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# Project Information Document/ Integrated Safeguards Data Sheet (PID/ISDS)

Concept Stage | Date Prepared/Updated: 05-Dec-2017 | Report No: PIDISDSC20532



**BASIC INFORMATION**

**A. Basic Project Data**

Country Western Africa	Project ID P162337	Parent Project ID (if any)	Project Name West Africa Coastal Areas Resilience Investment Project (P162337)
Region AFRICA	Estimated Appraisal Date Dec 15, 2017	Estimated Board Date Mar 15, 2018	Practice Area (Lead) Environment & Natural Resources
Financing Instrument Investment Project Financing	Borrower(s) Sao Tome and Principe - Ministry of Economy, Commerce and Blue Economy, Benin - Ministry of Economy and Finance, Togo - Ministry of Economy and Finance, Mauritania - Ministry of Economy and Finances, Cote d'Ivoire - Ministry of Economy and Finances, Senegal - Ministry of Finance	Implementing Agency Sao Tome and Principe - Ministry of Infrastructures, Natural Resources and Environment, Mauritania - Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, Benin - Ministry of Housing, Sanitation and Sustainable Development, Togo - Ministry of Environment and Forest Resources (MEFR) (Directorate of Environment), Cote d'Ivoire - Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, Senegal - Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (Directorate of Environment (DECC)), Cote d'Ivoire - Ministry of Economy and Finances, West Africa Economic and Monetary Union, International Union for Conservation of Nature	GEF Focal Area Multi-focal area

**Proposed Development Objective(s)**

To improve management of shared natural and man-made risks, including climate change, affecting targeted communities and areas on the West Africa coast



Financing (in USD Million)

Financing Source	Amount
Borrower	5.83
Global Environment Facility (GEF)	20.25
International Development Association (IDA)	178.00
IDA Grant	12.00
Nordic Development Fund (NDF)	9.20
<b>Total Project Cost</b>	<b>225.27</b>

Environmental Assessment Category

A-Full Assessment

Concept Review Decision

Track II-The review did authorize the preparation to continue

Other Decision (as needed)

**B. Introduction and Context**

Country Context

West Africa’s coastal zone, from Mauritania to Benin, is home to 31 percent of West Africa’s population. Across Sub-Saharan Africa, urban population is growing at an annual rate of 4 percent, almost twice the worldwide average of 2.1 percent. In West Africa, rapid urbanization and net migration to the coasts put further demand on the land, its resources, and the services the ecosystem provides to people. Coastal populations are becoming increasingly vulnerable as a result of climate change, especially the poor, whose well-being and livelihoods depend on the quality and quantity of natural resources. Every year, an average of 500,000 people in the region are put at risk by floods and coastal erosion, with economic losses amounting to around 2.3% of GDP in 2013 in Togo alone.

The coastal zone is the source of 56 percent of West Africa’s GDP. It is home to most capitals, major industries, including agro-industry, fisheries, offshore petroleum exploration and production, and tourism, as well as city and seaside residences.

Unfortunately, the West African shoreline is subject to severe recession in numerous places from at least Mauritania to Gabon as a result of various factors, some related to climate change, but mostly to human activity. Artificial shoreline stabilization, the deterioration of natural formations serving as buffers against the sea (mangroves in particular), the construction of major infrastructure interrupting sediment flow (such as solid port jetties), the extraction of sand from dunes, and the multiplication of dams on rivers deprive these fragile coastal areas of important sediment deposits. The



situation is compounded by the lack of coordination of anti-erosion solutions, at local, national and international levels.

The coast is also affected by flooding, both from sea intrusion and as an outcome of inadequate drainage from inland water. Here, too, man-made issues have a large responsibility, including poor land-use planning, insufficient infrastructure, and poor waste management.

Erosion and flooding jeopardize economic assets, including roads, ports, housing and hotels. But importantly, livelihoods, in particular those of artisanal fishermen, and human lives are at risk due to flooding, lack of shelter such as dunes and mangroves against storms. The poorest and most marginalized populations are those most vulnerable to these challenges, and these events are likely to be more frequent and occur with greater intensity in the future, as noted in World Bank publications such as Turn Down the Heat, Shockwaves, and the Africa Climate Business Plan.

