



Concept Environmental and Social Review Summary
Concept Stage
(ESRS Concept Stage)

Date Prepared/Updated: 12/10/2020 | Report No: ESRSC01746



BASIC INFORMATION

A. Basic Project Data

Country	Region	Project ID	Parent Project ID (if any)
India	SOUTH ASIA	P174593	
Project Name	Assam Integrated River Basin Management Program		
Practice Area (Lead)	Financing Instrument	Estimated Appraisal Date	Estimated Board Date
Water	Investment Project Financing	10/11/2021	1/20/2022
Borrower(s)	Implementing Agency(ies)		
	Flood and River Erosion Management Agency of Assam (FREMAA)		

Proposed Development Objective

To strengthen institutional capacity for integrated water resources planning and management, and to enhance preparedness for flood and erosion risks in Assam

Financing (in USD Million)	Amount
Total Project Cost	125.00

B. Is the project being prepared in a Situation of Urgent Need of Assistance or Capacity Constraints, as per Bank IPF Policy, para. 12?

No

C. Summary Description of Proposed Project [including overview of Country, Sectoral & Institutional Contexts and Relationship to CPF]

The proposed project would support the State of Assam to improve integrated basin planning, including addressing the key threats of flooding and erosion and making most productive use of the rich water resources. This will help achieve the higher-level objective of achieving water security to build the State’s climate resilience and launch it on a sustainable growth path, which will serve as a platform for broader transformation in the region.

The project would represent a first, critical step to addressing these issues through the program. It would build a sound, scientific knowledge base for informed decisions on integrated water resources planning and management;



strengthen the Assam WRD and ASDMA and help them build better linkages with related agencies / other line departments for coordinated planning, management and development; and begin to roll out improved systems for flood and erosion management. The project would demonstrate best practice by bringing in innovative and integrated responses to live intelligently with nature.

The proposed project seeks to achieve the following key results towards achieving the PDO: (i) Modernized institutions for water resources planning and management and disaster risk reduction in Assam (index); (ii) Targeted basin/sub-basin investment plans completed with analytical and stakeholder input (number); and (iii) Area under enhanced flood and erosion management systems (hectares).

The proposed project would include five components: (i) Institutional Strengthening, aiming to modernize and strengthen the capacity of WRD and ASDMA, in addition to other related agencies such as the Assam Water Research and Management Institute (AWRMI); (ii) Integrated River Basin Planning and Management, aiming to develop an integrated planning framework for multi-sectoral investment planning and effective management of the Brahmaputra and Barak Basins that involves all relevant stakeholders; (iii) Flood and Erosion Risk Management, aiming to strengthen disaster risk management in Assam, particularly for the two major water-related risks of floods and riverbank erosion, that are already serious and could be exacerbated under a changing climate; (iv) Project Management, aiming to ensure effective implementation of project activities and monitoring and evaluation (M&E) of project implementation progress, outputs and outcomes; and (v) Contingent Emergency Response Component (CERC), which will allow for rapid reallocation of loan uncommitted funds in the event of an eligible emergency as defined in OP 8.00.

D. Environmental and Social Overview

D.1. Detailed project location(s) and salient physical characteristics relevant to the E&S assessment [geographic, environmental, social]

Component 2 and 3 will finance a small number of demonstrative investments. The activities with potential implications on environment and people are expected to take place in a selected number tributaries of the Brahmaputra Basin. Activities under Component 3, Flood and Erosion Risk Management, include renovation of existing embankments, including their retirements, to maintain their intended design functions; provision of riverbank protection; and associated drainage structures, such as sluice gates along the embankments, to improve local drainage. The specific sub-basins to be targeted are expected to be confirmed during project preparation.

