

INTEGRATED SAFEGUARDS DATA SHEET

CONCEPT STAGE

Report No.: ISDSC9308

Date ISDS Prepared/Updated: 05-Sep-2014

Date ISDS Approved/Disclosed: 08-Sep-2014

I. BASIC INFORMATION

A. Basic Project Data

| | | | |
|---|--|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Country: | Cambodia | Project ID: | P150631 |
| Project Name: | KH-Land Allocation for Social and Economic Development Project II (P150631) | | |
| Task Team Leader: | Mudita Chamroeun | | |
| Estimated Appraisal Date: | 27-Oct-2014 | Estimated Board Date: | 10-Mar-2015 |
| Managing Unit: | GFADR | Lending Instrument: | Investment Project Financing |
| Sector(s): | General agriculture, fishing and forestry sector (60%), Sub-national government administration (20%), Rural and Inter-Urban Roads and Highways (20%) | | |
| Theme(s): | Rural services and infrastructure (60%), Land administration and management (20%), Participation and civic engagement (20%) | | |
| Financing (In USD Million) | | | |
| Total Project Cost: | 27.00 | Total Bank Financing: | 25.00 |
| Financing Gap: | 0.00 | | |
| Financing Source | | | Amount |
| BORROWER/RECIPIENT | | | 2.00 |
| International Development Association (IDA) | | | 25.00 |
| Total | | | 27.00 |
| Environmental Category: | B - Partial Assessment | | |
| Is this a Repeater project? | No | | |

B. Project Objectives

The proposed project development objective (PDO) is to help improve agriculture-based livelihoods for project beneficiaries.

C. Project Description

The project is proposed to cover a total of 15 SLC sites in provinces of Kratie, Kampong Cham, Kampong Chhnang, Kampong Thom, Kampong Speu and Battambang. These include the existing eight (8) LASED and six (6) JSDF-funded sites, as well as one (1) new/additional SLC site in Kampong Thom Province. The total area is proposed to cover approximately 17,000 hectares with 5,400 households. The project activities and interventions are expected to focus on the: (a) scaling up of agricultural support activities and provision of remaining infrastructure in the existing SLC sites; and (b) development of the new SLC which includes planning and provision of social and rural infrastructure and service delivery. Its main purpose is to provide infrastructure where it is still missing, link up to and harmonize the agricultural service delivery approaches under the project with national research and extension systems and scale up livelihood support activities to project beneficiaries. The service delivery approaches that will be adopted under the project will build on the lessons learned and experiences of pilot approaches implemented under the original/pilot projects that have shown the most development potential. These, combined with increasing government capacity in decentralized planning and implementation and secure land tenure for eligible households, will ensure sustained benefits from the scaled-up activities under the project.

The project will have two components and will be implemented over a five-year period. Component 1, Infrastructure and Livelihood Systems will include three sub-components: (i) Social Land Concession Investment Planning and Prioritization; (ii) Infrastructure Development; and (iii) Agriculture and Livelihood Development. Component 2 will deal with related Project Management activities.

1. Component 1: Infrastructure and Livelihood Systems (USD 22.5 million)

a. Sub-component 1.1: Social Land Concession Investment Planning and Prioritization (USD2.5 million) - The sub-component would finance preparation of the additional SLC plan for the new site (land surveying, land use planning, processing of requests for land allocation, sensitization, participatory review processes by communal authorities, land allocation and land demarcation), and related land titling process, which will include verification of eligible land recipients. The sub-component will also fund identification, prioritization and planning of appropriate investments in infrastructure development and service delivery, as well as related environmental and social safeguard assessments. This will include field and laboratory work for detailed site-specific Agro-Ecological Analysis (AEA) and water management and small-scale irrigation options so as to be able to provide with the best solutions to enhance their agricultural productivity.

