

THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA MINISTRY OF ENERGY AND MINERAL DEVELOPMENT

ELECTRICITY ACCESS SCALE-UP POJECT (EASP)

VULNERABLE & MARGINALIZED GROUPS FRAMEWORK (VMGF)

(DRAFT FOUR)

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ACRONYMS

ESS

CGV Chief Government Valuer

CDO Community Development Officer CPF Country Partnership Framework

DCDO District Community Development Officer
DMM Department of Museums and Monuments
EASP Electricity Access Scale-Up Project
EDP Energy Development Programme
ESF Environmental and Social Framework

ESMF Environmental and Social Management Framework

GRM Grievance Redress Mechanism

HIV/AIDS Human Immunodeficiency Virus / Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome

HSE Health Safety and Environment

IWGIA International Work Group for Indigenous Affairs

SEF Stakeholder Engagement Framework
ESA Environmental and Social and Assessment

LC Local Council

MDAs Ministries, Departments and Agencies
MEMD Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development

MGLSD Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development
MLHUD Ministry of Lands, Housing and Urban Development
MOFPED Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development

Environmental and Social Standard

MoLG Ministry of Local Government
MoWT Ministry of Works and Transport
NDP National Development Plan

NEMA National Environment Management Authority

NFA National Forest Authority PAPs Project Affected Persons PIU Project Implementation Unit **PWDs** People With Disabilities RAP Resettlement Action Plan Rural Electrification Agency REA **RPF** Resettlement Policy Framework SIA Social Impact Assessment

UECCC Uganda Energy Credit Capitalization Company

USEA Uganda Solar Energy Association UNRA Uganda National Roads Authority

UOBDU United Organisation for Batwa Development in Uganda
VMGF Vulnerable and Marginalized Groups Framework
VMGMP Vulnerable and Marginalized Groups Management Plan

WB World Bank

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Government of Uganda plans to implement the Electricity Access Scale-Up Project (EASP) with the aim of scaling up access to electricity for households including for refugee and host communities, industrial parks and commercial enterprises, health and education facilities. The project will increase clean energy access in Uganda to spur socio-economic transformation. The project will also enhance the ability of poor and vulnerable rural communities to participate in income generating activities and hence contribute to poverty reduction and shared prosperity. The project will also support the cross-cutting issues such as 'gender and climate change', through low-emission solar home systems and clean cooking solutions in rural areas, which are expected to lead to better education, health and public security, especially for women and children.

The EASP sub-components are anticipated to have an overall positive impact on a large portion of the Ugandan population, and potentially on members of vulnerable and marginalized groups such as the Batwas and the lks. Because of the nature of the civil works planned under the project (construction of distribution LV/MV lines) however, negative environmental and social risks and impacts on these groups are unlikely to low. The Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development has prepared a Vulnerable and Marginalized Groups Framework (VMGF) to present (i) potential project benefits, (ii) anticipated socio-economic risks on these groups, and (iii) proposed measures to ensure they benefit from the project. The process of the preparation of the VMGF involved consultations with key stakeholders that included representatives from both Batwas and Iks communities, CSOs/NGOs dealing with Vulnerable and Marginalized Groups issues, relevant government Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) and the private sector. Scheduled meetings (virtual in some cases) and feedback sessions were conducted mainly to seek their views on the anticipated project. Stakeholders were generally supportive and eager to have the project because of potential benefits towards the socio-economic transformation of the country. Further consultations/engagements with VMGs will be carried out as part of the implementation of this framework and the Stakeholder Engagement Framework (SEF). These will be carried out in a culturally appropriate manner and through communities' representatives and /or interpreters when necessary, to ensure that feedback is adequately captured.

The VMGF will potentially be applicable to components 1 and 3, which include grid extension activities that could impact assets (crops, trees, and permanent or temporary buildings) if the planned lines are to traverse in Batwas/Iks communities. The project will however make deliberate efforts to ensure that members of these communities benefit from activities under components 2 and 4, whether they are impacted by the previous or not.

The Framework has identified some potential risks that could impact these communities as part of the implementation of activities under components 1 and 3. They include those linked to the influx of labor involved in distribution lines construction; notably gender based violence and sexual exploitation and abuse , abuse of labor from members of these communities, child labour, increased vulnerability, social conflict, etc. and those related to the actual construction of these lines. They include destruction of crops, vegetation and vulnerable and marginalized trees and other natural resources among others. The framework proposes activities to mitigate the risks and impact that will be further elaborated in the VMGMP. Proposed activities will be part of the implementation of various EASP frameworks and plans. Activities include, but not limited to; VMG involvement and participation, sensitization and awareness creation, compensation and restoration of livelihoods, collaboration with the leadership and community structures as well as working with the contractors to observe the laws and regulations governing workplaces and employment.

CHAPTER 1: CONTEXT, DESCRIPTION AND SCOPE OF THE PROJECT

1.1 Project Background Information

The Government of Uganda plans to acquire credit from the World Bank towards the implementation of the Electricity Access Scale-Up Project (EASP). The proposed project will support the country's efforts to scale up access to electricity for households including for refugee and host communities, industrial parks and commercial enterprises, health and education facilities, as enshrined in Uganda's Vision 2040 and other policy documents. The project will build on earlier engagements in the Energy and Minerals sector to directly support the expansion and strengthening of the electricity network, and scale-up of service connections in areas within the network reach, as well as increase access to off-grid electricity and clean cooking services in areas outside the network footprint and in refugee settlements and their host communities.

The project is fully aligned with the priority areas identified in the World Bank Group's Country Partnership Framework (CPF, 2016-2021), which emphasizes support for sustained high rates of growth, socio-economic transformation and inclusion, and reduction of poverty and vulnerability to shocks. Increased clean energy access in Uganda will directly support the thematic objectives identified under the strategic Focus Area C ('Boosting Inclusive Growth in Urban Areas'), which call for improving the business environment and access to urban services. The provision of electricity for productive uses will accelerate urbanization and improve living standards in urban areas, while stimulating employment and creating sustainable utilities in the power distribution sector. The project will also contribute to thematic objectives identified under strategic Focus Area B ('Raising Incomes in Rural Areas'), especially on reducing regional inequalities through interventions supporting income-generating activities.

The proposed EASP contributes to the NDP-III and Vision 2040's goal of increasing clean energy access in Uganda to spur socio-economic transformation. It will lay the foundation for enhancing the ability of poor and vulnerable rural communities to participate in income generating activities and hence contribute to poverty reduction and shared prosperity, indirectly through its contribution to economic growth, and directly by enriching the lives of the beneficiaries of such services through increased household income and employment, higher profits for commercial firms, etc. The project will also support the cross-cutting issues such as 'gender and climate change', through low-emission solar home systems and clean cooking solutions in rural areas, which are expected to lead to better education, health and public security, especially for women and children.

The EASP project is to be implemented mainly by three Government Institutions: Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development (MEMD), Rural Electrification Agency (REA), and Uganda Energy Credit Capitalization Company (UECCC). The Project aims to increase electricity access to households, commercial, industrial users, public institutions in the rural areas, refugee settlements, peri-urban and urban areas, through on-grid and off-grid solutions. It will also increase access to clean energy-cooking services by supporting private sector enterprises promoting efficient and clean cooking solutions.

1.2 Project Components

Component 1: Grid expansion and connectivity

- This component will finance the scale-up of "last-mile" connections (household, commercial) in line
 with the Electricity Connections Policy (ECP), while supporting the necessary MV/LV network
 strengthening and extensions. This component will be implemented by the Rural Electrification
 Agency (REA) in close collaboration with all SPs for harmonizing technical specifications and
 procuring distribution network and connection materials..
- Sub-component 1-1: Last-mile connections. This sub-component will support "last-mile" connections of both households and commercial consumers in line with the Electricity Connections Policy (ECP) and within 1 km from the existing network to maximize the number of connections to be realized with the available funds, leveraging on the high number of potential customers requiring the least amount of construction material and civil works.
- Sub-component 1-2: Network expansion and strengthening. This sub-component will finance network expansion and strengthening through Medium Voltage (MV) and Low Voltage (LV) grid extension, upgrades and intensification.

Component 2: Financial Intermediation for Energy Access Scale-up

- This component will provide line of credit and credit guarantee instruments for the promotion of
 productive uses of electricity and efficient appliances, quality-certified standalone solar systems,
 clean cooking technologies, and institutional solar systems (e.g., health facilities, schools).
- This component will be managed by the Uganda Energy Credit Capitalization Company (UECCC) in close collaboration with the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development (MEMD) for scaling-up modern energy access solutions for household, commercial, industrial and institutional consumers, including public institutions (e.g., health facilities, schools). This component will provide access to finance through working capital loans, micro finance, and medium-term loans to private entrepreneurs and end-users on a first-come, first-serve basis to promote efficient appliances, standalone solar technologies for lighting and productive uses and clean cooking solutions.
- The Clean Technology Fund (CTF) will support the implementation of this component through the
 establishment of a Contingent Grant Facility (CGF), which will be managed by the UECCC and will
 provide comfort to participating Commercial Financial Institutions (CFIs) for on-lending to companies
 offering stand-alone solar and clean cooking solutions. The CGF will de-risk the exposure of CFIs to
 technology risk, therefore enabling private companies to raise debt at attractive terms. A detailed
 description of the CTF structure and implementation arrangements is provided in Annex 3.
- Sub-component 2-1: Financial intermediation through participating Commercial Financial Institutions. This sub-component will provide access to credit through the UECCC to the Commercial Financial Institutions (CFIs) for the promotion of stand-alone solar systems, efficient electric appliances including for productive uses such as solar water pumps, solar refrigeration units, clean cooking solutions, etc.
- Sub-component 2-2: Electrification of public institutions by stand-alone solar technologies. This sub-component will support electrification of public institutions (e.g., health facilities, schools) by stand-alone solar system, which are far from grid network.

Component 3: Energy Access in Refugee Host Communities

This component will increase access to electricity and clean cooking solutions for refugees and their
host communities. This component will support ongoing efforts under the leadership of the Office of
the Prime Minister (OPM), to ensure the sustainable socio-economic inclusion of refugees and
equitable access to development opportunities for social stability in Uganda.

- This component will be implemented by the REA (Sub-component 3-1) and UECCC (Sub-component 3-2) in close collaboration with the MEMD, OPM and relevant stakeholders.
- **Sub-component 3-1: Grid connectivity and expansion.** REA will implement this sub-component following the implementation design of Component 1 to provide access to electricity to household, commercial, industrial, and public institution consumers either through extending MV/LV grid networks or mini grids.
- Sub-component 3-2: Financial intermediation through participating Commercial Financial Institutions. UECCC will implement this subcomponent following the implementation design of Component 2 to promote access to renewable electricity through stand-alone solar technologies, financing of internal wiring of houses and facilities, promotion of efficient appliances for productive uses, cooling technology and clean cooking solutions in refugee settlements and their host communities

Component 4: Project implementation Support and Affordable Modern Energy Solutions

- This component will finance project implementation and enabling environment support to increase
 access to electricity and clean cooking solutions in Uganda. Among other activities, this component
 will finance the establishment of an adequately staffed Project Coordination Unit (PCU) at MEMD,
 and Project Implementation Units (PIUs) at REA and UECCC, through the recruitment of necessary
 consultancy services, capacity building activities, and operations costs. This component will be
 implemented by the MEMD, REA, and UECCC.
- Sub-component 4-1: Implementation support. This sub-component will support the GoU's efforts
 to strengthen institutional capacity for electrification and project implementation including
 environment and social safeguards, as well as implement distribution sector reforms which are
 essential to increasing electricity access in Uganda. This sub-component will finance the PCU at the
 MEMD and PIUs at the REA and UECCC, which will be responsible for the day-to-day oversight,
 coordination, planning and implementation of all activities under the project, as well as other TA and
 capacity development activities required to accelerate access to electricity and clean cooking
 solutions in Uganda.
- Sub-component 4-2: Ensuring equity in energy access. This sub-component will support private
 sector entrepreneurs remove certain barriers preventing them from scaling up the innovative energy
 technologies to promote electrification in Uganda. The grant will be provided toward removing market
 entry barriers, information and communication campaign costs, affordability constraint of the
 consumers, high operating cost to serve customers in remote areas, and so on. The grants support
 price setting at a level accessible to lower-income beneficiaries.

