## BASIC INFORMATION

### A. Basic Project Data

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Project ID</th>
<th>Project Name</th>
<th>Parent Project ID (if any)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Niger</td>
<td>P166602</td>
<td>Niger Adaptive Safety Net Project 2</td>
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<th>Estimated Board Date</th>
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<td>30-Nov-2018</td>
<td>Social Protection &amp; Labor</td>
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<th>Implementing Agency</th>
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<td>Investment Project Financing</td>
<td>REPUBLIC OF NIGER</td>
<td>Cellule Filets Sociaux</td>
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### Proposed Development Objective(s)

The PDO is to improve the capacity of the Niger adaptive safety net system to respond to shocks and to provide access to poor and vulnerable people to multiyear safety nets with accompanying measures.

### Components

## PROJECT FINANCING DATA (US$, Millions)

### SUMMARY

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Total Project Cost</th>
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<td>of which IBRD/IDA</td>
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<td>Financing Gap</td>
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### DETAILS

#### World Bank Group Financing

| International Development Association (IDA) | 80.00 |
| IDA Credit                                  | 00.00 |
| IDA Grant                                   | 80.00 |
Environmental Assessment Category
B-Partial Assessment

Have the Safeguards oversight and clearance functions been transferred to the Practice Manager? (Will not be disclosed)
YES

Decision
The review did authorize the team to appraise and negotiate

Other Decision (as needed)

B. Introduction and Context

Country Context

1. **Niger has experienced relative political stability in recent years.** Since 2011, when democracy was restored, and a new president elected, the country has registered good economic performance, with GDP growth as high as 11.8 percent in 2012 (the highest in the last 35 years) and 6.9 in 2014. After declining to 4.0 percent in 2015, Niger’s economic growth reached 5.0 and 5.2 percent in 2016 and 2017 thanks to a good agricultural season.

2. **The country is exposed to security threats due to the instability in countries of the sub-region such as the Libyan conflict, the Mali crisis and the Boko Haram armed attacks.** Niger is currently hosting over 300,000 refugees and displaced persons fleeing the crises rocking neighboring countries. Refugee camps are concentrated in the southeastern region of Diffa and the northern and northwestern regions of Tahoua and Tillaberi, where a humanitarian crisis has been unfolding.

3. **Despite the progress made in reducing poverty, Niger remains one of the poorest countries in the world.** With a Gross Domestic Product (GDP) per capita of US$895 (PPP, constant 2011), in 2015 Niger was the 6th poorest country in the world. According to a recent poverty assessment\(^1\), between 2005 and 2014, the overall incidence of poverty in Niger fell by approximately 10 percentage points from 53.7 percent in 2005 to 44.5 percent in 2014. The reduction in poverty was much more substantial in urban areas, declining from 29.6 percent in 2005 to 8.7 percent in 2014. 51.4 percent of the rural population was estimated to be poor in 2014, against 58.6 percent in 2005. Given strong demographic growth, the absolute number of people living in poverty, however, rose from 6.8 million in 2005 to 8.2 million in 2014, an increase of one fifth or 1.4 million people.

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4. **Niger’s economic performance suffers from recurrent climate shocks.** The Nigerien economy is exposed to severe climate shocks that hinder the country’s economic performance, undermining efforts to eliminate extreme poverty and boost shared prosperity. Niger is one of the countries most vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, especially because the country’s economic performance is closely linked to rainfall patterns. Between 1984 and 2010, Niger experienced eight years of negative growth rate and drought was largely responsible for six of them\(^2\). Over the years, natural disasters and climate shocks have threatened the lives and livelihoods of the Nigerien people.

5. **Traditionally driven by a rural sector frequently affected by climatic shocks and subject to the fluctuations in the price of its mineral exports, Niger’s growth rate is extremely volatile.** Agriculture (36.7 percent) and services (43.6 percent) account for the largest shares of the GDP, while the industrial sector remains underdeveloped and only contributes to a small fraction (19.5) of domestic product. Agricultural products and livestock account for half of Niger’s exports, making the country’s economic performance highly dependent on rainfall patterns. The other main export commodity for Niger is uranium. Since 2011, the country has started production in the petroleum sector, which is likely to contribute to growth in the medium term.

6. **The population is also highly vulnerable to complex and interconnected shocks which make poverty volatile over time and between regions.** Between 2011 (a drought year) and 2014, 43 percent of people moved out of poverty while 27 percent fell into poverty. In national surveys from 2011 and 2014, households reported price and climatic shocks (drought/flood) as the most severe shocks they faced. Low-income populations are at higher risk as they have limited opportunities to manage risks, have little access to information or early warning systems, hold fewer assets, and are less able to adapt. Between 2014 and 2017, on average 34 percent of the population (almost 5.9 million people) was estimated to be vulnerable to food insecurity\(^3\). In the absence of adequate coping mechanisms or programs that help the poor to build resilience, shocks can contribute to food insecurity, with long-term impacts on poverty reduction and human capital. Several studies have shown that rural households commonly cope with shocks through negative coping strategies, such as the depletion of productive assets, i.e. selling of livestock or consumption of seeds needed for planting. While sometimes necessary as an immediate reaction to catastrophic economic shocks, these behaviors can have long-term consequences and limit the country’s potential to further decrease poverty.

7. **Poverty reduction and resilience are closely linked to growth in agriculture and economic diversification.** With approximately eight out of ten workers employed in agriculture and 9 out of 10 poor individuals residing in rural areas, poverty reduction in Niger largely depends on the performance of the agriculture sector. Agricultural employment is poorly diversified and focused on subsistence crops, with three quarters of agricultural households that do not commercialize any agricultural production. A large share of those working in agriculture do not receive any income from their work. Agriculture being 89 percent rain-fed, most jobs are seasonal


\(^3\) The national surveys on vulnerability (EVIAM).
with long down seasons. At the same time, there are increasing economic opportunities in off-farm employment. Low-skilled off-farm self-employment is the most accessible opportunity for many rural households. About 20 percent of Nigeriens have diversified activities across agricultural and non-agricultural activities, a combination which is associated with higher income levels (by 20 percent on average). Diversification in the rural non-farm economy is also a potential risk-management strategy, as well as a potential strategy to adapt to climate change for a large number of rural households. Poverty in Niger has also a strong gender dimension as societal norms and expectations limit the full economic potential of women. Indeed, 34 percent of Nigerien women are out of the labor force as opposed to 10 percent for men; those working are employed on average for fewer hours than men (28 versus 43) and receive lower earnings. Women have growing opportunities in the non-agricultural (off-farm) sector.