The long-term sustainability of the land distribution and land management investments will be enhanced by supporting and linking project investments with the respective Commune Development Plans/Commune Investment Plans (CDPs/CIPs), which include budgeting, prioritization and identification of the post-project or complementary funding possibilities. To improve project-specific planning, the project will support the improvement of the project and SLC-related management information system. Evidence-based planning will ensure that government resources are effectively and efficiently deployed for the maximum benefit of land recipients and their communities.

b. Sub-component 1.2: Infrastructure Development (USD12.0 million) - The sub-component will cover additional infrastructure investments in existing SLCs (especially in 6 sites implemented through JSDF) and investments in the new SLC site. The specific investments would include: (a) initial land preparation of the SLC sites; (b) provision of settling-in assistance to land recipients; (c)

development of productive community infrastructure (construction of rural roads, small-scale irrigation systems and rural water supply); and (d) construction of social community infrastructure, such as school buildings, teacher houses, health posts and community centers. The sub-component would support initial development of plots that are allocated to agricultural activities. This is an improvement from the original LASED approach where land development was left to recipients. The LASED Mid-Term Review pointed out that such capital-intensive land development works were often beyond the means of the land recipients thus resulting, in some cases, in delays in the utilization of the allocated land. In order to speed up the development of agriculture livelihood activities, the project would provide contract services for the initial land development/preparation services.

The provision of infrastructure assets under the project will continue to build on the established government decentralization process, which is based on the enhanced participatory planning and involvement of communities in the identification, prioritization and procurement of small-scale infrastructure and other investments through community participation processes. Community-level operation and maintenance (O&M) groups, assisted by Community Development Facilitators (CDFs) in each site, will support the process towards sustainability. Where feasible and economically warranted, the project will also support infrastructure provision where benefits might not exclusively occur to land recipients only. Benefit sharing would be improved in places where connecting roads could unlock communication and trade within communes. Support to small-scale irrigation development that could provide benefits beyond the land recipients will likewise be considered. Close coordination and cooperation will be pursued with KfW which will provide parallel funding to other infrastructures that would complement the project investments. The project team will also work closely with the implementing unit in the Ministry of Rural Development to ensure coherence with processes in planning and implementation. The Ministry of Rural Development will be the project executing agency for KfW's related supports. It will receive the financial cooperation and the government counterpart funds for the project measures, and government national safeguard policies/laws and KfW regulations will be strictly applied.

c. Sub-component 1.3: Agriculture and Livelihood Development (USD8.0 million) - This sub-component will fund the support for the consolidation and further improvement of agricultural production systems, livelihoods and food security of land recipients, including facilitation and provision of support services and technical assistance. Support will be provided for: (a) establishment and strengthening of agriculture cooperatives, savings and credit groups, production and marketing groups and other community interest groups; (b) establishment of demonstration plots and model farms; (c) provision of service and extension support following a pluralistic service provider approach; (d) provision of in-kind and cash support to strengthen successful local initiatives; and (e) linking SLC planning and implementation with the respective CDPs/CIPs. The sub-component will scale-up and deepen the delivery of agricultural advisory services for improved livelihood activities and food security of land recipients through community interest groups. Specific support will also be provided to female-headed households (34% of beneficiary households in the original LASED Project) through labor-saving production technologies, intensive home gardening and other techniques that address limited time and availability of labor. Core to this sub-component is the more intensive delivery of agriculture technology transfer and advisory services which builds and utilizes more pluralistic service delivery models and approaches through partnerships between government agencies and third party service providers (NGOs, private sector, machinery service providers, etc.). Between the original LASED and LASED II, the main difference the project makes is the LASED II is strong focus on agriculture production and productivity. The original LASED has directly ensured that allocated land can be cultivated. Now the project support land preparation,

plow and put a cover crop. This will speed up the process by which families can harvest/live from their own land. Agriculture support services were previously part of the (weak) general line department support to beneficiaries. Now project has dedicated sub-component with a defined and tested approach. The services and infrastructure support will base on a solid and participatory assessment of local conditions. Earlier planning documents (LIP) have not always been the best possible. Community Development Facilitators (CDF) will help strengthening social cohesion and assist in establishing interest groups that will address primarily livelihood issues.

Communities and farmers' groups will continue to be the main entry points for the implementation of the following activities under this sub-component: (a) introduction of modern agricultural production systems and technologies in crop and animal husbandry through on-farm demonstration and advisory activities; (b) farm management training; (c) better access to and use of means of production (inputs, mechanization services), including provision of hand tractors to farmers' groups, with farmers being assisted with small machinery services, that will facilitate land cultivation and transport activities; (d) establishment of market linkages with private sector traders and processors; and (e) support to savings and credit groups. The main delivery mechanism for the agriculture extension services will be Farmer Field Schools (FFS). This methodology follows government policies and the included pluralistic service provider approach.

