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Combined Project Information Documents / Integrated Safeguards Datasheet (PID/ISDS)

Appraisal Stage | Date Prepared/Updated: 29-Jun-2017 | Report No: PIDISDSA21351



BASIC INFORMATION

A. Basic Project Data

Country Yemen, Republic of	Project ID P162659	Project Name Smallholder Agricultural Production Restoration and Enhancement Project	Parent Project ID (if any)
Region MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA	Estimated Appraisal Date 30-Jun-2017	Estimated Board Date 27-Jul-2017	Practice Area (Lead) Agriculture
Financing Instrument Investment Project Financing	Borrower(s) Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations	Implementing Agency Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)	

Proposed Development Objective(s)

To increase the use of productivity and nutrition-enhancing agricultural practices by smallholders in targeted project areas

Components

1. Community Subprojects and Investments
2. Capacity Building and Extension
3. Program Administration, Monitoring and Evaluation

The processing of this project is applying the policy requirements exceptions for situations of urgent need of assistance or capacity constraints that are outlined in OP 10.00, paragraph 12.

Yes

Financing (in USD Million)

Financing Source	Amount
Global Agriculture and Food Security Program	36.00
Total Project Cost	36.00

Environmental Assessment Category

B - Partial Assessment

Decision

The review did authorize the preparation to continue



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Other Decision (as needed)

B. Introduction and Context

Country Context

In early 2015, Yemen descended into an enduring full-fledged conflict that is resulting in a catastrophic humanitarian situation. In May 2015, the United Nations (UN) placed Yemen at Level 3 of humanitarian distress, the highest categorization of countries in conflict. The escalation of conflict amplified an already existing protracted crisis, characterized by widespread poverty, conflict, and poor governance. According to UN agencies, the civilian death toll is estimated to have reached more than 7,500 with about 35,000 wounded. About half of Yemen's population lives in areas directly affected by the conflict and 3.1¹ million Yemenis have been forcibly internally displaced. The UN Yemen Humanitarian Response Plan (January 2016) estimates that 10.3 million Yemenis require immediate assistance to save or sustain their lives.

The ongoing conflict has disrupted service delivery and led to severe economic distress. In addition to physical destruction of infrastructure, the conflict and the associated deterioration in conditions have deepened the economic crisis and worsened living conditions in the country. Yemen's economic and social fabric is under severe stress and the economy has contracted sharply since the conflict erupted. Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is reported to have plunged by 40 percent, underpinned by widespread disruptions of economic activities, with enterprises operating at half the capacity compared to pre-war era. Unemployment rates are on the rise. An estimated eight million Yemenis have lost their livelihoods or are living in communities with minimal to no basic services.

Poverty, already high before the conflict, increased even further. Yemen is one of the poorest countries in the MENA region. Poverty is especially high in rural areas, which is home to about 68 percent of population. The country has one of the highest population growth rates in the world, placing increasing pressure on the limited institutional capacity and outreach of the government services, scarce and rapidly depleting water resources, poor infrastructure, significant rural-to-urban migration, and acute gender inequality. The ongoing conflict is likely to have fundamentally altered the social and economic landscape of the country and further increased poverty levels. Simulations and estimates of the poverty rate following the escalation of conflict range between 64 and 78 percent- a sharp increase over the 49 percent of the population below the poverty line in 2014.

Yemen is among the ten countries in the world with the highest rates of food insecurity and is now facing an unprecedented food crisis. Today, conflict and civil insecurity are the main drivers of food insecurity with devastating effects on livelihood and nutrition situation. The March 2017 Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) reports an overall deterioration in the food security and nutrition situation, with an increase in the total number of food insecure people in Yemen from 14 to 17 million people between June and December 2016.² This constitute 60 percent

¹ Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)

² The 'Integrated Food Security Phased Classification - IPC' is an international interagency working group that uses standardized protocols (tools and procedures) to respond to the need for a common approach for classifying various food



of population compared to 41 percent before the conflict. Approximately seven million Yemenis are currently in IPC Phase 4 (Emergency) and 10.2 million are in Phase 3 (Crisis). Malnutrition has also been a serious problem in Yemen for a long time and acute malnutrition is a major outcome of the severe food insecurity and is at alarming levels. Eleven governorates exceed are in serious or critical nutrition situation with global acute malnutrition (GAM) rate.

