



# Concept Environmental and Social Review Summary

## Concept Stage

### **(ESRS Concept Stage)**

Date Prepared/Updated: 09/11/2019 | Report No: ESRSC00792



## BASIC INFORMATION

### A. Basic Project Data

Country	Region	Project ID	Parent Project ID (if any)
Zimbabwe	AFRICA	P172176	
Project Name	SPF - Support to Zimbabwe Recovery and Resilience		
Practice Area (Lead)	Financing Instrument	Estimated Appraisal Date	Estimated Board Date
«PRACTICEAREA»	Investment Project Financing		11/8/2019
Borrower(s)	Implementing Agency(ies)		
Ministry of Finance and Economic Development	Ministry of Finance and Economic Development		

### Proposed Development Objective(s)

Support the Government of Zimbabwe to strengthen and build up systems and capacities to manage the recovery and transition process and promote resilience and stability.

Financing (in USD Million)	Amount
Total Project Cost	2.00

### B. Is the project being prepared in a Situation of Urgent Need of Assistance or Capacity Constraints, as per Bank IPF Policy, para. 12?

No

### C. Summary Description of Proposed Project [including overview of Country, Sectoral & Institutional Contexts and Relationship to CPF]

The Grant will focus on strengthening systems and capacities required to more effectively manage the cyclone recovery and to promote resilience of the population to deal with future economic, natural, and social shocks. The grant will consist of two mutually enforcing components. A recipient executed component will be implemented through Ministry of Local Government to strengthen intergovernmental coordination of cyclone support, the capacity of the Civil Protection Committees and Development Committees at Ward and Village level and support the development of an integrated Management Information System to generate beneficiary lists, beneficiary profiles, and community verification reports associated with the cyclone recovery process. In parallel, a Bank executed component will provide targeted analytical and technical assistance to Government to learn from the cyclone response and



promote a shared narrative and platform for coordination and engagement between Government, development partners and other stakeholders to manage risks and build resilience to crises.

#### **D. Environmental and Social Overview**

D.1. Project location(s) and salient characteristics relevant to the ES assessment [geographic, environmental, social]  
The proposed Programme will be implemented nation wide following the Zimbabwe Reconstruction Fund (ZIMREF) governance structure which comprises of a two-tier governance structure made up of a Policy Oversight Committee (POC) and Technical Review Groups (TRGs) supported by a Secretariat and Project Implementation Teams (PSTs). ZIMREF is a country-specific multi-donor trust fund that was approved by the Board of Executive Directors of the World Bank in May 2014 with an overarching goal of strengthening Zimbabwe's systems for reconstruction and development with a focus on stabilization and reform, development and poverty alleviation.

The program will provide funding for a package of Technical Assistance to support the Government of Zimbabwe to strengthen and build up systems and capacities to more effectively respond to and manage the recovery to different shocks and to mitigate against multiple risks of increased vulnerability and violence. The program will provide funding to generate knowledge and learning to integrate innovative efforts and approaches to allow the cyclone response to directly support the broader transformation of the country in particular in terms of supporting a devolved recovery response at the district and local level with strong citizen engagement and the development of an MIS for beneficiary identification. The project will ensure that the design of the MIS includes measures for protection of personal information. Given that the Program will not finance civil works, no adverse environmental and social impacts on the environment and the population are expected.

The program should be seen in conjunction with the Zimbabwe Idai Recovery Project (P171114) which funds a comprehensive package of recovery measures in response to cyclone Idai. The Idai Project has comprehensive E&S management measures in place. The program does not provide any support for development of infrastructure, construction or activities with environmental and social footprint.

#### **D. 2. Borrower's Institutional Capacity**

Funds will be managed according to ZIMREF governance structure which includes a local two-tier governance structure comprising a Policy Oversight Committee (POC) and Technical Review Groups (TRGs), supported by a Secretariat and Project Implementation Teams (PSTs).

Consultations to date have highlighted two possible implementation arrangements for Component 1:

Option 1: Using an existing Project implementation Unit within MoFED and expanding this to also comprise staff from MLGPWNH to ensure sustainability of the capacity strengthening activities and links to the national framework for disaster preparedness, response and recovery over time.

Option 2: The grant is transferred via MoFED to MLGPWNH, which enters into a standard service agreement with UNDP for delivery of project activities, linking to already ongoing and planned capacity support from UNDP to the Ministry.