If unaddressed, the effects of climate change will jeopardize Africa's hard-won development achievements and thwart its aspirations for further growth and poverty reduction. West Africa's coastal areas host an abundance of natural resources, on land and sea that provide vital ecosystem services and help buffer against severe weather events. These resources play a key role in the economic and physical resilience of coastal regions to existing and future challenges. Sea level rise, warmer temperatures, and stronger storms are compounding the man-made pressures listed above.

In our review of the Nationally Determined contributions that countries submitted to the COP21 in Paris, most of the countries from Mauritania to Gabon have listed coastal resilience as priorities in their NDCs. The countries to the west share the Canary Current Large Marine Ecosystem and the rest share the Guinea Current Large Marine Ecosystem, prompting for better coordination of efforts that will reduce pollution and ecosystem services

But there is hope, as the West Africa Economic and Monetary Union (WAEMU) and the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) have been instrumental in raising the profile of the issues of coastal zone management, erosion, flooding, and climate change. IUCN is a membership union uniquely composed of both government and civil-society organizations, and provides public, private and non-governmental organizations with the knowledge and tools that enable human progress and economic development. On behalf of WAEMU, IUCN led the study on the coastline monitoring and elaborated a Master plan for the West African Coastline in 2011, which for the first time showed the extent of the erosion problem at a regional scale.

West African regional institutions are prepared to assist countries with addressing coastal erosion and flooding issues. The Abidjan Convention, based in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, has a mandate from West African countries create a common approach and policy for coastal zone management. The Centre de Suivi Ecologique (CSE) in Dakar, Senegal, works to improve public access to information on climate change variability and impacts. The CSE is hosting the West African Coast Observation Mission (WACOM, or MOLOA in French), which is a regional cooperation mechanism for the monitoring of the coastline and for the reduction of coastal risks in West Africa, that was established following the development of the Master plan for the West African Coastline in 2011.

The proposed West Africa Coastal Areas Resilience Investment Project thus builds on achievements to date, and is designed to bring the finance and technical expertise needed for inclusive climate-resilient integrated management of coastal areas in selected West African countries.

#### Sectoral and Institutional Context

Regional and national policy failures perpetuate poor coastal zone management in West Africa. Lack of Implementation



of national and regional policies in West Africa lead to insufficient monitoring of coastal dynamics by the scientific community, and inadequate transmission of scientific information to policy makers, private sector and citizens. There is in general an absence of patrolling by security forces of the coastal areas to deter illegal activities. And there is too little coordinated effort to mobilize finance to address regional issues (e.g., regional IDA, GEF International Waters, Green Climate Fund multi-country programs).

According to a sedimentation analysis undertaken by the Bank, the West African coastal barrier is maintained by a strong wave-driven longshore transport of sand. This sand originates from rivers and from large coastal sand deposits. Today, however, much of the sand is retained behind river dams and/or interrupted at several locations by port jetties and the sandy coastal barrier is eroding at several locations. The highest rates of retreat occur near river mouths and after port jetties, i.e., in the most urbanized areas. On top of that, sea-level rise may be the major factor for coastal retreat by the end of the 21st century. This will lead to the disruption of the coastal barrier if no erosion control measures are taken. The sedimentation analysis, carried out in Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, and Togo, was completed by the World Bank under the WACA technical assistance in FY16.

Climate change is likely to exacerbate the effects of poor coastal zone management. Climate scenarios for the West African region indicate an increase in frequency and intensity of tidal waves and storm surge, which will exacerbate coastal erosion damage to infrastructure, and increase the displacement of vulnerable communities. In addition, water temperatures and changing precipitation patterns will affect productivity of coastal lands and water. Under one climate change scenario, if current fisheries management practices are not adapted, marine fish catch in Ghana, Côte d'Ivoire, Liberia, Togo, Nigeria and Sierra Leone could be reduced by half by 2050.

