



Concept Environmental and Social Review Summary

Concept Stage

(ESRS Concept Stage)

Date Prepared/Updated: 07/30/2024 | Report No: ESRSC04332

**I. BASIC INFORMATION****A. Basic Operation Data**

| | | | |
|-------------------------------|--|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Operation ID | Product | Operation Acronym | Approval Fiscal Year |
| P505025 | Investment Project Financing (IPF) | Mali CRISP | 2025 |
| Operation Name | Mali Community Resilience and Inclusive Services Project | | |
| Country/Region Code | Beneficiary country/countries (borrower, recipient) | Region | Practice Area (Lead) |
| Mali | Mali | WESTERN AND CENTRAL AFRICA | Social Sustainability and Inclusion |
| Borrower(s) | Implementing Agency(ies) | Estimated Appraisal Date | Estimated Board Date |
| The Republic of Mali | Ministry of Reconciliation, Peace and National Cohesion | 26-Sept-2024 | 14-Nov-2024 |
| Estimated Concept Review Date | Total Project Cost | | |
| 30-May-2024 | 150,000,000.00 | | |

Proposed Development Objective

The objective of the Project is to improve access to basic services responsive to community priorities in at-risk areas.

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

No

C. Summary Description of Proposed Project Activities

[Description imported from the Concept Data Sheet in the Portal providing information about the key aspects and components/sub-components of the project]

This project will work with local communities to improve access to basic services and small-scale infrastructure. It will use an inclusive planning approach to address the multi-sectoral needs and improve the living conditions of populations in newly stabilized and fragile areas of the country.



D. Environmental and Social Overview

D.1 Overview of Environmental and Social Project Settings

[Description of key features relevant to the operation's environmental and social risks and opportunities (e.g., whether the project is nationwide or regional in scope, urban/rural, in an FCV context, presence of Indigenous Peoples or other minorities, involves associated facilities, high-biodiversity settings, etc.) – Max. character limit 2,000]

This project will intervene in the vulnerable/fragile areas in the North (Kidal, Tombouctou, Taoudenni and Gao), as well as areas in the South (Nara and Segou) that might be vulnerable to destabilization. Mali's FCV context of terrorist incidents and intercommunal conflicts has hindered service delivery in these areas as well as causing internal displacement as people try to find safer areas fleeing from attacks. The targeted areas have suffered from lack of basic services and infrastructure, which has fueled frustration and distrust in the government and a fostered a feeling of exclusion and marginalization. Populations are likely to have high expectations that will need to be carefully managed given the scope of the interventions.

Key project activities will mainly comprise (i) at village level, construction and rehabilitation of productive small-scale infrastructure such as tertiary access roads, small-scale irrigation and improved water and sanitation; electricity (solar panels, off-grid electrification); education; and health; (ii) at communal level, rehabilitation of infrastructure in connectivity, water and sanitation, electrification, markets, health and education, as well as measures to improve natural resource management and climate resilience; and (iii) social and technical facilitation social and technical facilitation activities.

The community-led development approach to be used by the project aspires to bringing people back into the development process, with focus on local organizations and leaders.

As the infrastructure types and scale are refined during preparation, this will allow to finetune the ES risks and impacts related to said infrastructure, which may also include adjusting the identification of the E&S instruments to be required.

D.2 Overview of Borrower's Institutional Capacity for Managing Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts

[Description of Borrower's capacity (i.e., prior performance under the Safeguard Policies or ESF, experience applying E&S policies of IFIs, Environmental and social unit/staff already in place) and willingness to manage risks and impacts and of provisions planned or required to have capabilities in place, along with the needs for enhanced support to the Borrower – Max. character limit 2,000]

The project will be implemented by the Ministry of Reconciliation, Peace and National Cohesion and a new Project Implementation Unit will be recruited during preparation with relevant staff, including ES specialists. Given the intervention areas are far from PIU based in Bamako, there will be regional antenna offices for the daily implementation and supervision activities. Since the PIU is not yet in place and therefore a capacity assessment cannot be at this time, the ES personnel to be hired will be selected based on their technical qualifications and previous experience with the ESF. Further training as needed will be provided by the Bank team.

II. SCREENING OF POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RISKS AND IMPACTS



A. Environmental and Social Risk Classification (ESRC)

Substantial

A.1 Environmental Risk Rating

Moderate

[Summary of key factors contributing to risk rating, in accordance with the ES Directive and the Technical Note on Screening and Risk Classification under the ESF – Max. character limit 2,000]

The environmental risk is moderate. The project will contribute to improving the livelihoods of members of the targeted local communities by improving access to basic services and small-scale infrastructure at village and communal levels. Initiatives to improve natural resource management can restore degraded ecosystems and strengthen communities' climate resilience. This reduces the vulnerability of beneficiaries to climate change and improves the environmental sustainability of the areas concerned. The activities planned under components 1 and 2 of the project are likely to have limited to moderate impacts on the environment. These impacts are essentially: (i) risks of deforestation, fragmentation of natural habitats, soil erosion and temporary disturbance of local flora and fauna during road construction/rehabilitation work (ii) Dust and gas emissions from construction equipment and the risk of accidental fuel and lubricant spills may pollute the air, water and soil. (iii) Environmental impacts related to construction materials, waste management and site disturbance. Preliminary E&S assessments and the implementation of activities will be carried out during preparation in such a way as to minimize negative impacts and maximize benefits for local communities.