8. With an annual population growth of 4.0 percent since 2010 and a fertility rate of 7.6 children per woman, Niger has one of the most rapidly growing populations in the world. Overall population growth accelerated from 3.1 percent between 1988 and 2001 to 3.9 percent between 2001 and 2012 and the population of Niger now stands at about 21.5 million. The country’s population is expected to reach 54 million people in 2050, up from 11.4 million in 2000 and 19.9 million in 2015. In years of slower GDP growth, such as 2011, GDP per capita growth was negative because of the high population growth. Fast population growth poses serious challenges. Even if the poverty rate decreases, the total population in poverty keeps increasing due to fast demographic growth. This strong population growth puts additional pressure on the delivery of health, nutrition and education services. High fertility also has detrimental implications on the possibility for women to acquire education or participate in the labor force.

9. Niger has very low human development outcomes, and human development indicators are particularly alarming among children. In 2016, Niger ranked second to last (187th out of 188 countries) on the United Nations Human Development Index. Poor performance of human development indicators among children increases the risk of inter-generational transmission of poverty. Niger has been ranked among the worst-performing countries in the Human Capital Index, which states that a child born in Niger today will be 32 percent as productive when she grows up as she could be if she enjoyed complete education and full health. Strikingly, nearly one Nigerien out of five is a child less than five years old. According to the 2012 DHS survey, under-five mortality was 81/1000 (2012 DHS4) and 44 percent of children were stunted, including 22 percent severely. Analysis of early childhood development has shown strong signs of cognitive delays among children, which are associated not only with malnutrition, but also other risk factors related to poverty, parenting behavior, as well as environmental issues. Only 49 percent of children aged 7-12 are enrolled in primary school, and access to pre-school is very low.

Sectoral and Institutional Context

10. Social protection is part of the Government of Niger (GoN)’s strategic priorities to reduce poverty and food insecurity. The Economic and Social Development Plan (Plan de Développement Economique et Social 2017-2021), the national strategy for food security, and the

country resilience strategy all make reference to the role of Social Protection and safety net programs in reducing poverty, improving resilience, and reducing food insecurity. The Economic and Social Development Plan calls for an expansion of coverage of social protection as well as the continued implementation of the National Social Protection Policy adopted in August 2011, especially in using social safety nets programs to address vulnerability in the population. Addressing vulnerability to food insecurity also continues to be a key priority for the government, as highlighted in the national strategy for food security, “Nigerien Nourish Nigerien” (3N Initiative). In addition, the country resilience strategy for the next 20 years is aimed at protecting Niger's people from hunger, promote national production and improve incomes.

11. Niger adopted a National Social Protection Policy in 2011. The first axis of the Policy outlines a strategic vision to move from one-off emergency aid to the establishment of a permanent system of social safety nets that contribute to building resilience and that can be scaled up in case of crises. The Policy outlines how to link the prevention and protection aspects of social safety nets, with promotion measures that contribute to poverty reduction over the medium to long-term. In October 2013, the Government of Niger held its first national social protection forum, as a first step to operationalize the Policy and promote ownership by key domestic stakeholders, as well as development partners.

12. A range of institutions are working on social protection issues. They include: (i) the National Framework for the Prevention and Management of Food Crisis (Dispositif National de Prévention et de Gestion des Catastrophes et des Crises Alimentaires, DNPGCCA or DN) in the Prime Minister’s office, which hosts the safety nets unit (Cellule des Filets Sociaux, CFS) and its Technical Management Unit, (Unité de Gestion Technique, UGT); (ii) the 3N initiative (Haut Commissariat à l’Initiative 3N) which is implemented by the High Commissioner office, and whose role is to coordinate the activities that promote agriculture development and food production, household nutrition and food security, and emergency responses; (iii) the Ministry of Employment, Work and Social Protection; (iv) the Ministry of Humanitarian Action and Disaster Management; and (v) other line Ministries such as the Ministries of Health, Education, Population, Promotion of Women and Child Protection. The DN, which has been created in 2001, has accumulated a large amount of experience and expertise in the field of drought prevention and management, with support from development partners and regional institutions, including the CILSS (The Permanent Interstate Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel) and other. Recently the DN has been restructured to foster a better coordination of safety nets activities and better address the long-term drivers of vulnerability, so to be able to play a central role in reducing chronic vulnerability and improving resilience to shocks. Each year, the DN elaborates the annual shock response plan called Plan de Soutien, which assesses the humanitarian needs and plans interventions. In practice, the DN still lacks the capacity to support the Government’s efforts to anticipate and respond to shocks effectively. The Ministry of Employment, Work and Social Protection (MEWSP) is responsible for the Social Protection Sector and Policy in Niger since 2016. The Ministry of Humanitarian Action and Disaster Management was created in 2016 and is responsible for the development, monitoring and evaluation of humanitarian policy and disaster management, to anticipate the occurrence of disasters including the influx of refugees, to coordinate responses at the national level by drawing up contingency and action plans, to prepare
programs and budgets to support actions through mobilization of partners (advocacy) and resources to deal with disasters. In addition, other stakeholders, such as EU, WFP, UNICEF, UNDP, FAO, etc. are active in the field of food and nutrition insecurity and early warning systems.

13. **Safety net programs have strengthened over time, but the coverage of core, multi-year cash transfers programs**⁵ remains insufficient given the prevalence of poverty and extreme poverty. While programs are evolving and improving, coverage of safety nets projects (including emergency assistance) remains limited compared to the needs, targeting is not necessarily geared toward reaching the chronically poor, and most of this assistance is channeled toward ad hoc short-term interventions. A multi-year, core, safety net program has been embedded as part of a national system since 2011. However, many safety net interventions implemented by the government or humanitarian agencies remain focused on crisis response. In 2015, 4.5 million beneficiaries were reached by 16 safety nets programs all around the country for a total amount of US$175 million (equivalent to 2.5 percent of GDP). Multi-year cash transfers represented only nine percent of the total amount disbursed. Overall, the coverage of the core safety nets intervention remains relatively limited, covering about seven percent of the total poor population in 2015.

