



Combined Project Information Documents / Integrated Safeguards Datasheet (PID/ISDS)

Appraisal Stage | Date Prepared/Updated: 24-Jan-2019 | Report No: PIDISDSA23715



BASIC INFORMATION

A. Basic Project Data

Country Niger	Project ID P165397	Project Name Additional Financing for Niger CAPCR	Parent Project ID (if any) P125669
Parent Project Name Niger Community Action Project for Climate Resilience	Region AFRICA	Estimated Appraisal Date 11-Feb-2019	Estimated Board Date 20-Feb-2019
Practice Area (Lead) Environment & Natural Resources	Financing Instrument Investment Project Financing	Borrower(s) Ministry of Planning, Local Government and Community Development	Implementing Agency Ministry of Planning - Project Coordination Unit

Proposed Development Objective(s) Parent

The project development objective (PDO) is to improve the resilience of the populations and of production systems to climate change and variability in targeted Communes.

Components

- Sub component 1.1: Mainstreaming climate variability and change into sectoral policies and local development planning
- Sub component 1.2: Communication strategy and knowledge management
- Sub component 2.1: Improving the resilience of agro-sylvo-pastoral systems
- Sub component 2.2 Integrating innovative measures for protecting the most poor and vulnerable households: Adaptive Social Protection (ASP) actions
- Sub component 3.1: Ensuring coordination of the Project activities
- Sub component 3.2 Ensuring strategic coordination to the SPCR

PROJECT FINANCING DATA (US\$, Millions)

SUMMARY

Total Project Cost	14.60
Total Financing	14.60
of which IBRD/IDA	5.00
Financing Gap	0.00

DETAILS

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World Bank Group Financing

International Development Association (IDA)	5.00
IDA Credit	5.00

Non-World Bank Group Financing

Trust Funds	9.60
Climate Resilient and Low-carbon Development	9.60

Environmental Assessment Category

B-Partial Assessment

‘Have the Safeguards oversight and clearance function been transferred to the Practice Manager?’ No

Decision

Other Decision (as needed)

B. Introduction and Context

Country Context

- Niger has an area of 1 267 000 km² and a population estimated at 21.5 million. Per capita GDP is estimated at US\$ 378 and life expectancy at 60 years.** Niger’s climate is characterized by high variability especially in terms of rainfall. Niger remains one of the poorest countries in Sub-Saharan Africa. Major vulnerabilities include, among others: recurrent droughts; heavy dependence on rainfed farming and livestock; high vulnerability of production systems to climate-related hazards; rapid population growth (close to annual 3.8% rate), with ensuing heavy pressure on the environment; weak specialized structures and institutions; and continuing woodland degradation due to energy needs of the population.
- Natural resources degradation, population growth and climate change pose serious challenges to medium and long-term food security in the country.** Special concerns are the links between degradation of soil and climate change (this combination calling for urgent key shifts in land management technologies and practices). More than 50% of the population suffers food insecurity, with 22% of the population chronically extremely food insecure. Poor households, particularly female-headed households, are more exposed to shocks and seasonal variations in production, in response to which they often resort to negative coping mechanisms such as the sale of premature livestock and seeds.

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- 3. The Niger Systematic Country Diagnostic (SCD) highlights three binding constraints to development: low rural productivity, inadequate human capital and poor governance.** Gender features significantly with a number of areas highlighted for a specific female focus, including agricultural productivity. The Additional Finance activities are aligned with priorities laid out in the SCD and the Country Partnership Framework (CPF), which aim, inter-alia, at increasing agriculture productivity. The AF is in that respect aligned with this priority, as it aims at increasing the climate resilience of agro-sylvo-pastoral systems, with a focus on increasing productivity and diversity. In addition, the project supports several activities that bolster the aims of the CPF, with a focus on supporting women in rural communities and integrating and mainstreaming rural climate-smart experiences into national and local strategies.

