



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

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Appraisal Stage | Date Prepared/Updated: 09-Oct-2020 | Report No: PIDISDSA30564



**BASIC INFORMATION**

**A. Basic Project Data**

Country Haiti	Project ID P175176	Project Name Haiti Resilient Productive Landscapes Additional Financing	Parent Project ID (if any) P162908
Parent Project Name Resilient Productive Landscapes in Haiti	Region LATIN AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN	Estimated Appraisal Date 13-Oct-2020	Estimated Board Date 19-Nov-2020
Practice Area (Lead) Agriculture and Food	Financing Instrument Investment Project Financing	Borrower(s) Ministry of Economy and Finance	Implementing Agency Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Rural Development (MARNDR), Ministry of Environment

Proposed Development Objective(s) Parent

The Project Development Objectives are: (i) to improve the adoption of resilience-enhancing agricultural and landscape management practices in selected sub-watersheds; and (ii) to enable the Government to respond promptly and effectively to an eligible emergency.

Components

- Strengthening of institutional and organizational capacities for landscape level interventions
- Investments to strengthen resilient agricultural production and practices
- Project Coordination and Monitoring and Evaluation
- Contingency Emergency Response Component

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

**SUMMARY**

<b>Total Project Cost</b>	7.75
<b>Total Financing</b>	7.75
<b>of which IBRD/IDA</b>	7.75
<b>Financing Gap</b>	0.00



DETAILS

World Bank Group Financing

International Development Association (IDA)	7.75
IDA Grant	7.75

Environmental Assessment Category

B-Partial Assessment

Decision

The review did authorize the team to appraise and negotiate

Other Decision (as needed)

B. Introduction and Context

1. **On April 23, 2020, at the request of the Government of Haiti (GoH), the World Bank (WB) activated the Contingency Emergency Response Component (CERC) of the Resilient Productive Landscapes (RPL) Project (P162908),** allowing a reallocation of US\$9.90 million to address the compounding and negative impacts of the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic on the agricultural sector and food security in Haiti, which was already affected by severe climatic challenges.

2. **An Additional Financing (AF) in the amount of US\$7.75 million equivalent is proposed as a partial replenishment of the financing gap of the RPL Project.** The AF would formalize the allocation of resources to the RPL Project, and thus facilitate the fuller implementation of Components 1, 2, and 3. The parent project was approved on March 1, 2018 and became effective on July 10, 2018. Under the AF, the Project Development Objectives (PDOs), the implementation arrangements, safeguards category, and safeguards policies remain unchanged.

Country Context

3. **Haiti remains the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere and suffers from recurrent episodes of institutional and political instability.** The third-largest Caribbean nation by area (27,560 km<sup>2</sup>) and population (11 million), Haiti benefits from proximity and access to major markets with favorable trade agreements, a young labor force, a dynamic diaspora, and substantial geographic, historical, and cultural assets. The country possesses untapped markets and potential for the private sector to explore, including agribusiness, light manufacturing, and tourism. Despite these opportunities, the country’s GDP per capita was only US\$868 in 2018, and 57 percent of the population was considered poor. Haiti’s poverty and extreme poverty are significantly higher in rural and remote areas than in urban centers.

4. **Haiti is also among the countries in the world with the highest exposure to multiple natural hazards, and risks have increased with climate change.** Over 93 percent of its surface and more than 96 percent of its population are exposed to two or more hazards. The human and economic impacts of disasters have been severe, given the high vulnerability of infrastructure and institutional fragility.

5. **The COVID-19 outbreak is expected to have high economic and social impacts, further exacerbating the existing challenges and vulnerabilities.** The confirmed cases of COVID-19 remain relatively



low compared to other countries in the Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) region but concerns of increased transmission remain as the GoH has begun easing lock-down restrictions. As of October 8, 2020, there were 8,854 confirmed cases and 230 deaths. Disruptions in production and supply chains, decline in tourism and remittances (estimated 18 percent decline that were not expected in previous months); and increasing prevalence of food insecurity (from 3.7 million to 4.1 million people) could set back development gains.

#### Sectoral and Institutional Context

6. **Agriculture continues to play a dominant role in the Haitian economy, contributing over 20 percent of GDP, accounting for around 50 percent of overall employment, and most rural Haitians rely on agricultural production as their primary livelihood strategy.** The agriculture sector also accounts for around 66 percent of employment in rural areas, and 75 percent of employment in low-income households. Agriculture is the sole economic activity for 55 percent of rural households and involves more than 70 percent of them. This production is critical for food security in a context where more than half of the population is affected by undernutrition. Nearly 35 percent of Haiti's population was already needed urgent food support before the crisis. The COVID-19 pandemic is likely to worsen this situation. For that reason, safeguarding agriculture will be essential to mitigating the impacts of COVID-19, particularly for the rural poor.

