

Procedure Year: 2024

Procedure Status: Draft

Procedure Type: Design

Record Owner: Henry Karanja

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Overall Project Risk Categorization:  Substantial

Procedure Name: ASM-06448

Procedure Department: CO - Nigeria - Abuja

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RELATED PROJECTS(1)

NAME	DEPARTMENT	STATUS	ATLAS PROJECT NUMBER	START DATE	END DATE
00020373	CO - Nigeria - Abuja	On Going	00020373	1/1/2023	12/31/2030

Triggered Requirements:

Assessment

Status: Complete

Is assessment required? (Question only required for Moderate, Substantial and High Risk projects)

Targeted assessment(s) required? Yes

If yes, please indicate the status of required assessment(s)? Planned

Comments (for instance, please indicate the assessment type) (10000 Characters maximum)

Further clarity on procedures and scope of required assessments and management plans is clarified in the ESMF for the project.

Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) required? Yes

If yes, please indicate the status? Planned

Comments (10000 Characters maximum)

Further clarity on procedures and scope of required assessments and management plans is clarified in the ESMF for the project.

Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA) required? Yes

If yes, please indicate the status? Planned

Comments (10000 Characters maximum)

In the development of the NZNP National implementation plan a rapid and fit for purpose Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment will be utilized to assess the potential risks and impacts of proposed implementation measures.

Are management plans required? (Question only required for Moderate, Substantial and High Risk projects)

Targeted management plan(s) required? Yes

If yes, please indicate the status of required management plan(s)? Planned

Comments (for instance, please indicate the type of management plan) (10000 Characters maximum)

A number of SES Management Plans will be developed for this project. This will include the following; ESMP, Livelihood Action Plan(s), Indigenous People Plan(s). This is further clarified in the ESMF.

Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) required? Yes

If yes, please indicate the status? Planned

Comments (10000 Characters maximum)

Further clarity on procedures and scope of required ESMPs is clarified in the ESMF for the project.

Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) required? Yes

If yes, please indicate the status? Completed

Comments (10000 Characters maximum)

ESMF has been drafted in PPG phase and will be disclosed for consultation and finalized prior to final signature of the project.

Identified Risks & Treatments:

Principle & Standard: Standard 6: Indigenous Peoples

Risk Significance:  Substantial

Triggered Principles: 

Risk Significance:  Substantial

Event:

There is a risk that the project will be implemented on land occupied or accessed by Mangrove Forest adjacent communities or the Forest Reserves natural resources subsistence users or land-users for the sites earmarked for the construction of solar mini-grid plant who collectively meet the criteria specified under UNDP Standard 6, with potential impacts on their livelihood opportunities, access to land or resources, or traditional practices (even where these practices may be inconsistent with current regulatory frameworks).

Causes:

As a result potential project activities under Component 2& 3, will be implemented on land potentially occupied or accessed by the Forest Reserve (now gazetted to National Park) adjacent communities or land-users who collectively meet the criteria specified under UNDP Standard 6, with potential impacts on their

livelihood opportunities, access to land or resources, or traditional practices (even where these practices may be inconsistent with current regulatory frameworks).

Impact:

Which could result in negative or positive impacts to the human rights, lands, natural resources, territories, and traditional livelihoods of Indigenous People

RELATED TREATMENTS(1)				
ACTIVITIES FOR TREATMENT	EXPECTED EFFECT	TIME PLAN FOR COMPLETE	STATUS	COMMENTS
No actions will be undertaken that violate indigenous peoples' rights. The ESMF has incorporated an IPPF that outlines FPIC and other requirements to ensure the protection of rights. The ESMF also outlines requirements for a Process Framework and Livelihood Restoration Plans, where needed, to address potential access restrictions and potential economic displacement.		12/31/2029	Ongoing	

Principle & Standard: Standard 7: Labour and Working Conditions

Risk Significance:  Substantial

Triggered Principles: 

Risk Significance:  Substantial

Event:

There is a risk that the project potentially involves or may lead to working conditions that do not meet national labour laws, SES requirements and international commitments for both project workers (including contract workers).

Causes:

All components of the project that involve project and contract labour, as well as labour issues in supply chains.

Impact:

Potential harm to project workers as well as impacts resulting from the influx of labour. Also potential labour standards violations in the supply chain of solar PV and related components.

