



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

Appraisal Stage | Date Prepared/Updated: 22-Mar-2017 | Report No: PIDISDSA20170



BASIC INFORMATION

A. Basic Project Data

Country Central African Republic	Project ID P160272	Project Name CAR Reintegration of Ex-combatants Project	Parent Project ID (if any)
Region AFRICA	Estimated Appraisal Date 17-Feb-2017	Estimated Board Date 13-Apr-2017	Practice Area (Lead) Social, Urban, Rural and Resilience Global Practice
Lending Instrument Investment Project Financing	Borrower(s) Ministère de l'Economie, du Plan et de la Coopération	Implementing Agency DDRR Project Implementation Unit	

Proposed Development Objective(s)

The Project Development Objective (PDO) is to support the social and economic reintegration of demobilized ex-combatants and improve access to socio-economic infrastructure and economic opportunities for host communities.

Components

Social and Economic Reintegration Support to Ex-combatants
Support to Host Communities
Project Management

The processing of this project is applying the policy requirements exceptions for situations of urgent need of assistance or capacity constraints that are outlined in OP 10.00, paragraph 12.

Yes

Financing (in USD Million)

Financing Source	Amount
IDA Grant	30.00
Total Project Cost	30.00

Environmental Assessment Category

B - Partial Assessment

Have the Safeguards oversight and clearance functions been transferred to the Practice Manager? (Will not be disclosed)

No

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Decision

The review did authorize the preparation to continue

Other Decision (as needed)

B. Introduction and Context

Country Context

1. Since early 2013, the violent civil conflict in the Central African Republic (CAR) unraveled the country's social fabric and created an unprecedented humanitarian crisis, displacing 25 percent of its population. CAR was already one of the poorest countries in the world before the conflict, with poverty rates reaching 62 percent in 2008¹. Projections indicate that the poverty rate surged to more than 76 percent in 2013 and has remained high since then. Lack of adequate state-based institutions and weak revenues have resulted in the vast majority of the population lacking access to public goods, such as security, justice and basic services.

2. CAR's development challenges are rooted in its profound and intractable poverty, chronic food insecurity, low quality of public services, concentration of public spending in Bangui, and limited employment and income-generating opportunities. This context has given rise to a large number of economically marginalized, politically disenfranchised groups, who in turn have become highly vulnerable to exploitation by criminal and armed groups—both as victims and recruits. The scarce presence of security forces outside of Bangui and a lack of access to basic police and judicial services have contributed to the impunity of criminal and rebel organizations. Lawless border areas allow for weapons trafficking, often financed by illegal gold and diamond exports, and facilitating the movement of armed groups from Nigeria, Chad, Sudan and Uganda into CAR².

3. The new government has engaged in a dynamic post-transition phase, but faces immense structural challenges. State institutions were rapidly rebuilt following President Faustin-Archange Touadéra's inauguration in March 2016 and formation of the new government. Yet, CAR continues to experience a severe humanitarian and protection crisis. Around 2.3 million people, which represent almost half of the population, are in need of urgent humanitarian assistance.³ 900,000 persons are still displaced, down from 1.2 million at the peak of the crisis. Half have sought refuge in neighboring countries. Many displaced are still unable to return home for fear of retaliation, insecurity, and lack of economic opportunities. The State's capacity is too limited to respond to these urgent needs. 80 percent of health facilities are still run by humanitarian organizations, while many education facilities were looted or destroyed, and classes are still severely disrupted.

¹ Figures based on the last nationally representative household survey (ECASEB).

² The World Bank, "Central African Republic: Building a New Foundation for Stability and Growth", 30 June 2016.

³ *Protecting Humanitarian Space in the Central African Republic*. International Rescue Committee policy paper, November 2016: <https://www.rescue-uk.org/sites/default/files/document/1229/protectinghumanitarianspaceinthecentralafricanrepublic-ircpolicy-paper-nov2016.pdf>



4. Security continues to pose a major challenge to normalization, and the escalation of violent outbreaks spark fears of the resurgence of a conflict. Ex-Séléka groups have retreated from Bangui while large areas of the north and east of the country is still under their control. Other armed groups have splintered into a multitude of uncontrolled rebel factions, which have the potential to engage in criminal activities. In addition, the widespread possession, circulation and trafficking of weapons, fueled by instability in neighboring countries, represent an important challenge to the new Government in its efforts to restore peace.

5. In this context, President Touadéra has identified Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration (DDR), Security Sector Reform (SSR), and National Reconciliation (NR) as his main priorities. He has appointed a special advisor coordinating of NDDR, SSR and NR within the Presidency. The Government has deployed significant efforts to reach a political consensus on DDR. The President has conducted intensive discussions with various armed groups and presided over a consultative meeting in November 2016, during which eleven of the fourteen armed groups were present and agreed on a DDR strategy. It will be crucial for the Government and the international community to secure an agreement with the remaining armed groups before the SSR and DDR strategies are implemented.

