



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

Appraisal Stage | Date Prepared/Updated: 14-Jun-2018 | Report No: PIDISDSA22618



**BASIC INFORMATION**

**A. Basic Project Data**

Country Ethiopia	Project ID P163383	Project Name Ethiopia Resilient Landscapes and Livelihoods Project	Parent Project ID (if any)
Region AFRICA	Estimated Appraisal Date 15-Jun-2018	Estimated Board Date 02-Aug-2018	Practice Area (Lead) Environment & Natural Resources
Financing Instrument Investment Project Financing	Borrower(s) Ministry of Finance and Economic Cooperation	Implementing Agency Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Resource	

Proposed Development Objective(s)

To improve climate resilience, land productivity and carbon storage, and increase access to diversified livelihood activities in selected rural watersheds.

Components

Green Infrastructure and Resilient Livelihoods  
Investing in Institutions and Information for Resilience  
Land administration and use  
Project management and monitoring

**PROJECT FINANCING DATA (US\$, Millions)**

**SUMMARY**

<b>Total Project Cost</b>	129.00
<b>Total Financing</b>	129.00
<b>of which IBRD/IDA</b>	100.00
<b>Financing Gap</b>	0.00

**DETAILS**

**World Bank Group Financing**

International Development Association (IDA)	100.00
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IDA Credit	100.00
<b>Non-World Bank Group Financing</b>	
Counterpart Funding	10.00
Borrower	10.00
Trust Funds	19.00
Free-standing Cofinancing Trust Fund	19.00

Environmental Assessment Category

**B-Partial Assessment**

Decision

The review did authorize the team to appraise and negotiate

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## **B. Introduction and Context**



## Country Context

1. Ethiopia is a large, land-locked, and diverse country. Located in the Horn of Africa, Ethiopia extends over an area of 1.1 million km<sup>2</sup> - about the size of France and Spain combined. With an estimated population of about 100 million in 2015, out of which 80.5 percent are rural dwellers, Ethiopia is the second most populous country in Sub-Saharan Africa. The country is a land of diverse nationalities and peoples, and its biophysical environment includes a variety of ecosystems, with significant differences in climate, soil properties, vegetation types, agriculture potential, biodiversity, and water resources. The natural resource base remains the foundation for most livelihoods and is subject to considerable climate risks. Despite past progress, a historic legacy of underinvestment still bears its mark as more than half of the adult population is illiterate, and the country's infrastructure deficit remains one of the largest in the world. Ethiopia is undergoing a faster demographic transition than the rest of Africa, with a rapidly rising working-age population that presents both opportunities and challenges (more than 60 percent of the population is below 25 years of age).

2. Ethiopia is one of the world's poorest countries but has achieved substantial progress in economic, social, and human development over the past decade. With a per capita income of US\$619 (2015), Ethiopia remains the 15th poorest country in the world. Nonetheless, growth averaged nearly 11 percent per year since 2004 and extreme poverty<sup>1</sup> fell from 55 percent in 2000 to 34 percent in 2011, which is one of the most impressive poverty reduction results recorded internationally (within Sub-Saharan Africa, only Uganda reduced poverty faster). Low levels of inequality have largely been maintained. With a few exceptions, Ethiopia attained the Millennium Development Goals. Yet vulnerability to return to poverty remains high, especially for those engaged in rural livelihoods depending on rain-fed agriculture. Addressing gender gaps between men and women in access to education and decision making, rights, employment, unpaid labor, land, and productive resources is essential for economic growth in the country. World Bank (2009)<sup>2</sup> estimates indicate that reducing basic gender inequalities in education and the labor market could increase the annual Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth in Ethiopia by around 1.9 percentage points.<sup>3</sup>

3. The Government of Ethiopia (GoE) has embarked on a structural transformation of the economy and society. The GoE has completed its first phase of the Growth and Transformation Plan (GTP-I) (2010–2015), which set a long-term goal for Ethiopia to become a middle-income country by 2025, with a growth rate of at least 11 percent per year during the plan period. During 2011–2015, Ethiopia grew at a rate of 10 percent. A second phase of the GTP (GTP-II) is under implementation for 2015–2020. GTP-II puts a strong emphasis on structural transformation, industrialization, urbanization, and export promotion. Public infrastructure investment has been at the center of the country's economic strategy, and Ethiopia has been able to achieve a substantial expansion of energy, road, railway, and telecom infrastructure, financed by domestic and external public borrowing. The private sector investment climate remains suppressed, however.<sup>4</sup> Public investments in basic service provision, such as education and health, have contributed to poverty reduction, as did the introduction of rural safety nets. GTP-II continues the Government's commitment that women and youth benefit from and participate in the overall economic, political, and decision-making processes in Ethiopia.