RELATED TREATMENTS(1)				
ACTIVITIES FOR TREATMENT	EXPECTED EFFECT	TIME PLAN FOR COMPLETE	STATUS	COMMENTS
All project activities construction and operational phases will comply to National laws and International conventions on labour and working conditions while as meeting the SES requirements for Standard 7 on Labour and Working Conditions. All relevant assessments and management plans prescribed for the project in the ESMF will consider the risks related to labour and working conditions including health & safety risks to project workers including contract workers.		12/31/2029	Ongoing	

Principle & Standard: Human Rights

Risk Significance:  Moderate

Triggered Principles: 

Risk Significance:  Moderate

Event:

There is a risk that in the building national consensus around an integrated NZNP strategy and pathway through a coordinated a multi-stakeholder process policies and strategies may be developed in ways, or include provisions, that do not take full account of social and environmental safeguards risks and impacts, leading to: (a) inadequate participation of all stakeholders; (b) inequitable empowerment of all rightsholders to claim benefits accruing from the agreements/plans; and/or (c) downstream impacts as a result of their implementation, for which there are inadequate mitigation measures.

Causes:

As a result of poor implementation of stakeholder processes and the design of policies and strategies that are not aligned with grass-roots conditions, there are likely to be inadequate S&E mitigation measures.

Impact:

Which will result in NZNP Strategy that has not integrated social and environmental safeguards considerations, especially in the design of NZNP strategies that promote the deployment of investments towards low carbon energy technologies in the Niger Delta

RELATED TREATMENTS(1)				
ACTIVITIES FOR TREATMENT	EXPECTED EFFECT	TIME PLAN FOR COMPLETE	STATUS	COMMENTS
As part of the assessment of the potential risks and impacts of planned strategy development, implementation, and envisaged policy reforms a Scoped Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA) as recommended by the ESMF Multi-stakeholder consultations process will be incorporated as part of the Stakeholder Engagement Plan to ensure integration of all views.		12/31/2029	Ongoing	

Principle & Standard: Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment

Risk Significance:  Moderate

Triggered Principles: 

Risk Significance:  Moderate

Event:

There is a risk that project activities, might not fully incorporate or adequately reflect views or needs of women and girls and ensure equitable opportunities for their involvement, empowerment and benefit.

Causes:

As a result of the lack of a gender lens approach in the project implementation framework to mitigate against any bias towards the marginalized segments of the communities targeted by the project interventions,.

Impact:

Which may result in an exacerbation of the power imbalances between men and women by empowering the men and further marginalizing women, girls, female-headed households, the elderly and the extremely poor members of the project affected communities.

RELATED TREATMENTS(1)				
ACTIVITIES FOR TREATMENT	EXPECTED EFFECT	TIME PLAN FOR COMPLETE	STATUS	COMMENTS
All the NZNP project activities will give due consideration to ensure the meaningful engagement of women whose livelihood and socio-cultural lifestyle could be affected by the different components of the project. The Gender Action Plan and Stakeholder Engagement Plan will be implemented to facilitate the meaningful engagement of women in the implementation the project.		12/31/2029	Ongoing	

Principle & Standard: Accountability

Risk Significance:  Moderate

Triggered Principles: 

Risk Significance:  Moderate

Event:

There is a risk that project activities may be planned and formulated without adequate stakeholder consultation, resulting in some stakeholders - not being fully engaged in, supportive of, or benefitting from project activities.

Causes:

As a result of inadequate consultations specific to marginalized groups such as women, Persons with disability, the elderly, children-headed households or otherwise vulnerable or marginalized groups in the mangroves forests and the waterfront communities due to their locations, lifestyles, or traditional livelihoods

Impact:

Which will result in difficulty in securing buy-in to the project's strategy and resistance of implementation activities by the local communities. Lack of ownership of clean energy investments may lead to lack of

sustainability of project outputs.

RELATED TREATMENTS(1)				
ACTIVITIES FOR TREATMENT	EXPECTED EFFECT	TIME PLAN FOR COMPLETE	STATUS	COMMENTS
The SEP will be implemented. Requirements for stakeholder engagement are also outlined in the ESMF to ensure engagement of stakeholders in the identification and management of environmental and social impacts. FPIC processes, outlined in the ESMF/IPPF, will also be applied for activities that may affect indigenous peoples.		12/31/2029	Ongoing	

Principle & Standard: Standard 1 : Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Natural Resource Management

Risk Significance:  Moderate

Triggered Principles: 

Risk Significance:  Moderate

Event:

There is a risk that the proposed Nature-based climate solutions may pose biodiversity risks by way of introduction of non-native species as part of forest restoration activities. The non-native species can disrupt local ecosystems and negatively impact the native species.

Causes:

As a result of investments in mangrove restoration and conservation activities for improved biodiversity management could end up in the introduction of invasive species in the area. This could potentially lead to a disruption of local ecosystems and the dwindling of native biodiversity. The implementation of nature-based solutions can have significant impacts on local communities. These impacts could be social or economic.

Impact:

The introduction of non-native species during forest restoration activities can disrupt local ecosystems and negatively impact native species. Additionally, the alteration of habitat structure and ecosystem functions can result in ecological imbalance.

