Increasing Resilience to Climate Change and Natural Hazards (IRCCNH) Project Environmental and Social Safeguards Activities

Final Report

Dam construction at the Louinio GFS in Tanna

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ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

CDC	Community Disaster Committee
DEPC	Department of Environmental Protection and Conservation
DP	Demonstration Plot
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EPA	Environmental Preliminary Assessment
ESMF	Environmental and Social Monitoring Framework
ESS	Environment and Social Safeguards
ESSS	Environmental and Social Safeguards Screening
FR	All Whether Access Roads
GRM	Grievances Redress Mechanisms
GRF	Grievance Report Form
GFS	Gravity Fed Water System
IRCCNH	Increasing Resilience to Climate Change and Natural Hazards
MPC	Community Multi-Purpose Center
MOA	Memorandum of Understanding
NDMO	National Disaster Management Office
PWD	Public Works Division Tafea
VMGD	Vanuatu Meteorology and Geo-hazards Department

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

It is a World Bank requirement to ensure there is prevention and mitigation of harm to people by protecting their communities and environment in the development process of any projects including the Increasing Resilience to Climate Change and Natural Hazards (IRCCNH) Project. Conducting the Social and Environmental Safeguards prior to implementation to proposed sites is an important part of the World Bank policy that ensures people and their environment are not harmed in any development activities of this project. To guide the implementation of the Project's activities, the Government and the World Bank have agreed to establish two safeguards framework documents and one of which this project is using is the Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF). This Framework is the main document that guides and inform the project officers who are responsible on what actions and or activities to do regarding safeguards requirements. This is to set out the principles and processes that would apply if specified environmental or social issues emerged especially with the selected projects sites initiated under this Project. As a result, an Environmental and Social Safeguards Screening (ESSS) form was developed to help with screening of projects and their sites prior to implementations and also to manage any issues during implementation period. All micro-projects are categorized under the World Bank Category B according to the World Bank ESMF requirement. This means that all projects are geographically limited and have readily identified impacts that can be easily mitigated, therefore will not cause huge environment and social impacts to project sites and surrounding communities.

The safeguards implementation process and activities used in this project are as follows:

- Community consultation process
- Environmental and Social Safeguards Screening
- Mitigation measures developed
- Environmental preliminary assessment
- Safeguards monitoring and reporting
- Grievances redress mechanisms

There are challenges faced during the implementation of this process at all levels – government stakeholders, implementing partners, communities and internally within the project. Challenges are mainly due to the lack of understanding of the Safeguards requirement as it is a first ever World Bank project to be implemented with new staff who have limited knowledge on such issues. Despite the many challenges faced, a lot of lessons have been learnt over the years of implementation and collaboration with various stakeholders and partners in relation to safeguards policies. These lessons and reflections have informed few recommendations put forward by the project team with the aim of assisting the Government and the World Bank for planning purposes for similar projects requiring safeguards into the future.

INTRODUCTION

This report will look into the overall safeguards' activities implementation processes of the different micro-projects implemented through this project in the communities around the country. For the sake of this closing report, micro-projects will be known as "projects" and World Bank as "Bank" throughout this report. The primary objective of this report is to inform the ongoing Bank Safeguard Team about some of the key issues faced between the Bank's existing policies for the assessment and management of environmental and social impacts and risks, which is in this case the ESMF and the existing policies of Vanuatu as the host country of the Increasing Resilience to Climate Change and Natural Hazards (IRCCNH) Project. With this objective, this report will describe the process used to implement the ESMF requirements in the IRCCNH project. It also describes the consultation process used by the project to consult with its stakeholder, partners and communities on the implementation of safeguards related activities. This report also discusses the safeguards monitoring process used in ensuring the project abides by the World Bank's ESMF Policy aimed at identifying and reducing potential risks posed to the environment and social aspects of project sites area of influence by different project type. The process used to address problems or any issues as a result of the project is described under the Grievances Redress Mechanisms (GRM). Challenges in implementing the safeguards requirements properly faced by the project is also highlighted in this report with few examples from the field. This report then continues to highlight lessons learned which acts as the team's reflections on the issues with safeguards as a whole. This report then concluded with some recommendations the project team felt should be considered in future World Bank projects when it comes to addressing and implementing safeguards issues during project implementation. This report will also show some pictures from the community consultation process to highlight the different safeguards activities done throughout the live of this project.

PROJECT BRIEF BACKGROUND

The IRCCNH Project commenced activities in 2013, but in late 2015 the Government has requested a restructure to simplify the project and focus on community level investments following Tropical Cyclone Pam. The project is seen as a program of works for Vanuatu to improve the resilience of stakeholders and communities to the impact of climate change on food, household water security and livelihoods. And as per the grant agreement, the implementation and coordination lead role of the project components was initially conducted by the Vanuatu Meteorology and Geo-Hazards Department (VMGD) of the Ministry of Climate Change, through the Project Management Unit (PMU), which has recently, joined the new Department of Climate Change. The project comprises four components: Component 1: Institutional Strengthening, Component 2: Micro-projects, Component 3: Agriculture (demonstration plots) and Component 4: Water Supply (Rural water security). The Project activities under the different components have been progressed well since 2016 with the assistance of the existing Operational Task Team established since mid2016 in Tanna and IsrAID as the sub-Contractor for project implementation

