



**Note to Task Teams:** The following sections are system generated and can only be edited online in the Portal.

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

Appraisal Stage | Date Prepared/Updated: 16-Mar-2017 | Report No: PIDISDSA20721



**BASIC INFORMATION**

**A. Basic Project Data**

Country Cameroon	Project ID P157733	Project Name Hydropower Development on the Sanaga River Technical Assistance Project	Parent Project ID (if any)
Region AFRICA	Estimated Appraisal Date 08-Mar-2017	Estimated Board Date 04-May-2017	Practice Area (Lead) Energy & Extractives
Lending Instrument Investment Project Financing	Borrower(s) Government of Cameroon	Implementing Agency Electricity Development Corporation (EDC), Ministry of Water and Energy (MINEE)	

Proposed Development Objective(s)

The Project development objective is to improve the institutional capacity of the Government of Cameroon in support of the sustainable development of hydroelectric resources on the Sanaga River Basin.

Components

- Identification of the Next Hydroelectric Site to Be Developed on the Sanaga River Basin and its Competitive Award to the Private Sector
- Support to the GoC for the Supervision of the Nachtigal Hydroelectric Project on the Sanaga River
- Hydrological Risk Mitigation and Dam Safety
- Advice on Concessions Schemes that Can Be Applied to GoC Hydroelectric Assets
- Implementation of an Integrated Reservoir Management Plan for the Optimal Hydropower Generation on the Sanaga River
- Project Management Support and Capacity Building

**Financing (in USD Million)**

Financing Source	Amount
Borrower	2.40
International Development Association (IDA)	26.40
<b>Total Project Cost</b>	<b>28.80</b>

Environmental Assessment Category

A - Full Assessment



Decision

**Note to Task Teams:** End of system generated content, document is editable from here.

Other Decision (as needed)

## B. Introduction and Context

### Country Context

Cameroon is a medium-sized (475,650 km<sup>2</sup>) country in Central Africa with a population of about 23.3 million in 2015, growing at around 2.5 percent per annum. Cameroon has vast natural resources, including oil, gas, minerals, agricultural land, and forests with remarkable biodiversity, which provide a potential basis for development. Cameroon's Gross National Income (GNI) per capita stood at US\$1,330 in 2015, making it a lower-middle income country. Economic growth averaged 3.3 percent per annum in the 2000s, but the 2009 global financial crisis led to a slump due to weaker demand for Cameroon's non-oil exports. In recent years growth rates have increased, reaching 4.5 to six percent annually over the 2012-2015 period, and projected to remain around 5.5 to six percent in the near term.

Cameroon remains nonetheless characterized by high levels of poverty and weak social indicators. Poverty declined only marginally since 2001, from 40.2 percent to 37.5 percent in 2014 and is increasingly concentrated in Cameroon's northern regions, where it worsened in the same period. The country ranked 153 out of 187 on the 2015 Human Development Index, with some indicators, including life expectancy, declining over the last 10 years, and infant and maternal mortality rates still exceedingly high. Cameroon's main challenge over the coming years will be to significantly accelerate economic growth and scale up investments while implementing policies that will ensure that the benefits of growth are shared. This will require significant improvements in the business climate, important investments in infrastructure, better governance, and more efficient public spending, as well as fiscal policies that specifically target the needs of the poor.

Cameroon's debt situation has also deteriorated recently due to the recent funding of major infrastructure projects concomitant with lower oil revenues. The public debt-to-GDP ratio that had declined to 10 percent in 2008 thanks to the 2006 Highly Indebted Poor Countries and Multilateral Debt Relief Initiative, increased again by the end of 2015 to 26.7 percent of GDP, leading the International Monetary Fund to raise Cameroon's risk of external debt distress from moderate to high. Economic policies will require a more stringent focus on resolving a number of sectoral bottlenecks in the energy, agriculture, telecommunications, mining, and transport sectors to allow broader and more efficient exploitation of the country's resource potential.

Cameroon's development priorities are laid out in two main official documents, the 2009 Growth and Employment Strategy (DSCE) and "Vision 2035." Vision 2035 sees Cameroon becoming a middle-income, industrialized country with poverty levels below 10 percent by 2035. The strategy emphasizes the need for agricultural diversification, increased productivity, and large-scale public investment projects. The priority areas identified in the strategy are: (a) infrastructure development in energy, telecoms, and transport; (b) development of the rural and mining sectors; (c)



improvement in human resources through health, education, and training; (d) greater regional integration and export diversification; and (e) financial sector deepening and strengthening.