7. **Agriculture in Haiti is beset with problems, despite its importance in local food security and its contribution to GDP.** Production is highly dependent on rainfall; most farmers have limited access to agricultural inputs and knowledge; and access to credit in rural areas is not a viable option for most poor farmers. In addition, there is little organization among producers, and value chains are underdeveloped, which is further compounded by a lack of rural infrastructure to access markets. Reducing poverty and building system resilience require an integrated approach that protects the environment, while seeking to ensure adequate returns from agricultural production.

8. **Rural Haitian women play an important role in household farming and marketing of agricultural products in the informal sector.** Their role in agriculture is crucial, particularly because of Haiti's high level of emigration and dependency on remittances. They contribute substantially to soil and water conservation, harvesting, and marketing. Moreover, their roles as principal care givers in the household, particularly during pandemics, affect their capacity to contribute to production in agriculture. The gender gaps in Haiti's agriculture are generated by a number of socio-economic factors. These include, among others, access to technical training, technology, resources (including labor), and markets. Roughly 50 percent of households in Haiti are female-headed.

9. **The Ministry of Environment (MdE) and the Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Rural Development (MARNDR) recognize the interdependency between natural resources management and agricultural production.** In its policy framework for 2010-2025, MARNDR identifies watershed degradation as a major issue and establishes the reduction of environmental vulnerability as a long-term objective, requiring the protection of the environment and natural resources. It also establishes preparedness to and management of natural disasters as a priority. In the context of climate change, sustainable financing over time is an important tool to address environmental and social vulnerability, and to support climate adaptation and mitigate climate change impacts.

10. **COVID-19 disruptions to market functioning, combined with poor spring harvests, due to below-average rainfall, have resulted in increasing prices of staples in the country.** Even though rainfall is expected to be above average for the winter growing season, the prediction is that harvest will be below-average due to input availability. As of June 2020, maize and bean prices were 80 percent and 61 percent higher than the



5-year average, respectively.

#### Project Background and Progress

11. **Following a delayed start, the RPL Project is making progress toward its development objectives.** The past eight months have registered a quite satisfactory implementation of the Project in its various components, including financial management, procurement, monitoring and evaluation (M&E), and safeguards performance. The Project has disbursed US\$4.22 million (28 percent) of the International Development Association (IDA) financing and US\$0.43 million (7 percent) of the Global Environment Facility (GEF)-funded Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF) financing as of August 2020. This was achieved despite challenging operational constraints caused by regular episodes of civil unrest, compounded by the COVID-19 pandemic, and given that Haiti is a Fragility, Conflict and Violence (FCV)-affected country. In addition to the progress made under the main components, some early progress has been achieved under the CERC.

### C. Proposed Development Objective(s)

#### Original

12. **The PDOs are:** (i) to improve the adoption of resilience-enhancing agricultural and landscape management practices in selected sub-watersheds; and (ii) to enable the Government to respond promptly and effectively to an eligible emergency.

#### Current PDO

13. The PDO will remain unchanged.

#### Key Results

14. **The PDO indicators of the parent project to which the AF will contribute are:**
- a. PDO indicator: "Land area under sustainable landscape management practices" now reads "Land area under sustainable landscape management practices with climate change consideration." The initial target was 2,000 ha and will be reduced to 1,500 ha;
  - b. PDO indicator: Farmers adopting improved agricultural technology (PDO indicator). The initial target was 3,000 beneficiaries and will be reduced to 2,200 beneficiaries; and
  - c. PDO indicator: Share of targeted farmers with improved market access. The initial target was 40 percent and will be reduced to 35 percent.

### D. Project Description

15. **Proposed Changes.** Under the AF, similar activities as described in the Project Appraisal Document (PAD) of the parent project, but with slightly reduced scope, will be executed. The proposed changes being introduced with this AF will not affect the objectives, initial orientation and implementation mechanism of the remainder of the initial budget allocated to the different components. Like the parent project the AF will address climate vulnerabilities by supporting the adoption of resilience-enhancing agricultural and landscape management practices in selected sub-watersheds across Haiti, in addition to strengthening the capacity of institutions to respond to climatic impacts. The RF will be revised to adjust relevant PDO and intermediate outcome indicators in view of the reduction of the funding.

