

ESMS Clearance of Project Proposal

Project Data

Data for the fields below are copied from the Screening Report

Project Title:	Continental wetlands adaptation and resilience to climate change		
Project proponent:	IUCN		
Executing agency:	Mauritania National Great Green Wall Agency, Direction des Aires Protégées et du Littoral		
Funding agency:	GEF / LDCF		
Country:	Mauritania	Contract value (add currency):	4,449,541 (in \$)
Estimated start date and duration:	Project duration 48 months	Amount in CHF:	4.493.950
Has a safeguard screening or ESIA been done before?	yes no	Provide details:	

ESMS Screening Report

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Risk category:	low risk	moderate risk	high risk
<p>Rationale Summarize findings from the questionnaire and explain the rationale of risk categorization</p>	<p>The project aims at restoring wetland ecosystems for climate change adaptation and resilience. Because these wetlands are important for pastoralist livelihoods, restoring these -13..56 7tThe Environmental impacts are expected to be mostly positive related to invasive species which is expected to be readily addressed through appropriate handling procedures (see section B4).</p>		

Required actions for gender mainstreaming

The PIF describes the project's intention to promote gender equality and indicates the plan to undertake, as part of project preparation, an assessment of needs of all men and women involved in the project. In order to improve gender responsive project design, the following recommendations are made by the screening team:

- Undertake a targeted gender analysis – as integral part of the socio-economic context analysis of the selected intervention sites - to review the project and its context systematically on potential risks of affecting women as well as identifying opportunities for women empowerment.
- Ensure ample consultation of women in gender analysis;
- Examine gender roles in natural resources management, differences in access to and control over resources and women's representation in governance processes and bodies;
- Identify needs, barriers and potential disadvantages women face;
- Explore women's skills and knowledge specific to their activities and livelihoods.

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The fields below are completed by the IUCN ESMS reviewer at Clearance stage

	Name	Organization and function	Date
IUCN ESMS Reviewer Clearance Stage:	Olivier Hamerlynck	Independent ESMS Consultant	28/02/2018
	Linda Klare	ESMS Coordinator , IUCN	28/02/2018
	Title		Date
Documents submitted at Clearance Stage:	2018.02.13_ProDoc_8033_Continental wetlands_Mauritania_Final		13.2.2018
Have findings from ESIA triggered any changes (e.g. risk level or Standards triggered)	<p>The PPG has contributed to clarifying the triggering decision of the following Standards:</p> <p><u>Indigenous People</u>: has changed from TBD to No (see explanation in checklist).</p> <p><u>Cultural Heritage</u>: triggered, but low risk which is expected to be managed through the confirmed adherence to the chance find procedures.</p>		
CLEARANCE DECISION			
Cleared	The conclusions are positive and the project proposal meets all requirements with regards to avoiding or reducing environmental and social risks: the proposal is accepted.		
Conditionally cleared	The conclusions call for improving one or more ESMS activities and/or for important re-		

Annex A: Checklist for Clearance of Project Proposal

This checklist is completed by the ESMS Coordinator in consultation with the IUCN ESMS Expert team. The purpose of the appraisal is to check whether the project and its ESMP have incorporated adequate measures to avoid, minimize or compensate for potential social and environmental impacts and that a suitable mechanism is conceptualized that assures implementation of mitigation measures and monitoring of their effectiveness. Some questions may not be applicable for the appraised project and hence should be marked with n/a.

	Yes, no, n/a	Comment
General appraisal of project proposal and process of stakeholder engagement		
1. Have the ESMS procedures on stakeholder consultation been properly applied during project design and ESIA and resulted in effective engagement of relevant stakeholders, including affected groups?	Yes	The proponents have gone a long way into the stakeholder analysis and have clearly identified the vulnerable groups (women, youth, haratin) and have invoerh1(o)-12(e g)-.3(v)

Framework?		
12. FPIC process: Have consultations been held with legitimate representatives of the affected groups? Have they participated in the development of the Process Framework or the Action Plan and assigned a role in its implementation and monitoring? Have they provided consent to project activities that trigger resettlement or restrictions? Is this documented?		
13. Are proposed mitigation measures technically and operationally feasible, sustainable and culturally adequate? Are they accessible by all affected groups? Are they sufficient?		
Indigenous Peoples		
14. Is the Standard triggered?	No	During the project preparation phase, and more explicitly visits to the three proposed project sites, it was confirmed that there are no indigenous people in the project area. In Mauritania only the Nemâdi, specialised Addax antelope hunters using dogs, would qualify. Probably numbering less than 200, they are confined to areas much further East and would only be affected if the project was somehow limiting access to their target animal (which is critically endangered) which is not the case. According to Catherine Taine-Cheikh even the Imraguen in the Banc d'Arguin would not qualify as indigenous peoples. Mauretania is a caste society with arab warriors and defeated berber people (les marabouts) dominating a number of free people (les "tributaires" – mostly from berber stock) who pay tax (or do labour) to them and then the whole underlayer of "liberated" slaves (Haratin) who were caught from sedentary southern peoples but have integrated into the Hassanya language and culture. It is not an ethnically diverse society with indigenous people. Vulnerability issues related to the Haratin are dealt with in question 42 and 43.
Answer questions below only if standard has been triggered		
15. Are negative impacts on indigenous people expected?		
16. Have project alternatives or adjustments of project design been sufficiently considered to avoid negative impacts?		
17. Have measures been developed to minimise the impacts, secure and, when appropriate, enhance the economic, social, environmental and cultural benefits to these communities and/or provide adequate and fair compensation for impacts?		

<p>18. Consultation and FPIC process: Have consultations been held with legitimate representatives of the affected indigenous groups? Have they participated in the identification of impacts, the design of mitigation measures and/or in the development of an indigenous peoples plan (IPP)? Have they been assigned a role in its implementation and monitoring? Have they provided consent to project activities that might trigger impacts? Is this documented?</p>		
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19. Are proposed mitigation measures technically and operationally feasible, sustainable and culturally adequate? Are they sufficient and accessible by all affected groups?

46. If there is a risk that the project might increase the vulnerability of communities and/or the ecosystem to current/ future climate