

**INTEGRATED SAFEGUARDS DATA SHEET
(FCPF READINESS FUND)
CONCEPT STAGE**

Report No.:70961

Date ISDS Prepared/Updated: May 30, 2012

I. BASIC INFORMATION

A. Basic Project Data

Country: Liberia	Project ID: P124073	
	Additional Project ID (if any):	
Project Name: Liberia – FCPF REDD READINESS PREPARATION SUPPORT		
Task Team Leader: Paola Agostini		
Estimated Appraisal Date: N/A	Estimated Board Date: N/A	
Managing Unit: AFTEN	Lending Instrument: Grant	
Sector: ENV		
Theme: Forests, Climate Change		
IBRD Amount (US\$m.):		
IDA Amount (US\$m.):		
GEF Amount (US\$m.):		
PCF Amount (US\$m.):		
FCPF Amount (US\$m.): 3.6		
Other financing amounts by source:		
Environmental Category: B		
Simplified Processing	Simple [X]	Repeater []
Is this a transferred project	Yes []	No []

B. Project Objectives [from section 2 of R-PP Assessment Note]:

The Project Development Objective is to carry out a consultative and quantitative analysis of the different land use options for development of the national REDD+ Strategy for Liberia to be approved by the National Climate Change Steering Committee.

The options analysis will look at the tradeoffs and complementarities of various land uses, based on different criteria such as: revenues for GoL, livelihoods for the communities, benefits for the communities, environmental and social sustainability, and only as a last criterion and additional benefit, the possibility of carbon credit. The options analysis will be fully consulted and will provide the basis for the development of a socially and environmentally sound national strategy to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD+).

Key Results

1. Consultations on land-use options with GoL and stakeholders (4 county level) (participation as defined by SESA national first validation workshop)
2. Consultations on REDD+ Strategy (4 county level)(participation as defined by SESA national validation workshop)
3. Quantitative analysis of land use in forested and mixed agricultural lands prepared and validated by the National Climate Change Steering Committee (NCCSC) (yes/no)
4. Quantified reference scenario prepared and validated by the REDD+ Technical Working Group (RTWG) (yes/no)
5. Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) drafted and validated by relevant stakeholders (yes/no)
6. National REDD+ strategy to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD+) is prepared and validated by national stakeholders (yes/no).

C. Project Description:

The FCPF grant will provide funding to support Liberia in carrying out selected key activities outlined in the R-PP for the REDD+. The total funding requested from the FCPF is US\$3,600,000. This amount will fund a portion of the identified R-PP activities, and will help the Country towards achieving REDD+ Readiness.

The activities to be financed by the FCPF are limited to technical assistance, analytical studies, capacity building, goods, operating costs, and consultation processes and does not include the implementation of site specific REDD+ programs on the ground (carbon deals). The following is a table with the four components to be financed by the FCPF.

FCPF grant Component	FCPF grant Subcomponents (Lead GoL Agency to provide technical oversight-all contracts managed by RIU)	R-PP Components to be financed by FPCF
1. Support to the coordination of the REDD+ Readiness Process and consultations (\$1.61 M)	1.1. National Readiness Management Arrangements and activities (FDA)	1(a) National Readiness Management Arrangements
	1.2. Information Sharing and Early Dialogue with Key Stakeholder Groups (FDA)	1(b) Information Sharing and Early Dialogue with Key Stakeholder Groups
	1.3 Consultations & participation in REDD strategy development (FDA - implementation- and MPEA - coordination-)	1(c) Consultation and participation process
	1.4. Consultation and Participation Process SESA (EPA)	1(c) Consultation and Participation Process

	1.5. Strengthening national feedback and grievance redress mechanisms (FDA)	Included in 1(c) Consultation and Participation Process
2 Contribute to the design of the national REDD+ strategy (\$0.8 M)	2.1. Social and Environmental Impacts Assessments during Readiness Preparation (SESA) (EPA)	2(d) Social and Environmental Impacts (SESA)
	2.2 Finalization of the REDD+ Strategy (FDA -implementation- and MPEA -coordination-)	2(e) Finalisation of National REDD Strategy document (including partially financing of 2(b) REDD+ Strategy Options)
3. Reference level or Scenario (\$0.6M)	3. Development of a Reference Level or Scenario (including Forest Cover Mapping and forest inventory in priority areas) (FDA)	3) Development Reference Level or Scenario
4. Project management (\$0.59)	4. Project Management (FDA)	
TOTAL		

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

The project does not entail construction or any other physical intervention on the ground. Rather, it is focused on providing technical assistance to enhance the technical and institutional capacity of the government to participate in a future international REDD+ mechanism.

