



# Concept Environmental and Social Review Summary

## Concept Stage

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

Date Prepared/Updated: 03/12/2024 | Report No: ESRSC04113



**I. BASIC INFORMATION**

**A. Basic Operation Data**

Operation ID	Product	Operation Acronym	Approval Fiscal Year
P180895	Investment Project Financing (IPF)	Strengthening Capacity Rice Sector	2024
Operation Name	Strengthening the Rice System in Sierra Leone through South-South Cooperation		
Country/Region Code	Beneficiary country/countries (borrower, recipient)	Region	Practice Area (Lead)
Sierra Leone	Sierra Leone	WESTERN AND CENTRAL AFRICA	Agriculture and Food
Borrower(s)	Implementing Agency(ies)	Estimated Appraisal Date	Estimated Board Date
Ministry of Finance	Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security		25-May-2024
Estimated Concept Review Date	Total Project Cost		
29-Feb-2024	2,800,000.00		

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**Proposed Development Objective**

To increase adoption of sustainable climate smart best practices in rice production by smallholders in four districts in Sierra Leone. To achieve this, the proposed pilot project will facilitate knowledge and experience sharing between Sierra Leone and Vietnam to strengthen institutional/technical capacities of 10,000 rice farmers and 100 seed growers in Sierra Leone in improved climate smart rice production techniques.

**B. Is the operation 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 Activities**

*[Description imported from the Concept Data Sheet in the Portal providing information about the key aspects and components/sub-components of the project]*

PROJECT DESCRIPTION The proposed project is a major step towards the GoSL’s goal of actualizing a partnership program for sustainable rice systems in Sierra Leone, working toward a transformational change to deliver a more



productive, resilient, and sustainable rice system. The proposed study will address the social, economic and environmental dimensions of agricultural sustainability through five key principles; i) improving the efficiency of resources use; ii) conserving, protecting and enhancing natural resources; iii) improving and protecting rural livelihoods and social well-being; iv) enhancing the resilience to climate change and market volatility; and v) promoting and improving governance. The modality for the implementation of the proposed project will involve:

- Facilitating knowledge and skills exchange: This involves facilitating (in partnership with FAO) the exchange of development solutions—knowledge, experiences, and best practices between countries especially within the Africa region and Southern countries (in the form of short-, medium-, and long-term expertise exchange, training workshops, study tours and seminars). This is based on the premise that most of the capacity and technologies required in developing countries already exist, but need to be shared, adapted and scaled-up. The deployment of skills will be done in manner to improve the long-term capacity of existing institutions, through technical advice and hands-on training to improve existing technologies and/or introduce, and demonstrate new ones.
- Facilitating SSC Knowledge Networking: FAO will play the lead role of facilitating knowledge intermediation or brokering mainly through connecting experts from “knowledge institutions” and Sierra Leone. It is expected that through this arrangement advanced rice production countries will make available their knowledge and experience to academic and technical training institutions in Sierra Leone.
- Training and supporting youth groups and their enterprises with matching grants to establish agricultural production support services using small productive labor saving equipment that would be adapted from the SSC countries to minimize the drudgeries faced, especially by women, in rice production.
- Mobilizing upstream policy support for effective SSC: FAO will facilitate the sharing of innovative policy, knowledge, and experiences on best practices among policy makers from participating countries. The project will support short-term exchange of policy expertise and experience among countries in the South. This will involve bringing a wide range of actors together (including international policy makers, government leaders, civil society, academia, and the private sector) from the participating countries to facilitate SSC policy dialogue, exchanges, and consensus building. The proposed project will finance the local cost of facilitating and rolling out this cooperation agenda.

**PROJECT COMPONENTS** The proposed project will have two technical components:

**Component 1: Support for the development of skills in rice production.** The goal of this component is to enhance the capacities of rice value chain actors, through the strengthening of skills for the development and dissemination of sustainable rice system technologies and to scale-up and promote the adoption of good agricultural practices. The following activities will be implemented:

- (a) Establishment of demonstration sites/learning plots for screening, adapting and training on improved technologies and climate-smart practices for sustainable rice production introduced through the SSC arrangement. This will include techniques for (i) optimizing the system of rice intensification (SRI); (ii) optimizing water management and application of smart water saving technologies (iii) adapting the integrated nutrient management technological package, the popular *ala* – “One Must Do, Five Reductions (1M5R)” in Vietnam, comprising the use of certified seeds, and “Five Reductions” encompassing the reduction of seed rate, fertilizer use, pesticide use, water use, and post-harvest losses) to increase yield and reduce negative environmental impacts including greenhouse gases; and (iv) other low methane rice techniques in rice farmers.
- (b) Organization of Training of Trainers (ToT) capacity building sessions on rice systems for rice research scientists, technicians and extension officers and other providers of advisory services (including master farmers) to increase knowledge in rice systems and innovative and climate smart practices. This will be done through (i) identifying knowledge gaps and designing appropriate technical training for technicians and extension workers, (ii) production and dissemination of user-friendly training materials such as brochures, posters, video clips, etc., for farmers and other targeted audience; (iii) improving extension skills, capacity and quality, and (iv) enhancing capacity for foundation seed production and certification. The Component will also support the strengthening of research and extension coordination on rice by facilitating joint planning of extension activities on rice.
- (c) Scaling up training for farmers, and building and



strengthening farmer networks based on locally appropriate standards of training to ensure post project sustainability. This activity will involve scale up training of smallholder farmers and their organizations on improved rice farming practices through technical training and demonstration for farmers and FBOs to build capacity for sustainable practices. This component will also provide support for strengthening rice associations/inter-professional groups (including innovation platforms) for national for effective participation national policy discourses. Women Rice value chain actors will be given priority in project support. The project will finance the cost of setting up learning plots, including land preparations, provision of improved seeds, bio-fertilizers, bio-pesticides, as well as the training cost for rice technicians, extension officers, farmers and their associations, and related consultant and non-consultant costs. Component 2: Support for institutional capacity-strengthening. This component will contribute to GoSL's South/South Cooperation program objective of strengthening the capacity of state and non-state institutions that would support accelerated adoption of knowledge and techniques shared through the SSC platform. It will also support youth groups to establish and operate production support services to help reduce the drudgery of rice producers (particularly women) and processors and attract the youth into the rice sector. The component will support the following 3 key activities: (a) Capacity assessment of institutions (both public – Research and extension among others, and private – farmers' associations/cooperatives, agribusiness associations, etc.), that directly support the development of the rice sector to identify gaps, and strengthen existing networks of rice value chain actors, including support for rice cooperatives, inter-professional groups (including innovation platforms) for national dialogues on effective ways for improving the competitiveness of locally produced rice. (b) Train youth SMEs and support them with matching grants to establish farm support service centers to provide production support services to farmers. Eligible categories of labor-saving productive equipment would include: (i) small scale agricultural production equipment such as animal traction implements, power tillers, manually operated weeders/hand-held cultivators, seeders/planters, etc.; and (ii) harvesting and postharvest management equipment and facilities, e.g., mobile harvesters, mobile threshers, tarpaulins, winnowers, etc. The youth, particularly ladies would be the target of this intervention. (c) Provide Technical Assistance and training to ensure that investments and equipment supported under the proposed project are more climate resilient and are sustainably managed. (d) Facilitation of knowledge and experience sharing and policy dialogue on making rice production market-led, and share knowledge on strategies for improving the competitiveness of domestically produced rice. Under this component, the project will finance consultant and non-consultant services associated with the institutional strengthening of farmer groups and networks, training, workshops, and matching grants to youth groups of the establishment and running of SMEs in provision of rice production support services. It will also finance knowledge exchange programs. Component 3: Project Management and Administration, Monitoring and Evaluation, Knowledge Dissemination. This component will aim at ensuring that the project is efficiently managed, performance and impact are carefully tracked, and the knowledge generated is effectively shared and utilized, through the following functions: (i) Project management administration: provision of support for the project implementing agencies for effective project management, implementation, and supervision. (ii) Monitoring and evaluation: the establishment and implementation of an effective monitoring and evaluation system. (iii) Knowledge dissemination: analysis and dissemination of lessons learned from project implementation. The above listed functions of the project will be carried out by the Project Coordination Unit (PCU) of the ongoing World Bank financed FSRP, which has all the key staff in place. The proposed project will however finance the additional implementation cost, particularly in relation to additional staff for monitoring and evaluation and knowledge management. It is also financing the cost of implementation of the project associated environmental and social management framework, monitoring and evaluation of project results and impacts as well as knowledge dissemination.