The loss of coastal habitat, has degraded the natural capital and ecosystem services. If properly managed, ecosystems can provide a sustainable flow of services that benefit people, including the production of goods (e.g., fish), tourism and recreation, natural hazard protection (e.g., creating buffers and stabilizing the shores), as well as the space for critical infrastructure such as urban settlements, roads, commercial and industrial enterprises, harbors and ports needed for trade.

Fisheries and coastal zone management are linked, and both need to be addressed for coastal communities to sustain their livelihoods. The Bank-financed West Africa Regional Fisheries Project (WARFP) aims to capture the economic benefit from renewable ocean natural fishery resources, and through a value chain approach that seeks to retain the wealth in terms of jobs and investments within countries. The proposed WACA Resilience Investment project aims to help countries manage the spatial areas of land in the coastal zone so that it is used efficiently for the development needs of the country, while ensuring that the effects of climate change are considered, including ongoing coastal erosion and coastal flooding. The two projects are complementary.

For coastal communities, erosion and flooding is already having a negative impact, potentially increasing poverty, and governments have a significant role in engaging their communities on sensitive issues such as alternative livelihoods and voluntary resettlement. Whatever the options chosen to address spatial planning, fishery rights allocation, mechanisms for strategic coastal retreat, and compensation, there is significant social risk to be managed. Social tension due to ineffective communication, perceived or real bias or injustice, or other grievances would prevent the project from achieving its objectives of inclusive, resilient socio-economic development. The project will include a strategic communication effort, engaging community leaders and stakeholders that are affected by, or can contribute to, any intervention supported by the Bank or other projects.



#### Relationship to CPF

The Africa Climate Business Plan (ACBP), developed by the World Bank and presented at COP21, includes The West Africa Coastal Areas Program (WACA) with the aim of strengthening the resilience of coastal assets in West Africa to climate change and other natural hazards, preserve and rehabilitate natural coastal resources and ecosystems, spur economic development, increase social welfare, and support the sustainable development of key growth sectors.

The project is aligned with the Regional Integration Assistance Strategy (RIAS). The 2008 RIAS, updated in 2011, noted a need for the management of shared natural resources, which transcend borders and require collaboration to ensure sustainable harvesting.

The project is consistent with the World Bank's Blue Economy Development Framework (BEDF) under preparation. A successful blue economy is one where innovation and growth in the coastal, marine and maritime sectors delivers food, energy, transport, among other products and services, and serve as a foundation for sustainable development. The project seeks to address problem changes to the environment that prevents communities to live services provided by marine and coastal ecosystems. As these populations are often poor, vulnerable, and likely to suffer the most from changes to these environments, managing the coastal space and its resources has become increasingly important.

Coastal zone management and climate change has been identified as a priority in several Systematic Country Diagnostics (SCD) or Country Partnership Frameworks (CPF). For example, In Mauritania, climate change and coastal erosion is identified as a development challenge in the SCD. In Togo, the CPF under preparation emphasizes the management and preservation of coastal natural resources and assets. In Sao Tome and Principe, reducing vulnerability and strengthening human capacity is one of the two themes of the CPF, with a special objective for activities to increase the adaptive capacity of coastal communities and reduced potential loss of assets and lives.

The project is part of the US\$ 3.5 billion "African Package for Climate-Resilient Ocean Economies"[1], presented at COP22 by Africa Development Bank, FAO, and the World Bank. The Package consists of technical and financial assistance to support coastal and island states in Africa to take the challenges of climate change as they develop their ocean-based economies and implement their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). The Package is an unprecedented opportunity for three leading multilateral development organizations to join forces among themselves and with others, including the Green Climate Fund, and coordinate their planned assistance with access to expertise and funding.

### **C. Proposed Development Objective(s)**

To reduce the vulnerability of coastal areas and coastal communities in selected West African countries through inclusive integrated coastal management at the regional and national levels.

#### Key Results (From PCN)



There are a number of indicators that would be used, which the team will refine during preparation.

