PROJECT INFORMATION DOCUMENT / INTEGRATED SAFEGUARDS DATA SHEET (PID/ISDS) APPRAISAL STAGE

Report No.: 113910

Date Prepared/Updated: 15 March 2017

I. BASIC INFORMATION

A. Basic Project Data

Country:	Vietnam	**Project ID:**	P157127
		Parent Project ID *(if any)*:	
Project Name:	Forest Sector Modernization and Coastal Resilience Enhancement Project (P157127)		
Region	EAST ASIA AND PACIFIC		
Estimated Appraisal Date:	15-March-2017	**Estimated Board Date:**	31-May-2017
Practice Area (Lead):	Environment & Natural Resources	**Lending Instrument:**	Investment Project Financing
Sector(s):	Forestry (100%)		
Theme(s):	Other environment and natural resources management (60%), Environmental policies and institutions (25%), Rural non-farm income generation (15%)		
Borrower(s)	Government of Vietnam		
Implementing Agency	Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development		

Financing (in USD Million)

Financing Source	Amount
BORROWER/RECIPIENT	30.00
International Development Association (IDA)	150.00
Financing Gap	0.00
Total Project Cost	180.00

Environmental Category	B-Partial Assessment
Concept Review Decision	Approved for preparation
Is this a Repeater project?	No
Is this a Transferred project? (Will not be disclosed)	No
Other Decision (as needed)	

B. Introduction and Context

a. **Country Context**

2. **Vietnam has made remarkable achievements in poverty reduction and growth over the past thirty years.** Since the launch of economic reforms known as *Doi Moi,* Vietnam has achieved middle income

status, achieved most of the Millennium Development Goals and adopted the new Sustainable Development Goals. It has achieved an inclusive growth that has resulted in tangible gains for Vietnamese people, economically and in terms of welfare.

3. **Despite its achievements, Vietnam still faces some development challenges.** Vietnam has a disproportionate number of the near poor and bottom forty concentrated in rural areas and in four regions. Eighty two percent of the near poor and 84 percent of the "bottom 40" are found in rural areas. Seventy percent of Vietnam's bottom 40 are located in four regions: Red River Delta (RRD), Eastern Northern Mountains, North Central Coast, and Mekong Delta. Large portions of the near poor are also found in the RRD and the Mekong Delta regions.
4. **Vietnam is also extremely vulnerable to climate change, including sea level rise and extreme weather events.** Vietnam's long coastline, geographic location, diverse topography, and variable climate contribute to it being one of the most hazard-prone countries in the region. Storms and floods are, in particular, responsible for economic and human losses. Vietnam's exposure is compounded by the fact that a high proportion of the country's population and economic assets are located in coastal lowlands and deltas. Extreme climatic events such as storms, heavy rainfall, and flooding, damage boats, housing, coastal vegetation, and aquaculture facilities. Vulnerability to sea level rise, climate variability and severe storms which have been observed in several coastal areas and are projected to increase have consequences for several sectors, ranging from the energy sector to agriculture.
5. **Government of Vietnam has historically invested in physical structures to build resilience of its coastal areas.** Approximately 1,400km of dykes are directly exposed to the sea in 29 provinces and cities across the country. Historically, sea dyke development has been focused on northern and central Vietnam which are the areas most exposed to typhoons. These sea dykes are meant to protect 630 thousand hectares of agricultural land and about 8.7 million inhabitants. The effectiveness of these systems has declined over the years and their shortcomings have become more apparent. Afforestation and reforestation of coastal forests, such as mangroves, can offer notable benefits as they reduce the cost of dyke maintenance while improving coastal resilience and livelihoods. In parts of Vietnam's coast where winds and storms are a major threat, coastal forests can reduce the impact of these winds and also contain sand dune expansion.
6. **Coastal communes need support to enhance their resilience to climate change, given the overlap in coastal provinces of poor households' sources of livelihood and their vulnerability to flooding.** Poor rural households have a significant share of their income from climate sensitive activities - crop cultivation, livestock, forestry, fishing and agriculture. These activities, in aggregate, constitute more than 60 percent of the income of the poorest quintile and more than 70 percent of the income of ethnic minorities. The expected change in climate will likely affect these activities while also threatening key services that are important for these activities – such as water resources, ecosystem services, and biodiversity – affecting the poor in multiple ways. The Government of Vietnam is considering how to use coastal protection forests to improve the well-being of these rural poor and reduce their exposure of the communes to climate risks. In 2015, the Prime Minister's Decision 120 approved a plan for coastal forest protection and development in response to climate change, and set as targets: (i) the protection of existing coastal forest area of 310,965 ha, and (ii) establishment of new plantation of 46,058 ha. The aim is to increase the coastal forest coverage from the current 16.9 percent to 19.5 percent by 2020. Responding to these decisions, there are efforts in the Mekong Delta to restore natural coastal features that augment climate resilience. Similar efforts are needed for the RRD and North Central provinces (from Quảng Ninh to TT- Huế).

b. Sectoral and Institutional Context

7. **Coastal forests are classified primarily as protection forests and most of the coastal forest lands are under the direct management of the government.** They are often managed by the Commune People's Committees (CPCs) or Protection Forest Management Boards (PFMBs) and Special Use Forest Management Boards (SUFMBs). Some coastal protection forests have been temporarily assigned to

enterprises or tourism organizations for management. Individuals, households and communities have very limited tenure rights over coastal forest land and limited access to coastal forests.

