

Project Information Document/
Identification/Concept Stage (PID)

Concept Stage | Date Prepared/Updated: 09-Sep-2023 | Report No: PIDC284515

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BASIC INFORMATION

A. Basic Project Data

Project ID P181271	Parent Project ID (if any)	Environmental and Social Risk Classification Low	Project Name Green Accountability
Region	Country	Date PID Prepared	Estimated Date of Approval
OTHER	World	09-Sep-2023	
Financing Instrument Investment Project Financing	Borrower(s) World Resources Institute	Implementing Agency World Resources Institute	

PROJECT FINANCING DATA (US\$, Millions)

SUMMARY	
Total Project Cost	4.50
Total Financing	4.50
Financing Gap	0.00

DETAILS

Non-World Bank Group Financing

Trust Funds	4.50
Global Partnership for Social Accountability	4.50

B. Introduction and Context

Country Context

1. Current public climate financing lacks clear transparency guidelines, accountability mechanisms, and anchoring within local communities and civil society. While there is no agreed-upon definition of what climate finance broadly contains, for current purposes, it measures the share of financing (an input) that can be attributed to activities or policies that reduce or sequester GHG emissions (mitigation) or to reduce vulnerabilities and enable project beneficiaries to adapt to impacts of climate change (adaptation). The only broadly applicable transparency and accountability rules on climate finance stem from Article 13 Paris Agreement[1] and its Enhanced Transparency Framework.[2]

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- 2. Civil society has a critical role to play in ensuring that funding reflects identified needs of diverse groups, reaching vulnerable communities with verified end-use, and at a minimum follows no-harm principles. The fragmented accountability landscape for climate finance leads to sometimes opaque climate delivery systems that lack clear responsibility. This creates a blurry accountability landscape, as it is not always clear from the beneficiary perspective which entity is responsible for service provision, and which channels are open to participate in policy development, advocate or give feedback. The fragmented accountability landscape, therefore, requires action beyond a country approach to fix.
- 3. Green accountability can ensure that climate finance is well-spent and reaches those at the frontline of the crisis. Green accountability is an approach to achieving transparent, inclusive, and representative decision-making across the lifecycle of climate finance commitments. It relies on transparent, participatory, and just processes, low barriers to access, and governance structures and delivery systems which are responsive to the needs of people. Fostering transparency on the demand side and increased participation on the supply side of governance can improve overall accountability. As accountability improves service delivery, it can play an important role in building effective and inclusive mitigation and adaptation efforts. Climate finance flows will have a profound impact on the global community, but especially on low- and middle-income countries. With broad transparency features and robust participation mechanisms, communities can partake in monitoring, reporting, and verifying climate action.
- 4. To sustain global growth and prosperity, the world will need to invest vast sums of money in new low-carbon or zero-carbon infrastructure in a very short space of time. The global community must mobilize large amounts of climate finance to support countries achieve the transition to a sustainable and green economy. This financing will have to include both mitigation and adaptation measures which differ strongly in approach, design, and impact on communities. While mitigation focuses on making the impacts of climate change less severe by preventing or reducing the emission of greenhouse gases (GHG) into the atmosphere, adaptation refers to the process of adjusting to the current and future effects of climate change. Still, both mitigation and adaptation measures at scale will require large infrastructure projects to fight the climate crisis. The last available figures put total global climate finance at US\$ 653 billion in 2020, while other estimates project around US\$ 803 billion for 2020. According to one estimate, the world needs a total additional investment of US\$ 1 trillion to US\$ 3.5 trillion per year, or between 1 and 3.6 percent of 2021 global GDP.[3]
- 5. Shifting economies from an extractive and fossil fuel-based model to a green model will create large societal and economic shifts that impact all areas of society. Poor and marginalized people in developing countries are disproportionately affected by the impacts of climate change, yet they bear the least responsibility for causing the problem. Low-carbon transitions in energy, transport, cities, manufacturing, agriculture and food are critical for mitigating greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, yet too little attention is paid to how investments in these sectors will generate widespread impacts on the communities.[4] Engaging people as active participants should be an integral part of designing successful clean energy policies to build public support, incorporate local perspectives, invite innovative ideas from diverse stakeholders, and help create plans that are sustainable, culturally appropriate, and feasible to

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implement. Building societal support for these shifts among citizens, civil society, and the private sector will thus be critical.