14. **The Bank has been supporting the development of Niger’s safety nets since 2011, through the first Safety Net project (P123399) and a subsequent additional financing (Adaptive Social Safety Nets Project, P155846) to promote adaptive safety nets systems**⁶. Over the past seven years, the current project, which includes the original project and the additional financing, has established a basic government-led adaptive safety net system. With the support of the Bank, the Government has made important progress in strengthening the DN to better coordinate and manage adaptive social protection programs in Niger. The Safety Nets Unit (CFS) in the Prime Minister’s Office now has nationwide reach with national, regional and local staff with substantial implementation experience. The CFS has been leading implementation of the project and has made tremendous progress in rolling out and fine-tuning delivery systems. These include procedures for identifying, registering and paying beneficiaries in a timely manner, based on a well performing Monitoring and Information System (MIS) and related series of tools and electronic procedures. As a result, Niger is one of the few countries in West Africa where the safety net is capable of disbursing monthly cash transfers to over 60,000 beneficiary households. In addition, the project has laid the foundations for the establishment of a Unified Social Registry (USR).

15. **The current project also supported the gradual expansion of safety net programs’ coverage reaching over one million people over the life of the project with cash transfer and cash-for-work programs for poverty alleviation and resilience.** These programs were

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⁵ Core Safety Net programs are often referred to as multi-year programs, because they typically support households over a period of two to three years, whereas emergency programs only provide short-term support in time of crises. Core programs, which provide multi-year support often include both cash to help households meet basic consumption needs and accompanying measures to build their resilience over time. These accompanying measures include behavioral change information aiming at improving early childhood development and nutrition.

⁶ As of June 2018, the current safety nets project has disbursed 87 percent of the funds. Its performance toward meeting its development objective has been satisfactory since the project became effective in 2011.
complemented by a comprehensive package of accompanying measures to improve human capital and resilience that were developed, tested, and validated over the life of the project. These included behavioral change measures to promote early childhood development reaching over 120,000 households and twice as many indirect beneficiaries. In addition, the project developed and tested a package of measures to promote productive inclusion and support livelihoods that is now being piloted among 15,000 households. Finally, the project also tested the use of emergency cash transfers to respond to shocks, reaching 5,000 additional beneficiary households in response to shocks identified by the government.

16. Despite achievements to date, challenges remain for the government to be able to accelerate poverty reduction and build resilience among vulnerable populations, including the need to: (i) maintain a minimum level of coverage of the core safety net programs; (ii) improve the capacity of the DN to collect and use information necessary to forecast the probability of shocks, as well as to effectively coordinate rapid response with other social protection or humanitarian actors; (iii) build capacity of the DN to coordinate and implement safety net programs; and (iv) mainstream and integrate tools, innovative approaches and best-performing packages of accompanying measures, which have been tested under the current project to build resilience, facilitate early childhood development and human capital accumulation and help the poorest to participate in the economic process.

C. Proposed Development Objective(s)

Development Objective(s) (From PAD)

The PDO is to improve the capacity of the Niger adaptive safety nets system to respond to shocks and to provide access for poor and vulnerable people to safety nets and accompanying measures

Key Results

The project’s performance in achieving its development objective would be measured through the following key indicators:

17. The project’s performance in achieving its development objective would be measured through the following key indicators:

Capacity of the adaptive SN system to coordinate and to respond to shocks
- Capacity of implementing ASP programs
- Effectiveness of national SP systems to address Climate Adaptation (CA) and Disaster Risk Management
- Number of people in Unified Social Registry
- Increased effectiveness: time to deliver support from trigger event

Increase consumption and improve food security
- Beneficiaries of cash transfer (Number)
• Beneficiaries of accompanying measures (Number)
• Beneficiaries of emergency cash transfer (Number)

Change behavior, improving early childhood parenting practices
• Beneficiaries of ECD accompanying measures changing some behaviors (Number)

Increased economic diversification productivity and earnings
• Beneficiaries of productive inclusion (Number)

Smooth consumption and build community assets
Beneficiaries of cash for work (Number)

D. Project Description

Component 1. Strengthening the Adaptive and Scalable Safety Net System (US$5 million)

18. This component will further support and increase the efficiency of the safety nets system, including its ability to be rapidly scaled up in times of crisis, as well as strengthen national mechanisms for crisis prevention and response planning and monitoring. Over the past seven years, the original project has established a basic adaptive safety net system that has set-up and successfully tested delivery systems reaching over one million people. The building blocks of a national social registry have been put in place.

19. The new project will seek to further promote government capacity to plan, monitor and coordinate safety nets, to ensure that resources are better allocated and programs can be rapidly scaled up to respond to crises based on a disaster risk financing mechanism (sub-component 1.1). The component will facilitate policy dialogue and inter-sectoral coordination within the GoN and with technical and financial partners in support of social protection priorities in Niger (sub-component 1.2). Finally, the component will support improvements and implementation of delivery processes at project level, along with process and impact evaluations to inform implementation (sub-component 1.3). Improvements will include further automation of the MIS, and systematization of the use of tablets, smart cards and other electronic processes for identification, registration, follow-up and payment of beneficiaries.

Sub-component 1.1 Strengthening national systems

20. This sub-component builds on the results of the policy dialogue supported by the original project to strengthen national social protection systems and institutions. Specifically, this component will help strengthen the technical and institutional capacity of the Dispositif National to support effective implementation of safety net programs in Niger, including the core cash transfer program, the shock-responsive component of the cash transfer program, and the cash-for-work program. The specific elements of this sub-component will include:

a. Support to the DN at the technical and institutional level to strengthen the capacity to
**monitor, geo-map, coordinate, and plan safety nets interventions.** This sub-component will continue support the DN through technical assistance and capacity building activities with the objective of improving its capacity to manage and analyze all the information related to safety nets interventions, shocks, exposure, vulnerability, financing, etc. to help the government to plan and coordinate safety net interventions. Following the recommendations from the comprehensive diagnosis carried out in 2018, in collaboration with the World Bank and other PTFs, the support will focus of the on strengthening the monitoring and evaluation Unit (M&E) and the existing analysis unit/group within the DN for decision making. The support to reinforce the technical and institutional capacity of the M&E unit aims to developing the capacity of the government in monitoring all safety nets interventions using an integrated database managed by the M&E unit. This database will leverage recent effort done by project geo-referencing CFW interventions. This subcomponent will also support strengthening the existing analysis unit/group for information analysis within the DN to develop their capacity to analysis, on a regular basis, all the information available at country level and to inform decision making of the government.