Sectoral and Institutional Context

- 4. Niger is already investing in improved land and water management.** Analysis and lessons learned have confirmed that such investments are key to increasing food security and the resilience of local communities to climate variability and change, and need to be implemented at a larger scale. They have indicated also the need for a greater focus on livestock herders on the one hand (both mobile and sedentary), and the need to take a landscape approach, integrating investments in improved productivity on crop land with agro-forestry, improved grazing management and soil/water management.
- 5. The Government of Niger recognizes that the development of the country depends largely on its ability to better manage all its natural resources, by promoting a more holistic approach, more oriented towards the stakeholders, particularly rural communities.** It is within this context that, over the last years, national institutions have been created and/or strengthened with a direct link with climate vulnerability and change, and key strategies and programmes have been developed. The institutional landscape on environmental issues, in general, and on those related to climate variability and change, in particular, is very rich and diverse in Niger. The missions and the mandates of the structures and institutions responsible for the implementation of these strategies are clearly defined. Key institutions in charge of the environment and natural resource management are the following: the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development (ME/DD); the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (Mag/EL); the Ministry of Mining and Energy (MME). The *National Environmental Council for Sustainable Development (CNEDD)* is responsible for coordinating national policy on environment and sustainable development.
- 6. A suite of legislation between 1999 and 2004 put the decentralization policy into practice.** There are now a total of 265 Communes of which 213 are rural, and their mandates include local development planning, natural resource management, agriculture and livestock, land tenure, and social services. The World Bank and other development partners built on this base to make decentralized rural development a cornerstone of development cooperation with Niger. Further legislation included establishment of a decentralized equity fund for local governments, and support to 'deconcentration of certain government functions. Local governments (*collectivités territoriales*) have important comparative advantages in terms of knowledge of local climate-related constraints and appropriate solutions, and on-going experiments aimed at empowering them have been consistently positive (in spite of weak human and financial resources).



7. **National Socio-Economic Development Plan and Nigériens Nourissent les Nigériens initiative, both major Nigerien initiatives, are closely aligned with the proposed additional funding.** The upscaling of the CAPCR would be sought primarily by focusing on further establishment and readying of the functioning of the integrated multiple services platforms on commune level, referred to as the Maisons du Paysan. As such the additional funds would simultaneously strengthen the national food security initiative, referred to as “Niger Nourishing Nigeriens Initiative” (3NI, 2012) which seeks the deployment of the “Maison du Paysan” at the level of 255 rural communes, as well as support the most recent National Socio-Economic Development Plan, 2017-2021. As for the latter, this activity supports Niger’s ambitions as described in the chapter on “Sustainable Environment Management” involving two programs: i) Sustainable management of land, waters and biodiversity; and ii) Improvement of livelihoods of populations and climate change resilience.
8. **This AF has a gender focus and is aligned with the SCD and CPF gender objectives and with the World Bank Gender Strategy:** The proposed AF is aligned with the SCD which is based on studies¹ which found that in Niger plots managed by women produce 19 percent less per hectare than plots managed by men. The primary factors that contribute to the gender productivity gap in Niger are (a) farm labor, with women facing significant challenges in accessing, using, and supervising male farm labor; (b) the quantity and quality of fertilizer use, with men using more inorganic fertilizer per hectare than women; and (c) land ownership and characteristics, with men owning more land and enjoying higher returns to ownership than women. The project also aligns with the World Bank Group’s gender strategy which proposes a stronger focus on the frontier areas of more and better jobs as well as ownership and control over key financial and physical assets and recognizes that closing the remaining gender gaps in endowments, enhancing voice and agency, and engaging men and boys are all critical to reducing poverty and boosting shared prosperity. The Bank’s gender strategy also identifies climate change as a cross cutting area that requires a gender lens.
9. **Women are often disproportionately affected by the impacts of climate change.** Research has identified women’s empowerment as an important approach to building broader community resilience. An example of the importance of designing interventions to be gender sensitive is with extension services, which should take into account cultural norms that may prevent women from benefitting, for example, by training a sufficient number of female agents or by focusing on gender training for male agents. Through the CAPCR AF project activities, agricultural productivity issues for women continue to be addressed, for instance through the additional “Maisons du Paysan” to be established, which will offer women access to extensions services, new skills development and technologies.
10. **The project fully aligns with Niger’s ambitions on climate change,** including under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). Niger submitted its Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) to address mitigation and adaptation at the UNFCCC Paris Agreement in 2015². The Niger NDC focusses significantly on addressing land use issues through greening, land restoration,

¹ Prosperé Backiny-Yetna and Kevin McGee (2015). Gender Differentials and Agricultural Productivity in Niger. World Bank Policy Research Working Paper No. 7199.

² http://www4.unfccc.int/ndcregistry/PublishedDocuments/Niger%20First/Niger-INDC-final_Eng.pdf



etc. The NDC recognizes the coverage and scope of the Niger contribution as 89% of the total GHG emissions are from agriculture, forestry and other land uses, as 9% from the energy sector. Niger is one of the few countries in Africa that has a successful UNFCCC Clean Development Mechanism project on land use mitigation at the project level.

C. Proposed Development Objective(s)

Original PDO

The project development objective (PDO) is to improve the resilience of the populations and of production systems to climate change and variability in targeted Communes.

Current PDO

11. The project development objective (PDO) remains unchanged and is to improve the resilience of the populations and of production systems to climate change and variability in targeted communes.