GTP-II priorities for natural resource management build on the commitments contained in the Climate-Resilient Green Economy (CRGE) Strategy launched by the GoE in 2011, which seeks to foster economic development and growth, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and improve resilience to climate change. Within the framework of the CRGE Strategy, GTP-II goals for natural resource conservation and use include targets for the rehabilitation and sustainable management of watersheds<sup>5</sup>, the conservation of biodiversity, and expanded provision of land use certificates, as well as the development of climate-resilient agriculture, including promotion of climate-resilient crop species.



### Sectoral and Institutional Context

4. The intersection of land management, rights, and use forms the key development issue for millions of rural Ethiopians facing water insecurity, food insecurity, land tenure insecurity, and livelihood insecurity – all amplified by climate variability and change. Climate impacts in Ethiopia are felt primarily through water stress, which is affected by land use changes and degradation that undermine watershed function. The minimum estimated annual cost of land degradation in Ethiopia is 2-3 percent of Agricultural GDP, before accounting for downstream affects such as increased flood risk.<sup>6</sup> While a onetime occurrence of such a loss might be manageable, for an economy based on agriculture the cumulative losses to land degradation over time represent a significant drag on rural growth and poverty reduction. Successful remediation has been achieved through a combination of better natural resource management and resource rights, jobs and livelihood enhancements, and gender outreach in targeted degraded watersheds. Restoration effects include a range of resilience-related results, including increased soil moisture and soil fertility important for higher and less variable crop yields, improved water availability, and increased carbon sequestration – all of which are priorities under GTP-II and the CRGE Strategy.

5. This progress has been achieved by the Government and thousands of local communities largely through investment and technical assistance under the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Resources' (MoALR's) Sustainable Land Management (SLM) Program. The World Bank has provided financing for the SLM Program in six regional states of the Ethiopian highlands through the first Sustainable Land Management Project (SLMP-I, 2008-2013) and the subsequent SLMP-II (2013-2018), that together with support from other Development Partners<sup>7</sup> has allowed the SLM Program to support interventions in a total of 223 major watersheds, out of an estimated 700 that would benefit from SLM interventions.<sup>8</sup>

6. IDA financing has helped restore productive capacity and build resilient livelihoods in 135 highland watersheds through an integrated package of activities that includes management of natural resources on more than half a million hectares of degraded communal and smallholder lands. Through soil and water conservation structures, enclosures to limit free grazing, and afforestation or reforestation of more than 80,000 hectares, these activities have led to an average 9 percent increase in vegetation cover in treated watersheds. Complementing these physical interventions, IDA financing for the SLM Program has strengthened MoALR's support for land rights through the issuance of landholding certificates to over 300,000 households, including more than 200,00 women who have received titles either individually or jointly with their husbands, and more than 7,000 landless youth who have received titles to communal holdings in exchange for restoring land. To further ensure that local communities derive livelihood benefits from these investments, more than 130,000 smallholders in the targeted watersheds have participated in income-generating activities under the SLM Program, including for improved cookstove adoption that reduces fuelwood demand, women's labor and respiratory illnesses.

<sup>1</sup> Extreme poverty is measured as consuming less than US\$1.90 (2011 Purchasing Power Parity) a day.

<sup>2</sup> Unleashing the Potential of Ethiopian Women Trends and Options for Economic Empowerment, June 2009.

<sup>3</sup> An important contribution to poverty reduction given the elasticity of growth to poverty reduction.

<sup>4</sup> In 2017, Ethiopia's 'Doing Business' ranking was 159.

<sup>5</sup> A watershed may be defined as the maximum area from which all water drains to a common outlet.

<sup>6</sup> World Bank. 2007. The Cost of Land Degradation in Ethiopia: A Review of Past Studies.

<sup>7</sup> Key Development Partners providing financial support and technical assistance to the Government's SLM Program include the Governments of Germany and Canada, the European Union, and the International Fund for Agricultural Development.