In both scenarios the Project will build on and use established engagements with the GoZ and will be coordinated through the Cabinet Committee for Crisis Management and Response, given the cross-government nature of the activities. It will also rely on the existing multi-stakeholder dialogue platform co-convened by OPC and the UN Resident Coordinator. Ministry of Local Government and Ministry of Finance and Economic Development will co-chair the Project Steering Committee (PSC) to oversee coordination and implementation of the project.

Component 2 will be Bank executed and will be carried forward by relevant WBG GP teams using the collaborative platforms established and refined through recent collective efforts during the Joint Needs Assessment and subsequent Rapid Impact Needs Assessment. It will be carried out in close collaboration with the RE component architecture described above, and through a separate steering committee involving the UN RC office, UNDP and selected development partners interested in violence prevention and resilience building. Specific studies might be contracted to NGOs, research institutes, and/or UN agencies based on an assessment of comparative advantage. All Bank executed activities financed from the ZIMREF will be carried out in accordance with applicable Bank policies and procedures.

ZIMREF has experience in implementing World Bank funded projects in line with the Safeguard Policies but has limited capacity in applying the Environmental and Social Framework. Capacity building on the use of the Environmental and Social Framework will be provided during the implementation of the Program.

## II. SCREENING OF POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL (ES) RISKS AND IMPACTS

### A. Environmental and Social Risk Classification (ESRC)

Low

#### Environmental Risk Rating

Low

The environmental risk classification of the Program is low. There are no activities planned that have a physical footprint and / or will likely generate adverse environmental risks and impacts from under the Technical Assistance. The Program will focus on strengthening government systems and capacities required to more effectively manage Cyclone Idai recovery and to promote resilience of the population to deal with future economic, natural, and social shocks. The Program will not finance physical infrastructure facilities or develop policies/regulations that may cause, from its implementation, adverse impacts to the environment and/or ecosystems.

#### Social Risk Rating

Low

The social risk classification for the project is low under the World Bank ESF based on the nature of the activities which are in form of technical assistance that will not include any physical or civil works. The program will primarily support capacity and system strengthening of the central government Ministry, with some focus also on supporting the capacity of local government entities for service delivery in cyclone affected areas. The project will contribute towards crisis response, prevention and recovery, towards more effective use of the proposed CRW financing and the development of an MIS for beneficiary identification. The MIS will include measures for protection of personal information. It will also contribute towards broader state building and transformation objectives outlined in the Government's Transition Stabilization Program through allowing dedicated testing of policy commitments related to devolution, which can subsequently be brought to a national scale. Minimal or negligible social risks or impacts are expected as a result of the technical assistance activities. Labor and working conditions are anticipated to be negligible, the workforce engaged through program funded activities will be senior experts, consulting firms and



current government officials. Given the nature of the project, extensive stakeholder consultations will take place to inform and verify findings, discuss proposals. The engagements must align, at a minimum, with standard government procedures related to policy development.

## **B. Environment and Social Standards (ESSs) that Apply to the Activities Being Considered**

### **B.1. General Assessment**

#### **ESS1 Assessment and Management of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts**

##### ***Overview of the relevance of the Standard for the Project:***

This standard is relevant as the project includes standalone technical assistance activities funded by a small grant from a recipient executed trust fund. At the concept stage, no specific environmental and social impacts are expected based on the activities described above. The Program will not finance physical infrastructure facilities or develop policies/regulations/approaches that may cause, from its implementation, adverse environmental and social impacts. Therefore, general environmental and social risks linked to the technical assistance components of the project proposed activities are mostly irrelevant to this project. Those that have been deemed as relevant are ESS1, ESS2 and ESS10. The relevant instruments for the project will be the ESCP, SEP and LMP, no other instruments are expected due to the nature of the activities.

##### **Areas where “Use of Borrower Framework” is being considered:**

Use of Borrower Framework is not being considered.