RELATED TREATMENTS(1)				
ACTIVITIES FOR TREATMENT	EXPECTED EFFECT	TIME PLAN FOR COMPLETE	STATUS	COMMENTS
The biodiversity and ecosystem restoration activities will put controls in place to ensure no non-native invasive species are used or inadvertently introduced. The ESMF has prescribed an ESIA E&S risk assessment process that will also seek to evaluate risk to local ecosystems and biodiversity from implementing the NZNP project.		12/31/2029	Ongoing	

Principle & Standard: Standard 2: Climate Change and Disaster Risks

Risk Significance:  Moderate

Triggered Principles: 

Risk Significance:  Moderate

Event:

Nigeria is extremely susceptible to climate change effects, as evidenced by the rising occurrence of droughts, unpredictable rainfall, increasing temperatures, floods, wildfires, and landslides nationwide.

Causes:

Project activities as well as the sustainability of project results may be susceptible to climate risks.

Impact:

Extreme climate events could affect the sustainability and effectiveness of the project and present potential climate hazards (e.g. for project staff and communities around physical/construction interventions such as minigrids) if design does not factor

RELATED TREATMENTS(1)				
ACTIVITIES FOR TREATMENT	EXPECTED EFFECT	TIME PLAN FOR COMPLETE	STATUS	COMMENTS
The project shall review whether the proposed interventions are exposed and sensitive to the changing		6/30/2028	Ongoing	

RELATED TREATMENTS(1)				
ACTIVITIES FOR TREATMENT	EXPECTED EFFECT	TIME PLAN FOR COMPLETE	STATUS	COMMENTS
climatic conditions that can be reasonably anticipated and may occur during the project lifetime § enhance their resilience to the expected risk of extreme weather or slow onset events, § promote ecosystem-based approaches that deliver co-benefits for climate change mitigation- or development environmental conditions § ensure that appropriate climate and disaster risk management plans are in place, including but not limited to emergency preparedness and response plans and ensure appropriate monitoring and, where necessary, adoption of corrective measures. Climate risks will be considered in all assessments conducted for the project (as described in the ESMF).				

Principle & Standard: Standard 3: Community Health, Safety and Security

Risk Significance:  Moderate

Triggered Principles: 

Risk Significance:  Moderate

Event:

There is a risk that the installation and operation of solar-powered minigrids and clean cooking solutions could pose health and safety hazards to local communities.

Causes:

Due to inadequate safety measures, improper installation, or lack of community awareness and training on the safe use of new technologies.

Impact:

This could result in accidents, injuries, or health issues related to improper handling or use of the equipment, leading to community distrust and resistance to the project.

RELATED TREATMENTS(1)				
ACTIVITIES FOR TREATMENT	EXPECTED EFFECT	TIME PLAN FOR COMPLETE	STATUS	COMMENTS
The project will avoid, prevent or mitigate any risks and impacts on to the Health, Safety and Security of local communities located in the project sites. The ESMF further describes assessments including ESIA to ensure project complies with the requirements of SES Standard 3 on Community Health Safety & Security.		12/31/2029	Ongoing	

Principle & Standard: Standard 5: Displacement and Resettlement

Risk Significance:  Moderate

Triggered Principles: 

Risk Significance:  Moderate

Event:

There is a risk that with the gazettment of Apoe Creek and Edumanon as protected area it could lead to the displacement of persons,households or communities that had settled in these now-designated Protected Area. Acquisition of land for the construction of solar mini-grids that may be currently occupied by IPs and LCs

Causes:

As a result the enforcement of the protected area status and the acquisition of land for the construction of mini-grids can trigger the displacement of local inhabitants and necessitating for them to be settled elsewhere while making provisions to obtain similar conditions as their previous dwelling sites.

Impact:

Physical or economic displacement that does not respect and protect the rights of affected people.

RELATED TREATMENTS(1)				
ACTIVITIES FOR TREATMENT	EXPECTED EFFECT	TIME PLAN FOR COMPLETE	STATUS	COMMENTS
Any activities that may lead to economic displacement or physical displacement will not commence until the appropriate Livelihood Restoration Plan and/or Resettlement Action Plan is in place. Requirements for screening and preparation of such plans is clarified further in the ESMF.		12/31/2029	Ongoing	

Principle & Standard: Standard 8: Pollution Prevention and Resource Efficiency

Risk Significance:  Moderate

Triggered Principles: 

Risk Significance:  Moderate

Event:

There is a risk that project activities linked to component 3 on decarbonising the energy sector by catalysing private sector investments in solar powered minigrids and clean cooking solutions could result in an increase in e-waste linked to the solar panels and batteries as components by these technologies.

