

CI-GEF PROJECT AGENCY SCREENING RESULTS AND SAFEGUARD ANALYSIS

(To be completed by CI-GEF Coordination Team)

Date Prepared/Updated: 3/3/2016

I. BASIC INFORMATION

A. Basic Project Data	
Country: India	GEF Project ID: 5784
Project Title: Mainstreaming Community-Conserved Areas for Biodiversity Conservation in Nagaland (<i>sub-project under Mainstreaming Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Management in Priority Socio-ecological Production Landscapes and Seascapes</i>)	
Executing Entity: The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI)	
GEF Focal Area: Biodiversity	
GEF Project Amount: (Grant amount for sub-project) US\$85,000	
Other financing amounts by source: In kind contribution in terms of local travel, stay and logistic support by the Nagaland Forest Department US\$85,000	
Reviewer(s): Orissa Samaroo	
Date of Review: 03/10/2016	
Comments:	

B. Project Objective:

The objective of this project is to support community-based conservation by mobilizing support for the formation of Community-Conserved Areas (CCAs) including larger networks of contiguous forest patches in Zunheboto district of Nagaland, and developing community-based ecotourism initiatives.

C. Project Description:

In Nagaland, traditional conservation and wise-use practices have helped protect biodiversity over the centuries. Despite this, rampant hunting, forest degradation and tree felling are greatly threatening the State’s biodiversity. The revival of traditional conservation practices through the creation of Community-Conserved Areas, however, offers hope for conservation, as communities set aside parcels of forests within productive, jhum (shifting cultivation) landscapes. A study of Nagaland’s CCAs found that one-third of Nagaland’s villages have constituted CCAs (TERI, 2015) of which as many as 82% have completely or partially banned hunting within the CCAs and/or tree felling, and enforce various regulations. Nevertheless, CCAs face numerous challenges- in their creation, effectiveness and sustainability. To ensure the future of Nagaland’s CCAs and thereby its biodiversity, a multi-pronged approach including alternative livelihood opportunities through the development of wildlife tourism, legal recognition, ecological restoration, and long-term ecological monitoring is required. Moreover, these CCAs comprise isolated forest fragments (average size is 500 ha) and only a handful form part of a larger network of community forests.

D. Project location and biophysical characteristics relevant to the safeguard analysis:

Nagaland, North East India, specifically Zunheboto district.

E. Executing Entity’s Institutional Capacity for Safeguard Policies: *Not Assessed*

II. SAFEGUARD AND POLICIES

Environmental and Social Safeguards:

Safeguard Triggered	Yes	No	TBD	Date Completed
1. Environmental & Social Impact Assessment (ESIA)		X		
<i>Justification:</i> Not applicable				
2. Natural Habitats		X		
<i>Justification:</i> The project is not proposing to alter natural habitats				
3. Involuntary Resettlement	X			
<i>Justification:</i> The project is not proposing any resettlement, however, some activities will result in a reduction in hunting and destructive fishing practices. These activities trigger the Involuntary Resettlement safeguard as they restrict access to natural resources (linked to livelihoods).				
4. Indigenous Peoples	X			
<i>Justification:</i> The project will work largely with the Sema tribal community settled in Zunheboto district. The project plans to positively impact the people of this district and is being initiated at the behest of local communities.				
5. Pest Management		X		
<i>Justification:</i> There are no proposed activities related to pest management.				
6. Physical & Cultural Resources		X		
<i>Justification:</i> There are no proposed activities related to physical and cultural resources.				
7. Stakeholder Engagement	X			
<i>Justification:</i> The project will be working with the local people, village councils and the Forest Department of Nagaland.				
8. Gender Mainstreaming	X			
<i>Justification:</i> The project will reflect the concerns of various members of village society, special focus will be given to those who are dependent on the forests for their basic subsistence needs and particularly to the women who are the main harvesters and users of forest products and who closely understand the need for conservation. Women will also play a pivotal role in the design and implementation of ecotourism initiatives and their views and participation is crucial to the success of this project.				
9. Accountability and Grievance Mechanisms	X			
<i>Justification:</i> As a publicly funded GEF project, participants need to be able submit complaints or raise grievances with the Executing Agency and the Project Agency.				

III. KEY SAFEGUARD POLICY ISSUES AND THEIR MANAGEMENT

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

From information provided in the Safeguard Screening Form, this project has triggered five safeguard polices. These are:

- I. Restriction of Access to and Use of Natural Resources (Involuntary Resettlement policy),*
- II. Indigenous Peoples,*
- III. Stakeholder Engagement,*
- IV. Gender, and*
- V. Grievance Mechanism.*

And given the small size of the proposed project, no large scale, significant and/or irreversible impacts is foreseen at this time.