Key Results

12. PDO level indicators:

- Crop yield increase in the project's areas of intervention (40%)
- Forage yield increase in the project's areas of intervention (30%)
- National climate resilience stakeholder engagement mechanism established and operational
- Direct project beneficiaries (280,000)
- Female beneficiaries (50%)

13. Intermediate level indicators:

Component 1:

- Sector policies which fully incorporate climate resilience (3)
- Local Development Plans (LDPs) and Annual Investment Plans (AIPs) incorporating climate resilience (38)
- Climate resilience knowledge products disseminated (60)
- Population informed on climate issues (2,000,000)

Component 2:

- Producers adopting SLM practices introduced by the project (65%)
- Additional agricultural areas with SLM (5,000 ha)
- Additional sylvo pastoral areas with SLM (32,000 ha)
- Quantity of animal food supplements produced by the project (40,000 tones/year)
- Operational integrated services platforms known as "Maisons du paysan" (15)
- Targeted community facilities that have been protected, restored or rehabilitated (210)
- households benefiting from accumulated ASP activities (40,000)

D. Project Description

14. The parent project CAPCR is one of four projects supported by the Pilot Program for Climate



Resilience (PPCR) to implement the Niger Strategic Program for Climate Resilience (Niger SPCR), endorsed by the sub-committee of PPCR on November 10, 2010. The overall objective of the Niger SPCR is to improve the resilience of the population and of production systems to climate change events in order to increase national food security. The World Bank is the lead agency for the implementation of the Niger SPCR and ensures the overall coordination of the program through the CAPCR.

15. **The AF activities in the CAPRC project will finance existing and new activities under all three components of the parent’s project for a total of US\$14.597 million**; where there are changes from the parent project, these are noted below. Moving forward, there will be an emphasis on the consolidation of investment sub-projects and the establishments of a larger number of operational integrated services rural platforms, known as “Maisons du Paysan”.
16. **Component 1: Mainstreaming climate resilience into development strategies at national and local levels** (*Initial budget US\$5 million; AF proposed US\$1.25 million*). Under the parent project description, Component 1 aims at making the socio-economic development policies more responsive to climate change and at defining and implementing a comprehensive communication strategy and system of effective knowledge management. With the AF, activities under this component aim at consolidating experiences to-date but also furthering the ambitions of Niger for mainstreaming climate resilience into their national and local policies, making socio-economic development policies more responsive to climate change. The latter will be done mainly responding to Niger’s commitments under more recent climate agreements including its Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) submitted to the UNFCCC as well as preparing to benefit from climate financing opportunities such as the Green Climate Fund and others.
17. **Sub-component 1.1: Mainstreaming climate resilience into development strategies at national and local levels**. The parent project supported the integration of climate change into national sector strategies (sub-component 1.1[a]) and local development plans (sub-component 1.1[b]) to make the social and economic development policies in key sectors (health, water and roads) more responsive to climate change. The general assumption of project design was that doing this would help mitigate and reduce vulnerability of these sectors and have positive impacts on local livelihoods and on the productivity of local productions systems.
18. On the other hand, Niger more recently declared its intentions for its climate ambitions through its Nationally Determined Contribution to the UNFCCC (submitted in 2016) covering both resilience (adaptation) and mitigation. The project will help Niger align various national and regional policies; and although not proactively targeting the NDC level of ambition, this project will help Niger both position itself to meet its current NDC targets and potentially benefit from future opportunities arising from climate finance. Under the AF, through a new sub-component 1.1(c), technical assistance will be provided to translate national sector strategies and local developmental plans into detailed action plans, including the preparation of feasibility studies, analytical studies and other assessments that would inform the future implementation of these action plans. These projects will be identified following a consultative and participatory process in conjunction with the activities of sub-component 3.2, “Strengthening Niger SPCR Coordination”. Similar to the parent project, the project will continue to reach out to technical and financial partners, as well as climate financing mechanisms, to



coordinate and/or co-finance these projects with the Government.