Sectoral and Institutional Context

Agriculture is a key source of livelihoods in Yemen. Prior to the outbreak of the conflict, the agriculture sector employed more than half (54 percent) of the workforce and was the main source of income for 73 percent of the population either directly or indirectly through the services and industries serving the agricultural economy. The sector had good potential and opportunities: in Yemen, unlike in most of the world, economic dependence on agriculture has been growing because of stagnating opportunities in the industrial and services sector since 2000. The principal agricultural systems are in the rainfed highlands characterized by terraced agriculture for coffee, fruits, grains and *qat*³, and extensive livestock production, and the plains where irrigated horticulture and field crops predominate. The poor mountainous agriculture areas of the highlands are a challenge, with two thirds of all Yemen's food insecure living in rainfed highland areas. About 75 percent of agricultural production comes from these highlands, which are home to 60 percent of the population.

Limited water and fragmented land constrain agricultural potential. Yemen is one of the most water scarce countries in the world, with about 80m³ per capita of renewable water resources per year, which is just 1.3 percent of the global average. Agriculture accounts for some 90 percent of water use. At the same time, less than six percent of the total land area is considered suitable for field cultivation. Particularly small and fragmented plots (1 ha in average) are another constraint that prevents the sector from making a larger contribution to rural incomes and addressing trade imbalance in food items. In addition, Yemen is particularly vulnerable to climate change. The threats to the water sector from a changing climate would have serious implications on agriculture, including yields.

Yemen depends almost entirely on imports to fulfill local demand for staple commodities. Approximately 80 percent of food consumed is imported while local agricultural production accounts for only 20 percent of overall food availability. Imported food consists of staples such as wheat, rice, oil, sugar and milk. The total food import reached 4.1 million MT in 2016 with a total value to 3.7 billion USD. Yemen has self-sufficiency in some cereals (sorghum, millet, and barley) while 85 percent of wheat is imported. Cereals, *qat* and fodder account for 80 percent of total arable land use with wheat representing only 16 percent of the area cultivated for cereals. Domestic production consists also of meat, fruits and vegetables.

The conflict has severely disrupted agricultural production and markets, transportation and distribution. While productivity has always been low, the situation has become even worse with the conflict. In 2016, the total locally grown food supply was 62 percent of pre-crisis levels, mainly due to a reduction in the cultivated area, thus reducing food availability and household food stocks. The conflict resulted in a shortage of inputs such as seeds, fertilizer and fuel, damage to agricultural machinery, irrigation systems and storage facilities together with deterioration of water and electricity services, and breakdown of logistical chains. The absence of electricity and fuel, as well as the damage to production facilities, led to the disruption of locally manufactured supplies of production inputs for agriculture. The

insecurity situations, within and among countries, and across time. Acute food insecurity is classified according to 5 phases: 1) None/Minimal; 2) Stressed; 3) Crisis; 4) Emergency; and 5) Humanitarian Catastrophe/Famine.

³ *Qat*, a mild stimulant leaf chewed for recreation, and for which up to 40 percent of total water resource use is dedicated



shortage of animal fodder and veterinary services have led to a decline in livestock production, a main source of income for many rural families. Prior to the conflict the sector was the main source of livelihood for two-thirds of the Yemeni population. The crisis has reduced field activities and severely disrupted livelihoods in the agriculture sector. Being the main employment sector in Yemen, agriculture has also been the sector most affected by the crisis with a loss of almost 50 percent of its workers. This drastic drop in employment will likely have a long-term negative impact on the labor force in agriculture.

Under these circumstances the proposed Smallholder Agricultural Production Restoration and Enhancement Project (SAPREP) has been prepared based on the proposal submitted by the Government of Yemen in June 2013 to the Global Agriculture and Food Security Program (GAFSP). The request was revised as an emergency response to the deteriorating food security situation in Yemen. The main feature of the proposal was to address the major challenges identified in the National Agriculture Sector Strategy (NASS) adopted by the Government of Yemen in 2012 to tackle the persistent challenges of the Yemeni agriculture sector, including food security, smallholder agricultural productivity, and climate resilience.