The issues of access to finance will be addressed through establishment and strengthening of savings and credit groups. Support will be provided to encourage the establishment of savings and loan associations at the community level in order to foster the initial development of rural credit and help improve local farmers' access to financial capital. This will build on Cambodia's experience in rural credit and micro-finance, including as well the experience of the Project for Agriculture Development and Economic Empowerment (PADEE) funded under the International Fund for Agriculture and Development (IFAD). Community funds will be established to scale-up existing demand-driven initiatives, including above-mentioned savings and credit groups but also food banks, animal banks, or other activities identified by the community that foster socio-economic development and benefit sharing. Interest groups will benefit from the establishment of the funds that will provide supplemental resources to leverage the groups' own savings and initiatives.

2. Component 2: Project Management (USD2.5 million)

This component will include project administration and coordination activities. It will ensure in particular the timely and transparent flow of funds, procurement, auditing and reporting. It will also support project implementing entities at all levels (including communes) to further strengthen their fiduciary, administrative and reporting capacities. Support would include technical assistance, training, incremental operating costs, and vehicles and equipment, among others. Specific attention and support will be provided to expand and strengthen the project's M&E system. With the MAFF's General Directorate of Agriculture (GDA) as a new implementing partner, and a focus of the project on the necessary support systems for sustainable development, the project M&E will need to reflect these changes and be able to collect, analyze and feedback timely information to project stakeholders at all levels.

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

LASED II will be implemented in the existing LASED and JSDF-funded sites and in one new site in Dong Commune, Kampong Thom Province. Social and environmental safeguard screening reports were prepared by the implementing agency and were endorsed by the Bank environmental and social

safeguards specialists during the LASED Additional Financing preparation in October 2013. The new proposed SLC site in Dong Commune has been verified as not a protected forest or environmental hotspot. There are no Indigenous Peoples in existing LASED sites, while a screening for the presence of Indigenous Peoples in the new SLC will be undertaken during project preparation.

E. Borrowers Institutional Capacity for Safeguard Policies

The borrower has gained rich experiences in safeguards implementation and satisfactorily ensured environmental and social safeguard compliance under the original project. The following lessons learned from LASED have been/will be taken into account under LASED II:

- Land use plan preparation and implementation—the participatory land use maps and site development plans of all SLCs have to carefully delineate different land uses. The land use plan must integrate the remaining patches of forests, water bodies, and planned green buffers which are all declared for community conservation and protection. The land use plan will also take into account early environmental and agricultural carrying capacity.
- Infrastructure investments—the provincial LASED team worked closely with the commune council to monitor the contractors and ensure environmental safeguard and safety measures at the construction sites. However, recording of the contractor monitoring results requires more improvement since written record, especially of the environmental safeguard, was limited. Therefore LASED II will include procedure for monitoring and recording the EMP which include environmental and safety measures for infrastructure investments at the commune level. In addition, basic infrastructure such as water supply and sanitation will also be provided early on as part of SLC site development before the re-settlers moved into the new SLC.

The borrower will continue to perform this role and also provide capacity building and mentoring on the implementation of safeguards tools to the implementing agencies, especially those who are based at the sub-national level.

F. Environmental and Social Safeguards Specialists on the Team

Bunlong Leng (GENDR)

Jun Zeng (GURDR)

II. SAFEGUARD POLICIES THAT MIGHT APPLY

| Safeguard Policies | Triggered? | Explanation (Optional) |
|---|-------------------|---|
| Environmental Assessment OP/ BP 4.01 | Yes | The project activities such as civil works for small scale community infrastructure and agricultural and livelihood activities may have environmental and social impacts during implementation. Typical impacts for small scale civil works include land clearance, erosion and sedimentation of water bodies, dust and waste generation, etc. Given the small scale nature of these activities, impacts as experienced under LASED are temporary and manageable using simple Environmental Management Plan (EMP). In addition, agricultural and livelihood |

