

**INTEGRATED SAFEGUARDS DATA SHEET
APPRAISAL STAGE**

Report No.: ISDSA1048

Date ISDS Prepared/Updated: 04-May-2015

Date ISDS Approved/Disclosed: 20-Apr-2016

I. BASIC INFORMATION

1. Basic Project Data

Country:	Liberia	Project ID:	P146827
Project Name:	Liberia Youth Opportunities Project (P146827)		
Task Team Leader(s):	Suleiman Namara		
Estimated Appraisal Date:	10-Mar-2015	Estimated Board Date:	06-Nov-2015
Managing Unit:	GSP07	Lending Instrument:	Investment Project Financing
Sector(s):	Other social services (88%), Public administration- Other social services (12%)		
Theme(s):	Improving labor markets (63%), Social Safety Nets/Social Assistance & Social Care Services (37%)		
Is this project processed under OP 8.50 (Emergency Recovery) or OP 8.00 (Rapid Response to Crises and Emergencies)?			No
Financing (In USD Million)			
Total Project Cost:	10.00	Total Bank Financing:	10.00
Financing Gap:	0.00		
Financing Source			Amount
BORROWER/RECIPIENT			0.00
International Development Association (IDA)			10.00
Total			10.00
Environmental Category:	B - Partial Assessment		
Is this a Repeater project?	No		

2. Project Development Objective(s)

The Project Development Objectives are to improve access to income generation opportunities for targeted youth and strengthen the government's capacity to implement its cash transfer program.

3. Project Description

The project will provide apprenticeships to vulnerable youth in urban areas and support agricultural

transformation and value chain addition using a productive public works and CDD approaches particularly for youth in rural areas. To mitigate the impact of future shocks, the project will also improve the efficiency in the delivery of cash transfers to targeted households including youth. Particular focus will be paid to pre-employment and life skills activities to strengthen youth participation in the labor market. The YOP activities will be designed and implemented directly or in close cooperation with the private sector (formal and informal). The project will have four components:

Component 1: Pre-Employment Social Support and Household Enterprises for Urban Youth.

- Sub-component 1A: Pre-Employment Social Support
- Sub-component 1B: Household Enterprises
- Sub-component 1C: Capacity and Systems Building

Component 2: Productive Public Works and Life Skills Support for Rural Youth.

- Sub-component 2A: Productive Public Works and Life Skills Support
- Sub-component 2B: Capacity and Systems Building

Component 3: Capacity and Systems Building for Cash Transfers.

Component 4: Project Implementation and Coordination.

- Sub-component 4A: Project Implementation and Coordination by the Ministry of Youth and Sports
- Sub-component 4B: Project Implementation and Coordination by the Liberian Agency for Community Empowerment
- Sub-component 4C: Project Implementation and Coordination by the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection

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

The project will be implemented within both urban and rural areas within all the fifteen counties of the country, primarily targeted at vulnerable and poor youth. It is proposed that the geographical allocation is primarily based on the number of extreme poor in each region and county.

Subcomponents 1B (household enterprises) and 2A (Productive public works) will involve works within both urban and rural areas within beneficiary communities.

5. Environmental and Social Safeguards Specialists

Felix Nii Tettey Oku (GENDR)

Gloria Malia Mahama (GSU01)

6. Safeguard Policies	Triggered?	Explanation (Optional)
Environmental Assessment OP/BP 4.01	Yes	The project triggers OP4.01 due to the proposed beneficiary activities under Subcomponents 1B (household enterprises; support apprenticeship for e.g. carpentry, metal fabrication, block making, and electrical technicians) and 2A (Productive public works; e.g.

