

INTEGRATED SAFEGUARDS DATA SHEET

IDENTIFICATION / CONCEPT STAGE

Report No.: ISDSC14906

Date ISDS Prepared/Updated: 08-Mar-2016

I. BASIC INFORMATION

A. Basic Project Data

Country:	Niger	Project ID:	P156863
Project Name:	Nutrition-Sensitive Agriculture and Capacity Building of Small and Marginal Farmers		
Team Leader(s):	Soulemane Fofana		
Estimated Date of Approval:	20-May-2016		
Managing Unit:	GFA01	Lending Instrument:	Lending Instrument
Sector(s):	Crops (80%), Animal production (20%)		
Theme(s):	Nutrition and food security (70%), Other rural development (30%)		
Financing (in USD Million)			
Total Project Cost:	2.5	Total Bank Financing:	0
Financing Gap:	0		
Financing Source			Amount
Japan Policy and Human Resources Development Fund			2.5
Environment Category:	B - Partial Assessment		

B. Project Development Objective(s)

11. The Project Development Objective (PDO) is to increase nutritionally-adequate food production in two selected provinces, leading to increased household food consumption and dietary diversity.

12. The PDO will be achieved by: (a) building capacity of small and marginal farmers (especially women); (b) increasing the production of high-nutrient-content food, including fruits and vegetables for consumption (and where feasible commercialization); and (c) sensitizing and communicating (and thereby encouraging demand) on foods such as fruits and vegetables with a high nutrition value.

C. Project Description

14. The PHRD funded Project is being designed as an integral part of third phase of the IDA-financed Community Action Program (CAP-3) and will be implemented by the PCU of CAP-3. The CAP program seeks to reduce poverty through initiatives aimed at improving food security, raising the income of rural producers, and increasing, securing, and diversifying food production. CAP is a

national program, but since the PHRD grant funding is limited, the PHRD-funded activities will focus on nutrition work in only two regions (Maradi and Tahoua).

15. The PHRD will focus on increasing production of vegetables and fruits, including biofortified crops, such as beans and sweet potatoes (OFSP). Female producers are expected to use the limited space available for production of a range of fruits/vegetables, improving access to a variety of micronutrient-rich foods to accompany the biofortified crops. It is expected that production increases will be destined primarily for consumption by infants and their mothers, rather than for sale, although it is understood that women farmers will need to sell a fraction of their crops to meet their minimum cash requirements.

16. The project will have three components: Component 1 will focus on mobilizing small farmers, particularly women, and strengthening their capacities and knowledge of production of fruits and vegetables. Component 2 will promote improved production of horticulture crops with high nutritional value largely via small-scale irrigation from wells, which the project will finance. Component 3 will support the sensitization and communication to promote food preparation, storage, and consumption of horticultural products with high nutritional values.

17. Component 1: Mobilizing small farmers and strengthening their capacities: The objective of this priority area is to build capacity of small farmers to increase their knowledge on producing food with a high nutritional value. This will include empowering small and marginal farmers, especially women, strengthening of women producer groups/associations, promoting farmer-to-farmer services, and linking the farmer associations with other public and private sector agencies for the projects' nutrition-related purposes. Activities will include technical assistance, training, and investments in farmer-led knowledge and to provide community-to-community extension services.

18. Component 2: Promoting improved production of horticulture crops with high nutritional value: The objective of this Component is to improve nutritional and livelihood outcomes for small female farmers and their families. Activities will seek to improve productivity by technical assistance, training, and particularly investments in wells and small-scale irrigation covering around 250 hectares in the at least 100 villages to be selected.

19. In some areas and/or to some extent, horticulture already is a part in the economic activities of the population in terms of their production, marketing, processing, and transportation. This component will support the introduction and/or intensification and diversification of horticultural production with high nutritional value. It will support women producer groups, and communities in the targeted regions with technical advice and inputs (seeds, plants, cuttings, inorganic and organic fertilizers) to boost horticultural production of moringa; vegetables (tomatoes, cabbage, onion, carrot, eggplant, watermelon, melons, etc.), tubers (cassava, sweet potato, potato, etc.), legumes (cowpeas, green beans, peas, sesame, etc.) and citrus (lemon, orange, guava, tangelo, etc.), mango trees in their own farms (in their own farms).