A.2 Social Risk Rating

Substantial

[Summary of key factors contributing to risk rating, in accordance with the ES Directive and the Technical Note on Screening and Risk Classification under the ESF – Max. character limit 2,000]

The social risk rating is substantial at this stage and will be further assessed during preparation. The risk rating is largely based on the highly complex social context in the project areas, which are remote and rural and remain insecure and vulnerable. Key social risks relate to social cohesion and potential social conflicts: the project will intervene in areas where state has not been present for a number of years, basic services have not been available, and hence expectations will run high and will need to be carefully managed. Exclusion from project benefits may lead to social tensions. Functionality, legitimacy and capacity of the local organizations will also need to be assessed to ensure they can manage their role in implementing the activities. Capacity of local leaders and their legitimacy may also cause conflicts and contestation among the population. Insecurity in some of the project areas may also have an impact on the project activities or access to some locations.

[Summary of key factors contributing to risk rating. This attribute is only for the internal version of the download document and not a part of the disclosable version – Max. character limit 2,000]

B. Relevance of Standards and Policies at Concept Stage



B.1 Relevance of Environmental and Social Standards

ESS1 - Assessment and Management of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts

Relevant

[Optional Explanation - Max. character limit 1,000]

The main potential E&S risks and impacts of the project are highlighted in section A. The appropriate methods and tools for E&S assessments and their timing will be determined during project preparation. The borrower will prepare an operational manual with negative list for the subprojects describing procedures for identifying, assessing, and managing risks and impacts, including procedures for identifying and compensating those affected by the activities to be financed under the project. During project preparation, the borrower will develop draft terms of reference for these assessments, taking into account the requirements of the Environmental Policy Framework and the World Bank's Environment, Health and Safety Guidelines. Information on project risks and impacts will be disclosed and relevant stakeholders will be consulted during project preparation. Assessments will inform the design of project activities and no activities will start until appropriate measures are in place.

ESS10 - Stakeholder Engagement and Information Disclosure

Relevant

[Optional Explanation - Max. character limit 1,000]

The standard is relevant. Instead of a stand-alone document, Stakeholder Engagement will be built into component 3 through the hiring of local level social facilitators to engage with stakeholders via community platforms and community monitoring. Some of their key tasks include identifying and assessing the level of project impact on stakeholders and their interest and support for the project. The platform will help build and maintain a constructive relationship, especially with project affected parties; and to promote and provide means for effective and inclusive engagement with the vulnerable groups throughout the project life cycle. Some of the key stakeholder groups identified to-date include the populations at selected villages and communes with focus on most vulnerable such as women, IDPs and the disabled. Local authorities have a key role as representatives of the state. Further stakeholder mapping will be done during preparation.

ESS2 - Labor and Working Conditions

Relevant

[Optional Explanation - Max. character limit 1,000]

The standard is relevant. The project is likely to include direct workers, contract workers and community workers (comp. 1 at village level). During preparation, a recent Labor Management Procedures (LMP) prepared in Mali will be updated and it will specify the terms and conditions of employment, non-discrimination and equal opportunities, workers' organizations, prohibition of child and forced labor, grievance redress mechanism for labor disputes, occupational safety and health measures for the workers and provisions to prevent and manage SEA/SH prior to project Appraisal by the Borrower. To ensure health and safety of workers during the construction and operational phases of the project, the Borrower will develop and implement a



Health, Safety and Environmental (HSE) plan consistent with World Bank Group's Environment, Health and Safety Guidelines (EHS) for construction activities.

ESS3 - Resource Efficiency and Pollution Prevention and Management

Relevant

[Optional Explanation - Max. character limit 1,000]

Some of the activities financed by the project may generate pollution or waste. Project activities will finance the rehabilitation and construction of small scale infrastructures including connectivity, water and sanitation, electrification, markets, improved health and education, all of which are likely to generate a limited amount of waste and or pollution. During project preparation, the Borrower will develop an operational manual on how to manage the environmental and social risks of the sub-projects. This manual will provide guidelines for pollution management and will be implemented during project implementation.

