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

Concept Stage | Date Prepared/Updated: 26-Mar-2018 | Report No: PIDISDSC24085

BASIC INFORMATION

A. Basic Project Data

Country	Project ID	Parent Project ID (if any)	Project Name
Samoa	P165873		Samoa Agriculture & Fisheries Productivity and Marketing Project (SAFPROM) (P165873)
Region	**Estimated Appraisal Date**	**Estimated Board Date**	**Practice Area (Lead)**
EAST ASIA AND PACIFIC	Sep 03, 2018	Dec 10, 2018	Agriculture
Financing Instrument	**Borrower(s)**	**Implementing Agency**	
Investment Project Financing	Ministry of Finance	Ministry of Agriculture & Fisheries	

Proposed Development Objective(s)

To increase the productivity and access to markets of targeted beneficiaries in selected crops and livestock value-chains and to improve management of targeted fisheries.

Financing (in USD Million)

SUMMARY

Total Project Cost	21.00
Total Financing	21.00
Financing Gap	0.00

DETAILS

Total World Bank Group Financing	21.00
World Bank Lending	21.00

Environmental Assessment Category	Concept Review Decision
B-Partial Assessment	Track II-The review did authorize the preparation to continue

INTRODUCTION AND CONTEXT

A. Country Context

The Independent State of Samoa (Samoa) is a small remote Pacific Island Country (PIC) with a population of approximately 197,000 people[1]. Samoa consists of two large islands (Upolu and Savai'i), and several smaller islands, it has a total land area of approximately 2,830 km^2 and an exclusive economic zone of 131,000km^2. Samoa is a stable democracy with steady growth supported by the tourism and agriculture sectors.

Like many PIC's, Samoa faces unique challenges to its economic growth, due to its small size, remoteness, high exposure to shocks and environmental fragility. Economic growth has picked up in recent years, and in FY2016 real GDP expanded by around 7 percent, much faster than originally forecast and a significant acceleration from growth of between 1 and 2 percent in the previous two years. Growth in FY16 was driven by tourism arrivals, lower fuel prices, and new fish processing facilities, as well as two major sporting events. Over the medium term, real GDP is expected to increase at an annual rate of around 2 percent[2]. However, it's important to note that frequent natural disasters can distort this picture. Samoa was hit by Tropical Cyclone Evan in late 2012 and, according to the Damage and Loss Assessment[3] caused an estimated US$210 million (30% of annual GDP) in damages and losses, including a loss of 49 percent in crop and livestock GDP, and 5 percent in fisheries GDP. While Samoa has largely recovered from the effects of TC Evan, Category 5 Cyclones have been a 1 in 10-year event for Samoa.

Samoa's growth is also constrained by the high instances of obesity and noncommunicable diseases. Fifty-four percent of Samoa's population is obese and 25 percent of people smoke and it is predicted that the economic burden of NCDs will reach as high as 8.5 percent of GDP by 2040[4].

Samoa faces persistent challenges in securing prosperity for all and the incidence of hardship remains high. While extreme poverty is low, at 0.6 percent, basic needs poverty or 'hardship', is at 26.9 percent. Eighty-one percent of Samoa's population live in rural areas and most households are engaged in some form of agricultural activity. While strong traditional family and community based safety nets are still effective in preventing extreme hardship, these traditional networks cannot manage local or country-wide shocks that affect most of their members, such as natural disasters.

B. Sectoral and Institutional Context

Sectoral context: In Samoa, and across the Pacific, agriculture and coastal fisheries play an important role in meeting subsistence needs. The most commonly produced crops are taro, banana and yam, and many households have small-scale subsistence livestock production. In February 2017, 'food and live animal' imports were the top category of imports, accounting for 27.5 percent of total imports[5], and in 2015, approximately 67 percent of all retail beef and 95 percent of chicken meat was imported. Low cost and low quality food imports often crowd out domestic production and contribute (together with irrelevant food behaviors) significantly to the non-communicable disease crisis experienced in the region. On the other hand, fresh fish, particularly tuna, still constitutes one of the largest export commodities, accounting for 39 percent of exports in 2016[6], however in terms of contribution to GDP, fishing accounted for only 3.2 percent of nominal GDP in the July to September 2017 quarter.