6. Nevertheless, there has been an escalation of violence since the new Government took office in mid-2016. The number of violent incidents and protests has risen both in Bangui and in the provinces. They have resulted from inter- and intra-community clashes, conflicts between armed groups, and popular demands for improved security conditions and service delivery. The presence of peacekeeping forces remains essential in light of the inoperative national defense and security forces. The United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in CAR (MINUSCA) has increasingly been the target of isolated attacks and threats throughout the country. While the population seems to express strong confidence in the military⁴, defense and security forces lack logistical capacity and training, are deeply divided and highly centralized. In this context, a new SSR program that will include provisions for the reform of defense and security institutions, training and equipment allocation, the retirement or reorientation of personnel that no longer meets the service requirements, as well as the integration of eligible former combatants into the national forces, is necessary for peace and stability.

Sectoral and Institutional Context

7. Since early 2000s, several DDR initiatives have been implemented in CAR with disappointing results. During these efforts, different international actors, donors, and managers of DDR programs have also failed to coordinate their activities and integrate their resources. One of the limitations to the previous DDR activities was insufficient conceptual and institutional connection with SSR and the slow progress of the implementation of SSR activities. Prior to the conflict in 2012, then Government had embarked on a comprehensive SSR process. With the support of international community, the Government put together a plan inspired by the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development's Development Assistance Committee (OECD-DAC) Handbook on Security System Reform principles. The execution of activities under this SSR program was stalled due to lack of political will, and then halted following the resurgence of violence in 2012. While the DDR is high on the agenda of the new

⁴ According to the recent survey carried out by the WB during the RCPCA process, 91% of local authorities and 89% of households surveyed expressed confidence in the FACA forces.



Government, there needs to be a clearly defined SSR program that has clear linkages with DDR program to avoid the failures of past efforts.

8. The Bangui Forum of May 2015 brought together CAR's transitional authorities and armed groups, as well as other stakeholders including political parties, religious and civil society organizations. It led to the signing of the Republican Pact for Peace, National Reconciliation and Reconstruction as well as an Accord on the Principles of DDRR. The accord identifies eligibility criteria for DDRR, steps undertaken, measures available to non-eligible ex-combatants, those who can be integrated into national armed forces and foreign fighters who will be repatriated. These framework documents laid the groundwork for recovery, transfer of power during and post-elections. With regards to the armed groups, a 2016 survey on the perceptions of non-state armed groups in CAR⁵ indicate that majority of armed group members perceive it as a process that can assure their safety and needs. Similarly, job opportunities, inclusion in the DDRR process, and the opportunity to integrate into armed forces/policy/gendarmerie were listed as the top three motivations to leave the armed groups. While the DDRR is cited by majority of respondents as the route to leave armed groups, the study also notes that the expectations of the process vary and trust in them are low.

9. The Government has demonstrated its determination to implement the DDR program in close coordination with SSR and national reconciliation. Shortly after assuming office, the President has appointed a high-level advisor in charge of DDRR, SSR and NR within the Presidency. In July 2016, the Government adopted a number of presidential decrees⁶, establishing the following committees: (i) Strategic Committee for the DDRR, SSR, and NR, which is the strategic-political level body, and (ii) the Technical Committee for DDRR, SSR, and NR, which will function as the implementation and coordination body. The Government has developed, with technical assistance from MINUSCA and World Bank, a set of strategic and technical documents providing framework for the DDRR program and implementation of activities. These documents incorporate lessons learned from previous DDR programs both in CAR and in other countries with relevant experiences. In addition, important topics such as the management of funds, a tentative budget, program duration, and implementation arrangements are presented. The documents represent the foundation for the development of the proposed project, and represents the Bank's contribution to the DDRR program.

10. SSR remains critical to demands voiced by armed groups and provide stable conditions required to implement socioeconomic reintegration programs. The SSR program will include provisions for the reform of defense and security institutions, allocations for training and equipment, the retirement or reorientation of personnel, as well as the integration of eligible members of the armed groups into uniformed services. The United States, France and the European Union have been leading efforts to restructure CAR's armed forces. Alongside supporting the government in developing a National Strategy and Action Plan, MINUSCA and the World Bank are working on a pilot phase of the program to test the implementation modalities.⁷ In addition, MINUSCA targets ex-combatants in the Beal and BSS Camp in

⁵ *Perspectives of non-state armed groups in the Central African Republic*. Conciliation Resources briefing paper, December 2016: <http://www.c-r.org/downloads/CAR-perspectives-of-non-state-armed-groups.pdf>

⁶ Presidential decrees 16.284, 16.285, and 16.286 adopted on July 2, 2016.

⁷ MINUSCA is planning to launch a pilot phase which will seek to integrate approximately 240 ex-combatants into the security forces. The World Bank is planning to complement this program through a pilot project that aims to provide social and economic reintegration support to another group of 240 ex-combatants. This pilot project would be financed by the World Bank-administered State and Peace-building Fund (SPF).