8. **While Vietnam's forest cover has increased overall, coastal forests have been severely degraded.** Coastal forests have been subject to conversion to more lucrative, often unsustainable and short-term activities. Mangrove forests in Vietnam have decreased by nearly one-third, from 408,500 ha in 1943 to 270,000 ha in 2015. The drivers of mangrove deforestation range from industrial scale aquaculture, to harvesting for fuelwood, to development of infrastructure that has altered the hydrological conditions required to sustain the mangrove systems. Sandy soil forests, found in the north central provinces, are often degraded or converted due to encroachment from agriculture. In addition, limited coordination across sectors in spatial planning, weak management practices, and severe weather events have degraded these forests.
9. **Recently, government of Vietnam has adopted several measures that point to the country's interest to bolster the resilience of coastal communes.** Decree 119/2016/ND-CP on management, protection and development policies for coastal forests identifies the importance of these forests for responding to climate change. The resilience objective and important role of coastal forests is also reflected in MARD's Targeted Program for Sustainable Forest Development 2016-2020 (TP-SFD) which aims to continue to manage, protect, develop and sustainably use forests and land zoned for forestry development, increase forest coverage to 44-45 percent by 2020. It includes, inter alia, the following priority scheme: protect and develop coastal forests to respond to climate change.
10. **The government of Vietnam has taken several measures to improve planning in coastal areas, including areas with coastal forests but implementation is lagging behind.** There are government decisions that adopt an Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) Program in specific provinces, present a detailed ICZM strategy, and stipulate that Ministries, ministerial-level agencies and Provincial People's Committees of coastal cities and provinces must develop ICZM programs and that all relevant companies, organizations and individuals must adhere to the requirements of ICZM. There also is the National Coastal Zone Action Plan (2016-2020), which helps implement the priorities in ICZM Strategy. The Action Plan emphasizes the sustainable use of natural resources in coastal zones and guides coordination among key sectors and also recognizes that the bulk of coastal management will be carried out at the provincial level, calling for better vertical integration among all levels of government. Implementation of these decisions has been lagging because several provinces struggle with reflecting these objectives adequately due to lack of data and limited capacity to develop well-integrated plans.
11. **Incentives are often lacking for local stakeholders and investors to protect and restore these coastal forests for long-term benefits.** Local stakeholders (i.e., government, and communities, and private stakeholders) face a trade-off when considering investing in the protection of coastal forests. The trade-off is between short-term tangible local gains (e.g., from converting coastal forest areas for cultivation or infrastructure (e.g., ports or fishing piers), or illegal exploitation), and longer-term public goods (e.g., resilience to climate change, and opportunities to sustainably harvest or benefit from non-timber products). These stakeholders do not receive tangible benefits from the public goods, making it important to provide incentives for long-term management and protection of coastal forest systems. It is also necessary to raise the awareness of provincial governments about the importance of coastal forest systems for their growth and employment agendas.
12. **Restoring coastal forests is complex.** Mangroves require close attention to their intertidal position and how they are exposed to various ocean and atmospheric climate change drivers which increases their vulnerability to climate change. Mangroves are sensitive to excessive sea level fluctuations, with too much flooding causing mangroves to "drown", and too little affecting their productivity and possibly replacing them with salt marsh or cyanobacterial communities. Restoring mangroves, therefore, requires matching the species composition with soil salinity and humidity and investing in preparing site conditions that are within the control of the project. In the RRD, it will also requires working with and addressing changes in the landscape caused by dams, roads, and dredging of channels that are altering tidal flow patterns.

13. **Vietnam has examples of successful mangrove restoration in various locations, though mostly at a small scale.** The Deutsche Gesellschaft für International Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH supported mangrove rehabilitation in Soc Trang, Bac Lieu and Kien Giang provinces. These activities successfully tested, in difficult sites, different strategies to enhance the protective function of coastal mangrove forests. Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) such as the Danish Red Cross, Japanese Red Cross, and UK Children's Fund successfully supported the partial planting of mangrove forests. Over 20,000 ha were planted along the Northeastern and North Delta estuaries for dyke protection. National universities and local organizations have been actively involved in identifying suitable species, and providing expertise and knowledge to mangrove restoration efforts, bolstering these initiatives.

14. **Vietnam has also made investments in planting sandy soil forests, though activities at scale have been limited.** The Project for Afforestation on the Coastal Area (PACSA) supported the planting of Casuarina equisetifolia and auxiliary species of Acacia crassicarpain in coastal areas affected by wind and saltwater. In a few sites, with low cost inputs and labor, pilot efforts have been successful in stabilizing sand dunes with the planting of Casuarina trees. Casuarina is the species of choice because it is fairly tolerant of poor soils and weather. Implementation of similar initiatives at a larger scale will require coordination among local farmers, local government and forest managers. It will require long-term commitment, financial and technical resources, and incentives for all parties involved.

15. **Future efforts to restore coastal forests will need to adopt the lessons from these previous experiences.** Some key lessons include: (i) planting only where coastal forests previously existed; (ii) matching tree species with site conditions; (iii) using high quality seedlings; (iv) aligning planting and maintenance techniques with site characteristics; (v) investing in improving site conditions; and, for sandy soil forests, (vi) considering agroforestry models. Considering the national target for coastal forest restoration, it will be important that this project supports improved techniques or approaches that are readily replicable.

16. **The sectoral and institutional contexts of Vietnam underscore the importance of taking an integrated approach to restoring coastal forests.** An integrated approach implements restoration in a manner that takes into account the institutional, biophysical/environmental, economic and social ground realities. It considers ensuring both the arrangements and inputs used to plant and protect coastal forests are the most suitable and viable in the long term. The approach also packages, with the planting and management activities, incentives for forest and land managers and provincial governments to commit to managing the natural asset for key environmental services and economic benefits.

17. **The project aims to assist the Government of Vietnam to achieve its higher objective of using coastal forests for boosting resilience to climate change and supports activities in eight provinces - Quang Tri, Thanh Hoa, Nghe An, Ha Tinh, Quang Binh, Thuan Thien Hue, Quang Ninh and Hai Phong.** By focusing on these eight provinces located in the north central coastal region and Red River delta (RRD), the project is investing in areas that are central to Vietnam's economic growth and home to a sizeable population. This area is also one of the three areas in Vietnam that is most vulnerable to climate events. To deliver on the higher objective of augmenting resilience to climate change of coastal communities, the project invests in improving coastal forest management to reduce the exposure of coastal communities to the impact of climate events.

18. **The project assists the Government of Vietnam with three elements that are central to successful and sustainable restoration of coastal forests.** The three elements are (i) putting in place modern systems for improving planning, providing quality inputs for, and financing restoration of coastal forests, (ii) investing in more effective management arrangements, and in the silvicultural practices and structures need to extend and manage coastal forests and augment their survival, and (iii) diversifying the long-term benefits from protecting and maintaining the coastal forests. The project will promote the use of well-tested and current approaches to motivate these changes, including modern monitoring systems, market driven payments for ecosystem services, promotion of improved planning, modeling-based determination of site level investments, and upgraded production systems for and integrated value addition to coastal commodities.

The methods/approaches proposed for the project have been adopted by countries similar to Vietnam and, in some cases, in Vietnam, and have proven to be cost-effective and sustainable investments.

19. **A more holistic approach to the use of coastal forests for resilience can also contribute to Vietnam's Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) presented at UNFCCC COP 21 in Paris (2015).** The NDC states that climate change adaptation must be carried out in a focused manner and respond to urgent, immediate impacts and long-term potential impacts. One of the priorities identified in the NDC is to protect, restore, plant and improve the quality of coastal forests, including mangroves, especially in coastal estuaries and the Mekong and Red River deltas. A similar task description is noted in Vietnam's Implementation Readiness Plan of the Paris Agreement – plant and restore coastal forest to create soft dykes to protect against waves and rise in water levels and create sustainable livelihoods.

C. Project Development Objective(s)

Development Objective(s) (from PAD)

20. The project development objective is to improve coastal forest management in the project provinces.

Key Results

21. **The three PDO level results indicators are**:

Area of coastal forest restored and managed according to agreed criteria
Area managed under agreements/contracts signed with local community groups for management of coastal forests
Share of targeted beneficiaries with rating 'Satisfactory' or above on project interventions, disaggregated by gender

D. Project Description

22. **The project assists the government of Vietnam with three elements that are central to successful and sustainable restoration of coastal forests.** The three elements are (i) putting in place modern and improved systems for planning, providing inputs for, and financing restoration of coastal forests, (ii) investing in more effective management arrangements, and in the silvicultural practices and structures need to extend and manage coastal forests and augment their survival, and (iii) diversifying the long-term benefits from protecting and maintaining the coastal forests. The project will promote the use of modern approaches to motivate these changes, including modern monitoring systems, market driven payments for ecosystem services, promotion of improved planning, modeling-based determination of site level investments, and upgrading production systems for coastal commodities and promoting integrated value addition. The effectiveness of the proposed methods/approaches in the project have been adopted by countries similar to Vietnam and, where they have been tested in Vietnam, are proving to be cost-effective and sustainable investments.