<sup>8</sup> Major watersheds under the SLM Program cover approximately 10,000 hectares each.



### C. Proposed Development Objective(s)

#### Development Objective(s) (From PAD)

7. The Project Development Objective (PDO) is to improve climate resilience, land productivity and carbon storage, and increase access to diversified livelihood activities in selected rural watersheds.

#### Key Results

8. The PDO-level results indicators for the RLLP are as follows:
  1. Land area under sustainable landscape management practices (Ha)
    - 1a. Land area restored or reforested/afforested (Ha)
    - 1b. Land area with productivity enhancing practices applied (Ha)
  2. Net greenhouse gas emissions (metric tons)
  3. Households adopting diversified livelihood activities supported by the project (Number)
    - 3a. Female-headed households adopting diversified livelihood activities supported by the project (Number)
  4. Project area showing an increase in the Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (NDVI)<sup>9</sup> correcting for climate effects (Percent)
  5. Project area showing an increase in the Land Surface Water Index (LSWI)<sup>10</sup> correcting for climate effects (Percent)
9. Building resilience is a central consideration under RLLP, but is a term that is often loosely interpreted. In general, “resilience” refers to a heightened system capacity to anticipate, respond to, and recover from hazards. Resilience-building involves strengthening three specific capacities:
  - **Absorptive capacity:** The ability of people, assets, and systems to prepare for, mitigate, or prevent negative impacts of hazards so as to preserve and restore essential basic structures and functions, for example through protection, robustness, preparedness, and/or recovery.
  - **Adaptive capacity:** The ability of people, assets, and systems to adjust, modify or change characteristics and actions to moderate potential future impacts from hazards so as to continue to function without major qualitative changes, for example through diversity, redundancy, integration, connectedness, and/or flexibility.

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<sup>9</sup> The Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (NDVI) uses the visible and near-infrared bands of the electromagnetic spectrum to analyze remote sensing measurements to determine the extent to which a target contains live green vegetation.

<sup>10</sup> The Land Surface Water Index (LSWI) uses the shortwave infrared and near-infrared bands of the electromagnetic spectrum to analyze remote sensing measurements to determine the amount of water in vegetation and soil.



- **Transformative capacity:** The ability to create a fundamentally new system so as to avoid negative impacts from hazards.

10. The RLLP seek to strengthen these capacities in a number of ways, including: (i) absorptive capacity, through SLM and CSA interventions; (ii) adaptive capacity, through Income-Generating Activities (IGAs) that support diversification of livelihoods; and (iii) transformative capacity, through CSA, land certification and connections to value chains, that provide a basis for more fundamental socio-economic change. The Results Framework provides additional details of how each indicator will be measured to capture progress in these various dimensions.

#### D. Project Description

11. Building on lessons learnt through implementation of the SLM Program, the RLLP will complement core investments in biophysical watershed restoration with a set of associated activities supporting sustainable livelihoods in restored landscapes<sup>11</sup>, through support for Climate-Smart Agriculture (CSA), diversified Income-Generating Activities (IGAs), connections to value chains, and improved land tenure. The project area will include a total of 152 major watersheds located in the Ethiopian Highlands, averaging approximately 10,000 hectares each. Under a phased approach, the forty-five watersheds supported under SLMP-I will receive assistance to graduate from project-based support, including creation of Watershed User Associations (WUAs) and preparation of Watershed Management and Use Plans (WMUPs). Support for the ninety SLMP-II watersheds will allow completion of their Multi-Year Development Plans (MYDPs) for watershed restoration, prior to provision of graduation support as for SLMP-I watersheds. Seventeen new watersheds selected for RLLP, prioritized for extent and severity of land degradation, will receive assistance for the preparation of MYDPs, followed by investment in the identified SLM interventions. This phased approach will help clarify and strengthen linkages with other flagship programs of the MoALR, including the Productive Safety Net Program (PSNP) and the Agricultural Growth Program (AGP), both supported by the World Bank. A number of communities graduating from food-insecure status in watersheds newly identified for RLLP will transition from support under PSNP to the SLM Program. At the other end of the SLM project cycle, communities in watersheds restored under SLMP-I and SLMP-II will graduate from the SLM Program, but will receive support for sustainable agricultural productivity under AGP and other government programs. The RLLP will be implemented through four integrated components, as summarized below and detailed in Annex 1.