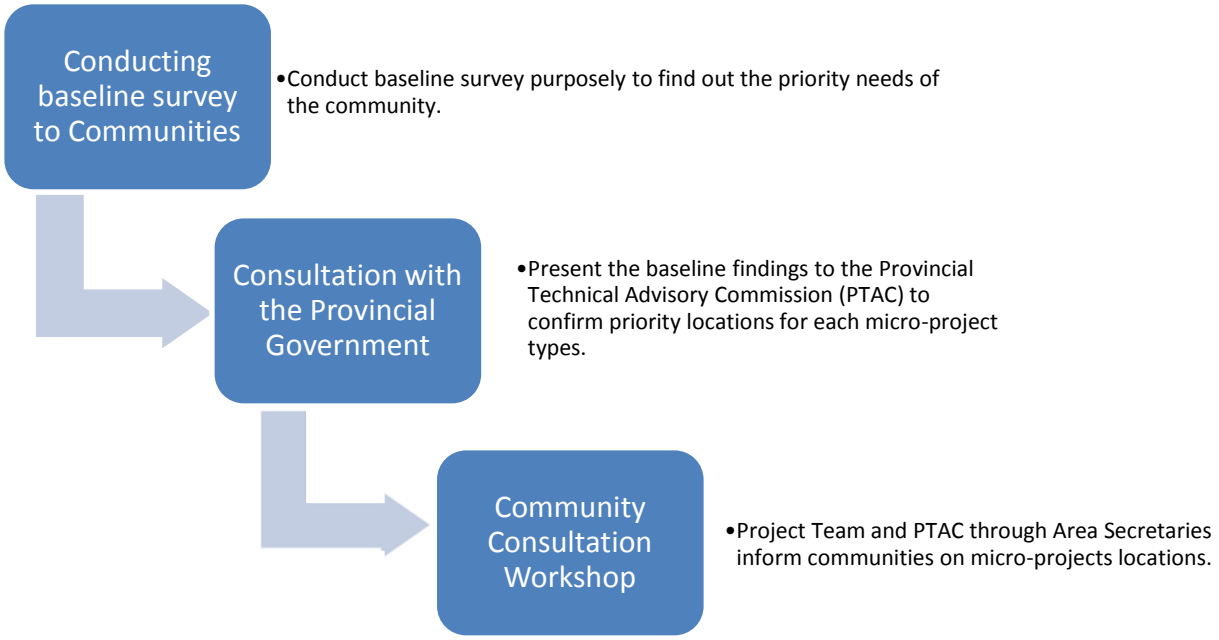
on Tongoa Island including a baseline survey for Tongariki and Buninga islands in the Sheherds. The completion of several project types was done in Tanna and Tongoa islands as of last year 2018. With this progress, remaining works are still on the all whether access roads and gravity fed water systems on Tanna, which is to be completed by, end of June this year 2019.

SAFEGUARDS IMPLEMENTATION PROCESS

Below is a brief description of each step of the process involved in the implementation of safeguards requirements and activities in this project starting from planning up to implementation and handing over:

1. Community Consultation process – From the beginning of the project, part of its planning was conduction of the baseline survey held in 2016 to all communities in West and East Tanna Area Councils in Tanna Island. The findings of the survey helped the project to identify the different priority needs of each communities surveyed. These findings were presented to the Tafea Provincial Advisory Commission (PTAC) who then made final selection of project types and their sites. Once the communities and project types were selected, the project team with the assistance of the provincial government then visited each community to inform them of the PTAC's decision of selecting their sites as hosts to projects implemented through the IRCCNH project. The project team based in Port Vila then continued to conduct follow up consultation meetings by gathering community's members for workshops and meetings regarding safeguards issues and its importance. These meetings informed the community that the World Bank has an ESMF and safeguards policy and it is important to be considered before any implementation is done in the communities. Other follow up meetings were held towards the end of 2016 and whole of 2017 mainly conducting ESS screening (*to be detailed in point 2).*This is not only to assess potential risks and impacts caused by the project implementation, but also helped the project to be able to confirm proposed sites. The consultation process also allows the project team to visit and assess sites thus helped to identify potential risks for project sites. Through this screening exercise, mitigation measures were then developed to avoid and or minimize potential risks posed by the project through its development and implementation (*see point 3 for detailed mitigation measures).* Community workshops conducted to remind communities of these measures, for example, water management training.

Figure 1 shows the steps involved in the consultation process for this project



2. Environmental and Social Safeguards Screening (ESSS) – This screening form consists of the following aspects: Community and village information, Site selection, Environmental and Social Checklist which covers the type of activities, the environment, land acquisition and access to resources and certification from community leaders on the proposed site. In February, September and November of 2017, the Environment and Social Safeguards (ESS) screening forms have been completed for all micro-projects sites on Tanna, Tongoa, Tongariki, Buniga, and Ambrym. The ESS screening also took place at the beginning of 2017 to other islands like Emau, Santo, Malo, Efate and Ambae who are also beneficiaries of the project's assistance prior to and post Pam as part of the project's collaboration with other Government's sectors like the Department of Agriculture, Water Department, National Disaster Management Office (NDMO) and the Vanuatu Meteorology and Geo-hazards Department (VMGD). These screening involved the signing off from Chiefs, land owners, community leaders and the provincial authority. This is an indication that everyone both the community leaders, land owners and project team understood that any potential risk to the environment and social issues will be mitigated using the measures in place during project implementation. Since it is difficult to contextualize and explain the issues around safeguards especially on the issue around land acquisition and Environmental Management Plan (EMP), Resettlement Action Plan (RAP) and Pest Management Plan (PMP), the only explanation given about the ESS screening form is that by signing the form shows that the community leaders understand that the project will not pose any potential risks to the environmental and social issues of their communities and that any potential risks will be mitigated through the identified code of practice for works on the different projects that will be implemented in their community. By signing the screening form also shows community leaders

are happy and allow the implementation of project activities in their communities. We don't really talk about acquiring land for the project and we don't talk about the land owner issue on Tanna for reasons that this might stir or cause problems and disputes within the community members. This signing also indicates that everyone is happy with the project in their areas and there will be no disputes what so ever on the location chosen for the projects. *See Appendix 1 for the detailed screening form.*

Figure 2 Table shows the actual number of ESS screening done

Type of project	**Island**	**Number of ESS Screening done**
All whether access roads	Tanna	11
Community MPCs	Tanna	4
	Tongariki	1
	Buniga	1
Rain Water Catchment	Tanna	9
Agriculture Demo plots	Tanna	14
	Ambrym	4
Rain Water Tanks (Before TC Pam)	Malo	5
	Ambae	20
	Tanna	5
Rain Water Tanks (Post TC Pam)	Tanna	7
	Emau	3
	Efate	8
	Epi	3
Rain Water Tanks (retrofitting) (Post TC Hola)	Ambrym	10
Seismic Stations	Around the country	8
Total screening done		**113**