Component 5: Contingent Emergency Response

This component will improve the Government's ability to respond effectively in the event of an
emergency during the lifetime of the project. There is a risk that during the life of the project, the
Government may experience a crisis like COVID-19 or something entirely different, resulting in a
request to the World Bank to support mitigation, response, and recovery measures. This component
will enable a rapid project restructuring, including the reallocation of funds and disbursements if
needed.

1.3 Project Beneficiaries

The EASP beneficiaries will include: -

a) Domestic households, and commercial and industrial enterprises that will benefit from the rapid scale-up of electricity connections.

- b) Vulnerable and Marginalized Households, including Batwas and Iks
- c) Public institutions, including schools and health centers.
- d) Energy entrepreneurs involved in the promotion of solar energy and clean cooking alternatives.
- e) Financial institutions that will receive funds from the project for onward lending to renewable energy businesses.
- f) Refugees and the associated host communities.
- g) Personnel from project implementation institutions.

1.4 Project Management Structure

The project implementation and management will be coordinated at the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development. The Minister of State for Energy, MEMD will be the Chair of the Project Steering Committee.

The Project Coordination Unit will be the main secretariat for the implementation. The Project Organogram is illustrated below;

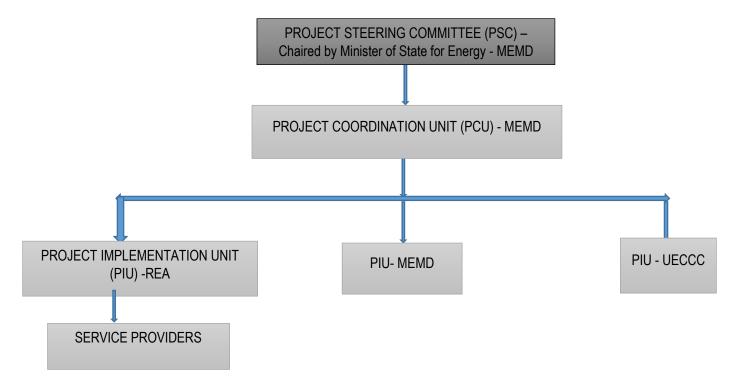


Figure 1: Project Management Structure

1.4.1 Institutional Arrangement and Roles

Table 1: Institutional arrangements for implementation of EASP

No	Institutional Arrangement	Composition	Description roles
1.	Steering Committee to be Chaired by Minister of State for Energy - MEMD	MOFPED, MEMD, REA, UECCC, OPM, ERA and MDs from Service Providers	Provide strategic direction / decision making during implementation of the project. Overall supervision of project activities.
2	Project Coordination Unit to be hosted by MEMD	Coordination Manager, 4 Monitoring and Evaluation Specialists, Environmental Specialist, Gender and Social Development Specialist, Social Safeguards Specialist, Communication Specialist, and Project Administrator.	Take lead in co-ordination of beneficiary stakeholders in implementing the project, supervision and ensuring compliance to safeguards. Implementation of activities falling under MEMD.
4	Project Implementation Unit (PIU)-REA	REA to provide	Facilitate rapid scale up of electricity connections
5	Project Implementation Unit (PIU)-UECCC	Director Transaction Execution (Project Manager), Risk Manager, Environment Specialist [vacant position - to be filled], Social Safeguard Specialist [vacant - to be filled] and 4 Transaction Execution Specialists [two positions filled, two positions vacant].	Provide financial support to private companies
6	Service Providers	N/A	Undertake electricity connections and densification.

1.5 Rationale of the VGMF

It is envisioned that the implementation of EASP sub-components will have some positive impacts that should be enhanced while the negative environmental and social impacts on the Vulnerable and Marginalized groups shall be avoided, minimized or mitigated at the implementation stage. And as such, the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development has prepared a Vulnerable and Marginalized Groups Framework (VMGF). The framework provides a layout of anticipated benefits of the project, perceived risks on socio-economic livelihoods and social set up of the VMGs and strategies to enhance the benefits and avoid, minimize or mitigate the risks.

The VMGF has been prepared in line with the Environmental and Social Standard 7 (ESS7) of the World Bank's Environmental and Social Framework (2018) and relevant Ugandan social development policies and laws.

This VMGF will be used to:

- In conjunction with the ESMF and RPF, address any adverse impacts on the livelihoods of VMGs and/or their assets or resources.
- Propose measures to ensure that the VMGs (Batwas and Iks) have access to culturally appropriate benefits from relevant project interventions, and will thus contribute to the achievement of the mandate of the Equal Opportunities

1.6 Purpose and objectives of the VMGF

The World Bank's ESS 7 seeks to ensure that projects supported by the Bank enhance opportunities for Vulnerable and Marginalized Groups to participate in, and benefit from, the development process in ways that do not threaten their unique cultural identities and well-being. This framework therefore seeks to provide guidance for avoiding project adverse impacts on VMGs and to provide them with culturally appropriate benefits. Therefore, this VMGF is prepared to ensure that the World Bank's ESS7 on VMGs is applied to the EASP.

Specifically, the objectives of the Framework are:

- i. To provide a framework for integration of aspects of vulnerable and marginalized groups in all stages of the project.
- ii. To provide arrangements for avoiding potentially adverse impact on VMGs throughout the implementation of the EASP; where avoidance is not feasible, minimize, mitigate and compensate such effects:
- iii. To ensure that that VMGs receive social and economic benefits that are culturally appropriate as well as gender sensitive; and
- iv. To provide procedures for ensuring full participation of VMGs in the entire project cycle.
- v. To propose interventions and set out the roles of different stakeholders and actors in the implementation of the project towards addressing emerging negative impact

Key to implementation of the VMGF will be the need to ensure that the roles and responsibilities of the key institutions at the core of implementing the EASP are clearly articulated and that there are adequate human and financial resources to implement the proposed strategies.

This VMGF will apply to EASP components and activities that will affect vulnerable peoples or marginalized groups such as the Batwa in South West Uganda or Ik in North eastern Uganda.

1.7 Government Policy on Vulnerable and Marginalized Groups

Government has formulated and implemented a number of policies, programmes and enacted laws intended to improve livelihoods of vulnerable and marginalized groups.

The vulnerabilities faced by certain categories of the population such as ethnic minorities, older persons, children, youth, women and persons with disabilities do not only directly impact on their livelihoods but also

slow national development. Bringing these groups to the vanguard of development and enhancing their contribution to the development process requires specific social protection instruments that address the peculiar risks and vulnerabilities they face.

The Government of Uganda developed a National Social Protection Policy (2015) to guide stakeholders in addressing the issues that affect the vulnerable and marginalized groups. The Policy identifies vulnerable and marginalized groups to include:

- Orphans and other vulnerable children such as abandoned children, Children in contact with the law, child labourers;
- Unemployed persons who have the ability to work and are actively seeking for employment;
- Older persons aged 60 years and above;
- Persons with severe disabilities;
- Ethnic minorities (Batwas and Iks); and
- Disaster-affected persons individuals affected by natural or manmade calamities that disrupt their normal functioning and livelihoods.

The Policy sets out guiding principles in the implementation of different interventions for the vulnerable groups. These include:

- Individual, family and community involvement: Whereas Government at all levels shall take leadership in the implementation of this policy, communities, target groups and duty bearers shall be actively involved in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of social protection interventions.
- Human Rights-Based Approach to Service delivery: Communities shall be empowered to know and claim their rights and demand accountability from duty bearers and institutions implementing social protection interventions.
- **Timeliness, reliability and sustainability**: Systems shall be strengthened to facilitate timely delivery of social protection services and generate reliable information for decision making
- **Universalism and inclusiveness**: Appropriate measures shall put in place to protect every Ugandan from risks and shocks.
- Transparency and Accountability: Openness and value for money shall be emphasized in the provision of social protection services.
- **Gender Responsiveness**: All social protection interventions shall address specific risks and vulnerabilities that affect boys and girls, men and women.
- **Equity:** Fairness and justice shall underpin the provision of social protection services across different demographic categories and geographical locations.
- **Dignity:** All beneficiaries of social protection interventions shall be treated with respect regardless of their sex, cultural, religious, and socio-economic status.

The Social Development Sector has the institutional mandate to redresses imbalances to eliminate discrimination and inequalities against any individual or group of persons and also takes affirmative action in favour of the marginalized. Broadly, Uganda government has a strong policy framework for protection of vulnerable groups. However, this has not been supported by a strong financially solid social protection system that would remove other financial and social barriers to accessing services (NPA, 2018)

2.1 Literature/Desk review

Preparation of this VMGF entailed reviewing existing frameworks for ongoing projects in the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development (MEMD), the EASP project concept and preliminary project literature. It also involved reviewing of relevant legal and policy documents. Records of laws, policies, plans and reports were reviewed to provide the national and international legal, policy and institutional framework. An examination of the World Bank's ESF and specially ESS7 on Vulnerable and marginalized Peoples and Sub-Saharan African Historically Underserved Traditional Local Communities was undertaken to understand the requirements and scope of a VMGF. Additionally, reports documenting challenges faced by VMGs in Uganda were examined. Specifically, United Organization for Batwa Development in Uganda (UOBDU) web updates and project reports provided useful literature.

2.2 Consultations with VMGs

A stakeholder consultations tool/questionnaire was developed and reviewed by the social safeguards team (ANNEX IV). This tool guided questions and discussions with a range of stakeholders at national level. Consultations with key stakeholders on the draft VMGF-kicked off on 6th February 2020 with the objective of gathering in-depth information about the VMGs in order to make EASP relevant to VMGs from all parts of the country. These consultations also provided opportunity to stakeholders voice their opinions and concerns on different aspects of the project. Under the prevailing conditions at the time, consultations were largely undertaken with the national stakeholders. However, additional consultations were undertaken virtually with representatives from Batwa and Ik communities, and leadership from Districts that host them – These were undertaken between May 29 and 31, 2020. Further consultations/engagements with VMGs will be carried out as part of the implementation of the Stakeholder Engagement Framework (SEF).

The stakeholders consulted included 47 men and 33 women. A majority of the stakeholders were supportive of the project objective of increasing access to electricity for the underserved communities. They were also broadly satisfied with the proposed framework and they suggested mitigation measures.

Specific issues raised in the context of EASP and in particular electricity access are summarized below;

Table 2: Summary of Stakeholder issues/Concerns

Stakeholder(s)	Issues/Concerns
Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development	 The Project may adversely impact on the socio-economic conditions and livelihoods of the VMGs during the construction of power lines Impact on gender relations thereby further fueling gender inequalities if more opportunities are provided for men vis-à-vis women Electricity is not affordable among the vulnerable and marginalized groups and the project should address issues of affordability of electricity to the vulnerable and marginalized groups. Limited accessibility to energy by the VMGs Projects like this may be discriminatory in allocation of employment among the VMGs during the implementation of the project

Stakeholder(s)	Issues/Concerns
	 Risk of fueling Domestic and Gender Based Violence (GBV) and Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA) due to influx of labour, Child labour where children may be recruited in casual employment, Demeaning and vulgar language by the causal labourers which negatively affects the social fabric. Further impoverishment of vulnerable and poor households when service providers repossess solar products that are acquired on loans by beneficiaries
Uganda Solar Energy Association (USEA) and other private Solar companies	The project should broaden the scope of vulnerable and marginalized groups to include; all households who are still using kerosene lamps 'tadobas'; people in slum areas and homes headed by the elderly and children
Ministry of Lands, Housing and Urban Development, UECCC.	Electricity could electrocute people especially those attempting illegal connections or others who are using it for the first time.
United Organization for Batwa Development in Uganda (UOBDU)	 The project should address specific concerns for Batwa which include; High school dropout levels and the need to sensitize Batwa to better appreciate and understand the use of education so as to support their children remain in and complete school; Need to reach out to schools and teachers provide more career guidance to Batwa children as a way of encouraging them to love school. Support livelihoods for Batwa to benefit from the project through recognizing their rights, employment and supporting agriculture initiatives and food security.
Batwas Hosting District (Kanungu) Leadership and Batwa representative.	According to responses from consultations, EASP will not have negative effects to the Batwa community given that no cultural or traditional site will be destroyed during and after the implementation.
Sativa roprosonitativo.	There is need to work with Local government and Batwa Community leadership structures to undertake additional sensitization and awareness about importance of electricity to households and economic development to effect mindset change and make Batwa become beneficiaries of Government Development initiatives like electricity.
	Local leadership also propose that the project should provide casual employment to local Batwa instead of importing them from other areas
IK Hosting District Leadership (Kaabong)	 Work with and facilitate local government authorities to reach the vulnerable and marginalized community of the lk in the delineated area and sensitize them about economic opportunities associate with electricity and better farming methods. Implementation of such initiatives through EASP will contribute to the actualization of ongoing government initiatives towards attainment of the various local development goals/ targets for the lk.