- For vulnerability, indicators may include i) physical vulnerability of people and economic assets, ii) vulnerability of ecosystem services and natural habitat, and iii) vulnerability of households.
- For inclusive management of coastal areas, indicators may include i) the total number of direct and indirect beneficiaries, disaggregated by gender, and ii) number of communities made aware of climate threats and related appropriate responses.
- For integrated coastal management, indicators may include i) number and types of regional and national institutions with increased capacity to minimize exposure to climate variability risks; ii) number of staff trained to respond to, and mitigate impacts of, climate related events; iii) disaster risk management coordination improved by networking structures introduced; and iv) government disaster preparedness personnel monitoring and analyzing climate change observations and projections as per trainings provided.

Selected West African countries include currently Benin, Cote d'Ivoire, Mauritania, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, and Togo, which have requested or are in the process of requesting assistance. These six countries have particularly vulnerable coastal areas (erosion, flooding, pollution), and have a degree of readiness through multi-sector investment planning processes. Through the project's "Scale-Up Facility", and based on demand, the remaining 11 countries on the coastline between Mauritania and Gabon would receive the assistance to become investment-ready for inclusive integrated coastal management.

#### D. Concept Description

The West Africa Coastal Areas Management Program (WACA) aims to improve the livelihoods of coastal communities in West Africa by reducing the vulnerability of its coastal areas and promoting climate-resilient, integrated coastal management, while following an approach aiming at diversifying the countries' economies to reduce risk in the long-term and provide opportunities for sustainable growth. The broader approach is to help countries address the coastal erosion and flooding in identified hotspots in targeted countries.

The proposal is to have one multi-country regional project serving to demonstrate how to strengthen the resilience of coastal communities and assets, and a Scale-Up Facility that will extend resources and solutions to the rest of the countries. Countries will be selecting from a menu of project activities, some of which are regional in nature.

The project is made up of the following 4 main components:

- **Component 1: Policies and Institutions (16 US\$M)**: This component will aim to provide regional and national policy makers and institutions with the information/knowledge base to improve coastal zone management in West Africa.
- **Component 2: Socio-Economic Investments (156 US\$M)**: This component will finance investments to manage coastal areas in particular with regards to erosion and flooding, pollution, and climate-resilient urban and transport-related infrastructure. It will also finance community driven development as a tool to manage the livelihoods and prosperity of people and communities where managed retreats needed as a solution to the coastal erosion and flooding issue.



- ***Component 3: Regional and Cross-Country Activities (27 US\$M in-country managed, 17.7 US\$M regional-managed):*** This component is to create/enhance coastal observation and bio-physical monitoring of coastal environment and timely sharing of regional coastal data is essential for managing the coastal erosion and flooding issues. This component will also include the creation of nationally managed early warning systems.
- ***Component 4: Project Management (11 US\$M in-country managed):*** This component aims to support project implementation at national level, and coordination with regional entities, including possibly managing subsidiary agreements with regional beneficiaries.

## SAFEGUARDS

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

Exact locations of project activities are not yet known. The areas of interventions will be along coastal and marine areas of beneficiary countries, in particular vulnerable hot spots subject to both anthropogenic and natural pressures; and areas where coastal communities are most at risk from these pressures.

The on-going WACA technical assistance studies and investment plans will help narrowing the potential locations where the project will be implemented.

### B. Borrower's Institutional Capacity for Safeguard Policies

The borrower's institutional capacity for safeguard policies varies tremendously from one country to another of the six countries participating in the project. Some of the countries have relatively mature environmental ministries and agencies, sufficient staffing and an adequate regulatory framework, while other countries institutions are relatively young, understaffed and the legal framework missing important elements (annexes, executive regulations, etc.). Most of the borrowers have implemented previous World Bank-funded projects. Therefore, where possible this project will build upon any residual institutional capability for project management and in particular regarding safeguards. Capacity assessment/ building activities will be recommended in the ESMF of each country, targeting the parties involved in project's implementation, will be included in the overall capacity building activities of each country's project activities, annual workplans and budgets.