23. **The project has three technical components in addition to a fourth component on project management, monitoring, and evaluation.** The first component modernizes the technical knowhow and approaches used for planning, supplying seedlings and financing coastal protection forest management and planting. The second component adopts a holistic approach that links the biophysical, physical and management interventions for managing and planting mangroves and sandy soil forests. The third component focuses on augmenting the economic benefits derived from well protected coastal forests, with the aim of reducing pressure to convert these natural systems.

24. **Component 1 will be implemented at the central level. Component 2 and 3 will be implemented at the subnational level.** The first year of activities will not include any physical works or investments that require the development of safeguard instruments/plans.

Component Name:
Enabling Effective Coastal Forest Management
Comments (optional)

25. **This component will support the development and implementation of scalable procedures and tools to improve coastal forest management more broadly.** The activities associated with this component will build the technical knowhow and make investments needed to modernize the approaches used to address three key constraints to improved coastal forest management – overlapping spatial plans, lack of adequate supply of quality seedlings and limited long-term financing for managing coastal protection forests.
26. **This component has three subcomponents.** The first subcomponent will focus on modernizing coastal forest planning by complementing the activities financed by the Climate Change and Green Growth Development Policy Financing and supporting tools and techniques for better integrating different spatial plans of the coastal areas. The approaches for integrating different planning activities proposed in this component will be tested in three communes. The second subcomponent will invest in expanding the production of quality seedlings, including native species. The third subcomponent will focus on broadening payments for forest ecosystem services to include payments for services from coastal forests (e.g., aquaculture services and carbon sequestration). The third subcomponent will primarily fund technical expertise that will assist with obtaining market-based financing for management of coastal protection forests.

Component Name:
Coastal Forest Development and Rehabilitation
Comments (optional)

27. **The objective of this component is to improve management of existing coastal protection forests and expand the area of coastal protection forests in participating provinces.** In each province, sites for planting, protecting and enriching coastal forests were identified based criteria that reflect local government commitment, ecological feasibility, land ownership and potential to contribute to resilience. Using the criteria, the investments are spread across 257 communes in 47 districts. In some target areas, this includes planting and managing mangroves forests along estuaries. In other areas, there will be planting and management of sandy soil forests on bluffs, terraces, dunes, and hills near the coast where the coastal communities are exposed to wind. The MARD targets for this component are:
    a. 50,000 ha of coastal forests protected
    b. 10,000 ha of coastal forests rehabilitated
    c. 5,000 ha of mangroves planted
    d. 4,000 ha of sandy soil forest planted
28. **This component has two subcomponents.** The first is on planting and protection target coastal forests. This subcomponent will finance works, goods and equipment, labor and consultancies needed to protect existing stands of coastal forests, and plant and tend new and degraded stands of coastal forests. It also finances the activities associated with community based forest management. The second subcomponent is on augmenting the survival and effectiveness of coastal protection forests. This subcomponent invests in physical works and supporting structures, equipment and tools, that can augment the survival and effectiveness of coastal protection forests. This subcomponent will also finance investments that assist with strengthening the monitoring and management of planting and protection activities. It will also support minor

improvements of existing physical structures that complement coastal forests in protecting coastal communities.

Component Name:
Generating Sustainable Benefits from Coastal Forests
Comments (optional)

29. **This component makes investments that augment the potential for generating private income, employment and public revenue from coastal protection forests.** Adapting models that have worked in the Mekong Delta region and in the agriculture sector, this component supports: (i) partnerships for generating revenue from coastal protection forests (e.g., through extensive and certified aquaculture, and nature-based tourism) and (ii) upgrading of productive infrastructure (minor infrastructure) that would enable the local areas (communes) to support revenue generation from the investments. The support will be provided through investment packages that are grants. The grants will be provided following a competitive selection process which applies a transparent selection process that is specifically designed and established to result in the selection of commercially viable productive partnerships and business plans (in subcomponent 3.1) and of the most useful productive infrastructure (in subcomponent 3.2).

Component Name:
Project Management, Monitoring and Evaluation
Comments (optional)

30. This component will include the establishment of the organizational structure for project implementation; preparation of equipment, means and technical assistance. Activities would include refurbishing accommodations for the decentralized offices, vehicles, and a fully funded monitoring and evaluation system to track project progress and impacts, and provide feedback for project improvement throughout its tenure. The component would finance specialized training for MARD, provincial, district, and commune actors on themes such as co-management, integrated spatial planning, monitoring and evaluation and safeguards. This component will also finance recurrent costs such as the government staff and operating costs.

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

The Project will be implemented in 8 provinces in 3 subregions briefly described below. These provinces have about 400 kilometers of coastline (12% of Vietnam's total coastline).

- *Subregion 1 (Red River Delta): Includes Quang Ninh province and Hai Phong city.* Coastal protection forests here are mainly mangroves. Hilly terrain and islands are also found in the landscape and mangroves grow on rocky soils with poor nutrient content provided from internal river systems. This region has a tropical monsoon climate, with cold and wet winter seasons. The lower temperature in the winter season has an influence on crop growth and the variety of mangrove species that are suitable to the region. Mangrove species have biomass distributions across narrow areas and discontinuous in the coastal zone from Tien Yen district to Mong Cai city (Quang Ninh province), Thuy Nguyen district (Hai Phong city) and in some islands such as Cat Ba and Quan Lan.
- *Subregion 2 (The North Central region): includes Thanh Hoa, Nghe An and Ha Tĩnh provinces.* The topography of this area is characterized by the short alluvia sunken bows interspersed with small capes or segments of eroded cliff as a result of the effect of waves. The average drainage density of the river network is relatively high at 1 km/km^2. Rainy season

flows are 3 to 4 times higher than flows in the dry season. The wind and waves are main climatic and hydrological factors that impact coastal forests. The brackish plants are mainly distributed in the areas that are a distance from the estuaries of about 100 - 300 meters.

- *Subregion 3: Quang Binh, Quang Tri, and Thua Thien Hue.* The area is a narrow strip of land with complex topographical characteristics. The mountain ranges reach out to the sea in some places. Conversely, other locations are characterized by striking coastal forms as a result of effects of the sea dynamic, such as high and wide sand dunes or lagoons. Rivers in this area are normally short and steep with less sediment load. This region is characterized by high rainfall (approximately more than 2,500 mm/year) and is severely affected by wind and typhoons. Coastal sandy soil forests are mainly plantations of *Casuarina equisetifolia and Acacia auricliformis*. Mangrove vegetation is located in the tidal estuaries, in the high tide wetlands and in the lagoons.