Bangui through Countering Violent Extremism (CVE) initiatives and engages with the government on the security implications of continuing this program.

C. Proposed Development Objective(s)

Development Objective(s) (From PAD)

11. The Project Development Objective (PDO) is to support the social and economic reintegration of demobilized ex-combatants and improve access to socio-economic infrastructure and economic opportunities for host communities.

Key Results

12. The following are the PDO-level results indicators:

- (i) Number of ex-combatant beneficiaries (disaggregated by gender and armed group)
- (ii) Percent of ex-combatant beneficiaries who are economically active (disaggregated by gender and type of economic activity)
- (iii) Percent of ex-combatant beneficiaries who report social acceptance by their communities (disaggregated by gender, age group, and armed group)
- (iv) Percent of host community members who report social acceptance of ex-combatants (disaggregated by age and gender)
- (v) Beneficiaries who experience a feeling of greater security attributable to the project areas (disaggregated by gender)
Number of community members with improved access to socio-economic infrastructure (of which female, children).

D. Project Description

13. The Project will finance social and economic reintegration of demobilized ex-combatants. The Government and MINUSCA will finance and complete activities that fall under Disarmament, Demobilization, Reinsertion and Repatriation. Children Associated with Armed Groups and Forces (CAAG/F) will be supported by UNICEF and the Government. In this context, the Project will achieve the PDO through the following components:

- (i) Component 1: Social and Economic Reintegration Support to Ex-Combatants
- (ii) Component 2: Support to Host Communities
- (iii) Component 3: Project Management

Component 1: Social and Economic Reintegration Support (Approximately US\$ 7.39 million)

14. The reintegration period will encompass 30 months following the reinsertion phase financed and implemented by MINUSCA. This will be supported by the ongoing sensitization activities detailed in Component 3. This component will consist of the following sub-components:

- Sub-component 1.1. Orientation, Counseling and Skills Training (6 months)
- Sub-component 1.2. Start-up Reintegration Support (one-time event)



- Sub-component 1.3. Follow-up Reintegration Support (24 months)
 - Outreach Reintegration Support (12 months)
 - Drop-in Reintegration Support (12 months)
- Sub-component 1.4: Specialized Support to Vulnerable Ex-combatants (entire project)

Sub-component 1.1. Orientation, Counseling and Skills Training (Approximately US\$ 3.79 million)

15. Orientation, Counseling and Skills Training will focus on providing a foundational set of skills to ex-combatants as they begin the transition to civilian life. In addition to acquiring a civilian mindset, ex-combatants will need to generate a sustainable income by the end of the reintegration project. The ex-combatants will receive livelihood guidance and career counseling to develop an individual livelihood/career plan based on their skills base and experiences. This counseling will complement the entrepreneurship, financial literacy, and formation of economic associations and management training.

16. This subcomponent will provide the individual ex-combatants with information and advice on training options, social and life skills, and any other training support needed to start their reintegration process. The main activities to be provided over a period of six months include:

- Livelihoods guidance, career counselling, information and referral;
- Skills Training Modules:
 - Literacy and numeracy training
 - Targeted life and social skills training
 - Entrepreneurship, small business, and financial management training
 - Formation and management of economic associations
 - Vocational skills training: primary sector (including agrarian activities: agriculture, livestock, fishery, and related activities), secondary sector (building and construction, carpentry, manufacturing, handicraft, couture) and tertiary sector (services, trade, transportation, repairs, IT, education, health, etc.).

Sub-component 1.2. Start-up Reintegration Support (Approximately US\$ 1.80 million)

17. This sub-component will finance the selection, procurement and provision of start-up support kits corresponding to the vocational skills provided to ex-combatants. Following the training, each ex-combatant will receive a start-up support kit of the same value per activity area, regardless of where they conduct individual activities or partake in economic associations. These kits will include tools and other materials that will support the beneficiary in launching the economic activity. The kits will be procured through a centralized process to standardize benefits and realize economies of scale. On its part, the project will monitor implementing partners and exercise due diligence to ensure that start-up kits are consistent with vocational training obtained by returning ex-combatants and their local environments. A manual on preparation, procurement, distribution and utilization of start-up kits will be developed by the project with Bank technical assistance, and in close coordination with MINUSCA.

Sub-component 1.3. Follow-up Reintegration Support (Approximately US\$ 1.49 million)

18. This sub-component will cover the following activities over a period of 24 months:



- Outreach reintegration support: community-based follow-up training, including training on initiating income generating activities (IGA) by individual/small groups or economic associations, advisory and referral services for the first 12 months.
- Drop-in reintegration support: information, advisory, and referral services during the second 12 months.

19. Ex-combatants will have the option to either (i) join economic associations with other ex-combatants and community members or (ii) engage in individual IGAs. The inclusion of community members in associations is expected to strengthen the social and economic reintegration through building community connections and economic relationships. In this context, community members who join associations will also benefit from the support through the project including supplementary training for the joining community members on association formation and operation and start-up in-kind support to the economic associations, as well as follow-up visits for the association as a whole.