The proposal was approved for funding by the GAFSP Steering Committee on September 6, 2013. The project was considered as a major vehicle for implementing the priority areas of NASS updated in 2013, including smallholder productivity in rainfed agriculture, efficient agricultural water management, productivity and sustainability of livestock production, and the role of rural women in meeting food needs, improving nutrition and protecting the environment. The proposal was also in line with other national strategies adopted before the current conflict, including the National Food Security Strategy (NFSS), and the National Water Sector Strategy and Investment Program (NWSSIP).

C. Proposed Development Objective(s)

Note to Task Teams: The PDO has been pre-populated from the datasheet for the first time for your convenience. Please keep it up to date whenever it is changed in the datasheet.

Development Objective(s) (From PAD)

The PDO is to increase the use of productivity and nutrition-enhancing agricultural practices by smallholders in targeted project areas. The project will provide investments to increase agriculture production and value added of agriculture products, and improve livelihoods and nutrition. The project will also assist crop and livestock producers who have lost productive assets as a result of the conflict and displacement (including returnees and IDPs) with fast disbursing interventions to re-engage in agricultural production. Project investments will be selected and implemented through a community-based and participatory approach and will help affected communities to reclaim their livelihoods by reinforcing their resilience.

Key Results

The achievement of project outcomes will be measured through the following key PDO indicators: (i) Farmers adopting improved agricultural technology; and (ii) Households supported to resume crop and livestock production.

D. Project Description



The proposed SAPREP will focus on two main areas of support: (i) providing support to poor households and smallholders to increase agricultural production, income and nutrition, and (ii) helping conflict affected farmers to re-engage in crop and livestock sectors to restore their livelihood and provide income for their basic needs. The project will be implemented through three components, as detailed below.

Component 1: Community Subprojects and Investments.

The component will finance priority subprojects and investments to restore and increase smallholders' production, income and nutrition through: (i) strengthening community land and water management; (ii) improving animal husbandry, livestock production and animal health services; and (iii) improving livelihood and nutrition, and increasing value-added of selected agriculture products. Subprojects and investments will be selected and implemented through a community-based and participatory approach. The activities will be structured into three subcomponents.

Subcomponent 1.1: Strengthening community land and water management. The objective of the subcomponent is to rehabilitate small-scale community water infrastructure and create assets to improve livelihood of beneficiary household and communities. Investments under this subcomponent build on the successful water harvesting and small-scale spate improvement projects over the last fifteen years. Their design considers Yemen experience with terrace rehabilitation, which shows that erratic and unpredictable rainfalls have been the main cause of the abandonment of terrace cultivation. These investments will contribute to building up climate resilience of the terrace agriculture system in the highlands, improve spate irrigated agriculture in the lowlands and integrate watershed management. Investment and subprojects will be determined by the communities based on priority needs identified in consultation with the community during the participatory needs assessment. Activities would include: (i) water harvesting at farm and micro watershed level in upper catchments of rainfed areas including rehabilitation of existing or construction of new terraces; (ii) rehabilitation of on-farm water storage and water harvesting facilities (underground cisterns and open *wadi* pits); (iii) *wadi* soil conservation and erosion control through check dikes in *wadi* beds and vegetative measures; rehabilitation of shallow wells and springs; (iv) water diversion for improved spate irrigation and ponds excavations; (v) roof-top and other type of water harvesting facilities; and (vi) investments to improve natural rangelands.

Subcomponent 1.2. Improving animal husbandry, livestock production and animal health services. Activities and investments under this subcomponent aim at protecting livestock assets of poor households through improving access to veterinary services, and increase small ruminants and poultry productivity through better husbandry and feeding. The subcomponent will support also recovery of livestock production to improve food security, incomes and nutrition. Proposed activities will build on past successful livestock initiatives, which established a public-private partnership for expanding access to veterinary services by communities. Activities would include: (i) establishing Community Animal Health Workers (CAHW), training and provision of start-up equipment; (ii) vaccination campaign to prevent major diseases in small ruminants; (iii) improving animal nutrition through demonstration of appropriate technologies; (iv) enhancing animal husbandry through provision of small equipment and capacity building including; (v) supporting new livestock activities, exclusively for poor women, returnees, IDPs or farmers which lost their livelihood assets because of the conflict, through startup packages for backyard poultry, small ruminants and apiculture to assist them to re-engage in livestock production.