Causes:

As a result of the deployment and subsequent disposal of solar panels and batteries without proper e-waste management and recycling systems in place, could be a result of inadequate federal and state government capacity to handle and process e-waste both from a policy and regulatory point of view, and the absence of certified e-waste service providers active in project locations and sites in Rivers State and Bayelsa State, respectively.

Impact:

Improper disposal of e-waste from solar panels and batteries can lead to significant environmental contamination, exposing communities and workers to toxic substances and posing serious health risks. It also could lead to resource inefficiency.

RELATED TREATMENTS(1)				
ACTIVITIES FOR TREATMENT	EXPECTED EFFECT	TIME PLAN FOR COMPLETE	STATUS	COMMENTS
The project will not contribute to or exacerbate environmental pollution by putting in place appropriate environmental management measures that adequately comply with the requirements of UNDP SES Standard 8- Pollution Prevention and Resource Efficiency and relevant national requirements. The ESMF details out the assessment and management measures to address the risk of pollution that could originate from the implementation activities of the project.		12/31/2029	Ongoing	

Questionnaire:

Step 1 - Integrate the SES Programming Principles

Status: Complete

Question 1 - How Does the project Integrate the Programming Principles in Order to Strengthen Social and Environmental Sustainability?

Briefly describe in the space below how the project mainstreams the human rights-based approach (32000 Characters maximum)

The Nigeria Net Zero Nature Positive (NZNP) project, as a child project of UNDP in the GEF-8 Net Zero Nature Positive Accelerator, does prioritize the integration of a Human Rights-Based Approach (HRBA) across its components to ensure that human rights are respected, protected, and fulfilled throughout its implementation. This approach is in alignment with UNDP's Social and Environmental Standards (SES) and aims to address the interrelated challenges of climate change, biodiversity loss, and poverty while promoting social equity and inclusivity.

Component 1: The project's focus on building national consensus around NZNP targets and strategies underscores its commitment to inclusive decision-making processes. By empowering key actors, including vulnerable groups, to participate in NZNP design and implementation, it ensures that diverse voices are heard and considered in policy development. This approach aligns with HRBA principles by promoting participation and accountability in decision-making processes. The project is designed to factor in the participation of communities and indigenous people that are at the frontline of negative environmental outcomes linked to fossil fuel extraction

activities in the Niger Delta specifically in relation to intense oil and gas extraction activities and oil bunkering. Additionally federal and state government agencies that work in the target intervention areas have strong feedback loop mechanisms with local communities through their leadership and communal representation structures including the Community Development Committees. In addition it is envisaged that there will be extensive FPIC consultations with Ips and LCs residing in proximity to the targeted protected areas fence line communities with respect to the change in governance structure from a national reserve to a national park with implications on natural resource access and removal restrictions that have bearing on the people's livelihoods and basic subsistence needs. The project seeks to adopt inclusive approaches to decision-making processes, ensuring that marginalized individuals and groups will have a voice in shaping NZNP strategies and activities. By actively engaging with vulnerable communities, including women, indigenous peoples, and low-income households, the project promotes their inclusion in decision-making processes related to climate action and biodiversity conservation.

Component 2: The project's efforts to ensure NZNP policy coherence contribute to the realization of human rights by aligning climate and nature agendas with key policies such as the Energy Transition Plan. By providing technical support to revise targets and strategies, the project promotes coherence and consistency in policy frameworks, which is essential for effective implementation and equitable outcomes. The project will invest in capacity building initiatives to empower marginalized individuals and groups, equipping them with the knowledge, skills, and resources necessary to actively participate in NZNP implementation. Through targeted training programs and awareness-raising activities, the project enhances the capacity of marginalized communities to engage in decision-making processes and advocate for their rights.

Component 3: Decarbonizing the power sector and providing clean energy access to MSMEs and underserved communities in Port Harcourt, Apoe Creek and Edumanon Protected Areas directly contributes to the fulfillment of human rights, particularly the right to clean and sustainable energy. By prioritizing the deployment of interconnected solar battery mini-grids and phasing out diesel generators, the project addresses energy poverty while mitigating climate change impacts. By focusing on decentralized renewable energy solutions and nature-based interventions, the project ensures that marginalized communities have access to essential services such as clean energy, livelihood support, and ecosystem services. For example, the deployment of interconnected solar battery mini-grids in underserved communities improves access to reliable electricity, while investments in nature-based solutions enhance ecosystem services that benefit local livelihoods.