20. *Outreach reintegration support* will involve follow-up training, advisory and referral services in communities. The implementing partners will benefit from the Management Information System (MIS) and will initiate a follow-up work program whereby each ex-combatant or his or her economic association will be visited at least once every three months over the initial 12-month period. The project will ensure that female beneficiaries will be visited once every two months. These follow-up meetings will be designed to assist the ex-combatant or his or her economic association with their economic and livelihood process as well as to monitor how well ex-combatants are integrating socially.

21. *Drop-in reintegration support* will cover information, advisory and referral services during the second 12 months. The beneficiaries, regardless of their involvement in associations or IGAs, will have the opportunity to contact the implementing partners' permanent or mobile offices and discuss any issues relevant to their reintegration process, receive advice and be referred, if necessary, to where services are available. In the case of economic associations, ex-combatants will be accompanied by members of their association or may avail individual support as needed.

Sub-component 1.4. Specialized Support to Vulnerable Ex-combatants (Approximately US\$ 0.31 million)

22. This sub-component will finance complementary activities to provide additional support to vulnerable ex-combatants during the entire duration of project implementation. Primarily, this support will target female ex-combatants, ex-combatants with physical and psychosocial disabilities. Eligibility for additional support will be identified based on a vulnerability criteria that will be developed by the project. To the extent possible, the project will seek collaboration with other projects to expand the coverage on vulnerable ex-combatants.

23. For those combatants identified as requiring psychosocial support during screening whilst they undergo disarmament and demobilization, the project will provide counseling during the initial six months. Psychosocial suffering and mental and behavioral disorders are risk factors for socio-economic reintegration and post-war recovery, and are particularly prevalent amongst returning ex-combatants. Alongside testing for chronic illnesses and physical disability, medical personnel will screen all ex-combatants for psychological trauma and challenging behaviors. Follow-up psycho-social counselling will be provided to those who would still be in need in their communities during the following twenty-four



months period of post-training support.⁸ A strong element of grass root psycho-education will also be built in the communications activities to address severe stigmatization in host communities in CAR.

24. Female ex-combatants will be offered an identical base package and training as male beneficiaries.⁹ A gender sensitive lens will be applied throughout the implementation of all project components to ensure differentiated needs of male and female ex-combatants are taken into account and reflected accordingly in their packages. Vocational training will be sensitive to potential female interest and needs. A Gender Action Plan may be undertaken through project duration that will address specific vulnerabilities of the female ex-combatant caseload and list a set of activities that will address those vulnerabilities.

Component 2: Support to Host Communities (Approximately US\$ 4.75 million)

25. This component will support the rehabilitation or construction of small-scale social and economic infrastructure in the host communities. This component will be implemented through the following sub-components:

Sub-component 2.1: Support to Improvement of socio-economic Infrastructure (Approximately US\$ 4.50 million)

26. In host communities that have been severely impacted by the conflict, expect high concentrations of returning demobilized ex-combatants, and are not targeted by ongoing and pipeline projects, particularly by the LONDO Project (P152512) and CAR Service Delivery and Support to Communities Affected by Displacement Project (P161591), during the reintegration phase, the project will support rehabilitation of social and economic infrastructure. Examples of potential activities include:

- Rehabilitation of small scale connective infrastructure
- Access to basic social services
 - Rehabilitation of schools and dispensaries
 - Provision of training for teachers, restocking of books
- Access to economic opportunities
 - Rehabilitation of markets and harvest storage facilities
 - Rehabilitation of training and drop-in support centers
 - Facilitation of linkages to micro-finance institutions
 - Rehabilitation of water sources, notably canals, wells and boreholes

27. These activities will be determined through a process of socio-economic assessment that informs community needs and a process of community consultation whilst ex-combatants undergo skills

⁸ This community based support would be contingent on existing capacity for the provision of such support which will be determined through an assessment. The project will assess whether to train a network of psychosocial focal points (composed of ex-combatants and community members) or use existing capacity to counsel, provide advice to the concerned, and alert implementing partners on potential problems. The project will evaluate the feasibility of treatment of violence related trauma spectrum disorders through a referral system, which could include a capacity building, training and technical assistance element.

⁹ The number of female ex-combatants will be determined after the armed groups provide the initial lists of participants to MINUSCA and the Government.



training. Details regarding the sub-project submission, selection, appraisal and implementation processes will be finalized in the Project Implementation Manual (PIM). Sub-project will be approved by the borrower's implementing agency based on technical feasibility; demonstrated contribution to local development; shared benefits to host communities, ex-combatants and other vulnerable groups; guarantees that budgeted funds ensure maintenance and staffing as needed; and compliance with safeguards requirements. Activities conducted will employ demobilized ex-combatants and community workers compensated on a worked-days basis.