[1] Samoa Bureau of Statistics.
[2] Samoa First Resilience DPO, The World Bank (2017)
[3] "Samoa Post-Disaster Needs Assessment, Cyclone Evan 2012", Government of Samoa, March 2013.
[4] Pacific Possible, The World Bank (2017)
[5] Samoa Bureau of Statistics (http://www.sbs.gov.ws/index.php/new-document-library?view=download&fileId=1990)
[6] Central Bank of Samoa

According to the 2015 Samoa Agriculture Survey, 97 percent of households grow some crops or raise some livestock. For most of these households, agriculture is a secondary activity, growing crops for subsistence purposes only. Despite this, agriculture in Samoa is becoming more market-oriented; between 2009 and 2015, there was a 5.2 percent increase in agriculture households selling 'some produce' and a 4.4 percent increase in major crop households producing mainly for sale[7].

Based on the same survey, 21 percent of all households are engaged in fisheries activities, with the highest rate (37 percent) in Savaii. Home consumption is the main purpose, representing 70 percent of those households in 2015. As a result of destructive fishing practices, near shore fish and fishery products had a steep decline in the early 1990's, however conservation and management plans were put in place and anecdotal evidence suggests the sector is gradually recovering.

Samoa's Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) is the smallest in the Pacific region and tuna longline fishery, particularly albacore, is the main offshore fishery. While tuna used to be the country's largest export earner, recent years have seen a decline in the overall tuna catches, with a more than 50 percent reduction between 2009 and 2013. Transshipment operations by Taiwanese longliners began in Apia, Samoa in 2010. As of April 2012, there had been 34 such operations, with 6 occurring in 2012. Numerous smaller domestic longliners also transship in Samoa with the target market being the cannery in neighboring American Samoa. In 2014 Samoa signed onto the Tokelau Arrangement, a joint approach to managing the South Pacific Longline Fishery.

Currently only 1 percent of Samoan's are formally employed in the agriculture and fisheries sector, one third of these are women[8]. While female labor force participation overall increased between 2011 and 2015, paid farm work for women is still low, at its lowest comprising only 12 percent in Savai'i[9]. However, in line with the rest of Samoa, women engaged in farm work tend to have higher levels of education than men; in 2015 the percentage of women in farm households with tertiary qualifications was double that of men. It is also more likely that an educated farm labor force will be open to modern farming techniques and tools[10].

Agriculture in Samoa is very vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change. Climate change is predicted to manifest itself in more frequent and extreme rainfall events, longer dryer spells and drought events, rising sea levels, extreme winds, and high air and water temperatures. According the World Bank's Climate and Disaster Risk Screening Tool, this project is likely to face (i) a high level of exposure to climate and disaster hazards, (ii) high impact on physical infrastructure and assets as a result of those hazards and (iii) a high level of risk to the outcomes and service delivery of the project. More on the results of the Climate and Disaster Risk Screening tool can be found under the 'Overall Risk' section.

The limited access to: (i) extension and veterinary services for farmers, (ii) markets, and (iii) financing services constitute the key bottlenecks to unlocking the agriculture potential in Samoa. Currently only one state Veterinarian services the entire country's livestock needs and there is limited knowledge and available training for farmers wanting to try new or innovative practices. New regulations around food labelling and health and safety standards coming into

[7] A major crop household is defined as an agricultural household with more than 625 square yards of land under garden crops; or more than 20 coconut trees; or more than 20 banana plants; or more than 20 other tree crops.
[8] http://www.sbs.gov.ws/index.php/new-document-library?view=download&fileId=2130
[9] http://www.sbs.gov.ws/index.php/new-document-library?view=download&fileId=1845
[10] http://www.sbs.gov.ws/index.php/new-document-library?view=download&fileId=1845

effect will also create additional requirements for market access. However, if well accompanied, smallholders farmers could also benefit substantially from these.