**Component 1. Green Infrastructure and Resilient Livelihoods** (Total: US\$74 million of which US\$61 million from IDA, US\$8 million from MDTF; and US\$5 million from GoE)

12. The objectives of this component are to support the restoration of degraded landscapes in selected watersheds and to help build resilient livelihoods on this newly productive foundation. This will be achieved through three sub-components, supporting: (i) the implementation of Sustainable Land and

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<sup>11</sup> A landscape is a socio-ecological system, including topography, natural resources, biodiversity and various land uses, that is influenced by climate and culture, as well as ecological process and human activity. A landscape approach refers to the integrated management of community, conservation and commercial interests, representing a shift from a sectoral to a collaborative approach that sustains the functionality of the landscape over time.



Water Management (SLWM) practices in line with Multi-Year Development Plans (MYDPs) in ninety SLMP-II watersheds and seventeen newly identified watersheds; (ii) the adoption of climate-smart agricultural practices in 200 restored micro-watersheds selected from SLMP-I and SLMP-II intervention watersheds; and (iii) the promotion of livelihood-diversifying IGAs in all RLLP watersheds, and support in sixteen pilot watersheds for linkages to value chains.

13. This component will complete the implementation of SLWM interventions identified in the MYDPs of ninety SLMP-II watersheds, and extend these proven interventions to seventeen additional watersheds that are vulnerable to climate variability and change, recurrent drought and floods, and land degradation. SLWM interventions on both communal and individual lands will be financed (with differentiated levels of community contribution), as well as infrastructure such as green corridors linking fragmented forests, and community access roads designed to optimize water-harvesting. Proven SLWM practices include: (i) soil and water conservation infrastructure such as terraces, water harvesting trenches, check dams, small reservoirs, and other civil works; (ii) soil fertility and moisture management; and (iii) assisted natural regeneration, enclosures plus livestock land-use rationalization, intercropping, low tillage, gully reclamation, establishment of grazing corridors, watering points and wells, and silvo-pastoral management strategies.

14. Building on the biophysical landscape restoration achieved through SLWM practices, this component will extend the ongoing pilot of CSA under SLMP-II to 200 further micro watersheds, providing support for activity packages that address: (i) farm water and soil moisture management; (ii) integrated soil fertility and soil heath management; (iii) crop development and management; and (iv) sustainable livestock production, through feed development and integrated agro-silvo-pastoral practices. To strengthen community resilience through livelihood diversification, this component will extend the support for IGAs provided under SLMP-II to all RLLP watersheds, providing grants to Common Interest Groups (CIGs) for activities such as apiculture, poultry rearing, shoat fattening, vegetable and fruit farming, and the production and marketing of improved cook stoves which help reduce pressure on watersheds' natural resources. The RLLP will further promote CSA and livelihood diversification through stronger engagement with the private sector, providing support in sixteen pilot woredas for value chain connections in the form of: (i) business plan development; (ii) storage facilities and small equipment for grading and processing; (iii) collaboration with other value chain programs to facilitate market linkages; and (iv) development of contracts with cooperatives, cooperative unions and other private sector partners.

**Component 2. Investing in Institutions and Information for Resilience** (Total: US\$17 million of which US\$9 million from IDA, and US\$8 million from MDTF)

15. The objective of this component is to build capacity for the promotion and management of SLWM practices, and improve information for better decision-making in supporting resilient landscapes and diversified rural livelihoods in the project area. This component's objectives will be achieved through the implementation of the following sub-components: (i) capacity building, information modernization and policy development; (ii) impact evaluation, knowledge management and communication.



16. This component will provide technical assistance at the local level to build local government capacity for planning and managing SLWM interventions. This will include support for: (i) Community Facilitators (CFs) at kebele level; (ii) accountants to support Woreda Offices of Agriculture and Natural Resources (WoANRs); (iii) technical advisors for specific outputs, such as preparation of MYDPs and WMUPs, establishment of WUAs, and development of business plans for IGAs and value chain linkages; and (iv) targeted assistance for specific technical needs, such as community monitoring of surface and groundwater, piloting access to agri-weather information, and training in cadaster development and land registration. The Project will also pilot new technologies for information modernization at the local level, including electronic tablets for gathering geospatial information, and Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs – or drones) for land certification mapping. Support for policy development under this component will focus on: (i) the development and application of a regulatory framework for Watershed User Associations (WUAs); (ii) agreements with private and public-sector entities for investment in SLWM through Payments for Environmental Services (PES); and (iii) strengthening the land administration system.

