# Social and Environmental Screening Template (2021 SESP Template, Version 1)

*The completed template, which constitutes the Social and Environmental Screening Report, must be included as an annex to the Project Document at the design stage. Note: this template will be converted into an online tool. The online version will guide users through the process and will embed relevant guidance.*

**Project Information**

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| ***Project Information*** |  |
| 1. Project Title | Sustainable Management of Land and Semi-arid Ecosystems of Northern Togo |
| 1. Project Number (i.e. Atlas project ID, PIMS+) | PIMS 6425 |
| 1. Location (Global/Region/Country) | Togo |
| 1. Project stage (Design or Implementation) | Design |
| 1. Date | 9 September 2021 |

**Part A. Integrating Programming Principles to Strengthen Social and Environmental Sustainability**

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| **QUESTION 1: How Does the Project Integrate the Programming Principles in Order to Strengthen Social and Environmental Sustainability?** |
| ***Briefly describe in the space below how the project mainstreams the human rights-based approach*** |
| This project will address the three main dimensions of the interrelationship between human rights and environmental protection: i) the environment as a pre-requisite for the enjoyment of human rights, including the rights to life, health, food, water and sanitation; ii) access to information, participation in decision-making, and access to justice in environmental matters, as essential to good environmental decision-making; and iii) the right to a safe, healthy and ecologically-balanced environment as a human right in itself. The project mainstreams the human rights-based approach through interventions that address poverty, social equity and equality. It works to uphold human rights and improve the living conditions and general well-being of people living within the areas targeted by the project, as well as contributing to improved ecosystem services and food security. It includes interventions designed to empower communities to use and manage natural resources in ways that improve their livelihoods without compromising the ecological integrity of the environment. The project also includes elements that will ensure that relevant stakeholders within the project are adequately capacitated to perform their roles. |
| ***Briefly describe in the space below how the project is likely to improve gender equality and women’s empowerment*** |
| The project includes specific measures to address gender empowerment and equality, whilst respecting the norms, values and customs of its stakeholders. Specifically, A Gender Expert with local knowledge conducted a Gender Analysis outlining and explaining gender inequalities, and the complex legal, cultural, and constraints on women’s participation, and drew up a Gender Action Plan to help overcome these. The findings were fully integrated into the detailed project design from the start. Gender-responsive consultations were organized with local communities which allowed them to raise concerns and/or to request additional information. The Project accommodated their expressed interest and concerns in the final project design.Targets were established during project design to ensure inclusion and participation of women and girls both in site-based project activities (such as the development of alternative income generating activities, activities aimed at capacity enhancement), as well as ensuring that opportunities are created for women to actively participate in decision-making processes and take up leadership roles. The Project Team will receive training in Gender Equality and Women’s’ Empowerment. |
| ***Briefly describe in the space below how the project mainstreams sustainability and resilience*** |
| The project mainstreams environmental sustainability by making investments that will collectively contribute to restoration of degraded landscapes, protection of biodiversity and sustainable local income generation, which is of key importance since poverty is a main driver of land degradation. The intended project objectives will be achieved through four interrelated components aimed at: i) strengthening of national capacities by addressing gaps and issues hampering an effective enabling environment for sustainable land management and biodiversity conservation in Togo; ii) site-level demonstration of sustainable land and forest management practices in targeted landscapes; iii) support to environmentally sustainable livelihood options, including by improving value chains of agricultural/agroforestry commodities; iv) facilitating processes aimed at knowledge management and communication to enable replication and upscaling of good practices, including mainstreaming of opportunities to promote gender equality. |
| ***Briefly describe in the space below how the project strengthens accountability to stakeholders*** |
| The project put a strong focus on community engagement throughout project design and this will continue throughout implementation. Engagement with project stakeholders, including ethnic groups at project sites, commenced during the project development phase. In addition to the consultations conducted with Lome-based stakeholders, meaningful, effective and informed consultations, following FPIC approach, were also conducted in the project landscape. These activities were led by an Environmental and Social Safeguards Expert and by a Stakeholder Engagement professional who also has good understanding of local contexts and profound knowledge of consultation with local communities, to both gather views and concerns of stakeholders and facilitate their full contribution to project design. The consultations carried out by the Project enabledactive local community engagement and participation in decision-making, The Project will implement a comprehensive Stakeholder Engagement process by ensuring timely, accessible and functional information regarding supported activities, including on potential environmental and social risks and impacts and management measures. A grievance redress mechanism will also ensure that stakeholders can communicate their concerns or complaints. |

**Part B. Identifying and Managing Social and Environmental Risks**

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| **QUESTION 2: What are the Potential Social and Environmental Risks?**  *Note: Complete SESP Attachment 1 before responding to Question 2.* | **QUESTION 3: What is the level of significance of the potential social and environmental risks?**  *Note: Respond to Questions 4 and 5below before proceeding to Question 5* | | | | | **QUESTION 6: Describe the assessment and management measures for each risk rated Moderate, Substantial or High** | | | | |
| ***Risk Description***  ***(broken down by event, cause, impact)*** | ***Impact and Likelihood (1-5)*** | ***Significance***  ***(Low, Moderate Substantial, High)*** | ***Comments (optional)*** | | ***Description of assessment and management measures for risks rated as Moderate, Substantial or High*** | | | | |