#### Sectoral and Institutional Context

**Growth Forecast and Opportunities Provided by the Sanaga River Basin.** According to the 2014 Least Cost Power Sector Expansion Development Plan (*Plan de Développement du Secteur de l'Électricité*, PDSE) forecasts, by 2035 peak demand is expected to quadruple and range from 3,900 MW to 5,500 MW depending on the growth scenario (median or high) and electricity consumption may range from 24,400 GWh (median) to 33,400 GWh (high).. The Plan also forecasts that by 2022/2023, hydropower will represent about 75% of the future energy mix (along with about 15% gas-to-power and the remaining 10% other sources including renewable energies). In the longer term, Cameroonian hydropower resources is eventually intended for export to neighboring countries. The African Development Bank is currently financing the development of a Regional Master Plan which will include interconnectors. Regarding access forecast, the recently approved Rural Electrification Master Plan intends, by 2022, to increase to 88 percent the population living in electrified localities (o/w 75 percent in Northern Regions), through grid extension (80 percent) and off grid solutions (20 percent). Hydropower is expected to play a key role in access, including through mini-hydro for off-grid schemes.

Cameroon has the third largest hydropower development potential in Sub-Saharan Africa, estimated at over 12,000 MW across the country. Half of this potential is concentrated in the Sanaga River basin and an integrated development of its estimated 6,000 MW, could cover the expected demand growth in an economically and environmentally sustainable fashion. It is estimated that 4,200 MW of capacity could be added through large hydropower sites, with the remaining 1,800 MW being smaller (mainly upstream) sites development.

Focusing hydropower development on the Sanaga River rather than spreading it across basins enables an economically efficient use of the water storage and transmission investments as well as the possibility of leaving other rivers free-flowing thus limiting ecosystem impacts in other basins. Until 2015, the Sanaga River was regulated by three dams (Mapé, Bamendjin, and Mbakaou) of limited capacity that maintained the firm (all-season) capacity of the hydropower sites (current or future) to be considerably lower than their installed capacity. The Lom Pangar regulating dam, fully impounded for the first time in 2016, will increase the guaranteed all-season hydropower capacity on the Sanaga River by approximately 40 percent. This will immediately translate into the addition of 120MW at existing downstream hydropower plants as they will also generate electricity in the dry season. In the medium-term, the Lom Pangar dam will allow for further downstream development of large-scale hydropower plants by ensuring firm all-season water flows. These feature make potential hydropower sites downstream of Lom Pangar among the most attractive power assets in Cameroon. Lower electricity generation costs—and resulting lower electricity tariffs—will spur economic growth by facilitating more affordable household energy access and stimulating development of value-added activities in Cameroon's broader economy.

This basin attractiveness, combined with Cameroon's steady and overall positive track record of reform and private sector involvement, makes it likely to be one of the few countries in Africa able to effectively attract private investors and commercial financing in hydropower generation. Mobilizing private sector funding in hydropower, a sector requiring high upfront capital expenditure, would help mitigate the deterioration of the public debt-to-GDP ratio noted earlier while still benefiting from the economic growth. Furthermore, the timely addition of hydropower capacity is needed in order to be able to decommission the thermal capacity installed under the PTU for which every kWh proved costly to the public budget.

The 420MW Nachtigal project on the Sanaga is a precursor hydropower project developed under a Public-Private Partnership structure, and is the first hydropower project benefitting from the Lom Pangar dam. Its



successful implementation would have a powerful demonstration effect on the feasibility and value of leveraging private sector investment and commercial financing. To be able to capitalize on such demonstration and attract investors across the whole river basin, the Government need to decrease project preparation risks and build its capacity to negotiate swiftly and transparently with investors. This sets Cameroon on the path of a long term vision where the public and private sector each know and play their respective roles of for hydropower development in the country. The public sector in charge of planning, system optimization, power transmission and interconnection, site identification and selection, and retaining ownership and operation of cascade-wide storage; and the private sector being able to invest in developing and operating individual projects within a cascade context under a mix of options such as Independent Power Producer (IPP), concessions or with Power Purchase Agreement (PPA).