- 6. The influx of climate finance resources will have a profound impact on recipient countries and needs to be targeted, measurable, and equitable. Shifting economies from an extractive and fossil fuel-based model to a green model will create large societal and economic shifts that impact all areas of society. Climate action and the green transition relate to areas of great importance to the global community such as poverty, unemployment, migration, regional development, environmental degradation, social inclusion, and human rights issues. For better targeting and impact assessment of climate finance flows in these sectors, policymakers need to have access to accurate data and reporting. History has shown that a sudden mobilization of enormous amounts of money in a relatively short period to reach critical goals creates risks of increased inequality and corruption. Additionally, it can harm local communities and especially historically underserved groups, if they are not adequately included in the design and delivery of financing.
- 7. The lack of institutional capacity in some countries receiving climate financing could negatively affect the effectiveness of climate action. A significant amount of this financing will have to be directed toward low- and middle-income countries, some of which lack institutional capacities to protect their financial systems from capture. The three largest recipients of development finance for climate mitigation and adaptation—India, Bangladesh, and Indonesia—also rank low on Transparency International's Corruption Perceptions Index.[5] A 2020 report by Transparency International Bangladesh stated that over half of the funds meant for seven climate mitigation measures were lost to irregularities and corruption in the country.[6] Systemic corruption undermines the ability of the international community to achieve its climate objectives, and effectively decrease the level of spending going to curbing GHG emissions and adaptation, necessitating improved accountability mechanisms to reach climate results.
- [1] The Paris Agreement is a legally binding international treaty on climate change. It was adopted by 196 Parties at COP 21 in Paris, on 12 December 2015 and entered into force on 4 November 2016. Its goal is to limit global warming to well below 2, preferably to 1.5 degrees Celsius, compared to pre-industrial levels.
- [2] Transparency International, 2022. Corruption-free Climate Finance: Strengthening multilateral funds. https://images.transparencycdn.org/images/220406_TI_Report_Corruption_free_climate_finance.pdf.
- [3] McKinsey, 2022. The Net-Zero Transition What It Would Cost, What It Could Bring. https://www.mckinsey.com/business-functions/sustainability/our-insights/the-netzero-transition-what-it-would-cost-what-it-could-bring.
- [4] Several analytical initiatives aim to map out the societal and equitable dimensions of a just transition, framing it as a whole-of-economy or whole-of-society challenge: Social Dimensions of Climate Change (P176059); Whole-Of-Economy Climate Change Program MENA: Social Change, Equity And Just Transition (P179961); Whole of Economy: Social and Just Transition (P500443); Understanding & Building Indigenous Peoples Resilience to Climate Shocks (P177291).

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[5] Mullard, S.; Nest, Michael; Wathne, Cecilie, 2020. Corruption and climate finance: Implications for climate change interventions. U4 Anti-Corruption Resource Centre, Policy Brief. https://www.u4.no/publications/corruption-and-climate-finance

[6] Climate Change Mitigation Finance and Project Implementation in Bangladesh: Governance Challenges and Way Forwards. Transparency International Bangladesh. November 5, 2020. https://www.ti-bangladesh.org/images/2020/report/Mitigation-Finance/Mitigation Finance Governance ES EN.pdf.

Sectoral and Institutional Context

- 1. The global community remains off-track to achieve the Paris Agreement-set target of limiting global warming to 1.5°C by 2050. The most recent assessment by the IPCC in 2023 highlighted the challenge of reaching the 1.5°C target due to still-growing GHG emissions. All pathways toward 1.5°C or 2°C must involve rapid and deep and, in most cases immediate GHG emissions reductions in all sectors this decade. While adaptation efforts have picked up in recent years, there are reports of maladaptation when exposure and sensitivity to climate change impacts are instead increased as a result of action taken in some sectors and regions.[1] Furthermore, current global financial flows remain insufficient for adaptation needs, especially in the Global South.[2] Climate financing and climate action more broadly need to increase substantially in the coming years to avoid scenarios of up to 3 C global warming by 2100.
- 2. The WBG and other multilateral and national development actors have continuously stepped up their climate action programs. The WBG is now the largest provider of multilateral climate financing, delivering US\$ 31.7 billion in FY22. Much of the ongoing Evolution Roadmap process also revolves around an increased role for the WBG in delivering climate finance to the Global South.[3] Other Multilateral Development Banks and bilateral agencies are also significantly increasing their climate financing. Additionally, large issue-focused modalities such as the Just Energy Transition Partnerships aim to disburse significant funds to Global South countries to support the energy transition, all pointing to increased amounts of funding becoming available.
- 3. Institutional assessments of state capacity for climate action focus on the supply side of governance. Several initiatives exist to assess governance capacities within climate finance: The WB Governance department has produced a Climate Change Institutional Assessment (CCIA) to assess the institutional governance capacities of countries receiving external climate finance flows. Additionally, the Public Expenditure and Financial Accountability (PEFA) program has set up a dedicated climate framework to assess public financial management (PFM) capacities in countries around climate finance. The International Monetary Fund also assesses state capacity for climate action focused on supply-side governance policies through the Public Investment Management Assessment (PIMA) framework.
- 4. Process legitimacy requires attention also to ways of engagement and participatory processes for communities and citizens, but little attention has been given to this issue. Process legitimacy refers to the extent to which a community or society accepts who has authority, what goals are formulated, and how policies and programs get implemented. Ensuring sufficient state capacity for climate action requires an open and inclusive policy arena that is accessible especially also to marginalized communities. Crucially, the Enhancing Access to Benefits while Lowering Emissions (EnABLE) Trust Fund seeks to enhance the inclusion and benefits of marginalized communities and IPLCs under World Bank-