F. Environmental and Social Safeguards Specialists on the Team

Son Van Nguyen (GEN2B)
Anjali Acharya (GEN2B)
Thong Trung Le (GSU02)

II. IMPLEMENTATION

31. **The institutional focal point for this project with the Management Board for Forest Projects (MBFP) within MARD.** MBFP will be responsible for oversee and managing the overall project. In addition to MBFP, Vietnam Administration of Forestry (VNForests) within MARD will be involved with oversee activities associated with component 1. The bulk of project implementation is at subnational level and activities related to component 2 and 3 will be primarily implemented at a district or commune level. Accordingly, the project implementation structure will involve a modest size central level project management unit (CPMU), and eight provincial level project management units (PPMUs). . In addition there will be Central and Provincial Steering Committees who will be responsible for facilitating the coordination among the key stakeholders, providing guidance for project implementation in its respective province.
32. **The CPMU will be responsible for the overall project level administration, including oversight of procurement, FM, M&E, safeguards compliance and communications.** In addition, the CPMU, will be responsible for the preliminary review and quality check of the provinces' procurement and work plans before they are submitted to the Bank. The CPMU is managed by a project Director who will be supported by a staff with all the relevant skills – financial management, procurement, safeguards and technical.
33. **The PPMUs in the respective provinces will be in charge of day-to-day implementation activities.** This will include (a) consolidating the investment plans of all the province; (b) preparation of detailed technical engineering design, safeguards mitigation documents, implementation, and procurement plan; (c) implementation of fiduciary (procurement and FM) and safeguards activities at the subproject level; (d) operation and maintenance of the project account; and, (e) M&E of subproject implementation. Each of the PPMUs will be fully staffed with qualified and experienced staff in all areas particularly on fiduciary and safeguards aspects. Staff positions are similar to the ones at CPMU.
34. **Because of the decentralization of the activities supported by this project, District Working Groups (DWGs) will be created with members from district authorities and technical sections working to assist with the implementation at district level.** Commune Working Groups (CWGs) will be established at each of the project communes and will be tasked with signing contracts for forest plantation and protection with the household groups/communities and supporting the livelhoods planning and implementation at commune.

III. SAFEGUARD POLICIES THAT MIGHT APPLY

Environmental Assessment OP/BP 4.01	**Yes**	This policy is triggered as the project will support improvements in silvicultural practices, aquaculture and other small productive infrastructures for protecting existing coastal forests and planting coastal forests, as well as support local stakeholders for sustainable protection and development of the forest ecosystem services, creating create both positive and negative environmental and social impacts. Potential negative environmental and social impacts of the Project are expected to be moderate and most of them will be temporary, localized and can be mitigated. Therefore, the project has been categorized as a Category B project. As all the subprojects and/or activities will be selected during Project implementation. Therefore, an Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) has been developed and will be applied to the subprojects and/or activities to be financed under the FMCRP. For all subprojects, an ESMP or ECOP will be prepared following the ESMF guidelines. The ESMP or ECOP will be reviewed and cleared by WB before the implementation of subproject, and its implementation will be closely monitored. The ESMF also required that all the subproject will also comply with GOV's EIA regulation.
Natural Habitats OP/BP 4.04	**Yes**	The Project triggers this policy as it will be implemented in coastal forest areas. Afforestation and reforestation activities may have potential impacts on natural habitats if poorly planned or implemented. Based on the current project design. It is unlikely that the project activities will be implemented within or around known and critical habitats and would significantly convert or degrade natural habitats as the subproject sites are generally lands/mangrove and coastal inland protection forests which have already been converted. During implementation, when the subproject sites are identified, surveys and studies will be undertaken to assess the potential impacts on specific ecosystems. During implementation national regulations related to invasive species will be strictly adhered to, to avoid spreading invasive species from plantation activities. Assessment of possible impacts from invasive species will be considered during the preparation of the ESMP of subprojects. In case it is determined that the subproject will involve degradation of natural habitat, the ESMP will include mitigation measures acceptable to the Bank.
Forests OP/BP 4.36	**Yes**	The Project triggers this policy as it involves coastal forest protection/rehabilitation activities aiming to restore coastal landscapes, enhance resilience of inland farming systems, and reduce vulnerability to the impacts of sea-level rise and coastal erosion. Subproject activities will include reforestation, rehabilitation and planting of mangroves and coastal inland forests in targeted areas including construction, upgrading, and/or rehabilitation of small infrastructure considered important for increasing survival rate of young mangrove and seeding. It is unlikely that the project activities will be implemented within or around known and critical habitats. The project would not involve commercial plantation activities. Currently, no specific areas have been identified, but it is expected that the Project will cover about 69,000 ha

		of 257 communes in 47 districts of the 8 provinces. Forest Management Plans will be prepared for all reforestation, rehabilitation and planting activities undertaken as part of the Project, and for any other infrastructure and livelihoods (including ecotourism) related activities that may affect the forests. Mitigation measures will be put in place to protect or rehabilitate the forests and species, especially during construction and operation. During implementation national regulations related to invasive species will be strictly adhered to avoid spreading invasive species from plantation activities. Assessment of possible impacts from invasive species will be considered during the preparation of the ESMP of subprojects.
Pest Management OP 4.09	**Yes**	The Project will not procure large amounts of pesticides. The Project, however, triggers this policy as it is likely that the support of seeding activities (Component 1) and the protection and/or plantation of coastal forests and the livelihood development activities (under Components 2 and 3) may involve the purchase of small amount and/or increase in use of pesticides and/or disease prevention/treatment chemicals (i.e. antibiotics) from mangrove shrimp farming, silviculture, aquaculture, farming, and other livelihoods activities (e.g. fishery, agroforestry, breeding). The ESMF has described the regulations/institutional frameworks related to pest management when a Pest Management Plan will be prepared and/or adoption of good practices such as application of an integrated pest management (IPM) approach will be considered during the preparation of ESMP for the subproject.
Physical Cultural Resources OP/BP 4.11	**Yes**	It is not expected that the Project will require relocation of PCRs such as monuments, temples, churches, areas and sites of cultural or religious value such as spirit areas. However, improving climate resilient infrastructure for protection of coastal forest may involve relocation of graves which are also considered PCRs, and thus this policy is triggered. Some civil works may also include excavation activities, which may result in chance finds, the "chance find procedures" will be included in the ESMPs and civil works contracts.
Indigenous Peoples OP/BP 4.10	**Yes**	The proposed project will be implemented in 8 proposed coastal provinces, where the screening confirmed that three ethnic minority groups namely Thai, Tay, Dao (EMs) are present in the project area of Quang Ninth and Thanh Hoa provinces. The project aims to develop coastal forest and forest sector value added in targeted areas while improving livelihood activities (aquaculture in mangroves, long-rotation timber, PFES from carbon, tourism and fisheries) that could benefit and also impact adversely the local ethnic communities. Since the precise impacts of the project cannot be determined before implementation an Ethnic Minority Planning Framework (EMPF) has been developed as part of the Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF). The EMPF provides guidance for screening impacts and benefits in consistency with the OP 4.10. The EMPF provides the procedures to conduct Social Assessment (SA) and free, prior and informed consultations to ascertain a broad community support a condition to be implemented. For broad community support,

