



Integrated Safeguards Data Sheet Restructuring Stage

Restructuring Stage | Date ISDS Prepared/Updated: 11-Aug-2020 | Report No: ISDSR30272

Regional Vice President:	Carlos Felipe Jaramillo
Country Director:	Tahseen Sayed Khan
Regional Director:	Anna Wellenstein
Practice Manager/Manager:	David N. Sislen
Task Team Leader(s):	Frederico Ferreira Fonseca Pedroso, Hadji Huseynov



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

I. BASIC INFORMATION

1. BASIC PROJECT DATA

Project ID	Project Name
P127338	Climate Resilient Infrastructure
Task Team Leader(s)	Country
Frederico Ferreira Fonseca Pedroso, Hadji Huseynov	Belize
Approval Date	Environmental Category
27-Aug-2014	Partial Assessment (B)
Managing Unit	
SLCUR	

PROJECT FINANCING DATA (US\$, Millions)

SUMMARY

Total Project Cost	30.00
Total Financing	30.00
Financing Gap	0.00

DETAILS

World Bank Group Financing

International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD)	30.00
--------------------------------------------------------------	-------

2. PROJECT INFORMATION



Current Program Development Objective

The objectives of the Project are: (a) to enhance the resilience of road infrastructure against flood risk and impacts of climate change; and (b) to improve the Borrower's capacity to respond promptly and effectively in an Eligible Crisis or Emergency, as required.

Proposed New PDO

a) to enhance the Borrowers' capacity to promote climate and flood resilience in road infrastructure designs; and b) to improve the Borrower's capacity to promptly and effectively respond to an Eligible Emergency

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

3. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The project is being restructured due to the activation of the Contingent Emergency Response Component (CERC) to support the Government of Belize (GoB) in addressing the impacts of the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) global pandemic. The proposed restructuring will result in the following changes: (a) modification of the Project Development Objective (PDO) to reflect the changes brought by the activation of the CERC; (b) updating the legal covenant to activities agreed under the Emergency Action Plan (EAP); (c) reallocation of loan proceeds from Components 1 and 2 to Component 4 (CERC); (d) updating disbursement estimates; (e) modification of the project Results Framework (RF) to include additional PDO and intermediate-level indicators to measure the outcome and intermediate results of emergency activities financed under the CERC, and removal of the current results indicators under Component 1 that will no longer be applicable; and (f) change of the Component 1 description in Schedule 1 of the Loan Agreement (LA).

The project is in full compliance with all legal covenants and Safeguards Policies. There are no overdue IFRs and outstanding audit reports. Procurement has been rated MS on [04/2020] since the 2 main CRIP activities that were about to be implemented in the beginning of 2020: Supervision services and Works contract for road rehabilitation were suspended on April/2020 because of the Covid19 contingency. The detail design document was finalized and delivered, however, there was a short time for planning and implementing these 2 core activities for the Project. Due to Covid19, the efforts became towards the activation of Component 4 of the Project (CERC). The remaining resources of the Project are directed for 2 different operations: conditional cash transfer for Social Protection and support to registered families in Belize and Agriculture Coupons to farmers due to drought issues in the Country. These operations are under guidance and coordination of Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Human Development. There are very few procurable for both operations, and it was addressed the necessary approach and flexibility to implement procurement activities under such emergency situation. This rate will be re-assessed in due course of the CERC implementation to ensure the PMU's capacity to manage the new set of activities.:

- **Component 1: Climate Resilient Infrastructure (US\$21.5 million):** This component was designed to reduce the physical vulnerability of critical infrastructure through the retrofitting and rehabilitation of Vista Del Mar Junction and Miles 8.5 To 24.5 of the Philip Goldson Highway, including associated drainage and flood mitigation systems in order to strengthen their resilience to natural hazards and the anticipated impacts of climate variability. It also financed studies required (e.g., LiDAR survey, hydrological modelling) to support engineering design options and final detailed designs solutions. At the time of the COVID-19 outbreak in Belize, the detailed engineering designs had been delivered and



approved by the Ministry of Works and the PMU had initiated procurement for the civil works (public advertisement of the RFI under International Competitive Bidding procedures). While nine companies had requested to be considered for the provision of the works, the process was thus suspended and cancelled due to the request from the government to trigger the CERC.