19. **Sub-component 1.2: Communication Strategy and Knowledge Management.** Through this component, the parent project provided technical assistance, goods and services for defining and implementing a communication strategy and a system of effective knowledge management. These activities have been fully implemented and will not be continued under the AF.
20. **Sub-component 1.3: Integration of New Technologies to the Knowledge Management System.** Under the AF, a new sub-component 1.3 will support the integration of new technologies to the knowledge management system referred to in sub-component 1.2, such as satellite imagery and other state-of-the art technologies, to help inform national and regional decision-making, including on spatial planning and disaster-risk management. This will capitalize on the knowledge and tools developed in the context of the parent project by the Ecological Monitoring Center (or Centre de Suivi Ecologique, CSE, as known in French) to monitor project results on the ground and improve them to be further integrated into the CSE's services to depict and monitor ongoing relevant activities versus trends in ecological conditions. In addition, the Bank is trialing a system of using technology for project monitoring in fragile states where access is potentially difficult, which will further contribute to knowledge management efforts. Where relevant, linkages with Component 3 will be made to strengthen overall reporting and dissemination.
21. **Component 2: Integrating climate resilience practices into agro-sylvo-pastoral systems and local populations' social protection measures** (*Initial budget US\$53 million; AF proposed US\$10.85 million*). This component will continue to support activities, through technical assistance, works, goods and services, to enhance the climate resilience of local communities and their food security in terms of food and fodder availability and accessibility such as by enhancing the productivity of the agro-sylvo-pastoral systems. The focus will be on a range of SLM practices that were undertaken in the parent project. Moreover, the AF will continue supporting the use of the integrated rural services platforms (Maisons du Paysan), which will integrate SLM practices and appropriate technology, and build on the local populations' adaptive social protection measures that were part of the parent project. Consolidating and ensuring the sustainability of the outcomes of the project under the initial funding are key. The team will look for opportunities specifically to where the Maisons du Paysan can help women by providing targeted services.
22. **Sub-component 2.1: Improving the resilience of agro-sylvo-pastoral systems.** This activity will continue supporting: (i) the scaling-up of sustainable land and water management practices through capacity building activities (sub-component 2.1[a]); and (ii) the provision of matching grants to targeted communes to finance activities to improve agricultural productivity, sustainable management of forest resources and productivity of grazing areas (sub-component 2.2[b]). This sub-component will leverage both the successful implementation of SLM management interventions in the parent project, across the 38 communes, that led to an increase in food and fodder yields as well as improved resilience of communities to climate change. The parent project describes SLM practices as, including among others, soil/moisture conservation, water harvesting, reduced tillage, agro-forestry, nutrient-enhancing rotation systems, animal health and nutrition and the like. It is a holistic system of management of natural resources (soil, water, vegetation and animal) which integrates social, economic, physical and biological areas and enables producers to maximize socio-economic



benefits from the use of resources, while maintaining or enhancing their ecological support functions. These services were provided through the construction of eight integrated multi-services platforms in specific regions³ (“Maisons du Paysan”).

23. **Sub-component 2.2: Integrating innovative measures to protect the poorest and most vulnerable households.** This sub-component was fully implemented under the parent project through the rehabilitation of 221 socioeconomic infrastructures (as compared to the initial target of 175), among other Adaptive Social Protection (ASP) actions including cash transfers, remunerated seasonal labor-intensive activities (cash for work), and food stamps. This sub-component will not continue under the AF as, going forward, the Maison du Paysan are expected to provide the targeted services to strengthen the resilience of local populations in a manner that can be more sustainable beyond project closing.
24. **Sub-component 2.3: Establishing and operationalizing integrated multi-services platforms in targeted communes (“Maisons du Paysan”).** A new sub-component 2.3 is added to the scale-up through the AF the establishment of “Maisons du Paysan” to a total of 15⁴. In addition, the AF will support the operations of all established MPs, including the provision of the necessary technical and financial resources to make them fully functional. This includes supporting the provision of services offered by the MPs, including but not limited to: (i) advisory services and training on improved SLM practices, and associated equipment; (ii) advisory services on sound storage and trade of food, fodder supplements and agricultural inputs, and associated equipment; and (iii) and dissemination of knowledge products and raising awareness on climate resilience, while also establishing adaptive monitoring and impact evaluation systems of the undertaken activities to support their effectiveness and financial sustainability.
25. **Component 3: Ensuring coordination of all the activities of the project, including monitoring and evaluation activities, and SPCR overall strategic coordination** (*Initial budget US\$5 million; AF proposed US\$2.5 million*). This component supports the project management activities of the CAPCR and the strategic coordination of the overall Niger SPCR. It also ensures dissemination and knowledge sharing of CAPCR and of Niger SPCR’s approach, results, challenges and impacts at the national level with key stakeholders and at the international level with other countries participating in the Pilot Program for Climate Resilience. The AF activities proposed under this component are a continuation of the parent project.
26. **Sub-component 3.1: Ensuring coordination of project activities, including monitoring and evaluation.** This activity will support the project management activities of the CAPCR during the extension and for the AF activities, at both central and regional levels. The Project Coordination Unit oversees the preparation of the necessary analysis and reports to improve coordination between project components and sub-components, as well as with the other 3 SPCR projects, and help with decision making. It will also include consideration for adapting the monitoring requirements based on low-cost ICT tools for M&E and for remote supervision (see also Component 1).

³ Tondikiwindi (Tillabéry), Sokorbé and Falwal (Dosso), Ourno (Tahoua), Kornaka (Maradi), Kellé and Bouné (Zinder) and Bosso (Diffa).