#### **ESS10 Stakeholder Engagement and Information Disclosure**

This standard is relevant as the project seeks to strengthen coordination of recovery responses and mitigating multi-sector risks in a way that supports peace and stability including through mapping of community level risks and vulnerabilities. As such it will be important to identify all relevant stakeholders and ensure that these can meaningfully contribute to project design and outcomes. The recipient will prepare a Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) which will involve all identified stakeholders. Direct stakeholders of this project are likely to be national, provincial and district authorities, local leaders and community members. The draft SEP will be disclosed as early as possible and prior to Bank appraisal. GoZ and the Bank will seek stakeholder feedback and opportunities for proposed future engagement, ensuring that all consultations are inclusive and accessible and through channels that are suitable in the local context. If major changes are made to the SEP, a revised SEP will be publicly disclosed.

GoZ and the Bank will provide stakeholders with timely, relevant, understandable and accessible information, and consult with them in a culturally appropriate manner, which is free of manipulation, interference, coercion, discrimination and intimidation.



As part of the SEP a Grievance Mechanism (GM), proportionate to the program activities, will be established.

## **B.2. Specific Risks and Impacts**

**A brief description of the potential environmental and social risks and impacts relevant to the Project.**

### **ESS2 Labor and Working Conditions**

This standard is relevant as the project will employ consultants. Working conditions for GoZ and potential consultants will be assessed to ensure alignment with ESS2. The number of workers is unknown at this stage, but is expected to be very limited. Labor management procedures will be prepared prior to the employment of consultants and will set out how the program will meet the requirements of ESS2 for direct workers and consultants.

### **ESS3 Resource Efficiency and Pollution Prevention and Management**

This standard is not currently relevant as the proposed Program will not finance any civil works, and therefore, no pollution is anticipated from the Program activities and will not involve the use of natural living resources.

### **ESS4 Community Health and Safety**

This standard is currently not relevant as no construction or infrastructure development activity is envisaged under the project and there will be no interaction with communities, there is no potential health and safety risk or impact on communities.

### **ESS5 Land Acquisition, Restrictions on Land Use and Involuntary Resettlement**

This standard is currently not relevant as the program activities will not entail any land acquisition, restrictions on land use or involuntary resettlement.

### **ESS6 Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Management of Living Natural Resources**

This standard is not currently relevant as the proposed Program will neither finance nor support any civil works or policies that might likely affect biodiversity or management of living natural resources.

### **ESS7 Indigenous Peoples/Sub-Saharan African Historically Underserved Traditional Local Communities**

This standard is currently not relevant. Despite the presence of remote communities that meet the criteria of ESS7 in Zimbabwe, program activities in areas with IP presence is not anticipated. In the event of stakeholder engagement is planned in or near to areas with IP presence special considerations to enable meaningful engagement would need to be considered as part of SEP.

### **ESS8 Cultural Heritage**



This standard is currently not relevant as the project does not involve any activities that may impact tangible or intangible cultural heritage or access to the heritage sites.

#### **ESS9 Financial Intermediaries**

This standard is currently not relevant. The project will not make use of a financial intermediary to on lend funds to sub-projects.

### **C. Legal Operational Policies that Apply**

**OP 7.50 Projects on International Waterways** No

**OP 7.60 Projects in Disputed Areas** No

## **III. WORLD BANK ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL DUE DILIGENCE**

**A. Is a common approach being considered?** No

#### **Financing Partners**

A common approach is not being considered.

#### **B. Proposed Measures, Actions and Timing (Borrower's commitments)**

##### **Actions to be completed prior to Bank Board Approval:**

The following documents will need to be prepared prior to the Country Director Approval (no Appraisal ESRS is required as the project is a stand-alone small recipient executed trust fund):

- 1) Development of the Environmental and Social Commitment Plan (ESCP)
- 2) Development of the Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP)

##### **Possible issues to be addressed in the Borrower Environmental and Social Commitment Plan (ESCP):**

The ESCP will need to include the development of Labor Management Procedures (LMP) and measures to demonstrate monitoring of the Project implementation against the requirements of the ESF in particular in relation to the Stakeholder Engagement Plan, Grievance Mechanism and the Labor Management Procedures.

#### **C. Timing**

**Tentative target date for preparing the Appraisal Stage ESRS** 08-Nov-2019

## **IV. CONTACT POINTS**

**World Bank**



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#### **Borrower/Client/Recipient**

Borrower: Ministry of Finance and Economic Development

#### **Implementing Agency(ies)**

Implementing Agency: Ministry of Finance and Economic Development

#### **V. FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT**

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#### **VI. APPROVAL**

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