#### D. Environmental and Social Overview



### D.1 Overview of Environmental and Social Project Settings

*[Description of key features relevant to the operation’s environmental and social risks and opportunities (e.g., whether the project is nationwide or regional in scope, urban/rural, in an FCV context, presence of Indigenous Peoples or other minorities, involves associated facilities, high-biodiversity settings, etc.) – Max. character limit 2,000]*

The project will establish demonstration plots on existing research extension fields, including SLARI’s Rokupr Rice Research Center (RARC) in the Kambia District, Makali Agricultural Training Center in Tonkolili and the Lambayama Agricultural Training Center in the Kenema District focusing on the lowland (Riverine Grassland) ecology. The project will conduct on-farm trials on the farms of selected beneficiary farmers in the same districts, but these pilot plots have not yet been determined. It spreads across 3 regions of the country, spanning one large city (e.g., Kenema with a population of 206,889) and small towns (e.g., Bonthe with a population of 10,255). Kambia and Port Loko are in North-west, while Tonkolili is in the central and Kenema in the Eastern region of the country. Coastal plains and interior lowlands characterize the geography of the North-west region, transitioning into a mix of interior plateau and mountains and rising to elevations of 200m in the Tonkolili and Kenema districts. The south-western part of Kambia is coastal and prone to sea level rise and coastal erosion, loss of coastal ecosystems inundation from major rivers, flash floods during the rainy season and saline intrusions in the dry season. Tonkolili District has continued to experience some of the highest levels of deforestation into savannah lands through slash-and-burn agriculture and logging. More than 70% of the rural population depend on agriculture for their livelihoods (Sierra Leone National Household Survey, 2018). Intense heat, erratic precipitation patterns and shifting seasons are endangering livelihoods. The burden is disproportionately born by vulnerable groups who have low adaptive capacity. More than 70% of the rural poor are women, the majority engaged in agriculture. Men in wage employment, non-farm self-employment, and agricultural self-employment earn 2.5 times more than women. Women-owned businesses (farm and non-farm) have lower productivity.

### D.2 Overview of Borrower’s Institutional Capacity for Managing Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts

*[Description of Borrower’s capacity (i.e., prior performance under the Safeguard Policies or ESF, experience applying E&S policies of IFIs, Environmental and social unit/staff already in place) and willingness to manage risks and impacts and of provisions planned or required to have capabilities in place, along with the needs for enhanced support to the Borrower – Max. character limit 2,000]*

The Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security (MAFS) will be responsible for Project oversight. The project will be implemented through the existing PIU for the Regional Food Systems Resilience Program (FSRP) (P178132). The PIU has three dedicated Environmental (one), Social specialist (one), and Gender/GBV specialists (one) in place. The use of existing PIU will help implementation readiness since the unit has valuable experience implementing projects following the Bank’s ESF. The FSRP has resources, such as E&S monitoring tools, and templates, and established GRM platforms. The existing PIU is already coordinating interventions in rice value chains that are complementary to activities proposed under this project. Project coordination and supervision will leverage existing arrangements and long-standing relationships with districts, local councils, and communities. The government district level Environmental and Social Officers (ESOs) at some of these local councils have been trained in various aspects of the ESF at workshops organized by PIU Environmental and Social specialists under the Sierra Leone Smallholder Commercialization and Agribusiness Development Project (SCADeP, P153437), Accountable Governance for Basic Service Delivery (P172492), Productive Social Safety Net and Youth Employment (P176789). The ESOs have played a crucial role in the district and local level monitoring and supervision of Bank-financed projects. The GBV Action Plans and Codes of Conduct (CoCs) with contractors used in the SCADeP and FSRP can be used to frame the messaging for this project. As needed, the PIU may also draw on experienced consultants to help prepare ESF instruments.



**II. SCREENING OF POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RISKS AND IMPACTS**

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

Moderate

**A.1 Environmental Risk Rating**

Moderate

*[Summary of key factors contributing to risk rating, in accordance with the ES Directive and the Technical Note on Screening and Risk Classification under the ESF – Max. character limit 2,000]*

The potential environmental risk classification is Moderate, as the activities under Component 2 involve the supply of the following equipment and facilities to beneficiaries: (i) agricultural production equipment such as animal traction implements, power tillers, manually operated weeders/hand-held cultivators, transplanters and seeders/planters, (ii) harvesting and postharvest management equipment and facilities, e.g., mobile harvesters, mobile threshers, and tarpaulins, and (iii) agricultural marketing equipment, such as transport equipment (ox-cart). The environmental risks associated with the supply of equipment (i) - (iii) include wastes, scraps, and spent oil during and post-operation, and occupational health and safety risks if beneficiaries are not adequately trained in the handling and safe use of this equipment. Such risks are low to moderate, depending on the scale, and can be mitigated through proper project design and choice of equipment and materials. Risk mitigation measures will be clearly described in the Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) and reflected in the Environmental and Social Commitment Plan (ESCP). To minimize the risk of encroachment on mangroves and other ecosystems to expand farmlands, the ESMF shall include an Exclusion list.