⁴ Seven additional MPs are planned to be established in the following communes/regions: Abala (Tillabéry); Déoulé (Tahoua); Gougaram (Agadez); Badergoula (Maradi), Chétimari (Diffa); and Gangara and Tarka (Zinder).



27. **Sub-component 3.2: Ensuring strategic coordination of the SPCR.** This activity will continue supporting strategic coordination of the SPCR and knowledge sharing concerning the Project's and SPCR's approach, results, challenges and impacts at the national level with key stakeholders and at the international level with other countries participating in the Pilot Program for Climate Resilience.
28. Going forward, these activities will be strengthened by: i) supporting further development and operationalization of a multi-stakeholder Niger SPCR engagement platform and action plan at national and local levels, to foster collaboration in the advancement of the Niger SPCR (to be organized and managed by Niger's SPCR Strategic Coordination Unit); ; ii) organizing knowledge exchanges and capacity building activities through the multi-stakeholder Niger SPCR engagement platform to capture and disseminate relevant knowledge to increase the effectiveness of the projects and programs and facilitate scaling up across the country; iii) identifying and promoting measures to ensure sustainability of SPCR projects, in particular as relating to the functioning of the established Maisons du Paysan beyond the project's lifetime and as part of CAPCR's exit strategy; iv) ensuring tangible linkages, collaboration and communication with other relevant national programs; and iv) strengthening the overall national climate change resilience reporting and monitoring and evaluation system, including by enhancing the mechanism for assessing Niger's SPCR results and impacts covering progress as related to the five principle PPCR indicators⁵ and including the strengthening and expansion of a geographic mapping systems (in collaboration with the National Center for Ecologic and Environmental Monitoring (CNSEE) of the Ministry of Environment) to depict and monitor ongoing relevant activities versus trends in ecological conditions. The latter system will also be used to map the scope and areas of other than PPCR-supported Niger SPCR relevant programs and activities. These activities would be done in conjunction with the Niger Nourishing Nigeriens Initiative (3NI) and the latest National Socio-Economic Development Plan (PDES 2017-2021) in order to anchor the Niger SPCR in national strategic high-level plans and thus enhance sustainability.

⁵ The five PPCR indicators are: 1) Degree of integration of climate change into national, including sectoral, planning; 2) Evidence of strengthened government capacity and coordination mechanism; 3) Quality and extent to which climate responsive instruments/investment models are developed and tested; 4) Extent to which vulnerable households, communities, businesses and public sector services use improved PPCR-supported tools, instruments, strategies and activities; and 5) Number of people supported by the PPCR.



Table 1: AF activities as related to project components and funding break down in US\$ million, showing both the Parent Project funding and the Additional Funding

		Parent Project PPCR			Additional Finance			TOTAL
Niger PPCR		PPCR Total	Loan	Grant	AF Total	IDA	PPCR	Parent + AF
Component 1	<i>Mainstreaming climate resilience into development strategies at national and local levels</i>	5		5	1.25	1.25		6.25
1.1	Mainstreaming climate variability and change into sectoral policies and local development planning	3		3	0.75	0.75		3.75
1.2	Communication strategy and knowledge management							
1.3	Integration of New Technologies to the Knowledge Management System	2		2	0.5	0.5		2.50
Component 2	<i>Integrating climate resilience practices into agro-silvopastoral systems and local populations' social protection measures</i>	53	28	25	10.847	2.39	8.457	63.85
2.1	Improving the resilience of agro-sylvo-pastoral systems	45	28	17	2.39	2.39		47.39
2.2	Integrating innovative measures to protect the poorest and most vulnerable households	8		8				8.00
2.3	Establishing and operationalizing integrated multi-services platforms in targeted communes ("Maisons du Paysan")				8.457		8.457	8.46
Component 3	<i>Ensuring coordination of all the activities of the project, including monitoring and evaluation activities, and SPCR overall strategic coordination</i>	5		5	2.5	1.36	1.14	7.50
3.1	Ensuring coordination of project activities, including monitoring and evaluation	2		2	1.75	0.61	1.14	3.75
3.2	Ensuring strategic coordination of the SPCR	3		3	0.75	0.75		3.75
		63	28	35	14.597	5.000	9.597	77.597