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

No indirect and/or long term impacts due to anticipated future activities are foreseen at this time.

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

The proposed approach of the project is expected to avoid or minimize adverse impacts. As such, no better alternative can be conceived at this time.

4. Describe measures to be taken by the Executing Entity to address safeguard policy issues.

- I. Restriction of Access to/Use of Natural Resources (Involuntary Resettlement policy)
This project will trigger restriction of access to and use of natural resources. This is can be a sensitive issue, particularly for people whose survival and livelihood depend on such resources. Stakeholder engagement will be key here and should be among the very first set of activities. The resource users need to be aware upfront of the project and how it will affect them, and the project in turn will need to address their concerns. Following initial consultations, the project is **required** to prepare a simplified Process Framework document describing the following:
(a) conservation actions to be undertaken by the resource users,
(b) benefits the project will provide to offset the opportunity cost of conservation incurred by the resource user, and
(c) penalties for non-compliance.*

The simplified Process Framework document must be approved by the Executing Entity before signing and implementation.

- II. Indigenous Peoples
Given the small size of the project grant, an Indigenous Peoples Plan (IPP) is not being requested. However, while the project has been initiated by the village councils, the project is **required** to follow and document the Free Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) Process when interacting with indigenous people and villages.*

III. Stakeholder Engagement

*Given the small size of the project grant, a Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) is not being requested. However, the project is **required** ensure active stakeholder participation and to reflect stakeholder engagement activities in the annual workplan. Please document the date, location and participants (gender disaggregated) along with meeting notes of all stakeholder engagement activities. The documentation of these activities can be supported (not required) with photographs, video and audio recordings.*

Also agree with stakeholders on where, when and how information will be disseminated back to them following a meeting/consultation.

IV. Gender

*Given the small size of the project grant, a Gender Mainstreaming Plan (GMP) is not being requested. However, the project is **required** to reflect gender disaggregated activities in the annual workplan. The design of activities and consultations should consider the needs and schedules of both men and women. Please document how many men and women were consulted, participated in project activities, and benefitted/affected by the project. Also ensure that men and women are not adversely impacted and receive equal opportunities in planning, decision-making and implementation in a way that is culturally appropriate and acceptable.*

V. Grievance Mechanism

*An Accountability and Grievance Mechanism is **required** to ensure people affected by the project are able to bring their grievances to the Executing Entity for consideration and redress. The mechanism must be in place before the start of project activities, and also disclosed to all stakeholders in a manner/means that best suits the local context.*

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

The key stakeholders are the local people/indigenous people/men and women of the six villages, the village councils and the Forest Department of Nagaland.

The mechanisms for consultation and disclosure should be culturally appropriate, gender sensitive, effective, and in keeping with local customs. Engagement can take the form of village meetings, group meetings, workshops, interviews/surveys, etc. and done using local languages and methods. The Executing Entity should take these contexts into consideration when designing engagement activities.




IV. PROJECT CATEGORIZATION

PROJECT CATEGORY	Category A	Category B	Category C
			X
<p><i>Justification:</i> The proposed activities will not have any negative environmental impacts. However, since the project triggered the Indigenous Peoples, Involuntary Resettlement Safeguards, Stakeholder Engagement, Gender, and Grievance Mechanism, activities showing compliance with these policies will need to be incorporated into the project annual work plan.</p>			

V. EXPECTED DISCLOSURE DATES

Safeguard Plan	CI Disclosure Date	In-Country Disclosure Date
Environmental & Social Impact Assessment (ESIA)	NA	NA
Environmental Management Plan (EMP)	NA	NA
Voluntary Resettlement Action Plan (V- RAP)	NA	NA
Process Framework for Restriction of Access to Natural Resources	Within 15 days of CI-GEF approval	Within 15 days of CI-GEF approval
Indigenous Peoples Plan (IPP)	IPP not required. FPIC process to be documented	IPP not required. FPIC process to be documented
Pest Management Plan (PMP)	NA	NA
Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP)	SEP not required. SE activities to be included in the annual workplan	SEP not required. SE activities to be included in the annual workplan
Gender Mainstreaming Plan (GMP)	GMP not required. GM activities to be included in the annual workplan	GMP not required. GM activities to be included in the annual workplan
Accountability and Grievance Mechanism	Within 15 days of CI-GEF approval	No later than inception workshop/kick-off meeting

VI. APPROVALS

Signed and submitted by:		
Vice President: 	Name: Miguel Morales	Date: 03/10/2017
Approved by:		
Safeguard Manager: 	Name: Ian Kissoon	Dat : 2016-03-07
Comments:		
Project Manager: 	Name: Orissa Samaroo	Date: 03/07/2016
Comments:		