Institutional context: The Government of Samoa's Agriculture Sector Plan 2016-2020 provides the framework to guide coherent programs and actions from all key stakeholders to achieve the goal of increased food, nutrition and income security in Samoa. Under this plan, additional attention is being paid to build the institutional capacity of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries (MAF) to manage the sector-wide program. A lack of data was identified as a challenge to planning and monitoring in the agriculture sector, so the MAF is working closely with the Samoa Bureau of Statistics to strengthen data collection systems, analysis and reporting.

A key outcome in the Plan is to increase the supply and consumption of competitively priced, domestically produced food. Fish and Taro are the top two agriculture exports (accounting for 38 and 9 percent of exports respectively in July-September 2017 quarter). Chicken legs, followed by sugar and mutton were the biggest food imports in 2017 – poultry and sheep production therefore present substantial potential for import substitution. Building on the achievements of SACEP, the Plan looks to extend and scale up adoption of new technologies, strengthen farm business management skills and producer linkages to sustainable and profitable markets. Improving access to productive resources, financial services and business skills particularly for women is also key, noting that global experience has shown where women have increased access to income generating opportunities and social decision-making empowerment at community level, household nutrition improves.

C. Relationship to CPF

The Regional Partnership Framework (RPF) for FY17 to FY21, which was approved in February 2017, covers nine small Pacific Island countries (PIC9), including Samoa. The RPF identifies four areas of focus: (i) fully exploiting the available economic opportunities; (ii) enhancing access to employment opportunities; (iii) protecting incomes and livelihoods; and (iv) strengthening the enablers of growth and opportunities (macro-economic management, infrastructure and addressing knowledge gaps). Alongside this, the Pacific Eight Systematic Country Diagnostic (SCD), found very important solution areas for Samoa include increasing incomes from agriculture and coastal fishing, preventing noncommunicable diseases and strengthening disaster risk preparedness.

The proposed Samoa Agriculture and Fisheries Productivity and Marketing Project (SAFPROM) generally supports both the RPF focus areas and the Samoa-specific solution areas in the SCD. More commercially-viable farming practices and better access to markets will make use of economic opportunities available to most Samoans, and increase incomes for those involved; providing more climate-resilient crops, education and farming infrastructure will protect incomes and livelihoods in the face of natural disasters and a changing climate, and; promoting locally produced food will support a healthy diet and less dependence on food imports.

The FY2017 to FY2020 Strategy for the Development of Samoa highlights increased agricultural production as a priority area for Samoa, which the Samoa Agriculture and Marketing Project will also contribute to. The project is also aligned to the Government of Samoa's Agriculture Sector Plan 2016-2020, aimed at increasing the food, nutrition and income security in Samoa.

The SAFPROM will also allow Samoa to join the Pacific Islands Regional Oceanoscape Program (PROP). The PROP Program was developed as a Series of Projects (SOP) to be implemented in three phases, each six years' in duration. Phase 1 began in 2014 and is being implemented with four countries (Federated States of Micronesia, Republic of Marshall Islands, Solomon Islands, Tuvalu) and one regional institution, the Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA). The Phase I country projects all share the same Regional Program PDO and Results Framework. They also reflect

the same component design drawing on a pre-set menu of investment activities. By allowing Samoa to join the PROP, this project meets key criteria for utilizing the regional International Development Association (IDA) funds. The program (i) involves three or more countries; (ii) has benefits, economic, social and environmental, that spill over country boundaries (tuna / pelagic fishes' stocks and fisheries management); (iii) requires coordination with regional bodies (SPC and FFA) and with other countries in the region; and (iv) provides a platform for a high level of policy harmonization among countries.

As the PROP Program expands into Phase II with Tonga and Samoa operations, it has been decided that the regional project with FFA will not incorporate these new countries in Phases II and III, as it was found that the regional implementation approach is not the optimal model with which to secure regional support and coordination of the national projects. Rather, a soft technical assistance model bilaterally to each of the four main regional fisheries agencies[11] will be employed during Phase II of PROP to ensure that each of these agencies pro-actively engage in supporting the national projects to strengthen their commitment and collaboration toward shared management of their oceanic and coastal fisheries resources.

PROPOSED PDO/RESULTS

A. Proposed Development Objective(s)

To increase the productivity and access to markets of targeted beneficiaries in selected crops and livestock value-chains and to improve management of targeted fisheries.