The regional structure of the project envisages that there will be an overall regional organization (to be identified) that will host the planned regional scale up facility. The Project envisages the organization, as needed, of additional training activities in areas of common interest to all six beneficiary countries. Such activities will be coordinated and supported by this central organization and other competent bodies.

### C. Environmental and Social Safeguards Specialists on the Team

Joseph Ese Akpokodje, Environmental Safeguards Specialist

Paivi Koskinen-Lewis, Social Safeguards Specialist

Abdoulaye Gadiere, Environmental Safeguards Specialist





D. Policies that might apply

Safeguard Policies	Triggered?	Explanation (Optional)
Environmental Assessment OP/BP 4.01	Yes	<p>The project is classified Category A. The exact scope and scale of the proposed investment sub-projects required to reduce the vulnerability of the coastal areas are not yet defined and their potential environmental and social impacts cannot thus be assessed at this stage. Some large protection works are however expected to be Category projects.</p> <p>An Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) will be developed for each country. Additional project specific Environmental and Social Impact Assessments (ESIA) and Environmental and Social Management Plans (ESMP) will be prepared, as necessary, for investment sub-projects fully identified during preparation, on the basis of the investment plans currently being implemented. All instruments will be adequately consulted upon and disclosed before appraisal.</p> <p>The project will, through its technical assistance component 1, help the countries during implementation prepare Strategic Environmental and Social Assessments (SESA), as needed, in conjunction with the preparation of coastal development plans. Sample terms of reference for these assessments will be developed and included in the ESMFs for guidance.</p>
Natural Habitats OP/BP 4.04	Yes	<p>Although the project is not expected to intervene in any critically important natural habitats, the exact sites of the proposed investments are not yet known.</p> <p>The development of nature-based infrastructure investments may require works to be undertaken with or adjacent to natural habitats in order to enhance/expand their current area of influence for providing coastal protection.</p>
Forests OP/BP 4.36	TBD	<p>The project may consider financing sub-projects in areas impacting forest ecosystems or affecting the livelihoods of people depending upon forests. Forest Management Plans will be prepared in such cases.</p>
Pest Management OP 4.09	No	<p>The project will not finance procurement of pesticide nor promote their use.</p>



Physical Cultural Resources OP/BP 4.11	Yes	The eligibility criteria for investment sub-projects will ensure that no activities are implemented in areas with a cultural heritage potential. Given however that the exact locations of these sub-projects have not yet been determined, chance-find procedures will be included in work contracts.
Indigenous Peoples OP/BP 4.10	No	There are no Indigenous Peoples present in the project areas.
Involuntary Resettlement OP/BP 4.12	Yes	Small scale, limited land acquisition and subsequent losses of assets may occur due to proposed project activities. As the specific subprojects are not yet clearly defined and the exact sites of the proposed investments are not yet known, the project will prepare country specific Resettlement Policy Frameworks (RPF); these will be consulted upon in each of the six countries and will be disclosed before appraisal by the Bank and the respective countries. The RPFs will guide the preparation of Resettlement Action Plans (RAPs) during project implementation, when necessary.
Safety of Dams OP/BP 4.37	TBD	The types of proposed activities are not likely to depend or have any impacts on existing dams or be affected by them . However watershed management projects might be considered. Therefore, the applicability of this policy will be further investigated during project preparation, in view of the nature and the proximity of such dams to proposed sites.
Projects on International Waterways OP/BP 7.50	TBD	The project is not expected to finance any activity which may affect water resources uptake from international waters, neither in quantity or quality. However, guidance will be sought from LEGEN on the triggering of the policy and on the notification requirements, if any.
Projects in Disputed Areas OP/BP 7.60	No	The project is not implemented in any disputed areas.

**E. Safeguard Preparation Plan**

Tentative target date for preparing the Appraisal Stage PID/ISDS

Nov 29, 2017



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

Completion of all safeguard-related studies for disclosure by November 15, 2017.

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