- **Component 2: Technical Assistance for Improved Climate Resilience Management (US\$4.925 million).** This component aimed to strengthen the capacity of relevant technical line ministries to mainstream climate resilience considerations into core physical and investment planning and asset maintenance. The component successfully delivered all activities to date, strengthening the client's ability to incorporate climate resilience.
- **Component 3: Project Management and Implementation Support (US\$2.0 million).** The component was designed to support all project implementation needs from the PMU and line ministries. The PMU at the Social Investment Fund (SIF) has been adequately staffed to implement the project through the entire period of implementation. The team includes all key and supporting staff based on implementation arrangements agreed in the Project Operations Manual.
- **Component 4: Contingency Emergency Response (US\$1.0 million).** The component was intended to provide support for immediate response to an eligible crisis or emergency. As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Government requested the Bank to trigger the CERC on March 23, 2020, and declared a National Emergency on April 1, 2020. The Government aimed to support poor and vulnerable families and provide resource assistance to farmers impacted by COVID-19 and exacerbated by the prolonged drought in the country since 2019.

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

4. PROJECT LOCATION AND SALIENT PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS RELEVANT TO THE SAFEGUARD ANALYSIS (IF KNOWN)

GoB has identified San Pedro, Belize City, San Ignacio, and Corozal Town as areas being mostly affected by the virus. They have also expressed the real possibility for the spread of the virus from those centers because of their touristic value (San Pedro, San Ignacio, and Corozal Town) and leading economic activities (Belize City) to other areas in the country unless strict Quarantine laws are observed, testing continues to identify, treat and isolate affected persons and strict hygiene and social distancing are practiced. A National Coordinating Team from the Ministry of Health was set up to develop a National COVID-19 Response Plan that will guide efforts for the containment and prevention of the spread of COVID-19 in the general population; and provide guidelines for the management of COVID-19 cases at all levels of care. Through the activation of CERC and implementation of its Social Protection Program, GoB aims at addressing the overall process of emergency response, preparedness, and recovery providing unemployment assistance, food assistance and social protection to the country's most vulnerable citizens. CERC's Agricultural Support Program aims at supporting farmers in all of the districts of Belize (Corozal, Orange Walk, Belize, Cayo, Stann Creek and Toledo) who are currently experiencing losses due to the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, including those in the northern and central regions being simultaneously affected by drought. Priority relief will be given to farmers registered in the Belize Agriculture Information management System (BAIMS) whose commodities contribute to food security and socio-economic development and who suffered severe loss



during the COVID-19 pandemic. The targeted farmer groups are those involved in the value chains of poultry, dairy, shrimp, beef cattle, pigs, sheep, vegetables, sugarcane, grains and pulses.

5. ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS SPECIALISTS ON THE TEAM

Ramon E. Anria, Social Specialist
Fabiola Maria Lucia Mercado Jaldin, Environmental Specialist

6. SAFEGUARD POLICIES TRIGGERED

Safeguard Policies	Triggered	Explanation
Environmental Assessment (OP) (BP 4.01)	Yes	<p>Original Project: OP 4.01 was triggered. Project activities included the rehabilitation and retrofitting civil works of the selected section of the Philip Goldson Highway. The Project financed and produced several documents and instruments. These included: the Project’s Feasibility Study, an Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA), an Environment Management Framework (EMF), a Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF), a Culturally Appropriate Planning Framework (IPPF) and the Project’s Detailed Engineering Designs—all of which are outputs of the original Bank Operation. The Borrower also prepared and executed a Resettlement Action Plan (RAP) (please see complete details on Social Safeguards below under OP 4.10 & OP 4.12). In response to the Government’s request to activate the CERC, the implementing agency requested the Bank to suspend the procurement of Civil Works and Supervision contracts for the Phillip Goldson Highway (PGH). Due to the above-mentioned suspension of Civil Works and contracts, there are no pending Environmental or Social Safeguards actions or instruments to be prepared/implemented by the Borrower.</p> <p>However, if the Government of Belize (GoB) in the future decide to use the final Detailed Engineering Designs and/or other CRIP outputs to prepare and execute a project, the Bank recommends that the Borrower adhere to the applicable Bank Safeguards Policies under CRIP and the above-referenced and</p>



corresponding Environmental and Social Risk Management Instruments.

