

INTEGRATED SAFEGUARDS DATA SHEET APPRAISAL STAGE

Report No.: ISDSA16663

Date ISDS Prepared/Updated: 27-Jan-2016

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I. BASIC INFORMATION

1. Basic Project Data

Country:	Liberia	Project ID:	P155293
Project Name:	Liberia Social Safety Nets Project (P155293)		
Task Team Leader(s):	Suleiman Namara		
Estimated Appraisal Date:	19-Feb-2016	Estimated Board Date:	28-Apr-2016
Managing Unit:	GSP07	Lending Instrument:	Investment Project Financing
Sector(s):	Other social services (100%)		
Theme(s):	Social Safety Nets/Social Assistance & Social Care Services (100%)		
Is this project processed under OP 8.50 (Emergency Recovery) or OP 8.00 (Rapid Response to Crises and Emergencies)?			No
Financing (In USD Million)			
Total Project Cost:	16.00	Total Bank Financing:	10.00
Financing Gap:	0.00		
Financing Source			Amount
BORROWER/RECIPIENT			0.00
International Development Association (IDA)			10.00
US Agency for International Development (USAID)			6.00
Total			16.00
Environmental Category:	C - Not Required		
Is this a Repeater project?	No		

2. Project Development Objective(s)

The Project Development Objective (PDO) is to establish the key building blocks for of a basic national safety net delivery system and provide income support to extremely poor and food insecure households in Liberia.

The key building blocks for of a basic national safety net delivery system include: (a) a Social Registry (SR); (b) data collection and household registration, including information intake into the SR; (c) eligibility screening; (d) an integrated Management Information System enabling monitoring across participating programs as well as program-specific management modules for enrollment, payment, grievance redress and monitoring and evaluation.

3. Project Description

The proposed operation will support the creation of a basic national social safety net system, focusing on a cash transfer program that will target extremely poor and food insecure households. This will include households which have become extremely poor as a result of the Ebola outbreak, as well as households that suffer food insecurity and chronic poverty. While the systems will be built to cover the entire country, cash transfers will initially cover a few targeted counties selected based on transparent criteria. Bomi, Maryland, Grand Kru and River Gee counties have been selected because they have the highest rates of poverty and food insecurity in comparison to all other counties in Liberia. As well as regular cash transfers beneficiary households will also be supported through accompanying measures that aim to promote healthy eating and home production of vegetables. Given the high degree of malnutrition among children and the lack of dietary diversity in the most food insecure and chronically poor households, these accompanying measures will encourage beneficiary households to improve consumption and invest in the human development of their families, particularly young children as well as pregnant and lactating mothers.

The proposed project is expected to have the following components:

Component 1. Strengthening of the National Social Safety Net System

27. The objective of this component is to improve efficiency, enhance capacity and strengthen the national social safety net system in Liberia through the development of the basic building blocks of an SP delivery system. This component will finance the development of a Social Registry (SR) – a database with information on households that are potential and actual beneficiaries of social protection programs in Liberia. As well as the SR, this component will support the development of data collection and household registration tools, an accurate eligibility screening mechanism for the Social Cash Transfer program and an integrated Management Information System (MIS) that facilitates tracking of beneficiaries, payment delivery, grievance redress, and monitoring and evaluation (M&E).

Component 2: Cash Transfers to Extremely Poor and Food Insecure Households

The objective of this component is to continue the Social Cash Transfer Program and provide income support to approximately 10,000 extremely poor and food insecure households in Liberia through regular cash transfers and accompanying measures. This component will be implemented in Bomi, Maryland, Grand Kru and River Gee counties. These counties have been selected because they have the highest rates of poverty and food insecurity in comparison to all other counties in Liberia (see annex 2 for the details on the ranking of counties).

This component will build on the SCT Pilot and SCT-REPLI cash transfer programs. There are 3,800 existing beneficiaries in Bomi (1,900 households benefiting since 2009) and Maryland (1,890 benefiting since 2012) from these programs. These beneficiaries will be recertified before inclusion using the updated data intake, registration and screening processes developed under the LSSN. The transfers will be delivered to households on a quarterly basis throughout the year and will vary

according to the size of households. The transfers will be made to the female member in the household with the most competence and responsibility for household spending in order to increase the potential for higher program impacts on nutrition and food security of household members, as well as human capital investments in children. Based on the economic analysis of the poverty gap and household consumption among extremely poor households, the transfer amount has been pegged at US\$10 to 34 per month depending on the size of the households. The size of the transfer will be reassessed when the 2014 HIES data becomes available, and updated if there are changes to the poverty gaps and value of household consumption or the food poverty line

Component 3. Project Management and Capacity Building

The objective of this component is to finance program management and administration of the LSSN project implemented by the MGCSP. The component will also strengthen coordination among safety net programs at the national and sub-national levels. This includes equipment, vehicles, fuel, office space, and communications costs, and incremental project-related operating costs under the MGCSP for the implementation Components 1 and 2 of the project. This support will include the procurement of service providers to implement operational aspects of the cash transfers, including data collection, electronic registration, payments mechanisms and auditing.