| | | |
|-----------------------------|-----|--|
| | | <p>activities though also small scale and done manually may have some impacts on land and soil, but then again the project based on LASED will be promoting soil and water conservation, hence impacts are also expected to be minor and manageable. There may be some remnant forests/remaining patches of forests within the new SLC that maybe affected during the land development, however the experience of LASED will be taken into account, i.e., to carefully include different land uses in the planning and mapping processes and delineate those forest patches as communal forests for community protection and conservation. This has proven to be successful under LASED and will continue to be adopted under LASED II.</p> <p>All the existing LASED and JSDF-funded sites are cleared from UXO. The new proposed site (in Dong Commune, Kampong Thom Province) was screened and confirmed to have no UXO during the LASED Additional Financing preparation in late 2013.</p> |
| Natural Habitats OP/BP 4.04 | Yes | <p>The infrastructure investments (under sub-component 1.1) and the land use plan implementation (under sub-component 1.2) may impact on the natural habitat such as wetlands, natural ponds or remnant forests/remaining forest patches. However the impact of small scale civil works on natural habitats will be avoided through a screening process and if cannot be avoided the EMP will be developed and implemented to manage those impacts. In addition, the land use planning process will also identify different land uses within the SLC and delineate natural habitats for community protection and preservation, as practiced under LASED.</p> |
| Forests OP/BP 4.36 | Yes | <p>The infrastructure investments and the development of new SLC site may impact on remnant forests. However, the practice under LASED of including and delineating different land uses, including the community forest, in land use planning will be continued. Remnant forests will be delineated and reserved for community protection and conservation.</p> |

| | | |
|--|-----|--|
| Pest Management OP 4.09 | No | While LASED II will have a strong focus on agricultural production, it is not expected to lead to increase usage of pesticide as experienced under LASED. Communities in LASED sites rely solely on crop rotation, inter-cropping and multiple cropping to manage pests and diseases rather than on pesticides because of the prohibitive costs of pesticides and impacts on health. The adoption of sound agricultural practices will continue to be promoted and supported under LASED II. |
| Physical Cultural Resources OP/BP 4.11 | Yes | The infrastructure investments may impact on unknown, buried physical cultural resources. Chance Find Procedures are part of the EMP to address chance find during project implementation. Thus far, no PCR issue has been encountered under the LASED project. |
| Indigenous Peoples OP/BP 4.10 | TBD | Social screening indicated that no indigenous people's community is present in or has collective attachment to the existing SLC sites. However, it is not clear whether there will be indigenous people's community in the new project site in Dong Commune. The IP screening will be undertaken during project preparation. |
| Involuntary Resettlement OP/BP 4.12 | Yes | The new infrastructure investments might need some land taking. However, exact locations of new infrastructure could not be determined during project preparation. In this regard, a Resettlement Policy Framework will be prepared by the client to address these potential impacts. The RPF will be prepared based on the RPF prepared for the previous LASED project. |
| Safety of Dams OP/BP 4.37 | No | LASED II does not have any activity involving any dam. |
| Projects on International Waterways OP/BP 7.50 | No | LASED II does not involve any activity that will affect international waterway. |
| Projects in Disputed Areas OP/BP 7.60 | No | LASED II does not involve any activity in any know disputed area. |

III. SAFEGUARD PREPARATION PLAN

A. Tentative target date for preparing the PAD Stage ISDS: 12-Sep-2014

B. Time frame for launching and completing the safeguard-related studies that may be needed. The specific studies and their timing¹ should be specified in the PAD-stage ISDS:

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.

During the preparation of LASED Additional Financing in November 2013, the government has consulted with local authorities and local people in completing the environmental and social safeguard screening reports for a new proposed SLC site in Dong Commune, Kampong Thom province. There was no record of any critical environmental or social issue. The Bank team will guide the government to verify the screening reports again before the appraisal in September 2014.

The EMP and RPF under LASED will be updated for LASED II.

IV. APPROVALS

| | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| Task Team Leader: | Name: Mudita Chamroeun | |
| <i>Approved By:</i> | | |
| Regional Safeguards Coordinator: | Name: Peter Leonard (RSA) | Date: 06-Sep-2014 |
| Practice Manager/ Manager: | Name: Nathan M. Belete (PMGR) | Date: 08-Sep-2014 |