		the engagement of civil society organizations, the Committee for Ethnic Minority Affairs (CEMA), and meaningful participation of the EMs should be assured. In addition, a freestanding feedback and grievance redress mechanism will be established to receive, identify and resolve EM concerns and grievances. The subproject's SAs and the Ethnic Minority Development Plans (EMDPs) will be developed in the 2nd year of project implementation once the area and defined activities are known.
Involuntary Resettlement OP/BP 4.12	**Yes**	This policy is triggered because social adverse impacts are identified concerning mainly local livelihoods and land, which required analysis and consultations. Component 1 activities, would support the preparation and piloting of essential procedures and tools to influence better coastal forest management, including a subcomponent on enhancing effective integration of spatial planning of coastal forests with other plans. Negative land/livelihood impacts as a result, are not expected. Component 2, investments could require acquisition of very small areas of garden and crop lands for upgrading of small-scale infrastructure works as to improve management of coastal forests, where physical or economic displacement are expected to be minor. Component 2.1 will support planting and management of existing and afforested and reforested mangroves and sandy soil forests through the adoption of community based management models (on the basis of contractual arrangements). Therefore as potential social impacts were identified two instruments were prepared: (i) a Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF) to address mitigate and compensate impacts on land and other assets; and a Process Framework (PF) to address potential impacts as a result of access/use restrictions of coastal forest resources (e.g. use of mangroves for fuel). Both instruments were disclosed and consulted prior to project appraisal. The RPF and the PF guide on the processes and procedures on all project activities to identify, assess, minimize and mitigate and compensate potential adverse impacts on land, and local livelihoods due to integrated co-management respectively. These frameworks will guide during project implementation for the preparation of the respective RPs and Action Plans required to mitigate said impacts of the sub-projects.
Safety of Dams OP/BP 4.37	**No**	The project will not finance construction or rehabilitation of any large dams as defined under this policy, and project-financed activities are not impacted by dams.
Projects on International Waterways OP/BP 7.50	**No**	The policy is not triggered because the project is not located in any areas of international waterways as defined under the policy.
Projects in Disputed Areas OP/BP 7.60	**No**	The policy is not triggered because the project is not located in any known disputed areas as defined under the policy.

IV. 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:

Environmental Safeguards:

The overall environmental impacts from the proposed activities are expected to be largely positive. The investments aim to increase mangrove cover are expected to reduce coastal erosion, and provide erosion protection to farms and villages located in sensitive coastal areas, which contribute to enhancing climate resilience. The afforestation and reforestation activities proposed under the project will result also in carbon sequestration. Potential negative environmental and social impacts of the Project are expected to be moderate and most of them will be temporary, localized and can be mitigated. Therefore, the project has been categorized as a Category B project. This section describes the activities with potential impacts.

The project would mainly involve the following physical investments under Components 2 and 3. Component 2 activities will support investments related to restoring coastal forests and investments in physical structures that will augment the survivability of the planted areas. More specifically, this will include planting and restoration of coastal forests (mangrove and coastal inland protection forest), (b) physical works to augment natural recovery (secondary succession) of degraded mangroves by protecting or rehabilitating their habitats (e.g., with canals) and works that improve the survival rates of seedlings and reduce the exposure and vulnerability of these forests to the forces of the sea (waves and tidal currents), flooding, or wind in highly exposed locations. Component 2 will also finance physical structures in a few hotspots (i.e., hotspots in terms of exposure to extreme events and based on measurement of key parameters). In soft and muddy soil areas this could include breakwaters and soft measures such as bamboo fence. In sandy soil areas, this could involve minor measures of dune protection such as brushwood fences to decrease eolian sediment transport for new planting areas. There will also be physical investments to facilitate planting and protection of coastal forests. This will include (a) construction and repair of (forest) rural road and foot paths; and (b) structures to improve monitoring and implementation of protection activities such as watch tower, and temporary nurseries. Component 3 has been designed to assist local communities generating sustainable benefits from coastal forests. Investments to be selected include: (a) support for low input aquaculture systems in mangrove forests or facilities for spawning clams and other aquaculture, to improved cultivation techniques for augmenting productivity and sustainability of agricultural and agroforestry products; (b) support for smart aquaculture systems adapting to climate change; (c) support for small scale agricultural and livestock systems in north central coastal provinces focused on vegetables production, fruit trees, livestock and poultry; (d) value addition to local products (e.g., canning vegetables, checking quality of aquaculture, cold storage); and (e) support for development of eco-tourism based on environmental protection and forest protection in coastal areas. Civil works under Component 1 and 4 will be small including very small works associated with nurseries, and renovation of offices and/or construction of small office building.

Based on current information and due-diligence performed during the preparation there do not seem to be any interventions close to critical habitat such us natural protected areas. The areas proposed for various forestry activities include wetland habitat (mangrove) which used to be natural mangrove but were converted to aquaculture in the recent past, and coastal sandy soil (casuarina and other dry climate tolerant species). These areas might be the habitats for birds and wetland aquatic species. The project activities help to improve forest cover and quality, enriching these habitats. Nevertheless, all plantation plans will be subject to compliance with safeguard policies and will consider in determining where planting occurs. Regarding the scale of plantations, the areas are scattered across 257 communes in 47 districts. The average areas for new planting is less than 100 hectares scattered across the commune. The average area for enrichment planting about 150 hectares scattered across communes. The species proposed for planting mangroves are species that are found in the proposed planting areas so that they are tolerant of the ecological conditions. They include species such as Bần chua

(Sonneratia caseolaris (L.) Engler; Trang (Kandelia obovata) và (Kandelia acndel); Sú (Aegiceras corniculcitum (L.) Blanco); Mấm đen (Avicennia officinalis L.); Vẹt dù (Bruguiere gymnorhiza (L.) Lam). The species proposed for sandy soil forests are Phi lao (*Casuarina equisetifolia*), Keo lá liềm (*A.crassicarpa*), hoặc Thông Caribê (*Pinus caribaea Morelet*), species that are commonly used in the dry and poor soil content conditions of the sandy soils of the North Central provinces (from Thanh Hoa, Nghe An, Ha Tinh, Quang Binh, Quang Tri, Thua Thien Hue). Native species such as Lat hoa (*Chukrasia tabularis* A.Juss), Lim Xanh (*Erythrophloeum fordii* Oliver) are also considered for lowland, hilly terrain if the site conditions are nutrient-rich, thick soil layer, high humid and wet climates (from Thanh Hoa to Quang Ninh). Fruit trees such as cashew and neem may also be included if the conditions permit. The objective is to have forest structures that are multi-age and multi-species. Existing stands of native forests will be protected through community management arrangements that involve contracts for up to 20 year that prescribe silvicultural measures. There also will be efforts to raise awareness of the importance of the native forest stands. Lastly, large amount of chemical fertilizers, pesticides, herbicides, growth stimulants are not expected to be used in the plantation, rehabilitation of coastal forests. For plantations in sandy soil areas, the project manual provides guidance to use organic fertilizer, or manure combined with humectants, creating beds, planting with appropriate density on the inner sandy area.