17. To build the evidence base for SLM decision-making, this component will support (i) a bio-physical impact evaluation of SLWM interventions at the landscape level, to be conducted through a partnership between the MoALR and the Water and Land Resource Centre (WLRC) of Addis Ababa University, and (ii) a plot-level evaluation of the impact of CSA on agricultural productivity, through a partnership between MoALR and CGIAR institutions. These will complement a household-level livelihoods impact evaluation to be conducted in parallel (under separate financing), led by the Gender Innovation Lab of the World Bank's Africa Region. The Ethiopia Development Research Institute's (EDRI's) Environment and Climate Research Center will build synergies between and draw policy recommendations from the three levels of analysis. This component will also provide resources to manage the knowledge generated by the Project, and to communicate lessons learnt to a broad audience.

**Component 3. Land Administration and Use** (Total: US\$23 million of which US\$20 million from IDA, and US\$3 million from MDTF)

18. The objective of this component is to strengthen land tenure and the land administration system in project areas, improving incentives for beneficiary communities to invest in sustainable landscape management. In the micro-watersheds targeted under Component 1, this component will: (i) improve the land tenure security of rural households and groups through land certification and administration, and (ii) enhance local level land use planning and support innovations in landscape certification systems, including rollout of the National Rural Land Administration Information System (NRLAIS). For the former, households will receive Second Level Landholding Certificates (SLLCs), and targeted landless youth will receive communal land certificates in exchange for land restoration. Half of the communal and individual certificates will include women as title-holders.

**Component 4. Project Management and Reporting** (Total: US\$15 million of which US\$10 million from IDA, and US\$5 million from GoE)

19. The objective of this component is to effectively implement and report on project activities with due diligence and integrity. The component will finance the operational costs of the Project Support Units (PSUs) in MoALR and Regional State Bureaus of Agriculture and Natural Resources. These PSUs will carry



out all fiduciary aspects of project implementation including financial management, procurement, environmental and social safeguards, and M&E reporting.

## **E. Implementation**

### Institutional and Implementation Arrangements

20. Implementation will be carried out by the MoALR through all four levels of government (federal, regional, zonal, woreda (district) and kebele (sub-district)), using the government's existing robust implementation structure for the SLMP. While these entities and their staff are well prepared to implement RLLP in the 135 woredas of SLMP-I and SLMP-II, implementation in the seventeen new woredas identified for RLLP will require a start-up period of capacity building and community mobilization. Project management, financial management, and procurement are all currently rated satisfactory or moderately satisfactory under the ongoing SLMP-II.

21. At the local level, implementation of MYDPs is undertaken by Community Watershed Teams (CWTs), Kebele Watershed Development Committees (KWDCs), and the Woreda SLM core team. Together with part-time Community Facilitators (CFs), and full-time kebele Development Agents (DAs), these structures will: (i) facilitate community participation in preparation of MYDPs; (ii) develop annual work plans and budgets; (iii) identify training needs; and (iv) conduct monitoring and evaluation. Implementation of Component 3 will be undertaken jointly by the Woreda Office of Land Administration and Use (WoLAU), the Kebele Land Administration and Use Committee (KLAUC), and the Land Administration and Use DAs. In addition, the Project will contract technical advisors for specific outputs, such as preparation of MYDPs and WMUPs, establishment of WUAs, and development of business plans for IGAs and value chain linkages.

22. At the federal and regional levels, the SLMP is guided by National and Regional SLM Steering and Technical Committees. MoUs will be signed between the National and Regional Steering Committees, under which the Regional Steering Committees will be accountable for execution of annual work plans and ensuring achievement of each Region's contribution to the Project's objectives. At the regional level, the Regional Bureaus of Agriculture (BoAs) will lead implementation of the Project, reviewing and consolidating annual work plans, budgets, procurement plans and progress reports submitted by the participating woredas.