Subcomponent 1.3: Improving livelihoods and adding value to agriculture. Activities and investments under this subcomponent aim at improving the livelihood and nutrition, and increasing value added of selected agriculture products in targeted areas. This will be achieved by restoring and enhancing access to agriculture inputs, providing technical assistance and specific investments to improve agriculture yields, nutritional value, and upgrade and diversify agriculture and livestock production, processing and marketing. Financing would be for equipment, goods, consulting



services and training. Activities would include: (i) provision of emergency agriculture livelihood kits to vulnerable groups (i.e. poor women, returnees, IDPs and farmers affected by the conflict) to restore crop production and generate income; (ii) provision of improved technologies and practices for key horticulture crops to increase the farm-gate value and nutritional content of agricultural products, and improve honey quality through improved beekeeping and processing; (iii) supporting dairy value chain and increasing the efficiency and reducing the cost of animal feed through production of animal rations from local material.

Component 2: Capacity Building and Extension.

This component will finance: (i) capacity building activities to strengthen skills of stakeholders involved in service provision in the project areas; and (ii) extension activities for project beneficiaries in a range of fields. These activities will help to preserve capacity of key service providers during the ongoing conflict and contribute to the long term sustainability of community level agriculture investments. Potential service providers may include extension workers, agricultural input suppliers, local private veterinary technicians, NGOs active in the agricultural sector, any other individuals in the district providing services in agriculture or economic development. All these stakeholders have the potential of being service providers not only for the project beneficiaries, but for all farmers in their areas. Activities would include also (i) piloting Farmers Field Schools (FFS); (ii) capacity building for project beneficiaries involved in water management to introduce more effective and climate resilient irrigation techniques, and in livestock production to protect assets and increase production; (iii) promoting of nutrition awareness on nutrition-sensitive agriculture; (iv) technical and business training for farmer organizations and individuals involved in value adding activities.

Component 3: Project Administration, Management, Monitoring and Evaluation

This component will support project administration and management, and monitoring and evaluation activities to ensure satisfactory project implementation. The component will finance project management and supervision costs, third party monitoring (TPM) and project evaluation. Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) will perform project core management and implementation support activities, including procurement, financial management and disbursement management, environmental and social safeguards oversight, monitoring the implementation process and evaluation of the project results, and project reporting.

E. Implementation

The proposed SAPREP will be implemented by the FAO directly by FAO staff and through contracting with implementation partners. Social Fund for Development (SFD) will be the FAO main implementation partner for the project. Partnership with local institutions and stakeholders is particularly critical to enable preserving national capacity for rapid response at the post conflict phase.

FAO and SFD have established institutional and implementation mechanisms for the delivery of the project relevant activities in Yemen. They have offices both at the national level and at the governorate level throughout the country where project management, coordination, administrative and technical staff are located. FAO has extensive track record of emergency livelihood support, livestock, and food security and nutrition activities that are the intervention areas of the proposed project. As a specialized technical agency, FAO would provide the technical backstopping required in view of specific agriculture angle of the project interventions.



The FAO main office in Sana will provide oversight and quality assurance to the project team that will be in charge of the day-to-day management of the project, including all fiduciary aspects, safeguards, monitoring and reporting. The team in Sana will comprise Chief Technical Advisor, Operations Officer, Procurement, M&E specialist, Communication and reporting, Administration and Finance Officer, and Environmental and Social Safeguard Specialists. At the regional level, implementation will be supported by FAO’s regional hubs in Aden, Hodeida, Saada and Ibb. From SFD side, the agricultural unit in the central office in Sana will provide overall support while the branch offices in Aden, Amman, Al-Mukalla, Hajjah, Taiz and Al-Hodeida will provide support and coordination at governorate level. SFD provides staff and consultants necessary for the project implementation, including fiduciary personnel and staff with environmental and social safeguards expertise.

FAO will establish the project coordination structures at national and regional levels which will coordinate implementation of the project activities. The structure will consist of the Project Coordination Unit (PCU) at the national level, and the Project Coordination Teams (PCT) that will be based at the hub levels. PCU and PCT will comprise of FAO and SFD staff. PCU and PCTs will work closely with all the relevant stakeholders to update them on the project status and ensure coordination of the project activities with other livelihood and food security interventions on the ground.