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- focused climate action. While civil society plays a crucial role in ensuring process legitimacy, no tools or strategies exist to ensure systematic and broad civil society engagement in climate action.
- 5. Civic space and opportunity for civil society engagement has been shrinking globally. In the last years, civil society has increasingly operated in restricted spaces and has been confronted with backlash and pressure through legal and regulatory measures as well as bureaucratic actions. Since 2013, 82 countries have proposed or enacted more than 180 legal measures restricting civil society, reflecting a global trend that includes restricting the formation of CSOs, and limits to freedoms of expression and speech, access to information, peaceful assembly, and access to financial resources.[4] According to the 2022 CIVICUS Monitor, almost 89% of the global population lives in countries with significant restrictions on civic rights, such as restrictions on trade unions, civic organizations, and restricted public discussions.[5] The perception of civil society's role in the climate sector has often been reduced to being advocates for more climate financing, with less focus on the unique value-add of anchoring climate action in local communities.[6] Additionally, human rights defenders and climate advocates have been targets of repression and reprisals over their engagement in enhanced climate action. This initiative can provide an engagement window for civil society across countries to constructively engage governments on climate policy issues.
- 6. The proposed project will aim to strengthen the ability of a diverse range of civil society actors, including vulnerable communities, to access needed climate policy and finance information, participate in and shape climate-related governance processes and play critical roles in influencing climate policy in approximately six countries. The Project will promote exchanges across beneficiary countries, create greater visibility on how countries are addressing social accountability for climate action through collective platforms, and demonstrate how countries investing in social accountability are meeting their climate and SDG goals in more inclusive and equitable ways. The project will support diverse constituencies' to constructively engage with key public authorities like Ministries of Finance, Planning, or Environment to address their priorities, resulting in a more coherent framework of social accountability.
- [1] IPCC, 2023. AR6 Synthesis Report: Climate Change 2023.
- [2] IPCC, 2023. AR6 Synthesis Report: Climate Change 2023.
- [3] World Bank Group, 2023. Evolution of the World Bank Group: A Report to Governors.
- [4] International Center for Not-for-Profit Law, et al: The Civic Space Initiative.
- [5] See https://monitor.civicus.org/
- [6] Bulkeley, H., Newell, P., 2023. Governing Climate Change. 3rd ed. Routledge. p. 158.

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Relationship to CPF

- 1. On the global level, the project will contribute to the 2021-25 WBG Climate Change Action Plan (CCAP). The 2021-25 CCAP set the target of 35% Climate Co-benefits and at least 50% Co-Benefits for the WB. This project primarily seeks to address beneficiary and civil society inclusion in climate service delivery and therefore directly addresses climate benefits in its project design. The project also stands in line with the World Bank's commitment for Paris alignment by July 1, 2023.
- 2. On the regional and national level, the country pilots will correspond to their respective Country Partnership Frameworks and Country Climate and Development Reports (CCDR). In line with the 2022 Social Sustainability framework, the project will focus on building process legitimacy in the climate sector. Process legitimacy is the extent to which a community or society accepts who has authority, what goals are formulated, and how policies and programs get implemented. The project's focus on social accountability and collaborative civil society-government engagement seeks to create constructive engagement platforms for increased legitimacy in climate policymaking and service delivery.