**A.2 Social Risk Rating**

Moderate

*[Summary of key factors contributing to risk rating, in accordance with the ES Directive and the Technical Note on Screening and Risk Classification under the ESF – Max. character limit 2,000]*

The primary project interventions, technical support, and the purchase of farm equipment will have a net social benefit. Beneficiaries could gain from the training and new farm machinery. However, there is the risk that some vulnerable groups, such as female farmers, persons with disabilities, and other late adopters of technology, may not be included in project consultations or receive its benefits. Consultations may not be rigorous enough, may suffer from elite capture, excluding those in need. Improved farm equipment may be unaffordable to marginalize farmers post pilot stage, particularly poor females and farmers with disability. Selection of trainees and SMEs may be discriminatory, and nontransparent, increasing risk of SEA/SH, where project actors may exploit vulnerable beneficiaries, particularly female participants. There are Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) concerns from travel-related accidents/ incidents and the use of equipment, but this risk will be localized, and manageable. The project should be transparent and should follow a defined process for targeting and selecting beneficiaries. The Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security has developed a policy on Women in Agriculture that could guide the process of selecting female beneficiaries. Farmers with disability should be represented when during consultation and selection of beneficiaries. A Grievance Mechanism (GM) with SEA/SH complaint management provisions set up by FSRP would be established or adapted as appropriate. The project communication and outreach activities and stakeholder engagement will ensure that poor and vulnerable farmers, women, and PWD are included in accordance with the SEP. The SEP shall include SEA/SH awareness and prevention. Labor risk is low and will be addressed through the ESMF to meet ESS2 requirements. Labor-related risks will be addressed in the updated EMSF, adhering to the FSRP labor management plan and captured through the Borrower’s commitment to the ESCP.

**A.3 Sexual Exploitation and Abuse/Sexual Harassment (SEA/SH) Risk Rating**

Low

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*[Summary of key factors contributing to risk rating. This attribute is only for the internal version of the download document and not a part of the disclosable version – Max. character limit 2,000]*

SEA/SH risk factor in the project may stem from power differentials among the project staff responsible for selecting beneficiaries for training and/or knowledge exchange programs. Additionally, the project will bring project workers, both local and foreign in close proximity with beneficiary communities to conduct the training, which may lead to demands for sexual favors from women and girls participating in the project. The timing of scheduled trainings, as well as unsafe routes to and from training facilities, may increase the danger of physical and sexual assault. Project activities will include (i) clear and transparent communication about project benefits including selection criteria for training and knowledge exchange programs (ii) Equipping the project Grievance Mechanism (GM) to handle GBV complaints and provide referral services to survivors mechanisms (iii) Ensuring project workers including consultants from abroad all sign a GBV code of conduct (iv) Explore using secure method and venue for the training programs (v) sensitizing workers and project beneficiaries on SEA/SH prohibition and available response mechanisms.

**B. Relevance of Standards and Policies at Concept Stage**

**B.1 Relevance of Environmental and Social Standards**

**ESS1 - Assessment and Management of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts** Relevant

*[Optional Explanation - Max. character limit 1,000]*

ESS1 is relevant. The project is will have low to moderate negative E&S risks and impacts that might continue beyond the project life cycle. These risks and impacts relate to the operation of farming equipment supplied to beneficiaries and include (i) OHS risks from improper use of equipment, (ii) noise, air, water, and soil pollution from poorly designed or second-hand equipment, use of fuel or oil for maintenance of the equipment, organic waste from rice storage and processing (iii) disposal of scrap metals from decommissioned equipment, (iv) exclusion of vulnerable groups (women, PWDs, elderly, etc.) from project benefits; and (v) SEA/SH risks. The ESSs that apply to the project are ESS1, ESS2, ESS3, ESS4, and ESS10. Commensurate to the risk rating, the borrower will prepare an ESCP and a simplified SEP before project appraisal using the template for a moderate-risk project. The ESMF will be prepared (update the FSRP ESMF) within one month of project effectiveness.