The proposed project aims at providing institutional capacity building and knowledge transfer to the Government of Cameroon (GoC) in refining its tools and strategy to develop its hydropower resources in an integrated and sustainable manner. The successful implementation of the TA components, which is combined with investment projects and guarantee support, could be a leading example in Africa of how the Bank can support hydropower development following technical-economic optimization, framework setting and risk mitigation, including environmental and social risks, to enable attracting private sector and commercial capital in hydropower development.

***The World Bank Group has been a strategic partner in the Cameroon energy sector, with a strong portfolio of projects and support to energy policy dialogue.*** The Bank Group has built a close working relationship with all sector stakeholders and is a trusted partner in regard to policy, institutional development, and sector investment. Bank-supported projects include the Energy Sector Development Project (ESDP, P104456), which provides assistance to update the sector framework and supports rural electrification; the Lom Pangar Hydropower Project (P114077), which supports a regulating dam to reduce seasonal water variability in the basin; and the recently approved Electricity Transmission and Reform Project (P152755) will help to improve the capacity, efficiency, and reliability of the national transmission network. The Bank is also supporting hydropower development on the Sanaga River through the planned Nachtigal Hydropower Guarantee Project (P157734), which is under preparation to facilitate the first hydropower plant on the Sanaga River through an independent power producer backed by partial risk guarantees, which will result in approximately 420 MW of additional capacity. The International Finance Corporation (IFC) has also been active in the power sector in Cameroon for over a decade, as advisor to the GoC in the privatization of AES-SONEL; as lead developer of a syndicated loan for its five-year investment program; and as lender to two power development companies (Dibamba and Kribi). The Bank and IFC continue to play a pivotal role in facilitating a constructive dialogue and transparent decision making by the national authorities in the sector and in supporting sector and sub-sector policy reform.

### C. Proposed Development Objective(s)

**Note to Task Teams:** The PDO has been pre-populated from the datasheet for the first time for your convenience. Please keep it up to date whenever it is changed in the datasheet.

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

The Project development objective is to improve the institutional capacity of the Government of Cameroon for a sustainable development of hydroelectric resources on the Sanaga River Basin.



### Key Results

The proposed PDO indicators are:

- Hydroelectric site on the Sanaga River identified and the site is awarded to a private concessionaire on a competitive basis for its development (Yes/No).
- Hydrology risk mitigation mechanisms identified and implementation road-map prepared (text).
- Dam safety framework adopted by MINEE and ready for implementation (text).

### D. Project Description

Hydropower will play an increasing role in meeting the growing demand for electricity in Cameroon with the Sanaga River Basin being the primary water source in the country. Through a combination of technical assistance, advisory services, expert support, studies, and analyses, the project will provide support to ensure that the Government of Cameroon has the capacity to develop its hydropower resources in an integrated and sustainable manner, that a hydroelectric site on the Sanaga River is identified and that the private sector is engaged for its development. The project will further ensure that Sanaga River Basin hydroelectric resources are developed in line with international best practice. The generation and sharing of technical and regulatory knowledge with support of the project (e.g., on hydrology risks, dam safety, reservoir management, cascade investment optimization, and competitively-bid concessions) will bring the GoC and the private sector on equal footing to identify and distribute risks in the development of the Basin's potential. Technical assistance under the project will be provided through six components, which are described below:

**Component 1: Support to the Identification of the Next Hydroelectric Site to be Developed on the Sanaga River Basin and its Competitive Award to the Private Sector (IDA US\$11 million equivalent).** The Sanaga River has a technical hydropower potential of nearly 6,000 MW and about 500 meters of available head between Nachtigal falls and the delta. Hydropower plants could operate as run-of-the-river in cascade arrangement, taking advantage of the seasonal regulation of the natural runoffs provided by four reservoirs (including the recently commissioned Lom Pangar). This component would finance technical assistance to the GoC to identify, rank, and select the next large-scale hydroelectric site on the Sanaga River and provide institutional capacity by developing it through a competitively sourced public-private partnership (PPP). The component has four sub-components.

