INTEGRATED SAFEGUARDS DATA SHEET
CONCEPT STAGE

Date ISDS Prepared/Updated: 12-Mar-2012

I. BASIC INFORMATION
A. Basic Project Data

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Project ID</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Zimbabwe</td>
<td>P124625</td>
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</table>

Project Name: Environmental Resources Management and Conservation Project (P124625)

Task Team Leader: Samuel Taffesse

Estimated Appraisal Date: 12-Sep-2012

Estimated Board Date: 28-Mar-2013

Managing Unit: AFTEN

Lending Instrument: Specific Investment Loan

Focal Area: Multi-focal area

Sector: Forestry (45%), General public administration sector (20%), Sub-national government administration (20%), Central government administration (15%)

Theme: Biodiversity (30%), Land administration and management (25%), Climate change (20%), Environmental policies and institutions (15%), Other environment and natural resources management (10%)

Financing (In USD Million)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Financing Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BORROWER/RECIPIENT</td>
<td>4.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Global Environment Facility (GEF)</td>
<td>6.43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local Communities</td>
<td>1.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>12.13</td>
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</table>

Environmental Category: B - Partial Assessment

Is this a Repeater project? No

B. Global Environmental Objective(s)
To develop the technical and institutional tools for the sustainable management of HSBC.

C. Project Description
The North Western Zimbabwe landscape's ecological integrity and biodiversity is threatened by a number of factors that include the following: (i) commercial timber and wildlife poaching by communities and other outsiders under various land use categories; (ii) weak law enforcement in park areas largely due to underfunding ($10/ km2 compared to $1,700/ km2 for Kruger National Park); (iii) human wildlife conflicts that affect communities neighboring national parks areas -- this is worsened by agricultural expansion that effectively reduced the wildlife range; (iv) the non-establishment of local environmental committees that would have helped in reversing the decline in revenues reaching communities; (v) accelerated degradation (land, wetlands and forests) -- concentration of wildlife in & around few water points meant plant habitats were destroyed from excess wildlife presence beyond carrying capacity of the areas surrounding water points; (vi) expansion of invasive species; and (vii) dependence on generators that run on diesel to pump groundwater.

Climate change is introducing new threats and challenges through its impact on agriculture, water resources, wildlife management, and food security. CBNRM succeeded through an incentive mechanism that increased benefits to the poor communities but with CC impact eroding the benefits, communities may lose the interest to involve in protecting the environment and exert their energy in its sustainable management.

At the center of this intervention is therefore ensuring community participation and designing and implementing alternative livelihood subprojects including a revamped CAMPFIRE system. Improving livelihood of the communities living in the buffer zone through CBNRM and PPCPs will be pursued. The tourism sector will be a major player in supporting alternative livelihood initiatives.

The project concept also recognizes that institutional strengthening is more effective when coupled with investment. The environment sector, especially PAs are in dire need of infusion of capital to support the management at each site. Such investment, although not expected to compensate fully for the past neglect, it would play a pivotal role in leveraging additional resources from other donors and the private sector.

The proposed project will have the following four broad components:

Component 1: Improving PA management effectiveness and providing alternative livelihood to communities living within the biological corridor.

The aim of this component is to improve biodiversity management and improving the livelihood opportunities of communities involved in stewardship of the natural resources. This component will support: (a) preparation of a management plan for Hwange national park (with an area of 1,465,100ha) and implementation of selected activities of the same; (b) support to alternative livelihood subproject through provision of small grants in the buffer zone.
Component 2: Understanding root causes of land degradation. The aim of this component is to develop tools to improve land management across HSBC. Activities to be financed include: (i) studies and mapping of land use patterns within the biological corridor to identify the root-cause of land degradation; (ii) training communities in sustainable land management and environmental rehabilitation and mechanical conservation works; and (iii) support to the rehabilitation of the most affected area in Sanyati - Chireya locality.

Component 3: Support to institutional, policy and legal framework: The aim of this component is to improve institutional capacity with focus on climate change impacts on biodiversity and land management. This Component will provide: (i) support to strengthening the climate change unit within Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources Management (MENRM) in developing strategy in climate change adaptation and mitigation; (ii) support to strengthen local environmental committees within HSBC; and (i) training, national awareness building, outreach activities and a comprehensive communication strategy.

Component 4: The government has partnered with WWF for the later to be the executing agency for the project. WWF will be: (i) responsible for all fiduciary aspects of the project including overseeing financial management and procurement including contracting of independent auditors and project reviewer; (ii) responsible for the implementation of safeguard policies; (iii) managing and coordinating the monitoring and evaluation system; (iv) preparing periodic reports as will be agreed in the Project Agreement; (v) supporting the government in the preparation of bankable projects for financing by other donors and multilateral financiers; (vi) coordinating communication strategy and undertaking outreach and awareness building; (vii) coordinating and consulting with relevant civic and NGOs representatives; and providing targeted TA and training as needed.

The MOENRM will be the overall coordinator. A steering committee composed of MOENRM, Ministry of Tourism, Environment Management Agency, Parks & Wildlife Management Authority, CAMPFIRE, WWF and other agencies will be established to oversee the approval of annual plans and budget, review progress reports, and coordinate donor supported activities. As the executing agency of the project, WWF will act as a Secretariat for the Steering Group but without voting right.

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

To have a meaningful impact on the ground, and given resource limitations, the project will have a limited geographic coverage. Accordingly, the project will operate in the North western Zimbabwe specifically in the Hwange-Sanyati Biological Corridor (HSBC) which is one of the four hotspots for biodiversity conservation. HSBC is rich in biodiversity and consists of a mosaic of land uses under different tenure arrangements. The region is home to three national parks; two Safari areas; six gazetted forest areas; four communal lands and private and resettled lands. In terms of rehabilitating degraded land the project will focus on Sanyati catchment located at the North-east border of the HSBC.