Capacity building on safety net tools and systems. In order for the cash transfers and the accompanying measures to be effectively managed and administrated it will be necessary to provide capacity building to stakeholders at central and local levels. This will include training for community communication and sensitization, implementation and operationalization of the GRM, training and coordination workshops on the roll-out of the accompanying measures, and training on the use of the tools and systems developed under Component 1, as well as training on the program's operations, and on the respective responsibilities at national and regional levels

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

The project activities will have no or negligible environmental social safeguards impacts, and the project does not involve land acquisition leading to involuntary resettlement or restrictions of access to resources or livelihoods. There are no Indigenous Peoples in the project area.

5. Environmental and Social Safeguards Specialists

Gloria Malia Mahama (GSU01)

Sekou Abou Kamara (GEN01)

6. Safeguard Policies	Triggered?	Explanation (Optional)
Environmental Assessment OP/BP 4.01	No	This project activities will not pose any threat to the natural environment
Natural Habitats OP/BP 4.04	No	this project will not invest in activities likely to affect the natural ecosystem.
Forests OP/BP 4.36	No	No investment in forest or protected areas is involved
Pest Management OP 4.09	No	Project activities will not require the use of pesticides

Physical Cultural Resources OP/BP 4.11	No	The project avoids impact on sites with any cultural significance
Indigenous Peoples OP/BP 4.10	No	There are no Indigenous Peoples in the project area.
Involuntary Resettlement OP/BP 4.12	No	The project will not finance any activities that will result in impacts detailed in OP 4.12.
Safety of Dams OP/BP 4.37	No	No dam construction is involved in this project
Projects on International Waterways OP/BP 7.50	No	The project activities will not be supporting activities with potential impact on international water ways
Projects in Disputed Areas OP/BP 7.60	No	

II. Key Safeguard Policy Issues and Their Management

A. Summary of Key Safeguard Issues

1. Describe any safeguard issues and impacts associated with the proposed project. Identify and describe any potential large scale, significant and/or irreversible impacts:
2. Describe any potential indirect and/or long term impacts due to anticipated future activities in the project area:
3. Describe any project alternatives (if relevant) considered to help avoid or minimize adverse impacts.
4. Describe measures taken by the borrower to address safeguard policy issues. Provide an assessment of borrower capacity to plan and implement the measures described.
5. Identify the key stakeholders and describe the mechanisms for consultation and disclosure on safeguard policies, with an emphasis on potentially affected people.

B. Disclosure Requirements

If the project triggers the Pest Management and/or Physical Cultural Resources policies, the respective issues are to be addressed and disclosed as part of the Environmental Assessment/Audit/or EMP.
If in-country disclosure of any of the above documents is not expected, please explain why:

C. Compliance Monitoring Indicators at the Corporate Level

The World Bank Policy on Disclosure of Information			
Have relevant safeguard policies documents been sent to the World Bank's Infoshop?	Yes []	No []	NA []

Have relevant documents been disclosed in-country in a public place in a form and language that are understandable and accessible to project-affected groups and local NGOs?	Yes [<input type="checkbox"/>] No [<input type="checkbox"/>] NA [<input type="checkbox"/>]
All Safeguard Policies	
Have satisfactory calendar, budget and clear institutional responsibilities been prepared for the implementation of measures related to safeguard policies?	Yes [<input type="checkbox"/>] No [<input type="checkbox"/>] NA [<input type="checkbox"/>]
Have costs related to safeguard policy measures been included in the project cost?	Yes [<input type="checkbox"/>] No [<input type="checkbox"/>] NA [<input type="checkbox"/>]
Does the Monitoring and Evaluation system of the project include the monitoring of safeguard impacts and measures related to safeguard policies?	Yes [<input type="checkbox"/>] No [<input type="checkbox"/>] NA [<input type="checkbox"/>]
Have satisfactory implementation arrangements been agreed with the borrower and the same been adequately reflected in the project legal documents?	Yes [<input type="checkbox"/>] No [<input type="checkbox"/>] NA [<input type="checkbox"/>]

III. APPROVALS

Task Team Leader(s):	Name: Suleiman Namara	
<i>Approved By</i>		
Practice Manager/ Manager:	Name: Stefano Paternostro (PMGR)	Date: 03-Feb-2016