3. Mitigation measures developed – Mitigation measures for the different project types – Gravity Fed Water Systems (GFS), Rain Water Catchment Systems (RWC), All Whether Access Feeder Roads (FR), Community Multi-purpose Centers (MPC) and Agriculture Demonstration Plots (DP) were developed based on the identified potential risks from the initial screenings and assessments done on the different sites. These measures are aimed at assisting the project team and the contractors to reduce the potential impacts or any risks to the surrounding environment and to any social issues as a result of the project implementation on each location. The Safeguard officer organized meetings with the site supervisors and contractors on the contents of the identified measures and their actions for their considerations and action during implementation of activities. Hard copies of these measures were handed over to the project stakeholders and supervisors for their continuous monitoring and action over the duration of the project activities

on sites. *See Appendix 2 for detailed mitigation measures developed for the different micro-project type.*

4. Environmental Assessment – The IRCCNH Project has been working in collaboration with the Department of Environmental Protection and Conservation (DEPC) to conduct the Environmental Preliminary Assessment (EPA) purposely to determine if an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is really needed for a particular project site. As part of this exercise, the ESS screening form developed purposely for this project was used by the Safeguards Officer to assess what potential risks might be in the project area of influence and as well on potential social risks. The Environment Assessment Officer was also conducting EPA on all project sites and made reports based on the necessary findings. The Safeguards Officer then applied for Environment Permits in order to comply with the Environment Act. The application process involved the filling in of the application form obtained by the DEPC and submitted the completed forms to the Environment Officer responsible who will process the applications based on the findings report to confirm what appropriate permits or conditions are required for the project as a way forward. From these applications, the Director of DEPC gave permits and conditions on what measures to take for each of the project type during implementation. For the case of this project, all permits received do not require the project to conduct further EIA as per findings of the EPA and project initial screening. These permits are then filed for future references. *See Appendix 3 for copy of an Environment Permit for one of the project type.*

5. Safeguards monitoring and reporting – After the development of the different mitigation measures for each of the micro-project types, the Safeguards Officer then conduct a one on one briefing with each Site Supervisors on the ground on what is required of them as detailed in the measures in place. The aim of having these measures are to ensure micro-projects comply with the Bank's ESMF during implementation and to ensure all mitigation measures are implemented considered and addressed accordingly. These measures were developed as part of the community consultations and assessments done on each of the micro-project sites. These measures are also shared with the community leaders and members purposely for them to know what responsibilities and role they play during the implementation phase of the project in each of their communities. The Safeguards Officer then made several site visits during the implementation stages to conduct safeguards monitoring and Reporting on ongoing activities. This is done in collaboration with the site supervisors, workers and community members to see, observe and monitor ongoing activities to ensure potential risks a reduced or avoided on site. Safeguards monitoring visits to all micro-project sites assisted the project to really avoid potential risks to the surrounding environment and to the social aspects of the project locations and its area of influence. At the end of each mission, a Safeguards Monitoring Report is developed and

submitted to the Project Manager to ensure action is taken on outstanding issues still on ground. *See Appendix 4 for the Safeguards Monitoring Report.*

GRIEVANCES REDRESS MECHANISMS

The Grievances Redress Mechanism (GRM) provides guidance for any complaints management for this World Bank funded project that is being implemented by the PMU under VMGD. The purpose of having GRM in place is to assist the project to be able to provide a consistent and wholly approached process which at the same time meet the World Bank's safeguards requirements. Therefore, the main objective of having the GRM is to establish a prompt, easy to understand, consistent and respectful mechanism to support the PMU in receiving, investigating and responding to complaints from community stakeholders. This is by ensuring that a proper documentation of complaints and any corrective actions are taken and also to contribute to the continuous improvement in performance through the analysis of trends and lessons learned. With this mechanism in place, the following steps are taken by the project staff:

1. Conducting awareness of the GRM purpose and requirements to site supervisors and project staff and briefly to the communities involved in project.
2. Left copies of the Grievance Report Form (GRF) to all Site Supervisors and members of stakeholders like the Community Liaison Officer for the Public Works Division (PWD) Tafea. The form is also to guide and assist them to record any issues reported to them on the ground for the project's information and records.

Issues were addressed through the grievance resolution process which includes four key stages:

(i) **Receive** – All complaints or issues from the communities as a result from Project's activities were received through verbal conversation with the concern person at any time. The site supervisors on the ground as the ones receiving these complaints and relayed them to the Safeguards Officer who then records complaints and issues raised for further follow ups and monitoring. Complains and grievances were also received in a form of letter written by community leaders to the Project. Site supervisors on the ground used the Grievances Report Form[1] to record any complaints received from the community, which then passed on to the Safeguards officer who will further monitor and solve the issue. *See appendix 5 for the copy of the form.*

[1] Annex C – Grievance Report Form – is taken from the Project's Environment and Social Management Framework (ESMF).

(ii) **Investigate/Enquire** – Upon receiving the complaints from the site supervisors and other community leaders during site visits, the Safeguards officer then begun the process of making further enquiry into the matter by doing further site visits and talking with the Chiefs and community leaders about the issue at hand. These investigations and enquiries were usually done during field visits to the concern project sites.