Potential impacts of plantation and/or protection of coastal forest and mangrove during pre-planting and planting phase under Component 2 are considered moderate and could be mitigated. These include impacts due to land acquisition and resettlement, relocation of household graves, safety risk related to unexploded ordnances (UXOs), construction related impacts such as increase in air pollution, noise, water pollution, waste generation, traffic safety risk, disturbances to local residents. Road construction, operation, and maintenance activities under the component may cause erosion and adversely affect water quality, disrupt subsurface hydrologic flow, and bringing water to the surface in new areas or destabilizing sensitive hill slopes which may cause slope failures. Impacts during operation stage of the plantation and infrastructure under this component are also expected to be moderate. Large amount of chemical fertilizers, pesticides, herbicides, growth stimulants are not expected to be used in the plantation, rehabilitation of coastal forests. Plantation of mono species may involve pest outbreaks while forest fires (sandy soil forests), and/or other negative impacts on biodiversity especially on invasive species may occur. However, these risks are considered small to moderate and can be mitigated since the project design promotes a mixed species system of plantation. In addition, GOV has already established a number of procedures and/or standards on these aspects and they will be applied and monitored during the implementation of the subprojects. There are possible impacts on coastal ecosystem and sediment transport as well as on boat safety risk for local fishers for the subproject that involve construction of mangrove forest and/or wave break structure (underwater or soft structure) but it is considered small and mitigation measures such as monitoring of water quality and ecology and installation of safety warning sign, buoys, etc.

Negative impacts of Component 3 are expected to be moderate and can be readily addressed. These potential adverse environmental impacts relating to low input shrimp farming systems. These include potential accumulation of sediment from some aquaculture farms, and pollution from wastewater from more shrimp aquaculture, losses and damage to mangroves from improper aquaculture management, and possible use of toxic chemicals (though the project is promoting either organic aquaculture or improving aquaculture practices to reduce use of inputs). Most of the aquaculture farms are also expected to be of small scale and run by families. Ecotourism development, if not properly managed, could have negative impacts on fragile coastal ecosystem especially along the north central coast and the islands with high biodiversity values, rare wildlife species, and a number of beautiful beaches, water quality, and mangrove/marine ecosystems. Key issues may be related to illegal and wildlife trade; potential damage to coral reefs, seagrass beds, and/or endanger species of animals, flora, and fauna; introduction of invasive species; and possible disease outbreak.

Social Safeguards:

Overall, the project is expected to have positive social outcomes and contribute to improved livelihoods and enhanced participation in coastal forest resource planning and management by local communities

in the project area. Social issues to be considered during project implementation include the particular impacts on land tenure, ensuring equal participation in terms of gender and ethnic minority in coastal forest resource management, and observing ethnic minority people's collective rights.

The project carried out a Social Assessment (SA) that entailed qualitative/quantitative methods to gather information in the project area. These included a socio-economic survey (SES, August-September, 2016) and a qualitative research conducted through in-depth interviews with household representatives, and officials (provincial, district and commune levels). In the project area, the agriculture-forestry and fishery are the key sectors with agriculture being the main local income source (56.06%), followed by fisheries (31.20%) and the forestry sector (12.74%). According to the SA's survey data, 47.3% of households are classified as near poor or poor households, and with an averaged income of VND 1,902,600 per month, or lower than national average registered (2015 data). According to the findings of the SA, in the communes located in coastal areas, Ethnic Minorities (EMs) account for approximately 22,088 peoples (mostly Thai, Tay, and Dao EM peoples) representing 0.61% of the total population. EMs are settled mainly in the Quang Ninh and Thanh Hoa coastal districts. Results from the SA showed that EM communities living in communes along the coastal line of project provinces are settled in the coastal region since 1970-80s. They are bilingual (they speak Vietnamese and their own languages) and maintain their own distinct cultural and social characteristics. The SA identified potential land impacts as result of: (i) acquisition of agriculture land of 236 households encroached in the degraded forest used for agricultural production, scattered and with small-pieces of land (average about 200 m^2 per household); ii) land acquisition potentially required for repairing and upgrading of small-scale infrastructure works (rehabilitating and upgrading roads and dikes, dredging canals, creeks, repair culverts under dike); iii) potential on local impact on livelihoods during the transition of agriculture to forest.

Indigenous Peoples (OP 4.10). This policy is triggered as there are three ethnic minority groups namely Thai, Tay, Dao (EMs) living in the project area of Quang Ninh and Thanh Hoa provinces. According to the statistical data, within the project communes located in coastal areas, the proportion of EMs is minor, with approximately 22,088 persons (mostly Thai, Tay, and Dao peoples) representing 0.61% of the total population in the project area. Quang Ninh covering Tien Yen, Van Don, Hai Ha and Mong Cai districts have approximately 21,685 EM people and Thanh Hoa covering Tinh Gia and Hoang Hoa districts have 186 EM people.

Involuntary Resettlement (OP 4.12). Proposed project activities are unlikely to require any significant land acquisition and/or physical relocation. Investments associated with component 2 could acquire very small areas of garden and crop lands for upgrading of small-scale infrastructure works needed to improve protection of coastal forests. Land impact, therefore, is expected to be minor and not involve physical or economic displacement. The project's Component 3, supporting livelihood activities that rely on coastal forest ecosystem services, will support improvement for households in the Ha Tinh, Quang Binh, Quang Tri and Thua Thien Hue provinces which were affected by pollution disaster. The activities may focus on non-aquaculture based livelihoods, and will minimize any potential for relocation.

Since productive partnership activities will be developed on a demand-driven basis, a detailed land acquisition assessment will be conducted during project implementation. Voluntary land donations by the beneficiary communities or individuals might occur, when donations are based on informed consent, and affected people are not forced, coerced or obliged to donate (land or other assets). The detail process to be applied for land donation is specified in the project's operations manual (POM). Proposed project activities could involve restrictions for local communities to access forests and forest products from coastal protection forests. Consultations conducted during social assessment showed a strong interest among local communities to undertake community based management of coastal protection forest areas with the protection forest management boards. Specific action plans following the

procedures specified in the PF were also developed to provide support for any resource access restriction if it occurs.

As per the SA findings, the project is designed to ensure inclusiveness of local vulnerable groups and women. A Gender Action Plan has been developed to promote women's meaningful participation and to support their income improvements, voice and role in decision-making processes over natural resources. A Communication, and Participation Plan was also prepared as part of the social assessment. This was done with the engagement and support of civil society organizations that work with EMs. The participation of the Committee for Ethnic Minority Affairs (CEMA), the public organization in charge of EM development at national level, ensured endorsement of the consultation process to ensure inclusion during the intensive free, prior and informed consultation process.