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E. Implementation

Institutional and Implementation Arrangements

29. Project implementation will continue to be coordinated centrally by a Project Coordinating Unit (PCU) within the Ministry of Planning, which will also be responsible for financial management and procurement. The strategic coordination of the Niger SPCR will continue to be assured by a Strategic Coordination Unit (SCU) within the Ministry of Planning at the Secretary General level.
30. Project activities shall be carried out under the overall responsibility of the following Technical Entities:
- (a) Sub-Component 1.1 by the Climate Change Unit of the National Council for the Environment and Sustainable Development (*Conseil National de l'Environnement pour un Développement Durable, CNEDD*);
 - (b) Sub-Component 1.2 by the Communication Unit of the CNEDD;
 - (c) Sub-Component 1.3 by the Ecological Monitoring System of the Ministry of Environment, Urban Sanitation and Sustainable Development (*Ministère de l'environnement, de la salubrité urbaine et du développement durable, MEDD/SU*);
 - (d) Sub-Component 2.1 by the General Directorate of Environment and Forests of the Ministry of Environment, Urban Sanitation and Sustainable Development (*Ministère de l'environnement, de la salubrité urbaine et du développement durable, MEDD/SU*);
 - (e) Sub-Component 2.2 by the DGAT/DC of the Ministry of Land Use Planning and Community Development (*Ministère du Développement Communautaire et de l'Aménagement du Territoire*);
 - (f) Sub-Component 2.3 by the PCU;
 - (g) Sub-Component 3.1 by the PCU; and
 - (h) Sub-Component 3.2 by the PPCR Coordination Unit.



F. Project location and Salient physical characteristics relevant to the safeguard analysis (if known)

The project will operate in 38 collectivities (Collectivités) that have been selected based on the combination of several criteria such as bio-physical risks, food insecurity, poverty, and vulnerability to severe weather conditions (low rainfall and poor distribution of rainfall between 1999 and 2011). In order to maximize inputs and create synergies, Collectivités have also been selected among those which are already covered by the PAC2 (especially in terms of building and strengthening decentralized institutions) and will be covered by the forthcoming Safety Nets Project. Specific locations of the project activities to be implemented at field level are not yet identified. Niger is a Sahelian landlocked country on an area of 1267 000 km² mostly occupied by desert while the southern is part of Niger River Basin. The climate is characterized by high rainfall variability from the south to the north. Vegetation is made of scarce savannahs on fragile soils substratum exposed to high erosion rate especially at the beginning of rainy season. Major natural factors of vulnerability include, amongst others, severe recurrent droughts, brutal and unpredictable floods, soil exposure to erosion, poor soil fertility, scarcity of water resources. As natural resources (soil vegetation, water) are in degradation and population growths, climate change introduces medium- and long-term serious challenges. Any action related to natural resources exploitation/management must so be analyzed carefully to avoid adverse shocks and ensure sustainability.

G. Environmental and Social Safeguards Specialists on the Team

Demba Balde, Social Specialist
Bougadare Kone, Environmental Specialist

SAFEGUARD POLICIES THAT MIGHT APPLY

Safeguard Policies	Triggered?	Explanation (Optional)
Environmental Assessment OP/BP 4.01	Yes	The proposed AF will not lead to new or changes in safeguard related issues and/or trigger any new safeguards policies. In addition, it will be implemented in the geographical areas of the parent project therefore it will not lead to the expansion of the project intervention areas. The AF project, like the parent project, is classified category B with regards to the activities to be supported essentially under Component 2 which will support the establishment of seven additional integrated multiple services platforms, "Maison du Paysan". No large scale, significant or irreversible negative



impacts are foreseen to be induced by the project activities. The negative impacts would be rather minor, low in scale and mostly site specific and thus easily manageable. To this end, the four safeguard policies triggered for the parent project remain consistent with the AF: OP/BP 4.01 (Environment Assessment); OP/BP 4.11 (Physical Cultural Resources); OP/BP 4.12 (Involuntary Resettlement); and OP/BP 4.36 (Forests). The parent-project initial Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF), approved and disclosed in country and at the World Bank website, has been updated to capture the AF specifics and will be used to guide the development and implementation of subsequent site-specific safeguards instruments, such as ESIA/ESMP and/or RAPs. The updated ESMF was disclosed in-country on March 7, 2019 and on the World Bank website on March 8, 2019. Seven site-specific ESIA/ESMPs for each of the known additional integrated multiple services platforms (Maison du Paysan) under the AF will be prepared once their specific locations are known and will be disclosed in-country and on the World Bank website prior to construction.

The AF will have great positive impact on sustainable development in Niger. It will bring a real added value to existing initiatives, and put a strong emphasis on disseminating value-added sustainable land and water management (SLWM) technologies and techniques through the development of the “Maison du Paysan”. Finally, the integrated services platform will reinforce the sustainability at the local level by directly benefitting the communities and promoting their resilience to climate change and improving the productivity of their agricultural, forestry and livestock activities. Therefore, by adequate measures aimed at building the capacities of local stakeholders (including local authorities, rural organizations, and the private sector), the AF will support the sustainability of the project.

The project will not involve or finance private sectors.

The project will not support activities in areas which critical habitats may be threatened.

