

**ECOWAS-REGIONAL ELECTRICITY ACCESS PROJECT
(EREAP)**

- P164044

Terms of Reference

**Environmental Safeguards Specialist for Project
Implementation Unit**

May 2022

1. BACKGROUND

The ECOWAS Regional Electricity Access Project (ECOWAS-REAP) funded by the World Bank is a series of projects aims to increase people's access to reliable energy services, which is one of the major challenges in the ECOWAS region. It builds on the ECOWAS Rural and Peri-Urban Electrification Master Plan, designed to meet the short- and medium-term needs of the Member States in terms of access to electricity as well the regional interconnection projects funded by the World Bank under the ECOWAS Power Generation and Transmission Master Plan implemented by WAPP.

The proposed project is the first of two in a series of projects (SOP) to provide access to 1.1 million people in Guinea-Bissau, Mali, and The Gambia. The project will finance the expansion of medium- and low-voltage networks from the high-voltage substations of the Gambia River Basin Development Organization (Organisation pour la Mise en Valeur du Fleuve Gambie, OMVG) and Senegal River Basin Development Organization (Organisation pour la Mise en Valeur du Fleuve Sénégal, OMVS) to transform their power sectors and enable them to achieve their common objective of delivering more power to more consumers.

The project estimated amount for the first phase is US \$ 225 million and will includes 3 components:

- Component 1: Component 1: Design, supply, and installation (DSI) of electricity distribution infrastructure
- Component 2: Supervision of the construction and technical advisory services under component 1 of the Project
- Component 3: Program Management and Technical Assistance

In line with the Above, The Gambia Project Implementation Unit (PIU) in relation with the World Bank plan to recruit a Social Specialist to work on relevant project activities.

2. SCOPE OF WORK

Environmental Safeguards Specialist's overall responsibility will be ensuring strict compliance of project preparation and implementation activities with social safeguards regulations of the financing institutions and Gambian legislation. In general, he/she will be responsible for providing advice and technical assistance to the project and all stakeholders to ensure acceptable quality of environmental risk and impact management in accordance with the World Bank's ESC and EHS guidelines and, where applicable, national regulations in The Gambia.

Activities to be performed by the Social Safeguards Specialist include but are not limited to the following:

- a) Provide overall technical environmental safeguards oversight for the project preparation and implementation under the general management of the PIU Project Coordinator. Focus will be on environmental risk management, including measures for addressing negative impacts, labor influx, healthy and safe working condition of labors, and other environmental issues that may arise in the project.
- b) Ensure compliance with the provisions of the World Bank's Environmental and Social Standards (ESS) which have been deemed relevant to this project, and with national, regional, and international legal provisions in force
- c) Provide necessary coordination and relevant input into preparation of ESIA/ESMP/RAP/PGES/Audits as necessary, for projects under preparation and implementation.
- d) Undertake regular field visits to project sites to assess environmental impacts and verify environmental monitoring information provided in the reports of contractors and Owner Engineer, including photo documentation as applicable.
- e) Keep records of environmental supervision of project activities in a systemic manner that allows easy search-and-find of all documents upon request of [project management entity], the World Bank, and national authorities.
- f) Conduct quality review and facilitate the approval and disclosure process of environmental and social risk and impact management instruments (ESIA, ESMP, ESMP for contractors etc.) and their implementation in accordance with the Operational Policies and the national regulations in force.
- g) Contribute to the preparation of environmental and social clauses and ensure their integration in the tender documents (DAO) as well as in the contracts of the company in charge of the works and of the control mission, together with its social Safeguard specialist and the GBV Specialist.
- h) Analyze project implementation reports to ensure that all work is completed in full compliance with Safeguards Policies, supervising contractors' performance in handling specific environmental issues.
- i) ensure the development and quality as well as the effective implementation of ESMP-S, and any other instrument for mitigating environmental and social risks and impacts by the companies in charge of the works and their approval by the Owner Engineer.
- j) Monitor the development, dissemination/make accessible and functional the implementation and effective monitoring of the project's Grievance Mechanism, including the resolution of disputes and conflicts arising from the implementation of the ESMP-S, and propose appropriate corrective measures.
- k) Ensure proper documentation of all activities relating to environmental safeguards; prepare reports (monthly, quarterly, annual, incident report, accident report...).
- l) Prepare relevant parts of required environmental monitoring reports, including reports on ESMP and RAP implementation status. Preparation of regular safeguards monitoring reports for the PIU, including preparation of the environmental safeguards, this includes being responsible for drafting sections of

the project documentation and guiding clients in the preparation of the project operational manual related to environmental safeguards.