B. Key Results

Progress will be measured against the following PDO-level indicators:

(a) Increased yields in selected crops and livestock value-chains
(b) Increased value of sale in selected crops and livestock value-chains
(c) Number of fisheries management plans implemented
(d) Total number of beneficiaries, disaggregated by gender

Direct beneficiaries are expected to be semi-commercial and commercial farming households and farmers, as well as small and medium enterprises (small agribusiness involved in collecting, processing, packaging and marketing activities, but also inputs suppliers). MAF will also directly benefit from capacity building activities.

A detailed results framework will be developed during preparation.

[11] Pacific Islands Fisheries Forum Agency (FFA), Pacific Community (SPC), Parties of the Nauru Agreement Office (PNAO), Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS)

PROJECT CONTEXT

A. Concept

1. Description

The Samoa Agriculture Competitiveness Enhancement Project (P115351) is currently in its last year, closing 31 December 2018, and has achieved significant accomplishments for Samoan farmers, as well as relevant government departments. Based on SACEP's successes, the government of Samoa would like to build on these achievements and take advantage of the opportunities presented.

Through its objectives of increasing crops and livestock productivity and access to market increase as well as improving the management of targeted fisheries, this project may contribute to: (i) import substitution and increase the supply and consumption of domestically produced food; (ii) boost exports of some commodities, and (iii) strengthen resilience of farming households to climate change and climate-induced disasters (cyclones, heavy rains, prolonged dry seasons).

It is proposed that SAFPROM will have four components.

Component 1: Creating an enabling environment for increased productivity and access to markets for target farming and fishing households. This will include:

a. Institutional capacity building activities in the MAF as well as current and potential cooperatives and associations. Activities will be based on a needs assessment and a capacity building action plan. The project will also support the establishment of an Agriculture Sector Coordination Division within the MAF for project management. This component will also help reviewing the regulatory and policy framework and update it if needed. A special focus will be looked at national standards that affect the capacity of Samoan agriculture products to reach specific high value markets.
b. Development and improvement of infrastructure and equipment of public good nature. On the model of SACEP (with the Static and Mobile Slaughtering Units and the Tissue Culture Laboratory), this sub-component will support the development of feasibility studies, work and equipment of key collective infrastructures that have been identified as bottlenecks for the development of the sector. For instance, in Savai'I island, a small veterinary laboratory and a fruits and vegetable Packhouse would help farmers to address their animal diseases and packaging concerns.

Component 2: Support to farming and fishing households through a matching grant program (MGP). The design of which will be informed through a review of the MGP under SACEP. As per the GoS Concept Note, this financing mechanism *should expand, not only to increase the number of farmers benefiting, but also to allow farmers' groups to work together in post-harvest handling and agro-processing*. It will help establishing alliances between the farmers, fishers, their groups and cooperatives and services providers or buyers. This MGP will give priority to sub-projects that promote innovative technologies aimed at improving productivity and quality for products for which there is a market demand. It will also support climate change mitigation activities through for instance intensification of livestock production, pasture management, improved feeding rations and practices using local products; and adaptation by promoting inter alia poly-tunnels to protect crops against heavy rains, water collection and small-scale irrigation to cope with prolonged dry seasons, etc. – therefore contributing to strengthened resilience to climate-related events.

Regarding coastal fisheries, this component, through the MGP, will provide the opportunity to strengthen the *community based fisheries management program (CBFMP)* that has been implemented since 1995. This could upgrade the CBFMP to assess potential development support for participating communities or look at income generating activities for local communities. Over 100 villages have joined the program. Other coastal fisheries areas may include

effective management regimes for the sea cucumber fishery (hatchery production, grow out and possibly processing). Post-harvest and value adding for low value fish are key components as community undertakings.

Component 3: Aims to help GoS strengthen management of the region's long-line tuna fisheries while identifying opportunities for sustainably increasing domestic revenues from this shared resource. This component will allow Samoa to join the PROP and is proposed to be financed through the following IDA grant resources: US$ 3 million in national IDA and US$ 6 million in regional IDA.