20. Component 3: Sensitization and communication to promote increased consumption of horticultural products with high nutritional value. Horticultural products are mentioned in the current agricultural strategies of Niger, but the general public is often not well informed about the importance of their consumption for human health. The commitment of the government, through this project, will result in better information and communication for the consumption of horticultural products. This will include training in conservation, small-scale processing and storage, cooking, and related small equipment. The overall medium and long-term objective would be to increase fruit

and vegetable consumption from currently 35.4 kg per person and year. Even though the work under this component would aim to increase consumption of horticultural crops in the villages of the two targeted regions, there would likely be some benefits to neighboring villages in terms of dissemination of some of the messages.

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

29. The project will be implemented in two regions, namely Maradi and Tahoua, which are the Regions with the highest level of malnutrition. More details on these provinces will be provided during project appraisal.

E. Borrower's Institutional Capacity for Safeguard Policies

30. The institutional capacity of the Ministry of Agriculture was assessed at the start of the 12-year APL of the Community Action Program (CAP). The Ministry successfully implemented the first two phases (CAP-1 and CAP-2), and since 2013 is implementing CAP-3. The Ministry of Agriculture is well versed in the implementation of Bank supported projects, and has built up capacity to handle the Bank's safeguard policies and instruments. The proposed project will draw important lessons from the strengths and weaknesses of the two previous and the on-going phase.

31. The Project Implementation Manual (PIM) for CAP-3 presents the main implementation modalities and the institutional arrangements to support them. It is proposed that the PIM for CAP-3 be also used for the implementation of the PHRD grant. An Implementation Support Plan (ISP) will also be developed. The ISP will aim at making implementation support to the client more flexible and efficient, and will focusing on the principal manageable risks identified and the agreed risk mitigation measures. It will also provide the technical advice necessary to facilitate achieving the PDO. The ISP will also identify the minimum requirements to meet the Bank's fiduciary obligations and which will apply for the implementation of the PHRD grant.

F. Environmental and Social Safeguards Specialists on the Team

Abdoul Wahabi Seini (GSU01)

Medou Lo (GENDR)

II. SAFEGUARD POLICIES THAT MIGHT APPLY

Safeguard Policies	Triggered?	Explanation (Optional)
Environmental Assessment OP/ BP 4.01	Yes	Minimal low-intensity pest management activities may be introduced and will be addressed under the Pest Management Plan (see below). Any other input use, that might marginally affect the environment, will be addressed through the Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF), developed for the CAP-3 project, which is being updated to cover this operation. It will be consulted upon, approved and disclosed in-country and at the Bank Infoshop.
Natural Habitats OP/BP 4.04	No	Investments will take place in home gardens. Therefore the Natural Habitats policy is unlikely to be triggered.

Forests OP/BP 4.36	No	This operation does not involve any activity that will affect forest ecosystems.
Pest Management OP 4.09	Yes	Low-intensity pest management practices may be introduced at commune or farm level to support the beneficiaries in their production practices. The Pest Management Plan (PMP) developed under CAP-3 is being updated to cover this operation. It will be consulted upon, approved and disclosed in-country and at the Bank Infoshop.
Physical Cultural Resources OP/ BP 4.11	No	Project's activities do not involve excavation and are not expected to impact physical cultural resources.
Indigenous Peoples OP/BP 4.10	No	There is no Indigenous Peoples in the project area.
Involuntary Resettlement OP/BP 4.12	TBD	Investments will take place in home gardens. Therefore, the project's activities are not expected to lead to land acquisition or restriction of access to sources of livelihood, but this will be confirm before appraisal.
Safety of Dams OP/BP 4.37	No	This operation will not support construction or rehabilitation of dam.
Projects on International Waterways OP/BP 7.50	No	The project will avoid activities involving any water drawn from international rivers or aquifers.
Projects in Disputed Areas OP/BP 7.60	No	This operation will not take place in any disputed areas as defined under OP 7.60, and will not support any activities that will impact disputed areas.

III. SAFEGUARD PREPARATION PLAN

Appraisal stage ISDS required?: No

IV. APPROVALS

Team Leader(s):	Name: Soulemane Fofana	
Approved By:		
Safeguards Advisor:	Name: Johanna van Tilburg (SA)	Date: 18-Nov-2015
Practice Manager/ Manager:	Name: Simeon Kacou Ehui (PMGR)	Date: 02-Dec-2015

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.