ESS4 - Community Health and Safety

Relevant

[Optional Explanation - Max. character limit 1,000]

Some areas targeted by the proposed project are hard-hit by recurrent violence. Moreover, planned project activities in areas with a high presence of internally-displace people (IDPs) may pose a risk to the project in terms of increased pressure for resources, lack of opportunities and creating tensions among and between communities. Furthermore, given the fluid security situation in Mali and potential risks to the project beneficiaries and/or project assets, security analysis will underpin the flexible project design and mitigation measures will be built into the activities, and the operations manual.

ESS5 - Land Acquisition, Restrictions on Land Use and Involuntary Resettlement

TBD

[Optional Explanation - Max. character limit 1,000]

Components 1 and 2 will finance rehabilitation and construction at village and commune levels of infrastructure across sectors such as connectivity, water and sanitation, electrification, markets and health and education. The project will have a negative list of investments that require physical resettlement and these will not be eligible for financing. For activities that may cause limited, temporary economic impacts, the project will develop screening criteria and include measures for compensation in the operations manual.

ESS6 - Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Management of Living Natural Resources

TBD

[Optional Explanation - Max. character limit 1,000]

Project interventions are not expected to result in any loss of biodiversity, and will not be located in sensitive or protected areas. Potential sites for civil works include existing locks,



which are located in disturbed and developed areas. The work may have moderate temporary impacts on environmental resources, including soils, water resources, ambient noise levels and ambient air quality. These potential environmental impacts are temporary. The relevance of EHS6 will be further assessed, particularly with regard to potential cumulative impact, and confirmed during project preparation. The appropriate selection mechanism and mitigation measures will be described in the operational manual to be developed. The ESCP will include exclusion criteria to avoid impacts on ecologically sensitive areas.

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

Not Currently Relevant

[Optional Explanation - Max. character limit 1,000]

ESS8 - Cultural Heritage

TBD

[Optional Explanation - Max. character limit 1,000]

Project activities should not take place near or on cultural heritage sites. However, construction activities related to road improvements may lead to the discovery of unknown cultural heritage sites, which will require the Borrower to have incidental discovery procedures in place as part of the Operations Manual and to apply them in the event of a discovery. These procedures will be included in all contracts relating to the construction of the project, including excavation, demolition, earthworks or other modifications to the physical environment. Consultation processes will also involve local communities, cultural heritage experts and relevant authorities to ensure that procedures are in line with the ESS8 and national legislation.

ESS9 - Financial Intermediaries

Not Currently Relevant

[Optional Explanation - Max. character limit 1,000]

B.2 Legal Operational Policies that Apply

OP 7.50 Operations on International Waterways

No

OP 7.60 Operations in Disputed Areas

No

B.3 Other Salient Features

Use of Borrower Framework

TBD

[Optional explanation - Max. character limit 1,000]

During preparation, the team will assess the possibility to rely on Borrower's framework.



Use of Common Approach

No

[Optional Explanation including list of possible financing partners – Max. character limit 1,000]

B.4 Summary of Assessment of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts

[Description provided will not be disclosed but will flow as a one time flow to the Concept Stage PID – Max. character limit 5,000]

ES risk is rated as S at this stage, and will be confirmed by appraisal. The activities planned under components 1 and 2 of the project are likely to have limited to moderate impacts on the environment. These impacts are essentially: (i) risks of deforestation, fragmentation of natural habitats, soil erosion and temporary disturbance of local flora and fauna during road construction/rehabilitation work... (ii) Dust and gas emissions from construction equipment and the risk of accidental fuel and lubricant spills may pollute the air, water and soil. (iii) Environmental impacts related to construction materials, waste management and site disturbance. The project is intervening in a highly complex social context in remote rural areas, which remain insecure and vulnerable. Key social risks relate to social cohesion and potential social conflicts: the project will intervene in areas where state has not been present for a number of years, basic services have not been available, and hence expectations will run high and will need to be carefully managed. Exclusion from project benefits may lead to social tensions. Functionality, legitimacy and capacity of the local organizations will also need to be assessed to ensure they can manage their role in implementing the activities

C. Overview of Required Environmental and Social Risk Management Activities

C.1 What Borrower environmental and social analyses, instruments, plans and/or frameworks are planned or required by Appraisal?

[Description of expectations in terms of documents to be prepared to assess and manage the project's environmental and social risks and by when (i.e., prior to Effectiveness, or during implementation), highlighted features of ESA documents, other project documents where environmental and social measures are to be included, and the related due diligence process planned to be carried out by the World Bank, including sources of information for the due diligence - Max. character limit 3,000]

By appraisal, the following instruments will be prepared: Stakeholder Engagement will be part of component 3, Labor Management Procedures, Environmental and Social Commitment Plan as well as a manual for identification and management of ES measures.

III. CONTACT POINT

Contact Point



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|-------------------|----------------------|--------|------------------------------------|
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IV. FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

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V. APPROVAL

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|-------------------------------|----------------------|
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