

INTEGRATED SAFEGUARDS DATA SHEET

CONCEPT STAGE

Report No.: ISDSC14020

Date ISDS Prepared/Updated: 16-Nov-2015

Date ISDS Approved/Disclosed: 07-Jan-2016

I. BASIC INFORMATION

A. 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%)		
Financing (In USD Million)			
Total Project Cost:	10.00	Total Bank Financing:	10.00
Financing Gap:	0.00		
Financing Source			Amount
BORROWER/RECIPIENT			0.00
International Development Association (IDA)			10.00
Total			10.00
Environmental Category:	C - Not Required		
Is this a Repeater project?	No		

B. Project Objectives

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

C. Project Description

The proposed operation will support the creation of a national safety net system, focusing on a cash transfer program that will target extremely poor households, including those that have been affected by the Ebola outbreak. Project coverage will be based on transparent criteria that will be agreed

during project preparation. Based on the preliminary discussions with Government, regular cash transfers will be accompanied by soft conditions (in particular nutrition and promotion of homestead vegetable gardening). These soft conditions will provide an opportunity for poor households to smoothen consumption and invest in the human capital 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

The objective of this component is to improve efficiency, enhance capacity and strengthen the building blocks of a basic national social safety net system in Liberia. Specifically, this component will finance the development of a Social Registry (SR) – a data system with information about extremely poor households who are potential and actual beneficiaries of selected social protection programs in Liberia. This registry will contribute to the development of an efficient SP system that will reduce duplication, improve effectiveness of the SP sector in reaching the poorest, and unify and streamline social protection programming in Liberia.

This component will also support the development of a Management Information System (MIS) for the ongoing Social Cash Transfer (SCT) program to facilitate data management (at both central and sub-national level) related to registration, benefits tracking, administration and dissemination of data. In addition, this component will support the development of efficient payment, grievance redress, and Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) systems (including a randomized impact evaluation) for the SCT program. Activities under this component will build on the progress made in developing efficient safety net systems under the ongoing SCT REPLI program, and the Rapid Social Response Grant for the SCT program, which supports the development of targeting tools and the design of the SR.

Component 2: Cash Transfers

The objective of this component will be to provide income support to extremely poor households in Liberia. Specifically, this component will provide regular cash transfers to at least 17,000 extremely poor households in Liberia. The component will build on the existing SCT REPLI program, which aims to provide cash transfers to at least 10,000 extremely poor and EVD affected households in Bomi, Maryland, Grand Cape Mount, Grand Bassa, Grand Kru, Margibi, rural Montserrado and River Gee counties. LSSN will therefore build on this program to progressively scale up implementation throughout all 15 counties of Liberia. The transfers will be delivered to households on a bi-monthly basis throughout the year and will vary according to the size of households. The transfer amount under the SCT program has been calibrated to the prevailing poverty trends and food prices and pegged at US\$10-25 per month, for households with 1-5 or more members. This component will also support the implementation of soft conditions to reinforce human capital investments, particularly those associated with improving agricultural productivity, maternal and child health.

Component 3. Project Management and Administration

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.

D. 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.

E. Borrowers Institutional Capacity for Safeguard Policies

F. Environmental and Social Safeguards Specialists on the Team

Gloria Malia Mahama (GSU01)

Sekou Abou Kamara (GEN07)

II. SAFEGUARD POLICIES THAT MIGHT APPLY

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	

III. SAFEGUARD PREPARATION PLAN

A. Tentative target date for preparing the PAD Stage ISDS: 11-Sep-2015

B. Time frame for launching and completing the safeguard-related studies that may be needed.
The specific studies and their timing¹ should be specified in the PAD-stage ISDS:

¹ Reminder: The Bank's Disclosure Policy requires that safeguard-related documents be disclosed before appraisal (i) at the InfoShop and (ii) in country, at publicly accessible locations and in a form and language that are accessible to potentially affected persons.

No safeguards studies is needed

IV. APPROVALS

Task Team Leader(s):	Name: Suleiman Namara	
<i>Approved By:</i>		
Safeguards Advisor:	Name: Johanna van Tilburg (SA)	Date: 06-Jan-2016
Practice Manager/ Manager:	Name: Stefano Paternostro (PMGR)	Date: 07-Jan-2016