The project will hire an independent third party monitoring agency (TPMA) to assess the performance and field monitoring of subprojects funder under SAPREP. A TPM Agency will be expected to (i) track performance through the collection of appropriate and credible data and other evidence, including on the implementation of environmental and social management plans; (ii) analyze evidence to inform FAO management decision making and recommend improvement of effectiveness and efficiency as necessary; and (iii) report on performance and lessons to facilitate learning and support accountability, including learning from beneficiaries’ experience.

Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM). The SAPREP will follow the already established FAO Yemen and SFD GRM practices, and will provide multiple access points (telephone, complaint box, website, email, text message, etc.) so that beneficiaries will know whom to contact with regard to their concerns. The contact information of the focal point at subproject level will be posted at the local level and in the local language. The Chief Technical Advisor who will lead the FAO project team will have the overall responsibility to address concerns brought to the attention of the focal point regarding any environmental and/or social impact due to subproject activities. Complaints received by the implementing agency shall be recorded and documented in the subproject file and the subproject progress report including the number and type of complaints and the results of their resolution.

Set up of consultations

Phase role	Responsible body
Design phase – using the checklists, assist each applicant to identify potential environmental and social impacts resulting from proposed sub-projects activities, and to subsequently redesign proposals to avoid/minimize such impacts or include mitigation measures	FAO/SFD field unit in coordination of the social mobilizer team (male and female) to ensure that both men and women are consulted with the community committee/community facilitator
Screen proposals - based on environmental and social checklists, either approve sub-project proposals for implementation, or stipulate that an ESMP is necessary	FAO/SFD with support of relevant CBOs
Draft an ESMP if necessary	FAO/SFD with support of consultant



Set up of consultations

Phase role	Responsible body
Review and approve ESMP and implementation arrangements	FAO
Monitoring the implementation of sub-projects activities	FAO/SFD with support of relevant CBOs

Institutional and Implementation Arrangements

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

The project will be implemented in the seven governorates that are the most food insecure governorates in Yemen as identified by the Integrated Phase Classification (IPC) carried out in February 2017 to classify the severity and magnitude of food insecurity. These seven governorates, namely (i) Shabwa, (ii) Abyan, (iii) Lahej, (iv) Taiz, (v) Al-Hodeidah, (vi) Hajjah, and (vii) Saada, are in Emergency food insecurity phase and serious or critical nutrition situation. The selected governorates represent highland and lowland which are the main agro-ecological systems in Yemen. The climate of Yemen is characterized as semi-arid, where rainfall is generally limited but with significant variations depending on the elevations. Temperatures are generally high, particularly in the coastal regions. The highlands enjoy a temperate, rainy summer with an average high temperature of 21 °C (69.8 °F) and a cool, moderately dry winter with temperatures occasionally dipping below 0 °C (32.0 °F) at some places. Subprojects will be selected by beneficiary communities in consultation with FAO and SFD to best suit local climate and soil conditions, water availability, and growing conditions.

G. Environmental and Social Safeguards Specialists on the Team

Amer Abdulwahab Ali Al-Ghorbany, Ibrahim Ismail Mohammed Basalamah



SAFEGUARD POLICIES THAT MIGHT APPLY

Safeguard Policies	Triggered?	Explanation (Optional)
Environmental Assessment OP/BP 4.01	Yes	<p>This Policy is triggered and the project is category 'B' as the under component 1 community works will be supported such as construction and rehabilitation of water harvesting structures (cisterns), rehabilitation of terraces, on-farm water storage facilities for animal and domestic use; on-farm water harvesting through underground cisterns and open wadi pits; wadi soil conservation and erosion control through check dikes in wadi beds and vegetative measures. Other water harvesting structures to be supported under the project include construction of roof-top collection areas, conveyance systems, and storage facilities.</p> <p>Component 1 supports also activities that aim at improving animal husbandry, livestock production and animal health services, such as provision of improved forage seeds and small equipment and tools to support small livestock owners, plantation of Ziziphus Spina Christi for bee feeding; improving access to veterinary services through provision of training and start up equipment; and supporting new livelihood support activities exclusively for poor women, returnees, IDPs and conflict affected farmers through startup packages for backyard poultry, small ruminants and apiculture, and provision of emergency agriculture livelihood kits to restore crop production. Component 1 will also support the activities to improve value added of horticulture, dairy products and honey through provision of inputs, tools and training.</p> <p>Considering the above mentioned type and scale of works, and since the location of subprojects (activities) is not known at this stage, an Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) is prepared and will be disclosed both in-country and at the Bank's external websites. No major adverse or irreversible environmental impacts are anticipated under this project. The ESMF includes a checklist for subproject screening based on which proposals that include activities classified</p>