Component 4: Mobilizing finance for NZNP investments is crucial for scaling up climate action and nature conservation efforts. By strengthening existing financial mechanisms and incorporating environmental and social (E&S) standards into finance mechanisms such as Sovereign Green Bonds and the BIOFIN model, the project ensures that investments are socially inclusive and environmentally sustainable, in line with HRBA principles. On the other side of the coin is the idea of benefit sharing mechanisms: The project proposes to develop a benefit-sharing mechanisms to ensure that the benefits derived from NZNP interventions are equitably distributed among all stakeholders, particularly marginalized communities. This includes piloting financing mechanisms such as Voluntary Carbon Markets and Performance-Based Payments, which channel resources back to communities engaged in nature conservation efforts.

Component 5: Knowledge management and monitoring & evaluation (M&E) play a vital role in promoting accountability and learning within the project. By facilitating knowledge exchange and peer-to-peer learning with other national projects and initiatives, the project will fosters collaboration and innovation in NZNP implementation. Additionally, establishing robust data systems for effective Monitoring, Reporting, and Verification (MRV) enhances transparency and accountability, key elements of HRBA. The project establishes robust monitoring and evaluation systems to track the effectiveness of interventions in reaching marginalized individuals and groups. By collecting disaggregated data and conducting participatory evaluations, the project identifies gaps in service delivery and decision-making processes, allowing for targeted interventions to enhance inclusivity and equity.

Overall, the project's integration of HRBA principles across its components ensures that human rights considerations are central to NZNP implementation, contributing to equitable and sustainable outcomes. This approach aligns with UNDP's SES Programming principles and reinforces the project's commitment to social inclusion, environmental sustainability, and poverty reduction.

Briefly describe in the space below how the project is likely to improve gender equality and women's empowerment (32000 Characters maximum)

The project aligns with the fundamental principles and priorities of UNDP's gender equality and empowerment approach, as well as the GEF Policy on Gender Mainstreaming. To ensure the meaningful involvement of women and girls and their equitable access to project benefits, a Gender Analysis will be conducted during the PPG phase. This analysis will inform the development of a comprehensive Gender Action Plan, outlining specific activities and budget allocations to mainstream gender considerations across all project components. The aim is to enhance gender equality and women's empowerment in every aspect of the project, with anticipated benefits including increased community engagement in policy development, expanded employment opportunities in nature-based solutions, enhanced income-generating capacity, and improved skills development opportunities.

Under Component 2, the project aims to leverage nature-based solutions for climate action, fostering job creation and enterprise development while promoting forest conservation and wildlife habitat preservation. This will be achieved through various outputs, such as stakeholder engagement and training focused on women and indigenous peoples, promotion of private sector investment in nature-based solutions, and operationalization of government policies supporting ecotourism facilities in protected areas. These activities are expected to lead to multiple benefits, including higher household incomes, increased employment opportunities, improved village infrastructure, enhanced individual capacity and skills, expanded entrepreneurial prospects, and greater resilience to climate change impacts, with equitable participation of men and women throughout project implementation.

The Project Results Framework (PRF) and Monitoring Plan will include gender-disaggregated targets and indicators, with dedicated budget allocations in Component 2 to ensure effective monitoring of gender-related outcomes and impacts.

Briefly describe in the space below how the project mainstreams sustainability and resilience (32000 Characters maximum)

The NZNP project aligns with Nigeria's Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) commitments and the global 30x30 targets. The 30x30 target calls for the effective protection and management of 30% of the world's terrestrial, inland water, and coastal and marine areas by the year 2030⁷⁸⁹. The NZNP project supports this target by proposing restoration activities for the mangroves in the Niger Delta, which not only has positive environmental impacts but also directly benefits the livelihoods of millions of people in the region who rely on these natural resources. The proposed mangrove restoration activities will seek to reverse the loss of biodiversity in the Niger delta. These actions will positively affect the livelihoods of millions of people living in the region and who are dependent on natural resources for a living. Furthermore, the Niger Delta plays a critical role in carbon sequestration, making it a key area of importance in the fight against climate change. Its extensive mangrove forests are among the most productive and carbon-rich ecosystems on the planet, serving as crucial buffers against coastal erosion and sea-level rise hence the rehabilitation of degraded mangrove swamps would enhance the environmental provisioning, supporting, regulating and cultural services. Component 2 of the project will look to directly engage IP&LCs to earn an income while restoring the mangrove forest resulting in improved biodiversity coverage and replenishment of dwindled natural resources including fish stocks. Whereas component 3 will look at the integration of agricultural waste value chains into a circular economy productive activities that will promote the conversion of farm crop waste into briquettes which will in turn reduce the drivers of mangrove forest deforestation.

The project's component 2 intervention in the form of nature-based solutions (NbS) supports the implementation of sustainability and resilience opportunities and risks identified in the UNFCCC Framework, Nigeria's country NDC commitments under international agreements including article 6.2, of the Paris Agreement as ratified by Nigeria in a number of ways.