E. Borrower’s Institutional Capacity for Safeguard Policies:

In Liberia, there is a weak institutional capacity that undermines the ability of the government to implement the SESA and to ensure that social and environmental risks identified are effectively mitigated although Liberia has enacted a robust Environmental Protection Act and adopted appropriate regulations destined to inform the conduct of environmental activities, assessments, impacts and audits. The development of SESA will be informed by an analysis of the current environment policies and regulations, World Bank Safeguards and any foreseen social and environmental impacts as a result of REDD implementation. The World Bank will provide all necessary guidance in order to implement the social and environmental mitigation.

F. Environmental and Social Safeguards Specialists on the Team:

Moses Yao Duphey
Lucienne M M'Baipor

Environmental Safeguard Specialist, AFTEN
Sr. Social Development Spec, AFTCS

II. SAFEGUARD POLICIES THAT MIGHT APPLY

The FCPF Readiness Preparation grant must comply with World Bank safeguard policies regarding the management of environmental and social impacts. This grant will, in part, support the country's activities to identify the potential risks associated with REDD+ and mitigation options. In order to do this, the FCPF is using a Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA) to integrate key environmental and social considerations into REDD+ Readiness by combining analytical and participatory approaches. The SESA allows: (i) social and environmental considerations to be integrated into the REDD+ Readiness process, in particular the REDD+ strategy; (ii) stakeholder participation in identifying and prioritizing key issues, assessment of policy, institutional and capacity gaps to manage these priorities and recommendations, and disclosure of findings in the REDD Country's progress reports on Readiness preparation; and (iii) an Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) to be put in place to manage environmental and social risks and to mitigate potential adverse impacts.

It is envisioned that the safeguards policies mentioned below may be triggered in the REDD+ Readiness process.

Safeguard Policies Triggered (please explain why)	Yes	No	TBD
Environmental Assessment (OP/BP 4.01)	X		
<p>In line with the nature of the REDD+ Readiness preparation activities, the Government of Liberia will use a Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA) as the applicable safeguards approach. The strength of the SESA for REDD+ is that it will combine analytical work and consultation in an iterative fashion to inform the preparation of the REDD+ strategy. The SESA will help ensure compliance with the Bank's safeguard policies by integrating key environmental and social considerations relevant to REDD+ including all those covered by the safeguard policies. The SESA will help the Government of Liberia formulate their REDD+ strategy in a way that reflects inputs from key stakeholder groups and addresses the main environmental and social issues identified. The SESA includes an Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) as a distinct output, which provides a framework for managing and mitigating the environmental and social risk related to investments and carbon finance transactions in the context of the future implementation of REDD+. The future investments and carbon finance transactions will still require specific environmental and social assessments, but these will benefit from the strategy context created by the SESA and ESMF. The ESMF will include standing methods and procedures, along with appropriate institutional arrangements for screening, reviewing, implementing and monitoring specific ESMPs to prevent adverse impacts as well as cumulative impacts.</p>			
Natural Habitats (OP/BP 4.04)	X		
<p>This policy seeks to ensure that all options proposed in the National REDD+ Strategy should take into account the conservation of biodiversity, as well as the numerous environmental services and products that natural habitats provide to human society. Overall, REDD+ activities are expected to have significant positive impacts on natural habitats, as the country puts in place an effective strategy to reduce loss of natural forests. The SESA will address issues related to natural habitats and potential impacts of the National REDD+ Strategy, which will later be included in the ESMF.</p>			
Forests (OP/BP 4.36)	X		
<p>Overall, REDD+ activities are expected to have significant positive impacts on forest, in that the main goal of the program is to reduce deforestation and forest degradation, while contributing to the well-being of forest-dependent communities. Potential impact of the National REDD+ Strategy on natural forests will be assessed through the SESA and included in the ESMF. The SESA and associated ESMF will reflect the requirements of the Bank's Operational Policy regarding forest management.</p>			
Pest Management (OP 4.09)			X
<p>This policy could be triggered depending on the final scope of the National REDD+ Strategy. Agricultural intensification and reforestation activities, for instance, could trigger this policy, depending on the methods employed by concrete activities on the ground to manage pests. The SESA will address critical issues related to pest management, as necessary.</p>			
Physical Cultural Resources (OP/BP 4.11)			X
<p>Some of the future project activities may affect physical cultural resources. Further investigation is being undertaken to determine if this policy would be triggered or not.</p>			