Stakeholder(s)	Issues/Concerns
	 Electricity access is very necessary for schools and health facilities. With access to electricity, local leadership is optimistic that more boarding schools can be established and health centres can be elevated. The only secondary school in the sub-county can have more pupils and improve the education standards of the lk. More sensitization and awareness about importance of electricity to households and economic development should be enhanced to effect mindset change.
	Provide subsidized power supply to support small enterprises and individuals who cannot currently afford connection, maintenance and electricity bills
Uganda Wild Life Authority (UWA), National Forestry Authority (NFA)	Environmental degradation concerns. The project is likely to destroy some of the medicinal plants and crops in VMG villages through creation of pathways for ferrying materials to the pole sites.
Department of Museums and Monuments	Access roads to electrical installations will adversely impact on the cultural materials through exposure.

Further consultations with VMGs and other stakeholders will be done in future as required by World Bank guidelines. These will be carried out in a culturally appropriate manner and through communities' representatives and /or interpreters when necessary, to ensure that feedback is adequately captured. While this VMGF was prepared in consultation with different stakeholders who may not be categorized under the VMGs, their input will be helpful in determining the best approach to deal with vulnerability and its provisions will be applicable to the entire project. A Social Impact Assessment report will also be prepared if a Vulnerable and Marginalized Group Management Plan (VMGP) is required during project implementation. It will outline key actions for mitigation of impact on VMGs and indicators for monitoring the implementation process.

2.3 Preparation of VMGF

Preparation of this framework was undertaken through participatory and consultative meetings with stakeholders. Through internal and external meetings, MEMD Team worked with technical support provided by the Short Term Consultants from the World Bank. Drafts were developed and shared with the Bank for review. Key specific steps in this process are highlighted below;

STEP I: Invitations

- Prior to consultative meetings, invitation letters were delivered (see Annex 1) and duly acknowledged by the different stakeholders. The letters clearly stated the goals of the project and the need for consultative meetings.
- II. There was sufficient time in notifying and arranging consultations and consideration of the activities of stakeholders.

STEP II: Information sharing

- I. Information sharing was done using the official language (English) because this not only facilitated understanding, but also allowed the stakeholders to freely and comfortably express their thoughts, ideas, views and concerns.
- II. Dissemination of information regarding EASP formed the first step in the full and effective participation of stakeholders. The facilitators took the opportunity to inform them the rationale of the project and its components.
- III. Stakeholders raised questions in order to fully understand potential project impacts and verify information provided. Adequate feedback and clarity was always provided by the technical team.

STEP III: Consultation, Participation and Representation

The process entailed a two-way information flow with an exchange of opinions, views and feedback among the stakeholders and between the consulting safeguard team. The process also served as a forum to discuss and reach common understanding on EASP.

STEP IV: Documentation of the Consultation Process:

There was an accurate documentation and recording of consultations processes and outcomes. From the onset there was an agreement with stakeholders on the recording and official documentation. The documentation was done in various forms, such as notes and photos.

National stakeholder Consultations

Consultations were free from any form of intimidation or harassment and no form of condition was imposed on the stakeholders. They were all given adequate time to understand and ask questions and clarifications, to share their opinions and views (**Lists of Consultations in Annex I**).

2.4 Limitations in the preparation of the VMG Framework

During the preparation of the EASP framework documents, the team had planned to undertake field-based stakeholder consultations and engagement for all the documents. However, the outbreak of the Coronavirus (COVID 19) pandemic and project time constraints did not allow field consultations. The team however carried out some of these consultations over the phone as a mitigation measure.

In addition, it used available literature by the United Organization for Batwa Development in Uganda (UOBDU) to obtain basic information on Batwa concerns. In addition, it is envisaged that wide consultations will be conducted during project Environmental and Social Impact Assessments (ESIAs) and their views shall be incorporated in the Vulnerable and Marginalized Group Management Plans (VMGMPs).

CHAPTER 3: UNDERSTANDING THE VMGS IN UGANDA

3.1 Context

In Uganda, the highly vulnerable and marginalized groups have been commonly categorized to include Ethnic Minority Populations. This generic expression refers to a distinct, vulnerable, social and cultural group possessing the following characteristics in varying degrees:

- Self-identification as members of a distinct cultural group and recognition of this identity by others.
- Collective attachment to geographically distinct habitats or ancestral territories in the project area and to the natural resources in these habitats and territories.
- Customary cultural, economic, social or political institutions that are distinct from those of the dominant society and cultures.
- A language, often different from the official language of the country or region.
- Generally vulnerable by their nature of life; the community they live in and highly susceptible to extinction.

VMGs generally include minority groups following traditional livelihoods, generally marginalized, and discriminated against by the wider society.

Some of the key factors that continue to affect and maintain the marginalization of VMGs communities include:

- (a) Dispossession of ancestral lands including lack of access and/or no control or legal recognition of such land and other natural resources.
- (b) A focus on modern agriculture versus preservation of livelihoods of hunter and gatherers and pastoralist groups.
- (c) Limited access to education, resulting in inability to compete for employment opportunities.
- (d) Unequal development of health care and other social infrastructure; and
- (e) Limited access to justice and increased conflict and a deteriorating security situation and recurrent interethnic conflicts.

3.2 VMGs in Uganda

For this framework, the United Nations and World Bank criterion to identify vulnerable and marginalized peoples from the 65 ethnic groups in Uganda has been adapted. Uganda uses aboriginality, to the exclusion of other factors, as the only method of identifying Vulnerable and Marginalised Populations. There are 2 groups of persons in Uganda that have been identified as satisfying the international criteria for the identification of vulnerable and marginalized peoples. These include the Batwa and the lk. These people have historically suffered, and continue to suffer disempowerment and discrimination on economic, social and cultural grounds.

Their livelihood is threatened mainly by the dwindling access to land and natural resources on which they depend either as pastoralists or as hunter-gatherers. It will be demonstrated, however, that although the law in Uganda does not expressly recognize Indigenous Peoples and Sub-Saharan African Historically Underserved Traditional Local Communities, it makes provision for addressing some of the negative effects arising from ethnic vulnerability and imbalances. The Constitution, in the section on National Objectives and Directive Principles of State Policy, provides that every effort shall be made to integrate all peoples while at

the same time recognizing the existence of, amongst others, their ethnic, religious and cultural diversity. In this regard, the Constitution requires that everything necessary be done to promote a culture of co-operation, understanding, appreciation, tolerance and respect for each other's customs, traditions and beliefs.

The Constitution of the Republic Uganda even makes provision for the adoption of affirmative action in favor of marginalized groups in order to address historical imbalances. The National Objectives also make provision for the fair representation of marginalized groups on all constitutional and other bodies. These provisions have direct relevance to Indigenous Peoples and Sub-Saharan African Historically Underserved Traditional Local Communities and could be used to compel government to undertake special measures to address the needs of these people.

In areas where large energy investment projects are implemented, specific groups may be uniquely vulnerable, lack capacity to cope with uncertainty and risks. Their lifestyle is often characterized by low levels of asset ownership and risk of chronic poverty. Moreover, they face discrimination and stigmatization and suffer the multiple effects of poverty, vulnerability, discrimination and powerlessness. For purposes of targeting, the EASP VMGF considers those elaborated below.

Two ethnic minority groups in Uganda have been identified according to the World Bank's ESS7 on the identification of VMGs. They include traditional hunters and gathers' communities of:

Table 3: Categories of recognized Vulnerable and marginalized ethnic minority groups and their locations

Group	Locations
Batwa, also known as Twa or Pigmies	These live primarily in south-western Uganda;
The lk,	These live on the edge of the Karamoja - Turkana region along the Uganda - Kenya border in Kaabong district, Karamoja;

3.3 Socio-demographic information of VMGs

A desk review of the Vulnerable and marginalized Peoples and Sub-Saharan African Historically Underserved Traditional Local Communities shows that there are varying socio-demographic characteristics that any development intervention should consider. Most of the features demonstrate limited opportunities to access basic development opportunities. Below are descriptions of basic characteristics various categories of vulnerable groups in Uganda.

Irrespective of geographical location, the VMGs of Uganda are commonly characterized by:

- Historical and continued suffering, disempowerment and discrimination on economic, social, cultural and political grounds;
- Reliance on their land and environment to sustain themselves both physically (in terms of food, fuel and habitat) and culturally;
- Threatened livelihoods mainly due to dwindling access to land and natural resources on which they depend as hunters and gatherers;

- Their economic systems exist separately from that of the mainstream or dominant community, and tend to have minimal interaction (if any) with the socio-economic and legal systems of national governments;
- Much lower health and education indicators than those of the dominant community, often due to difficult access. This means that they are particularly vulnerable to changes in their socio-economic and physical environments; and
- Social exclusion, deprivation from mainstream government services, lack of participation in development processes that affect them, and in most cases uncertainty of land and natural resource tenure.

3.4 Gender and other socio-cultural aspects of VMGs in Uganda

Generally, power and gender relations between the men and the women favour men as superior and women continue to suffer very high time burdens in pursuing their livelihood strategies (Uganda Gender Policy, 2007). All consultations with men and women revealed the prevalence of this form of negative masculinity. Both men and women largely do the gender ascribed jobs in the community, largely the traditional subsistence cultivation of traditional crops. T

Among the Batwa for example, cultural values and norms do not allow a male healthcare provider to attend to women during delivery and hence this makes them reluctant to seek medical services from the health centres that have male staff. There is still substantial use of the traditional herbs to cure malaria, respiratory tract infections and pneumonia which unfortunately has led to a high mortality rate. The relationship between the marginalised and vulnerable groups and their dominant neighbours is characterised by 'discrimination, marginalisation and stereotyping'. For example, the Batwa community are described as short, lazy and 'irresponsible people by the other surrounding tribes (Kabananukye, 2016).

VMG communities have significant cultural sites. Although some of these sites have been gazetted as National Parks or Tourist sites, most members of vulnerable and marginalized groups still rely on them for subsistence and livelihoods. For example, among the Batwa of Kisoro, the gazetting of Bwindi and Mgahinga forested areas in early 1990s, a large portion of their forest resources as protected area [national parks] significantly deprived them of natural resources on which they attach their cultural value, including sacred places of worship, historical sites, sacred rivers and streams for ritual cleansing and the medicinal herbs and honey (Kabananukye, 2016.). This gazetting has also affected the Batwa in a way that they can no longer fulfil their spiritual/ ritual and nutritional needs.

With increasing de-forestation, many Batwa have increasingly adapted to dependence on pottery that has come to replace hunting and gathering as the symbol of Batwa identity. This reflects the increasing importance of women's activities in terms of the groups' livelihoods (Fernandes, 2017). With hunting overall outlawed men's contribution to the household has significantly diminished.

3.5 Electricity access by the VMGs in Uganda

There is limited access to electricity in Uganda to attain the growth trajectory and socio-economic transformation of the country's fast growing population. The limited access to electricity (16 % in urban and about 10 % in rural areas) (UBOS, 2016) has affected the delivery of social services, constrained the development of small-scale industrial and commercial enterprises and adversely affected larger-scale

industrial and commercial investment. Uganda has implemented several measures to achieve its electricity access with the following targets: (i) the Uganda Vision 2040 - access to 80 % by 2040, (ii) the National Development Plan 2015/16 –2019/20 access from 14% to 30%; and (iii) the 2013-22 Rural Electrification Strategy and Plan sets out a target to increase access to electricity in rural areas from 7% to 26% (UBOS, 2016). About 83% of rural population meets their energy demand through use of biomass. 10% of the population use solar, 6% of the population use fossil fuel combustion and only 1% with electricity from hydro and fossil fueled thermal power plants (UBOS, 2016).