C. Project Development Objective(s)

Proposed Development Objective(s)

The Proposed Development Objective is to strengthen the capacity of civil society actors, including vulnerable communities, to participate and influence climate policy through social accountability.

Key Results

PDO indicator 1: Perception among members of the community of practice that the community of practice brings value to them (in % of survey responses).

PDO indicator 2: Share of on-granted projects that have achieved their outcome target (%).

D. Preliminary Description

Activities/Components

<u>Component 1. Network Building, Targeted Knowledge Support, and Increased Support for Prioritizing Social Accountability in Climate Responses</u>

This component focuses on fostering an ecosystem for green accountability and a knowledge hub for green accountability that is global in scope. Activities under this component will focus on assessing selected CSOs' needs on green accountability and increasing their capacity to implement green accountability measures through the development of knowledge products, and fostering networks and partnerships through the carrying out of workshops. By building innovative practitioner networks and creatively expanding

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partnerships, this component will contribute toward growing the green accountability landscape. The component will look to create a strong global platform for transparency, accountability, and participation activities for climate finance and climate action.

The main component activities will consist of, inter alia:

- i. Community of Practice: this component will finance the development and curation of a community of practice among CSOs and other relevant stakeholders, that fosters peer-to-peer learning, knowledge sharing, and the formation of accountability practices. Specifically, this component will finance the organization of an inception workshop for approximately 30 CSOs to establish the raison d'être of the community of practice, key activities, and modes of engagement, including co-creating guidelines for the community of practice. Subsequently, the Recipient will develop an online community of practice (essentially a website with advanced functionality), complemented by existing GPSA's knowledge management and communications support. Participants of the community of practice will be engaged diversely and invited to participate in activities, including but not limited to discussion forums, expert webinars, knowledge-sharing libraries, and peer learning circles.
- ii. Knowledge Development: this component will finance the development of knowledge products focused on synthesizing new evidence on how countries adapt accountability mechanisms as they implement climate action to respond effectively to vulnerable and marginalized groups. Knowledge products will include but not limited to peer-reviewed publications, toolkits and communications products, for example infographics and blogs, aimed at making research data more accessible to relevant stakeholders. This component will also focus on summarizing available information on national climate budgeting processes and climate policy implementation and suggest ways to significantly improve global data availability, leveraging WRI existing online climate data platform (www.climatewatchdata.org).
- iii. **Green Accountability Online Platform.** A communications plan will be developed to ensure that lessons learned from this component reach key stakeholders. Disseminating the knowledge developed under this component may take place through the official webpage of the Recipient, the GPSA website and through dedicated knowledge events. The communications plan will focus on the uptake of relevant aspects and elements of the collaborative social accountability processes and mechanisms implemented under the project that could be sustained or scaled up, to inform substantive decisions at the regional, national, or subnational level. The project will also benefit from the GPSA knowledge and capacity-building support through the participation of South South North and Huariou Commission in workshops, such as the Annual GPSA Global Partners Forum and the Grant Partners Workshop.

<u>Component 2. Equipping Civil Society with Resources to Enable Fruitful Engagement with Public Authorities to Improve Climate Governance</u>

Activities under this component will focus on financing the provision of sub-grants to eligible Partner CSOs to carry out Sub-projects related to transparency, accountability, and participation in the climate sector. These sub-grants will provide CSOs with the critical resources to act on their knowledge, expertise, and

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network within local contexts to improve climate finance and action within their respective contexts. Subproject activities, may include but not be limited to carrying out: social audits of benefit sharing programs, community scorecards on climate financing[1], and workshops aimed at mobilizing municipalities, civil society groups to increase integrity and accountability in climate finance. Awareness raising and communications activities will be financed to support the formulation and dissemination of key messages by public and private actors engaged (or to be mobilized) for green accountability work. This includes messaging on transparency, improved (financial) resource allocation, effective adaptation measures, and actions to monitor emission targets (including NDCs, GHG reductions, and carbon offset markets) through workshops, training and media engagement in relevant platforms and events. Activities under the Subprojects will be designed collaboratively between WRI and the selected Partner CSOs with guidance from the GPSA Secretariat. The eligible expenses expected under the Sub-projects are expected to be training and workshops.

a. Sub-grants to eligible Partner CSOs: under Component 2, the project will take several steps to strengthen the capacity of civil society in engaging with governments on green accountability in target countries. The main activity under this Component will be the provision of resources to a diverse range of CSOs selected based on specific criteria set forth in the Operational Manual. Sub grants will be provided in approximately six eligible target countries, and their amounts will range from US\$25,000-40,000 to approximately 5 CSOs in each target country, as well as a grant of US\$200,000-250,000 to one organization in each country. Flexibility in grant size is included to allow for more equitable and sustainable outcomes. The Recipient will devote significant time toward penetrating country networks to drive the best possible applicants. In providing small grant funding, the Recipient will draw on past initiatives, such as the TerraFund, which also disbursed funding for community-led climate action at the local level.