CERC/Restructuring:

OP 4.01 will remain triggered under the Restructured Project. The Project's CERC Component was activated and designed to support activities in the Social Protection and Agriculture Sectors. Low potential for negative Environmental or Social risks or impacts are expected as a result of implementation of Social Protection Sector support activities. However, it was determined that there are potential negative Environmental risks and impacts under eligible Agriculture Sector support activities, nevertheless, these are expected to be site-specific, short-term, and reversible. These potential adverse impacts include (i) waste generation; (ii) pollution of creeks, rivers, wetlands, and groundwater from animal wastes (solid and liquid); (iii) nuisance related to noise and air emissions from the different project interventions including current agricultural practices such as slash and burn; (iv) occupational health and safety (OHS) of workers and supervisors of on-farm works and infrastructure works; and (v) community health and safety. All Agriculture Sector support activities will be implemented within existing Sector footprints and no land clearing is expected to occur. The Emergency Action Plan (EAP) and CERC-ESFM contain a list of activities that are strictly ineligible under Project implementation. These include: (i) manufacture, trade and use of chemicals and hazardous materials subject to international bans, restrictions or phaseouts; (ii) procurement of pesticides; (iii) civil works for the construction of new wells nor will water use for irrigation purposes will be sourced from surface water (streams, rivers, lakes, wetlands, reservoirs, and creeks, etc.); and, (iv) no land use and land cover shall be transformed for any of the Project activities. The CERC-ESMF includes measures to manage potential Environmental and Social risks and impacts in accordance with World Bank's Safeguards Policies. It also provides guidance on the preparation of Environmental and Social Management Plans (ESMPs) should the Screening Process put in place determine the need to do so.



Performance Standards for Private Sector Activities OP/BP 4.03	No	<p>Original Project: OP 4.04 was triggered. The EMF provides a screening mechanism for screen sub-projects to ensure that no significant degradation or conversion of natural habitat will occur.</p> <p>CERC/Restructuring: OP 4.04 will remain triggered. The project through the adoption of sustainable practices during the agricultural practices will help protect degraded critical ecosystems, promote water efficiency practices, control agrochemicals pollution and control erosive processes which are important to preserve local biodiversity and the quality of water resources.</p>
Natural Habitats (OP) (BP 4.04)	Yes	<p>The CERC-ESMF includes specific measures to guide the Borrower to implement effective measures to avoid the adverse impacts on any natural or critical habitats or areas of high biodiversity value. Moreover, it explicitly forbids any project activities in areas supporting critical natural habitats or inducing significant conversion or degradation of critical natural habitats. Furthermore, requires that all agricultural activities shall take place within already existing farms. In cases where sub-projects are located in the vicinity of natural habitats (without imposing significant degradation or conversion) appropriate mitigation measures will be prepared and adopted in site-specific ESMPs.</p>
Forests (OP) (BP 4.36)	No	<p>Original Project: OP 4.36 was not triggered. During project preparation the application of this OP was evaluated, and it was concluded that it was unlikely that sub-projects would have an impact on the health and quality of forests, affect the rights and welfare of people. The EMF included prohibitions to any project activity that could endangered forest ecosystems.</p> <p>CERC/Restructuring: OP 4.36 will not be triggered. The project will not finance activities in forests or that could potentially affect forest resources or their management.</p>



The CERC-ESMF explicitly forbids any project activities that would lead to the destruction, degradation or conversion of forests and key forest ecosystems.

Original Project:

OP/BP 4.09 was not triggered as the project did not involve activities that require the use or procurement of pesticides.

CERC/Restructuring:

Although the project will not directly finance the procurement of agrochemicals (pesticides or insecticides) for any of the listed activities and interventions, OP/BO 4.09 will be triggered as a precaution due to the nature and broad scope of the agricultural activities to be financed under the CERC and the baseline conditions prior to the CERC activation in the project interventions areas, which involve different types of agrochemicals, levels and practices of their usage. The project will promote Integrated Pest/Crop Management practices to be implemented on site-specific subprojects, to be used when agricultural activities financed by the CERC may lead to or be associated with the use of agrochemicals. The CERC-ESMF will provide the necessary initial guidance for said management and the ESMPs to be prepared for each subproject will include specific measures on these matters, as needed. During implementation, concrete cases will need to be assessed in detail and managed accordingly.