under environmental category 'A' will not be financed. Screening checklists under the ESMF have been prepared by the World Bank and the implementing agency 'FAO' to ensure that the project's activities will not fall under safeguards policies that are not triggered. Subprojects will be screened for potential environmental impacts to determine if a subproject's ESMP is needed or mitigation measures contained in the ESMF are sufficient. The ESMF sets out responsibilities for both implementation and monitoring of mitigation measures.

The main findings of the Social Assessment (SA) that was carried out in May 2014 include setting up priorities as responding to primary economic needs of the target population. For example, improvement in livestock related investments, water and soil protection investments, spate irrigation networks, improved varieties of staple and cash crops, providing labor opportunities to the poorest and marginalized at full market rates and women's income generating activities. The potential social impacts and risks would include if the project mismanaged by supporting the wealth people at the expense of the poor, weak capacity of the managerial staff, neglect women support as important economic role. The proposed mitigation measures were to involve target communities in monitoring and evaluation the performance of the services provided, training and capacity building of the staff, ensure that activities aimed at women's real needs and issues. The SA was not fully updated due to the security constraints. However, FAO has prepared a two-page brief updates in April 2017 of the current situation in Yemen in terms of food security deterioration, livelihood and market disruption, and displacement across the country due to conflict. No consultations were carried out during the brief update and no disclosure was done yet. Since the brief was conducted recently, the SA will be annexed to this brief and should be disclosed. The main recommendations of the SA have been incorporated into the ESMF.



Natural Habitats OP/BP 4.04	No	Policy is not triggered as the project will not result in loss, conversion or degradation of natural habitats or critical natural habitats as defined by the policy.
Forests OP/BP 4.36	No	Policy does not apply as the project will not be implemented in any forested areas.
Pest Management OP 4.09	Yes	Procurement of pesticides is not envisaged under the project. However, farming is expected to both improve and to change cropping patterns to help better adapt to climatic changes. These changes are in turn not expected to increase the use of agricultural chemicals, fertilizers and pesticides, due to the project activities stressing and on encouraging traditional and local practices in using organic fertilizers. Precautions to avoid excessive and improper pesticide use might be required. The ESMF includes a screening tool to identify subprojects that might require the preparation of a simple pest management plan (PMP). The ESMF includes the 'Guidance Document for Pest and Pesticides Management in Field Projects' which is prepared by FAO and details the requirements and measures for the management of pest and pesticides, including procedures, capacity building requirements, and documents/clearances to be obtained when dealing with pest or pesticides in field projects. It should be mentioned that pest and pesticides management is one of the FAO's core areas of function; and FAO has produced several international guidelines and codes of conduct on pest- and pesticide management. Considering the aforementioned anticipated precautions, the SAPREP has triggered this policy.
Physical Cultural Resources OP/BP 4.11	No	Policy is not triggered as the project will not be implemented in areas of cultural heritage sites.
Indigenous Peoples OP/BP 4.10	No	Policy is not triggered as indigenous people as defined in the policy are not present in project areas.
Involuntary Resettlement OP/BP 4.12	No	This policy is not triggered because no involuntary resettlement is anticipated by the project. The project will not finance any activities which will involve involuntary taking of land or restriction of legally designated parks and protected areas. It is expected that lands needed for any subprojects will be in small scale and owned by the government. In case of privately owned land, the project will obtain the land through voluntary donation by local



communities. The guidelines for safeguards screening, voluntary land donation and negative project list will be developed and included in the Project Implementation Manual. The implementing agency will conduct due diligence to ensure that no involuntary resettlement takes place. Voluntary land transactions will only be accepted if there is power of choice and informed consent.

Safety of Dams OP/BP 4.37

No

Policy is not triggered as the project will not include construction of dams as defined by the policy. The policy on 'Safety of Dams' is not triggered as none of the investments under Component 1 depends on the performance of existing dams.