| **Risk 01 –** **Reduced access to land and natural resources outside protected areas.**  The project aims to restore degraded lands. To that end, the project will select, with community participation, some sites to be reserved for natural regeneration and land conservation/restoration over certain period. During that time, access to those lands will be restricted and subject to rules.  While the longer-term impacts of such restoration are intended as beneficial to a larger part of the population through improved ecosystem services, there is a risk that some individuals may experience at various levels reduced access to resources.  **Principle 1: Leave No One Behind**  **Principle 2: Human Rights (P.4, P.6)**  **Principle 4: Accountability (P.13)**  **Standard 5: Displacement and Resettlement (5.2, 5.4)** | I = 3  L = 3 | **Moderate** | Access to the lands that will be designated for reservation under the Project (Outcome 2) will be restricted and subject to rules established in a participatory manner with the communities.  In general, those sites will either be recommended by the communities during the consultations themselves or were already being subject to similar ban/reservation.  Therefore, even though the negative social impacts of these ban/reservations may remain, they will be limited because any decisions will be in alignment with community decisions. | | An **Environmental & Social Management Framework (ESMF)** has been developed during the PPG phase to guide risk management steps required during project implementation. Communities were also consulted during the PPG phase using a **Free Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC)** approach.  During the implementation phase, the Project will undertake a **Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA)** for upstream activities (policies and plans supported under Outcome 1).  Further screening will be completed for activities definition and site selection.  Considering the project’s geographical structure, the Project will also carry out a scoped **Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA)** for downstream activities (Outcomes 2 and 3) in each of the four project landscapes:   1. The complex of protected areas of the dry savannas of northern Togo. 2. The degraded land zone of the extreme north-west of Togo. 3. The high summits of the eastern Kara region. 4. Fazao-Malfakassa National Park and adjacent landscapes.   Along with each **scoped** **ESIAs,** an **Environmental & Social Impact Management Plan (ESMP)** will be prepared. The ESIAs and ESMPs will be completed during the first year of project implementation to further refine risk identification, mitigation and management strategies, as well as to establish a system for monitoring risks.  The ESMPs will include a **Livelihoods Action Plans** to address the impact of economic displacements.  All consultation during implementation phase will adopt a Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) process when engaging with communities.  Detailed stakeholder analyses have taken place during project design, and a comprehensive **Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP)** has been developed and will be implemented during the full project, aimed at actively involving all relevant groups through targeted communication and outreach efforts with the aim to increase awareness about the intended project outcomes and benefits, and to mobilize buy-in and support for project implementation. The SEP includes a **Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM)** that will be activated in case any concerns are raised by partners or beneficiaries about human rights infringements, adverse socio-economic or environmental impacts directly or indirectly attributed to project implementation. All concerns will be assessed, documented, and followed up with appropriate responses in order to address the issue.  The Project will make sure that all land reservation or bans will be designed and implemented by strictly adhering to **Free Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC)** principles when consulting with the community being impacted. | | | | |
| **Risk 02 – Presence of various ethnic groups in the project landscape**  There is a presence of groups with different ethnic backgrounds in the project area (including project area of influence) who have strong links with the surrounding territories and natural resources.  The Project’s SLM and SFM practices to be implemented in targeted landscapes, as well as the land restoration practices to be implemented in targeted degraded forest areas, will impact (positively or negatively) the human rights, lands, natural resources, territories, and traditional livelihoods of these ethnic groups.While the project has an explicit focus on strengthening the human rights, participation, and self-determined development of local and forest dependent communities, there is the risk that the Project could face grievances or concerns about project activities affecting the rights of Ethnic Groups.  There is also a risk that project activities can conflict with the development priorities of those Ethnic Groups, as defined by them.  **Principle 1: Leave No One Behind**  **Principle 2: Human Rights (P.5)**  **Principle 5: Accountability (P.13, P.14)**  **Standard 6: Indigenous People (6.1, 6.2, 6.3, 6.4, 6.5)** | I = 4  L = 3 | **Substantial** | There are between 20-40 ethnic groups in Togo (depending on differing classifications of ethnicity). In the north of the country, the Kabyé people form the largest group (22% of the local population; 14% of national population), which has also dominated national politics. Northern Togo is more ethnically diverse than the south of the country. Other important ethnic groups in the north of Togo include the Éwé, Moba, Kotokoli, Bassari, Hausa and Konkomba. | | Communities were consulted during the PPG phase using a **Free Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC)** approach. Such meaningful engagement will continue during the implementation phase. The engagement process will take into consideration the rights of Ethnic Groups and the disadvantages faced by them, linked to vulnerabilities, such as limited access to education, low literacy levels, negative stereo-typing and inadequate understanding of national or site-specific policy and programming processes. Where necessary, civil society organizations representing and deemed acceptable by Ethnic Groups will also be engaged to provide additional support.  During the PPG phase, the Project has developed an **Ethnic Groups Planning Framework (EGPF)**, in addition to the ESMF. During implementation phase, the Project will develop an **Ethnic Groups Plan,** and all the consultations with be carried following **FPIC principles.**  Applicable rights and claims to natural resources will be respected while working closely together with targeted communities to implement SLM/SFM practices and strengthen livelihoods.  The Project will also establish a Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) to handle in an appropriate and timely manner grievances from the ethnic groups. | | | | |