The Brahmaputra basin has homogenous physiography with active floodplain tracts along the banks consisting of young alluvial soil, and acute vulnerability to flood and erosion. The physiographic features of the basin is divided into: (i) foothill zone, (ii) middle plain of north bank, (iii) active flood plain, (iv) middle plain of south bank, (v) sub-mountain zone, and (vi) hills. The hydrological characteristics of the basin are shaped by intense monsoon rainfall regime of the eastern Himalayas, the freeze - thaw cycle of Himalayan snow, and the dynamic fluvial processes of the river and its tributaries, physical terrain and tectonic framework of the region. The 720 km long, and 80-90 km wide Brahmaputra valley is a tectono-sedimentary basin, underlain by recent alluvium approximately 200-300 m thick consisting of clay, sand and pebble. The high seismically unstable nature of the basin is due to its location amongst the colliding Eurasia (Chinese), Indian and Burmese tectonic plate boundaries. The valley also has frequent earthquakes, caused extensive landslips and rockfalls on the hill slopes, subsidence and fissuring of ground in the valley, and



changes in the course and configuration of mainstream and several tributaries. The basin is characterized by rich biodiversity, wetlands and minerals.

As per the 2011 census, the total population of Assam was 31,169,272. The literacy rate in the state was 73.18%. The male literacy rate was 78.81% and the female literacy rate was 67.27%. The Scheduled Tribe population in Assam is 12.45%. Agriculture is the main occupation of the people in Assam as it accounts for 63 per cent of the state's workforce. In order to protect the interests of the tribal population, provision of Sixth Schedule is enshrined in the Indian Constitution to enable autonomous administration of the tribal areas of Assam.

The operation will see a new integrated approach to planning and the search for long-term sustainable solutions will result in a number of softer or 'greener' nature-based infrastructure interventions that help communities to 'live with the river' as opposed to trying (ineffectively) to control it. Where necessary, hard infrastructure options could include river training works, bank stabilization and river channelization, and other structures.

D. 2. Borrower's Institutional Capacity

The nodal agency for the proposed project will be Flood and River Erosion Management Agency of Assam (FREMAA). This agency has significant experience in management of E&S risks as it until recently was executing a project with similar activities with the funding from Asian Development Bank (ADB). The agency already has E & S safeguard specialists at PMU level, that coordinates with field level Project Implementation Units (PIUs) at different locations in the state in preparation of impact assessments and management plans.

A Project Management Unit (PMU) will be constituted within the FREMAA, and build on the capacity built under ADB. It will comprise a dedicated team of experts / officers in project management, technical, financial management, procurement, environment, social, communications and monitoring and evaluation specialists. It will be responsible for managing and coordinating the project activities with the IAs. The PMU will be supported by a full-time Project and Technical Management Consultancy (P&TMC). The existing E&S staff shall continue under this project as well. These specialists and supporting staff and consultants will be trained on the Bank ESF requirements.

Project activities will be implemented through field level PIUs of FREMAA, and various related agencies will be involved in project implementation, including the Assam State Disaster Management Authority (ASDMA), the Forest Department and others. The PIUs will be supported by dedicated nodal staff and other technical staff as needed, and will work in close coordination with the PMUs in FREMAA and WRD. A borrower capacity assessment of all the implementing agencies will be carried out prior to appraisal as part of the preparation of the ESIA for the first phase of the program. The findings of this assessment will inform the required E & S staffing and further institutional strengthening for carrying efficient E&S due diligence for activities in all the three phases of the program. The capacity building plan will be included in the Environmental and Social Commitment Plan (ESCP).