E. Borrowers Institutional Capacity for Safeguard Policies

While the institutional capacity of the agencies in the environment sector has been eroded in the last ten years, there still exists in-house capacity in the environment institutions that will be involved in the project to guide and implement safeguard policies, albeit mainly on environmental issues. Three of the agencies that will be involved in coordinating activities at local level, the Environment Management Agency, Forestry Commission and Parks & Wildlife Management Authority still are capable agencies for the tasks included under the project. In fact, these activities are also part of their mandate. However, in areas where they lack capacity, WWF will provide the necessary support.

WWF will provide overall project coordination including the implementation, monitoring of and reporting on the safeguard policies. An assessment of WWFs capacity to implement Bank safeguard policies will be undertaken and training on World Bank safeguard policies will be provided.

F. Environmental and Social Safeguards Specialists on the Team

Moses Yao Duphey (AFTEN)
Angela Nyawira Khaminwa (AFTCS)

II. SAFEGUARD POLICIES THAT MIGHT APPLY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Safeguard Policies</th>
<th>Triggered?</th>
<th>Explanation (Optional)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Environmental Assessment OP/BP 4.01</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>In component 2, the project will finance rehabilitation of the most affected area in Sanyati (Chireya subcatchment). The aim of this component is to develop tools to improve land management across HSBC. No major adverse environmental impacts are expected as a result of this project. The potential impacts are likely to be small-scale and site specific, typical of category B projects. To successfully identify and manage potential adverse impacts on the environment from project-funded activities, the borrower will prepare an Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF). This will be disclosed in-country and at the Banks Info shop prior to project appraisal.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Natural Habitats OP/BP 4.04</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>The project will help conserve natural habitats and will ensure that specific project activities avoid habitat degradation. However, activities falling under alternative livelihood and rehabilitation of land will be screened for their impact on natural habitats during preparation. An ESMF will be applied and used to guide assessment and management plans as required.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Forests OP/BP 4.36</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>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 project on natural forests will be assessed through the ESMF and site specific ESIs.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pest Management OP 4.09</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>Whether this OP is triggered will be determined prior to appraisal.</td>
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### Physical Cultural Resources OP/BP 4.11

**Yes**

The project triggers O.P.4.11 as it proposes to work with communities by training them in sustainable land management and environmental rehabilitation and mechanical conservation works in Chireya sub-catchment area. The ESMF will include chance finds procedures to identify possible impacts on physical cultural resources.

### Indigenous Peoples OP/BP 4.10

**Yes**

A community of San peoples’ who have the characteristics of IPs as per the Bank policy, live in Tsholotsho District, within the project area. OP 4.10 is therefore triggered and an IP Plan will be prepared prior to appraisal. The social assessment undertaken in preparation of the IP Plan will cover both identified indigenous peoples and local communities as discussed below.

The team notes that the project area—the Hwange Sayanti Biological Corridor, HSBC—is dominated by the Ndebele who have been living in Northwestern Zimbabwe since the mid-19th Century. The Ndebele are an ethno-linguistic group and have an attachment to land. While they are not indigenous as per the Bank’s policy, the project design will seek to ensure that they are not adversely impacted by the project or fail to reap the project benefits.

Therefore, the Social Assessment which will be undertaken in preparation of the IP Plan will also include an analysis of ethnic groups in the project area, in addition to the San, in an effort to understand the potential impacts of the project on immediate and neighboring communities and recommend mitigation measures.

### Involuntary Resettlement OP/BP 4.12

**Yes**

Under Component 1 of the project, activities (implementation of a management plan for Hwange National Park), may result in the involuntary restriction of access to a legally designated park which in turn may result in adverse impacts on the livelihoods of displaced persons. At this stage in project preparation, the details of the activities are unknown, but it is envisioned that impacts may include restrictions of access to those living in the parks. It is not envisioned that new parks or park extensions will result from project activities.

The project will not finance any activities that will result in involuntary loss of land or shelter, involuntary resettlement, loss of assets or access to assets, or loss of income sources or means of livelihood (other than those noted above).

A Process Framework will be prepared and submitted for Bank review and approval prior to appraisal. The Social Assessment will also cover assessment of local communities and issues under OP 4.12.

### Safety of Dams OP/BP 4.37

**No**

### Projects on International Waterways OP/BP 7.50

**No**

### Projects in Disputed Areas OP/BP 7.60

**No**

## III. SAFEGUARD PREPARATION PLAN

### A. Tentative target date for preparing the PAD Stage ISDS: 21-May-2012

### 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 PAD-stage ISDS:

- Social Assessment - March 20, 2012
- Indigenous Peoples Plan - May 1, 2012
- Process Framework - May 1, 2012
- Environmental and Social Management Framework -- May 10, 2012

## IV. APPROVALS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task Team Leader:</th>
<th>Name: Samuel Taffesse</th>
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<tr>
<td>Approved By:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional Safeguards Coordinator:</td>
<td>Name: Alexandra C. Bezeredi (RSA)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sector Manager:</td>
<td>Name: Idah Z. Pswarayi-Riddhough (SM)</td>
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¹ Reminder: The Bank’s Disclosure Policy requires that safeguard-related documents be disclosed before appraisal (i) at the InfoShop and (ii) in country, at publicly accessible locations and in a form and language that are accessible to potentially affected persons.