| **Risk 03 -** **Concerns or grievances raised by communities/stakeholders not being properly addressed.**  Project-affected people (PAP), including Ethnic Groups, might not be able to effectively claim their rights, raise their concerns or file grievances, due to limiting factors and barriers. Such barriers include, but are not limited to, awareness, logistics, language, culture, literacy, and technology.  If the questions, concerns, grievances and/or objections raised by the PAPs are not properly addressed, the achievement of the Project’s objectives could be jeopardized.  **Principle 1: Leave No One Behind**  **Principle 2: Human Rights**  **Principle 5: Accountability**  **Standard 6: Indigenous Peoples** | I = 3  L = 3 | **Moderate** | Risks are associated with ethnic dimensions in the project target will be largely resulting from the fact that groups make traditional claims on lands and natural resources.  Ensuring that these ethnic groups, and by extension all Project-affected people (PAP), can communicate their concerns and have access to a rights-compatible grievance redress mechanism is key to the local buy-in and to the success of the Project. | | Communities were consulted during the PPG phase using a **Free Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC)** approach. The Project engaged with Ethnic Groups in a way that ensures that they are fully aware of the Project and able to provide meaningful input.  These comprehensive, gender-responsive consultations with local communities allowed them to raise concerns and/or to request additional information. The Project accommodated their expressed interest and concerns in the final project design.  The Project will develop a project-level Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) that is proportional, culturally appropriate, accessible, and transparent, and that ensures appropriate protection for claimants, and the Project also will inform the stakeholders about the existence of the mechanism and how to use it.  The GRM will include an early warning system, helping to identify problems and close gaps in a timely and cost-effective manner, avoiding escalation into more entrenched or complex disputes.  The GRM will be executed through the implementing partner. As needed or as requested, UNDP will be available to help the implementing partner to address project-related grievances as part of its oversight and assurance roles. | | | | |
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| **Risk 04 –** **Risk of community protests**  There is a risk that some violent protests may occur at the project sites that overlap with the landscape of the late GEF-funded project (Projet de Renforcement du rôle de conservation du système National d’Aires Protégées du Togo / PIMS 4420), which was about the creation of Oti-Kéran Mandouri (OKM) complex (Protected Area).  In November 2015, violence erupted as police officers attempted to disperse an unauthorised gathering over what protesters describe as a government-coordinated land-grab (the protected area project would displace residents, mostly rural farmers, from 38 villages surrounding the Oti River). Police opened fire on protesters, killing five, and arrested an estimated 50 people, mostly students. Local families demonstrated on the nation's major highway to protest against the detentions, shutting down travel to the busy border with Burkina Faso.The landscape of this Project overlaps with the one of PIMS 4420  **Principle 1: No One Left Behind**  **Principle 2: Human Rights (P.1, P.7)**  **Principle 4: Accountability (P.14)** | I = 4  L = 3 | **Substantial** | Previous protests and  violence between local communities and security forces around the creation of Oti-Kéran Mandouri (OKM) complex (Protected Area) in 2015 remain in the memories of the communities.  Even though this project is not for the creation of a Protected Area, violence may reoccur if at any moment, communities feel that this project is doing or planning to do the activities that led to the OKM protests (creation of a Protected Area, land grab, displacement, etc.).  . | | At project preparation stage, the Project activities were designed with conflict prevention in mind. The project design and site identifications were done in close consultations with stakeholders at all levels through active engagement and FPIC approach.  These activities were led by experienced Stakeholder Engagement Professionals who also have a good understanding of the local context, with profound knowledge of consultation with local communities, to gather both views and concerns of stakeholders and facilitate their full contribution to project design.  The design therefore excluded the creation of Protected Areas from the list of potential project intervention. The final identification of project intervention sites and activities will be done in close consultations with stakeholders; including Ethnic Groups, at all levels with the aim of securing their agreement and support through FPIC.  The Project will continue to adhere with those principles (meaningful consultation and FPIC approach) during the implementation phase for every single intervention site.  Moreover, the Project will maintain a clear and transparent communication channel with the communities by presenting the activities and objectives of this project, and what are being done with this Project.  Communication, transparency, FPIC, community engagement are keys to avoid any misconception or misunderstanding that could make some people think that this Project will be creating of a Protected Area, or organising a land grab.  The Project-level Grievance Redress Mechanism will also play a key role in addressing in a timely manner any concerns or grievance from affected the community.  Overall, lessons learnt and recommendations from the implementation and suspension of PIMS 4420, including on the importance of ensuring adherence to FPIC processes and active stakeholder engagement are already being integrated in project design. They will be throughout the project implementation. processes, participatory mapping and validation. | | | | |
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| **Risk 05 –** **Gender-based violence in some households**  The Project puts a focus on supporting women through income-generating activities. An increase of women’s income (through project-sponsored activities) could lead to gender-based violence in some households.  The project might perpetuate existing or lead to new discriminations against women in their access to natural resources, especially where communications are hampered by cultural and language barriers.  **Principle 1: No One Left behind**  **Principle 2: Human Rights (P.4)**  **Principle 3: Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment (P.9, P.10, P.12)** | I = 3  L = 2 | **Moderate** | An increase of women’s income in a community is a great indicator of Women’s Empowerment. However, such empowerment could also lead to a change in existing balance of power at the household level. Some men could resort to violence to restore their traditional power.  Given the traditions and the barriers against women’s involvement in economic activity and decision-making, there is a risk that project activities aimed at empowering women could create a perception that men are being excluded from project benefits. | | Awareness and sensitization sessions will be organized and/or reinforced by the Project to explain the benefits of the Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment for the communities.  A Gender Expert with local knowledge conducted a Gender Analysis outlining and explaining gender inequalities, and the complex legal, cultural, and constraints on women’s participation, and drew up a Gender Action Plan to help overcome these. The findings were fully integrated into the detailed project design from the start. The Gender Analysis and Gender Action Plan will be embedded in the ESIA/ESMP.  Modules on environmental and social safeguarding, women’s empowerment, prevention of gender-based violence (GBV), etc. will be included in the training package provided to women cooperatives.  In advance of undertaking consultations, steps will be taken to gather information about obstacles faced by women, their preferred approaches for consultation, and how to provide and share information with them,  Additionally, the project-level Grievance Redress Mechanism will be developed during the implementation phase and will address the issue of potential complaints by women or men in the context of livelihoods and resource management activities of the project. | | | | |