**Component 2: Support to the GoC for the Supervision of the Nachtigal Hydroelectric Project on the Sanaga River (IDA US\$1.5 million equivalent).** The Nachtigal Hydroelectric Project is a 420 MW hydropower project to be constructed on the central course of the Sanaga River, 65 km north east of Yaounde. This strategic project for Cameroon is developed by the recently created Cameroonian project company, Nachtigal Hydro Power Company (NHPC) whose shareholders are the Republic of Cameroon, *Electricité de France* (EDF) and International Finance Corporation (IFC), who endeavors to comply with best national and international practices in terms of environmental and social management and infrastructure construction. The total investment is estimated at nearly US\$ 1 billion, the World Bank considers supporting the project with a set of IBRD partial risk guarantee for about US\$ 300 million.

This component would provide technical assistance to support the GoC in its supervision duties, during construction and commissioning of the dam and the powerhouse. This would include: (i) assist the GoC and GoC related entities to monitor the construction of the project and the ESMP; (ii) support the GoC and GoC related entities so that they can identify reasons for delay or scope changes (if any) and assist the GoC in negotiations with the concessionaire to help mitigating these changes and delays; and, (iii) assist SONATREL in the supervision of the commissioning of the turbines. This would help ensure timely completion of the project and establishment of good practices for the development of this large-scale, international hydroelectric project.



**Component 3: Hydrological Risk Mitigation and Dam Safety (IDA US\$5.5 million equivalent).** This component supports a range of technical assistance activities to ensure the prudent management of Sanaga River Basin hydroelectric resources. It would: (1) support analysis to underpin the implementation of a long-term, hydrologic risk mitigation strategy to accompany the sustainable development of Cameroon's hydropower potential and protect the GoC from volatility related to hydroelectricity generation, especially in dry years and in periods of high commodity prices, and taking into account climate variability. It will also support a hydrologic and climate change study at national scale, with a focus on the Sanaga Basin cascade, which remains vulnerable to climate anomalies and multi-annual droughts, despite the resilience provided by the four upstream regulating dams; and, (2) support the development of a generic Dam Safety Framework applicable to all basins in Cameroon. The framework will be designed using international best practices and will be further detailed for the Sanaga River Basin to allow its immediate adoption. Consulting work will assist the GoC in identifying best practices relevant for Cameroon and adapting and shaping them to fit national regulations, including with regulatory frameworks related to environment and social safeguards. It will also (3) fund the evaluation of the safety of a number of dams including the three regulating dams of Mapé, Bamendjin, and Mbakaou that together with Lom Pangar have a key role in the development of the Sanaga hydropower cascade, securing water for generation during the dry season and sensibly improving the energy output and the economic attractiveness of the entire cascade of hydropower plants.

**Component 4: Advice on Concessions Schemes that can be applied to GoC Hydroelectric Assets (IDA US\$1.75 million equivalent).** In order to bridge a rapidly growing gap between demand and supply in past years, the GoC used public financing to fast-track the development of a certain number of hydroelectric projects (Memve'ele, Lom Pangar powerhouse, Bini-Warak, Mekin, etc.) which, once commissioned, pose questions related to asset handling and operations and maintenance (O&M). The same will be true of additional assets on the Sanaga River. This component will fund advisory services for carrying out an analysis of the costs, benefits, merits, and limitations of each possible option and define the legal and implementation requirements. A careful market analysis will also be conducted to confirm the feasibility of each possible options.

**Component 5: Implementation of an Integrated Reservoir Management Plan for the Optimal Hydropower Generation on the Sanaga River (IDA US\$1.75 million equivalent).** Building on work completed under the Lom Pangar Hydropower Project to operationalize procedures and conditions for water flows and downstream releases in a manner that is optimal for electricity generation, subject to meeting minimum needs of other users, this component will support implementation of the Sanaga Basin Commission. A detailed road map has been prepared and agreed with the GoC to create and operationalize the Sanaga Basin Commission (CBS, *Commission de Bassin de la Sanaga*). The CBS will be composed of a Joint Commission for Sanaga Basin Waters (CPEB, *Commission Paritaire des Eaux de Bassin de la Sanaga*) and of a Permanent Technical Secretariat (STP, *Secrétariat Technique Permanent*) within EDC. This component will finance (1) an Assistant project Manager (APM) to EDC for the Operationalization of the STP (2) capacity building for the STP; and, (3) a specialized firm to ensure the reliability of the physical data on the Water Information System and to develop an operational tool (model) for planning but also managing in real time water allocation as well as programming of hydropower production at different time steps (annually, monthly, daily, hourly).