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

The project area will include a total of 152 major watersheds located in the Ethiopian Highlands, averaging approximately 10,000 hectares each. Under a phased approach, the forty-five watersheds supported under SLMP-I will receive assistance to graduate from project-based support, including creation of Watershed User Associations (WUAs) and preparation of Watershed Management and Use Plans (WMUPs). Support for the ninety SLMP-II watersheds will allow completion of their Multi-Year Development Plans (MYDPs) for watershed restoration, prior to provision of graduation support as for SLMP-I watersheds. Seventeen new watersheds selected for RLLP, prioritized for extent and severity of land degradation, will receive assistance



for the preparation of MYDPs, followed by investment in the identified SLM interventions. This phased approach will help clarify and strengthen linkages with other flagship programs of the MoALR, including the Productive Safety Net Program (PSNP) and the Agricultural Growth Program (AGP), both supported by the World Bank. A number of communities graduating from food-insecure status in watersheds newly identified for RLLP will transition from support under PSNP to the SLM Program. At the other end of the SLM project cycle, communities in watersheds restored under SLMP-I and SLMP-II will graduate from the SLM Program, but will receive support for sustainable agricultural productivity under AGP and other government programs.

**G. Environmental and Social Safeguards Specialists on the Team**

Chukwudi H. Okafor, Social Safeguards Specialist  
Dereje Agonafir Habtewold, Environmental Safeguards Specialist  
Yacob Wondimkun Endaylalu, Environmental Safeguards Specialist

**SAFEGUARD POLICIES THAT MIGHT APPLY**

Safeguard Policies	Triggered?	Explanation (Optional)
Environmental Assessment OP/BP 4.01	Yes	The RLLP is proposed as a Category B project, and would provide positive environmental and social benefits by scaling up proven sustainable land and water management practices on communal and individual lands, coupled with land holding and use rights. The EA policy is triggered, given that the project would finance supporting infrastructure such as soil and water conservation structures such as terraces, water harvesting trenches, and other civil works; soil fertility and moisture management; assisted natural regeneration, enclosures plus backyard livestock land use rationalization, intercropping, low tillage, gully reclamation, watering points and wells, etc. The SLMP-II ESMF has been updated to capture the essence of implementation challenges, concerns and views regarding environmental and social risk management in the proposed RLLP.
Performance Standards for Private Sector Activities OP/BP 4.03	No	



Natural Habitats OP/BP 4.04	Yes	Project intervention areas will encompass some natural habitats which are protected by law. Hence, this OP/BP is reflected in the updated ESMF to ensure that sub-projects are screened against this OP/BP and that appropriate preventive or mitigation measures are formulated and executed.
Forests OP/BP 4.36	Yes	This policy is triggered as the Project areas are likely to encompass some forests which may be for production or protection. The project ESMF ensures that subprojects are screened against this OP/BP and that appropriate preventive or mitigation measures are formulated and executed.
Pest Management OP 4.09	Yes	The Project intends to support the introduction of high value crops, new and high yielding crop varieties and animal breeds which may lead to increased application of agrochemicals (insecticides, herbicides, fertilizers, etc.). The ESMF includes a description of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) approaches that would elaborate on what actions need to be undertaken to minimize environmental, health and safety impacts.
Physical Cultural Resources OP/BP 4.11	Yes	This policy is triggered given the possibility that there may be cultural assets and/or sites in the project area and on the assumption that there could be “chance finds.”
Indigenous Peoples OP/BP 4.10	Yes	It was determined that the physical and sociocultural characteristics of the proposed intervention areas and the people living in these sites meet this policy requirements. The decision to trigger the policy is also based on the Ethiopian Constitution, which recognizes the presence of different socio-cultural groups, including historically disadvantaged or underserved peoples, as well as their rights to their identity, culture, language, customary livelihoods, socio-economic equity, etc. The social safeguard issues relating to the policy were assessed through a Social Assessment (updating the SLMP-II Social Assessment) and extensive consultation with potential project beneficiaries, including those identified as vulnerable groups and underserved peoples. The consultation enabled communities to voice their views, concerns, and a range of recommendations from SLMP-II implementation experience, which have been incorporated into the project design.