Sub-component 2.2: Capacity-building of Host Communities (Approximately US\$ 0.25 million)

28. This sub-component complements ongoing work by the government on national reconciliation and seeks to reinforce social structures and economic capacities of communities. It will include the following activities: (i) establishment and capacity-building of community councils and (ii) training on social cohesion and conflict prevention.

29. *Establishment and capacity-building of community councils.* In target communities with limited local and traditional governance, the project will support creating councils composing of local leaders, youth, women, and representatives from various income-generating activities. They will be trained on defining their respective communities' development priorities and maintenance of rehabilitated infrastructure.

30. *Training on social cohesion and conflict prevention.* Building on overarching communications and sensitization activities conducted by the project, task activities will organize relevant training, workshops, and awareness dialogue for community leaders, demobilized ex-combatants and other constituents. The project will work directly with local authorities to identify effective community-level dispute resolution mechanisms. This will enable beneficiaries to gain confidence in project activities and mitigate risks of incidence of potential conflicts. Sessions will focus on peace building and reconciliation, conflict resolution, mediation techniques and rights of those most vulnerable. Trainings will be provided by national human rights organization with proven technical capacity and experience supporting reintegration of ex-combatants.

Component 3: Project Management (Approximately US\$ 2.86 million)

31. This component will consist of the following activities: (i) Project Management, (ii) Capacity Building, (iii) Sensitization and Communications, (iv) Environmental and Social Safeguards Management, and (iv) Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E).

32. Project Management will include activities that would cover overall administration and management of project activities, notably salaries and operational costs incurred by relevant Project Implementation Unit (PIU) staff. Activities that will be financed through this component would help ensure the coordination, implementation, and management of the project. In addition, the project will finance capacity building support targeting relevant central and local authorities. The project will develop an action plan and a budget specifically for capacity building activities. This component will finance activities to improve technical and implementation capacity through advisory support to DRRR Project Implementation Unit (DDRR-PIU), capacity support at the local level, and other relevant trainings.

33. Sensitization activities will begin prior to the start of the project, and thus World Bank-supported



sensitization work will build on the preceding communications activities of the Government and will continue throughout the project life cycle. Typically, sensitization on DDR involves a public information strategy to restore a climate of trust regarding the DDR process. Sensitization activities will help beneficiaries and their communities to better understand the program, its advantages and components, and help to manage expectations. Sessions will emphasize on social cohesion and conflict prevention and will build on the national reconciliation activities. Communication activities will not be limited to disseminating information but will provide a voice to the project beneficiaries and, therefore, involve bottom-up communication approaches, such as community meetings and beneficiary outreach. This is a critical piece of ensuring citizen engagement in the overall Project

34. A strong M&E system including a robust Management Information System (MIS) will ensure that project progress is measured. It is essential that information on beneficiaries is captured during the DDDR program, securely stored, and subsequently utilized to inform project implementation. In this context, beneficiaries and project implementation progress and effectiveness will be monitored through a tailored-made MIS, namely the Information, Counselling, and Referral System (ICRS). The ICRS will provide monitoring data on beneficiaries and activities that would serve as an important input into the planning of subsequent activities following demobilization. Apart from continuous monitoring of project activities, the M&E would contain a baseline survey and community survey, annual evaluation, mid-term review, sporadic evaluations if the need arises, and a final evaluation. Monitoring of fiduciary management will extend to timely external and internal audits of project operations and other activities by the PIU. These will be conducted on a quarterly basis by an internal auditor within the PIU and also annually by an independent external auditor recruited by the project within bank guidelines.

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E. Implementation

Institutional and Implementation Arrangements

35. The institutional framework of the DDDR Program consists of three structures: (i) Strategic Committee, (ii) Technical Committee and (iii) DDDR-PIU. The Strategic Committee, chaired by the President, is the decision-making body that defines the overall strategic direction and will ensure consistency between DDDR, SSR, and NR programs. It will provide overall oversight to the project, adopt specific policies on the peace agenda, and ensure coordination at policy and strategic level with particular focus on the complementary and consistency between DDDR, SSR, and NR programs. The Technical Committee, chaired by the Special Advisor to the President, Coordinator for the DDDR, SSR, and NR, will formulate implementation modalities and coordinate the implementation of activities.

36. The DDDR-PIU will be the implementing agency of the project. Housed at the Presidency, the DDDR-PIU will be responsible for: (i) preparation and costing of detailed annual implementation plans, and (ii) implementation and coordination of the individual project components. As such, the DDDR-PIU will: (iii) establish close links with relevant government departments, local organizations and associations, and the private sector; (iv) ensure monitoring and evaluation of implementation progress and impacts; (v) ensure, in coordination with the ministry in charge of environment, environmental and social management compliance; and (vi) ensure the coordination of international partners in accordance with the needs of the Project. The DDDR-PIU will work in tandem with the strategic and technical committees for DDDR, SSR and NR to ensure that activities across three areas remain consistent and coordinate on implementation modalities.