		provide support for community level small scale agricultural farming). Subcomponent 2A will upscale the ongoing Community Livelihood component of the YES Additional Financing Project, therefore, the recently revised ESMF for the YES Liberia Additional Financing has been updated and re-disclosed to provide mitigation for the potential environmental impacts associated with the scope of works under these project components.
Natural Habitats OP/BP 4.04	No	Natural habitats are not expected to be significantly impacted by the project, as subproject screening checklist will identify any potential natural area for further assessment.
Forests OP/BP 4.36	No	Forests are not expected to be significantly impacted by the project; all subprojects that might trigger OP4.36 are eliminated at the screening stage.
Pest Management OP 4.09	No	The small scale community agriculture subproject activities under the PSN component will not involve the use of pesticides. Chemical pesticides have been included on the negative list of the project.
Physical Cultural Resources OP/BP 4.11	No	The works to be undertaken under this project are not expected to trigger this safeguard. All subprojects that might trigger OP4.11 will be screened and chance find procedures will be included in the subsequent ESMPs/ESIAs following the outcome of the screening exercise as the case may be required.
Indigenous Peoples OP/BP 4.10	No	There are no Indigenous Peoples in the project area.
Involuntary Resettlement OP/BP 4.12	Yes	<p>Component 2A of the project emphasizes the implementation of a community-level farm production. This activity will include acquisition and preparation of land for communal agricultural production. This may lead to temporary loss of land, livelihoods, incomes and assets. It can also deepen vulnerability for women or migrant occupiers of community lands that has been released for the project.</p> <p>The RPF for the YES project has been revised and re-disclosed. It includes measures to sustain and enhance the mitigation provision for this component as it an upscaling of its Community Livelihood component. All sub-projects will be screened for potential impacts during project implementation. However, no physical displacement is anticipated under this project. Therefore, resettlement action plans are not expected to be developed for sub-projects that have been identified</p>

Safety of Dams OP/BP 4.37	No	NA
Projects on International Waterways OP/BP 7.50	No	NA
Projects in Disputed Areas OP/BP 7.60	No	NA

II. Key Safeguard Policy Issues and Their Management

A. Summary of Key Safeguard Issues

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

Detailed assessment of the activities of the project components show that the activities under Subcomponents 2A (Productive public works) and 1B (household enterprises), could have potential environmental and social impacts on human health and other identified receptors within the wider environment. The subproject activities under subcomponent 2A will build on the pilot that has been designed under the ongoing YES Project Additional Financing (YES AF) (P147967). Main positive potential environment impact involves promoting better use of land and water resources through small scale communal farming. Some negative potential environmental impacts include soil erosion, eutrophication of aquatic environments, crop residue and other solid waste, atmospheric emissions (including particulates), noise and use of pesticides and occupational health and safety impacts to both operatives the members of the beneficiary communities.

Project activities will lead to positive social impacts by providing short term income earning opportunities for the youth and household. Beneficiaries will be assisted to overcome constraints to agricultural productivity through improved agriculture technology and improved farming practices, providing agricultural inputs, including basic life and entrepreneurial training. However it is foreseen that the project may have impact on land and livelihood as land is required for preparation and implementation of the community-level farm production.

The potential environmental and social impacts are localized and can be easily mitigated. The project has therefore been categorized as B: Partial Assessment in accordance with World Bank Safeguard Policy on Environmental Assessment (OP/BP 4.01) and Involuntary Resettlement (OP/BP 4.12).

To comply with these policy requirements, the project will update the recently revised and updated ESMF (consulted on and publicly disclosed on June 13, 2014 and in on Infoshop on July 9, 2014 and RPF (consulted on and publicly disclosed on June 13, 2014 and in on Infoshop on July 9, 2014) for the YES Additional Financing (P147967). This approach will sustain the existing effective implementation of the safeguard mitigation measures for the YES AF whilst designing new mitigation measures for potential new impacts.

It is very highly unlikely that any of the proposed activities under this project will result in potential large scale, significant and/or irreversible impacts as has been evidenced by observations and reports from the ongoing YES AF.

2. Describe any potential indirect and/or long term impacts due to anticipated future activities in the project area:

The safeguard issues identified under the YES AF which relates to component 2A of the YOB in particular are not expected to have any indirect and/or long-term impacts. Furthermore, establishing preventive mitigation measures and ensuring their proper implementation throughout the implementation of subproject activities will limit any potential adverse effects in the immediate and longer-term.

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

Project alternatives were not considered relevant because the potential impacts of this project are considered minimal as observed and validated by the performance of the safeguard arrangements under the ongoing YES AF so far.