**Component 6: Project Management Support (IDA US\$7.3 million equivalent).** This component provides financing for the coordination, supervision, monitoring and evaluation (M&E) of the project. More specifically, it will finance activities supporting the implementation of the project components (financial management, procurement, audits) as well as communications and M&E activities; and the development of a methodology to evaluate the specific capacity enhancement of the Recipients' human resources achieved by implementing the project.



This component will also fund a Panel of Experts with Dam Safety and Environmental and Social expertise. This independent panel of experts will provide high-level support and guidance on the implementation of the components 1, 2 and 3 of the Project following international standards and best practice.

This component will also fund transversal or cross components activities related to the development of human resources in the hydropower sector. In particular, thinking beyond the project, it will fund: (i) a capacity needs assessment to identify future skill needs for Cameroon when developing a whole value chain on hydroelectricity in the next 20 years. This would provide a stock taking of capacities currently available among the key stakeholders involved in the hydropower value chain, as well as an evaluation of new capacities or skills needed, and an identification of where these may be developed and housed (Cameroonian's Universities).

Finally, it will (ii) provide scholarships for internship for students or young graduates to learn and specialize in newly required hydro-power related professions. It is expected that 6 to 12 scholarships 1 or 2 years could be awarded in two sessions in the project, on professions related to skills being developed under components 1 to 5. The trainees will work alongside with each implementing entities. Scholarships allocations will seek to parity on gender and among execution agencies.

## E. Implementation

### Institutional and Implementation Arrangements

**Implementing Agencies.** The project will have two implementing agencies: the Ministry of Water and Energy (MINEE); and the Electricity Development Corporation (EDC). MINEE will implement components with strategic and policy dimensions, while EDC will implement components that are more operationally focused in nature. Thus, MINEE will implement Components 1c, 1d, 2, 3.a, 3.b, 4 and 6.a, 6.c and 6.d; EDC will implement Components 1a, 1b, 3.c, 5, and 6.b and 6.c.

**Steering Committee.** The strategic supervision of project implementation and overall cohesion of the work across each implementing agency will be coordinated by a Steering Committee (COFIL, *Comité de Pilotage*), chaired by MINEE. The Steering Committee will be regularly informed of progress on project implementation, including through quarterly progress and financial reports by the respective UGPs. The COFIL will review and validate the key options proposed by the consultants hired to provide advisory services under the project.

**Project Implementing Units.** Both MINEE and EDC will have an UGP. Each UGP will be responsible for the day-to-day management of its components of the project and for coordination of project-related activities including: (a) ensuring the timely implementation of the project in accordance with the Project Implementation Manual (see below); (b) preparing annual work plans and budgets and annual procurement plans for submission to the Bank for approval and to the Steering Committee for information; and (c) assuming overall responsibility for, inter alia, such tasks as procurement, financial management, M&E, communication, citizen engagement, and compliance with environmental and social safeguards.

**Project Implementation Manual.** A Project Implementation Manual (PIM) will be prepared to provide guidance on roles and responsibilities as well as on the technical, administrative, financial and accounting procedures, procurement arrangements, and safeguard procedures.

**Note to Task Teams:** The following sections are system generated and can only be edited online in the Portal.



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

As the TA activities will not have any direct environmental and social impacts, the expected future hydropower investments may cause large scale social and environmental impacts. With regard to the Sanaga Basin ecosystem diversity, the hydropower investment site and the associated transmission lines might be located or cross sensitive agro ecological areas, thus the selection of the final site will require careful analysis, consideration of alternative sites that avoid large settlements of people and significant environmental negative impacts. Appropriate mitigation measures including globally recognized best environmental and social management practices will be defined in the safeguards instruments that will be financed through this TA. These instruments will guide future investments on the Sanaga River. The specific Project location of the new Hydropower Project will only be known once the optimization study of hydroelectric potential of the Sanaga river is completed and the GoC has chosen the site to be developed under the proposed Project. This is expected to be about 12 to 18 months after Project effectiveness.