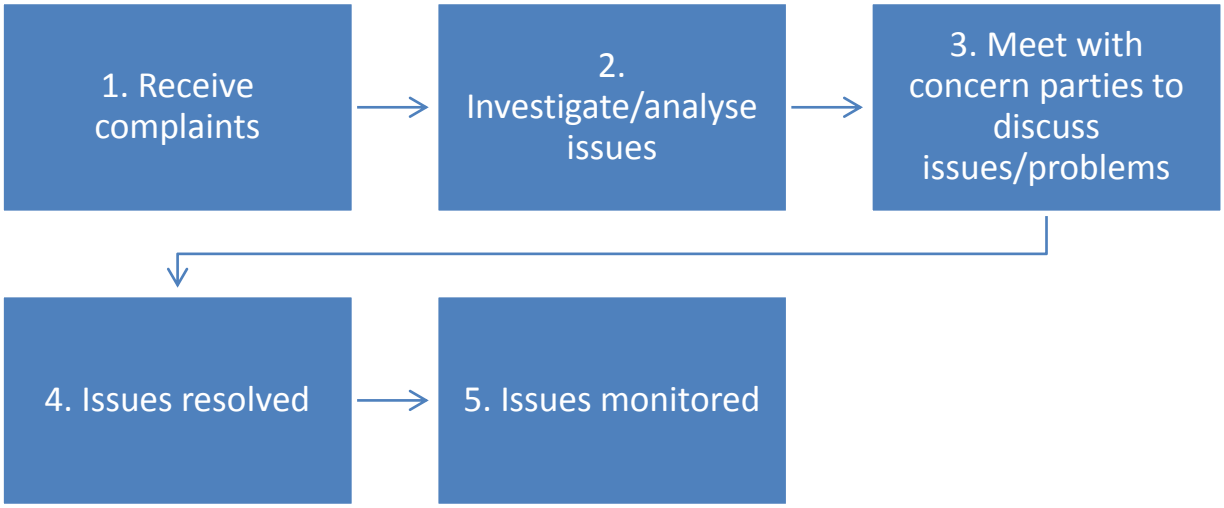
(iii) **Respond** – The responding time to each of the grievances or complaints depend on the nature of each issue. For example, issues that can easily be solved at the level of the Site supervisors are usually solved within few days such as fixing and or replacing broken pipes in a certain area. Other bigger issues requiring much higher decision making will take up to three weeks to a month to respond and sometimes longer depending on how long the enquiries and consultation with communities to solve such problems may take. This is also the case because the Safeguards Officer visits project sites once in two to three months at a time. Other factors not related to the project but are existing issues with the communities hosting project sites may also delay responding timing to solving issues. For example, the issue around solving the seismic station at Yasur Volcano on Tanna took almost a year to solve due to existing land ownership issues. Once an issue is solved it gets recorded onto the Record of Incidents and Complaints Form[2]which shows the completion of all issues raised for this Project. *See appendix 6 for a sample of a completed form.*

(iv) **Follow up/Close Out** – The Project Team (Site supervisors) on the ground usually do follow ups with communities on particular issues or grievances raised by them in the past and has been resolved by the Project. This process also involved community workshops as part of the Project's initiative to officially handover the project to the community. The Project at the end of each of the Project fill up a Handover of Asset to Community Form[3] as a way to close out the Project's implementation phase with the community concern. *See appendix 7 for a sample of a completed form.*

[2] Annex J – Record of incidents and complaints – is taken from the Project's Environment and Social Management Framework (ESMF).

[3] Annex H – Handover of asset to community – is taken from the Project's Environment and Social Management Framework (ESMF).

Figure 3 shows the different steps involved in the GRM process



CHALLENGES

Challenges of Compliance with Safeguards requirements

There are several challenges that affect the compliance mechanism with the safeguard policies. These challenges are faced by both the banks and the borrower which is in this case the Government of Vanuatu through the Project Management Unit (PMU) as the implementer of activities under the IRCCNH Project. The borrower in this case the Government of Vanuatu on the other hand faced challenges that include financial, technical and institutional constraints which limit their capacity to comply with the safeguards requirements and this is the case for this project since it started in 2013. There is also political interference in issues related to protection of the environment and establishment of development projects. This exacerbated by lack of civil awareness to question propriety of controversial projects, which is in this case is very limited except for few sites. Therefore, for the purpose of this report, challenges faced are placed under the following categories:

Challenges with Government Stakeholders:

Most times the Implementation of safeguards requirements does not go well with our stakeholders' work procedures, which resulted in slow responses to requests from the project. For example, the Department of Public Works (PWD) as a government stakeholder in the implementation of all whether access roads on Tanna is not easy in terms of complying with the Bank's ESMF requirement in parallel with what the government is having in place. For instance, the delay in designing phase of the roads and the issue of quarry permits and owners of beaches and quarry sites where in most communities land owners do not usually have permits, but

aggregates are acquired through verbal conversations, which in most times does not meet the safeguards requirements expectations. The context in reality does not fit in with the ESMF requirements. Working with the Department of Environment is also difficult due to staff capacity which results in the slow respond to environment permit applications that can delay in the quick start of a project implementation on ground. This slow process has also contributed on the delay in the start of any project activities.

Challenges with Implementing Partners:
For the case of this project, subcontracting with IsrAID makes less oversight and monitoring of safeguards from the project side on projects implemented in the island of Tongoa. For example, the Contractor was reluctant to comply with safeguards process of conducting ESSS at the community saying it will be another layer of work for them and said that it is not their responsibility to do this activity. So when screening is not done, it is difficult to monitor any potential risks from proposed activities on different sites on the island for instance. This action also causes difficulty to solving problems raised from communities at the later stage of the project when our partner completed their activities and when all responsibility goes back to the project team. For example, the project team is faced with some safeguards issues which is hard to solve for reasons that we are not clear on how consultations and negotiations were done at the beginning by the Contractor with the community leaders. So, it will take time to deal with such situations.

Challenges with communities:
There are challenges in terms of explaining and relaying the framework to the community to understand its requirements. The challenge of contextualizing the framework requirements to the local context is also another challenge. The challenge of conveying the safeguards issues in any community is very difficult in itself because communities in Vanuatu for instance does not regard or are not aware or understand the importance of safeguards issues. The context in each of the rural communities that hosts each of the project type varies and most times does not really require or have land ownership titles and quarry permits to its beaches for instance. For example, once you start to mention or ask who is the land owner of this particular site, you automatically stirred up another level of discussion, that most likely to result in disputes from different disputing parties to a particular site.

Challenges Internally:
There were challenges with working with the Procurement officer to especially incorporate the safeguards requirements into the Contracts before they are signed off. The absent of the safeguards guidance into the project design and ITQ for materials and then discover later that some safeguards issues are missing in the whole design and try to redo this projects at a later stage is delaying the overall implementation on the ground. Lack of proper consultation with each other which resulted in the constant changes of project sites and so have to repeat the EPA in new locations which in turn has further delayed project activities.

LESSONS LEARNED (GENERAL REFLECTIONS)

In general, the Project through its implementation activities is truly committed to development that improves lives, environmental protection and tries to be accountable for its negative impacts as guided by the Bank's Safeguard Policy. However, being the first Project with funding administered through the Bank in country, safeguards is seen as a new concept to incorporate into project activities. Coupled with that the Officer concern to oversee safeguards' implementation for this project, lack prior and or relevant knowledge on the ESMF policy and requirements to fully carry out safeguards activities. Therefore, throughout the project implementation, there are many lessons learned, which are welcomed by the project team as important for future considerations to similar projects. For the case of this report, the many lessons learned are also seen as general reflections from the Safeguards Officer on the work done as part of the IRCCNH Project.