Pest Management (OP 4.09)

Yes

Original Project:

OP 4.11 was triggered as cautionary. Project activities were not expected to have negative impacts on cultural property, including movable or immovable objects, sites, structures, groups of structures or natural features or landscapes with archaeological, paleontological, historical, architectural, religious, aesthetic, or other cultural significance. However, "chance findings" during the implementation of activities could be possible. Thus, the project required that Chance finds procedures to be incorporated into EMPs and construction contracts.

Physical Cultural Resources (OP) (BP 4.11) Yes

CERC/Restructuring:



Similarly, OP 4.11 will be triggered. Some CERC related activities may involve soil excavations, especially during agricultural and irrigation rehabilitation work. Thus, the project will require that Chance finds procedures are adopted and implemented as part of the site-specific ESMPs as necessary.

Original Project:

OP 4.10 was triggered as a precaution would there have been Indigenous Peoples (IP) communities present in or have collective attachment to any of the Project areas. For this reason, a Culturally Appropriate Planning Framework was prepared in 2014. However, it was later confirmed through further screening, that no IP community members or communities were present on the road reserve or in any part of the Project's Area of Influence nor did there exist IP collective attachment to any of the Project areas.

CERC/Restructuring:

Activities to be implemented under the CERC will not promote or create any type of impacts on IP communities or in areas where there are collective attachments, as per the ESMF prepared under the CERC.

However, OP 4.10 will remain triggered, in case the Borrower in the future decides to implement the Detailed Engineering Designs financed and prepared under CRIP. Additionally, should the Borrower execute a project based on said detailed designs, the Bank recommends that GoB re-screen for the presence of IPs and should the screening determine that IP communities are present in the project area at that time, that action plans be prepared following the CRIP's Culturally Appropriate Planning Framework, by which the GoB should ensure that IP communities' free, prior and informed consultation leading to broad community support is achieved before any subproject implementation is carried out.

Original Project:

The Project triggered OP 4.12 in the eventuality that any civil works carried out would elicit impacts such as (1) loss of property and assets due to displacements and relocation of

Indigenous Peoples (OP) (BP 4.10) Yes

Involuntary Resettlement (OP) (BP 4.12) Yes



individuals/families occupying road reserves and (2) Loss of land and other assets (buildings, fences, crops, vendor stalls, driveways, signs etc.) from appropriation, removal, acquisition, and demolition. As such, a Resettlement Policy Framework was prepared to guide the preparation of resettlement plans to mitigate these impacts. Following the preparation of an ESIA, further surveying exercises carried out by the Borrower, and review of the final engineering Detailed Designs, a Resettlement Action Plan was prepared and executed to compensate PAPs carrying out mostly small-scale economic activities on the road reserve in the communities of Ladyville and Sandhill.

CERC/Restructuring:

OP/BP 4.12 Involuntary Resettlement will remain triggered after Restructuring, although activities that could result in the involuntary taking of land, relocation of households, loss of assets or access to assets that leads to loss of income sources or other means of livelihoods, and interference with households' use of land and livelihoods, are strictly ineligible under CERC execution. This is due to the fact that, prior to CERC activation, the Project, under Component 2., financed The Feasibility Study, the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA), the Environment Management Framework (EMF), the Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF) and the Project's Detailed Engineering Designs, all of which are outputs of the Bank Operation. Based on these Designs and in accordance with the Project's RPF, the Borrower also prepared and executed a Resettlement Action Plan to compensate Project Affected People (PAPs) carrying out mostly small-scale economic activities on the road reserve in the communities of Ladyville and Sandhill. Said PAPs have since agreeably received their respective compensations, amicably abandoned the road reserve, and removed all relevant structures from the Project's area of implementation with assistance from the Borrower. Since civil works were suspended and removed following CERC activation and the current Project Restructuring, the Bank recommends that the Borrower: 1. ensure that the total area



pertinent to the Project as outlined in the RAP remains secured to mitigate the risk of additional illegal occupation and 2. follow the Bank's Safeguards Policies triggered under the original Project and the corresponding Environmental and Social Safeguards Instruments, should in the future the GoB use any portion of the Detailed Engineering Designs financed under CRIP to prepare a project and execute the civil works based on said designs.