II. SCREENING OF POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL (ES) RISKS AND IMPACTS

A. Environmental and Social Risk Classification (ESRC)

Substantial



Environmental Risk Rating

Substantial

Assam is one of the States hardest hit by erosion and flood hazards. The proposed project will have significant positive impact by addressing the key threats of flooding and erosion through building institutional capacity and integrated basin planning. While Components 1, 4 and 5 of the proposed project may have limited or no environmental risks, Component 2 and 3 involves demonstration civil works focusing on nature-based solutions that will include the following activities to protect river side erosion and flooding: (i) river bank shaping and stabilization using various techniques; (ii) earth work, levee raising and broadening; (iii) stabilization of levee tops supporting heavier equipment travel, (iv) and sluice gate repair or replacement. The environmental risks and impacts associated with the construction and implementation of these activities could include, amongst others: (i) loss of vegetation cover; (ii) air, soil, and water pollution; (iii) community and worker health and safety; (iv) impacts from disposal of a large amount of excavated materials on ecosystems; (v) changes in river hydrology and aquatic ecosystems. It is believed that these potential risks can be effectively prevented, mitigated, or minimized on-site in a predictable manner through nature-based solutions, best practices and good engineering design. Considering that the impacts associated with construction such as air, water and water pollution can be largely reversible, localized and temporary, and the capacity of the implementing agency, the environmental risk of the Phase 1 Program is considered as "substantial". Phase 1 Program will build the knowledge base required for integrated basin planning and strengthen institutional capacity to apply tools and analytical approaches for addressing environmental and social impacts of investments in Phases 2 and 3, greatly contributing to managing environmental and social risks and impacts. Moreover, Phases 2 and 3 will have investments that will follow an integrated approach to river basin planning and climate resilience, which will emphasize 'green' or nature-based infrastructure solutions alongside hard, grey infrastructure. As dredging is not a sustainable solution for flood and erosion management, it will not be considered as priority intervention and if, financed at all, would take place on only very limited stretches.

Social Risk Rating

Substantial

Social Risk is categorized as Substantial as per reasons elaborated below.

While Components 1 and 4 and 5 of the proposed project may have limited or no social risks, Component 2 and 3 will finance a small number of demonstration investments and other works such as rehabilitating or constructing flood shelters. Currently while locations are not known, some of the project investments could be in scheduled/tribal areas as well. Phase 1 of the MPA will involve certain construction activities.

At this stage, impacts could include: i) those on land, private and community owned assets including structures, trees and crops within existing land and on land identified for taking; ii) on fishermen communities, boat operators, living and operating close to the river;

Additionally, indigenous/tribal groups may be present in certain project locations Also migrant labour resulting in labor influx into the project from adjacent and other districts of the State, and resultant Gender Based Violence (GBV) issues are likely. Disadvantaged and Vulnerable groups are likely to be those Below Poverty Line (BPL), Elderly - above sixty years of age and physically challenged persons; those who belong to scheduled castes (SC), female-headed households (FHH), widows and those living in low-lying/flood/erosion prone areas. Further social risks could be inadequate coordination between concerned agencies on land and lack of dedicated personnel in dealing with social aspects at field PIU level.

Management of these risks will be undertaken through the principle of 'mitigation hierarchy'. Though FREMAA has substantial experience and capacity in addressing such impacts, new and different locations, types of interventions, and contexts across the state could still pose a challenge.



Substantial risk rating will be reviewed during preparation and will be confirmed and revised by Project appraisal

B. Environment and Social Standards (ESSs) that Apply to the Activities Being Considered

B.1. General Assessment

ESS1 Assessment and Management of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts

Overview of the relevance of the Standard for the Project:

The State of Assam is strategically important as the largest and most populous State in the Northeast and holds tremendous potential for development through improved water resources management. However, Assam is one of the States hardest hit by erosion and flood hazards. An estimated 49% of Assam's landmass is prone to floods, making it the fourth most flood-prone state in India. The water challenge in Assam is expected to exacerbate by climate change. Climate modeling studies project an increase in the frequency of extreme flooding events for the period 2020-2059 due to higher monsoon precipitation over the Indus-Ganga-Brahmaputra river basins, and accelerated glacial melting in the Himalayas and the Tibetan Plateau due to warmer temperatures.

