

INTEGRATED SAFEGUARDS DATA SHEET
CONCEPT STAGE

Report No.: 93856

Date ISDS Prepared/Updated: 10-Oct-2014

I. BASIC INFORMATION**A. Basic Project Data**

Country:	Ghana	Project ID:	P124060
Project Name:	Ghana: Additional REDD+ Readiness Preparation Support		
Task Team Leader:	Martin Fodor		
Estimated Board Date:	N/A		
Managing Unit:	GENDR		
Sector(s):	Forestry		
Theme(s):	Climate change		
Is this project processed under OP 8.50 (Emergency Recovery) or OP 8.00 (Rapid Response to Crises and Emergencies)?			No
Financing (in USD Million)			
Total Project Cost:	5.20	Total Bank Financing:	0.00
Financing Gap:	0.00		
Financing Source			Amount
Recipient			0.00
Forest Carbon Partnership Facility			5.20
Total			5.20
Environmental Category	B - Partial Assessment		
Is this a Repeater project?	No		
Is this a Transferred project?	No		

B. Project Objectives

The Project Development Objective is to design a socially and environmentally sound national strategy to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation and to develop a reference scenario of emissions from deforestation and degradation that takes into account national circumstances.

C. Project Description

The Additional Funding activities will enhance Ghana's capacities to achieve the Project Development Objective. The Additional Funding grant will finance activities identified in Ghana R-PP and MTR currently not financed by the original grant (i.e. the original \$3.4 million FCPC grant that has helped the

Recipient prepare a SESA, ESMF and RPF and that closed in November 2014). Completion of the additional activities will enable Ghana to generate a Readiness Package by November 2015. The Additional Funding will also support Ghana’s efforts towards preparation of an ER- Program under consideration by the Carbon Fund of the World Bank, for piloting its REDD+ Strategy and leading to potential signing of Emissions Reductions Program Agreement (ERPA). The structure and implementation arrangements of the AF activities will remain as under the original grant. The AF activities are organized into three components as follows:

Component	Budget (US\$ million)
1. Support to National REDD+ Readiness Management Arrangements	1.23
2. Establishment of a Measurement, Reporting and Verification System	1.72
3. Project preparation support for Emission Reduction Program and testing of REDD+ readiness arrangements through ongoing pilots	1.73
Contingency (10%)	0.52
TOTAL	5.20

Component 1: Support to National REDD+ Readiness Management Arrangements

Activities under this component will support the National REDD+ Readiness Management Arrangements with the aim of creating a robust system for managing and coordinating Ghana’s REDD+ readiness process. The Component will finance (i) operational costs of the REDD+ Secretariat and Working Groups for coordinating readiness activities, (ii) establishment of arrangements for the flow of REDD+ funds in Ghana, and (iii) setting up of the Feedback and Grievance Redress Mechanism.

Component 2: Establishment of a Measurement, Reporting and Verification (MRV) System

Activities under this component will provide support for addressing gaps in establishment and operationalization of Ghana’s MRV system. This will entail improvements to the reference level, including assessing the cost effectiveness of using remote sensing for estimating emissions from degradation, and support the strengthening of the FC’s Resource Management Support Centre (RMSC) and Climate Change Unit (CCU) to perform their designated roles. A REDD+ Registry, including an Information System for Multiple Benefits and a Safeguards Information System, will be established.

Component 3: Project preparation support for Emission Reduction Program and testing of REDD+ readiness arrangements through ongoing pilots

This component has an objective of leveraging finance from the Additional Funding Phase to enable Ghana to develop and complete its Emissions Reduction Program Document and also test arrangements for key thematic areas of REDD+ implementation.

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

The AF activities are limited to analytical studies, capacity building, and consultation processes at the national and sub-national levels and do not include the implementation of site specific REDD+ programs on the ground.