**ESS10 - Stakeholder Engagement and Information Disclosure** Relevant

*[Optional Explanation - Max. character limit 1,000]*

Many stakeholders are involved, including farmers, youth and entrepreneurs, Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs), extension agents, private businesses, research centers, and government agencies. The Project will prepare or adapt the FSRP SEP consistent with the requirements of ESS10, proportionate to the scope of the project, and will be disclosed before Appraisal. The SEP will include mapping and describing stakeholders, and how they will be engaged throughout the project life, focusing on vulnerable groups such as women and persons with disability, and applying tailored measures to remove barriers to their meaningful participation. Collaboration with CSOs that advocate women farmers and persons with disabilities will also help develop an effective practical stakeholder engagement

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approach for the project. The SEP will define institutional arrangements and budgets for stakeholder engagement. A project-level GM complaints and queries from the public will form part of the SEP.

**ESS2 - Labor and Working Conditions**

Relevant

*[Optional Explanation - Max. character limit 1,000]*

The project will engage direct project workers, government civil servants, and consultants. Some trainers will come from Southern Asia and Africa through the South-South Cooperation, and their hiring, working conditions, and contract will comply with ESS2. Labor risks will be low and may include OHS risks such as slips, trips, and falls during training, poor working conditions for foreign and national trainers, grievances over recruitment, selection of beneficiary trainers, and SEA/SH risk. Since on-farm trials will be conducted on the farms of selected beneficiary farmers. More than 56 percent of children are involved in child labor in the agricultural sector; hence the project will place prohibitive measures against such risks. Labor-related risks, including child labor, will be addressed in the updated ESMF, building on the FSRP labor management plan and captured through the Borrower’s commitment to the ESCP.

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

Relevant

*[Optional Explanation - Max. character limit 1,000]*

ESS3 is relevant, but the environmental footprint is expected to be moderate by virtue of the nature and scale of the project activities. Among others, - Less sophisticated equipment, such as ox-cart, may be manufactured by local blacksmiths at a later stage in the project instead of being imported. - Emissions from the operation of mechanical devices such as mobile harvesters, mobile threshers, and power tillers are also expected to be low; nonetheless, environmental sustainability will be a procurement requirement. - Based on brand and/or age, some equipment can be excessively noisy. Hence, as with air emissions, environmental sustainability as a procurement requirement could consider equipment operational noise levels as a parameter. - This applies to the disposal of waste generated from the storage and processing of rice, but also decommissioned equipment. The ESMF will cover these risks. - There will be no purchase of inputs (fertilizer and pesticide) in this project.

**ESS4 - Community Health and Safety**

Relevant

*[Optional Explanation - Max. character limit 1,000]*

ESS4 is relevant. Accidents may occur in the SME service centers and the use of farm implements. The project SEA/SH risks are assessed as moderate. The GBV country context is pervasive and requires work along the improper waste disposal of decommissioned equipment and/or their parts, noise, and air emissions from the operation of mechanical devices may impact the surrounding communities. The ESMF will assess this risk in detail and will include risk mitigation measures.

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

Not Currently Relevant

*[Optional Explanation - Max. character limit 1,000]*

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The Project consists mainly of technical assistance. There will be no land acquisition. The project paper identified the sites for establishing demonstration plots in existing research extension fields, including SLARI’s Rokupr Rice Research Center (RARC) in the Kambia District, Makali Agricultural Training Center in Tonkolili, and the Lambayama Agricultural Training Center in the Kenema District. However, on-farm trials would be conducted on the farms of selected beneficiary farmers, which are not identified at this stage. Therefore, it will not require any land acquisition that would result in the impacts covered under ESS5.

**ESS6 - Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Management of Living Natural Resources** Relevant

*[Optional Explanation - Max. character limit 1,000]*

There is a risk of encroachment on mangroves and wetlands for extension of the Riceland. Project beneficiaries will not be allowed to carry our farming in ecologically sensitive/protected areas and biodiversity. The sub-project screening will determine and exclude any such occurrence. The ESMF prepared for the project will include an Exclusion list that categorizes farming in mangroves as ineligible.

**ESS7 - Indigenous Peoples/Sub-Saharan African Historically Underserved Traditional Local Communities** Not Currently Relevant

*[Optional Explanation - Max. character limit 1,000]*

ESS7 is not relevant. The project area does not have a population of Indigenous Peoples/Sub-Saharan African Historically Underserved Traditional Local Communities/ethnic minority which meet the criteria mentioned in ESS 7.