Towards this objective, the component will support GoS' regional and national activities to:

a. Strengthen its capacity to engage effectively in the Tokelau Arrangement, the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Management Commission (WCPFC) and other regional forums;

b. Strengthen capacity and establishment of a national observer program

c. Invest in and implement robust Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS), stock monitoring and fisheries management mechanisms and schemes. This includes upgrading Samoa's Fisheries Information Management Systems and skills on MCS, carrying out joint regional patrol operations, boarding inspections, data collection, analysis and application; and combating Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing

d. Develop and implement strategies to enhance the competitiveness of the domestic longline fleet and the oversight and value of oceanic fishing activities within their EEZ including enhancing transshipment and related services.

Component 4: Contingency Emergency Response Component (Total Cost: US$0): Following an eligible crisis or emergency, the government of Samoa may request the Bank to re-allocate project funds to support emergency response and reconstruction. This component would draw from the uncommitted grant resources under the project from other project components to cover emergency response. These activities would be carried out, as needed to ensure continued achievement of the project development objective. This component will only be used in the event that an emergency response is required.

SAFEGUARDS

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

The project would be implemented over a period of five years on Upolu and Savaii islands. Samoa is made up of nine islands with four main inhabited islands (Upolu,Savaii, Manono and Apolima) and has a total land area is 2,830 km2. The islands are of volcanic origin dominated by olivine basaltic rocks. The area is generally mountainous.

Samoa has a population of approximately 197,000 people, of which 97% are Polynesian. The majority of people live on Upolu and Savaii. Settlements and agricultural activity on these islands are concentrated on the coastal plains and rolling slopes.

Approximately 60,000 ha or 21% of the total land area is under crops or grazing regimes. Forest cover is approximately 60%. Samoa's 12 terrestrial national parks, reserves and community conservation areas are located on Upolu and Savaii.

The country's reef area is approximately 10,000 km2 and its exclusive economic zone is approximately 131000 km2. The main fishery landing sites in Samoa include Apia (Upolu), Salelologa (Savaii) and Apolima-uta (Upolu) with local subsistence landings scattered in coastal villages around inhabited islands . Samoa has three (3) protected marine areas (inshore).

As for offshore fishery, Samoa's Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) is the smallest in the Pacific region and tuna longline fishery, particularly albacore, is the main offshore fishery. While tuna used to be the country's largest export earner, recent years have seen a decline in the overall tuna catches, with a more than 50 percent reduction between 2009 and 2013. Transshipment operations by Taiwanese longliners began in Apia, Samoa in 2010. As of April 2012, there had been 34 such operations, with 6 occurring in 2012. Numerous smaller domestic longliners also transship in Samoa with the target market being the cannery in neighboring American Samoa. In 2014 Samoa signed onto the Tokelau Arrangement, a joint approach to managing the South Pacific Longline Fishery.

B. Borrower's Institutional Capacity for Safeguard Policies

The current World Bank financed Samoa Agriculture Competitiveness Enhancement Project (SACEP) has addressed safeguards' capacity constraints within MAF through a Coordination group (PCG) which includes an environmental and social (E&S) officer. For SAFPROM, E&S capacity within MAF is expected to be further strengthened with the establishment of a dedicated Agriculture Sector Coordination Division (ASCD) including a senior E&S specialist, to effectively coordinate and management agriculture sector activities, including environmental and social safeguards. This unit will be supported by a Centralized Technical Services and Support Unit (CTSSU) within the MOF which will also include an E&S Advisor. Her/his role will be to build capacity of E&S specialists within the line ministries, including the ASCD, and advise these teams on complex issues on an ad hoc basis.