The demand for firewood for cooking exceeds natural reproduction, leading to deforestation. Given that most vulnerable and marginalized groups are located in rural areas, access to electricity for cooking is very low. The adverse impact of low access to electricity is borne by women, girls and children. Firewood collection is a household chore traditionally carried out by women and children, often associated with grave protection risks. Chasing and raping of women and girls during firewood collection is commonly reported especially in refugee settlements (Global Alliance for Clean Cook stoves and UKAID, 2016). Poor lighting and darkness also pose a security threat among women who collect firewood from long distances and return home when it is dark.

Moreover, firewood collection is a time-consuming endeavor, not only because distance to the supply source is increasing, but also because women often take the opportunity of being in the bush to search for firewood and other food items. The longer the time spent in the bush, the higher the risk of being attacked. Improving lighting in and around homes, schools and water and other facilities is one of the elements that are associated with increased feelings of safety among communities.

Firewood burning for cooking continues to have a negative impact on health of users due to high emissions, such as respiratory and heart diseases, lung cancer, and eye irritations and women are the most adversely affected.

3.6 Common challenges of VMGs in Uganda

This framework identifies common challenges of VMGs in Uganda irrespective of their geographical locations. This is because the EASP Project is expected to cover all regions of the country and knowing these challenges could help in targeting interventions in the Vulnerable and Marginalized Groups Management Plan (VMGMP). These were identified both in field consultations and the desk review findings.

The Batwa

The Batwa tribe, which is also known as the Pygmies The Batwa, who number about 6,700, live mainly in the southwest region. They were dispossessed of their ancestral land when the Bwindi and Mgahinga forests were declared national parks in 1991. They live in small huts made of sticks and grass.

Povertv

High poverty levels in the community caused by highly undependable climate, low produces and low market prices, for their produce even if the community would depend farming.

Nature of households and dwelling for electrification

The Batwa live in grass-thatched houses and according to their leader, access to electricity and household connections may not be something they will quickly embrace. Most Batwa prefer

darkness to light even though many civil societies have been engaged in campaigns to change their perception. There are also fears that without adequate sensitization, many people can be electrocuted.

There may be serious challenges with maintenance of electricity equipment and the cost. According to the community leaders, EASP will be of good importance because currently the government has constructed a school within their community and it requires electricity.

Inadequate land for settlement

Some Batwa people are mobile due to unclear land tenures. They move when their lands are acquired from them or when they need to grow crops, away from where animals threaten to destroy them. When they are not assured of permanent settlement, they construct temporary shelters.

Economic activities

The Batwa commonly known as beggars have received many initiatives from various NGOs including BPD, BMCT, and UOBDU, but have not yet embraced self-reliance. Kanungu District, for instance, has persistently provided various crop seeds through their agricultural initiatives but the Batwa have in turn sold such agricultural inputs. Although they are known as hunters, they also do other forms of labour at low pay. Some do basic jobs or agriculture, while others make handicrafts and jewelry for sale to locals and tourists. They also do singing and dancing as form of entertainment for payment by visitors. Tourists pay some money to the dancing groups to be entertained.

Education

Batwa, access to education means change at the most basic level, such as being able to read public signs and notices. It allows self-sufficiency and promotes self-esteem; it offers the potential to undertake training in technical skills or to access employment, all of which would help Batwa people overcome the poverty they live in. Even when Batwa children do access school, they experience direct and indirect discrimination.

Health service access

Many Batwa people do not access and utilize health care services because they cannot pay for consultations and medicines. Even in government facilities, they are said to be discriminated as they do not have the documents and identity cards needed to obtain hospital treatment or are subjected to humiliating and discriminatory treatment.

Social dynamics

Women participation in social and community management activities is minimal compared to men. There are small numbers of women that participate in community meetings and this reflects the power dynamics in society; few Batwa women have the level of education needed to take up positions in local governance or obtain government employment.

The Ik

The Ik number is approximately 13,939 and lives on the edge of the Karamoja / Turkana region along the border between Uganda and Kenya. Apart from being a border population, they stay in hilly areas and this makes exposure and access to information and other services difficult. They are highly marginalized and vulnerable.

Subsistence Land use

The lk are hunter-gatherers and they depend on honey and fruits from the forests. Those who are able to slope downhills practice subsistence farming with small portions of maize and beans. The lk are not pastoralists and as a result, they have limited movements and have remained neutral in cattle rustling and other movement related conflicts affecting their neighbours.

Poor road network

Kamion sub-county and Kaabong District generally is an area characterised by very bad terrain and poor road network. Accessibility to the Ik is a problem mainly due to the mountainous nature of the area. This limits access to markets and other social services. Construction of access roads as part of the project corporate social responsibility will improve communication through road infrastructure development in the area.

Socio-economic issues

Although the lk community is positive to development, education levels have remained very low with high rates of school drop-out due to limited number of schools in the area and long distances to schools. There is not much economic activity in the Ikland due to poor roads and accessibility of the area. The lk sell honey which they harvest from the forests. Forests are an important preserve and source of means of survival and preservation of their unique identity.

There is high prevalence of alcohol abuse. Other major social problems include poverty, child marriages and domestic violence.

Sensitization about electricity

Electricity is a new development in the area and embracing it requires extensive mobilization and sensitization because currently, the existing types of housing and petty economic activities do not seem to press a high demand of electricity in that area. People may be hesitant to electricity connections because they believe it is costly and a privilege that not everyone can afford.

Leadership

In 2015, Ik County became a constituency and since 2016 the Ik people got their first representation in Parliament of the Republic of Uganda in the 10th Parliament. Local leadership is optimistic that this representation can help to advocate for further recognition of the Ik to ensure that under the implementation of the NDP III, better infrastructure can be established in the area and electricity once extended in the area can transform the lives of the Ik.

The District Local Government works with some voluntary NGOs to address the socio-economic challenges facing the Ik but they still prevail.

According to International Work Group for Vulnerable and marginalized Affairs (IWGIA), a global human rights organization dedicated to promoting, protecting and defending vulnerable and marginalized peoples' rights, dispossession of traditional lands and territories is one of the major problems faced by VMGs in Africa.

Development paradigms in the Sub-Saharan region tend to perceive VMGs' modes of production (pastoralist, hunting, and gathering), as primitive, non-productive and unaligned with today's modernization aspirations of African States. Therefore, many development policies are either directly or indirectly unfavorable to VMGs' modes of production.

Some of the major challenges and concerns faced by these members of vulnerable and marginalized groups in Uganda are:

- The Land Act of 1998 and the National Environment Statute of 1995 protect customary interests in land and traditional uses of forests. However, these laws also authorize the government to exclude human activities in any forest area by declaring it a protected forest, thus nullifying the customary land rights of VMGs. Nevertheless, the National Land Policy 2013 seeks to address the issue of dispossession of VMGs' ancestral lands as will be seen in the next section;
- Political participation of VMGs remains limited and their socio-economic rights are ignored by the State and society;
- Eviction from their homelands has limited Uganda's VMGs' access to natural forest food, herbal medicine, and shelter leaving some of them plagued by starvation and sickness;
- Eviction of VMGs from their homelands (Natural Forests) has limited their access to food, medicine, and shelter. As a result, some of them are plagued by starvation, sickness and exposure. For instance, the number of Batwa in Bundibugyo and Kisoro Districts are said to be reducing and therefore on the verge of total extinction due to the HIV/AIDS, which they have acquired as a result of integration with other communities who believe that one can get cured of the infection after canal knowledge with a Mutwa woman (Kabananukye, 2016).

CHAPTER 4: LEGAL AND POLICY FRAMEWORK ABOUT VMGs

4.1 Legal, Policy and Institutional framework for VMGs

In this section the policies, legal, regulatory and institutional framework relevant vulnerable and marginalized groups in Uganda are discussed. Attempts are made to relate the laws, policies and institutions with relevant components of the EASP.

4.2 Relevant Legal Framework

a) The Constitution of the Republic of Uganda, 1995

The Constitution of the Republic of Uganda (1995) provides that every effort shall be made to integrate all peoples while at the same time recognize the existence of, amongst others, their ethnic, religious and cultural diversity. In this regard, the Constitution requires that everything necessary be done to promote a culture of cooperation understanding, appreciation, tolerance and respect for each other's customs, traditions and beliefs.

Article 36 of the 1995 Constitution of Uganda specifically states that minorities have a right to participate in decision-making processes, and their views and interests shall be taken into account in the making of national plans and programmes. Article 32 orders the state to take "affirmative action in favour of groups marginalized on the basis of gender, age, disability or other reason created by history, tradition or custom for purposes of redressing imbalances that exist against them" In this regard the Constitution mandates Parliament to enact appropriate laws, including laws for the establishment of an Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC), for the purpose of giving full effect to Article 32(1).

The Third schedule of the Ugandan Constitution recognizes all tribes who were in existence at the end of colonization as indigenous. According to the 2014 Census, 17 ethnic groups have fewer than 25,000 people. These are the Aliba, Banyabindi, Bahehe, Banyabutumbi, Basongora, Batwa, Gimara, Ik, Lendu, Mening, Mvuba, Ngikutio, Nyangia, Reli, Shana, Tepeth, and the Venoma.

Indigenous people also known as "aborigines" are those who have retained their social, cultural, economic and political characteristics that are distinct from those of the dominant societies in which they live. Defining minority groups is therefore not straightforward and a numerical definition does not in itself adequately describe indigenous minorities.

The 1995 Constitution does not offer express protection for these groups, but Article 32 imposes a mandatory duty on the state to take affirmative measures in favour of historically disadvantaged and discriminated groups. This provision, which was initially designed and conceived to address the historical disadvantages of children, persons with disabilities and women, is the basic legal source of affirmative action in favour of these communities in Uganda.

b) The Electricity Act, 1999

The Act provides for regulation of generation, transmission, distribution, sale, export, import and distribution of electrical energy in Uganda. Section 62, commits Government to promote, support and provide rural electrification programmes through public and private sector participation. Sub-sections (a) to (c) emphasizes the need to: achieve equitable regional distribution access to electricity (including hard-to-reach areas where

vulnerable and marginalized groups live); maximize the economic, social and environmental benefits of rural electrification subsidies and; promote expansion of the grid and development of off-grid electrification. The EASP components 1 and 3 are aimed at increasing grid electricity access by across the country.

c) Equal Opportunities Commission Act, 2007

The Act makes provision in relation to the Equal Opportunities Commission pursuant to articles 32 (3) and 32 (4) and other relevant provisions of the Constitution; to give effect to the State's constitutional mandate to eliminate discrimination and inequalities against any individual or group of persons on the ground of sex, age, race, colour, ethnic origin, tribe, birth, creed or religion, health status, social or economic standing, political opinion or disability, and take affirmative action in favour of groups marginalized on the basis of gender, age, disability or any other reason created by history, tradition or custom for the purpose of redressing imbalances which exist against them; and to provide for other related matters. The EASP Components 1 and 3 seek to provide access to electricity irrespective of social status.

d) The Workers' Compensation Act, 2000

The Act provides for the compensation of injured workers, treatment of injuries and illnesses in the course of employment, and continued payment of wages to ill or injured workers during temporary incapacitation. It requires employers to be insured against any injuries that might affect their employees during the course of employment/injuries at work or in transit to and from work. Seeks to ensure that injured workers who are compensated do not represent a burden to their host communities. Workers from the VMGs that will be injured or ill during the implementation of the EASP, especially components 1 and 3 will be compensated so as to reduce the burden of reliance on the of the host communities.

e) The Employment Act, 2006

The Employment Act, 2006 provides for the recruitment, contracting, deployment, remuneration, management and compensation of workers. The Act prohibits employment of children under 12 years. A child of 12-14 years can only be employed for light work under supervision of an adult and not during school hours. Additionally, according to the Act any form of discrimination or preference in employment on the basis of race, colour, sex, religion, political opinion, natural extraction, social origin, HIV status or disability is unlawful. Labour conditions and relations during the implementation of EASP will be governed by the employment Act, most especially prohibiting any discrimination of vulnerable and marginalized groups during the implementation of the Project.

f) The Historical Monument Act, Cap 46;

Provides for the preservation and protection of historical monuments and objects of archaeological, paleontological, ethnographical and traditional interest. The Act further states that where any object is discovered in a protected site, place or monument, the owner of the protected site, place or monument shall be entitled to a reasonable compensation. It is expected that the project may, in the course of implementation come across some of the preserved and historical places in among the places where the VMGs live. The implementation of the EASP will be in conformity with this Act.

g) Employment (Sexual Harassment) Regulations, 2012

The regulations provide for prohibition of sexual harassment at work place. The project will employ members of the VMGs and the provisions in these regulations shall protect the employees irrespective of their social status. The Regulations prohibit (a) use of language whether written or spoken of a sexual nature such as unwelcome verbal advances, sexual oriented comments, request for sexual favours, jokes of a sexual nature,

offensive flirtation or obscene expressions of sexual interest that are addressed directly to the person; (b) use of visual material of a sexual nature such as display of sexually suggestive pictures, objects or written materials or sexually suggestive gestures; and (c) showing physical behaviour of a sexual nature such as unwanted and unwelcome touching, patting, pinching or any other unsolicited physical contact; which directly or indirectly subjects the employee to behaviour that is unwelcome or offensive to that employee and that, either by its nature or though repletion, has a detrimental effect on that employee's employment, job performance or job satisfaction.