Determining Eligibility:

- i. Proposed sub-grantees will be CSOs in the 55 GPSA opted-in countries. The GPSA & the Recipient will select countries based on a set of criteria which may include the following and other relevant criteria to be determined during preparation: representation of regions with due consideration for a balanced overall GPSA portfolio; ongoing WB climate engagements, NDC commitments, total GHG emissions; climate impact of mitigation and/or adaptation measures and climate change vulnerability; capacity of civil society to exact accountability in the countries and enabling conditions for civil society and Governments to work together to solve critical governance challenges and climate change readiness. Prior to country finalization, the Recipient will conduct an initial scope of needs through a triangulated desk research of finalist countries.
- ii. When feasible, GPSA will encourage harmonization by seeking country-level collaboration with other World Bank activities, donors, government officials, global partners, and stakeholders supporting broad governance reforms and social accountability programs. The final selection of countries will be determined in the operational manual.
- iii. All Partner CSO applications must submit to an eligibility screening when applying. Application reviews and selections will be conducted. Successful applications must not include activities which, because of the high inherent risk of political interference, are likely to raise Articles of Agreement

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issues (GPSA Board Paper, Annex C. Activities Not Eligible for Funding and Conflicts of Interest, paragraph 7, p. 41). Once the partnership has been agreed upon and awarded, they receive ongoing support and monitoring through bi-monthly check-ins to document partnership successes and triage challenges.

- iv. Sub-grantee eligibility criteria will be finalized and included in the operations manual, and will be based on criteria such as expertise in social accountability and/or climate action, experience in country planning/financing, experience and expertise in development financing, registered as a non-governmental or non-profit organization (charity, non-partisan association) in the country where proposed engagement will take place.
- v. The Recipient will maintain a partnership management system (PMS) to solicit proposals and oversee all partnership administration. The PMS platform will be used by CSO partners to apply for sub-grants, and by the Recipient to review and select Partner CSOs in coordination with the GPSA Secretariat and store all applicant and partners' data. All partnerships and related data will be populated through the platform. The platform will also maintain essential partnership management and monitoring with comprehensive documentation. Activity reporting for each Partner CSO will be initiated and tracked through the established workflows that tie back to the CSO Partner strategy.
- vi. Reports will be prepared for monitoring progress, and documenting successes and challenges of CSO partners (see also project Component 3). These documents will be shared with relevant partners at the country level such as the World Bank Country Office to incorporate lessons, mechanisms, or approaches that have been tried and tested in the CSOs' projects.

b. Additional Country-Focused Activities: In addition to the sub-projects to be carried out by the eligible Partner CSOs, this component will support specific actions within target countries to support the success of the small grants program. This may include activities to:

- Promote local-to-local and local-to-national level dialogues with government officials to promote climate accountability.
- Raise awareness especially through grassroots groups and resilience-building activities.
- Carry out situational or political economy analysis of past challenges in strengthening social accountability for the climate.
- Share evidence on the benefits and enablers of social accountability mechanisms for the climate to influence ongoing rulemaking processes.
- Build coalitions and capacity targeting key constituencies who have either been marginalized from climate decision-making or who could be more influential on policymakers or implementing agencies.
- Strengthen country level multistakeholder platforms (i.e., continuous meetings with a diverse set of stakeholders often including CSOs, government and private sector if relevant) on the implementation of climate priorities, their budgets, and state of implementation in collaboration with media and networks supported by this project to enhance visibility to create adequate pressure.
- Provide climate finance training for grassroots organizations for example through the Voices for Climate Action Programme alongside the Climate and Knowledge Network's knowledge brokering training.

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- Provide targeted analysis of climate finance flows and their uses vis a vis social development priorities and climate vulnerable groups.
- Promote local and/or national climate assemblies to address issues of inclusion, public awareness, and accountability in climate action planning.
- Carry out hackathons for making climate action tracking more accessible to the public interest groups.
- Support the development of community-level climate action plans.