C. Environmental and Social Safeguards Specialists on the Team

Thomas John Callander, Social Safeguards Specialist
Nicholas John Valentine, Environmental Safeguards Specialist

D. Policies that might apply

Safeguard Policies	Triggered?	Explanation (Optional)
Environmental Assessment OP/BP 4.01	Yes	The project would finance a number of small-scale, household-based farming (i.e. livestock development and crop development) and community fisheries production/marketing subprojects through a small grants scheme. Negative environmental and social impacts associated with these activities are expected to be minor, localized and temporary primarily because of their small-scale and household/community focus. The project would support the development and improvement of collective infrastructure and/or equipment (i.e. small veterinary laboratory, renovation of a local fish market or a fruits and

		vegetable pack-house). These small to medium-scale investments have the potential to cause some minor adverse environmental and social impacts however these are readily managed through standard mitigation measures. The project would finance the development and implementation of strategies to enhance the competitiveness of the domestic longline tuna fleet and the value of oceanic fishing activities within the Samoa's EEZ including enhancing transshipment and related services. An Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) is proposed as the safeguards instrument given that the specific locations of the investments are not known and these will be determined through the grant process. The ESMF will incorporate the requirements of the World Group's Environmental, Health and Safety Guidelines (EHSGs) and industry specific guidelines for agribusiness, food production and pesticides management. The project also includes a Contingency Emergency Response Component to support emerency activities that ensure continued achievement of the project development objective. The ESMF will outline the approach and principles for managing potential E&S impacts and risks of the CERC including ascreening process in accordance with the World Bank's Rapid Response to Crises and Emergencies: Procedural Guidelines.
Natural Habitats OP/BP 4.04	Yes	For agriculture and livestock, the project will not finance any activities that significantly convert or degrade any protected areas or natural habitats as the screening procedures in the ESMF will exclude all subprojects with these impacts. The project will support enhanced management of coastal and ocean fisheries/ecosystems. While proposed activities are expected to enhance positive and sustainable returns to these important habitats, the ESMF will contain measures to properly manage the risk of any unforeseen adverse environmental impact on natural habitats, including critical natural habitats, as well as measures to enhance positive environmental impacts.

Forests OP/BP 4.36	Yes	For agriculture (crops and livestock), the policy will not finance activities that impact on the health and quality of forests. For fisheries, the project may support marine ecosystem conservation activities (i.e. mangroves conservation). The ESMF will contain measures to properly manage the risk of any unforeseen adverse environmental impacts of these activities, as well as measures to enhance positive environmental impacts.
Pest Management OP 4.09	Yes	The client will review and update the current SACEP Integrated Pest Management (IPM) following the standards and requirements set forth in OP4.09 and the World Group's Environmental, Health and Safety Guidelines (EHSGs) for agribusiness and food production. The project will include measures to strengthen the institutional capacity for implementing IPM in project areas. This will include a stronger focus on health and safety.
Physical Cultural Resources OP/BP 4.11	No	The project will not finance any activities that will have impacts on physical cultural resources; screening and chance find procedures will be included in the ESMF to exclude all subprojects with these impacts.
Indigenous Peoples OP/BP 4.10	No	The ethnic structure in Samoa is predominantly ethnic Samoan (92.6%) with a minority of Europeans and biracial European/Polynesian.
Involuntary Resettlement OP/BP 4.12	Yes	At present, no involuntary land acquisition is expected under the project. The majority of sub-projects will be undertaken on customary land with the voluntary participation of grants scheme recipient landowners. The only exception will be the siting of collective infrastructure facilities which will be either on Government-owned land or land secured via voluntary land donation. A Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF) will be prepared to address these potential scenarios. In fishery, certain activities may involve the restriction of access to natural resources and/or marine protected areas which local people may depend upon for their livelihood. A Process Framework will be developed in compliance with OP4.12 requirements to address these potential issues.
Safety of Dams OP/BP 4.37	No	The project will not finance any dams as defined under OP 4.37.
Projects on International Waterways OP/BP 7.50	No	The project does not impact or relate to any known international waterways as defined under the policy.

Projects in Disputed Areas OP/BP 7.60	No	The project is not located in any known disputed areas as defined under the policy.

E. Safeguard Preparation Plan

Tentative target date for preparing the Appraisal Stage PID/ISDS

Aug 15, 2018

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

As soon as the GoS will access the Project preparation Facility, the recruitment of an E&S specialist and a consultant to develop both the ESMF and the PMP. It is therefore expected that the safeguards documents will be ready by mid-August to inform the Appraisal stage ISDS.

CONTACT POINT

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APPROVAL

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