**ESS8 - Cultural Heritage** Not Currently Relevant

*[Optional Explanation - Max. character limit 1,000]*

The project will not adversely affect cultural heritage as it will mainly support consultancies, studies and capacity building activities.

**ESS9 - Financial Intermediaries** Not Currently Relevant

*[Optional Explanation - Max. character limit 1,000]*

ESS9 is not relevant as the project will not involve FIs.

**B.2 Legal Operational Policies that Apply**

**OP 7.50 Operations on International Waterways** Yes

The proposed project will be implemented to complement the Sierra Leone component of the regional Food Systems Resilience Program (P178132) triggers OP 7.50 as activities may involve the use of international waterways. All activities remain limited to utilization of community lowland development areas/ water harvesting schemes developed under FSRP, and will not adversely change the quality or quantity of flow to other riparian countries, as

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outlined in the FSRP paper. An exception to the notification requirement under paragraph 7 (a) of the Policy was approved by the Regional Vice President on July 6, 2023

**OP 7.60 Operations in Disputed Areas**

No

**B.3 Other Salient Features**

**Use of Borrower Framework**

TBD

*[Optional explanation – Max. character limit 1,000]*

Based on a preliminary quick assessment, Sierra Leone does have adequate systems in place for projects of this risk category enabling the project to rely at least in part on Borrower Framework. This will need to be further assessed during project preparation. EPA has an established ESA and permit process. The Bank, through Sierra Leone Agro-Processing Competitiveness Project (P160295) helped the agency to develop guidance and regulation for E&S risk management for the agriculture sector, and this will be piloted in 2024. EPA has a risk categorization system that is identical to the Bank’s Operational Policies, with Categories A, B and C for High, Moderate and Low risks. There may be gaps relating to climate change and social inclusion as covered under the ESF, but the agency has a robust stakeholder consultation and engagement process that can promptly identify and address issues related to both. For climate change specifically, the agency also houses the focal point for UNFCCC.

**Use of Common Approach**

No

*[Optional Explanation including list of possible financing partners – Max. character limit 1,000]*

NA

**B.4 Summary of Assessment of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts**

*[Description provided will not be disclosed but will flow as a one time flow to the Concept Stage PID – Max. character limit 5,000]*

The project is expected to have moderate potential environmental and social risks and impacts. These risks and impacts are associated with the operation of farming equipment supplied to beneficiaries and include (i) occupational health and safety risks from improper use of equipment, (ii) noise and air pollution from poorly designed or second-hand equipment, (iii) the disposal of scrap metals from decommissioned equipment, (iv) exclusion of vulnerable groups (women, PWDs, elderly, etc.) from project benefits; and (v) SEA/SH risks.

The relevant ESSs to the project to mitigate the anticipated potential risks and impacts are ESS1, ESS2, ESS3, ESS4, and ESS10. Commensurate to the risk rating, the borrower will prepare an ESCP and a simplified SEP using moderate risk project templates before project appraisal. The SEP will include a Grievance Mechanism (GM), which will also be responsive to SEA/SH complaints. Potential labor (including child labor) and OHS risks will be embedded in a simplified ESMF to be updated by the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security (MAFS) and reflected in the Borrower’s commitment to the ESCP to comply with ESS2 requirements. Accordingly, the ESMF will include standard measures to be adopted by farmers to prevent or minimize E&S risks. The ESMF will be prepared within one month of project effectiveness to provide guidance on E&S risk assessment, management, and mitigation in the project.

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**C. Overview of Required Environmental and Social Risk Management Activities**

**C.1 What Borrower environmental and social analyses, instruments, plans and/or frameworks are planned or required by Appraisal?**

*[Description of expectations in terms of documents to be prepared to assess and manage the project’s environmental and social risks and by when (i.e., prior to Effectiveness, or during implementation), highlighted features of ESA documents, other project documents where environmental and social measures are to be included, and the related due diligence process planned to be carried out by the World Bank, including sources of information for the due diligence - Max. character limit 3,000]*

Before Decision Meeting

1. Preparation and disclosure of an Environmental and Social Commitment Plan
2. Preparation of Stakeholder Engagement Plan

1 month after project effectiveness

3. ESMF – (including labor and SEA/SH risk mitigation)-

**III. CONTACT POINT**

**Contact Point**

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**IV. FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT**

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**V. APPROVAL**

Task Team Leader(s):	Kadir Osman Gyasi
ADM Environmental Specialist:	Ralph Augustine Bona
ADM Social Specialist:	Samuel Lule Demsash

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