16. **After the triggering of the CERC, measures to mitigate the impact of COVID-19 have been prepared and are detailed in the Operations Manual and in the Economic and Social Management Framework (ESMF) in order to adapt project implementation.** The implementation of COVID-19 mitigation measures is effective, and the future activities to be financed through the parent project and the AF will



respect the same mitigation measures as described in the adapted ESMF. The AF will address the climate vulnerabilities by supporting the adoption of resilience-enhancing agricultural and landscape management practices in selected sub-watersheds across Haiti, in addition to strengthening the capacity of institutions to respond to climatic impacts.

## **E. Implementation**

### **Institutional and Implementation Arrangements**

17. **Implementation Arrangement, project duration, and geographic coverage.** The AF implementation arrangements will remain the same as those of the Parent Project. The Project is being implemented by a Project Implementation Unit (PIU) under the technical oversight of the MdE and the fiduciary oversight of the MARNDR. In order to speed up both the implementation of the Project and the CERC, the PIU is working under the oversight of the well-functioning and long-standing implementation unit of the Relaunching Agriculture: Strengthening Agriculture Public Services Project (RESEPA II; P126744) of the MARNDR. The closing date of the Project will remain December 31, 2023. In terms of areas of intervention, while Component 1 is addressing institutional and organizational capacity and has a nationwide coverage, Component 2 is being implemented in the four selected sub-watersheds of the parent project.

18. **The Project Steering Committee (PSC) which is providing strategic guidance for the Parent Project and serving as an information exchange body will continue in the same role for the AF.** In addition, the Project Advisory Committee (PAC) which was established for the RPL will ensure operational guidance of AF's activities implementation. The already existing Project Implementation Manual (PIM) incorporates all operational details at the national and local levels, including procedures for the implementation of technical activities, M&E, safeguards, and administrative and fiduciary functions. A specific Operational Manual for the management of the CERC has been prepared. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between MARNDR and MdE and J/P HRO is guiding the planning, implementation, reporting, fiduciary, and safeguards management of activities financed.

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

RPL AF Project activities will be implemented in four sub-watersheds offering a diversity of agro-ecological conditions, yet geographically close, within the department of Nippes, under two municipalities : (i) Rivière Froide watershed; (ii) Petite Rivière de Nippes watershed; (iii) Piémont area and Baconnois Plain; and (iv) Bondeau sub-watershed and its mangrove. The project location is unchanged from the parent project.

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

Bruce MacPhail, Social Specialist  
Kevin McCall, Environmental Specialist



**SAFEGUARD POLICIES THAT MIGHT APPLY**

Safeguard Policies	Triggered?	Explanation (Optional)
Environmental Assessment OP/BP 4.01	Yes	<p>The project will have an overall positive impact on the environment. It will promote conservation agriculture, agroforestry, soil and water conservation, water harvesting, water stewardship, re-afforestation and sustainable livestock grazing. The negative environmental impacts will be small and highly localized. Such impacts may be associated with the construction works that communes will be able to finance under the project (rural roads, small bridges, etc) and impacts may include noise, waste management, worker health and safety issues and so on. Other negative impacts may be related to improper technology transfer (e.g. inadvertent propagation of exotic species, expansion of plantations in natural forests, water harvesting that impacts the water table) and so on. For these reasons, the project is a category B and all activities, including those that seem environmentally harmless would need to be screened. The completed ESMF provides a screening tool as well as a table of possible impacts and mitigation measures. Proper and timely supervision from the Bank will also ensure that these activities are adequately monitored by the Environmental specialist in the PIU.</p> <p>For the sub component on planning and policy development, the intention is for the project to promote sustainability; however, the risk that a well-intentioned plan or policy has negative impacts is possible, and therefore the ESMF that will be prepared, and the Operations Manual, will include measures to ensure that all plans and strategies prepared under the project are sustainable; support the preservation, maintenance and rehabilitation of the environment; are publicly consulted during their drafting process; take into account cumulative effects; and include measures to strengthen environmental management.</p>



For the CBF, for which activities are not yet clearly defined, and to ensure that the project does not indirectly finance activities with negative environmental impacts, the project ESMF will also apply. The Operation Manual will include a measure to ensure that the CBF adopts the ESMF as part of its screening mechanism.