I must admit that above all aspects of any project including this particular one, safeguards requirements when strictly followed will ensure project objectives and goals are fully achieved including sustainable measures will be owned by the communities and authorities involved. However, my focus on reducing social and environmental damage resulted from projects activities lack prior guidance and independence to do a good job. The Bank on the other hand though has provided the ESMF as guidance for the project, has little oversight over how well their advice is followed and how much time is devoted to safeguards activities, thus I see safeguards are only treated as a check the box measure rather than an integral part of the designing and implementation stages of this project.

These factors have led to the project to experiencing the following lessons during the project implementation:

- In general the use of country system does not match the Bank's ESMF requirements, thus making it difficult to fully comply with the required standards and processes, especially with a different context in country in terms of culture, normal practices and different ways of understanding and doing things in various communities hosting project types.
- A safeguards officer should be recruited at the start and not towards the end of the project.
- A proper safeguards training on the World Bank ESMF Policy should be conducted for all project staff right at the beginning of the project.
- A huge gap was found in the contracts of contractors and supervisors who are implementing the different activities of the micro-projects activities on the ground even before they sign their contracts, there were no mention or inclusion of any safeguards requirements into their contracts. This should be included right from the beginning in order that they are familiar with what role and responsibility they have in complying with safeguards requirements.

- Mitigation measures are to be developed right at the beginning of the project planning stages and should be shared with supervisors and contractors before implementations commence.
- I should have known these factors right at the beginning, there should not be a gap in any of these factors.
- The identification of the exact locations of the feeder roads are not very clear to the Team members making it hard to communicate to communities on ESS screening awareness and signing of the ESS screening forms.
- Having a proper consultation with the chiefs and community over the project chosen site is very important at the beginning of the project before conducting the ESS screening.
- Proper survey with and on the selected sites before any implementation activities began.
- The Procurement officer or any Project staff to make sure the materials are delivered on the approved sites or locations.
- A building contractor should be supervising the work on any building of the RWC systems from beginning to finish to avoid issues over having not enough materials, incomplete and sizes of buildings and or changing of designs at a last minute.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Following the vast experiences with both stakeholders and communities and the wealth of lessons learned when working in this project, there are few key recommendations put forward for considerations for similar future projects:

a. To recruit a Safeguards Officer at the beginning of the project or even at the designing stage of similar projects.
b. World Bank to provide Safeguards training to project staff as part of capacity building from the very beginning of the project.
c. The ESMF requirements should be aligned with governments related Acts and Policies and should be promoted across stakeholders and partners alike.
d. The ESMF requirements should be flexible to meet the context of various communities when it comes to explaining what safeguards is.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, Safeguards issues are seen as a very important part of the Project implementation stages of the IRCCNH Project. It helps to guide the Project in its implementation activities in ensuring all micro-projects are in line with the Government Environment and Social Policies and that all micro-projects are safe from any environmental and social problems.

APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Environmental and Social Safeguards Screening Form

Environmental and Social Safeguard Screening Form

Department:

IRCCNH Component:

Subproject Name:

Subproject Location (include map/sketch):

Type of Activity:

Proposed Date of Commencement of Work:

Site Selection:

When considering the location of a sub-project, rate the sensitivity of the proposed site in the following table. Higher ratings do not necessarily mean that the site is unsuitable. They do indicate a real risk of causing undesirable adverse environmental and social impacts, and that more substantial environmental and/or social planning may be required to adequately avoid, mitigate or manage potential impacts.

Issues	**Site Sensitivity**			**Rating**
	Low	**Medium**	**High**	
Natural Habitats	No natural habitats present of any kind	No critical natural habitats; other natural habitats occur	Critical natural habitats present	
Water quality and water resource availability and use	Water flows exceed demand; low intensity of water use; potential water use conflicts expected to be low; no potential water quality issues	Medium intensity of water use; multiple water users; water quality issues are important	Intensive water use; multiple water users; potential for conflicts is high; water quality issues are important	
Natural hazards vulnerability, floods, soil stability/erosion	Flat terrain; no potential stability/erosion problems; no known volcanic/ seismic/ flood risks	Medium slopes; some erosion potential; medium risks from volcanic/ seismic/ flood/ hurricanes	Mountainous terrain; steep slopes; unstable soils; high erosion potential; volcanic, seismic or flood risks	
Cultural property	No known or suspected cultural heritage sites	Suspected cultural heritage sites; known heritage	Known heritage sites in project area	

		sites in broader area of influence		
Involuntary resettlement	Low population density; dispersed population; legal tenure is well defined; well defined water rights	Medium population density; mixed ownership and land tenure; well-defined water rights	High population density; major towns and villages; low income families and/or illegal ownership of land; communal properties; unclear water rights	

Completeness of Subproject Application:

Does the subproject application document contain, as appropriate, the following information?

Information	**Yes**	**No**	**N/A**
Description of the proposed project and where it is located			
Reasons for proposing the project			
The estimated cost of construction and operation			
Information about how the site was chosen, and what alternatives were considered			
A map or drawing showing the location and boundary of the project including any land required temporarily during construction			
The plan for any physical works (e.g. layout, buildings, other structures, construction materials)			
Any new access arrangements or changes to existing road layouts			
Any land that needs to be acquired, as well as who owns it, lines on it or has rights to use it			
A work program for construction and operation (e.g. materials, water, energy)			
Information about measures included in the subproject plan to avoid or minimize adverse environmental and social impacts			
Details of any permits required for the project			

Environmental and Social Checklist

The following tables provide a series of recommendations to determine potential environmental and social impacts associated with each subproject and the potential need to develop subproject specific Environmental and Social Management Plans (ESMP).

A Type of activity – will the subproject:		**Yes**	**No**
1	Support animal husbandry or processing?		