b. Technical, operational, and institutional support to the DN to **develop a rules-based disaster risk financing mechanism to support the scale up of the safety net programs in response to shocks based on objective early warning indicators** and other relevant information. The key focus of this sub-component will be the establishment of a mechanism to scale up existing cash transfer programs to provide assistance to poor and vulnerable households in the event of a shock, and a system to cover the costs of this expansion. This will involve the development of two functions within the DN: (i) manage and analyze data that document the occurrence of shocks within specific geographic regions and its impact on households (and thus when a scale-up is needed), and (ii) define a triggering mechanism that will signal the need to execute the scale–up. This effort will leverage ongoing engagements to strengthen data collection and processing capacity within the GoN at national and regional level, including the Niger Disaster Risk Management and Urban Development Project (P145268) as well as other technical support provided by development and humanitarian partners, including the UN-World Bank Famine Action Mechanism (FAM). This will be supported also by technical assistance and extensive capacity building activities to ensure the sustainability of the scalability system, including: (i) organizational capacity building and the development of a collaboration mechanism between government and other stakeholders, (ii) training for key government stakeholders on topics related to risk financing including data analysis, index definition, and designing the rules governing the scaling-up process, and (iii) analysis to explore the expansion of the systems to other types of shocks such as floods, refugee influxes or price shocks.

c. Support for the **institutionalization and operationalization of a Unified Social Registry (USR)** to provide a common database of households to select beneficiaries for safety nets and social programs. This register will be a database that will allow to provide mapping of vulnerable groups to better reach them, design and implement more equitable, transparent and effective social programs. The institutional framework of the USR should ensure its
sustainability and should include: (i) the DNPGCA, as the leading implementing institution, which will provide political oversight and ensures coordination with other social protection actors in Niger, (ii) a Steering Committee, (iii) a Technical Committee and (iv) a Technical Unit that will ensure its operation. The implementing institution must: (i) ensure political support, by ensuring its legitimacy, and having the capacity to impose the use of the social register on all institutions providing social benefits to the poor; (ii) guarantee the confidentiality of the data; (iii) maintain the system and update the data; and (iv) ensure the autonomy of operation and the extension of the system.

**Sub-component 1.2 Supporting policy dialogue and inter-sectoral coordination**

21. This sub-component will facilitate policy dialogue and inter-sectoral coordination within the GoN and with technical and financial partners in support of social protection priorities in Niger. Activities will include:

   a. **Support inter-sectoral coordination of safety nets** as part of the social protection policy, including management of food crises and food and nutrition security. This will include support to the inter-sectoral social protection committee, as well as an update of the national social protection policy. It will also support activities that promote collaborations across institutions involved in the sector, such as the MEWSP, as well as policy dialogue to foster adaptive social protection among key stakeholders in Niger.

   b. **Foster Policy dialogue on disaster risk financing and shock-responsive safety nets.** This engagement will be key to support the proposed role DN and build consensus among key GoN stakeholders at national and regional level as well as development and humanitarian partners.

**Sub-component 1.3 Delivery tools, implementation and monitoring of safety net interventions**

22. This sub-component will support the upgrading of delivery tools and systems of specific safety nets interventions (cash transfer and cash-for-works), as well as support their implementation and monitoring. Over the last few years, the project has established a solid MIS and electronic payment modules. The process of identification, selection and registration have evolved to be based on tablets and electronic tools, thus improving efficiency. Payment modules allow for fast reconciliation and monthly payments. The proposed project will continue to support the development of these systems along the lines outlined below.

   a. **Improvements and implementation of delivery processes for efficient and timely targeting, identification, registration, and payment of beneficiaries.** This will include updates of protocols, tools, and software to (i) select, identify and register beneficiaries, and (ii) perform timeline payments, including smart cards and electronic methods.

   b. **Improvement the capacity and flexibility of the MIS,** including system upgrades, as well as expansion of electronic data collection approaches successfully rolled-out under the
adaptive safety nets project to ensure timely monitoring of activities and beneficiary participation.

c. **Process and impact evaluations** to measure implementation quality and effectiveness of key safety nets interventions and related accompanying measures. The evaluations will be used to complement monitoring data from the project MIS. Process evaluations will be used to measure quality of implementation. The support to impact evaluation will include surveys to measure the long-term impacts of productive accompanying measures rolled-out among project beneficiaries to foster resilience as part of the original project, as well as a survey to measure impacts of cash-for-works valorization measures on resilience and sustainability. An impact evaluation will also be designed and implemented for the second phase of the safety net project.

Component 2. Cash Transfers and Accompanying Measures (*US$48 million*)

23. This component will manage a cash transfer program for resilience which includes cash transfers (sub-component 2.1) with accompanying measures to promote investments in children’s human capital and support to livelihoods (sub-component 2.2) as well as a pilot for scaling up cash transfers using disaster risk financing mechanism (sub-component 2.3). The design of this component takes into account several lessons learned from the implementation of the first project and the results of analysis of the various interventions, as highlighted in the lessons learned and the economic analysis sections. The most important result is that regular transfers (component 2.1), in combination with accompanying measures (component 2.2.) provide consumption support, reduce food insecurity, as well as facilitate investments in children’s human capital and in livelihoods among targeted poor households promoted through the accompanying measures. It has also been clear that strong supervision, real-time monitoring and quality control tools, in combination with external process evaluations, strengthened feedback loops and improvements in design elements and operational processes.

Sub-component 2.1. Cash Transfers

24. **The cash transfer program will continue to provide small, regular monthly transfers over a 24-month period** to poor households in high-poverty and fragile areas to new cohorts of 50,000 total beneficiaries. The program will be rolled-out in phases over time to ensure a continuous basic level of coverage. The identification, selection and registration of beneficiaries will use the same processes, which have been designed and refined during the implementation of the current project taking into account lessons learned. For example, the introduction of validation process of the list beneficiaries generated using proxy-means test (PMT) was both efficient and well-accepted by local populations in Niger.