4.2 Policy frameworks

a) The Uganda Vision 2040;

This is Uganda's blueprint for socio-economic transformation from a subsistence-based economy to an industrialized one. Energy access is considered as a catalyst in realizing that transformation. This vision recognizes the importance of the Energy in transforming the National Economic Development, thus the proposed Energy Access Scale-Up Project (EASP) is in conformity to this Vision.

b) National Development Plan III;

The goal of this Plan is "To Increase Household Incomes and Improve Quality of Life of Ugandans. The Plan has identified **Energy development Programme** (EDP) as one of the eighteen (18) programs designed to deliver the required results under the Plan. **The EDP** aims to increase access and consumption of clean energy. Expected results include: increase in primary energy consumption; increase in the proportion of population accessing electricity; reduction in the share of biomass energy used for cooking; increase in transmission capacity; and enhanced grid reliability. The NPD III prioritizes the Energy as a key catalyst for the development of Uganda. The EASP that is aimed at increasing Energy access and use by the communities, refugees, industrial consumers and public institutions will significantly contribute to the NDP III's energy development programme.

c) The Energy Policy for Uganda 2002;

Outlines the objectives of the energy sector in Uganda which include among others, the need to manage energy related environmental impacts. EASP will be implemented in conformity with this policy through management of energy related environmental, social, health and safety impacts within the project areas.

d) The Equal Opportunities Policy, 2006;

The Policy provides for vulnerable and other marginalized groups to equitable access and benefit from government development projects. Gender is one of the priority areas with a focus on equitable access and control of resources, and addressing negative cultural practices that limit opportunities for marginalized men and women. This project aims at ensuring equitable access to energy irrespective of socio-economic status.

e) The Uganda Gender Policy, 2007;

The goal of the Policy is to achieve gender equality and women's empowerment as an integral part of Uganda's socio-economic development. One of the policy's objectives is to reduce gender inequalities so that all women and men, girls and boys, are able to move out of poverty and to achieve improved and sustainable livelihoods. The policy is a guide to all stakeholders in planning, resource allocation, implementation and monitoring and evaluation of programmes with a gender perspective. This policy applies to inclusion and special preference for women, marginalized households and single female-headed households. It also promotes non-discrimination in recruitment of construction labour for component One of the EASP activities where women

should have equal opportunity as men for available jobs at all levels of the project management. The recruitment process will be carried out in conformity with this policy.

f) The Uganda National Culture Policy (2006)

This Policy seeks to promote community action on cultural practices that promote and that impinge on human dignity. It provides guidance on any development to avoid impingement on the culture of vulnerable and marginalized persons' The EASP will collaborate with the Department of Culture in ensuring proper preservation of positive cultures of their communities.

The National Policy on Elimination of Gender Based Violence (GBV) in Uganda

This Policy was developed to address the critical problem of GBV in the Country including what occurs at work place. The EASP is expected to have contractors who will employ workers from the vulnerable groups. Vulnerable and marginalized communities usually suffer in silence either due to fear of repercussions of reporting or lack of awareness of their rights and services available. Under Component 3 of the EASP, the Project will collaborate with other Government institutions to ensure that risk of Gender Based Violence on the vulnerable communities as a result of implementation activities is prevented or minimized.

g) Universal Secondary Education policy 2007:

The policy aims to increase access to quality secondary education for economically vulnerable families. The EASP will support the electrification of priority educational facilities across the country that enhancing learning and retention of teaching staff.

h) Universal Primary Education Policy 1997;

This is a Free Primary Education policy. Ensuring an uninterrupted access to 9-year formal education by providing FREE, and COMPULSORY basic education for every child of school-going age under. Aim is the acquisition of literacy, numeracy, life skills and values for lifelong education and useful living. The EASP will support the electrification of priority or selected UPE schools targeting the vulnerable and marginalized communities.

i) Second National Health Policy 2010;

The focus of NHP II is on health promotion, disease prevention, early diagnosis and treatment of diseases. It will specifically prioritize the effective delivery of the Uganda National Minimum Health Care Package (UNMHCP), more efficient use of available health resources, strengthening public and private partnerships for health and strengthening of health systems. In the period of the NHP II and in line with global agendas, emphasis will be placed on attempts to achieve universal access to a minimum health care package as well as equitable and sustainable financing mechanisms. In this Project, REA, MEMD and UECCC will liaise with the Ministry of Health to support the electrification of selected health care facilities in strengthening of health care systems in areas occupied by the vulnerable and marginalized groups.

j) National Child Labour Policy, 2006;

This policy prohibits employment of children. Children are more prone to accidents at workplaces. The policy defines child labour as work that is mentally, physically, socially and/or morally dangerous and harmful to children. In addition, child labour is perceived as work or activities that interfere with children's school

attendance. Hazardous work which by its nature or the circumstances under which it is performed jeopardizes the health, safety and morals of a child. The contractors that may be required in establishment of the grid lines in the project areas will strictly ensure that no employment of children to work during the implementation of the proposed project" Ministry of Gender, Labour & Social Development (MGLSD) is the institution responsible for the implementation of this policy. Under EASP, the Project Coordination Unit will ensure child labour, especially in Vulnerable and Marginalized Groups communities is not engaged by any of the project implementing agencies.

k) National Land Policy, 2013;

The goal of the policy is: "to ensure efficient, equitable and sustainable utilization and management of Uganda's land and land-based resources for poverty reduction, wealth creation and overall socioeconomic development". Therefore, the land policy recognizes the rights of Vulnerable and Marginalized Groups to their ancestral lands and should effectively address the challenges that have been faced by the VMGs in Uganda. The EASP will be implemented with due consideration of this Policy.

4.3 Institutional Framework

The nationwide coverage of the EASP indicates the participation of various government and private institutions. This section highlights the key institutions relevant for the implementation of the project and their anticipated roles as indicated in the table below;

Table 5: Institutional Framework and relevance to EASP implementation

Agency	Relevance to the EASP
MEMD	The Health, Safety and Environment Unit (HSE) unit at the MEMD will ensure smooth implementation of the EASP by the various implementing agencies under the project. The unit will ensure that the required instruments for managing E&S risks are prepared and implemented including: ESCP, ESMF, RPF, SEP, ESIAs, ESMPs and RAPs. In addition, the Human Resource Unit will oversee the management of social aspects under its jurisdiction such as adherence to gender and equity concerns, labour and working conditions and HIV/AIDS.
REA	REA will implement two sub-components to facilitate rapid scale-up of electricity connections for households, commercial, and industrial users through network expansion, strengthening and service connections. REA will implement on-grid electricity access activities, including planning, coordination, and implementation support. The E&S Unit under REA will oversee the planning, implementation and management activities for environmental and social risks and impacts related to EASP as stipulated in the ESCP.
UECCC	UECCC will implement some sub-components such as the one that aims to facilitate financing of internal wiring. UECCC will support the electrification of public institutions (e.g. health facilities and schools) by private sector energy service providers under performance-based contracts. UECCC relies on MEMD for support on E&S risks and impacts management. EASP will support building of UECCC's capacities in the management of E&S aspects for effective oversight of their implementation by the financial intermediaries.

Agency	Relevance to the EASP
OPM	Component 2 of the EASP involves the electrification of schools and healthy centres for the Refugees and Refugee host communities.

Other Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) relevant to Vulnerable and Marginalized Groups include;

Institution	Mandate and relevance to the EASP VMGF
Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development	Formulates sound economic and fiscal policies, mobilize resources for the implementation of government programmes, disburse public resources as appropriated by Parliament, and account for their use in accordance with national laws and international best practices
Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development	To empower communities to harness their potential through cultural growth, skills development and labour productivity for sustainable and gender responsive development. The vision of the Ministry is "a better standard of living, equity and social cohesion, especially for poor and vulnerable groups in Uganda." The mission of the ministry is "promotion of gender equality, labour administration, social protection and transformation of communities.
Ministry in Charge of Karamoja Affairs (OPM)	The Ministry in Charge of Karamoja Affairs under OPM is responsible for scale-up of interventions to address water scarcity, food insecurity, insecurity and poverty in Karamoja region which also harbors the marginalized and vulnerable groups.
The Uganda Human Rights Commission	The UHRC has mandate, amongst others, "to investigate violations of human rights and to monitor government compliance with its human rights obligations detailed in the Constitution." The Commission will support every effort with regard to the human rights abuses of marginalized groups and made recommendations on how these could be rectified.
The Equal Opportunities Commission	The mandate of the Commission is "to eliminate discrimination and inequalities against any individual or group of persons on the ground of sex, age, race, color, ethnic origin, tribe, birth, creed or religion, health status, social or economic standing, political opinion or disability, and take affirmative action in favor of groups marginalized on the basis of gender, age, disability or any other reason created by history, tradition or custom for the purpose of redressing imbalances which exist against them, and to provide for other related matters." The EOC will hear and determine complaints by any person against any action, practice, usage, plan, policy programme, tradition, culture or custom which amounts to discrimination, marginalization or undermines equal opportunity under this project.

4.4 International Treaties and Commitments on Vulnerable and Marginalized Groups

This section highlights international and regional commitments and treaties which Uganda is a signatory and are relevant for the framework.

a) International Labour Organisation

The first international standard on populations was International Labour Organisation (ILO) 107 (1957), was revised and reformulated in 1989 and amended in ILO 169. In this Convention, indigenous peoples are defined in Article 1(1) as:

- a) Tribal peoples in independent countries whose social, cultural and economic conditions distinguish them from other sections of the national community, and whose status is regulated wholly or partially by their own customs or traditions or by special laws or regulations.
- b) Peoples in independent countries who are regarded as indigenous on account of their descent from the populations which inhabited the country, or a geographical region to which the country belongs, at the time of conquest or colonization or the establishment of present state boundaries and who, irrespective of their legal status, retain some or all their own social, economic, cultural and political institutions.

According to a new ILO report, released to mark the 30th anniversary of the Indigenous and Tribal People's Convention 1989 (No. 169), indigenous peoples are nearly three times as likely to be living in extreme poverty as their non-indigenous counterparts.

The ILO has been engaged with indigenous and tribal peoples' issues since the 1920s. It is responsible for the Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169), the only international treaty open for ratification that deals exclusively with the rights of these peoples. The ILO's Decent Work Agenda, with gender equality and non-discrimination as a cross-cutting concern, serves as a framework for indigenous and tribal peoples' empowerment. Access to decent work enables indigenous women and men to harness their potential as change agents in poverty reduction, sustainable development and climate change action.

b) East African Community Protocol

The East African Protocol under the Section of Gender, Community Development and Civil Society emphasizes the need to adopt common approaches towards the disadvantaged and marginalized groups, including women, children, the youth, the elderly and persons with disabilities aimed at employment creation, poverty alleviation and improving working conditions.