| **Risk 06 -** **Consultation may not be comprehensive**  Full participation of potentially affected stakeholders in the design and implementation of the Project is critical. However, because of logistical and/or cultural barriers, there is a risk that consultations with indigenous people, as well as local women and men (incl. FPIC process) may not be comprehensive.  **Principle 1: No One Left behind**  **Principle 2: Human Rights (P.3, P.4)**  **Principle 3: Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment (P.8)**  **Principle 5: Accountability (P.13, P.14)**  **Standard 6: Indigenous Peoples** | I = 3  L = 3 | **Moderate** | All the project outcomes require consultation and/or engagement with stakeholders. If the stakeholder engagement is not properly designed and managed including by ensuring the full and equitable participation of various ethnic groups, women and the most vulnerable, there is a risk that women, minorities and other marginalized groups (including persons with disabilities) could be discriminated, sidelined, and not effectively involved during the different project phases resulting in them being negatively impacted by the project or in not benefiting from positive project results. | | During the PPG, assessments and meaningful, effective and informed consultations, following FPIC approach, were conducted in the project landscape. These activities were led by an experienced Environmental and Social Safeguards Expert and by a Stakeholder Engagement professional who also has good understanding of local contexts and profound knowledge of consultation with local communities, to both gather views and concerns of stakeholders and facilitate their full contribution to project design.  The Project has also developed an EGPF, in addition to the ESMF.  During implementation, the Project will develop an EGP.  The Project also will put measures in place to ensure local people are inclusively consulted and provided with regular feedback on how their input is taken into consideration and to address any additional concerns that may be identified as the project moves forward. This engagement process will include disclosure of information in appropriate format that is understandable and relevant to local women and men and consultation in a culturally appropriate manner.  A detailed Gender Analysis and Action Plan has been prepared during the project design phase (and annexed to the Project Document), for subsequent implementation. | | | | |
| **Risk 07 – Non-compliance with labour standards**  Project activities (e.g. agriculture / agroforestry supply chain, land restoration, erosion control) could potentially involve practices that fail to comply with national and/or international labour standards or safety standards.  **Principle 1: No One Left behind**  **Principle 2: Human Rights (P.4)**  **Standard 7: Labour and Working Conditions (7.1, 7.3, 7.6)** | I = 3  L = 3 | **Moderate** | Child labour continues to be prevalent in Togo and poses a particular risk in the agricultural sector. Unsafe work practices are also prevalent in the country. | | Risks associated with occupational health and safety, working conditions, and/or the prevalence of child labour will be further assessed during the project development phase and addressed as appropriate through implementation of an scoped ESIAs/ESMPs and subsequent measures as required. The relevant procedures are described in the ESMF annexed to the ProDoc. | | | | |
| **Risk 08 – Capacity gaps towards Safeguards standards**  Project implementation partners (e.g. Government ministries, agencies, NGOs, private sector partners, as well as cooperative units established as part of this Project) may not have all the capacity and tools needed to meet their obligations in the project, especially those related to their roles and responsibilities in the project cycle, as well as the social and environmental safeguarding.  **Principle 1: Leave No One Behind**  **Principle 2: Human Rights (P.2)** | I = 2  L = 4 | **Moderate** | The project will involve personnel from several parties for its implementation (various Government ministries, NGOs, Cooperatives, and other third-party institutions).  (Output 1.5, Outcome 3.3)  At the time of project implementation, all these partners will not necessarily be aware of UNDP technical and safeguarding requirements.  Capacity gaps are also expected to have a gender dimension. | | The Project will ensure that such partnerships are established with renowned organizations, that can demonstrate some level of experience and expertise in the subject matter. The SESA and ESIAs will conduct further assessment on risks associated with partnering with Third Parties and integrate specific procedures into the ESMPs. At a minimum, these will include requirements for partners to:   * adhere to the UNDP social and environmental standards (SES), * subject all on-the-ground activities to screening, using the SESP * clear all proposed activities with the Project Safeguards expert * ensure that gender considerations are fully integrated into all activities, and that activities proactively promote women’s empowerment and human rights. * prepare bi-annual reports on progress, including status of their compliance with UNDP environment, social, and gender policies   When necessary, the Project will organize trainings and/or workshops to build the capacity of key project implementation partners and equip them with necessary knowledge and tools needed to achieve the objectives of the Project effectively and efficiently. This is key to ensuring continued success over the course of the project implementation, and beyond.  Such capacity building activities will start before the implementation of the first activity and will include a combination of the following topics :   * UNDP Social and Environmental Standards (SES) * Stakeholder Engagement and FPIC (Free Prior and Informed Consent), * UNDP Accountability Mechanism (Grievance Redress Mechanism, SRM, SECU), * Understanding UNDP Project Cycle, * Monitoring and Evaluation of UNDP Projects, * Gender, * Human Rights   Overall, the project will have a strong focus on enhancing capacity of relevant authorities and targeted communities to ensure that they have the required knowledge and skills to actively participate in project interventions, incorporate lessons learned, and uptake good practices. | | | | |