37. Per recent reviews of implementation modalities and assessment of fiduciary arrangements of Bank-financed projects in CAR, the project has determined to concurrently maintain another PIU, *Cellule Chargée du Suivi des Réformes Economiques et Financières* (CS-REF), anchored with the MoFB. This Fiduciary PIU (F-PIU) will be responsible for fiduciary management, financial management and procurement-related activities, of the project. A small fiduciary team consisting of a Procurement Officer, a Financial Management Officer, an Administrative and Financial Assistant and a Safeguards Officer will be hired. A procurement assistant may be recruited as needed. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the DDR-PIU and the F-PIU in order to manage all the project's procurement process, including the signing and approval of contracts during the project implementation.

38. Implementation will be conducted by Implementing Partners (IPs) as selected and contracted by DDR-PIU and the F-PIU.

39. This arrangement between the two PIU is further solidified through a convention signed between them on January 27, 2017. Established to set out the management framework of the 4 billion FCFA offered from the Economic and Monetary Community of Central Africa (CEMAC), the convention underlines that fiduciary responsibilities rest within CS-REF. It will support associated staffing and operational costs for CS-REF while similar expenditures relevant to the project within DDR-PIU are financed through the IDA allocation.

40. *Project Implementation Schedule.* The tentative date for Project effectiveness is July 13, 2017, with a proposed Project closing date of October 31, 2020.

41. *Partnership Arrangements.* The Project will be implemented in coordination with partners financing and/or contributing to the pre-DDRR, disarmament, demobilization, reinsertion and repatriation activities. The Government has identified MINUSCA and specialized United Nations agencies as technical implementing partners of specific activities. The World Bank will support the DDR-PIU to ensure close coordination and synergies among partners and achievement of the PDO through supervision of activities throughout the Project. The Government has also requested the Bank to establish a multi-donor trust fund (MDTF) to finance the required activities to complement the DDR National Program.

42. *Implementation Support.* The World Bank implementation support team will include various technical staff as needed. Given the high project risk, specific support will be provided by the World Bank office in Bangui to carry out day-to-day project implementation support.

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

Project activities are expected to take place primarily in areas where there is a high concentration of ex-combatants. These locations may include Kaga-Bandoro, Bria, Bambari, Bouar, Birao, Ndélé, Bossangoa, and Paoua. The exact locations will be identified as per the progress in the overall Disarmament, Demobilization, Reintegration and Repatriation Program. The activities envisaged in this project revolve around: (i) skills training and livelihoods support and (ii) construction / rehabilitation of basic social services and local



infrastructure. Under Component 1, the project proposes to finance skills training and livelihoods support (i.e. start-up support toolkits to kick start business, vocational skills, entrepreneurship training, etc.). Under Component 2, the rehabilitation and/or construction of small scale socio-economic infrastructure (such as markets, water points, road side drainage, healthcare facilities, other local infrastructure). As such, the impacts and potential risks of the activities are estimated to be limited and manageable. The rehabilitation and/or construction is likely to have limited, small environmental impacts on human population (noise, safety risk, waste matters and dust, etc).

G. Environmental and Social Safeguards Specialists on the Team

Cheikh A. T. Sagna, Emeran Serge M. Menang Evouna

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SAFEGUARD POLICIES THAT MIGHT APPLY

Safeguard Policies	Triggered?	Explanation (Optional)
Environmental Assessment OP/BP 4.01	Yes	This policy is triggered as the project activities, mainly activities related to Component 2, may have environmental negative impacts. As the project falls under paragraph 12 of OP 10, Projects in Situations of Urgent Need of Assistance or Capacity Constraints, the ESMF will be prepared to guide the way that potential negative environmental and social impacts of activities that will be identified and mitigated during implementation. There are a number of social safeguards issues as well as general social development impacts that are not covered by 4.12 or 4.10 that will be addressed in the ESMF. The key social safeguards issues are involuntary resettlement and indigenous peoples. This project is not an infrastructure heavy project therefore land take is predicted to be minimal. However, any land take and resettlement both physical and economic will need to be identified in the ESMF and mitigated by the requisite resettlement instruments. Small indigenous communities could be located in the project areas. The extent of the potential project impact on them will be covered in the ESMF and if necessary a separate stand-alone indigenous peoples plan will be drafted and disclosed as part of



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the safeguards requirements. Interventions embedded in the project to address these gaps and inequities will be identified in the ESMF and taken into consideration during project implementation. During the development of the ESMF, physical cultural resources will be taken into consideration and baselines defined. The ESMF will include clear procedures that will be required for identification, protection of cultural property from theft, and treatment of discovered artifacts, and will be included in standard bidding documents. The ESMF will provide procedures for handling with a chance finds during implementation project activities.

Natural Habitats OP/BP 4.04

No

This policy is not triggered as the current protected areas are out of the anticipated project locations. Although not triggered, the ESMF will define the relevant mitigation measures to avoid any natural habitat including protected areas threats.