Original Project:

The Project area is within the Belize River Watershed area, where the country's three hydroelectric facilities are situated. However, the project did not trigger OP/BP 4.37 as none of the previously anticipated civil works relied on the operation or performance of the upstream dams. Initially during preparation of the Parent Project, the OP/BP 4.37 was initially triggered as a precaution, and a Dam Safety Framework prepared and disclosed as an Annex to the Parent Project EMF. During the preparation of the Dam Safety Framework, information on dam safety management was gathered from the Belize Electric Company Limited (BECOL), which is responsible for Hydroelectric Facilities comprising the Macal River Upstream Storage Facility (Chalillo), and the Mollejon and Vaca Hydroelectric Facilities, located along the Macal River in the Cayo District. These three dams, while primarily constructed to generate electricity, also lessen the impacts of natural disasters from the Macal River.

Safety of Dams (OP) (BP 4.37)

Yes

CERC/Restructuring:

OP/BP 4.36 will be triggered. The exact locations for the rehabilitation of existing irrigation is not known at this stage. However, it is possible that some of these may depend on the storage and operation of existing dams. Thus, site-specific ESMPs will require to carry out during implementation a further assessment of the sites, water sources, and dependence on dams. Upon the results of these assessments, and if determined that any irrigation systems rely on existing dam(s) or dams under construction (DUC), the project will be required to comply with paragraphs 7 to 11 of OP/BP 4.36.



In the case of water use for irrigation purposes under the agricultural activities, this is expected to come solely from rainwater harvesting schemes. The CERC-ESMF explicitly forbids the use of surface water (streams, rivers, lakes, wetlands, reservoirs, and creeks) for any type of irrigation purposes.

Original Project:

Belize shares five (5) watersheds between Mexico and Guatemala, these watersheds are: Rio Hondo, Belize River, Moho, Temash and Sarstoon. In addition, the Belize river which receives water from the Mopan River (originated in Guatemala) discharges into the Caribbean Sea. However, Project activities did not include any diversion dams, hydraulic structures involving pumps. In addition, the project did not intend to extract or use (for irrigation or electricity or water supply or flood control) any water from the waterways. The purpose of the civil works was to improve water flow to avoid flooding of roads, (by maintaining smooth flow of the river through the measures described above). Based on the nature of these activities OP/BP 7.50 was not applicable to the Project.

CERC/Restructuring:

Some Project activities under the CERC may include the rehabilitation of small-scale irrigation systems. Given that these investments are limited solely to the rehabilitation and modernizing of existing schemes this OP is not applicable. Therefore, an exception to the notification requirement of this OP was granted. Furthermore, the CERC-ESMF explicitly forbids the use of surface water for any irrigation purposes.

Original Project:

The Policy was triggered due to the territorial dispute between Belize and Guatemala. Guatemala maintains a long-standing territorial claim over the territory of Belize. In compliance with the OP/BP 7.60, a memorandum was sent to the Executive Director representing Guatemala providing all relevant information regarding the project and requesting that Guatemala provide a no objection for the project in writing within a 30-day period. There was no further response from the Government of Guatemala. The Country Director

Projects on International Waterways (OP) (BP 7.50) No

Projects in Disputed Areas (OP) (BP 7.60) Yes



further arranged a meeting with the respective Executive Directors (ED) to discuss the issues.

CERC/Restructuring:

In line with OP/BP 7.60, the World Bank team will prepare another memorandum to update the RVP of the outcome of the follow-up discussions of the EDs before the Project Restructuring is completed.

II. KEY SAFEGUARD POLICY ISSUES AND THEIR MANAGEMENT

A. SUMMARY OF KEY SAFEGUARD ISSUES

1. Describe any safeguard issues and impacts associated with the Restructured project. Identify and describe any potential large scale, significant and/or irreversible impacts.

The Project remains classified as Category B. Activities that could be classified as Category A are not eligible for financing under the CERC as outlined in the CERC-ESMF and Restructuring Paper.