There is significant Climate Change Mitigation potential, as Nigeria has an estimated mitigation potential of 115.52 Mt CO₂e/year through selected nature-based solutions. The proposed NbS interventions can contribute to reducing greenhouse gas emissions and addressing climate change, which is a key sustainability and resilience opportunity. Existing Commitments: The NZNP project intends to align with Nigeria's Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) that already include commitments for several nature-based solutions, such as the protection, sustainable management, and restoration of forests, improved agriculture, and agroforestry. Additionally in implementing the targeted NbS they enhance water security, food security, and address natural disaster risks like coastal flooding as co-benefits of the NbS in component 3. These further positions the Niger Delta in contributing to national commitments align with the sustainability and resilience opportunities identified in the Cooperation Framework and international agreements.

Component 3 of the project looks at the deployment of more energy efficient, emerging low carbon technologies to decarbonize the Nigerian economy. Specifically it seeks to provide interventions in the form of green mini grids and clean cooking solutions that are aimed at addressing the energy poverty and its nexus with the environment in the Niger Delta to address the interplay of oil wells, artisanal refinery and gas flaring their negative cumulative and residual impacts on the local spheres of the environment. By providing access to clean energy to waterfront communities in Port Harcourt Apoe Creek and Edumanon through solar powered mini-grids the local communities can effectively transition away from heavy carbon and polluting sources of energy i.e. kerosene and diesel generators to low carbon and cleaner fuels, including improved cookstoves using briquette biomass with a high calorific value and less pollutant smoke linked to indoor air pollution in households.

Briefly describe in the space below how the project strengthens accountability to stakeholders (32000 Characters maximum)

The Net Zero Nature Positive (NZNP) project strengthens accountability to stakeholders through several mechanisms:

The NZNP project supports the meaningful participation and inclusion of all stakeholders, particularly marginalized individuals and groups, in all processes that may impact them. This includes the design, implementation, and monitoring of the project. The project aims to achieve this through capacity building, creating an enabling environment for participation, and ensuring access to relevant information. This approach is consistent with the participation and inclusion human rights principle. The NZNP project targets to support meaningful means for local communities and affected populations to raise concerns and/or grievances. It includes a redress process for local communities when activities may adversely impact them. This approach is consistent with the accountability and rule of law human rights principle. Project-affected people will be informed of UNDP's Accountability Mechanism. This mechanism includes the Stakeholder Response Mechanism (SRM) that ensures individuals, peoples, and communities affected by projects have access to appropriate grievance resolution procedures. The project's accountability framework encompasses several key instruments aimed at promoting transparency and responsiveness to stakeholders. These include a Stakeholder Engagement Plan, a Grievance Redress Mechanism, and a Gender Action Plan. Additionally, the project will adhere to established accountability procedures set forth at the federal government level, as well as within the respective Bayelsa and Rivers State governments, and the Local Government Areas (LGAs) where the project operates.

The Stakeholder Engagement Plan is designed to facilitate meaningful participation and inclusion of stakeholders, guided by the principles of Free, Prior, Informed Consent. It outlines strategies for involving stakeholders in project activities, ensuring their voices are heard and considered. These engagement processes will be documented and integrated into project monitoring and reporting mechanisms, ensuring grassroots participation and inclusion of

marginalized groups.

A robust Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) will also be established to address conflicts and concerns raised by stakeholders. Leveraging existing LGAs and community governance structures and mechanisms, such as Community Development Committees and traditional institutions, the GRM will provide avenues for resolving grievances in a timely and culturally appropriate manner. It will align with established grievance redress processes at the LGA level, further enhancing accountability and transparency.

Monitoring of accountability measures will be rigorously conducted to track the delivery of project results and the use of funds. Component 4 of the project will oversee this monitoring process, ensuring compliance with the project's Monitoring Framework. Results will be reported to stakeholders, facilitating knowledge sharing and continuous improvement.

Transparency is paramount in the project's approach, with documents such as the safeguards screening report (SESP) and Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) made publicly available in accordance with UNDP's SES Policy. Additionally, safeguards risk screening, assessments, and management plans will be disclosed to stakeholders, aligning with UNDP policy and commensurate with identified risks. Environmental and social risk management measures will be developed during the project's inception phase, informed by rapid assessments and scoped Environmental and Social Impact Assessments (ESIAs), and implemented prior to project activities commencement, ensuring adherence to UNDP policy and standards.