<u>Component 3. Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning with Capacity Building Support through Sub-grant</u> Recipients and Knowledge Sharing with Global Partners

WRI as the Recipient will hold primary responsibility for developing and implementing a Monitoring and Evaluation (MEL) framework, collecting and analyzing MEL data and working with Partner CSOs (when necessary) to collect data and report to the World Bank on implementation progress. The collected data, by the Recipient, will inform a knowledge product. An internal knowledge and learning process will be established to regularly adjust and adapt project implementation based on experience and changing contextual factors. This will also generate knowledge and lessons learned for external dissemination amongst key stakeholders that may take up lessons from the project to apply, sustain, or scale collaborative social accountability and/or inform substantive decisions.

The main component activities will consist of, inter alia:

- i. Monitoring, evaluation, and learning. A monitoring, evaluation, and learning (MEL) plan will be developed to monitor the ongoing progress of project implementation and measure impacts and outcomes. The GPSA Secretariat will support the Recipient to develop their MEL system to complete the design of the data collection for the indicators and ensure the localization of the project Theory of Action. The Recipient will conduct a final evaluation on the project's implementation, including quality bi-annual technical and monitoring reports, and support the project team to develop capacities to adaptively manage the project.
- ii. **Baseline assessment.** The Recipient will conduct a baseline assessment that includes the collection of data to inform the monitoring process. The baseline assessment will include milestones to be verified a year into the project. The needs assessment discussed under Component 1 would contribute to this baseline assessment.
- iii. **GPSA** and **World Bank implementation support.** The GPSA and World Bank team will provide the technical assistance necessary to support the innovative nature of the project and ensure fiduciary and Environmental and Social Framework (ESF) controls. The latter will include training and capacity building on ESF and support for appropriate management of grievance arrangements, occupational health and safety standards, and stakeholder engagement activities, amongst others. This will likely be more intensive during the early stages of the project and taper off as the project mechanisms and processes become established.

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[1] Climate financing refers to local, national or transnational financing—drawn from public, private and alternative sources of financing—that seeks to support mitigation and adaptation actions that will address climate change, received on the local level.

Environmental ar	nd Social Standards Relevance			
E. Relevant Standards				
ESS Standards		Relevance		
ESS 1	Assessment and Management of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts	Relevant		
ESS 10	Stakeholder Engagement and Information Disclosure	Relevant		
ESS 2	Labor and Working Conditions	Relevant		
ESS 3	Resource Efficiency and Pollution Prevention and Management	Not Currently Relevant		
ESS 4	Community Health and Safety	Relevant		
ESS 5	Land Acquisition, Restrictions on Land Use and Involuntary Resettlement	Not Currently Relevant		
ESS 6	Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Management of Living Natural Resources	Not Currently Relevant		
ESS 7	Indigenous Peoples/Sub-Saharan African Historically Underserved Traditional Local Communities	Relevant		
ESS 8	Cultural Heritage	Not Currently Relevant		
ESS 9	Financial Intermediaries	Not Currently Relevant		

Legal Operational Policies			
Safeguard Policies	Triggered	Explanation (Optional)	
Projects on International Waterways OP 7.50	No		
Projects in Disputed Areas OP 7.60	No		

Summary of Screening of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts

The environmental and social risk rating of the the project is Low. This project does not include any activity that will require physical works, and none of the technical assistance and activities under the project are expected to have any adverse impacts. The grant?s objective is to strengthen the capacity of civil society actors, including vulnerable communities, to participate and influence climate policy through social accountability. It will have positive impacts especially in terms of stakeholder engagement and inclusion of actors that are often left out of climate debates such as local level civil society representatives and leaders, which work directly with impacted communities. The only risk foreseen at this stage is the risk associated

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with the adequate and fair selection of local CSOs as sub-grantees to carry out the capacity building, knowledge-sharing and networking tasks. Strong communication channels will be important in face-to face and in online formats to advertise the application and selection process of sub-grantees with a clear explanation of how this project will operate, ideally available in multiple languages. Given that some of the activities may take place in indigenous territories, it will be important that the stakeholder engagement under this project takes into account the existing channels, customs and traditions of the relevant IP groups. The team will leverage WRI?s experience in convening local level actors and existing networks, in addition to the Consortium partners? Huairou Commission and SouthSouthNorth (SSN) - both of which count as robust bottom-up stakeholder networks.

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