Potential Environmental and Social negative impacts are expected to be site-specific, short-term, and reversible and would be related to agricultural activities, including small agricultural equipment and material for rehabilitation of existing small-scale irrigation schemes, rainwater harvesting devices/containers, poultry and feeding systems and materials to improve livestock management.

The CERC-ESMF was prepared in line with the requirements of the World Bank's Safeguards Policies and provides guidance and procedures to effectively manage and mitigate all potential risks and impacts. The CERC-ESMF also presents an assessment of applicable national legislation and safeguards policies and procedures to address Environmental and Social concerns related to eligible activities included in the CERC Positive List, implementation arrangements, stakeholder engagement considerations and capacity-building activities. The Screening Process included in the CERC-ESMF will serve as guidance for the identification and assessment of risks and impacts to all site-specific subprojects to be financed. The CERC-ESMF also includes guidance on the preparation of the Environmental and Social Management Plans (ESMPs) that would need to be prepared following the Screening Process. Site-specific ESMPs will comply with applicable national legislation, the Bank's Safeguards policies and be required to include applicable good practices such as the World Bank Group (WBG) Environment, Health and Safety (EHS) Guidelines. ESMPs will also provide specific Environmental and Social considerations as needed. Some of these would include a Waste Management Plan, an Integrated Pest Management Plan; an Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) Plan; a COVID-19 Response Plan, and Chance Finds Procedures. The Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) included in the CERC-ESMF aims to ensure adequate and reiterative information, communication channels and a system to address complaints in a transparent, efficient, and confidential manner.

The CERC-ESMF also includes guidance on those activities that are strictly prohibited from being carried out such as (i) manufacture, trade and use of chemicals and hazardous materials subject to international bans, restrictions or phaseouts; (ii) procurement of pesticides; (iii) civil works for the construction of new wells or the use of water sourced from surface water (streams, rivers, lakes, wetlands, reservoirs, and creeks, etc.) for irrigation purposes; and (iv) no land use and land cover shall be transformed for any of the project activities. Additional ineligible and prohibited activities include those that could result in the involuntary taking of land, relocation of households, loss of assets or



access to assets that could lead to loss of income sources or other means of livelihoods, and/or interference with households' use of land and livelihoods.

2. Describe any potential indirect and/or long term impacts due to anticipated future activities in the project area.

There are no indirect or long-term Environmental or Social impacts expected as a consequence of future activities in the proposed project area.

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

Site-specific sub-projects will require to implement best practices according to the WBG's EHS Guidelines to reduce Environmental and Social impacts from Project activities. Said impacts would include agrochemicals runoff, manure and nitrogen leaching into groundwater, waste generation, nuisance related to dust generation, vibration and noise during rehabilitation works, health and safety hazards to farmers due to careless use of machinery or equipment, involuntary taking of land, relocation of households, loss of assets or access to assets that could lead to loss of income sources or other means of livelihoods, and interference with households' use of land and livelihoods. In addition, the CERC-ESMF provides an exclusion list which details those activities that are strictly prohibited from being financed and carried out by the Project.

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.

Under the original project objectives and pre-COVID Restructuring of CRIP, the Borrower prepared an Environmental Management Framework (EMF), a Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF), a Culturally Appropriate Planning Framework (IPPF) and a Resettlement Action Plan (RAP). These instruments provided a comprehensive set of guidelines for the preparation and monitoring of sub-project Environmental and Social Safeguards Plans. The Belize Social Investment Fund (BSIF), which is the Project Implementation Unit (PIU) for CRIP, was staffed with an Environmental and a Social Specialist, both with knowledge and experience in Environmental and Social Risk Management. Furthermore, BSIF had prior experience applying Bank Safeguards Policies— with satisfactory implementation and compliance— as a result of also having been the PMU for the now Closed Belize Municipal Development Project (P111928).

The PMU from the Parent Project will be responsible for the overall implementation of the CERC and will be the focal point for all aspects related to procurement, financial management, disbursement, monitoring & evaluation, and safeguards compliance. Other GOB Ministries that possess the technical expertise to implement specific activities as agreed in the EAP will be required to support the PMU with the implementation and monitoring of all activities funded by CERC. For the agriculture activities, the Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Immigration (MOFAI) technical officer in collaboration with the District Agriculture Coordinator (DAC) will ensure coordination of activities with the beneficiary farmers as well as suppliers based on the implementation timelines. Information regarding the project activities coordinated by the MoFAI will be provided to SIF in a timely manner. The SIF will be in charge of printing of the serialized vouchers, while the Chief Agriculture Officer (CAO) of the MoFAI will be responsible for the signing of these and the DACs will distribute the vouchers at their respective districts. The DAC are the ultimate responsible for the coordination at the district level.