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

To comply with triggered Bank Environment Policy (OP/BP 4.01), Involuntary Resettlement (OP/BP 4.12) and Country environmental statutory environmental and social regulatory requirements, the Government of Liberia has decided to update the recently revised ESMF and RPF (both widely consulted on and publicly disclosed on June 13, 2014 and in on Infoshop on July 9, 2014) it developed for the YES AF to sustain mitigation of the ongoing activities which the YOP will upscale.

Justification for Adoption of YES AF (P147967) ESMF and RPF

The activities under components 1B (household enterprises; support apprenticeship for e.g. carpentry, metal fabrication, block making, and electrical technicians) and 2A (Productive public works; e.g. provide support for community level small scale agricultural farming) have been identified as the most likely source of potential environmental and social impacts to human health and the wider environments of the subproject locations. The subproject activities under component 2A of YOP in particular will upscale on the activities of the Community Livelihood component that has been designed under the ongoing YES AF (P147967). The revised ESMF and RPF for the YES AF were designed with the objective of providing mitigation for the same small scale community demand driven based agriculture and activities which the YOP is intending to upscale within rural counties of the country.

The safeguard arrangements within the existing ESMF and RPF for the YES AF have demonstrated robust assessment and effective implementation in mitigating the identified potential environmental and social impacts since project inception. Several subprojects (similar to those the YOP component 2A is intended to upscale) have been screened correctly and the relevant follow on assessments and mitigation measures have been applied where required. Additionally, where the subproject screening process results in land uptake for the agriculture and aquaculture activity, appropriate due diligence (all necessary documentation to show voluntary donation of land by community and government- depending on land ownership) have been undertaken in compliance with the safeguard arrangement within the RPF to meet the requirements of OP 4.12.

Currently, The Liberia Agency for Community Empowerment (LACE) is the implementing agency for the Community Livelihood component under the YES AF. LACE will continue to be the main implementing agency for both components 1B and 2A for the YOP during its implementation phase.

Over the years, LACE has successfully implemented several World Bank funded investments

projects and has got staff who have experience on the requirements of Bank safeguard policies. In April 2014, a safeguard audit was undertaken as part of the YES AF project preparation and the report's recommendations on proper record keeping and technical capacity development through training have been implemented. Safeguard workshop has been organized as training to key project implementers at the LACE secretariat and the safeguard implementation arrangement within the secretariat has been well defined to ensure successful implementation at the national, regional and community levels.

At the national level, a social protection programme manager takes overall responsibility for the effective implementation of the safeguard arrangements for the YES AF. LACE regional engineers coordinate safeguard activities at the regional/county level. Community Facilitators coordinate safeguard activities at the community level with the help of agric technicians.

This safeguard implementation arrangement and capacity at the LACE will be sustained under the YOP to continue the effective implementation of the upscaling subproject activities under component 2A and 1B. Additionally, a Project Operational Manual (POM) for the parent YES project was revised for the YES AF to integrate the revised safeguard arrangements into the subproject identification, selection and preparation process. The POM also contained a negative list of project of subprojects to prevent funding and procurement of pesticides. Specific monitoring indicators were also included in the POM to monitor performance and compliance of safeguard instruments and arrangements. The safeguard arrangements within the POM of the YES AF will be replicated and sustained in the POM of the YOP to integrate agreed safeguard arrangements into the identification, selection and preparation of subprojects.

Furthermore, a Productive Public Works technical manual of labor-intensive agricultural activities will be developed before the start of the project and will propose a menu of activities to be financed by sub-component 2A. This menu will guide planning and identification of agricultural sub-projects at the community level. The sub-project technical manual will also include technical design, work productivity norms, social and environmental mitigations measures. Further details will be provided in the POM.

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

The key stakeholders involved in the YOP include the Ministries of Youth & Sports, Gender Children and Social Protection, Planning and Economic Affairs, Education, Labor, Agriculture, and Public Works, LACE, training service providers, Community Facilitators, Community Technicians, communities benefiting from the components 2A and 1B. Throughout the Project's development, these stakeholders will be involved in a series of discussions regarding its rationale, design, and implementation arrangements. They will continue to be involved throughout its implementation; community participation—specifically regarding the selection of Project beneficiaries and the works undertaken.