On the social side, no major safeguards risks are expected. A potential risk may include delays in compensation related to land acquisition. The project will avoid or minimize land acquisition based on the lessons learned. RPF will include measures to deal with such potential delays in payments should land acquisition be necessary. Another potential social risk may be perceived inequities in the selection of beneficiaries. The Project will mitigate this risk by focusing on citizen engagement measures and robust grievance redress measures.

Risks linked to labor influx are expected to be limited. They will be mitigated by prioritizing local labor and ensuring clarity on where laborers coming from outside will be hosted through their stay in the host community and ensuring that contracts are consistent with ESMF and RPF provisions.

Performance Standards for Private Sector Activities OP/BP 4.03	No	OP4.03 does not apply.
Natural Habitats OP/BP 4.04	Yes	This project will improve and support natural or critical habitat by increasing tree and ground cover with appropriate natural vegetation. It will operate in mangroves, forests, wetlands and other natural habitats and therefore the policy is triggered. Where infrastructure is being built, the project will ensure that it does not denude natural areas or remove cover that can expose the soil to erosional forces. The project will have an overall positive impact on natural habitats, but will ensure through applying the ESMF that negative impacts such as improper technology transfer, introduction of alien invasive species, etc., is not financed.
Forests OP/BP 4.36	Yes	The project will finance activities related to forestry and improve, rather than cause destruction to forest cover. Activities that involve conversion of natural



		forests or degradation of critical areas will not be financed.
Pest Management OP 4.09	Yes	Given that the project involves significant interventions in agriculture, and that the improvement of crop production is an ultimate objective, it is likely that pesticides will be used. The types of activities that may require pesticides include dissemination of technologies for sustainable agricultural intensification; forestry; agricultural storage programs; and livestock health programs. All pesticides that are disseminated or used under the project will comply with WHO's list/standards for acceptable pesticide use. An integrated pesticide management plan has been prepared by the project and the document will be disclosed prior to appraisal.
Physical Cultural Resources OP/BP 4.11	Yes	The project will not operate within or near known cultural or historical heritage sites. However, as a precaution, this OP is triggered in the event of chance finds of historical or cultural relics, which are numerous in Haiti, during works, soil sub-surface drilling or excavation. Chance finds language has been reflected in the ESMF.
Indigenous Peoples OP/BP 4.10	No	The policy is not triggered because there are no groups in Haiti who meet the definition of IPs of OP 4.10.
Involuntary Resettlement OP/BP 4.12	Yes	The policy is triggered given that the project will be funding the rehabilitation of existing rural roads/tracks, possibly new small infrastructures for water harvesting/storage which are usually placed along the roads or in gullies, as well as potential expansion of local offices of the Ministry of Agriculture. These construction works may require land acquisition leading to involuntary resettlement, including the loss of income sources and means of livelihood, such as the loss of fruit trees and crops. Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF) will be prepared by the GOH with guidance from the Bank to address the triggering of OP 4.12. RPF will be consulted and disclosed by appraisal. Upon the identification of cases of involuntary resettlement, Resettlement Action Plans (RAPs) or Abbreviated Resettlement Action Plans (Abbrev. RAPs) will be prepared, consulted and disclosed in accordance with the policy.



Any activity that may potentially lead to changes in land-tenure agreements, result in the establishment of protected areas, or may cause restriction of access to natural resources will be excluded from the project. The environmental screening form, which will be part of the ESMF will also include questions on social risks and impacts. The PIU responsible staff received a training by the Bank on October 18 on how to screen OP 4.12 impacts.

The project will not finance any activities related to dams or the operation of dams. The ESMF will screen out any dam-related activity.

The project will not be on international waters as defined under this policy.

The project does not take place in any Disputed Area.

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

## 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 Project will have an overall positive impact on the environment. It will promote conservation agriculture, agroforestry, soil and water conservation, water harvesting, water stewardship, re-afforestation and sustainable livestock grazing. The negative environmental impacts will be small and highly localized. Such impacts may be associated with the construction works that communes will be able to finance under the project (rural roads, small bridges, etc) and impacts may include noise, waste management, worker health and safety issues and so on. No large scale, significant, or irreversible impacts are foreseen. All potential environmental and social risks have been assessed through an Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF), as disclosed by the Borrower under the RPL parent project on November 8, 2017. For CERC activation, the ESMF was revised, consulted and redisclosed on April 30, 2020. The revised ESMF includes a CERC annex that presents the potential risks to project implementation arising from COVID, and integrated mitigation measures in line with Haitian (MSPP) and international (WHO) good practice on sanitary and hygiene to prevent COVID spread as well as outlining a consultation and stakeholder engagement processes through virtual and remote means given the constraints to public gatherings.