4.5 The World Bank's Environmental and Social Framework, 2018

The World Bank has a set of "Do No Harm" safeguard policies that are meant to protect project affected persons (PAPs) from impacts and actions of the Bank financed projects. Some of the World Bank's development activities have significant impacts on the rights and livelihoods of VMGs, who worldwide constitutes the "poorest" of the poor and continue to suffer from the higher rates of poverty, lower levels of education and greater incidence of disease and discrimination than other groups (World Bank, 2010).

The World Bank, under the current ESF, has no definition of lindigenous Ppeople (IP): because of the varied and changing contexts, in which VMGs live, and because there is no universally accepted definition of IP, **ESS7** does not "define the term." Instead, it presents a set of characteristics for identifying VMGs. For purposes of this policy, "the term Indigenous Peoples is used in a generic sense to refer to a distinct, vulnerable, social and cultural groupS possessing the following characteristics in varying degrees:

 self-identification as members of a distinct indigenous cultural group and recognition of this identity by others;

- collective attachment to geographically distinct habitats or ancestral territories in the project area and to the natural resources in these habitats and territories
- customary, cultural, economic, social, or political institutions that are separate from those of the dominant society and culture; and
- an indigenous language, often different from the official language of the country or region.

The Bank's Policy under the current Environmental and Social Framework (2018) seeks to ensure that there is no prejudice or discrimination toward project-affected individuals or communities and give particular consideration to Indigenous Peoples, minority groups, and those disadvantaged or vulnerable, especially where adverse impacts may arise or development benefits are to be shared. The specific objectives of the ESS7 include:

- a) To ensure that the development process fosters full respect for the human rights, dignity, aspirations, identity, culture, and natural resource-based livelihoods of the vulnerable and marginalized groups.
- b) To avoid adverse impacts of projects on VMGs, or when avoidance is not possible, to minimize, mitigate and/or compensate for such impacts.
- c) To promote sustainable development benefits and opportunities for VMGs in a manner that is accessible, culturally appropriate and inclusive

The framework seeks to ensure that Vulnerable and Marginalized Communities present in, or with collective attachment to, the project areas are fully consulted about, and have opportunities to actively participate in, project design and the determination of project implementation arrangements.

Uganda laws and policies in VMG notwithstanding, where conflict arises between national laws/Policies and World Bank ESS7 (<u>Indigenous Peoples/Sub-Saharan African Historically Underserved Traditional Local Communities</u>) the latter will prevail.

Chapter 5: KEY ISSUES AND POTENTIAL IMPACTS ON VMGs

5.1 Overview

The process of preparing this framework including identification of the potential impact of the project on the VMGs, involved consultations with national level stakeholders (See Annex 2). Wider stakeholder consultations will be carried out during subsequent assessments and their views shall be incorporated in the VMGMP. National stakeholder consultations revealed information based on the mandate, practice and experience of working with VMGs. In their locations, VMGs have collective multi-faceted and profound relationship with their land, territories and resources. This relation has dimensions which are material, social, cultural, economic, political, psychological and spiritual in nature. There are anticipated cross-cutting benefits that may yield for VMGs in this project and these include;

Table 6: Potential benefits for VMGs from EASP

Potenti	al Benefits
•	The project will improve the standards of living of the vulnerable and marginalized people through the use of clean energy.
•	Job creation and employment due to the presence of clean energy such as salons, phone charging, kiosks, restaurants, will be opened up within the vulnerable areas of residence.
•	Children as a vulnerable group will better their education performance due the provision energy which may lead to long hours of reading.
•	There will be improved health services access which will lead to a reduction in maternal deaths and morbidity
•	There will be improved security in areas where there's vulnerable and marginalized people.
•	There will be reduced exposure to Pneumonia and other respiratory effects of wood smoke/fumes
•	The population will have access to regular, uninterrupted power (both on and off-grid)
•	Reduced drudgery/toil and saving on time spent in firewood and fuel gathering

On the other hand, the project can have potential negative socio-cultural and economic impacts on VMGs. These relations are intergenerational and critical to the identity, economic sustainability and survival of the VMGs as distinct cultural communities with their own world view and spirituality. Denial or restriction of access to their lands, territories and resources can threaten their physical and cultural survival as well as social organization. Table 6 below outlines potential negative impacts that the project may cause and possible mitigation measures.

5.2 Potential risks, negative impact and proposed mitigation measures

Table 7: Risks and negative impact of the project on VMGs

Negative Impacts	Mitigation measures
·	EASP team will carry out the social economic impact
VMG during the construction of power lines and this may adversely affect socio-economic conditions of	assessments of the project before the project is implemented.
VMGs.	Mitigation measures for negative impact will be implemented in the ESMP. These among others will
	include;
	employment for skilled and non-skilled locals

Negative Impacts Mitigation measures supporting agriculture initiatives and food security. Provide market for locally produced items like crafts and food stuffs Identification and support of priority community livelihood needs as part of Corporate Social Responsibility Summaries of the relevant sections of the ESMPs will be summarized and translated in the local languages. In addition, the project will ensure that this information is also disclosed through culturally appropriate methods (Focus Group Discussions to target vulnerable sub groups such as women, girls, and persons with disabilities, Public Meetings, etc.) using community representatives and/or interpreters. Impact on gender relations. While the impact of power Conduct extensive awareness on shared benefits of supply on gender relations is not much pronounced, equitable access to and utilization of electricity. In the case male domination in access, utilization and decision on of Batwas and Iks, awareness activities will be carried out utilization in predominantly patriarchal communities in a culturally appropriate manner. which are very common in Uganda subject women and girls to marginalization. This risk is likely among the marginalized and vulnerable groups. There will an influx of labour due to jobs that will be The project will ensure that local people both skilled and created by the project. This may cause some social unskilled are used within the project area. Other measures impacts such as diseases. Gender Based Violence will include: (GBV), Sexual exploitation and Abuse (SEA), child Awareness creation and sensitization of labor and, crime. contractors and VMGs on GBV/SEA (In the case of Batwas and Iks, awareness activities will be carried out in a culturally appropriate manner). Integration of GBV/SEA in the grievance redress systems. Supporting existing initiatives and structures in the region Implementation and strict enforcement of Codes of Conduct for labour Work with law enforcement officers to curb crimes Use of Toolbox talks and sessions to address emerging issues Avoidance of destruction of vegetables, trees and other During the implementation of the project, there will be destruction of vegetation, indigenous trees, assets, natural resources will be of high priority. and other natural resources such as wells of the Compensation for damage crops and other assets vulnerable and marginalized groups. Electricity could electrocute people especially those There will be continuous and culturally appropriate attempting illegal connections or others who are using sensitization of VMGs (Batwas and Iks), including it for the first time in their lives.

Negative Impacts	Mitigation measures
	vulnerable sub groups such as women, girls, and persons with disabilities during the implementation of the project.
High cost of energy bills may exacerbate living standards of the VMGs.	 Continuous sensitization to increase knowledge on how to economically use power and earn income. Secondly, they will be prioritized for subsidized energy which doesn't require them pay high and prohibitive bills.

5.3 Organizations and Responsibility in implementation of VMGF

The implementation of the VMGF will involve a range of stakeholders, each with specific mandate and responsibility. Irrespective of their mandate and level of engagement, the following organizations will participate in prevention/avoidance, minimizing or mitigation of the social impact on the VMGs.

Table 8: Roles and responsibilities in the implementation of the VMGF

Implementing Partners/Contractors	VMGF Roles and Responsibilities
Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development	MEMD will be responsible for ensuring that there are adequate personnel for technical backstopping, monitoring and supervision of the implementation of the VMGF activities. MEMD will also be responsible for allocation of funds and budget for implementation of the VMGF.
Ministry of Health (MoH) and Health Centres	MoH is mandated to do policy review and development, supervision of health sector activities, formulation and dialogue with health development partners, strategic planning, setting standards and quality assurance, resource mobilization, advising other Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) on health-related matters. It will ensuring equity and fairness in providing quality and affordable health care to VMGs affected by the project.
MoES/Schools	The MoES is mandated to provide quality education and sports services in the country, which are constitutional obligations for the Ugandan State and Government. Its mission is "to provide technical support, guide, coordinate, regulate and promote quality education, training and sports to all persons in Uganda for national integration, development and individual advancement." It will ensure that there is no school drop-out caused by this project, and where it occurs, MoES will ensure all children in VMCs get access to quality and affordable education.
MoGLSD	The Ministry through its Departments of: Community Development, Children and Youth Affairs, Gender and Women Affairs, Culture and Family Affairs will collaborate with MEMD to undertake sensitization and community mobilization for inclusive access to electricity among women and female headed households. MGLSD will also carry out regular statutory inspections to ensure good health and safety practices in the work place, including electrification activities.
Contractors and other private sector actors	These will ensure that implementation and supervision of works and services under this project observe strict codes of conduct as per the law and incorporate standards and safeguards for protection of vulnerable and marginalized groups. Other interested groups such as the Civil Society Organisations have the responsibility of community engagements and advocating for an equitable and

Implementing Partners/Contractors	VMGF Roles and Responsibilities
	environmentally friendly energy sector. These might contracted under the project during the elaboration and implementation of relevant plans.
District Local Government	Collaboration with the PIUs. Undertake District and sub-county level monitoring of the implementation of the VMGF
The World Bank	The World Bank is a vital source of financial and technical assistance. The Bank will provide technical and financial support to ensure that the project is inclusive in implementation and does not promote any form of discrimination, human rights abuse or injustice among the Vulnerable and marginalized groups

CHAPTER 6: GRIEVANCE REDRESS MECHANISM

6.1 Overview

Even with the best-designed social impact assessments, agreements, engagement projects and risk mitigation strategies, conflicts and disagreements can still occur, in some cases with the potential for rapid escalation. Grievance Redress Mechanisms (GRMs) are required to ensure that VMGs are able to lodge complaints or concerns, without cost, and with the assurance of a timely and satisfactory resolution of the issue. Stakeholders will be informed of the intention to implement the GRMs, and the procedures will be communicated at the time that the VMGPs are finalized.

6.2 Grievance Redress Mechanism

Many factors can give rise to conflict between VMGs and proposed project investments, but these will be mitigated through the implementation of: (i) Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) that will clearly spell out the consultation process with VMGs; and (ii) the VMGP and the GRM that will be prepared for the project.

VGMs may encounter a grievance or a complaint against the project, its staff or contractors during project implementation. Some of the factors that may lead to conflict, if not well managed, include but are not limited to:

- i. Inadequate or inequitable compensation for lost or damaged assets and crops;
- ii. Inequitable and unbalanced distribution of benefits;
- iii. Broken promises and unmet community expectations of benefits;
- iv. Failing to generate opportunities (e.g. employment, training, supply) for local population
- v. Gender based violence (economic, verbal abuse, battering, harassment, etc.)
- vi. Sexual exploitation and abuse
- vii. Disruption to amenities and lifestyle;
- viii. Loss of livelihoods;
- ix. Violation of human rights; and

To address or resolve grievances, a mechanism describing procedures, roles and responsibilities in grievance management process is explained in this section. In areas with VMGs, the project level GRCs will be augmented by the presence of a VMG representative on the committee. To be effective, the mechanism shall utilize existing local leadership, administrative and community structures. All grievances concerning non-fulfillment of contracts, levels of compensation, exclusion from subproject benefits, or take of assets without compensation shall be addressed to the Local council 1 Chairperson.

The Social Safeguards Team at the MEMD and PIUs shall work with community leaders in the project area to set up Grievance Redress Committees to be the first point where grievances shall be addressed. The LC1 Grievance Committee shall comprise the LC1 Chairperson; LC1 Secretary for Women and Children Affairs, VMGs' Chairperson and representation from each of youth, women, elderly and People with Disability (PWD) group from VGM community.

Entities seeking redress and wishing to record grievances will do so by notifying their Local Leader (LC 1 Chairperson) who will chair a Local Grievance Committee at LC 1 level set up with guidance of the Social Development Specialist. The Local Leader will inform and consult with the district administration to determine validity of claims. If valid, the Local Leader will convene a meeting of the LC1 Grievance Committee to resolve

the grievance and notify the complainant of the outcome. If the complainant's claim is rejected, the matter shall be brought before the sub-county or district local government for settlement.