This ten-year three-phase program is proposed to focus on strengthening institutions, filling critical knowledge gaps, and implementing integrated solutions to tackle the current challenges of floods and erosion, amongst others, and to seize opportunities for climate resilient growth and improved livelihoods. Phase 1 of the program would focus on getting the institutions right and strengthening the knowledge base and skills required for integrated water resources planning and management and to build resilience to flood and erosion risks in Assam, in addition to implementing selected demonstrative investments. Demonstrative investments will have civil works that will include the following activities to protect river side erosion and flooding: (i) river bank shaping and stabilization using various techniques; (ii) earth work, levee raising and broadening; (iii) stabilization of levee tops supporting heavier equipment travel, (iv) and sluice gate repair or replacement. The environmental risks and impacts associated with the construction and implementation of these activities could include, amongst others: (i) loss of vegetation cover; (ii) air, soil, and water pollution; (iii) community and worker health and safety; (iv) impacts from disposal of a large amount of excavated materials on ecosystems; and (v) changes in river hydrology and aquatic ecosystems. There is no associated facility as part of phase I program. As Phase I will mainly focus on capacity building and preparation of plans for integrated river basin management, it is not expected to have significant cumulative impacts. However, the need for cumulative impact assessment for Phase 1 will be determined during project preparation.

At this stage, social impacts anticipated are as follows: i) minor impacts on land and assets, such as structures, trees and crops that are owned privately or communities or by govt; (ii) temporary impacts to livelihoods of communities engaged in fishing or operating boats; (iii) project activities in tribal or Schedule VI areas, i.e., areas with special provisions to protect interests of tribal populations;; (iv) labor issues particularly involving community workers, etc.; (vi) exclusion of certain disadvantaged and vulnerable groups in project activities e.g. planning for flood shelters, etc.; and (vii) migration of unskilled and semi-skilled migrant labor into the project area from other districts of the State, and resultant Gender Based Violence (GBV) issues. Based on the risk assessment tool, the GBV risk score is 14.0 on a scale of 0 to 25, and is categorized as Moderate risk.



During project preparation, an Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) will be prepared to guide the preparation of impact assessments and mitigation plans for sub-projects – both identified and to be identified. Environmental and Social Impact Assessments (ESIAs) will be conducted for sub-projects identified by appraisal. Cumulative impacts will be considered as part of Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment to be undertaken as part the river basin planning process. The project’s Environmental and Social Commitment Plan (ESCP) will include: preparation of follow-on mitigation plans – Environmental and Social Management Plans (ESMPs) that would include resettlement action plans, tribal development plans (if required), GBV mitigation plans, labor and labor influx management plans, and other plans as necessary to mitigate identified impacts, and will also list commensurate capacity building measures and training. Also to meet the requirements of the Directive on disadvantaged and vulnerable, project will ensure that i) all surveys and consultations will attempt to collect specific information on these groups including on third gender (LGBT); and ii) DPRs for specific sub-project investments aim to explore, identify and include specific provisions or measures aimed at such disadvantaged and vulnerable groups.

Areas where “Use of Borrower Framework” is being considered:

This project will adopt the Bank’s new Environmental and Social Framework and its Environmental and Social Standards, rather than the borrower’s E&S framework. The required steps will be detailed out in ESCP. The Project, however, is subject to the national, state and local permits and clearances as per the existing legal-institutional framework. These permits and clearances will be obtained prior to approval, and the exact requirements to obtain such permits and clearances will be recorded in the ESCP.

ESS10 Stakeholder Engagement and Information Disclosure

The ESS is relevant. Preliminary identification of stakeholders was undertaken based on interactions with project officials and review of RAPs prepared for previous funded project. Stakeholders categorized into three categories are as given below:

- a) Project affected persons: It will include Titleholders, Non-titleholders, squatters, encroachers, informal settlers, tenants, wage earning employees, share-croppers, owners of small firms/establishments, fishermen and boat operators etc.
- b) Other interested groups: Local communities, Goan bura (local village headman), Women’s SHG groups, Small and medium business enterprises, community volunteers/social workers. Institutional and government related Block Development Officer, Sub-Divisional officer, Circle Officer, ESIA consultants, Civil work Contractors, PIU officials, Consultants engaged in other studies undertaken under this project. Besides, other stakeholders contributing to various project components would be science and research institutes working in these areas, such as Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs), the National Institute of Technology in Assam, the Assam University in Guwahati, and the North Eastern Space Application Centre (NESAC). Also departments such as Soil Conservation, Environment and Forest, Agriculture, Panchayati Raj and Rural Development and the Brahmaputra (River) Board will be relevant stakeholders
- c) Disadvantaged and Vulnerable groups are likely to be those Below Poverty Line (BPL), those who belong to tribal groups or scheduled tribes (ST); those who belong to scheduled castes (SC), female-headed households (FHH), widows, Elderly – above sixty years and physically challenged persons. Other than these categories, there could be others who are very vulnerable to flooding and erosion at certain locations and might need special considerations.

As part of project preparation,

- i. a Stakeholder Engagement Plan will be developed that will: summarize consultations undertaken during preparation; describe modes and frequency of engagement with various stakeholders at each stage of the project



along-with likely topic; lay out the modes and timelines for disclosure of and feedback on, various project documents; describe grievance redressal mechanism of the project and finally indicate the periodic reporting on implementation of SEP, back to afore-mentioned stakeholders.

ii. TORs for ESIA and other studies if any will include stakeholder identification and categorization as per above and also mandate specific consultations/FGDs particularly with disadvantaged and vulnerable groups.

B.2. Specific Risks and Impacts

A brief description of the potential environmental and social risks and impacts relevant to the Project.

ESS2 Labor and Working Conditions

The ESS is relevant. Project will involve:

- a) Direct workers (officials of FREEMA, WRD, ASDMA);
- b) contracted workers engaged in construction works including migrant skilled workers, consultancy services firms (for preparing DPRs, E&S instruments, including RAPs & TDPs where required, besides other studies);
- c) community volunteers in activities relating to climate resilient villages including multipurpose flood shelters, community task forces, and community flood disaster education and preparedness planning. Primary supply workers are highly unlikely to be involved but this category of workers will be ascertained during project preparation.

Preparation of the ESA will assess the following aspects towards preparation of Labor Management Procedure: applicability of labour laws and, non-discrimination and equal opportunity, potential risks of child labor and forced labor, including the workers to be brought to the project by brokers (sub-contractors); potential SEA/SH issues; grievance mechanism to all workers, occupation health and safety aspects, etc. It also cover aspects relating to COVID-19 in accordance with WB's interim note on: COVID-19 CONSIDERATIONS IN CONSTRUCTION/CIVIL WORKS PROJECTS.

ESS3 Resource Efficiency and Pollution Prevention and Management

ESS3 is relevant. Activities related with demonstration investments to control flooding and erosion could have implications on energy efficiencies, pollution management, as well as material use such as cement, geotextiles, stone and sand. Phase 1 will prioritize 'green' or nature-based infrastructure solutions. As phase 1 will invest on pilot activities, it is envisaged that the impact on materials will be insignificant. However, the ESIA will provide an estimate of the amount of materials to be used and mitigation measures for sustainable sourcing. The materials will be sampled and tested and further classified either as a hazardous waste, non-hazardous waste, or useful construction materials (e.g sand and gravel). Program implementation will adhere to sector specific laws on hazardous and non-hazardous waste management enacted by GoI, GoA and relevant agencies, and institutional capacity will be strengthened for monitoring and enforcement of the relevant legislation and procedures. Based on WBG EHS guidelines, national legislation and best practices, the Borrowers will develop and implement relevant waste management plans and energy optimization plans. Impacts related to resource use efficiency and pollution will be further assessed in ESIA's, and appropriate ESMPs will be prepared.