Involuntary Resettlement OP/BP 4.12	Yes	This OP/BP is triggered based on the assumption that the implementation of RLLP interventions may potentially involve acquisition of land and/or restriction of access to communal natural resources. The ESMF, Social Assessment, and the Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF) prepared for SLMP-2 have been updated based on an enhanced community consultation to capture views, concerns and recommendations based on experience in implementation of the SLMP-II RPF.
Safety of Dams OP/BP 4.37	Yes	No new construction and/or rehabilitation of large dams is anticipated to be financed under the proposed RLLP. This policy is triggered as there will possibly be construction of small dams under the Project, particularly for irrigation of small-farm holdings.
Projects on International Waterways OP/BP 7.50	No	Following the request from the Ministry of Finance and Economic Cooperation to drop support for irrigation in this project, OP 7.50 is no longer triggered.
Projects in Disputed Areas OP/BP 7.60	No	

**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 issues of the project are primarily associated with the activities of Component 1. The overall environmental impact of the project is positive, especially given that activities play a pivotal role in rehabilitating degraded landscapes and conservation of valuable ecosystems through afforestation/reforestation, and biological and physical soil and water conservation on agricultural lands and other ecologically critical ecosystems.

On the social side, the project is expected to fund community level infrastructure and income generating activities in the wider context of integrated watershed and landscape management, resulting in reduced land degradation at the community level. The preparation of the project involves community mobilization and communication to sensitize the beneficiary communities on how they will work together with technical specialists to reduce water flow from the upper watershed and how they can organize into user groups, to manage the watershed, monitor the treated communal land and gullies, and subsequent transition to resilient landscapes.

2. Describe any potential indirect and/or long term impacts due to anticipated future activities in the project area: To maximize positive environment impacts, the project will use the Community-based Watershed Development Guidelines (CBPWDG) developed by MoALR and currently being updated, in planning and implementation of watershed management. The project will also play a positive role by building climate resilience through Climate Smart



Agriculture (CSA) practices and livelihood diversification activities.

The experience of SLMP-II has shown that livelihood improvement activities are critical to SLM. The RLLP will incorporate these lessons and assist participating communities in developing income-generating activities (IGAs) in an inclusive manner. A social assessment was prepared to help the project respond to social development concerns, particularly in targeting benefits for poor and underserved people while minimizing or mitigating risk and adverse impacts.

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

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 RLLP will build on lessons learnt through implementation of the SLM Program, including the Bank-financed SLMP-I and SLMP-II. SLMP-II safeguards implementation was consistently rated moderately satisfactory and to date has not encountered any serious problems. Project entities and their staff at all levels are generally trained and ready to implement in the existing 135 SLMP-II woredas. The new woredas will require a start-up period of capacity building to implement safeguards. The project at the federal and six regional levels will have an Environmental officer and Social Development & Safeguards officer who will oversee preparation of the required site-specific safeguards instruments, monitor safeguards due diligence and provide quarterly reports during implementation. The Bank will provide the required support for the designated counterpart staff during project implementation.

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

Key stakeholders include beneficiaries of project activities. The updated Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) will be used to develop detailed site-specific Environmental Management Plans (EMPs) that will be consulted upon and disclosed prior to the commencement of civil works, and negative impacts will be avoided or mitigated through the implementation of the mitigation measures developed in the EMPs. The ESMF also includes measures for addressing broader environmental and social impacts, including on natural habitats and forests, and an Integrated Pest Management Plan. On Dam Safety, it refers to the FAO Manual on "Small Earth Dams: A guide to siting, design and construction" as well as the MoALR's guidelines on the construction of small dams. The effective use of the ESMF will be regularly reviewed as part of the project's M&E system. The ESMF has been disclosed in-country and in the Info-Shop prior to appraisal in accordance with Bank requirements.

**B. Disclosure Requirements**

**Environmental Assessment/Audit/Management Plan/Other**

Date of receipt by the Bank	Date of submission for disclosure	For category A projects, date of distributing the Executive Summary of the EA to the Executive Directors
24-May-2018	06-Jun-2018	

**"In country" Disclosure**



Ethiopia  
11-Jun-2018

Comments

Disclosed on the website of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change:

<http://mefcc.gov.et/about-us/working-with-us/ministry-agriculture-livestock-resource/>

**Resettlement Action Plan/Framework/Policy Process**

Date of receipt by the Bank

24-May-2018

Date of submission for disclosure

06-Jun-2018

**"In country" Disclosure**

Ethiopia  
11-Jun-2018

Comments

Disclosed on the website of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change:

<http://mefcc.gov.et/about-us/working-with-us/ministry-agriculture-livestock-resource/>

**Indigenous Peoples Development Plan/Framework**

Date of receipt by the Bank

24-May-2018

Date of submission for disclosure

06-Jun-2018

**"In country" Disclosure**

Ethiopia  
11-Jun-2018

Comments

Disclosed on the website of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change:

<http://mefcc.gov.et/about-us/working-with-us/ministry-agriculture-livestock-resource/>

**Pest Management Plan**

Was the document disclosed prior to appraisal?