| **Risk 09 – Impacts of climate change.**  The project outcomes could be compromised by the impacts of climate change. The Project will carry out SLM/SFM activities that could be subject to hazards such as severe winds, storms and floods, etc. The interventions of the Project could also be impacted by disasters. This could have negative impact on both the communities and the environment.**Principle 4: Sustainability and Resilience**  **Standard 2: Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation (2.1, 2.2)** | I = 3  L = 3 | **Moderate** | Project activities could be affected by droughts or floods, occurring more frequently and with greater intensity with climate change. Even though the objective of the project is to protect coastal landscapes against the effect of climate change, this does not exclude the fact that these same areas could be affected by floods, severe winds, storms and other disasters, in case of exceptional events for example. | | As part of the scoped ESIAs, the Project will evaluate, the climate risks related to the activities, and consider the measures that will need to be put in place to minimize the risks to project activities.  A Disaster/Emergency Preparedness Plan will be prepared as part of the ESMPs for on-the-ground (downstream) activities.  The Project will integrate disaster risk reduction measures into the design and implementation of SLM/SFM interventions. | | | | |
| **Risk 10 - Impact on potential critical habitats**  The Project will carry out activities within or near potential protected areas and could create adverse impacts to the fauna and/or flora species living there and the ecosystems that support them.  **Standard 1: Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Natural Resource**  **Management (1.2)** | I = 2  L = 5 | **Moderate** | The project will be implemented in the surroundings and (to a lesser extent) within protected areas including the Oti-Keran and Malfakassa National Parks. | | An integrated watershed and landscape management plan will be developed to inform land use planning in the Oti River basin, which includes the Oti-Keran /Oti-Mandouri Biosphere Reserve.  The Project will develop action plans for identified areas with SLM / SFM and restoration approaches.  The Project’s ultimate objective is to benefit biodiversity and the ecosystems. The Project will elaborate an ESIA/ESMP to address the biodiversity risks identified in and in the surroundings of protected areas and other critical habitat. | | | | |
| **Risk 11 –** **Areas with cultural value**  The Project could be carrying out activities within or near protected areas which have touristic and/or cultural value, The Project activities will also intersect with community and sacred forests. Tangible and/or intangible cultural assets in those areas could be impacted on all those sites  **Standard 4: Cultural Heritage (4.1, 4.5)** | I = 2  L = 3 | **Moderate** | The degraded land zone of the extreme north-west of Togo covers some 180,000 ha. This portion of the Savanes region includes agricultural land and ecosystems in the areas of Cincasse, Nadjoudi and North Tandjouare. It also includes Fosse aux Lions protected area and a number of community and sacred forests. | | The Project has developed an ESMF during PPG phase. Scoped ESIAs will be completed during the implementation phase. The ESIA will assess the level and extent of the Project’s impact on tangible and intangible cultural assets in its landscape. An ESMP will be developed to mitigate/manage eventual impacts. Care will be taken to avoid inadvertent impacts on cultural heritage assets. | | | | |
| **Risk 12 – Introduction of invasive plant species**  Project activities supporting regreening of drylands could encourage planting of exotic plant species, which then leads to adverse environmental effects through becoming invasive or lowering the water table. This risk may also exist in private nurseries that will eventually be supported by the Project.  **Principle 4: Sustainability and Resilience**  **Standard 1: Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable** [**Natural**](#SustNatResManGlossary) **Resource Management (1.6)** | I = 4  L = 2 | **Moderate** | Although the project is designed around the best practice, it is possible that project participants could fail to use these best practice techniques and instead undertake planting of exotic and potentially invasive or water-intensive tree species. | | The Project will prepare a scoped ESIA for each of the four landscapes presented in the ProDoc. Along with each **scoped** **ESIAs,** an **Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP)** will be prepared. The ESMPs will layout the measures to prevent the introduction of invasive alien tree or other plant species.  The project will promote the regeneration of useful and resilient indigenous plant species for regreening or land restoration.  The Project will select indigenous species that could help with increasing crop yields, improving groundwater recharge, retaining soil moisture, and increasing soil organic carbon, nutrient recycling, shade, wind and dust barriers, fodder and compost production and availability of fruit and medicine, etc. and that are not invasive. The spreading of invasive weeds through contaminated seeds will be avoided through careful selection and preparation of seeds and the use of best practices in nurseries, planting etc. | | | | |
| **Risk 13 - Exp****osing communities to COVID-19 and other disease outbreaks**  The COVID-19 and other potential disease outbreaks could pose serious difficulties for effective project implementation and benefit sharing.  The project activities (e.g. frequent meetings, field visits, travelling, etc.) could inadvertently cause significant spread of the COVID-19 virus.  **Standard 3: Community Health, Safety and Security (3.4)** | I = 4  L = 2 | **Moderate** | As a consequence, it would affect the ability of vulnerable people to get back into economic activities as any lingering or new zoonotic disease outbreaks can affect vulnerable groups in the project area the most and leave them out from participating and accruing benefits from the project in particular from the livelihood activities. | | Mask wearing and usage of hand sanitizers were adopted during the meetings and consultation events by the PPG by Project Team and community.  To manage potential risks and vulnerabilities related to Covid-19, during the implementation, the project team will continue applying the Covid-19 prevention protocols in effect in Togo.In addition, awareness will be promoted to ensure that people (project staff and stakeholders) are aware of the risks and undertake mitigation measures. | | | | |