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

No significant indirect and large scale impacts have been identified during project preparation based upon the information available. Long term impacts of the project are expected to be positive such as improvement in the livelihoods and sustainability of local forestry communities and smallholder aquaculture farmers (including ethnic minorities) and the forest sector's capacity for sustainable management of coastal forest resources through co-management and co-benefit sharing at local levels.

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

The technical, financial, environmental and social aspects, and construction methods have been considered in carrying out the alternative analysis. During project preparation every effort has been made to avoid significant impacts on the environment and society and to avoid/minimize the need for land acquisition. The same approach will apply for the subprojects identified during project implementation including, to the extent possible, the use of native species over exotic faster growing species, mixed plantations over monoculture and so on. On the social side, the alternatives were considered in order to ensure the greatest expected uptake by the communities of the activities. Mitigating strategies could include the promotion of alternative livelihood initiatives, capacity building of self-help organizations and community based tourism. The project will only support small-scale works to protect coastal forests and to improve local livelihoods. The selection criteria were provided in which the project will not select works that require relocation.

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.

Environment:

Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF). Since all subprojects or activities will not be identified during project preparation, an ESMF has been developed by MARD. The ESMF has been prepared to ensure that activities to be financed under the Project would not create adverse impacts on the local environment and local communities, and that the residual and/or unavoidable impacts will be adequately mitigated. The framework covers requirements for: (i) adequate safeguard screening including impacts on natural habitats, forests, and physical cultural resources; (ii) impact assessment and development of mitigation measures, including the Environmental Codes of Practice (ECOP) for construction activities and chance finds procedures; (iii) procedures for preparation, review, and clearance of safeguards instruments during implementation; (iv) safeguards implementation, supervision, monitoring, and reporting; (v) institutional strengthening and capacity building programs; and (vi) institutional arrangements and budget. The ESMF also includes a screening checklist to exclude all investment proposals that may cause significant or irreversible social and environmental impacts. A subproject will not be eligible for funding if it would: (i) involve the significant conversion or

degradation of critical natural habitats; (ii) involve significant conversion or degradation of critical forest areas; (iii) contravene applicable international environmental agreements; and (iv) be located in a physical cultural resources site recognized at the national or provincial level.

Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP). For all subprojects, ESMPs or ECOPs will be prepared during project implementation following the ESMF guidelines. The ESMPs or ECOPs will be reviewed and cleared by WB before the implementation of subproject, and its implementation will be closely monitored. The Client is also required to ensure that all the subprojects will comply with GOV's environmental assessment regulations.

Social:

Since subprojects will be identified during the project implementation phase, a framework approach has been adopted for the project. A Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF), an Ethnic Minority Planning Framework (EMPF), and a Process Framework (PF) were prepared to guide the preparation of RAP and EMDP and Access Restriction Action Plan.

As required by the OP/BP 4.10, an Ethnic Minority Planning Framework (EMPF) was prepared. The EMPF sets out guidelines to: (i) ensure that the EM people receive social and economic benefits that are culturally appropriate; (ii) avoid potentially adverse effects on the ethnic minority communities; and (iii) when such adverse impacts cannot be avoided, minimize, mitigate, or compensate for such effects. The EMPF also provides guidance on screening, policy application implication for the two Ethnic Minority Development Plans (EMDPs) to be prepared in the second year of project implementation stage.

The Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF) of the project was developed to ensure all project affected persons (PAPs) will be compensated at replacement cost and assisted with restoration measures to help them improve or at least sustain living conditions of prior project condition. It also lays down the principles and objectives, eligibility criteria of displaced persons (DP), modes of compensation and rehabilitation, participation features and grievance and redress mechanisms (GRM). The RPF guides the preparation of subproject-specific Resettlement Action Plans (RAPs) to be carried out during the project implementation stage.

As part of the OP 4.12 a Process Framework (PF) was prepared in a participatory manner to screen and guide procedures to identify, assess, minimize and mitigate potential adverse impacts on local livelihoods due to restricting access to designated protected areas' resources. The PF sets the conditions under which OP/BP 4.12 will be applied, outlines the principles and procedures to be followed if negative social impacts occur, as a result of the project intervention. The PF will guide the preparation of Village Development Plans to mitigate or/and compensate impacts caused by access restriction, and it also identifies the roles, responsibilities, procedures to ensure participation and community engagement, and the GRM which will be implemented by the project.

Environmental and Social Safeguard Implementation, Monitoring, and Training:

All implementing agencies (IAs), (MARD/VNFOREST, MBFP, PPMUs), through its dedicated social staff/unit, will be responsible for implementing and monitoring the environmental and social safeguard instruments (ESMF, ESMP, RPF, PF, EMPF, RAP, and EMDP).

The subproject owner, which are the provincial DARD through its PPMU and MBFP, will include content of the corresponding subproject ESMPs/ECOP into the standard tender documents to be used as a basis for contractors to implement environmental management during construction phase. The Central Project Management Unit (CPMU) will be responsible for overall supervision and monitoring of the subproject including implementation of the ESMF and subproject ESMPs and will provide safeguard training to the subproject staff. The CPMU will assign an Environmental Safeguard Coordinator (ESC) and the Social Safeguard Coordinator (SSC) to assist in the coordination, supervision, and monitoring of safeguard implementation activities. Implementation of the subproject ESMPs on the ground will be

supervised monitored by Construction Supervision Consultant, Environmental Control Officer of the PPMU, and the Independent Environmental Monitoring Consultant hired by the CPMU.

The implementation of social safeguard instruments will be internally monitored by the IAs in close coordination with the respective Peoples' Committees at different administrative levels. IAs must ensure that activities related to social safeguards will be properly tracked, reported and documented. The performance and compliance to social safeguard instruments will also be subject to regular supervision from the Bank Task Team (on the biannual basis). During the project implementation, appropriate trainings will be provided to MBFP, PPMUs, consultants and local community representatives on the safeguard instruments.

Grievances and Redress Mechanisms:

GRM will support the activities related to both involuntary land acquisition, as well as for voluntary land donations. The project will apply the existing local feedback and grievance redress mechanism that promotes the existing GRM in Vietnam, preferring the existing grassroots mediation mechanism. The GRM will make it possible to look at various options and consultation on those options, analysis of best practices for handling grievances right from the grassroots level. The grievance mechanism and procedures will resolve complaints, and with the availability of local resources resolve conflicts not only on safeguard issues but also others during project implementation. Community-based organizations would assist during the project preparation, design, implementation, and future developments.

The GRM also refers to the WB's Grievance Redress Service (GRS) and clearly indicates that subproject affected communities and individuals may submit their complaints to the WB's independent Inspection Panel which determines whether harms occurred, or could occur, as a result of WB non-compliance with its safeguards policies and procedures. The website address to provide information on how to submit complaints to the World Bank's GRS is also provided.