Step 2.1 - SES Risk Screening Checklist (Programming Principles)

Status: Complete

Human Rights

P.1 Have local communities or individuals raised human rights concerns regarding the project (e.g. during the stakeholder engagement process, grievance processes, public statements)?	No
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P.2 Is there a risk that duty-bearers (e.g. government agencies) do not have the capacity to meet their obligations in the project?	Yes
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P.3 Is there a risk that rights-holders (e.g. project-affected persons) do not have the capacity to claim their rights?	Yes
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Would the project potentially involve or lead to:

P.4 Adverse impacts on enjoyment of the human rights (civil, political, economic, social or cultural) of the affected population and particularly of marginalized groups?	Yes
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P.5 Inequitable or discriminatory impacts on affected populations, particularly people living in poverty or marginalized or excluded individuals or groups, including persons with disabilities?	Yes
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P.6 Restrictions in availability, quality of and/or access to resources or basic services, in particular to marginalized individuals or groups, including persons with disabilities?	Yes
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P.7 Exacerbation of conflicts among and/or the risk of violence to project-affected communities and individuals?	Yes
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Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment

P.8 Have women's groups/leaders raised gender equality concerns regarding the project, (e.g. during the stakeholder engagement process, grievance processes, public statements)?	No
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Would the project potentially involve or lead to:

P.9 Adverse impacts on gender equality and/or the situation of women and girls? No

P.10 Reproducing discriminations against women based on gender, especially regarding participation in design and implementation or access to opportunities and benefits? Yes

P.11 Limitations on women's ability to use, develop and protect natural resources, taking into account different roles and positions of women and men in accessing environmental goods and services? No

P.12 Exacerbation of risks of gender-based violence? No

Sustainability and Resilience: Screening questions regarding risks associated with sustainability and resilience are encompassed by the Standard-specific questions below

Accountability

Would the project potentially involve or lead to:

P.13 Exclusion of any potentially affected stakeholders, in particular marginalized groups and excluded individuals (including persons with disabilities), from fully participating in decisions that may affect them? Yes

P.14 Grievances or objections from potentially affected stakeholders? Yes

P.15 Risks of retaliation or reprisals against stakeholders who express concerns or grievances, or who seek to participate in or to obtain information on the project? Yes

Step 2.2 - SES Risk Screening Checklist (Project-Level Standards)

Status: Complete

Standard 1: Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Natural Resource Management

Would the project potentially involve or lead to:

1.1 Adverse impacts to habitats (e.g. modified, natural, and critical habitats) and/or ecosystems and ecosystem services? No

1.2 Activities within or adjacent to critical habitats and/or environmentally sensitive areas, including (but not limited to) legally protected areas (e.g. nature reserve, national park), areas proposed for protection, or recognized as such by authoritative sources and/or indigenous peoples or local communities? Yes

1.3 Changes to the use of lands and resources that may have adverse impacts on habitats, ecosystems, and/or livelihoods? No

1.4 Risks to endangered species? No

1.5 Exacerbation of illegal wildlife trade? No

1.6 Introduction of invasive alien species? No

1.7 Adverse impacts on soil? No

1.8 Harvesting of natural forests, plantation development, or reforestation? No

1.9 Significant agricultural production? No

1.10 Animal husbandry or harvesting of fish populations or other aquatic species?	No
1.11 Significant extraction, diversion or containment of surface or ground water?	No
1.12 Handling or utilization of genetically modified organisms/living modified organisms?	No
1.13 Utilization of genetic resources?	No
1.14 Adverse transboundary or global environmental concerns?	No

Standard 2: Climate Change and Disaster Risks

Would the project potentially involve or lead to:

2.1 Areas subject to hazards such as earthquakes, floods, landslides, severe winds, storm surges, tsunami or volcanic eruptions?	Yes
2.2 Outputs and outcomes sensitive or vulnerable to potential impacts of climate change or disasters	Yes
2.3 Direct or indirect increases in vulnerability to climate change impacts or disaster risks now or in the future (also known as maladaptive or negative coping practices)?	No
2.4 Increases of greenhouse gas emissions, black carbon emissions or other drivers of climate change?	No

Standard 3: Community Health, Safety and Security

Would the project potentially involve or lead to:

3.1 Construction and/or infrastructure development (e.g. roads, buildings, dams)?	Yes
3.2 Air pollution, noise, vibration, traffic, injuries, physical hazards, poor surface water quality due to runoff, erosion, sanitation?	No
3.3 Harm or losses due to failure of structural elements of the project (e.g. collapse of buildings or infrastructure)?	No
3.4 Risks of water-borne or other vector-borne diseases (e.g. temporary breeding habitats), communicable and noncommunicable diseases, nutritional disorders, mental health?	No
3.5 Transport, storage, and use and/or disposal of hazardous or dangerous materials (e.g. explosives, fuel and other chemicals during construction and operation)?	No
3.6 Adverse impacts on ecosystems and ecosystem services relevant to communities' health (e.g. food, surface water purification, natural buffers from flooding)?	No
3.7 Influx of project workers to project areas?	Yes
3.8 Engagement of security personnel to protect facilities and property or to support project activities?	No