Forests OP/BP 4.36

No

This policy is not triggered as the project activities will not include investments that will treat natural forests. The project will give preference to sitting activities on unforested sites or lands already converted (excluding any lands that have been converted in anticipation of the project). To avoid any introduction of invasive species that could threaten local biodiversity, the ESMF will provide clear guidance on how to avoid natural forest threats during the project implementation.

Pest Management OP 4.09

Yes

This policy is triggered. Even agriculture activities are not clearly triggered to be supported by the project, the beneficiaries may want to develop agriculture subprojects that may increase the use of pesticides and other hazardous agricultural chemicals which may be used for productivity increase purpose. The beneficiaries may want to develop agriculture subprojects that may increase the use of pesticides and other hazardous agricultural chemicals which may be used for productivity increase purpose. In addition to integrated pest management measures that will be included in the ESMF that will guide the project beneficiaries during the training session, the Pest Management Plan prepared during the implementation of the CAR Emergency Food Crisis Response and Agriculture Relaunch Project



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(P149512) will be updated and disclosed.

Physical Cultural Resources OP/BP 4.11 Yes

This policy is triggered as sub-component 2.1: Support to Improvement of Socio-economic Infrastructure may involve excavation and earth movement. The ESMF will include clear procedures that will be required for identification, protection of cultural property from theft, and treatment of discovered artifacts “chance finds” that could be identified during the implementation project.

Indigenous Peoples OP/BP 4.10 Yes

Although the proposed project activities are not expected to negatively impact the indigenous peoples, given it national coverage, this policy will be triggered because the project may intervene in specific locations where indigenous peoples may be present (i.e. refugee camps, etc.), and with the risk of impacting, in one way or another, the socio-cultural environment of these indigenous peoples that might result in their communal impacts or a negative impact on natural resources upon which they depend. In operations such as reintegration of ex-combatants, the Bank supports, and expects borrowers to apply, a precautionary approach to indigenous peoples’ environment. An Indigenous Peoples Plan Framework (IPPF) that will be prepared will include provisions for a proper consultation (FPIC), grievance redress mechanism, institutional arrangement and capacity building.

Involuntary Resettlement OP/BP 4.12 Yes

Activities to be funded under sub-component 2.1 would most likely lead to acquisition of land resulting in the involuntary resettlement of people with/without physical displacement of people. Sub-project areas footprints will only be known during project implementation, when site-specific plans are available in the project areas. Therefore, subprojects will be screened for applicability of the resettlement policy and any subprojects involving involuntary resettlement or land acquisition with restriction to access to livelihood supports areas, etc. will only be approved after preparation of an RAP acceptable to the Bank. Several issues will increase the complexity of land acquisition - the lack of reliable land record systems, and the inability of people losing land to either document ownership or be physically present to make their claims for eligibility. The RPF will therefore include procedures for identifying eligible



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project-affected people (PAP), calculating and delivering compensation, and mechanisms for land dispute grievance redress, as well as satisfactory institutional arrangements for monitoring effective implementation of the RAP. OP/BP 4.12 covers those persons displaced by the project activities. Given the long lasting post-conflict crisis and possible land disputes between residents and to ensure effective poverty reduction, the borrower will prepare an RPF during project execution and implement measures to minimize and mitigate adverse social impacts, particularly on poor and vulnerable groups. Well documented consultation mechanisms will be required to establish eligibility for compensation.

Safety of Dams OP/BP 4.37 No

The project is not intended to finance activities related to construction of dams or use of existing dams.

Projects on International Waterways OP/BP 7.50 No

The project could finance a very limited number of water points to satisfy host communities needs in potable water. It is not anticipated that these small infrastructures will have a negative impact within the Lake Chad international water shed.

Projects in Disputed Areas OP/BP 7.60 No

This policy is not triggered as the project activities are not in the Disputed Areas (as noted in the OP 7.60).

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 activities are not expected to have significant environmental and social adverse impacts. The negative impacts if exist are expected to be limited is specific site. As the project is under OP 10.00, paragraph 12, the safeguards documents were not prepared. Nevertheless, the ESSAP identified potential negative impacts that are summarized in the following: Disease caused by inadequate provision of water and sanitation services; generation of waste materials; disturbances during construction (dust, noise); contamination from inadequate sanitation facilities; diseases caused by poor handling practices of waste, including inadequate excreta disposal or inappropriate use of latrines; disease caused by inadequate collection and disposal, including burning of solid waste and industrial waste; potential conflict over land use; child labor.; health and HIV AIDs concerns; degradation and erosion of lands; disturbance of vegetation. The safeguards instruments that are expected to be prepared no later than four months after effectiveness will identify the most reliable impacts and risks and will propose the relevant mitigation measures..



2. Describe any potential indirect and/or long term impacts due to anticipated future activities in the project area: The works on the small scale socio-economic infrastructures in the host communities may maintain regular conflicts between ex-combatants and these host communities.