25. The current amount of transfer, which was set at 10,000 FCFA per month in 2011, will be increased to 15,000 FCFA (~US$ 26) per month to take into account the increase in cost and to maximize the impact on consumption. The new rate is based on estimations from the latest national household surveys and other recent evaluation surveys. Payments to beneficiaries will be
based on a centrally managed database and delivered by payment agencies, using electronic modalities which has been developed during the first project.

**Sub-component 2.2. Accompanying Measures.**

26. **Cash transfers will be implemented along with accompanying measures to:** (i) encourage investments in human capital and early childhood development (ECD), as well as (ii) improve livelihoods and facilitate adaptation and resilience. Evaluations of the first project have shown that these measures can lead to a range of behavioral change among parents, but need to be coordinated with actions on the supply-side (health centers, schools, civil registry offices). Approaches to do so have been introduced and will need to continue to be strengthened. Participation in the accompanying measures will not be a formal condition to receive the cash transfers, though it will be encouraged. Experience in the original safety net project has shown that participation is high, so that formal conditionalities are not needed. Beneficiary women will be organized in groups. These groups will be used to deliver the human capital accompanying measures and the productive accompanying measures.

27. **Early family formation and societal norms represent significant barriers for women to fully engage in economic activities.** Gender and social role demarcation limit women’s possibility to acquire education or participate in the labor force. Given the high fertility rate, early marriages often result in teenage pregnancy with clear implications on women’s availability to work. Even when available to work, the presence of large families and children to take care of limit the employment choices of women. As a result, female workers face higher barriers to access good economic opportunities. Sub-component 2.2 will include interventions to help address those obstacles and boost women’s empowerment. Firstly, the accompanying measures that seek to foster behavioral changes among parents and encourage investments in young children’s human capital primarily targets beneficiary women. The ECD accompanying measures incorporates training modules on maternal health and birth spacing, based on the evidence that improvements in reproductive health do lead to improvement in women’s economic empowerment. Secondly, the productive inclusion package includes a life skills training that has been designed to provide dedicated mentoring to address pervasive social barriers and boost self-confidence. It contains specific modules on women’s empowerment and gender relations, including on family planning. Both sets of accompanying measures are expected to enhance women’s empowerment, which global evidence suggests brings about multiplier effects at the household level in a range of areas including health, education, nutrition, savings, etc.

28. **Accompanying measures to encourage human capital investments** will cover all beneficiaries of cash transfer programs and will focus on parenting behaviors, early childhood development and nutrition. The focus on parenting behaviors and early childhood development is warranted by the fast population growth, low level of human capital outcomes, and limited ECD services in the country. Accompanying measures will seek to encourage parents to invest in the human capital of young children. The accompanying measures will promote behavioral changes among parents, with a view to trigger sustained changes in parenting practices conducive to early childhood development and nutrition, as well as utilization of other social services (education,
health, family planning, civil registration, etc.) where they exist. The topics will cover nutrition, health, child protection, and psycho-social stimulation, with a focus on providing information to parents in a preventive role. The topics, activities, protocols and tools will be detailed in a technical guide. Technical guides will continue to be shared and discussed with national and local institutions to ensure a common approach.

29. **The activities will include monthly village assemblies and small group discussions.** These activities will target parents in beneficiary households. Households not benefiting from cash transfers in participating communities will also be invited to participate in village assemblies. In addition, monthly home visits will target beneficiary households with children aged 0-3. The home visits will include screening for severe or acute malnutrition and child development monitoring. Information on children will be tracked over time. The home visits will be interactive and used to demonstrate age-appropriate psycho-social stimulation activities that parents can undertake with their children. The home visits will focus on encouraging behavioral change among parents through demonstration rather than activities targeting the children directly.

30. **The implementation of ECD accompanying measures will rely on skilled field operators** at the commune level as well as community educators (*relais communautaires*). They will be trained on how to implement the ECD accompanying measures based on a technical manual and detailed protocol. Community educators will be selected by populations in each village, with a ratio of approximately 1 community educator for 25 beneficiary households. Community educators will be responsible to implement small-group discussions and home visits. They will receive a monthly stipend consistent with the level of transfer and national policies. Field workers (agents de terrain) will be responsible to organize village assemblies, as well as train, coach and supervise community educators. They will also be responsible to collect monitoring data to integrate in the project MIS. It is expected that 1 field worker will cover 8 villages. It is expected that Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO) will be contracted to hire and supervise field workers at commune and regional level. In some communes, and on an experimental basis and depending on local capacity, field workers will be hired directly by the CFS, and supervised by commune-level CFS staff (*responsables d’accompagnement communaux*). Commune-level CFS staff (covering 10 villages on average) will supervise field workers. Throughout, regional-level staff will supervise commune-level staff. External spot-checks and process evaluations will be undertaken regularly to ensure that information on implementation quality can be used to make course-corrections.

31. **The implementation of the ECD accompanying measures will leverage intersectoral linkages with services such as nutrition, health, education, civil registration or water and sanitation.** MOUs will be signed with technical ministries at the central level, and partnerships will also be established with service providers (such as health centers) at the local level. Local service providers will be invited to participate in the training of community educators and community-level staff. The community educators will provide information in a preventive role, but a referral system will also be put in place towards community health workers (where they exist) or other services. Finally, the project will seek to connect beneficiaries to providers offering
complementary services, for instance those responsible to deliver nutrition services directly to population.

32. **Productive accompanying measures** will seek to further improve livelihoods and support household resilience. Employment is strongly concentrated in subsistence agriculture in rural Niger, and poor households face multiple constraints to engage in more productive income-generating activities. Productive accompanying measures will seek to help households to overcome these constraints by providing an integrated package of support, as well as facilitating linkages to other programs with benefits suitable to poor and vulnerable households. Productive accompanying measures will seek to encourage diversification of economic activities and adaptation to risks related to climate change.

33. **The productive accompanying measures will include a core package of support** that can be offered in a cross-cutting approach and has proven effective in Niger. This will include (i) the creation of groups of beneficiaries, (ii) support to savings group based on the Village Savings and Loan Association\(^7\) model, and (iii) facilitation of support and linkages to other services through a community coach supervised by project staff. Additional support may be provided in the form of complementary capital, basic entrepreneurship training, life skills training or psycho-social support to a subset of households. Various productive accompanying measures models have been set-up and rolled-out as part of the current project. Impact evaluation results are expected in 2019 and will provide information on the most cost-effective additional support package to offer. The implementation of the most cost-effective package will be adjusted during the implementation of the proposed project. The selection of communes that will receive the package will be based on objective criteria that will be defined in the early stage of the project.