Safeguard Policies Triggered (please explain why)	Yes	No	TBD
Indigenous Peoples (OP/BP 4.10)		X	
This policy does not apply as there are no Indigenous Peoples in Liberia			
Involuntary Resettlement (OP/BP 4.12)	X		
REDD+ activities might trigger Involuntary Resettlement in situations involving involuntary restrictions of access to legally designated parks, protected areas, or forest management / reforestation areas. The policy aims to avoid involuntary resettlement to the extent feasible, or to minimize and mitigate its adverse social and economic impacts in cases where resettlement or other involuntary restrictions cannot be avoided. Through the SESA process, any issues related to land acquisition or involuntary resettlement will be identified, and a Resettlement Policy Framework and/or Process Framework will be prepared in addition to the ESMF.			
Safety of Dams (OP/BP 4.37)		X	
The REDD+ activities do not involve the construction of new or use of existing dams.			
Projects on International Waterways (OP/BP 7.50)		X	
The REDD+ activities do not involve international waterways.			
Projects in Disputed Areas (OP/BP 7.60)		X	
N/A			
Piloting the Use of Borrower Systems to Address Environmental and Social Safeguard Issues in Bank-Supported Projects (OP/BP 4.00)		X	
N/A			

III. SAFEGUARD PREPARATION PLAN

A. Target date for review meeting of REDD Country's mid-term progress report, at which time the ISDS may be updated as needed:

After 1.5 years of initiated the SESA

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 initial ISDS and/or updated ISDS:

The main safeguard instrument to be applied is the SESA. The SESA includes as part of the SESA process for the preparation of an ESMF. The ESMF may evolve and be updated over time when new REDD + strategy options and projects or activities (including investments), or policies/regulations are identified during implementation of REDD+. The SESA addresses the key environmental and social issues associated with the analysis and preparation of REDD+ strategy options as well as REDD+ projects, activities (including investments), policies and

regulations. In this manner SESA can ensure compliance with World Bank’s environmental and social safeguards.

The SESA process requires that the selection of REDD+ strategy options should take into account the country’s institutional and capacity constraints for managing environmental and social risks, and the potential environmental and social impacts associated with these strategy options. Any identified gaps to manage these risks and potential impacts in relation to relevant World Bank’s safeguard policies should be identified along with the strategy options to feed into the preparation of the ESMF. The ESMF should provide a framework to manage and mitigate the potential environmental and social impacts related to specific projects and activities (including investments and carbon finance transactions), in the context of the future implementation of REDD+.

The ESMF will be structured to contain subject-specific frameworks addressing the relevant requirements of the applicable environmental and social safeguard policies including, but not necessarily limited to, a Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF); Process Framework (PF).

The draft ESMF report and consultation report and the SESA Report will be ready between 32 - 33 months after the refinement of ToRs. Terms of Reference for the SESA were prepared by the Consultation Task Force in Liberia and were later consulted with the REDD+ Technical Working group in March, 2012. The ToRs will be consulted again at the Sanction + 6 workshops in June 2012 before they are finalized.

IV. APPROVALS

<i>Signed and submitted by:</i>		
Task Team Leader:	Paola Agostini	Date: 5/21/2012
<i>Approved by:</i>		
Regional Safeguards Coordinator:	Alexandra C. Bezeredi	Date: 5/11/2012
Comments:		
Sector Manager:	Idah Pswarayi-Riddihough	Date: 5/22/2012
Comments:		