| **Risk 14 – Use of chemicals and pesticides**  The farming and product transformation initiatives supported by the Project could be using pesticides or other chemicals that may have a negative effect on the environment of human health. These activities could also waste (e.g. human waste, metal scraps, plastic, batteries, chemicals, etc.). Any poor waste management at these places could cause environmental pollution and pose a threat to the healthof the community.  **Standard 3: Community Health, Safety and Security (3.2, 3.6)**  **Standard 8: Pollution Prevention and Resource Efficiency (8.2, 8.5)** | I = 3  L = 3 | **Moderate** | Activities such as agriculture, poultry breeding, small ruminants and pig breeding, beekeeping, shea butter production, etc., presented in Output 3.1 and 3.4 will make use of chemicals to some extent. | | The Project has been designed to promote organic practices that avoid the use of pesticides and other harmful chemicals on the farming initiatives it supports and to encourage proper handling of wastes generated at those sites.  The project will include environmental awareness activities with local communities on how to avoid issues related to waste management and environmental pollution.  These issues will nonetheless be addressed in the ESMPs. | | | | |
| **Risk 15 - Over-extraction of groundwater**  Support to groundwater extraction using solar photovoltaic-powered pumps might lead to over-extraction and dry up wells in communities.  **Principle 3: Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment**  **Principle 4: Sustainability and Resilience**  **Standard 1: Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable** [**Natural**](#SustNatResManGlossary) **Resource Management**  **Standard 8: Pollution Prevention and Resource Efficiency** | I = 3  L = 3 | **Moderate** | Under Output 3.1, the project will support the construction of water supply infrastructure (10 water reservoirs and five boreholes with water reservoirs powered by solar energy) for the development of market gardening, off-season crops and watering for animals.  Over-extraction will deplete the water table and negatively affect the life of communities. Water scarcity will put further burden on women. | | The scoped ESIAs will analyse the potential impact/risk of groundwater extraction, and develop appropriate Management Plans that promotes the sustainable use of water resources. This will include requirements related to:   * optimal siting of new or refurbished well-points * measures to enhance natural recharge of aquifers where possible, and * an agreed governance system to allocate and enforce access, timing and length of extraction by water users and community members.   Full safeguards measures will be determined by the ESIA/ESMP prepared during implementation.  The proposed project Grievance Redress Mechanism will also include a section dealing with potential complaints by users of groundwater schemes and/or downstream communities who might experience or perceive negative impacts on their resource supply. | | | | |
| **Risk 16 -** **Human-wildlife conflict (HWC)**  Project-sponsored activities could increase the frequency of interactions between humans and wildlife, especially in the Protected Areas buffer zones, consequently increasing the likelihood of conflicts between people and animals in agricultural contexts. (Output 2.4)  **Standard 1: Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Natural Resource Management** | I = 3  L = 4 | **Moderate** | There are immense challenges in addressing HWC, in particular because underlying cultural, political and economic aspects that shape these conflicts are often very complex and poorly understood | | The Project will develop and implement a human-wildlife conflict mitigation program, following widely-recognized IUCN Best Practices guidelines or similar, to ensure that efforts to manage human–wildlife conflicts are pursued through well-informed, holistic and collaborative processes that take into account underlying social, cultural and economic contexts. | | | | |
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| [add additional rows as needed] |  |  |  | |  | | | | |
|  | **QUESTION 4: What is the overall project risk categorization?** | | | | | | | | | |
|  | | | | | | | | | |
| ***Low Risk*** | | | **☐** | | |  | | | |
| ***Moderate Risk*** | | | **☐** | | |  | | | |
| ***Substantial Risk*** | | | **🝱** | | |  | | | |
| ***High Risk*** | | | **☐** | | |  | | | |
|  | **QUESTION 5: Based on the identified risks and risk categorization, what requirements of the SES are triggered? (check all that apply)** | | | | | | | | | |
| Question only required for Moderate, Substantial and High Risk projects | | | | | | | | | |
| ***Is assessment required? (check if “yes”)*** | | | **🝱** | | |  |  | ***Status? (completed, planned)*** | |
| *if yes, indicate overall type and status* | | |  | | | **🝱** | Targeted assessment(s) | Completed: gender analysis, stakeholder analysis  Planned: … | |
|  | | | **🝱** | ESIA (Environmental and Social Impact Assessment) | Planned | |
|  | | | **🝱** | SESA (Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment) | Planned | |
| ***Are management plans required? (check if “yes)*** | | | **🝱** | | |  |  | | |
| *If yes, indicate overall type* | | |  | | | **🝱** | Targeted management plans  (e.g. Indigenous People Plan) | Completed: Gender Action Plan, Stakeholder Engagement Plan  Planned: EGP | |
|  | | | **🝱** | ESMP (Environmental and Social Management Plan which may include range of targeted plans) | Planned | |
|  | | | **🝱** | ESMF (Environmental and Social Management Framework) | Completed | |
| ***Based on identified risks, which Principles/Project-level Standards triggered?*** | | |  | | | **Comments (not required)** | | | |
| ***Overarching Principle: Leave No One Behind*** | | |  | | |  | | | |
| ***Human Rights*** | | | **🝱** | | |  | | | |
| ***Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment*** | | | **🝱** | | |  | | | |
| ***Accountability*** | | | **🝱** | | |  | | | |
| ***1. Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Natural Resource Management*** | | | **🝱** | | |  | | | |
| ***2. Climate Change and Disaster Risks*** | | | **🝱** | | |  | | | |
| ***3. Community Health, Safety and Security*** | | | **🝱** | | |  | | | |
| ***4. Cultural Heritage*** | | | **🝱** | | |  | | | |
| ***5. Displacement and Resettlement*** | | | **🝱** | | |  | | | |
| ***6. Indigenous Peoples*** | | | **🝱** | | |  | | | |
| ***7. Labour and Working Conditions*** | | | **🝱** | | |  | | | |
| ***8. Pollution Prevention and Resource Efficiency*** | | | **🝱** | | |  | | | |

**Final Sign Off**

*Final Screening at the design-stage is not complete until the following signatures are included*

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| ***Signature*** | ***Date*** | ***Description*** |
| QA Assessor |  | UNDP staff member responsible for the project, typically a UNDP Programme Officer. Final signature confirms they have “checked” to ensure that the SESP is adequately conducted. |
| QA Approver |  | UNDP senior manager, typically the UNDP Deputy Country Director (DCD), Country Director (CD)**,** Deputy Resident Representative (DRR), or Resident Representative (RR). The QA Approver cannot also be the QA Assessor. Final signature confirms they have “cleared” the SESP prior to submittal to the PAC. |
| PAC Chair |  | UNDP chair of the PAC. In some cases PAC Chair may also be the QA Approver. Final signature confirms that the SESP was considered as part of the project appraisal and considered in recommendations of the PAC. |

### SESP Attachment 1. Social and Environmental Risk Screening Checklist

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Checklist Potential Social and Environmental Risks** |  |