2	Involve the construction or rehabilitation of any small dams, weirs or reservoirs?		
3	Support irrigation schemes?		
4	Support rural water supply and sanitation?		
5	Build or rehabilitate any rural roads?		
6	Involve solid waste management?		
7	Involve small scale aquaculture?		
8	Involve food processing?		
9	Build or rehabilitate any structures or buildings?		
10	Support agricultural activities?		
11	Be located in or near an area where there is an important historical, archaeological or cultural heritage site?		
12	Be located within or adjacent to any areas that are or maybe protected government (e.g. national park, world heritage site) or local tradition, or that might be a natural habitat?		
13	Depend on water supply from an existing dam, weir or other water diversion habitat?		
B Environment – will the subproject:		**Yes**	**No**
14	Risk causing the contamination of drinking water		
15	Cause poor water drainage and increase the risk of water related diseases such as malaria?		
16	Harvest or exploit a significant amount of natural resources such as trees, fuel wood or water?		
17	Be located within or nearby environmentally sensitive areas (e.g. intact natural forests, mangroves, wetlands) or threatened species?		
18	Create a risk of increased soil degradation or erosion?		
19	Create a risk of increasing soil salinity?		
20	Produce or increase the production of solid or liquid wastes (e.g. water, medical, domestic or construction wastes)?		
21	Affect the quantity or quality of surface waters (e.g. rivers, streams, wetlands) or groundwater (e.g. wells)?		
22	Result in the production of solid or liquid waste, or result in an increase in waste production, during construction or operation?		
23	Negatively impact on existing ecosystems or habitats?		
If the answer to any of questions 14 – 23 is yes, an Environmental Management Plan (EMP) should be prepared for the subproject.			
C Land Acquisition and access to resources – will the subproject:		**Yes**	**No**
24	Require that land (public or private) be acquired (temporarily or permanently) for its development?		

25	Use land that is currently occupied or regularly used for productive purposes (e.g. gardening, farming, pasture, fishing locations, forests) ?		
26	Displace individuals, families or businesses?		
27	Result in the temporary or permanent loss of crops, fruit trees or household infrastructure such as granaries, outside toilets and kitchens?		
28	Result in the involuntary restriction of access by people to legally designated parks and protected areas?		
If the answer to any of questions 24 – 28 is yes, please consult the Land Acquisition and Resettlement Framework and if needed, prepare a Resettlement Action Plan (RAP) for the subproject.			
D Pesticides and agricultural chemicals – will the subproject:		**Yes**	**No**
29	Involve the use of pesticides or other agricultural chemicals or increase existing use?		
If the answer to questions 29 is yes, please consult the ESMF and if needed, prepare a Pest Management Plan (PMP)			
E Dam safety – will the subproject:		**Yes**	**No**
30	Involve the construction of a dam or weir?		
31	Depend on water supplied from an existing dam or weir?		
If the answers to questions 30 – 31are yes, please consult the ESMF and if needed, prepare a Dam Safety Report (DSR)			

Certification

We certify that we have thoroughly examined all the potential adverse effects of this subproject. To the best of our knowledge, the subproject plan as described in the application and associated planning reports (e.g. EMP, RAP, PMP), if any, will be adequate to avoid or minimize all adverse environmental and social impacts.

Community representative (signature) (if required):

Local Authority representative (signature):

Project/Department representative (signature):

Date:

Appendix 2: Mitigation Measures Tables

Rain Water Catchment System Security - Summary of actual micro-project activities, potential impacts and mitigation measures **Latest Updated: 28.04.18**

Activity	Potential Environmental Impacts	Potential Social Impacts	Mitigation Measures (To report against these measures in Safeguards)	Safeguard Monitoring	Responsibility	Comments
Install rain water catchment systems in rural areas: a) Tank base for rainwater storage tank. b) Gutters connected to shelter/ house for collection of rainwater. c) Rain catchment shelter/ house/building	Nothing is expected to be causing any negative environmental impacts with this activity in the community, however there could be site specific impacts which need to be identified prior to installation. Surrounding vegetation of the rain water catchment source. Volcanic ash may affect the roofing of the catchment system. Possibility with tree branches can cause some damage to the catchment building due to cyclones.	If rainwater tanks are not properly maintained there is the risk that the tanks will become a breeding area for mosquitoes. There is also the potential for health impacts from water contamination if rainwater tanks are not maintained. There is another potential for stored water from the tap to become a breeding place for mosquitos causing malaria and dengue if no proper drainage done. The building structures to be fully completed to avoid accidents from unprotected wires and steel rods at the	1. Community consultation on Project awareness to the community – roles and responsibilities of both the community and the Project – what the Project is expected to deliver to the community. – done 2016/2017 2. Prior to the installation of rainwater tanks and catchment building, a detailed environmental and social screening should be carried out for each location. – done 2017 3. Water supply standards and guidelines will require rainwater tanks will be fitted with first flush devices and roofs and gutters will be clean before the tank is connected. – Awareness on this done in April 2018 and actual work to be done by October 2018. 4. Any construction to ensure that aggregates are sourced from licensed / permitted quarries or borrow pits, and waste is disposed to authorized municipal dumps / landfills. Still negotiate this with the Tafea Province.	Compliance and supervisory checks VMGD PMU.	1.PMU/VMGD and Water Department 2.PMU/VMGD and Environment Department 3.Water Department/Contractor 4. Tafea Province 5. Communities	Community deliberately left the irons and other materials uncompleted as they have other plans for community use in future at their own expense. This resulting in many buildings still have irons attached to them and blocks still laying around. The Project Team on Tanna Island will complete the first flash, tie down on water tanks, and soak way

Activity	Potential Environmental Impacts	Potential Social Impacts	Mitigation Measures (To report against these measures in Safeguards)	Safeguard Monitoring	Responsibility	Comments
		constructed buildings and sites. Enikahi Rain Water Catchment System: Communities might have a dispute caused by dissatisfaction/disagreement/misunderstanding between them and the Project' location as a result of the distribution of the micro-project materials on selected location.	5. Community awareness campaign on rainwater tank maintenance will be used to educate the users and other members of the community on the appropriate maintenance to prevent health issues relating to water contamination and vector and water borne diseases. – done 2018 6. Project final monitoring of the uncompleted micro-project works and final report of the current stage of the RWC system at Enikahi. On Wednesday 18th April 2018, the Safeguards and M&E officer visited the chiefs and communities of Enikahi, Ianatoka and Itukwei to discuss this matter further and was concluded at the meeting that the matter will now be handed over to the Chiefs led by the Area Secretary for South East Tanna to try and resolve the matter and will report back to the Project team on any decision by the community on the way forward. Otherwise, it is now becoming clear that the Vanuatu Government will have to repay the costs as it is ineligible expense to the Government.			on tank outlet/tap and placing nets on top on tank opening.
Install Gravity Fed Water Systems (GFS):	Groundwater extraction may cause the water	No negative social impacts are expected for this activity	Assess the thickness and width of the freshwater lens to establish an extraction rate and ensure the	Compliance and supervisory	1.PMU/VMGD and Water Department	

