

# **Environmental and Social Data Sheet**

### Overview

NIGERIA CLIMATE ADAPTATION -Project Name: **EROSION** 

WATERSHED

Project Number: 2018 - 0377Country: Nigeria

Financing investments in gully erosion control, slope **Project Description:** 

stabilization, integrated watershed management, and improvement of livelihoods. Support Climate Adaptation process of Nigeria with capacity building on planning, management, monitoring of watershed and erosion-related

activities and disaster risk management.

EIA required:

This is required for the project according to Nigeria regulations and the Bank Social and Environmental standards. The documents will

be published on the Bank's website

Project included in Carbon Footprint Exercise: no

### **Environmental and Social Assessment**

## **Environmental Assessment**

The Nigeria Climate Adaption - Erosion & Watershed project is an additional funding provided to the second phase of the project NEWMAP (Nigeria Erosion and Watershed Management Project) funded by the World Bank which is also increasing the available funds. Nigeria faces severe problems of soil erosion - both sheet and gully erosion - due to both natural and human causes. Over 6,000 km2 of land are affected and about 3,400 km2 are highly exposed. There are an estimated 3,000 gullies, which can be up to 10 km long with multiple fingers spreading through the rural or urban landscape. Erosion has devastating effects on peoples' lives and destroy essential infrastructure for economic development and poverty alleviation. The project has two primary components: (i) investment in Erosion and Watershed Management and (ii) Project Management.

The project is multi-sectoral and necessarily involves many federal and state Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs). The Federal Ministry of Environment (FME) is the lead implementing agency. Given the multi-sectoral nature of the project, the project coordination will be carried out by a multi-sectoral Federal Project Management Unit (FPMU) hosted by FME. The activities will be implemented at state level through the relevant federal and state MDAs coordinated by a State Project Management Unit (SPMU) hosted in the respective Environment Ministries. Originally NEWMAP project started with seven States (Abia, Anambra, Cross River, Ebonyi, Edo, Enugu and Imo) in 2013 and was extended to twelve additional states (Akwa Ibom, Borno, Delta, Gombe, Kano, Katsina, Kogi, Nasarawa, Plateau, Sokoto, Niger and Oyo State) in the course of its implementation. The project will continue the implementation within these 19 states not excluding the possibility of adding a limited number of additional states in the future.

At present, the specific project sites are unknown with sufficient detail. An Environment and Social Management Framework (ESMF) has been drafted based on World Bank safeguards policies and disclosed by the Nigerian Authorities on November 30, 2017 and published on the World Bank website on February 20, 2018. The document is translated into Ibo, Yoruba and Hausa languages.

The ESMF outlines the environmental and social principles as well as the procedures to be applied to each subproject in order to ensure compliance with national applicable legislation as well as the World Bank safeguards policies and EIB standards.

In Nigeria, the power to enforce mitigation measures for all activities that might affect the environment is vested in the FME. The Ministry has a mandate to co-ordinate environmental protection and conservation of natural resources for sustainable development of Nigeria. One of the most relevant laws for the project is the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Act N° 86 of 1992. The act makes EIA mandatory for any development project, and prescribes the procedures for conducting and reporting EIA studies.

The main impacts of the project are listed below:

### Positive impacts

- Reduction of erosion and flooding phenomenon in the project area;
- Rehabilitation of degraded land and conversion into productive land and increasing land area covered with vegetation;
- Building resilience to Climate Change;
- Reducing disaster risks in the project area.

## Negative impacts

 Works impacts: during construction, occurrence of occasional and localized disturbances (mainly dust, noise, construction waste and traffic). Mitigation: an Environmental and Social Management Plan will be prepared for each site and will be included in the works tender document for implementation by the future contractors;

Within the EU context, each sub-project (at site level) would have been screened as an annex II project of the Directive 2014/52/EU amending the EIA Directive 2011/92/EU on Environmental Impacts. However, taking into consideration the cumulative impacts of the project, a full Environmental and Social Impact Assessment and a Resettlement Action Plan will be a requirement for each site of intervention to be published on EIB website.

#### Climate change

The project aims at improving the resilience of Nigeria's watersheds towards Climate Change impacts in the fields of erosion (affected by more frequent extreme rain events in the southern part of the country) and desertification (affected by longer drought spells in the northern part of the country). The project has a high climate change impact in terms of adaptation. Through afforestation and revegetation activities, the project also contributes to some mitigation actions towards climate change.