| INSTRUCTIONS: The risk screening checklist will assist in answering Questions 2-6 of the Screening Template. Answers to the checklist questions help to (1) identify potential risks, (2) determine the overall risk categorization of the project, and (3) determine required level of assessment and management measures. Refer to the [SES toolkit](https://info.undp.org/sites/bpps/SES_Toolkit/Pages/Homepage.aspx) for further guidance on addressing screening questions. |  |
| **Overarching Principle: Leave No One Behind**  **Human Rights** | **Answer  (Yes/No)** |
| P.1 Have local communities or individuals raised human rights concerns regarding the project (e.g. during the stakeholder engagement process, grievance processes, public statements)? | Yes |
| P.2 Is there a risk that duty-bearers (e.g. government agencies) do not have the capacity to meet their obligations in the project? | Yes |
| P.3 Is there a risk that rights-holders (e.g. project-affected persons) do not have the capacity to claim their rights? | Yes |
| *Would the project potentially involve or lead to:* |  |
| P.4 adverse impacts on enjoyment of the human rights (civil, political, economic, social or cultural) of the affected population and particularly of marginalized groups? | Yes |
| P.5 inequitable or discriminatory impacts on affected populations, particularly people living in poverty or marginalized or excluded individuals or groups, including persons with disabilities? [[1]](#footnote-1) | Yes |
| P.6 restrictions in availability, quality of and/or access to resources or basic services, in particular to marginalized individuals or groups, including persons with disabilities? | Yes |
| P.7 exacerbation of conflicts among and/or the risk of violence to project-affected communities and individuals? | Yes |
| **Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment** |  |
| P.8 Have women’s groups/leaders raised gender equality concerns regarding the project, (e.g. during the stakeholder engagement process, grievance processes, public statements)? | Yes |
| *Would the project potentially involve or lead to:* |  |
| P.9 adverse impacts on gender equality and/or the situation of women and girls? | Yes |
| P.10 reproducing discriminations against women based on gender, especially regarding participation in design and implementation or access to opportunities and benefits? | Yes |
| P.11 limitations on women’s ability to use, develop and protect natural resources, taking into account different roles and positions of women and men in accessing environmental goods and services?  *For example, activities that could lead to natural resources degradation or depletion in communities who depend on these resources for their livelihoods and well being* | Yes |
| P.12 exacerbation of risks of gender-based violence?  *For example, through the influx of workers to a community, changes in community and household power dynamics, increased exposure to unsafe public places and/or transport, etc*. | Yes |
| **Sustainability and Resilience:** Screeningquestions regarding risks associated with sustainability and resilience are encompassed by the Standard-specific questions below |  |
| **Accountability** |  |
| *Would the project potentially involve or lead to:* |  |
| P.13 exclusion of any potentially affected stakeholders, in particular marginalized groups and excluded individuals (including persons with disabilities), from fully participating in decisions that may affect them? | Yes |
| P.14 grievances or objections from potentially affected stakeholders? | Yes |
| P.15 risks of retaliation or reprisals against stakeholders who express concerns or grievances, or who seek to participate in or to obtain information on the project? | No |
| **Project-Level Standards** |  |
| **Standard 1: Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable** [**Natural**](#SustNatResManGlossary) **Resource Management** |  |
| *Would the project potentially involve or lead to:* |  |
| 1.1 adverse impacts to habitats (e.g. modified, natural, and critical habitats) and/or ecosystems and ecosystem services?  *For example, through habitat loss, conversion or degradation, fragmentation, hydrological changes* | Yes |
| 1.2 activities within or adjacent to critical habitats and/or environmentally sensitive areas, including (but not limited to) legally protected areas (e.g. nature reserve, national park), areas proposed for protection, or recognized as such by authoritative sources and/or indigenous peoples or local communities? | Yes |
| 1.3 changes to the use of lands and resources that may have adverse impacts on habitats, ecosystems, and/or livelihoods? (Note: if restrictions and/or limitations of access to lands would apply, refer to Standard 5) | Yes |
| 1.4 risks to endangered species (e.g. reduction, encroachment on habitat)? | No |
| 1.5 exacerbation of illegal wildlife trade? | No |
| 1.6 introduction of invasive alien species? | Yes |
| 1.7 adverse impacts on soils? | Yes |
| 1.8 harvesting of natural forests, plantation development, or reforestation? | Yes |
| 1.9 significant agricultural production? | Yes |
| 1.10 animal husbandry or harvesting of fish populations or other aquatic species? | No |
| 1.11 significant extraction, diversion or containment of surface or ground water?  *For example, construction of dams, reservoirs, river basin developments, groundwater extraction* | Yes |
| 1.12 handling or utilization of genetically modified organisms/living modified organisms?[[2]](#footnote-2) | Yes |
| 1.13 utilization of genetic resources? (e.g. collection and/or harvesting, commercial development)[[3]](#footnote-3) | No |
| 1.14 adverse transboundary or global environmental concerns? | No |
| **Standard 2: Climate Change and Disaster Risks** |  |
| *Would the project potentially involve or lead to:* |  |
| 2.1 areas subject to hazards such as earthquakes, floods, landslides, severe winds, storm surges, tsunami or volcanic eruptions? | Yes |
| 2.2 outputs and outcomes sensitive or vulnerable to potential impacts of climate change or disasters?  *For example, through increased precipitation, drought, temperature, salinity, extreme events, earthquakes* | Yes |
| 2.3 increases in [vulnerability to climate change](#CCVulnerabilityGlossary) impacts or disaster risks now or in the future (also known as maladaptive or negative coping practices)?  *For example, changes to land use planning may encourage further development of floodplains, potentially increasing the population’s vulnerability to climate change, specifically flooding* | Yes |
| 2.4 increases of greenhouse gas emissions, black carbon emissions or other drivers of climate change? | No |
| **Standard 3: Community Health, Safety and Security** |  |
| *Would the project potentially involve or lead to:* |  |
| 3.1 construction and/or infrastructure development (e.g. roads, buildings, dams)? (Note: the GEF does not finance projects that would involve the construction or rehabilitation of large or complex dams) | Yes |
| 3.2 air pollution, noise, vibration, traffic, injuries, physical hazards, poor surface water quality due to runoff, erosion, sanitation? | Yes |
| 3.3 harm or losses due to failure of structural elements of the project (e.g. collapse of buildings or infrastructure)? | Yes |
| 3.4 risks of water-borne or other vector-borne diseases (e.g. temporary breeding habitats), communicable and noncommunicable diseases, nutritional disorders, mental health? | Yes |