**Sub-component 2.3: Cash transfers for shock response**

34. **This sub-component will test an innovative mechanism to scale up existing cash transfer system in response to a shock as soon as the information is available.** It will use the emergency transfers program tested during the current project to deliver monthly transfers for a period of up to 12 months to vulnerable households in areas identified as affected by a shock based on pre-defined rules and triggers established under component 1. The design and the delivery of the shock responsive mechanism will be consistent with the government crisis response strategy and with the national framework for crisis response (called Plan de Soutien) developed by the government on annual basis. The ability to rapidly scale up cash transfers is expected to mitigate the impact of the shock and prevent household consumption from dropping after disaster shocks and to protect their livelihoods and assets and facilitate a more rapid post-crisis recovery.

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\(^7\) The Village Savings and Loan Association (VSLA) approach consist of a group of individuals who save a small amount every week. It has been implemented successfully in Niger and elsewhere in the region. Each group determines their own share value and the maximum amount members can contribute. After several months, the savings shares accumulated by the group become large enough for the group to offer small loans to members. Most loans are short-term, at an interest rate determined by the group. At the end of each cycle, usually after a year, members can withdraw savings to facilitate investments in productive activities. The VSLA approach has proven its efficiency on groups of adults.
35. The sub-component will take a sequenced approach to the provision of emergency assistance in Niger. Initially, the shock-responsive component will focus on responding to the impact of drought in only one region to test processes and procedures. Once systems are built, the project will then look to expand drought coverage to other regions, as well as assess the feasibility to use the same system to respond to other shocks (for example floods, refugee influx, etc.) building on the evidence generated during the initial phase. This gradual approach is needed to build technical, operational, and institutional capacity within the GoN to develop an efficient scalable system for crisis response.

36. In the event of a drought, the cash transfers will be scaled up rapidly to provide support in the areas identified by the trigger mechanisms to both current and new beneficiaries in villages already included in the core cash transfer program and other villages before the beginning of the hungry season (March/April):

   a. Regular beneficiaries of the core cash transfer in the pilot area who are affected by a shock will receive a top up (vertical expansion) for a period of up to 12 months. This support is additional to the core cash transfer. At the end of that period, the cash transfer amount will be scaled down to the original amount (15,000 FCFA).

   b. Households who are not regular beneficiaries of the cash transfer program but are affected by a shock will receive monthly cash transfers of 15,000 FCFA for a period of up to 12 months (horizontal expansion), for a total amount of 180,000 FCFA over a 12-month period.

37. The selection of beneficiaries will be based on the use of the social registry, where available, and well-defined targeting protocols including community-based approaches, which use multiple selection committees (see section C).

38. The project will allocate a fixed amount of resources for the component over the life of the project. In addition, the team will also explore flexible risk financing solutions to leverage additional funding, ensure sustainability and enable the roll out of the shock-responsive component into additional regions and to respond to other hazards.

Component 3. Cash for Work for resilience (US$18.5 million)

39. This component will support the implementation of cash-for-work programs, which will provide additional income to people in communities affected by food insecurity caused by persistent or recurrent weather and climate change related shocks. The cash for work component is designed to support poor people in areas that have been affected by shocks over the past few years, unlike the shock-responsive component which will be an annually-determined response mechanism. The additional income provided by the program is expected to allow program beneficiaries to smooth their consumption and protect their assets. In addition, participants in the cash for work activities will produce or maintain public goods which will have an impact on community resilience. The annual selection of the areas of the cash-for-work interventions will
continue to be based on protocols established by the DN to cover areas affected by shocks and fragility over the recent past in coordination with other partners implementing Public Works activities. The Cash for Work programs will provide temporary work opportunities for 60 days to approximately 66,000 beneficiaries, who will receive a remuneration of FCFA 1,300 a day, which is comparable to the amount distributed by similar programs. Activities will be selected by the community under the guidance of the local NGO, and supervision from the CFS, with the goal to foster community resilience through soil restoration or socio-economic infrastructures. Beneficiaries will continue to be selected using mostly self-targeting mechanisms. Interested individuals will be invited to apply and information on applications will be collected based on the Unified Social Registry questionnaire. In case of over-subscription, only one individual per family will be selected, if there are still more people interested than allowed by the micro-project, a PMT will be applied and the final list of beneficiaries will be validated by the community.

40. **Several improvements will be introduced on the design of the program on the basis of the lessons learned during the current project.** First, the project will seek to increase efficiency and timeliness of the roll-out of the public works to ensure that it will be implemented when there are few ongoing agricultural activities in the agricultural area (February to June) and in October-December in the pastoral zones. Second, the same villages and beneficiaries are expected to be covered for two years in order to increase impact on resilience. Finally, the project will provide accompanying measures to contribute to the sustainability of the microprojects, including community level sensitization on land and property rights, land degradation, and resilience.

**Component 4. Project Management (US$8.5 million)**

41. **This component will cover expenditures related to the procurement of goods, works, services, and consultants necessary for the management of the project.** This component will also continue to support activities to improve accountability and transparency in the use of project resources. Field-based sampling verifications/spot checks will be conducted on a random sample of program communities and seek to assess the program’s operational processes particularly with a view toward ensuring adherence to design and improving operational efficiency and information flows. Regular audits will be performed, including financial, technical, and procurement. In the case of the CFW programs the technical audits would be used to check the implementation of the cash-for-work microprojects to avoid potential difficulties to avoid delays and maximize community involvement.

**E. Implementation**

Institutional and Implementation Arrangements
42. **The project will continue to be implemented by the UGT, which is the implementation Unit of the Safety Nets Unit (CFS).** The CFS was established under the Office of the Prime Minister on December 16, 2010 through arrêté no. 0236 and updated on March 23, 2103 by arrêté no. 61. In 2017, the Government issued a new decree which restructured the DN to facilitate coordination across safety nets activities and better address the long-term vulnerability to shocks and food insecurity. Within the new decree, the CFS has become an integral part of the DN, with the mandate to design and implement safety nets programs as well as to developing recommendations and policy proposals and strategies for setting up and coordinating all permanent safety nets programs in the country. A new decree is expected to formalize the new structure and expanded mandate of the CFS. The new project will support the integration of the CFS within the DN to take into account the arrêté of Dec 2017

43. **The performance of the UGT in managing the current project has been satisfactory.** The UGT will continue to competitively recruit contractors (including NGOs and firms) to carry out the activities planned under each component in compliance with the project implementation manual. As it has occurred in the current project, the UGT will continue to implement other project of the Bank or other organization. If necessary, additional staff may be recruited to guarantee the smooth implementation of those projects. For example, the implementation of the cash transfers to maintain girls in school and related behavioral measures (Population and Health support project, P147638). Capacity of both the UGT and of the CFS and its contractors will be built with funds provided through Component 4 of the proposed project, and with technical assistance from the Bank (with support from the Bank-executed portion of the ASPP).