Activity	Potential Environmental Impacts	Potential Social Impacts	Mitigation Measures (To report against these measures in Safeguards)	Safeguard Monitoring	Responsibility	Comments
a) Small pumping systems for ground water. b) Pipes going through multiple land customs owners. c) Taps standing in areas. d) Storage tanks and structures, e) Stream and spring abstractions. f) Water source building covers/structures	table to be lowered (if the rate of extraction exceeds the amount of water entering the groundwater system). The associated impacts from a reduced water table level include reduced quantity of water availability, reduced base flows to streams, possible permanent loss of groundwater storage capacity, potential salt water intrusion, subsidence of surrounding land and destruction of groundwater dependent ecosystems. Site location and eg: individual space or ground. Surrounding vegetation of the water source.	(except for indirect impacts from the environmental impacts as described). Stream diversions could dry up downstream water supplies for other communities reliant on the water source.	estimated groundwater extraction is less than the sustainable extraction rate. Done by the Water Engineer in 2016/2017. Estimate a maximum take of 70% of the water source during dry periods (depending on other uses downstream). Done by the Water Engineer in 2016/2017. An environmental screening of the potential environmental and social impacts should be carried out prior to the installation of a stream diversion. Done in 2017 through the ESS screening form and EIA was conducted in 2016/2017 by the Environment Officer. Confirm the ownership of the water source. – Identified and done during the conduction of the ESS screening form in November 2017. Confirm any agreements to convey water across neighbouring custom land. - Done during the conduction of the ESS screening form and signing of the MOA in November 2017.	checks VMGD PMU.	2.PMU/VMGD and Environment Department 3.Water Department/Contractor 4. Tafea Province 5. Communities	

Activity	Potential Environmental Impacts	Potential Social Impacts	Mitigation Measures (To report against these measures in Safeguards)	Safeguard Monitoring	Responsibility	Comments
	Surface water abstractions reduce the amount of water available and may result in a decreased amount of habitat available for aquatic species, degradation of downstream estuarine habitat, changes in fish passage preventing life cycle stages for migrating species, potential impact on productivity of marine life in surrounding waters and change in composition of aquatic communities.					

Community Multi-Purpose Centers (and PDCs and VMGD building extension or other Structures) - Summary of actual micro-project activities, potential impacts and mitigation measures.

Latest Updated:

03.08.18

Activity	Potential Environmental Impacts	Potential Social Impacts	Mitigation Measures (To report against these measures in Safeguards)	Safeguard Monitoring	Responsibility	Comments
Design of water supply and sanitation.	Reduction of water resource for other users. Inadequate treatment and disposal of wastewater, leading to health impacts and water pollution.	Inadequate access for disabled / elderly and inadequate privacy and safety for women and girls.	Consult and get agreement from land owners. Design wastewater / sewage treatment and disposal according to national and international design standards for the ground conditions and the anticipated peak loads. Design to ensure all people can access facilities safely and securely. Provide gender-segregated facilities.	Compliance and supervisory checks VMGD PMU. Check design incorporates mitigation measures.	1. PMU/VMGD and Water Department 2. PMU/VMGD and Environment Department 3. Contractor 4. Tafea Province 5. Communities	
Source of sand and gravel for resurfacing and creating concrete foundations and structures.	Uncontrolled sand and gravel mining leading to coastal erosion Clearance of vegetation, nesting areas, feeding areas for wildlife.	Disputes over access to land or access to resources. Occupational health and safety of quarrying / mining.	Reuse crushed concrete. Procure sand and gravel in 'bulk' from licensed quarries. If licensed quarries are not available: • Use existing borrow pits / excavations for small sources.	Compliance and supervisory checks VMGD PMU. Check confirmed source of	1.PMU/VMGD	

Activity	Potential Environmental Impacts	Potential Social Impacts	Mitigation Measures (To report against these measures in Safeguards)	Safeguard Monitoring	Responsibility	Comments
			• Avoid beach mining in areas where erosion or inundation could be exacerbated. • Undertake a screening assessment to identify potential environmental and social risks. • Negotiate a fair price for sand and gravel from rightful resource owners. • Ensure occupational health and safety procedures, training and equipment for all operations.	aggregates prior to construction. Observe quarry operations.		
Constructions.	Damage to rare vegetation or habitats such as nesting areas, feeding areas for wildlife.	Removal of structures (fences, animal pens) income-generating assets such as trees or crops. Damage to physical cultural resources, including graves.	Consultation with owners and compensation for lost asset or income. Survey the site and consult with land owners prior to finalizing design. Realign to avoid PCR or otherwise move or protect PCR as required by land owners and GoV. Follow chance find procedure. Survey the site and consult with land owners prior to finalizing design.	Numbers of physical cultural resources incidents. Number of incidences involving damage to natural habitat.		

Activity	Potential Environmental Impacts	Potential Social Impacts	Mitigation Measures (To report against these measures in Safeguards)	Safeguard Monitoring	Responsibility	Comments
			Realign to avoid critical natural habitats and otherwise mitigate through replanting.			
Construction and Demolition Waste.	Waste is discharged to land or water ways or coastal areas, creating pollution and an eyesore.	Waste is stockpiled, burnt or buried in a way that creates a health and safety hazard. Materials are wasted when they could be reused.	Stockpile reusable materials for use by the community. Separate out recyclables that can be taken to Port Vila for recycling. Crush concrete to provide aggregates for road repairs. Take non-recyclable, non-reusable materials to the landfill in White Sands, Tanna. Take hazardous waste to the landfill in Port Vila. Avoid discharge of wet concrete or cement powder into water ways or coastal areas.	Observations during supervision.		