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

Kristyna Bishop, Cyrille Valence Ngouana Kengne

**SAFEGUARD POLICIES THAT MIGHT APPLY**

Safeguard Policies	Triggered?	Explanation (Optional)
Environmental Assessment OP/BP 4.01	Yes	The project will support the preparation of a Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA) for the development of the hydroelectricity cascade in the Sanaga River Basin. Once the dam site has been selected by the GoC, the project will finance the preparation of the ESIA for the selected site and the ESIA for the transmission line to be constructed from the site to the existing interconnected grid. The ESIA will also include a cumulative impact assessment on downstream environments. A Panel of Experts will also be set up and will include environmental and social expertise to advice Cameroon on the environmental and social aspects of the selected project. In addition to the ESMP resulting from the ESIA, a robust Environmental and Social Contractors guidelines will also be prepared for the bidding documents



			<p>purpose, it will include specific recommendations/measures to mitigate labor influx risk. Draft terms of reference (ToRs) for the SESA, the ESIA, and the Panel of Experts have been prepared and disclosed in Infoshop on March 2, 2017.</p>
Natural Habitats OP/BP 4.04	Yes		<p>The ESIA's that will be prepared will carry out an in-depth assessment of the main threats of natural habitats along the Sanaga River. Specific guidance will be provided to avoid significant conversion or degradation of any critical natural habitats. Should any unavoidable risk of conversion arise, proper additional plan/measures will be prepared to compensate.</p>
Forests OP/BP 4.36	Yes		<p>The project does not support commercial forest exploitation. However, the ESIA's that will be financed through the project will assess and provide relevant guidance to consider during the site selection to avoid or reduce potential negative impact on health and quality of forest.</p>
Pest Management OP 4.09	Yes		<p>Relevant measures will be provided in the ESIA's, and an Integrated Vector Management Plan (IVMP) will be prepared to prevent and address waterborne health risks associated to dam reservoirs in the project area.</p>
Physical Cultural Resources OP/BP 4.11	Yes		<p>During the ESIA process, as it was the case in the Lom Pangar Hydropower Project, particular attention will be placed on Physical Cultural Resources and relevant mitigation measures proposed if needed. A comprehensive chance find procedure will be prepared as part of the ESIA reports, embedded in the overall ESMPs, to that end.</p>
Indigenous Peoples OP/BP 4.10	Yes		<p>Generally, indigenous peoples live in the East (Baka), Center (Bagaladi) and South (Bagyeli) and inhabit forested areas. Once a site has been selected, the social assessment that will be carried out as part of the SESA will confirm whether indigenous peoples are present in the project area. The results of the social assessment will be used to prepare, consult and disclose the relevant instrument. An Indigenous Peoples Plan Framework (IPPF) was prepared for the Electricity Transmission and Reform project and it could be used to guide the preparation of an Indigenous Peoples Plan (IPP) for this project as it</p>



		was focused specifically on the screening for indigenous peoples along proposed transmission lines.
Involuntary Resettlement OP/BP 4.12	Yes	A social assessment (SA) and Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF) will be prepared as part of the project. The RPF will be used, in conjunction with ESIA's, to guide future implementation of the investments. Draft TORs for both SA and RPF have been prepared and disclosed in Infoshop on March 2, 2017. Both TORs will be updated under the SESA study.
Safety of Dams OP/BP 4.37	Yes	The project will support the development of a hydropower project which will probably include a large dam. The project will finance engineering activities including geological and geotechnical investigations, topographical surveys, bathymetry, physical scale modeling, hydrology, and sediment management. These data will allow the preparation of a geological baseline report and will be integrated into a "Reference Project" that will serve as the expression of needs of GoC and will be included in the bidding documentation for the concession. An Emergency Response and Preparedness Plan (ERP) for the Sanaga River hydropower development will be prepared under the project. In addition, Panel of Experts, which will include dam safety expertise and environmental and social expertise, will be recruited. It will comprises five to seven specialists (geotechnical, concrete, sediment, dam, hydro-electro-mechanics, HEM, environmental and social). Draft ToRs for the ERP and the recruitment of the Panel have been prepared and disclosed in Infoshop on March 2, 2017.
Projects on International Waterways OP/BP 7.50	No	This policy does not apply.
Projects in Disputed Areas OP/BP 7.60	No	There are no disputed areas in the project areas.