Standard 4: Cultural Heritage

Would the project potentially involve or lead to:

4.1 Activities adjacent to or within a Cultural Heritage site?	No
4.2 Significant excavations, demolitions, movement of earth, flooding or other environmental changes?	No

4.3 Adverse impacts to sites, structures, or objects with historical, cultural, artistic, traditional or religious values or intangible forms of culture (e.g. knowledge, innovations, practices)? (Note: projects intended to protect and conserve Cultural Heritage may also have inadvertent adverse impacts)	No
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4.4 Alterations to landscapes and natural features with cultural significance?	No
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4.5 Utilization of tangible and/or intangible forms (e.g. practices, traditional knowledge) of Cultural Heritage for commercial or other purposes?	No
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Standard 5: Displacement and Resettlement

Would the project potentially involve or lead to:

5.1 Temporary or permanent and full or partial physical displacement (including people without legally recognizable claims to land)?	No
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5.2 Economic displacement (e.g. loss of assets or access to resources due to land acquisition or access restrictions - even in the absence of physical relocation)?	Yes
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5.3 Risk of forced evictions?	Yes
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5.4 Impacts on or changes to land tenure arrangements and/or community based property rights/customary rights to land, territories and/or resources?	Yes
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Standard 6: Indigenous Peoples

Would the project potentially involve or lead to:

6.1 Areas where indigenous peoples are present (including project area of influence)?	Yes
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6.2 Activities located on lands and territories claimed by indigenous peoples?	Yes
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6.3 Impacts (positive or negative) to the human rights, lands, natural resources, territories, and traditional livelihoods of indigenous peoples (regardless of whether indigenous peoples possess the legal titles to such areas, whether the project is located within or outside of the lands and territories inhabited by the affected peoples, or whether the indigenous peoples are recognized as indigenous peoples by the country in question)?	Yes
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6.4 The absence of culturally appropriate consultations carried out with the objective of achieving FPIC on matters that may affect the rights and interests, lands, resources, territories and traditional livelihoods of the indigenous peoples concerned?	Yes
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6.5 The utilization and/or commercial development of natural resources on lands and territories claimed by indigenous peoples?	Yes
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6.6 Forced eviction or the whole or partial physical or economic displacement of indigenous peoples, including through access restrictions to lands, territories, and resources?	Yes
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6.7 Adverse impacts on the development priorities of indigenous peoples as defined by them?	Yes
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6.8 Risks to the physical and cultural survival of indigenous peoples?	Yes
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6.9 Impacts on the Cultural Heritage of indigenous peoples, including through the commercialization or use of their traditional knowledge and practices?	No
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Standard 7: Labour and Working Conditions

Would the project potentially involve or lead to: (note: applies to project and contractor workers)

7.1 Working conditions that do not meet national labour laws and international commitments?	Yes
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7.2 Working conditions that may deny freedom of association and collective bargaining?	Yes
7.3 Use of child labour?	No
7.4 Use of forced labour?	No
7.5 Discriminatory working conditions and/or lack of equal opportunity?	Yes
7.6 Occupational health and safety risks due to physical, chemical, biological and psychosocial hazards (including violence and harassment) throughout the project life-cycle?	Yes

Standard 8: Pollution Prevention and Resource Efficiency

Would the project potentially involve or lead to:

8.1 The release of pollutants to the environment due to routine or non-routine circumstances with the potential for adverse local, regional, and/or transboundary impacts?	No
8.2 The generation of waste (both hazardous and non-hazardous)?	Yes
8.3 The manufacture, trade, release, and/or use of hazardous materials and/or chemicals?	Yes
8.4 The use of chemicals or materials subject to international bans or phase-outs?	No
8.5 The application of pesticides that may have a negative effect on the environment or human health?	No
8.6 Significant consumption of raw materials, energy, and/or water?	No

Final Sign Off

Final Screening at the design-stage is not complete until the following signatures are included

Signature	Name	Description
QA Assessor 	Muiyiwa Odele	UNDP staff member responsible for the project, typically a UNDP Programme Officer. Final signature confirms they have "checked" to ensure that the SESP is adequately conducted.
QA Approver 	Varsha Redkar- Palepu	UNDP senior manager, typically the UNDP Deputy Country Director (DCD), Country Director (CD), Deputy Resident Representative (DRR), or Resident Representative (RR). The QA Approver cannot also be the QA Assessor. Final signature confirms they have "cleared" the SESP prior to submittal to the PAC.
PAC Chair 	Elsie Attafuah	UNDP chair of the PAC. In some cases PAC Chair may also be the QA Approver. Final signature confirms that the SESP was considered as part of the project appraisal and considered in recommendations of the PAC.