally available foods, communication campaigns on nutrition (community and mass-media) and community food demonstrations. The component will effectively use existing learning centers and community nutritional points. The project will use nutrition education materials and expertise available through the MFHNP and complement these as necessary. The project will also sensitize policy makers, program planners and farmer organizations at central and local levels on nutrition-sensitive agriculture, and support the engagement of these stakeholders in multi-sectoral coordination mechanisms for nutrition. Finally, the project will develop capacities to monitor and evaluate the nutritional impact of agricultural projects, with an emphasis on dietary intake and feeding practices.

D. Project location and salient physical characteristics relevant to the safeguard analysis (if known)

The project activities will cover about 8 priority rural Communes in 4 “Départements”. The preliminary four selected “Départements” are Atacora, Donga, Mono and Couffo. Selection of the eight Communes will be based on two major criteria: commune need to be in the food and nutrition insecure area; and is part of the selected Commune for the National Food Security Program (42 Communes are selected).

E. Borrower's Institutional Capacity for Safeguard Policies

The grant receiver and most importantly Ministry of Agriculture is implementing the ESMF developed for the Benin Agricultural Productivity and Diversification Project (PADA). Through this project, the Ministry and the PIU have developed capacity in handling safeguard policies and the overall safeguard has been rated as satisfactory.

F. Environmental and Social Safeguards Specialists on the Team

Abdoul Wahabi Seini (GSURR)

Abdoulaye Gadiere (GENDR)

II. SAFEGUARD POLICIES THAT MIGHT APPLY

Safeguard Policies	Triggered?	Explanation (Optional)
Environmental Assessment OP/ BP 4.01	Yes	This operation intends to support small micro irrigation for home garden vegetable crops. It is anticipated that potential adverse impacts related to the project will be small, sites specific and easily manageable. While the exact location where these investments will be realized are unknown to date, an ESMF should be prepared, reviewed consulted upon and disclosed both in Benin and at the infoshop. However, the proposed project will be implemented by the implementation unit that is coordinating the ongoing World Bank funded operation named Agricultural Productivity and Diversification Project (PADA) that has already developed an ESMF. In this regards, this instrument will be used to deal with environment matters related to this new operation. The existing ESMF will be updated as needed and will then be consulted on and redisclosed.
Natural Habitats OP/BP 4.04	No	This project will not result in conversion or degradation of natural resources and it will not have any impact on critical or other natural habitats. The project merely improves the performance of existing small farms.
Forests OP/BP 4.36	No	The project does not operate in forest areas and the target beneficiaries are farming dependant rural poor.
Pest Management OP 4.09	Yes	The project will support an improved agricultural practices at a micro level. This may include using pesticide and other improved agricultural inputs such as fertilizers. However, only a very low level of pest management will be introduced at village level to support small farmers. The IPMP developed for the Benin Agricultural Productivity and Diversification

		Project (PADA) will be utilized in the implementation of the activities to be financed under this grant. This instrument will serve as a guidance for pest management under the proposed operation.
Physical Cultural Resources OP/BP 4.11	No	The grant intervention areas do not have physical cultural resources.
Indigenous Peoples OP/BP 4.10	No	No indigenous people in the project area.
Involuntary Resettlement OP/BP 4.12	TBD	The grant will not finance any investment which may lead to land acquisitions. Some activities that the project could support, despite their very small size, could be interpreted as they have potential for triggering OP4.12. This will be for certain determined once the activities are clearly defined.
Safety of Dams OP/BP 4.37	No	No relationship with dams.
Projects on International Waterways OP/BP 7.50	No	Project will not affect and operate on international rivers or their tributaries.
Projects in Disputed Areas OP/BP 7.60	No	The project selected areas are not in disputed areas.

III. SAFEGUARD PREPARATION PLAN

A. Appraisal stage ISDS required?: Yes

i. Explanation

ii. Tentative target date for preparing the Appraisal Stage ISDS

B. Time frame for launching and completing the safeguard-related studies that may be needed. The specific studies and their timing should be specified in the Appraisal Stage ISDS.

IV. APPROVALS

Team Leader(s):	Name: Samuel Taffesse	
Approved By:		
Safeguards Advisor:	Name: Glenn S. Morgan (SA)	Date: 21-Aug-2015
Practice Manager/ Manager:	Name: Martien Van Nieuwkoop (PMGR)	Date: 25-Aug-2015

¹ Reminder: The Bank's Disclosure Policy requires that safeguard-related documents be disclosed before appraisal (i) at the InfoShop and (ii) in country, at publicly accessible locations and in a form and language that are accessible to potentially affected persons.