Projects on International Waterways OP/BP 7.50

No

Policy is not triggered as the project will not undertake any activities in the catchment areas of international waterways and shared aquifers.

Projects in Disputed Areas OP/BP 7.60

No

Policy is not triggered as project activities will not be implemented in any disputed areas.

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:

The Project is expected to result in positive impacts on the environment and living conditions of targeted beneficiaries. However, minor negative impacts could result from subprojects relating to small-scale infrastructure for soil and water management. Accordingly, an Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) is prepared by the client that has assessed the potential negative environmental and social impacts and recommended mitigation measures to manage these impacts.

The project will have broad social benefits through its efforts to improve the resilience of the natural resource based on which rural communities build their livelihoods, and through the implementation of a community-based, participatory approach to prioritizing development subprojects. No involuntary resettlement is anticipated by the project. The project will not finance any activities which involve involuntary taking of land and involuntary restriction of legally designated parks and protected areas. Land for the construction of water storage tanks will be obtained through voluntary donation by local communities.

The project may encounter substantial risks related to elite capture. This risk will be addressed through robust implementation guidelines and consultations with the beneficiary communities to identify subprojects that will support the most vulnerable community members.

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

No indirect negative impacts are anticipated under this project. Long term environmental impacts are anticipated to



be positive as a result of the project's intervention and improving soil and water management in target areas.

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

No project. A business-as-usual scenario implies maintaining the status quo of impoverished communities, maintaining the current poverty and livelihoods situation, and continued exploitation of the natural resources in a non-sustainable manner and compromising its biodiversity, and continued negative impacts on their livelihoods due to climate change. This option would wrongfully imply that there is no urgent need for investment and improved management or for improving sustainable livelihoods in the region. Moreover, many people interviewed during social assessment carried out by the project have experienced a worsening of poverty and an increasingly inability to finance their basic needs, and now in many cases, their basic food and nutritional needs. Subprojects expected under SAPREP should pose no or very minimal adverse impacts during the construction, implementation and operation phases.

Project activities and beneficiaries. The focus on smallholders rather than larger agribusinesses was identified as the most effective way SAPREP could have a positive and sustainable impact on food insecurity and improved nutrition for the most vulnerable. Specific targeting will ensure that beneficiaries include women, displaced farmers, and those who have lost their livelihoods due to the conflict.

Geographic targeting. The seven governorates selected are the most food insecure governorates in Yemen. They also represent various farming environments in Yemen.

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.

SAPREP will be implemented as a community-led effort, where communities will be empowered to identify their priority agricultural needs. Since exact subprojects are not determined at the onset of project, but will be identified during project implementation based on demand and consultations with the concerned communities, the ESMF is the appropriate instrument under the Bank Operational Policy OP 4.01 on Environmental Assessment. The ESMF is intended to serve as a practical tool to guide identification and mitigation of potential negative environmental and social impacts of proposed investments and serve as a platform for consultations with stakeholders and potential project beneficiaries. The ESMF has been prepared in compliance with the Bank's OP 4.01 and relevant Yemeni policies on environmental assessment, and is consistent with the FAO Environmental and Social Management Guidelines.

SAPREP will be implemented by the FAO directly by FAO staff and through contracting with implementation partners. SFD will be the FAO main implementation partner. FAO remains active in Yemen, and SFD has sustained delivery of critical programs in the country throughout the conflict. While both FAO and SFD have strong capacity to implement SAPREP, additional staff or consultants may be engaged to ensure the right skills mix and numbers of specialists to work in all the project areas. Partnership with local institutions and stakeholders is particularly critical to enable preserving national capacity for rapid response at the post conflict phase. Component 2 provides for capacity building activities to strengthen skills of stakeholders involved in service provision in the project areas and extension activities for project beneficiaries in a range of fields.

The FAO project team in the main office in Sana will be in charge of the day-to-day management of the project, including all fiduciary aspects, safeguards, monitoring and reporting. At the regional level, implementation will be supported by FAO regional hubs. From SFD side, the agricultural unit in the central office in Sana will provide overall support while the branch offices will implement activities in governorates. ESMF implementation and monitoring arrangements will be through the FAO and SFD project teams in the central offices and regional hubs. FAO and SFD



project teams for implementation of SAPREP will include Environmental and Social Safeguards Specialists. During the implementation phase, FAO with SFD will oversee construction activities and conduct visual inspection with the assistance of a representative of the local community to ensure that contractors implement environmental and social management plans. Budget has been allocated in the project budget to cover the costs of staff, consultants and travel to beneficiary communities.