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



The Borrower is currently preparing a Communications Strategy developed for the CERC to mitigate against the risk of miscommunication regarding the support to be provided by the Project. A specialized Communications Consultant will be a key asset to MHDSTPA, MOFAI (including the Department of Environment) and the Belize Social Investment Fund (BSIF) to help translate technical and operational designs into easy understandable public messaging regarding the Project including the Bank’s pertinent Environment and Social Safeguards Policies and Standards and Disclosure requirements as well as organizing and carrying out public Consultations with Project Beneficiaries and key stakeholders identified, while observing relevant government guidelines regarding COVID19 to include the use of PPE, Social Distancing measures, etc. To this end, communications will be put out via media (print, radio and television) and social media to reach the wider general public, parliamentarians, civil society and other interested parties. It is expected that through this strategy, the Project will be able to identify additional potential beneficiaries, stakeholders and other interested parties and by way of the public Consultations be able to understand their interests, concerns and influence in relation to Project activities, expectations as well as provide timely information about the Project, in ways that are appropriate to their interests and needs, to include expected risks and potential adverse impacts.

The key stakeholder agencies in Belize that will implement the CERC and its two programs (the Social Protection Program and Agricultural Support Program) include: the Project Implementation (BSIF), the Ministry of Human Development, Social Transformation, and Poverty Alleviation (MHDSTPA), the Ministry of Food, Agriculture & Immigration (MoFAI), the National Bank of Belize (NBB), and Digi (Belize Telemedia Limited).

Furthermore, a Project Steering Committee (PSC) is established under the auspices of BSIF and composed of representatives from key line ministries and is chaired by the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Ministry of Economic Development and Petroleum (MEDP). The members of the PSC, for the purpose of execution and implementation of the CERC Emergency Action Plan (EAP) are: (i) MEDP; (ii) Ministry of Finance (MOF); (iii) Ministry of Human Development, Social Transformation and Poverty Alleviation (MHDSTPA); (iv) MOFAI; and (v) BSIF. The main responsibilities of the PSC will be to ensure the delivery of the EAP's outputs, address coordination efforts, review EAP progress and assess all policy-related issues as needed.

B. DISCLOSURE REQUIREMENTS

Environmental Assessment/Audit/Management Plan/Other

Date of receipt by the Bank
10-Aug-2020

Date of submission for disclosure
14-Aug-2020

For Category ‘A’ projects, date of distributing the Executive Summary of the EA to the Executive Directors

“In country” Disclosure

Country
Belize

Date of Disclosure
14-Aug-2020

Comments



The CERC-ESMF was disclosed by the Borrower on August 14, 2020 and by the Bank on August 14, 2020.

Resettlement Action Plan/Framework Policy Process

Date of receipt by the Bank

08-Sep-2020

“In country” Disclosure

Date of submission for disclosure

13-Oct-2020

Country

Belize

Date of Disclosure

08-Oct-2020

Comments

The updated 2020 disclosure dates refer to the Resettlement Action Plan (RAP) prepared during Project Implementation. The 2014 dates in the Appraisal Stage ISDS referred to the Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF) that was disclosed during Project Preparation.

Indigenous Peoples Development Plan/Framework

Date of receipt by the Bank

14-Apr-2014

“In country” Disclosure

Date of submission for disclosure

15-Apr-2014

Country

Belize

Date of Disclosure

15-Apr-2014

Comments

Original Project:

OP 4.10 was triggered as a precaution would there have been IP communities present in or have collective attachment to any of the Project areas. For this reason, a Culturally Appropriate Planning Framework (Indigenous Peoples Planning Framework) was prepared and received by the Bank on 14-Apr-2014, submitted for Disclosure by the Bank on 15-Apr-2014 and Disclosed by the Borrower also on 15-Apr-2014. However, it was later confirmed through further screening, that no IP community members were living on the road reserve or in any part of the Project's Area of Influence nor did there exist collective attachment to any of the Project areas by IPs.