Additionally, various stakeholder consultations have been held during the revisions of the ESMF and RPF as part of the YES AF. The consultations took the form of community fora, focus group meetings at both community and roundtable meetings. Key project stakeholders identified for consultations included Government ministries and agencies, specifically the Local Government Authorities, local NGOs, and project beneficiary community members. Meetings have been held with key officials and opinion leaders to examine the level of awareness and involvement with the Project, concerns of Project implementation, and to obtain relevant documents or baseline

information of Project area and the environmental and social setting of Liberia.

The consultation of the revised ESMF and RPF was undertaken within selected communities in geographically representative counties from March 23, 2014 to April 3, 2014. The consultations also served to gather information on the mandates and permitting requirements to inform the development of the Project.

The updated ESMF and RPF has again been publicly disclosed in country on the February 25, 2015.

B. Disclosure Requirements

Environmental Assessment/Audit/Management Plan/Other	
Date of receipt by the Bank	20-Jan-2015
Date of submission to InfoShop	
For category A projects, date of distributing the Executive Summary of the EA to the Executive Directors	
"In country" Disclosure	
Liberia	25-Feb-2015
<i>Comments:</i>	
Resettlement Action Plan/Framework/Policy Process	
Date of receipt by the Bank	20-Jan-2015
Date of submission to InfoShop	
"In country" Disclosure	
Liberia	25-Feb-2015
<i>Comments:</i>	
If the project triggers the Pest Management and/or Physical Cultural Resources policies, the respective issues are to be addressed and disclosed as part of the Environmental Assessment/Audit/or EMP.	
If in-country disclosure of any of the above documents is not expected, please explain why:	

C. Compliance Monitoring Indicators at the Corporate Level

OP/BP/GP 4.01 - Environment Assessment	
Does the project require a stand-alone EA (including EMP) report?	Yes [<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>] No [<input type="checkbox"/>] NA [<input type="checkbox"/>]
If yes, then did the Regional Environment Unit or Practice Manager (PM) review and approve the EA report?	Yes [<input type="checkbox"/>] No [<input type="checkbox"/>] NA [<input type="checkbox"/>]
Are the cost and the accountabilities for the EMP incorporated in the credit/loan?	Yes [<input type="checkbox"/>] No [<input type="checkbox"/>] NA [<input type="checkbox"/>]
OP/BP 4.12 - Involuntary Resettlement	
Has a resettlement plan/abbreviated plan/policy framework/process framework (as appropriate) been prepared?	Yes [<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>] No [<input type="checkbox"/>] NA [<input type="checkbox"/>]
If yes, then did the Regional unit responsible for safeguards or Practice Manager review the plan?	Yes [<input type="checkbox"/>] No [<input type="checkbox"/>] NA [<input type="checkbox"/>]

Is physical displacement/relocation expected? Provided estimated number of people to be affected	Yes [] No [] TBD []
Is economic displacement expected? (loss of assets or access to assets that leads to loss of income sources or other means of livelihoods) Provided estimated number of people to be affected	Yes [] No [] TBD []
The World Bank Policy on Disclosure of Information	
Have relevant safeguard policies documents been sent to the World Bank's Infoshop?	Yes [] No [<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>] NA []
Have relevant documents been disclosed in-country in a public place in a form and language that are understandable and accessible to project-affected groups and local NGOs?	Yes [<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>] No [] NA []
All Safeguard Policies	
Have satisfactory calendar, budget and clear institutional responsibilities been prepared for the implementation of measures related to safeguard policies?	Yes [<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>] No [] NA []
Have costs related to safeguard policy measures been included in the project cost?	Yes [<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>] No [] NA []
Does the Monitoring and Evaluation system of the project include the monitoring of safeguard impacts and measures related to safeguard policies?	Yes [<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>] No [] NA []
Have satisfactory implementation arrangements been agreed with the borrower and the same been adequately reflected in the project legal documents?	Yes [<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>] No [] NA []

III. APPROVALS

Task Team Leader(s):	Name: Suleiman Namara	
Approved By		
Safeguards Advisor:	Name: Alexandra C. Bezeredi (SA)	Date: 04-May-2015
Practice Manager/ Manager:	Name: Stefano Paternostro (PMGR)	Date: 20-Apr-2016