Any objections or grievances related to exclusion/marginalization shall be made in writing, in the language that the VMGs understand and are familiar with, to the Local Leader.

The Local Leaders who will be trained by the PIU Social Safeguards team using standard training materials) shall maintain records of grievances and complaints, including minutes of discussions, recommendations and resolutions made. The procedure for handling grievances should be as follows:

- a) The affected person should file his/her grievance orally or in writing, to the Local Leader who will record it in a grievance record book. The grievance note should be signed and dated by the aggrieved person. Where the affected person is unable to write, s/he should obtain assistance to write the note and emboss the letter with his/her thumbprint.
- b) The Local Leader should respond within 7 days during which any meetings and discussions to be held with the aggrieved person should be conducted. If the grievance relates to valuation of assets, a valuer may need to revalue the assets. In this case, the aggrieved person must be notified by the Local Leader that his/her complaint is being considered.
- c) If the aggrieved person does not receive a response or is not satisfied with the outcome within the agreed time s/he can lodge his grievance to the District Local Administration.
- d) The Local Administration will then attempt to resolve the problem (through dialogue and negotiation) within 7 days of the complaint being lodged.

EASP GRMs shall be project-based grievance redress procedure and will not in any way replace existing legal processes.

It is common that most of the vulnerable and marginalized communities have traditional means and mechanisms of managing a community conflict or misunderstanding. As is normal practice under customary law, attempts will be made to ensure that the traditional and/or religious leaders have the first opportunity to resolve all disputes in communities after a thorough investigation of the facts. The traditional/communal dispute resolution structures existing for each of the VMGs will be used as the first step in resolving grievances. They will be handling issues regarding rightful property ownership where there is a dispute especially where there is no legal documentation of those properties in question.

Based on consensus, the project GRM will seek to resolve issues quickly in order to expedite the resolution, without forcing the community to resort to expensive and time-consuming legal actions. All attempts shall be made to settle grievances amicably before resorting to courts of law. Every effort will be made towards ensuring that the grievance redress procedures are made simple, least bureaucratic and administered as fast and far as possible

The complainants shall have recourse to the courts of law in the country any time they feel aggrieved. However, given the fact that legal process can be daunting, expensive and at most confusing especially for the poor and vulnerable, the project GRM shall endeavor at all times to be the first point of call for grievances. If the grievance procedure fails to provide a result, complainants are free to seek legal redress in the Uganda Courts of Law.

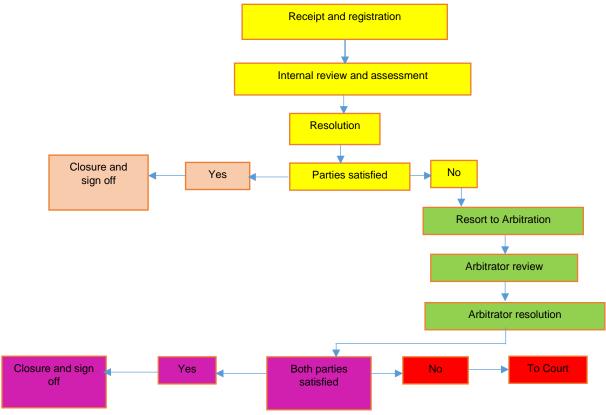


Figure 2: Grievance Management System

6.3 Documentation and Recording

Documentation of complaints and grievances is important, including those that are communicated informally and orally. These should be logged, assessed, assigned to an individual for management, tracked and closed out or "signed off" when resolved. These should be done ideally with the complainant(s) being consulted, where appropriate, and informed of the resolution. Records provide a way of understanding patterns and trends in complaints, disputes and grievances over time. While transparency should be maintained – for example, through regular reports on issues raised and rates of resolution – provision should also be made for confidentiality of information or anonymity of the complainant(s) whenever necessary especially in cases of sexual violence, gender based violence.

A grievance log will be established by the EASP PCU/PIU Social Safeguards team and copies of the records kept with all the relevant authorities at the District, sub-county and village levels and will be used in monitoring of complaints and grievances.

Data on community interactions from low-level concerns and complaints to ongoing disputes and higherorder grievances shall be collected routinely so that patterns can be identified, and project management alerted to high-risk issues. Effective monitoring may also help to prevent the escalation of lower-level disputes into more serious conflicts.

6.4 World Bank Redress Service

The World Bank has a Grievance Redress Service (GRS) whose objective is to make the Bank more accessible for project affected communities and to help ensure faster and better resolution of project-related complaints. The GRS is open to all those who believe they have been affected or harmed by a Bank-financed project and who feel their issues have not been resolved by the implementing agency's PIU.

CHAPTER 7: Monitoring and reporting arrangements

7.1 Monitoring

Baseline data collection on the socio-economic status and cultural practices of VMGs will be carried out during Environmental and Social Impact Assessments, as necessary and the development of ESMPs. These will form the basis for establishing baseline data to monitor the project impacts on VMGs. The subsequent VMGPs where required, will also specify systems of data collection and monitoring of the anticipated changes and will include Terms of Reference (ToR) for the monitoring agency/consultant. The PCU and respective PIUs will submit monitoring reports to the World Bank for review.

7.2 Reporting Mechanisms

The M&E mechanisms adopted for the project will ensure that in addition to process and outcome indicators, appropriate impact indicators are defined related specifically to impacts on vulnerable groups and their livelihoods. These will include: how many vulnerable people participated actively and benefitted from project activities and documentation of their opinions on project impacts and if any of their specific concerns were addressed during implementation. In measuring the extent and quality of participation, it will be important to understand and capture how gender differences will affect the participation of girls and women in scheme activities. Gender analysis will therefore be an integral part of monitoring and evaluation of scheme activities.

The monitoring and evaluation mechanisms for the project will ensure that in addition to process and outcome indicators appropriate impact indicators are defined related to specifically to impacts on vulnerable groups and their livelihoods. It is recommended that an impact evaluation be undertaken about 6 months before project completion to assess the changes in the overall living standards compared to the time before project implementation.

7.3 Indicators for the implementation of the Plan and Framework

Monitoring indicators for VMGs will include gender and vulnerability specific indicators, and monitoring reports will present data disaggregated by gender, vulnerability and location. To effectively monitor project impacts on VMGs, the baseline data for the project will include data on representative VMGs' households. The socioeconomic baseline indicators will be used for measuring participation, outcomes and impacts on vulnerable and marginalized communities.

Key indicators for both benefits and VMGs' participation will include;

Table 9 shows some of the indicators for the monitoring the implementation of the VMGF

Table 9: Indicators for the monitoring the implementation of the VMGF

Proposed Activities	Indicators	Source of data
VMG consultations	Number of consultations with VMGs at all stages of project implementation	Consultative meeting reports
Target connecting VMG households for power connections	Number of households connected to power within the VMGs' communities;	Quarterly Progress reports

Establish and train VMG group members in the VMG communities	Number of VMGs' established and trained in VMGs' communities	Training reports Field/Activity reports
Formation of Grievance redress committees in the VMG communities	Number of VMGs on both the local project committee and Grievance Redress Committee to manage the established infrastructure	GRM Reports
Conduct extensive awareness on shared benefits of equitable access to and utilization of power	Number of people sensitized on benefits of equitable access to and utilization of power	Sensitization reports

Negative impact, if any shall also be monitored to determine how project implementation has triggered negative impact and to what extent the negative impact has been reduced.

Some of the EASP outcome indicators will include:

- Number of VMGs' households and individuals physically or economically displaced by the project;
- Number of VMGs' in the project reach that have not benefited from the project;
- Number of VMGs' that have been exposed to GBV and VAC in relation to the project;
- Number of VMGs' registered grievances.
- Number of VMG's school dropouts

7.3 Participatory Impact Monitoring

The PIM will be based on the data gathered through the screening process and social assessments, the organizations of the IPs/VMGs, the relevant governmental structures (lands, forests, development and social) at district and sub-county levels, etc.

The selection of the facilitators will be in close collaboration with the community leaders. It will be advisable to choose people who are able to elaborate on the basis of the PIM reports, which reflect the situation on the ground in a transparent and plausible way.

CHAPTER 8: DISCLOSURE ARRANGEMENTS FOR VMGF

8.1 Stakeholder Engagement and Communication Plan

The EASP has developed a Stakeholder Engagement Framework (SEF) which provides for a systematic approach to stakeholder engagement that will help implementing agencies identify stakeholders and build and maintain a constructive relationship with them, in particular project affected parties. The VMGs form a critical part of the project stakeholders.

The Environmental, Social Safeguards and Social Development Specialists at MEMD will provide technical support and ensure compliance with the VMGF by coordinating and working with the implementing agencies. The Communications Officer at MEMD will liaise with the corresponding Communications Teams at the Project Implementing Agencies (PIAs) to ensure that all information matters affecting VMGs are adequately addressed.

The Specialists team will provide the linkage between MEMD, the VMGs and the District and sub-county administration on identification and management of VMGF related issues during the implementation of the subproject. The team will also be responsible for gathering information and feedback from the VMG communities and GRMs and channel them to the relevant governmental structures and MEMD. The Specialists team will implement collaboration arrangements with Ministries, Departments and Agencies relevant for implementation of VMGF.

8.2 Disclosure

This VMGF and subproject VMGPs will be made available to the affected IPs/VMGs in an appropriate and accessible form, manner, and language. Once this VMGF is approved by World Bank, it will be disclosed in the print media, on MEMD website (www.energyandminerals.go.ug) and on the World Bank's external website.

During Project Appraisal, should it be confirmed that vulnerable groups are indeed present in the proposed project area, information from the VMGF, VMGP, and other relevant safeguard instruments will be disclosed to affected persons/ communities summarized in form of brochure or leaflets translated in the appropriate local language. In case of changes made to the VMGF and VMGP, the same clearance and disclosure protocols will be followed.

CHAPTER 9. VULNERABLE AND MARGINALIZED GROUP MANAGEMENT PLAN

Based on the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA), the project will develop appropriate mitigation measures and livelihood enhancement activities for vulnerable and marginalized groups.

A VMGP will address;

- (i) Aspirations, needs, and preferred options of the effected VMGs,
- (ii) Potential positive and negative impacts on VMGs;
- (iii) Measures to avoid, mitigate, or compensate for adverse project effects;
- (iv) Measures to ensure project benefits will accrue to VMGs;
- (v) Measures to strengthen the capacity of Local Governments and relevant government departments to address VMGs issues;
- (vi) The possibility of involving local organizations and non-governmental organizations with expertise in VMGs issues;
- (vii) Detailed budget allocations for implementation of VMGMP; and
- (viii) Monitoring framework for VMGMP. MEMD and the implementing agencies will submit the VMGP to the Bank for review and approval prior to commencement of project works.

The Vulnerable and Marginalized Groups Management Plan shall be prepared in a flexible and implementable manner, and its level of detail will depend on keys issues and nature of effects to be addressed. The VMGP shall, among other things, include the following elements:

- a) A summary of the Social Impact Assessment
- b) A summary of results of the free, prior, and informed consent with the affected VMGs' communities that was carried out during project preparation and that led to broad community support for the project.
- c) A framework for ensuring free, prior, and informed consent with affected VMGs' communities during project implementation.
- d) An action plan of measures to ensure that VMGs receive social and economic benefits that are culturally appropriate, including, if necessary to enhance the capacity of the project implementing agency.
- e) Appropriate action plan which includes measures to avoid, minimize, mitigate, or compensate for the adverse effects.
- f) The cost estimates and financing plan for VMGMP.
- g) Accessible procedures appropriate to the project to address grievances by the affected VMGs' communities arising from project implementation.
- h) Mechanisms and benchmarks appropriate to the subproject for monitoring and evaluating, and reporting on the implementation of the VMGs. The monitoring and evaluating mechanisms should include arrangements for the free, prior, and informed consultation with the affected VMGs.