Activity	Potential Environmental Impacts	Potential Social Impacts	Mitigation Measures (To report against these measures in Safeguards)	Safeguard Monitoring	Responsibility	Comments
			Repurpose left over wet concrete for other uses. Poor left over wet concrete onto the ground to harden. Dispose of hardened concrete.			
Earthworks creating stockpiles of sediment.	Discharges of sediment to water ways or coastal areas.	No negative social impacts are expected.	Avoid dumping of sediment into water ways or coastal areas. Stockpile excess sediment at least 20m from water ways and high tide, for reuse by locals. Spread and stabilize (by planting) excess sediment to avoid erosion.	Observations during supervision.		

Activity	Potential Environmental Impacts	Potential Social Impacts	Mitigation Measures (To report against these measures in Safeguards)	Safeguard Monitoring	Responsibility	Comments
Use of oil, petrol, diesel and chemicals.	Discharges of waste oil or hazardous spills into ground or waterways.	Health risks from contact with contaminated water or soil.	Safe storage of hazardous materials. Contain waste oil for recycling. Refuel machinery at least 20m from waterways and coastal areas. Dispose of all containers and waste materials at an approved landfill.	Observations during supervision.		
Community health and safety during construction.		Safety incident due to students or community members entering the work site.	Use warning signs and demarcate construction areas that are 'no go' for non-workers.	Number of incidents involving the public. Observations of signage and barriers for public safety.		

Activity	Potential Environmental Impacts	Potential Social Impacts	Mitigation Measures (To report against these measures in Safeguards)	Safeguard Monitoring	Responsibility	Comments
Use of local labor.		Gender inequity. Unsafe work practices.	Consult with the land owners and broader community about income and employment opportunities and get broad support for labor schemes such as Island-based Contractors or casual employment of labor, for working hours/days and for equal opportunity for employment. Employment should be consistent with Vanuatu labor laws and no children (under 16 years old) shall be employed. Women and men shall have equal opportunity for employment and income. Provide suitable training to locals to do the work safely and provide all relevant safety equipment.	Records of labor employed – number of local people, by gender and age.		

Gravity Fed Systems – Mitigation Measures.

Activity	Potential Environmental Impacts	Potential Social Impacts	Mitigation Measures (To report against these measures in Safeguards after Implementation)	Safeguard Monitoring	Responsibility	Comments
Install Gravity Fed Water Systems (GFS): a) Small pumping systems for ground water. b) Pipes going through multiple land customs owners. c) Taps standing in areas.	Groundwater extraction may cause the water table to be lowered (if the rate of extraction exceeds the amount of water entering the groundwater system). The associated impacts from a reduced water table level include reduced quantity of water availability, reduced base flows to streams, possible permanent loss of groundwater storage capacity, potential salt water intrusion,	No negative social impacts are expected for this activity (except for indirect impacts from the environmental impacts as described). Stream diversions could dry up downstream water supplies for other communities reliant on the water source.	Assess the thickness and width of the freshwater lens to establish an extraction rate and ensure the estimated groundwater extraction is less than the sustainable extraction rate. Done by the Water Engineer in 2016/2017. Estimate a maximum take of 70% of the water source during dry periods (depending on other uses downstream). Done by the Water Engineer in 2016/2017. An environmental screening of the potential environmental and social impacts should be carried out prior to the installation of a stream diversion. Done in 2017 through the ESS screening form and EIA was	Compliance and supervisory checks VMGD PMU.	1.PMU/VMGD and Water Department 2.PMU/VMGD and Environment Department 3.Water Department/ Contractor 4. Tafea Province 5. Communities	

d) Storage tanks and structures, e) Stream and spring abstractions. f) Water source building covers /structures	subsidence of surrounding land and destruction of groundwater dependent ecosystems. Site location and eg: individual space or ground. Surrounding vegetation of the water source. Surface water abstractions reduce the amount of water available and may result in a decreased amount of habitat available for aquatic species, degradation of downstream estuarine		conducted in 2016/2017 by the Environment Officer. Confirm the ownership of the water source. – Identified and done during the conduction of the ESS screening form in November 2017. Confirm any agreements to convey water across neighbouring custom land. - Done during the conduction of the ESS screening form and signing of the MOA in November 2017.			

	habitat, changes in fish passage preventing life cycle stages for migrating species, potential impact on productivity of marine life in surrounding waters and change in composition of aquatic communities.					

IANAKUL COMMUNITY FIBRE CONCRETE PAVEMENT CONSTRUCTION
MONTHLY PROGRESS REPORT No.1
Duration: 17 Sept- 16 Oct 2018
Project Summary

Site Activities:

Setting out- centerline, road widths and shoulders to drainage

Clearance – bypass (standby roads)

Formations/ Preparations- concrete pavement bays @ 5m X 2m X 0.15m

Gravelling- ripping, pack filing and compacting

Sand Cushions- Sand bedding @ 30mm

Concrete casting- fiber concrete processed from casting, vibrating, broom finishing and smooth edging

Concrete curing- dismantle from works

Daily Works on Site:

- Formations
- Gravelling
- Sand cushions @ 30mm, dowel bars of 400mm @ 200mm centers
- Concrete casting

NB: otherwise all dimensions and mix ratios are checked and approved before proceeding

Concrete slump test

Site Contractor Major Equipment/ Machines:

- 4 tipper
- 1 loader
- 1 concrete mixer (large)
- 2 plate compacters
- 3 poker vibrators
- 1 truck
- 2 excavators

Site work Progresses:

- Instructions and authorizations are followed as being told by the site supervisor
- Works target are achieved as planned against days and weeks
- Work flows fluently despite skilled labors
- Completed 310m x 4m within 1 month as planned

Major Instructions issued on Site- SAFEGUARD REPORT

- **Safety-** safety risks for the worker and public, must implement to provide safety gears for the workers
  - Warning signs for traffic must be ensured at all times

- **Erosions-** avoid disturbances on steep slope

- **Construction waste disposal-** no burying or burning of rubbish
  - Only dumped in approved sites or designated areas

Work effects on site:

- Weather- rainy seasons interrupt works


- Traffic- movement of vehicles delayed works despite by-pass diverted very close to the construction site