E. Recipient Institutional Capacity for Safeguard Policies

National institutional capacity for the implementation of safeguards at the level required for REDD+ readiness will continue to be strengthened. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in Ghana has experience of conducting sector and project specific assessments, and monitoring of social and environmental impacts. A SESA Sub-Working group made up of government and civil society representatives has been set up under the National REDD+ Technical WG to steer the SESA process in the readiness phase. A national consultancy firm assisted the Government in conducting the SESA and ensuring that the SESA feeds back into the national REDD+ strategy development process. A staff from the Environment Protection Agency in Ghana, which is experienced in application of national environmental safeguards, is represented on the SESA Sub-Working Group. The Forestry Commission assigned a dedicated staff to work on safeguards. The AF grant will support additional safeguards training for this staff. Broader safeguards capacity building activities for a wider range of personnel may also be supported as needed, in coordination with capacity building efforts under the Forest Investment Program (FIP) and the Dedicated Grant Mechanism (DGM), and other parallel Bank funded operations such as Natural Resources and Environmental Governance Technical Assistance Project (NREG TA).

F. Environmental and Social Safeguards Specialists on the Team

Kenneth M. Green, Senior Safeguards Specialist

Paula F. Lytle (GURDR), Senior Social Development Specialist

II. SAFEGUARD POLICIES THAT MIGHT APPLY

Safeguard Policies	Triggered?	Explanation (Optional)
Environmental Assessment OP/BP 4.01	Yes	In view of the nature of REDD + Readiness the Recipient conducted a Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA) under the original Grant, used to inform the preparation of the REDD+ strategy. The draft SESA documents extensive consultation across numerous stakeholders and integrates key environmental and social considerations relevant to REDD+ including all those covered by the safeguard policies. An Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) was also drafted as part of the original Readiness Grant that includes provisions for managing and mitigating the environmental and social risks related to investments and future carbon finance transactions. The ESMF includes procedures, along with appropriate institutional arrangements for screening, reviewing, implementing and monitoring specific activities to minimize or avoid risks and impacts.
Natural Habitats OP/BP 4.04	Yes	Overall, REDD+ activities are expected to

		have significant positive impacts on natural habitats. Potential impacts of the National REDD+ Strategy on natural habitats were assessed through the SESA and are included in the ESMF. There is no anticipation of modification of critical natural habitats nor reversal of biodiversity status in the program areas.
Forests OP/BP 4.36	Yes	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 impacts of the National REDD+ Strategy on natural forests were assessed through the SESA and are included in the ESMF. The SESA and associated ESMF reflect the requirements of the Bank's Operational Policy regarding forest management, in particular as these relate to the establishment of plantations.
Pest Management OP 4.09	YES	At this stage in the REDD+ Readiness process, cocoa lands will be included in the interventions to address degradation and deforestation via enhancing cocoa production and/or expanding shade tree growth on these lands. Consequently, the details presently used in country for implementing Integrated Pest Management have been presented in the parallel Forest Investment Project (FIP) Pest Management Plan. The PMP under FIP will be applied across the REDD cocoa programs to ensure that handling, use and storage follows World Bank requirements.
Physical Cultural Resources OP/BP 4.11	TBD	This policy could be triggered if REDD+ activities promote actions in areas containing sites deemed physical cultural resources by the local communities living there (e.g. holy/secret sites such as sacred groves, sacred forests, etc.). Though it is not anticipated that the project will have negative impacts on any such sites, the existence of any such sites and the corresponding need to trigger this policy will be determined once the National REDD+ Strategy is completed and targeted zones for the ER-Program are determined.
Indigenous Peoples OP/BP 4.10	No	There are no Indigenous Peoples in the project area.

Involuntary Resettlement OP/BP 4.12	Yes	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 involuntary resettlement, including, but not limited to, economic displacement, land acquisition, access restriction, etc. have been identified, and a Resettlement Policy Framework prepared.
Safety of Dams OP/BP 4.37	No	N/A
Projects on International Waterways OP/BP 7.50	No	N/A
Projects in Disputed Areas OP/BP 7.60	No	N/A

III. SAFEGUARD PREPARATION PLAN

A. Tentative target date for preparing the PAD Stage ISDS:

N/A

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

The Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA) report, an Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF), and a Resettlement Policy Framework were prepared as part of the original grant. These reports have been drafted and will be disclosed by the time of Readiness Package submission and assessment (expected in November 2015). The Preparation Activities will also include financing for the specific safeguards instruments required for the ER-Program (to be determined during ER-Program preparation).

IV. APPROVALS

Task Team Leader:	Name: Martin Fodor	
<i>Approved By:</i>		
Regional Safeguards Coordinator:	Name: Alexandra Bezeredi	Date: January 19, 2015
Practice Manager/Manager:	Name: Magda Lovei	Date: January 21, 2015