Performance Standards for Private Sector Activities OP/BP 4.03	No
Natural Habitats OP/BP 4.04	No



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Forests OP/BP 4.36	Yes	The proposed AF project does not include any activities related to forest exploitation. However, as with OP 4.04, this policy is triggered to prevent those activities which could induce direct or indirect significant impacts on forest conservation or sustainable management to be selected and financed by the project. The ESMF/ESMPs will include measures for avoiding or, if unavoidable, mitigating impacts.
Pest Management OP 4.09	No	As the parent project, the AF activities will not involve the use of chemical or non- chemical pesticides. The AF project will also avoid financing and using chemical pesticides.
Physical Cultural Resources OP/BP 4.11	Yes	This policy is triggered because of the nature of possible civil works to be financed under component 1 which might lead to the unearthing of such physical cultural resources (PCR). Nevertheless, it is highly unlikely that any PCR will be impacted; nonetheless, the existing “Chance finds procedures” embedded in the parent project ESMF will continue to be applied wherever such encounter occurs during project implementation.
Indigenous Peoples OP/BP 4.10	No	There are no Indigenous Peoples in the project areas.
Involuntary Resettlement OP/BP 4.12	Yes	Under the parent project (P125669), the Borrower had prepared and already used a Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF). Since this AF will not lead to change in project design and will be implemented in the same parent project geographical areas, the AF will update the RPF to fit the AF and continue using it for compliance with OP/BP 4.12 core requirements. The updated RPF was disclosed in-country on March 7, 2019 and on the World Bank website on March 8, 2019. During project implementation, the screening process will determine whether a subproject-specific Resettlement Action Plan (RAP) will be required. If so, such RAP will be duly consulted upon and publicly disclosed both in-country and at the World Bank Website prior to the physical start of project civil works. The project intervention areas are not under dispute.
Safety of Dams OP/BP 4.37	No	The project will not finance dam works, using waters from existing dams or activities associated to existing dam.



Projects on International Waterways OP/BP 7.50	No	The project will not finance activities that will interfere with international watercourses; either in terms of water withdrawal or discharge of discharge of pollutants.
Projects in Disputed Areas OP/BP 7.60	No	The project intervention areas are not under dispute areas.

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:

The environmental and social impacts and risks of the project activities are expected to be moderate to low, mostly site-specific and easily manageable to an acceptable level, typical of Category B projects. The potential negative environmental and social negative impacts and risks of the proposed project are associated with the implementation of Component 2, which are designed to (i) support the establishment of seven additional integrated multiple services platforms, “Maison du Paysan” and (ii) building on the IFC small-scale drip irrigation pilot and considering other technology entry points in SLWM sub-projects. These include: soil erosion due to agricultural developments, risks of increased prevalence of HIV/AIDS and other SCDs due to foreign workers on construction sites, reduced vegetation and pasture due to agricultural developments, etc.

The project will not involve the use of pesticides. The overall environmental impact of the project is positive and the ESMF and RPF provide enough guidance for screening safeguards aspects during the implementation phase. These reports have been reviewed and approved for in-country and Infoshop disclosures.

The EMSF emphasizes positive impacts, such as (i) increase of national contribution to global carbon sequestration effort, (ii) decrease of productive soils erosion types and rates, (iii) biodiversity conservation, (iv) availability of water for basic uses in scarcity context, (vi) decrease on number of conflicts in access to natural resources, (vii) reversion of sedimentation of water bodies, (vi ii) increased number of peasants implementing sustainable farming techniques.

In cases where activities may potentially have small-scale social impacts that may involve land acquisition/involuntary resettlement, the Project Coordination Unit will hire a consultant to prepare Resettlement Action Plans (RAPs) as and when necessary. The PCU will be responsible for following up safeguards issues as and when they arise during project implementation. The RAP will be prepared in compliance of RPF and be submitted to the Bank prior to the commencement of single civil works.

2. Describe any potential indirect and/or long term impacts due to anticipated future activities in the project area: Even if specific sub-projects implementation areas are not yet chosen, the target outcome of expanding food production by improving farming techniques and land management skills will, taking into account growing population constraint and subsequent land need, in medium term impact on vegetation/forest coverage. Also, any socio-economic facility likely to generate domestic wastes should be implemented along with sensitization actions to prevent poorest exposure to sanitation risks.

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3. Describe any project alternatives (if relevant) considered to help avoid or minimize adverse impacts.

N/A

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.