CERC/Restructuring:

Activities to be implemented under the CERC will not promote or create any type of impacts on IP communities or in areas where there are collective attachments, as per the ESMF prepared under the CERC. However, OP 4.10 will remain triggered, in case the Borrower in the future decides to implement the Detailed Engineering Designs financed and prepared under CRIP. Additionally, should the Borrower execute a project based on said detailed designs, the Bank recommends that GoB re-screen for the presence of IPs and should the screening determine that IP communities are



present in the project area at that time, that action plans be prepared following the CRIP’s Culturally Appropriate Planning Framework, by which the GoB should ensure that IP communities' free, prior and informed consultation leading to broad community support is achieved before any subproject implementation is carried out.

Pest Management Plan

Was the document disclosed prior to appraisal?

No

Date of receipt by the Bank

Date of submission for disclosure

“In country” Disclosure

C. COMPLIANCE MONITORING INDICATORS AT THE CORPORATE LEVEL

OP/BP/GP 4.01 - Environment Assessment

Does the project require a stand-alone EA (including EMP) report?	Yes
If yes, then did the Regional Environment Unit or Practice Manager (PM) review and approve the EA report?	Yes
Are the cost and the accountabilities for the EMP incorporated in the credit/loan?	Yes

OP/BP 4.04 - Natural Habitats

Would the project result in any significant conversion or degradation of critical natural habitats?	No
If the project would result in significant conversion or degradation of other (non-critical) natural habitats, does the project include mitigation measures acceptable to the Bank?	No

OP 4.09 - Pest Management

Does the EA adequately address the pest management issues?	Yes
Is a separate PMP required?	Yes
If yes, has the PMP been reviewed and approved by a safeguards specialist or PM? Are PMP requirements included in project design? If yes, does the project team include a Pest Management Specialist?	NA



OP/BP 4.11 - Physical Cultural Resources

Does the EA include adequate measures related to cultural property?	Yes
Does the credit/loan incorporate mechanisms to mitigate the potential adverse impacts on cultural property?	Yes

OP/BP 4.10 - Indigenous Peoples

Has a separate Indigenous Peoples Plan/Planning Framework (as appropriate) been prepared in consultation with affected Indigenous Peoples?	Yes
If yes, then did the Regional unit responsible for safeguards or Practice Manager review the plan?	Yes
If the whole project is designed to benefit IP, has the design been reviewed and approved by the Regional Social Development Unit or Practice Manager?	NA

OP/BP 4.12 - Involuntary Resettlement

Has a resettlement plan/abbreviated plan/policy framework/process framework (as appropriate) been prepared?	Yes
If yes, then did the Regional unit responsible for safeguards or Practice Manager review the plan?	NA

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?	No
Has an Emergency Preparedness Plan (EPP) been prepared and arrangements been made for public awareness and training?	No

OP 7.60 - Projects in Disputed Areas

Has the memo conveying all pertinent information on the international aspects of the project, including the procedures to be followed, and the recommendations for dealing with the issue, been prepared?	Yes
-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----



Does the PAD/MOP include the standard disclaimer referred to in the OP?	Yes
-------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----

The World Bank Policy on Disclosure of Information

Have relevant safeguard policies documents been sent to the World Bank for disclosure?	Yes
Have relevant documents been disclosed in-country in a public place in a form and language that are understandable and accessible to project-affected groups and local NGOs?	Yes

All Safeguard Policies

Have satisfactory calendar, budget and clear institutional responsibilities been prepared for the implementation of measures related to safeguard policies?	Yes
Have costs related to safeguard policy measures been included in the project cost?	Yes
Does the Monitoring and Evaluation system of the project include the monitoring of safeguard impacts and measures related to safeguard policies?	Yes
Have satisfactory implementation arrangements been agreed with the borrower and the same been adequately reflected in the project legal documents?	Yes

III. APPROVALS

Task Team Leader(s)	Frederico Ferreira Fonseca Pedroso Hadji Huseynov	
Approved By		
Safeguards Advisor	Marco Antonio Zambrano Chavez	24-Dec-2020
Practice Manager/Manager	David N. Sislen	24-Dec-2020

Note to Task Teams: End of system generated content