Yes

Date of receipt by the Bank

24-May-2018

Date of submission for disclosure

06-Jun-2018



**"In country" Disclosure**

Ethiopia

11-Jun-2018

Comments

Disclosed as part of the ESMF on the website of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change:

<http://mefcc.gov.et/about-us/working-with-us/ministry-agriculture-livestock-resource/>

**If the project triggers the Pest Management and/or Physical Cultural Resources policies, the respective issues are to be addressed and disclosed as part of the Environmental Assessment/Audit/or EMP.**

If in-country disclosure of any of the above documents is not expected, please explain why:

**C. Compliance Monitoring Indicators at the Corporate Level (to be filled in when the ISDS is finalized by the project decision meeting)**

**OP/BP/GP 4.01 - Environment Assessment**

Does the project require a stand-alone EA (including EMP) report?

Yes

If yes, then did the Regional Environment Unit or Practice Manager (PM) review and approve the EA report?

Yes

Are the cost and the accountabilities for the EMP incorporated in the credit/loan?

Yes

**OP/BP 4.04 - Natural Habitats**

Would the project result in any significant conversion or degradation of critical natural habitats?

No

If the project would result in significant conversion or degradation of other (non-critical) natural habitats, does the project include mitigation measures acceptable to the Bank?

NA

**OP 4.09 - Pest Management**

Does the EA adequately address the pest management issues?

Yes

Is a separate PMP required?

No

If yes, has the PMP been reviewed and approved by a safeguards specialist or PM? Are PMP requirements included in project design? If yes, does the project team include a Pest Management Specialist?



NA

**OP/BP 4.11 - Physical Cultural Resources**

Does the EA include adequate measures related to cultural property?

Yes

Does the credit/loan incorporate mechanisms to mitigate the potential adverse impacts on cultural property?

Yes

**OP/BP 4.10 - Indigenous Peoples**

Has a separate Indigenous Peoples Plan/Planning Framework (as appropriate) been prepared in consultation with affected Indigenous Peoples?

Yes

If yes, then did the Regional unit responsible for safeguards or Practice Manager review the plan?

Yes

If the whole project is designed to benefit IP, has the design been reviewed and approved by the Regional Social Development Unit or Practice Manager?

NA

**OP/BP 4.12 - Involuntary Resettlement**

Has a resettlement plan/abbreviated plan/policy framework/process framework (as appropriate) been prepared?

Yes

If yes, then did the Regional unit responsible for safeguards or Practice Manager review the plan?

Yes

**OP/BP 4.36 - Forests**

Has the sector-wide analysis of policy and institutional issues and constraints been carried out?

Yes

Does the project design include satisfactory measures to overcome these constraints?

Yes

Does the project finance commercial harvesting, and if so, does it include provisions for certification system?

NA

**OP/BP 4.37 - Safety of Dams**

Have dam safety plans been prepared?

NA

Have the TORs as well as composition for the independent Panel of Experts (POE) been reviewed and approved by the Bank?

NA



Has an Emergency Preparedness Plan (EPP) been prepared and arrangements been made for public awareness and training?

NA

### **The World Bank Policy on Disclosure of Information**

Have relevant safeguard policies documents been sent to the World Bank for disclosure?

Yes

Have relevant documents been disclosed in-country in a public place in a form and language that are understandable and accessible to project-affected groups and local NGOs?

Yes

### **All Safeguard Policies**

Have satisfactory calendar, budget and clear institutional responsibilities been prepared for the implementation of measures related to safeguard policies?

Yes

Have costs related to safeguard policy measures been included in the project cost?

Yes

Does the Monitoring and Evaluation system of the project include the monitoring of safeguard impacts and measures related to safeguard policies?

Yes

Have satisfactory implementation arrangements been agreed with the borrower and the same been adequately reflected in the project legal documents?

Yes

## **CONTACT POINT**

### **World Bank**

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### **Implementing Agencies**



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**APPROVAL**

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Country Director:	Nicole Klingen	14-Jun-2018