44. **The UGT will continue to have a national office in Niamey, Regional offices and local staff at commune level.** The list of the staff working at the UGT and their Terms of References are specified in the operational manual. The key staff will include: a coordinator; a financial management and administrative specialist; a procurement specialist; an internal auditor; and technical staff as outlined in the administrative Manual. Regional office will include a regional representative, an executive and financial assistant, and a regional supervision officer. At commune-level, a commune focal point will supervise, and coordinate filed level activities and participate to local coordination bodies (such as cadres de concertation communaux). A number of local field staff (animators/social workers) will support the implementation of the program in the villages. Regional authorities and technical services of the Government will continue to be involved in beneficiary identification and selection, activity identification and supervision according to principles and guidelines that are specified in the project implementation manual.

**F. Project location and Salient physical characteristics relevant to the safeguard analysis (if known)**

The Project will be mostly nationwide and located in rural communities in the regions of Agadez, Dosso, Maradi, Niamey, Tillabery, Tahoua and Zinder.
G. Environmental and Social Safeguards Specialists on the Team

Cheikh A. T. Sagna, Social Safeguards Specialist  
Bougadare Kone, Environmental Safeguards Specialist

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SAFEGUARD POLICIES THAT MIGHT APPLY</th>
<th>Triggered?</th>
<th>Explanation (Optional)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Environmental Assessment OP/BP 4.01</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>The policy is triggered due to the foreseen activities related to Cash for Work sub-component which is expected to result in some impacts and risks that are mostly site specific and easily manageable, typical of category B projects. Since this is an expansion of the original project (The first Safety Net project and Additional financing Adaptive Safety Nets), the Borrower updated and make use of the same safeguards instruments, namely an Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF), a Pest Management Plan and the Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF) by capturing the context and realities in the new project. The ESMF provided the same basic principles and prerogatives to be followed once details of the physical footprint of the project intervention areas are known; in light of which borrower will, wherever deemed necessary, prepare a site specific Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) or an Environmental and Social Impact Assessment, depending on the scope, type and nature of the given activity. The ESMF is updated, it has been re-disclosed both in-country on November 18, 2018 and at the World Bank Website on November 19, 2018.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Performance Standards for Private Sector Activities OP/BP 4.03</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>The project will not involve the private sector or Private Sector Activities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural Habitats OP/BP 4.04</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>The project will not support activities in areas which critical habitats may be threatened.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forests OP/BP 4.36</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>The project will not support activities related to forest exploitation or management or might have potential adverse impacts on forested areas.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pest Management OP 4.09</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Some project activities will be using pesticides, even though at the lower scale, for which the borrower will elaborate the Pest Management Plan of the Original</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Physical Cultural Resources OP/BP 4.11</strong></td>
<td>No</td>
<td>The project will not involve significant excavations, demolition, movement of earth, flooding or other environmental changes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Indigenous Peoples OP/BP 4.10</strong></td>
<td>No</td>
<td>This policy is not triggered in Niger where there are no Indigenous Peoples, as per Government policy and World Bank definition.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Involuntary Resettlement OP/BP 4.12</strong></td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>The policy is triggered due to the potential economic displacement and land acquisition that might be involved in some of the project foreseen activities related to cash for work, which could result in the involuntary resettlement of project affected persons. The original project RFP has been updated for the purpose of the new project and disclosed both in-country on November 18, 2018 and at the World Bank Website on November 19, 2018. During project implementation, the screening process will determine whether land will be acquired and whether a subproject-specific Resettlement Action Plan (RAP) will be required. If so, such RAP will be duly consulted upon and publicly disclosed both in-country and at the World Bank Website prior to the commencement of project civil works.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Safety of Dams OP/BP 4.37</strong></td>
<td>No</td>
<td>The project interventions will not finance construction of dams nor will it support any dam infrastructure. Therefore, this policy is not triggered.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Projects on International Waterways OP/BP 7.50</strong></td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Projects activities will not be implemented in the areas of international waters nor have any impacts on international waterways. Therefore, this policy will not be triggered.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Projects in Disputed Areas OP/BP 7.60</strong></td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Project activities will not be implemented in disputed areas as there are no known disputes over project areas. Therefore, this policy is not triggered.</td>
</tr>
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**KEY SAFEGUARD POLICY ISSUES AND THEIR MANAGEMENT**

**A. Summary of Key Safeguard Issues**

1. Describe any safeguard issues and impacts associated with the proposed project. Identify and describe any potential large scale, significant and/or irreversible impacts:

The Project remains under environmental classification B, as it may only have a limited and localized environmental and social impacts given their small scoop. The cash for work micro-projects could restrict access of populations and livestock to the work site, possibly creating conflict between the herders and farmers or within the same livelihood group. The rehabilitation works may create some risks to the physical safety of the workers. Pollution and loud noises can be expected during the implementation of activities, for which appropriate mitigation measures will be embedded to ensure proper management. Under Cash Transfers and Accompanying Measures (component 2) and the Cash for Work for Resilience
(component 3) support will be provided to design and implement accompanying measures to explore alternative livelihoods options and increase agricultural productivity. In partnership with the Climate Smart Agriculture Program, the project may support, albeit on a small scale, the use of improved agricultural inputs including fertilizers, improved seeds, irrigation agriculture and pesticides that will require site specific environmental and social impacts assessment to ensure potential adverse effects are properly mitigated.