The borrower had prepared an ESMF and a RPF to address adverse impacts of the project interventions under component 2, including resettlement in the case of land expropriation. The ESMF and RPF have been approved and disclosed in-country (October 3, 2011) and in the Bank's Infoshop (September 29, 2011). The parent-project's ESMF and RPF have been updated to capture the AF specifics design and will be used to guide the development and implementation of subsequent site-specific safeguards instruments, such as, ESIA/ESMP and/or RAPs. The updated ESMF and RPF were disclosed in-country on March 7, 2019 and on the World Bank website on March 8, 2019. Seven (07) Site specific Environmental and Impact Assessment/Environmental and Impact Management Plans (ESIA/ESMP) for each of the known seven additional integrated multiple services platforms (Maison du Paysan) under the AF will be prepared once their specific locations are known and will be disclosed in-country and on the World Bank website prior to construction.

The approved ESMF guarantees sustainability through mitigation measures such as: (i) an environmental and social clearance mechanism and responsibilities for the approval of sub-projects to be financed under component 2, (ii) ESMP and, where applicable, RAF implementation survey procedures and responsibilities to be carried out by BEEEI, (iii) indicators for the monitoring of environmental outcomes, (iv) an estimated cost of sub-projects EIA studies, and, (v) training of the stakeholders.

Two clearance tools have been approved: (i) the screening process to be led by the BEEEI, and (ii) a check-list of generic mitigation measures for each sub-project type in idea to shorten and ease the approval time and ease the implementation.

A total budget of 623 million CFA is proposed to be included and earmarked in the overall project cost to cover ESMP implementation expenses, regardless of the cost eventually induced by a RAP (the estimated costs of the RAP would be 458 million CFA).

The Niger legislative framework includes a decree on Environmental Assessments that ensures the integration of environmental considerations at the project level and not at political or strategic levels. Institutional responsibility lies with the Bureau Environmental Assessments and Impact Studies (BEEEI), attached to the Ministry of the Environment and Desertification Control. Institutional reforms aimed at strengthening public financial management and the general business environment, are expected to lead to an overall improvement in the governance environment, which potentially will also positively affect environmental and natural resource management. In particular, the support towards increasing pro-poor expenditures, which also includes spending by the Ministry for Water, Environment and Desertification, is likely to have a positive impact on environmental conditions and management. The law sets water quality standards.

The Borrower has experience with the World Bank Safeguard policies requirements through several past Bank funded projects. In particular, the first CDD project (Programme d'Actions Communautaires PAC) and PRODEX (Agricultural Export Promotion projects) had developed a comprehensive social and environmental mitigation framework. The GoN capacity to assess and address safeguards compliance will be enhanced through a capacity building process during the project implementation. Qualified local consultants or international consultants will be recruited to enhance the project team capacity, to assess safeguard risks and to help to produce relevant ESMP/RAP

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recommendations for proper mitigation of eventual adverse impacts.

5. Identify the key stakeholders and describe the mechanisms for consultation and disclosure on safeguard policies, with an emphasis on potentially affected people.

The project involves all level stakeholders like government, public institutions, private sector, local governments, communities, community-level professional groups (farmers, craftsmen, etc.) and NGOs.

During the preparation of the ESMF and the RPF, public consultations were held (April 2011) in two sample local communities (Soudoure and Kao) for a participatory identification of (i) the project implementation challenges, (ii) the populations' concerns and suggestions to be integrated in the project scope, (iii) existing local mechanisms for conflicts resolution. Consulted communities have particularly focused their intervention on the endogenous mechanisms of conflict resolution at the community level, and the need to involve local leaders in the formulation and implementation of the project activities. The proposed mechanisms for resolving crises at the village level and the mitigation measures suggested in the draft ESMF and RPF are able to ensure effective management of environmental and social risks of CAPCR. The project entry point is the commune, and local leaders will participate to the formulation of the project activities.

As of the provisions of national EIA regulations, draft reports of these two documents have been submitted to BEEI (through the Ministry of Environment) who disclosed them prior to a national stakeholder's validation workshop held on July 5, 2011. After the issuance of the permit by the Ministry of Environment, the GoN disclosed in-country (October 3, 2011) and informed the World Bank. The ESMF and RPF were then disclosed (September 29, 2011) at the Bank's Infoshop prior to appraisal.

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B. Disclosure Requirements (N.B. The sections below appear only if corresponding safeguard policy is triggered)

Environmental Assessment/Audit/Management Plan/Other

Date of receipt by the Bank March 7, 2019	Date of submission for disclosure March 8, 2019	For category A projects, date of distributing the Executive Summary of the EA to the Executive Directors
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"In country" Disclosure

March 7, 2019

Resettlement Action Plan/Framework/Policy Process

Date of receipt by the Bank March 7, 2019	Date of submission for disclosure March 8, 2019
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"In country" Disclosure



March 7, 2019

C. Compliance Monitoring Indicators at the Corporate Level (to be filled in when the ISDS is finalized by the project decision meeting) (N.B. The sections below appear only if corresponding safeguard policy is triggered)

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