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

Project key stakeholders include local people, households and communities living in the targeted coastal forest area. It is estimated that the area accounts for 400 communities belonging to 257 communes (approximately 300,000 households). It is expected that approximately 20,000 households (with an average household size of 3.8 persons) will benefit from the opportunities to be involved in protecting coastal forests. A subset of these households will also benefit from the productive partnership competitive grants. There are estimates also for person days of labor required for forests planting, rehabilitation, and management which range from: 2,876,720 person days for new planting; and 1,652,758 person days for forest rehabilitation.

Other key stakeholders are protection forest management boards (PFMBs): authorities at provincial, district and commune levels; and departments related to forest resource management. Indirect beneficiaries are the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD) and the government of Vietnam through improved arrangements for coastal area planning; forest productivity and forest quality through improved forestry seed stock; establishment of regional seedling units and improved monitoring.

Public Consultation and Disclosure of Information: During the project preparation, two rounds of consultations were organized in August and December 2016 with affected people and beneficiaries, including EM peoples who are present in the project area. The participants from local authorities such as DARD, Ethnic Minorities, forest protection, PFMB, SFC, etc. attended the consultation meeting.

The affected people and communities and other relevant stakeholders have been consulted on the ESMF, RPF, EMPF, PF, and SA. The feedbacks from the consultations have been incorporated into the project

design, the final draft ESMF, RPF, EMPF, PF, and SA. Draft version of environmental and social safeguards instruments were disclosed locally at MBFP on December 16, 2016 and January 19, 2017, and 8 PPMUs and project areas from January 16-20, 2017, and at the WB external website on February 3, 2017. The final environmental and social safeguards instruments will be disclosed locally and at the WB external website subsequently.

B. Disclosure Requirements (N.B. The sections below appear only if corresponding safeguard policy is triggered)

Environmental Assessment/Audit/Management Plan/Other	
Date of receipt by the Bank	January 25, 2017
Date of submission to InfoShop	February 3, 2017
For category A projects, date of distributing the Executive Summary of the EA to the Executive Directors	
"In country" Disclosure	
Vietnam	January 16-20, 2017
Comments:	
Resettlement Action Plan/Framework/Policy Process	
Date of receipt by the Bank	January 25, 2017
Date of submission to InfoShop	February 3, 2017
"In country" Disclosure	
Vietnam	January 16-20, 2017
Comments: Intensive consultation of RPF/PF was carried out in December 2016. In-country disclosure was done in December 2016 and January 2017	
Indigenous Peoples Development Plan/Framework	
Date of receipt by the Bank	January 25, 2017
Date of submission to InfoShop	February 3, 2017
"In country" Disclosure	
Vietnam	January 16-20, 2017
Comments: Intensive consultation of EMPF was carried out in December 2016. In-country disclosure was done in December 2016 and January 2017	
Pest Management Plan	
Was the document disclosed prior to appraisal?	NA
Date of receipt by the Bank	NA
Date of submission to InfoShop	NA
"In country" Disclosure	NA
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 (to be filled in when the ISDS is finalized by the project decision meeting) (N.B. The sections below appear only if corresponding safeguard policy is triggered)

OP/BP/GP 4.01 - Environment Assessment						
Does the project require a stand-alone EA (including EMP) report?	Yes	[X]	No	[]	NA	[]
If yes, then did the Regional Environment Unit or Practice Manager (PM) review and approve the EA report?	Yes	[X]	No	[]	NA	[]
Are the cost and the accountabilities for the EMP incorporated in the credit/loan?	Yes	[X]	No	[]	NA	[]
OP/BP 4.04 - Natural Habitats						
Would the project result in any significant conversion or degradation of critical natural habitats?	Yes	[]	No	[X]	NA	[]
If the project would result in significant conversion or degradation of other (non-critical) natural habitats, does the project include mitigation measures acceptable to the Bank?	Yes	[]	No	[]	NA	[X]
OP 4.09 - Pest Management						
Does the EA adequately address the pest management issues?	Yes	[X]	No	[]	NA	[]
Is a separate PMP required?	Yes	[]	No	[X]	NA	[]
If yes, has the PMP been reviewed and approved by a safeguards specialist or PM? Are PMP requirements included in project design?If yes, does the project team include a Pest Management Specialist?	Yes	[]	No	[]	NA	[X]
OP/BP 4.11 - Physical Cultural Resources						
Does the EA include adequate measures related to cultural property?	Yes	[X]	No	[]	NA	[]
Does the credit/loan incorporate mechanisms to mitigate the potential adverse impacts on cultural property?	Yes	[X]	No	[]	NA	[]
OP/BP 4.10 - Indigenous Peoples						
Has a separate Indigenous Peoples Plan/Planning Framework (as appropriate) been prepared in consultation with affected Indigenous Peoples?	Yes	[X]	No	[]	NA	[]
If yes, then did the Regional unit responsible for safeguards or Practice Manager review the plan?	Yes	[X]	No	[]	NA	[]

If the whole project is designed to benefit IP, has the design been reviewed and approved by the Regional Social Development Unit or Practice Manager?	Yes	[]	No	[]	NA	[X]
OP/BP 4.12 - Involuntary Resettlement						
Has a resettlement plan/abbreviated plan/policy framework/process framework (as appropriate) been prepared?	Yes	[X]	No	[]	NA	[]
If yes, then did the Regional unit responsible for safeguards or Practice Manager review the plan?	Yes	[X]	No	[]	NA	[]
Is physical displacement/relocation expected?	Yes	[]	No	[X]	NA	[]
Is economic displacement expected? (loss of assets or access to assets that leads to loss of income sources or other means of livelihoods)	Yes	[X]	No	[]	NA	[]
OP/BP 4.36 – Forests						
Has the sector-wide analysis of policy and institutional issues and constraints been carried out?	Yes	[X]	No	[]	NA	[]
Does the project design include satisfactory measures to overcome these constraints?	Yes	[X]	No	[]	NA	[]
Does the project finance commercial harvesting, and if so, does it include provisions for certification system?	Yes	[]	No	[X]	NA	[]
The World Bank Policy on Disclosure of Information						
Have relevant safeguard policies documents been sent to the World Bank's Infoshop?	Yes	[X]	No	[]	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	[X]	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	[X]	No	[]	NA	[]
Have costs related to safeguard policy measures been included in the project cost?	Yes	[X]	No	[]	NA	[]
Does the Monitoring and Evaluation system of the project include the monitoring of safeguard impacts and measures related to safeguard policies?	Yes	[X]	No	[]	NA	[]
Have satisfactory implementation arrangements been agreed with the borrower and the same been adequately reflected in the project legal documents?	Yes	[X]	No	[]	NA	[]

V. Contact point

World Bank

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VII. Approval

Task Team Leader(s):	Name: Diji Chandrasekharan Behr, Lan Thi Thu Nguyen, Robert Ragland Davis	
Approved By:		
Safeguards Advisor:	Name: Peter Leonard	Date: 3/17/2017
Practice Manager:	Name: Christophe Crepin	Date: 3/17/2017
Country Director:	Name: Ousmane Dione	Date: 3/21/2017

[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.