**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:

None of the activities financed by the proposed project is expected to induce adverse, irreversible environmental and



social impacts. The project is rated environmental category A because of the potential impacts that could be generated by the subsequent implementation of a new hydropower project site. However, at this stage, there is no clarity on the civil works to be undertaken – whether in a cascade, the size of dams, or their specific location.

2. Describe any potential indirect and/or long term impacts due to anticipated future activities in the project area: With regard to the Sanaga Basin ecosystem diversity, the hydropower investment site and the associated transmission lines might be located or cross sensitive agro ecological areas, thus the selection of the final site will require careful analysis, consideration of alternative sites that avoid large settlements of people and significant environmental negative impacts. Appropriate mitigation measures including globally recognized best environmental and social management practices will be defined in the safeguards instruments that will be financed through this TA. These instruments will guide future investments on the Sanaga River.

3. Describe any project alternatives (if relevant) considered to help avoid or minimize adverse impacts. The project is designed to improve the institutional capacities of the Government for a sustainable development of hydroelectric resources on the Sanaga River Basin. All components of the TA Project intend to provide to the Government the knowledge and tools to avoid and/or minimize adverse impacts of the development of hydropower projects on the Sanaga River.

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. Both implementing agencies for this project, MINEE and EDC, are familiar with the World Bank Safeguards policies as they have implemented several projects financed by the World Bank. The implementation of these projects has created environmental and social management capacity within these institutions. In particular, the Project will build on the experience capitalized by EDC during the implementation of the Lom Pangar Hydropower Project. Regarding the Nachtigal Hydropower Project, the project company (NHPC) has very strong capacity and has demonstrated their commitment to these issues during the preparation of the project.

5. Identify the key stakeholders and describe the mechanisms for consultation and disclosure on safeguard policies, with an emphasis on potentially affected people. Extensive public consultation will be carried out during the preparation of the safeguard instruments. Civil society, project-affected people and various stakeholders will be consulted during the preparation of the ESMF, IPPF, and RPF. Most of the concerns expressed by the stakeholders will be taken into consideration. Key draft TORs for the preparation of safeguard instruments have been disclosed in country and through the Bank’s InfoShop. Regarding the Nachtigal Hydropower project, the Environment and Social Management Plans have been completed in 2016 and presented to all stakeholders in July 2016.

**B. Disclosure Requirements**

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

Date of receipt by the Bank  21-Feb-2017	Date of submission to InfoShop  02-Mar-2017	For category A projects, date of distributing the Executive Summary of the EA to the Executive Directors
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**"In country" Disclosure**

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

Date of receipt by the Bank  
21-Feb-2017

Date of submission to InfoShop  
02-Mar-2017

**"In country" Disclosure**

**Indigenous Peoples Development Plan/Framework**

Date of receipt by the Bank  
21-Feb-2017

Date of submission to InfoShop  
02-Mar-2017

**"In country" Disclosure**

**Pest Management Plan**

Was the document disclosed prior to appraisal?  
No

Date of receipt by the Bank

Date of submission to InfoShop

**"In country" Disclosure**

**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:

At this stage, there is no clarity on the civil works to be undertaken – whether in a cascade, the size of dams, or their



specific location. Site specificity is required for ESIA, EMPs and RAPs, and frameworks are useful when there is sufficient knowledge of the civil works to be undertaken. As the project is providing TA upstream of project preparation, full terms of reference for the SESA, the ESIA and social assessment that will be included in the feasibility study, which will serve as screening criteria for the various options. All draft E&S ToRs have been prepared and disclosed in Infoshop prior to Appraisal.

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

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

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

No

**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?

Yes

**OP 4.09 - Pest Management**

Does the EA adequately address the pest management issues?

No

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?

No

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

Yes

**OP/BP 4.10 - Indigenous Peoples**

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



Yes

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

Yes

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

NA

**OP/BP 4.12 - Involuntary Resettlement**

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

No

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

NA

**OP/BP 4.36 - Forests**

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

Yes

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

Yes

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

No

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

Have dam safety plans been prepared?

No

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

Yes

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

No

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

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

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?

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?

Yes

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

Yes

### CONTACT POINT

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#### Implementing Agencies

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**APPROVAL**

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**Approved By**

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**Note to Task Teams:** End of system generated content, document is editable from here.