3. Describe any project alternatives (if relevant) considered to help avoid or minimize adverse impacts. During the project implementation, each sub-project to be financed will be subject to prior environmental and social screening within a participatory approach. Each activity that is expected to have significant adverse impacts will not be financed.

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.

In compliance with paragraph 12 of OP10, the Borrower will prepare relevant social and environmental safeguards instruments (ESMF, RPF, IPPF, PMP) within four months after project effectiveness. A timebound Environmental and Social Safeguards Action Plan (ESSAP) has been prepared and will be attached as an annex to the PAD. A framework approach for OP4.01, OP4.10, and OP4.12 is applied as the list of activities to be financed is indicative and may change, and the scope of project sites specific activities is unknown at the time of appraisal. A draft Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF); a draft Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF)/Process Framework, and a draft Indigenous People Policy Framework (IPPF) will be prepared. The frameworks documents will be prepared no later than four months after effectiveness and once finalized, will be disclosed in country and Infoshop. They will describe the procedures/processes that will be followed in preparing and disclosing site specific safeguard instruments where required. Each subproject will be subject to an environmental and social screening that will determine the relevant environmental and social instrument to be prepared. The draft framework instruments will assess specific safeguard implementation instrument cost. The cost of the implementation of the environmental mitigation measures under the ESMPs will be fully covered by the project budget. DDDR-PIU will prepare an Annual Work Plan that clearly will take into consideration environmental and social measures in compliance with safeguards instruments. The capacity of the Borrower to plan and implemenet safeguards measures is limited. As part of capacity-building that will be provided, DDDR-PIU will be staffed with one Environmental and one Social Specialist who will support the preparation and the implementation of relevant safeguards instruments as described in ESSAP. Additional training from the Bank's safeguards specialists or if needed in the specialized training institutions would be provided. DDDR-PIU will work closely with relevant ministries, public institutions, and civil society organizations. During preparation of documents, DDDR-PIU will ensure that consultations with relevant stakeholders are organized and documented. DDDR-PIU will also prepare and implement a consultation plan for the whole project based on safeguards instruments.

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

The project key stakeholders are ex-combatants, public administration officials, community based organizations, civil society organizations, and traditional rulers. DDDR-PIU will prepare a consultation plan. Each year, specific activities will be integrated in the annual work plan and be implemented accordingly. The consultation plan will be structured through three pathways: (i) local consultation or organization of public days, (ii) organization of community fora, (iii) sectoral meetings with social groups and or interests. Most of the safeguards documents and periodic reports will be publicly disclosed (DDRR-PIU web site and at Infoshop).



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

The review of this Safeguards has been Deferred.

Comments

These instruments will be prepared from the respective frameworks of the CAR Emergency Food Crisis Response and Agriculture Relaunch Project (P149512), LONDO Project (P152512), and /or ongoing CAR projects with the same or similar geographical coverage.

The review of this Safeguards has been Deferred.

Comments

The need for involuntary resettlement or land acquisition in specific subproject areas will only be known during project implementation, when site-specific plans are available in the extension zone. Therefore sub-projects will be screened for applicability of the resettlement policy and any subprojects involving involuntary resettlement or land acquisition with restriction to access to livelihood supports areas, etc. will only be approved after preparation of a Resettlement Action Plan (RAP) acceptable to the Bank. Several issues will increase the complexity of land acquisition - the lack of reliable land record systems, and the inability of people losing land to either document ownership or be physically present to make their claims for eligibility. The Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF) will therefore include procedures for identifying eligible project-affected people (PAP), calculating and delivering compensation, and mechanisms for land dispute grievance redress, as well as satisfactory institutional arrangements for monitoring effective implementation of the RAP.

The review of this Safeguards has been Deferred.

Comments

The proposed operation is not expected to negatively impact on Indigenous Peoples; however, given its national coverage, the project may intervene in specific locations where Indigenous Peoples live, and with the risk of impacting, in one way or another, the socio-cultural environment of these Indigenous Peoples that might result in their communal impacts or a negative impact on natural resources upon which they depend. An Indigenous Peoples Plan (IPP) will be developed and will include provisions for a proper consultation, FPIC, grievance redress mechanism, institutional arrangement and capacity building.

The review of this Safeguards has been Deferred.

Comments

For OP 4.09, the Pest Management Plan that was prepared during the implementation of the CAR Emergency Food Crisis Response and Agriculture Relaunch Project (P149512) will be updated.

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)

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OP/BP/GP 4.01 - Environment Assessment

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

NA

OP 4.09 - Pest Management

Does the EA adequately address the pest management issues?

NA

Is a separate PMP required?

NA

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?

NA

OP/BP 4.12 - Involuntary Resettlement

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

NA

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

NA

Is physical displacement/relocation expected?

TBD

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

No

The World Bank Policy on Disclosure of Information

Have relevant safeguard policies documents been sent to the World Bank's Infoshop?

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No

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?

No

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?

NA

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

Yes

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