ESS4 Community Health and Safety



ESS 4 is relevant. The demonstration investments may cause labor influx and construction of labor camps which may have implication on health and safety of the communities living around the camps. Impacts associated with traffic and road safety might need to be addressed during construction phase. Though SEA/SH risk rating provides a score of 14.0 and is Moderate, certain actions and measures will be required under the SEA/SH risk mitigation plan to address this risk. Given the scope of the investment, the identification, assessment and evaluation of general and site-specific risks and impacts to general health and safety to communities, disease transmission pathways like air, water, vector borne, road safety, hazardous material management will be prepared. The CERC component of program allows for designing and implementing emergency preparedness and response plans for local communities in case of natural hazards, and include conducting trainings for the community members and implementation agencies.

ESS5 Land Acquisition, Restrictions on Land Use and Involuntary Resettlement

ESS is relevant. Adverse social impacts could include:

(i) minor impacts on land and assets, such as structures, trees and crops that are owned privately or by community or by government; (ii) temporary impacts to livelihoods of communities engaged in fishing or operating boats; (iii) partial impacts to community or common assets – toilets, grazing land) temporary disruptions to water supply for irrigation due to repair of sluice gates

Types of impacted persons/entities could include Titleholders, Non-titleholders, squatters, encroachers, informal settlers, tenants, wage earning employees, fishermen, boat operators.

The Project will acquire private land using LA Act 2013 or in certain locations on donation basis. Even in cases where the project might acquire land using Assam Land Acquisition and Requisition Act 1964 with a view to expedite acquisition processes (as done in the earlier ADB funded project), it will provide all compensation and R&R benefits as per LA Act 2013. Hence as part of project preparation, an assessment will be undertaken of this approach in terms of its consistency or gaps with requirements of ESS5 including treatment of non-titleholders, i.e. encroachers, squatters or informal settlers. Besides revenue and disaster management division in the state has provisions for compensation and support measures to people affected by floods; and hence these too shall be reviewed.

To mitigate these impacts, the borrower would prepare a Resettlement Policy Framework that is based on country's and state legal framework and as per provisions of ESS 5. RPF would form the basis for preparation of site or sub-project specific Resettlement Action Plans (RAPs) based on ESIA's for investments wherein which locations are known by appraisal. The RPF will guide preparation of RAPs for subsequent investments. These documents will be prepared, consulted upon and disclosed prior to appraisal in-country and at Bank portal. ESCP shall spell these out along with responsibilities and timelines.

ESS6 Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Management of Living Natural Resources

ESS6 is relevant. The Brahmaputra valley provides important habitat for a variety of species, including several species of global significance, including sensitive natural habitats such as riverbanks, chars and river islands, wetlands and waterways. The catchment areas and floodplains of the Brahmaputra have been populated and heavily cultivated for centuries, but blocks of terrestrial natural habitats remain, including several protected areas. The demonstration investments Phase 1 will be carried out in selected tributaries with limited footprints and focused on nature-based



solutions as opposed to hard core engineering. The ESIA for these demonstration investments in the selected sub-basin(s) will screen all proposed investment locations for biodiversity and the ESMF will lay out necessary criteria for detailed assessments of terrestrial and aquatic habitats and preparation of management planning to be completed during project implementation. Any investments which may significantly alter or degrade biodiversity will be excluded from Phase 1.

ESS7 Indigenous Peoples/Sub-Saharan African Historically Underserved Traditional Local Communities

The ESS is relevant. The state has sixth Schedule Areas. In order to protect the interests of the tribal population, provision of Sixth Schedule is enshrined in the Constitution to enable autonomous administration of the tribal areas of Assam. Six tribal districts of Assam: Karbi Anglong, Dima Hasao, Kokrajhar, Chirang, Baksa & Udalguri have been declared as the Scheduled Area. 3.88 millions of members of the Scheduled Tribes account for 12.45% of the total population as per census 2011. Tribals are living throughout the state; but in certain districts such as Dima Hasao, Karbi Anglong, Dhemaji, Baksa, Chirang, Udalguri, Kokrajhar, Lakhimpur & Goalpara tribal predominance is significantly high. Major tribes of Assam are: Bodo, Mishing, Karbi, Rabha, Sonowal Kachari, Lalung, Garo, and Dimasa tribes. They constitute 90% ST population of the state. The spatial distribution of tribal population in Assam could be broadly classified under two groups: Hill tribes and Plain tribes. Six tribal districts of Assam: Karbi Anglong, Dima Hasao, Kokrajhar, Chirang, Baksa & Udalguri have been declared as the Scheduled Areas.