### Social Assessment, where applicable

The project aims at addressing the widespread erosion problems that have caused the loss of farming and habitable parcels of land. Several social groups exist in the communities of the nineteen states where the project will be implemented. Each of them is characterised by a unique and cohesive social structure. In each case, the mobilization and support of leaders and communities is and has proven to be instrumental to the successful implementation of the project. A social assessment for each site considered by the project will be prepared as part of the ESMF, the scope of the assessment will be commensurate with the size of the population present in the footprint of the project.

As a result of project activities, there will be portions of land reclaimed from gullies and stabilization works. This land could potentially be redistributed to people who lost plots to gullies in the past. Community groups (with the support of technical experts) will make the decisions regarding such allocations. The steps to be followed for these allocations are part of the project implementation manual.

The project related works could trigger involuntary resettlement: land acquisition or displacement of families or businesses on permanent or temporary basis. The works may in certain cases result in loss of access to resources even if the agricultural, commercial, or residential plot is not directly affected.

To address these situations, a resettlement policy framework has been prepared in 2017(endorsed and disclosed in November 2017 in Nigeria).

Each site of intervention (gully restoration or watershed intervention) will be carefully screened by specialists in order to minimize displacement, loss of land or access to land to the extent possible. A Resettlement Action Plan (RAP) or Abbreviated Resettlement Action Plan (ARAP) will be elaborated in each case by an independent consultant. The RAPs will be drafted in consultation and with the participation of affected people and possible host communities. It will be cleared, endorsed and disclosed at state and federal level.

While RAPs will not compensate persons for losses caused by the gully erosion but for impacts attributable to project interventions, they will include livelihood restoration activities for Project Affected People. The local communities will be able to highlight the way in which these activities could benefit people adversely affected by gullies in the past.

#### Other social issues

The project may face an influx of non-local labour; to mitigate any potential risk related to occupational and community health safety and security (OHSS), several mitigation measures have been foreseen at different levels. These include the compulsory adoption and enforcement of a code of conduct for the project staff and contractors (including on sexual harassment), the preparation of labour influx management plans and workers campsites plans, OHSS related plans and trainings.

In specific with the aim of addressing risks related to GBV (gender based violence) and SEA (Sexual Exploitation and Abuse), requirements have been introduced in the bidding documents (pre-qualification and in the employment requirements). Other measures include the appointment of NGOs to monitor GBV/SEA, sensitization of workers, provision of referral units for survivors, dedicated grievances and redress mechanisms and the contractor requirement to ensure a minimum target of female employment.

Nigeria has been a member of the International Labour Organization (ILO) since 1960 and has ratified 26 ILO conventions (40 ILO conventions applied but 26 implemented).. As part of the ESMF, requirements for the management of environmental and social aspects of the works in line with the applicable national requirements, ILO and international best practices, will be included into tender documents and subsequent agreements with selected contractors.

## **Public Consultation and Stakeholder Engagement**

Public consultations were held throughout 2017 as part of the preparation of the ESMF and the RPF. These consultations covered the 19 states that are participating in the project. The preparation of site-specific assessments and management plans (including RAPs) foresees consultation with communities and other stakeholders.

The Promoter will benefit from the support of UNOPS that will support and monitor the implementation of the Environmental and social plans; these include RAPs, Grievances and Redress Mechanisms and livelihood programs.

The project has a tailor-made system of Grievance Redress Mechanisms (GRM) designed taking into account the lessons learned from the initial project (NEWMAP). A GRM is set-up at sub-project (or site) level by the State Project Management Unit with potential escalation to the federal level.

Lastly, the initial project (NEWMAP) has put in place Ombudsmen at federal and state level and this will continue throughout the project.

### **Conclusions and Recommendations**

The project is designed as a second phase of a World Bank project that has being successfully implemented. The implementation of this Project will lead to improvement of living conditions, sustainability of economic infrastructure and an enabling environment for economic activities in the project areas. Possible negative environmental effects should be temporary and confined to the immediate construction sites.

Involuntary resettlement and economic displacements are expected at the works sites and will be addressed by the Project's Environmental and Social Management Plan and Resettlement Action Plan.

The Project is considered acceptable for EIB financing from an environmental and social point of view with the following conditions relating to environmental and social matters:

- No works should be implemented without the environmental authorization by the Nigerian authorities.
- Environmental Management Plans, Social Management Plans and RAPs including a
  grievance mechanism should be implemented in compliance with the Environmental
  and social standards of the EIB and International best practices.
- No works should be implemented before compensations have been paid to the people affected by the works.
- The promoter shall ensure that independent audits are carried out to verify the satisfactory implementation of the Resettlement Action Plans.