2. Describe any potential indirect and/or long term impacts due to anticipated future activities in the project area:  
None anticipated.

3. Describe any project alternatives (if relevant) considered to help avoid or minimize adverse impacts.  
None considered.

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 PIU has the required resources to effectively monitor and report on environmental and social performance of the AF. To date, performance of environmental and social safeguards triggered for RPL is assessed as satisfactory based on safeguards implementation and reporting in the parent project. There has been an improvement in the frequency and quality of monitoring activities, all the more impressive given the extra challenges imposed by COVID. The PIU environmental specialist is proactive in following up on commitments made project safeguard instruments and in providing updates during missions (virtual missions) and on an ad hoc basis, as needed. The Environmental Specialist has extensive experience in the social field and is supporting social safeguards until the hiring process for a dedicated social specialist is completed. The PIU has worked with implementing partners and delegated implementing agencies to take preventative measures to minimize project workers and beneficiaries to COVID risk.

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

The primary stakeholders of this project are smallholder farmers and families living in the selected watersheds targeted by the project, that depend on agricultural production for their livelihoods. Other key stakeholders along the agriculture value chains are service and input providers, buyers, and retailers. The national, regional and local institutions that play a role in the landscape management and agriculture services are also important stakeholders for this project.

The PIU has conducted ongoing consultations with groups of these stakeholders from targeted zones in the four sub-watersheds where project-financed activities are to be implemented. The ESMF and RPF were consulted with key local actors (such as local government staff, farmers’ and community-based organizations, regional representatives of Ministry of Agriculture and Environment) People affected by involuntary resettlement will be consulted on compensation and resettlement policies in accordance with OP4.12. These were originally consulted and disclosed for the parent project on November 8, 2017. The updated ESMF for the CERC was consulted and disclosed on April 30, 2020, and this contained all pertinent information and mitigation measures to address risks arising from COVID-19. The COVID-related measures outlined in the ESMF apply also to the RPF. For the duration that COVID19-related restrictions are in place, consultations are conducted in line with guidance contained in the World Bank’s Technical Note “Public Consultations and Stakeholder Engagement in WB-supported operations when there are constraints on conducting public meetings” (March 20, 2020).

A Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) is in place and its implementation will be monitored during the AF implementation.

**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  20-Apr-2020	Date of submission for disclosure  30-Apr-2020	For category A projects, date of distributing the Executive Summary of the EA to the Executive Directors
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**"In country" Disclosure**



Haiti  
30-Apr-2020

Comments

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

Date of receipt by the Bank  
06-Nov-2017

Date of submission for disclosure  
09-Nov-2017

**"In country" Disclosure**

Haiti  
13-Nov-2017

Comments

Measures to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 included in the updated ESMF apply to all project instruments including RPF.

**Pest Management Plan**

Was the document disclosed prior to appraisal?  
Yes

Date of receipt by the Bank  
06-Nov-2017

Date of submission for disclosure  
09-Nov-2017

**"In country" Disclosure**

Haiti  
13-Nov-2017

Comments

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

**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?

NA

#### **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?

No

#### **OP 4.09 - Pest Management**

Does the EA adequately address the pest management issues?

Yes

Is a separate PMP required?

Yes

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?

Yes

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

Does the EA include adequate measures related to cultural property?

NA

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

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

Is physical displacement/relocation expected?

No

Is economic displacement expected? (loss of assets or access to assets that leads to loss of income sources or other means of livelihoods)

No



**OP/BP 4.36 - Forests**

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

NA

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

NA

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

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**

Soulemane Fofana  
Senior Rural Development Specialist

**Borrower/Client/Recipient**



Ministry of Economy and Finance

**Implementing Agencies**

Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Rural Development (MARNDR)

Jean Daniel Lamy

Focal point - MARNDR

lamyjdaniel@gmail.com

Ministry of Environment

Dimitri Norris

Focal Point - Ministry of Environment

dimitrinorris@hotmail.com

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT**

The World Bank

1818 H Street, NW

Washington, D.C. 20433

Telephone: (202) 473-1000

Web: <http://www.worldbank.org/projects>

**APPROVAL**

Task Team Leader(s):

Souleman Fofana

**Approved By**

Safeguards Advisor:	Marco Antonio Zambrano Chavez	07-Oct-2020
Practice Manager/Manager:	Preeti S. Ahuja	07-Oct-2020
Country Director:	Anabela Abreu	09-Oct-2020