- m) Provide capacity building to ensure safeguards is institutionalized in NAWEC PIU (i.e., Safeguard Specialist in PIU) and project partners (i.e., Owner Engineer and Contractors).
 - Work closely on an everyday basis with the experienced PIU E&S Safeguard Consultant to gain knowledge and on the job training of all the environmental safeguard matters.
 - Hands-on program monitoring mechanisms (e.g., conducting monthly meetings and integrate reporting on implementation of ESMP/RAP)
- n) Evaluate the likelihood and magnitude of the Health, Safety and Environmental (HSE) risks of any project: (e.g., safety for workers and communities in construction and/or temporary and permanent rehousing sites, significant amounts of emissions or effluents produced, presence or adoption of unsafe processes for a project), to ensure that these risks are adequately addressed in the implementation processes, etc.
- o) Participate in and ensure the implementation of the recommendations (related to the management of environmental risks and impacts, code of conduct, etc.) of the aide-mémoires of the support missions to the implementation of the project, carried out alone or jointly with the World Bank.
- p) Work closely with the NEA to develop environmental and social screening sheets to determine the appropriate environmental and social tool for sub-projects.

3. REPORTING LINE/COMMUNICATION

The Environmental Safeguard Specialist shall report to the Project Coordinator and work cross-functionally and closely with PIU staff and other pertinent Authorities, and development partners.

4. QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

- a) have a higher education degree (at least 5 years) in environmental management or environmental sciences (ecology, biology, botany, forestry, natural resource management, etc.), geography, or any other degree deemed equivalent and having the environment as a base (with experience in areas relevant to environmental safeguards).
- b) Have a proven experience of five (5) years in environmental management including two (2) years in projects financed by the World Bank
- c) Good knowledge of the relevant regulations/directives and operations of multilateral development organizations and executing agencies.
- d) Demonstrated experience and knowledge of Bank operations and environmental safeguard policies, especially, experience and familiarity with complex safeguard work.
- e) Good experience in the development and/or implementation of Environmental and Social Assessment instruments (ESIA, ESMP, CPPP, CPR, RAP) of projects, if possible, in projects financed by the World Bank
- f) Proven experience and skills in managing projects.
- g) Proven capacity to work across multiple stakeholders, including government entities, civil society organizations (CSOs), local communities, and the private sector.
- h) Demonstrated experience in the World Bank project cycle and procedures
- i) Fluent in English with excellent written and oral skills.

- j) Knowledge of local language like Mandinka, wolof, fula, or serere is a requirement since the project is intervening in rural areas.
- k) Advanced computer skills and full proficiency in the use of relevant software applications in using computers and software such as Microsoft Office suite

5. REQUIRED COMPETENCIES

- Policy Dialogue Skills - Identifies and assesses policy issues and plays an active role in the dialogue with the government and/or other stakeholders.
- Integrative Skills - Working to develop an integrated view across all facets of current sector.
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- Drive for Results - Takes personal ownership and accountability to meet deadlines and achieve agreed-upon results and has the personal organization to do so.
- Teamwork (collaboration) and inclusion - Collaborates with other team members and contributes productively to the team's work and output, demonstrating respect for different points of view.
- Knowledge, Learning and Communication - Actively seeks knowledge needed to complete assignments and shares knowledge with others, communicating and presenting information in a clear and organized manner.
- be physically fit and able to carry out field missions (screening, stakeholder consultation, monitoring and control, etc.).
- Have a good command of computer tools (Word, Excel, Power point...).

- Knowledge of local language like Mandinka, wolof, fula, or serere is a requirement since the project is intervening in rural areas.

6. DURATION OF THE ASSIGNMENT

The successful applicant shall be engaged immediately on a full-time basis for two years (in three months contract basis extendable depending on the satisfactory performance in the contract duration) and for additional years during the project implementation period.

7. FACILITIES TO BE PROVIDED BY THE PIU

The following facilities will be provided by the client to the consultant free of charge.

- **Office Space:** Office space with desk shall be provided in the client's office or as it may be agreed.
- **Laptop, Office facilities:** printing facilities, photocopying, copying paper writing materials etc.
- **Documents:** All the documents and available data and information concerning the Project.
- Internet facilities within the office.
- Business transport within the city such as meetings workshops etc.
- Support for all site visits required for supervision and monitoring.