10.1 Introduction

The cost for implementation of the VMGF will be incorporated in the project cost and the administrative costs for survey, social assessment, and preparation of VMGs will be financed under Project. Additional costs to specifically cater for VMGs include; implementation of Free Prior Informed Consent (FPIC) including mobilization, translation of reports, and special focus meetings and capacity building for project staff dealing with social issues including both staff at sub-county and district level.

All mitigation activities and benefits included in the Social Assessment and the VMGP will be budgeted under the project. Detailed budget breakdown will be provided during the development of the Vulnerable and Marginalized Groups Management Plan (VMGMP) Specific activities for the implementation of this framework are provided below.

10.2 Proposed VMGF Budget

Table 10: Budget

Component	Timing	Responsibility	Amount (USD)
Development and implementation of the Vulnerable and Marginalised Groups Management Plan (VMGMP)	Before and during project implementation	REA, UECCC and MEMD and project implementation partners	800,000
Awareness and sensitisation of communities on equitable access and utilisation of electricity	During project implementation	REA, UECCC and MEMD	300,000
Stakeholder consultations including district leadership meetings on management of social impacts of the project	Monitoring to be done every quarter throughout project implementation	REA, UECCC, MEMD, OPM, MGLSD, District LGs and other relevant ddepartments	250,000
Total (USD)			1,350,000

ANNEX I: ATTENDANCE LISTS FOR NATIONAL STAKEHOLDERS CONSULTED DURING THE DEVELOPMENT OF VMGF

Energy Access Scale-Up Project (EASP)							
ATTE	NDANCE LIST FO	LIST FOR CONSULTATIONS FOR DEVELOPMENT OF SAFEGUARDS DOCUMENTS FOR EASP					
Ministry of Tourism, wildlife and Antquities							
	holder/Agency/Corr se of consultation (RPF	SEF	VMGF/	ESCP	
Date:	10 feb 2	02-O	unicipal/Town	Council	Authority		
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Energy Access Scale-Up Project (EASP)

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Date:	10th Feb	2020	Municipal/Town (Council	Authority	
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ATTENDANCE LIST FOR THE MEETING WITH NFA AND MINISTRY OF ENERGY & MINERAL DEVELOPMENT HELD ON 11TH FEBRUARY 2020 AT THE BOARDROOM

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Energy Access Scale-Up Project (EASP)

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* Framework; VMGF=Vulnerable and Marginalized Group Framework; ESCP= Environment and Social Commitment Plan



Energy Access Scale-Up Project (EASP)

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Framework; VMGF=Vulnerable and Marginalized Group Framework; ESCP= Environment and Social Commitment Plan



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Energy Access Scale-Up Project (EASP)

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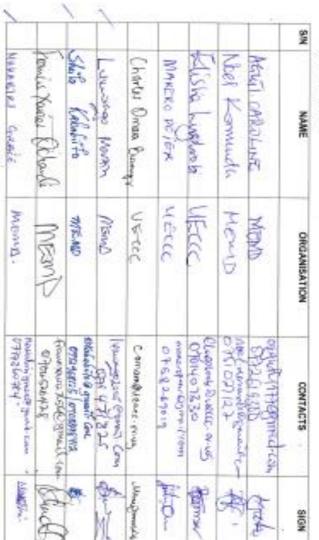
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ANNEX II: MEMD Preparatory Meetings

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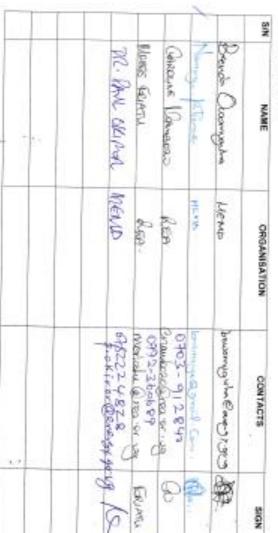
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Annex III: VGF Consultative Tool

MINISTRY OF ENERGY AND MINERAL DEVELOPMENT ELECTRICITY ACCESS SCALE-UP PROJECT

INTRODUCTION

The Government of Uganda plans to acquire credit from the International Development Association (IDA)/World Bank towards the implementation of the Energy Access Scale-Up Project (EASP). The proposed project will support the country's efforts to scale up access to electricity for households including for refugee and host communities, industrial parks and commercial enterprises, health and education facilities, as enshrined in Uganda's Vision 2040 and other policy documents.

The EASP project is to be implemented mainly by three Government Institutions: Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development (MEMD), Rural Electrification Agency (REA), and Uganda Energy Credit Capitalization Company (UECCC). The Project aims to increase electricity access to households, commercial, and industrial users, and public institutions in the rural areas, refugee settlements, peri-urban and urban areas, through on-grid and off-grid solutions.

It is a requirement for projects of this nature to identify and consider environmental and social concerns during implementation of the project. The Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development is conducting stakeholder consultations to identify issues and concerns for vulnerable and marginalized groups in the project areas.

You have been identified as a key stakeholder in this exercise. This is to request for your little time to respond to some of these questions.

COMMUNITY LEVEL QUESTIONS

Date of Meeting	
Venue/Place/Village	
Sub-county/District	
Key contacts	
Facilitator	

Target districts

- Kisoro (Vulnerable and marginalized and Minority group)
- Moroto
- Isingiro District (Refugees)

Questions	Responses
1) Whom would you categorise as vulnerable and marginalized people in this community?	
2) Why are they categorised as vulnerable people?	

3)	What are the main means of livelihoods in this community? (Probe crop farming,	
	businesses, cattle keeping, other sources of income, etc.)	
4)	The Government of Uganda is preparing a project to increase access to electricity in this	
	area. How do you think this project can benefit this community?	
5)	How do you think this project might affect the sources/means of livelihoods in this	
	community? (negatively and positively).	
6)	What are the possible negative effects from this project (probe labour influx, livelihoods,	
	land, cultural practices)?	
7)	What should the project do to mitigate/minimise or address the negative effects of this	
	project?	
8)	What resources are needed to enable vulnerable and marginalized people participate in the	
	implementation of this project?	
9)	Who are the key stakeholders involved in addressing challenges faced by the vulnerable	
	and marginalised groups in this area? And who should be involved?	

NATIONAL STAKEHOLDER QUESTIONS

Target Institutions

- MGLSD (Departments of Culture, Community Development, Elderly and Disability, ESP, Gender and Women Affairs, Youth and Children, Equity and Rights)
- Office of the Prime Minister, Department of Refugees
- Ministry of Local Government
- Equal Opportunities Commission
- Uganda Human Rights Commission
- Ministry of Health
- District local governments
- CSO's
- Academia (Kyambogo special needs faculty, Makerere Gender department)
- Researchers
- Media houses
- Cultural institutions

Names	
Age bracket	
Sex	
Religion	
Title	
Agency/Organisation	
Telephone/email contact:	

Questio	Questions				
1.	Whom would you categorise as vulnerable and marginalized people in this country?				
2.	Why are they categorised as vulnerable people?				
3.	What is your mandate in addressing the issues of vulnerable and marginalised groups? (any policy/laws/frameworks, strategies, byelaws, plans, programs, budgets etc.				
4.	What programs/projects are currently being undertaken in your sector towards improving the life of vulnerable groups. How do you integrate aspects of vulnerability and marginalization in planning and implementation of activities.				
5.	How do you think EASP project might positively affect the livelihoods of vulnerable and marginalised groups? What do you think would be the contribution of the project to the vulnerable and marginalized groups?				
6.	What are the possible negative effects to the vulnerable and marginalised groups in the project areas?				
7.	What should the project do to mitigate/minimise or address the negative effects of this project on the vulnerable and marginalised groups?				
8.	What opportunities should the project provide for vulnerable groups in refugee settings				

ANNEX IV: List of stakeholders consulted

MINISTRY OF ENERGY AND MINERAL DEVELOPMENT ENERGY ACCESS SCALE –UP PROJECT (EASP)

STAKEHOLDER: MINISTRY OF TOURISM, WILDLIFE AND ANTIQUITIES (MoTWA)

DATE: 10TH FEB 2020

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MINISTRY OF ENERGY AND MINERAL DEVELOPMENT ENERGY ACCESS SCALE –UP PROJECT (EASP)

STAKE HOLDER: NATIONAL FORESTRY AUTHORITY (NFA)

DATE: 11TH FEB 2020

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01	JUSTINE AHEBWA	ENIRONMENT MANAGEMET OFFICER	+256782446231	justineahebwa@gmail.com	NFA
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MINISTRY OF ENERGY AND MINERAL DEVELOPMENT

ENERGY ACCESS SCALE -UP PROJECT (EASP)

STAKEHOLDER: UGANDA SOLAR ENERGY ASSOCIATION (USEA)

DATE: 11TH FEB 2020

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MINISTRY OF ENERGY AND MINERAL DEVELOPMENT ENERGY ACCESS SCALE –UP PROJECT (EASP)

STAKEHOLDERS: SOLAR COMPANIES (FEINIX INTERNATIONAL, VILLAGE POWER, ULTRA TECH,

KAMBASCO TECHNO)

DATE: 12TH FEB 2020

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MINISTRY OF ENERGY AND MINERAL DEVELOPMENT ENERGY ACCESS SCALE –UP PROJECT (EASP)

STAKE HOLDER: UGANDA WILD LIFE AUTHORITY (UWA)

DATE: 13TH FEB 2020

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MINISTRY OF ENERGY AND MINERAL DEVELOPMENT ENERGY ACCESS SCALE –UP PROJECT (EASP)

STAKEHOLDER: MINISTRY OF LANDS, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOMENT (MLHUD)

DATE: 18TH FEB 2020

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MINISTRY OF ENERGY AND MINERAL DEVELOPMENT

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DATE: 19TH FEB 2020

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MINISTRY OF ENERGY AND MINERAL DEVELOPMENT ENERGY ACCESS SCALE -UP PROJECT (EASP)

STAKEHOLDER: MINISTRY OF GENDER, LABOUR AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT. MGLSD

DATE: 14TH FEB 2020

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TELEPHONE CONSULTATIONS (May 29-30, 2020)

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2.	Nancy	SAS/Sub-county Chief, Kamion Sub-	0782 109980	
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3.	3. Jimmy District Community Development		0772 448025	
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		Sub-county, Kanungu District	
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4.	Ngabirano Justus	Secretary for Production, Rukungiri	0774298649
		District Local Government	

ANNEX V: Grievance Log and Resolution Form

Name (Filer of Complaint):
ID Number (PAPs ID number):
Contact Information (house number/ mobile phone):
Nature of Grievance or Complaint:
Date Individuals Contacted and Summary of Discussion:
Signature Date:
Signed (Filer of Complaint):
Name of Person Filing Complaint (if different from Filer):
Position or Relationship to Filer:
Review/Resolution
Date of Conciliation Session:
Was Filer Present? Yes/No
Was field verification of complaint conducted? Yes/No
Findings of field investigation:
Summary of Conciliation Session
Discussion
lssues
Was agreement reached on the issues? Yes/No
If agreement was reached, detail the agreement below/if agreement was not reached, specify the points of disagreement
below:
Signed (Conciliator):
Signed:
(Independent Observer)
Date:

ANNEX VI: VMG SCREENING AND IMPACT CATEGORIZATION

a) Identification of VMGs in the sub-project areas

Name of the District/Project Area	Name of the District/Project Area					
Potential Impact	Not known	Yes	No	Remarks		
Are there VMGs in the project locations?						
Do they maintain distinctive customs or economic activities that may make them vulnerable to hardship?						
Are there any of the following vulnerable groups in the project area Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVCs), Child Mothers, Widows, Persons with Disabilities (PWDs), Elderly?						
Will the project restrict their economic and social activity and make them particularly vulnerable in the context of the project?						
Will the project change their socioeconomic and cultural integrity?						
Will the project disrupt their community life?						
Will the project positively affect their health, education, livelihood or social security status?						
Will the project increase conflict between VMGs and other communities?						
Will the project alter or undermine the recognition of their knowledge, preclude customary behaviors or undermine customary institutions?						
In case of no disruption of vulnerable and marginalized community life as a whole, will there be loss of housing, strip of land, crops, trees and other fixed assets owned or controlled by individual vulnerable and marginalized households?						

b) Potential impacts of the Project on VMGs

Project activity	Potential positive impacts	Potential negative impacts

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