As Tribals may be present in the project locations or may experience adverse impacts, a TDF will be prepared that will include screening for presence of Indigenous people. Commensurate instruments, such as Tribal Development Plans (TDPs), will be developed for sub-projects identified before appraisal. In case of sub-projects identified post appraisal, the ESCP shall list the requirement of preparation of sub-project specific TDPs, where required. FPIC will be undertaken for sub-projects involving impacts on land, livelihood, cultural heritage and in cases requiring relocation. In case FPIC cannot be ascertained, the project will not proceed with those activities. The same shall be stated in the ESCP. The IPPF and IPDP will be prepared, consulted upon and disclosed prior to appraisal in-country and on Bank's portal.

ESS8 Cultural Heritage

ESS8 is relevant. The Brahmaputra valley is rich in cultural resources. Since program investments could involve earth work, excavation and related physical works for protecting flooding and erosion, it may pose negative impacts on cultural heritages. For the selected sub-basins, detailed screening for any known cultural heritage will be conducted. The detailed ESIA and ESMP for identified investments will also include a cultural heritage management plan based on the screening outcomes and scope of proposed investments. In addition, all civil works contracts will include chance find procedures. The program implementing agencies will ensure suitable orientation/ sensitization to the contractors working close to sites with high probability of chance findings on procedures for reporting/ notifying authorities, fencing off the sites and hiring cultural heritage experts where potential risks and impacts on cultural heritage is significant.

ESS9 Financial Intermediaries



ESS9 is not relevant as the program does not involve financial intermediaries.

B.3 Other Relevant Project Risks

none

C. Legal Operational Policies that Apply

OP 7.50 Projects on International Waterways Yes

OP 7.60 Projects in Disputed Areas No

III. WORLD BANK ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL DUE DILIGENCE

A. Is a common approach being considered? No

Financing Partners

No financing partners are identified at this stage

B. Proposed Measures, Actions and Timing (Borrower’s commitments)

Actions to be completed prior to Bank Board Approval:

The following actions are expected to be completed

- i) Preparation ESIA, ESMF, ESMP, RAP, GBV Plan, LMP, SEP, and ESCP and their approval and disclosure -- in-country and at bank's portal; and
- ii) setting up of project GRM including notification of GRC.

Possible issues to be addressed in the Borrower Environmental and Social Commitment Plan (ESCP):

- ii) Augmentation of E&S unit as part of the PMU at FREEMA;
- ii) Processes and timelines for obtaining of requisite various environmental clearances at local, state and national levels for all sub-project activities, and specific timelines for obtaining clearances for civil works, not obtained by appraisal;
- iii) Preparation of ESIA and ESMP as per new ESF including RAPs, IPDPs/Tribal Development Plans (if required), GBV plans and LMPs for all sub-projects;
- iv) Implementation of SEPs, LMPs, etc. for all the sub-project
- v) Establishment of GRM (Project GRM and Labor GRM)
- vi) Cumulative impacts assessed as part of the river basin planning.

Public Disclosure



C. Timing

Tentative target date for preparing the Appraisal Stage ESRS

31-Mar-2021

IV. CONTACT POINTS

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Borrower/Client/Recipient

Implementing Agency(ies)

Implementing Agency: Flood and River Erosion Management Agency of Assam (FREMAA)

V. FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

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VI. APPROVAL

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Practice Manager (ENR/Social)	Christophe Crepin Recommended on 08-Dec-2020 at 10:09:58 GMT-05:00
Safeguards Advisor ESSA	Charles Ankisiba (SAESSA) Cleared on 10-Dec-2020 at 11:39:28 GMT-05:00

Public Disclosure