2. Describe any potential indirect and/or long term impacts due to anticipated future activities in the project area:

It is anticipated that the project will provide accompanying measures to contribute to the sustainability of the microprojects, including community level sensitization on land and property rights, land degradation, and resilience with no indirect and/or long-term negative impact in these areas. The project will also result in long-term positive safeguard impacts in the project area due to the project’s emphasis on ensuring sustainable environmental management of natural resources and reduction in the unsustainable exploitation of natural resources, including climate resilience and mitigation of risks and other challenges faced by affected households.

3. Describe any project alternatives (if relevant) considered to help avoid or minimize adverse impacts.

Not relevant

4. Describe measures taken by the borrower to address safeguard policy issues. Provide an assessment of borrower capacity to plan and implement the measures described.

Mitigation of environmental risks: World Bank safeguard policy 4.01 on Environmental Assessments has been triggered. The Environmental Safeguards Management Framework (ESMF) developed for the previous project (Safety Net Project parent-project and the AF Project) is currently being updated for taking stock of good practices and lessons learned, and consideration of the new project scope, context and reality. It will be re-disclosed. The CFS will continue to use the Social and Environmental screening procedures to identify, assess, evaluate, mitigate and monitor the likely risks and impacts of the project and its related sub-projects. All key stakeholders involved in the Project will be systematically sensitized and trained on the processes based on the updated training assessment need. Based on lessons learned during the implementation of the previous Safety Net operation in Niger, a skilled environmental safeguard specialist will be recruited as a full-time staff within the project to provide technical oversight. Tools and trainings developed and adopted will continue to be used to address risks arising during micro-projects implementation. Protective gear will be provided to workers, along with adequate trainings on worksite safety measures. For activities such as tree planting, implementing agencies will have to facilitate some sensitization campaigns to prevent excessive tree cutting and wildfires. Partnership will continue with the National Office for Environmental Studies and Impact Evaluation (or BEEI the French Acronym for the Bureau d’ Evaluation Environnementale et d’ Etudes d’ Impacts) that will monitor the micro-projects to ensure the respect of local social and environmental norms. Likewise, the World Bank operational safeguard Policy OP 4.09 on Pest management has been triggered to take into consideration the accompanying socioeconomic measures geared towards increasing agricultural productivity. An Integrated Pest Management Plan will be updated, consulted upon by the borrower and publicly disclosed thereafter, both in-country and at the World Bank Website before appraisal. This implies ensuring that modern efficient utilization of pesticide and fertilizer will be introduced, and farmers trained in their applications. Further, strict control mechanisms will be put in place to avoid potential adverse impacts such as pollution from agricultural runoffs.

5. Identify the key stakeholders and describe the mechanisms for consultation and disclosure on safeguard policies, with an emphasis on potentially affected people.
Key project stakeholders include the NGOs and firms involved in implementation, representative of relevant line ministries who will be involved in the technical validation of the micro-projects selected for implementation; community representatives, and representatives from the BEEI. A workshop will be scheduled to disclose the safeguard instruments to the public (including these stakeholders).

B. Disclosure Requirements (N.B. The sections below appear only if corresponding safeguard policy is triggered)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Environmental Assessment/Audit/Management Plan/Other</th>
<th>Date of receipt by the Bank</th>
<th>Date of submission for disclosure</th>
<th>For category A projects, date of distributing the Executive Summary of the EA to the Executive Directors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>18-Nov-2018</td>
<td>19-Nov-2018</td>
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"In country" Disclosure

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Resettlement Action Plan/Framework/Policy Process</th>
<th>Date of receipt by the Bank</th>
<th>Date of submission for disclosure</th>
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"In country" Disclosure

Pest Management Plan

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<td>No</td>
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"In country" Disclosure

If the project triggers the Pest Management and/or Physical Cultural Resources policies, the respective issues are to be addressed and disclosed as part of the Environmental Assessment/Audit/or EMP.

If in-country disclosure of any of the above documents is not expected, please explain why:

C. Compliance Monitoring Indicators at the Corporate Level (to be filled in when the ISDS is finalized by the project decision meeting) (N.B. The sections below appear only if corresponding safeguard policy is triggered)

OP/BP/GP 4.01 - Environment Assessment

Does the project require a stand-alone EA (including EMP) report?
Yes
If yes, then did the Regional Environment Unit or Practice Manager (PM) review and approve the EA report?
Yes

Are the cost and the accountabilities for the EMP incorporated in the credit/loan?
Yes

**OP 4.09 - Pest Management**

Does the EA adequately address the pest management issues?
Yes

Is a separate PMP required?
Yes

If yes, has the PMP been reviewed and approved by a safeguards specialist or PM? Are PMP requirements included in project design? If yes, does the project team include a Pest Management Specialist?
Yes

The PMP was reviewed and approved by the safeguards specialist and the requirements included in the project design. The team includes the safeguard specialist who is in charge of the issues regarding to the Pest Management.

**OP/BP 4.12 - Involuntary Resettlement**

Has a resettlement plan/abbreviated plan/policy framework/process framework (as appropriate) been prepared?
Yes

If yes, then did the Regional unit responsible for safeguards or Practice Manager review the plan?
Yes

Is physical displacement/relocation expected?
No

Is economic displacement expected? (loss of assets or access to assets that leads to loss of income sources or other means of livelihoods)
No

**The World Bank Policy on Disclosure of Information**

Have relevant safeguard policies documents been sent to the World Bank for disclosure?
Yes

Have relevant documents been disclosed in-country in a public place in a form and language that are understandable and accessible to project-affected groups and local NGOs?
Yes

All Safeguard Policies

Have satisfactory calendar, budget and clear institutional responsibilities been prepared for the implementation of measures related to safeguard policies?
Yes

Have costs related to safeguard policy measures been included in the project cost?
Yes

Does the Monitoring and Evaluation system of the project include the monitoring of safeguard impacts and measures related to safeguard policies?
Yes

Have satisfactory implementation arrangements been agreed with the borrower and the same been adequately reflected in the project legal documents?
Yes

CONTACT POINT

World Bank

Carlo Del Ninno
Lead Economist

Borrower/Client/Recipient

REPUBLIC OF NIGER

Implementing Agencies

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Telephone: (202) 473-1000</td>
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<td>Web: <a href="http://www.worldbank.org/projects">http://www.worldbank.org/projects</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Task Team Leader(s):</td>
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<tr>
<td>Carlo Del Ninno</td>
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**Approved By**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Safeguards Advisor:</th>
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<tr>
<td>Practice Manager/Manager:</td>
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