| 3.5 transport, storage, and use and/or disposal of hazardous or dangerous materials (e.g. explosives, fuel and other chemicals during construction and operation)? | Yes |
| 3.6 adverse impacts on ecosystems and ecosystem services relevant to communities’ health (e.g. food, surface water purification, natural buffers from flooding)? | Yes |
| 3.7 influx of project workers to project areas? | No |
| 3.8 engagement of security personnel to protect facilities and property or to support project activities? | No |
| **Standard 4: Cultural Heritage** |  |
| *Would the project potentially involve or lead to:* |  |
| 4.1 activities adjacent to or within a Cultural Heritage site? | Yes |
| 4.2 significant excavations, demolitions, movement of earth, flooding or other environmental changes? | No |
| 4.3 adverse impacts to sites, structures, or objects with historical, cultural, artistic, traditional or religious values or intangible forms of culture (e.g. knowledge, innovations, practices)? (Note: projects intended to protect and conserve Cultural Heritage may also have inadvertent adverse impacts) | Yes |
| 4.4 alterations to landscapes and natural features with cultural significance? | No |
| 4.5 utilization of tangible and/or intangible forms (e.g. practices, traditional knowledge) of Cultural Heritage for commercial or other purposes? | Yes |
| **Standard 5: Displacement and Resettlement** |  |
| *Would the project potentially involve or lead to:* |  |
| 5.1 temporary or permanent and full or partial physical displacement (including people without legally recognizable claims to land)? | Yes |
| 5.2 economic displacement (e.g. loss of assets or access to resources due to land acquisition or access restrictions – even in the absence of physical relocation)? | Yes |
| 5.3 risk of forced evictions?[[4]](#footnote-4) | Yes |
| 5.4 impacts on or changes to land tenure arrangements and/or community-based property rights/customary rights to land, territories and/or resources? | Yes |
| **Standard 6: Indigenous Peoples** |  |
| *Would the project potentially involve or lead to:* |  |
| 6.1 areas where indigenous peoples are present (including project area of influence)? | Yes |
| 6.2 activities located on lands and territories claimed by indigenous peoples? | Yes |
| 6.3 impacts (positive or negative) to the human rights, lands, natural resources, territories, and traditional livelihoods of indigenous peoples (regardless of whether indigenous peoples possess the legal titles to such areas, whether the project is located within or outside of the lands and territories inhabited by the affected peoples, or whether the indigenous peoples are recognized as indigenous peoples by the country in question)?  *If the answer to screening question 6.3 is “yes”, then the potential risk impacts are considered significant and the project would be categorized as either Substantial Risk or High Risk* | Yes |
| 6.4 the absence of culturally appropriate consultations carried out with the objective of achieving FPIC on matters that may affect the rights and interests, lands, resources, territories and traditional livelihoods of the indigenous peoples concerned? | Yes |
| 6.5 the utilization and/or commercial development of natural resources on lands and territories claimed by indigenous peoples? | Yes |
| 6.6 forced eviction or the whole or partial physical or economic displacement of indigenous peoples, including through access restrictions to lands, territories, and resources?  *Consider, and where appropriate ensure, consistency with the answers under Standard 5 above* | Yes |
| 6.7 adverse impacts on the development priorities of indigenous peoples as defined by them? | No |
| 6.8 risks to the physical and cultural survival of indigenous peoples? | No |
| 6.9 impacts on the Cultural Heritage of indigenous peoples, including through the commercialization or use of their traditional knowledge and practices?  *Consider, and where appropriate ensure, consistency with the answers under Standard 4 above.* | Yes |
| **Standard 7: Labour and Working Conditions** |  |
| *Would the project potentially involve or lead to: (note: applies to project and contractor workers)* |  |
| 7.1 working conditions that do not meet national labour laws and international commitments? | Yes |
| 7.2 working conditions that may deny freedom of association and collective bargaining? | No |
| 7.3 use of child labour? | Yes |
| 7.4 use of forced labour? | No |
| 7.5 discriminatory working conditions and/or lack of equal opportunity? | No |
| 7.6 occupational health and safety risks due to physical, chemical, biological and psychosocial hazards (including violence and harassment) throughout the project life-cycle? | Yes |
| **Standard 8: Pollution Prevention and Resource Efficiency** |  |
| *Would the project potentially involve or lead to:* |  |
| 8.1 the release of pollutants to the environment due to routine or non-routine circumstances with the potential for adverse local, regional, and/or [transboundary impacts](#TransboundaryImpactsGlossary)? | Yes |
| 8.2 the generation of waste (both hazardous and non-hazardous)? | Yes |
| 8.3 the manufacture, trade, release, and/or use of hazardous materials and/or chemicals? | Yes |
| 8.4 the use of chemicals or materials subject to international bans or phase-outs?  *For example, DDT, PCBs and other chemicals listed in international conventions such as the* [*Montreal Protocol*](http://ozone.unep.org/montreal-protocol-substances-deplete-ozone-layer/32506)*,* [*Minamata Convention*](http://www.mercuryconvention.org/)*,* [*Basel Convention*](http://www.basel.int/)*,* [*Rotterdam Convention*](http://www.pic.int/)*,* [*Stockholm Convention*](http://chm.pops.int/) | Yes |
| 8.5 the application of pesticides that may have a negative effect on the environment or human health? | Yes |
| 8.6 significant consumption of raw materials, energy, and/or water? | Yes |

1. Prohibited grounds of discrimination include race, ethnicity, sex, age, language, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, political or other opinion, national or social or geographical origin, property, birth or other status including as an indigenous person or as a member of a minority. References to “women and men” or similar is understood to include women and men, boys and girls, and other groups discriminated against based on their gender identities, such as transgender and transsexual people. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. See the [Convention on Biological Diversity](https://www.cbd.int/) and its [Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety](https://bch.cbd.int/protocol). [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. See the [Convention on Biological Diversity](https://www.cbd.int/) and its [Nagoya Protocol](https://www.cbd.int/abs/) on access and benefit sharing from use of genetic resources. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. Forced eviction is defined here as the permanent or temporary removal against their will of individuals, families or communities from the homes and/or land which they occupy, without the provision of, and access to, appropriate forms of legal or other protection. Forced evictions constitute gross violations of a range of internationally recognized human rights. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)