The FAO and SFD capacity to plan and implement environmental and social safeguards in accordance with the ESMF is strong. FAO is committed to ensure that its programs are implemented in accordance with the Organization's environmental and social obligations. FAO assess all planned operations in accordance with the FAO Environmental and Social Guidelines. All projects are categorized as "low", "moderate" or "high risk" based on the potential impact of the environmental and social standards (see below). In addition, FAO has an independent Compliance Review Mechanism. FAO Environmental and Social Specialists provide competencies related to the FAO E&S Standards:

1. Natural Resource Management
2. Biodiversity, Ecosystems and Critical Habitats
3. Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture
4. Animal - Livestock and Aquatic - Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture
5. Pest and Pesticide Management
6. Involuntary Resettlement and Displacement
7. Decent Work
8. Gender Equality
9. Indigenous Peoples and Cultural Heritage

The project will also use a third party monitoring (TPM) mechanism to assess the performance and field monitoring of subprojects funded under the project, including on the implementation of environmental and social measures. A TPM Agency will be expected to track performance through the collection of appropriate and credible data and other evidence, including on the implementation of environmental and social management plans. TPM will analyze evidence to inform FAO management decision making; recommend improvement of e. The TORs for this TPM will be developed and agreed upon with FAO.

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

The project will target poor households, and particularly women and returning refugees, in selected villages and communities among the poorest across seven selected governorates. The project will be managed through FAO, which had good coordination with strong ties to government, academia and CSOs. This ensures smooth flow of information between the community and the managing bodies of the project. A basic step in this regard is public consultations and/or Focused Group Discussions (FGD) with the local communities and other relevant stakeholders during the sub-project identification, screening, implementation and monitoring. These consultations/FGD would serve to identify key issues and determine how the concerns of all parties will be addressed. The concerns of local people, vulnerable and marginalized groups will be taken into account fully in sub-project planning. Extensive consultations with stakeholders were held in 2014, which provided very valuable inputs to the SAPREP design.



B. Disclosure Requirements

Environmental Assessment/Audit/Management Plan/Other

Date of receipt by the Bank	Date of submission to InfoShop	For category A projects, date of distributing the Executive Summary of the EA to the Executive Directors
16-May-2017	27-Jun-2017	

"In country" Disclosure

Yemen, Republic of
27-Jun-2017

Comments

The ESMF document in English and Executive Summary in Arabic have been disclosed in the country. The documents have been posted in the site of the FAO representation in Yemen (<http://www.fao.org/countryprofiles/index/en/?iso3=YEM>), Social Fund for Development (<http://sfd-yemen.org/content/17/128>), and FAO (<http://www.fao.org/environmental-social-standards/disclosure-portal/en/>).

Pest Management Plan

Was the document disclosed prior to appraisal?	Date of receipt by the Bank	Date of submission to InfoShop
NA		

"In country" Disclosure

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)

OP/BP/GP 4.01 - Environment Assessment

Does the project require a stand-alone EA (including EMP) report?



Yes

If yes, then did the Regional Environment Unit or Practice Manager (PM) review and approve the EA report?

Yes

Are the cost and the accountabilities for the EMP incorporated in the credit/loan?

Yes

OP 4.09 - Pest Management

Does the EA adequately address the pest management issues?

Yes

Is a separate PMP required?

No

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?

NA

The World Bank Policy on Disclosure of Information

Have relevant safeguard policies documents been sent to the World Bank's Infoshop?

Yes

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

All Safeguard Policies

Have satisfactory calendar, budget and clear institutional responsibilities been prepared for the implementation of measures related to safeguard policies?

Yes

Have costs related to safeguard policy measures been included in the project cost?

Yes

Does the Monitoring and Evaluation system of the project include the monitoring of safeguard impacts and measures related to safeguard policies?

Yes

Have satisfactory implementation arrangements been agreed with the borrower and the same been adequately reflected in the project legal documents?

Yes

CONTACT POINT



World Bank

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Borrower/Client/Recipient

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APPROVAL

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Approved By

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Note to Task Teams: End of system generated content, document is editable from here.