

**INTEGRATED SAFEGUARDS DATA SHEET
APPRAISAL STAGE**

Report No.: ISDSA1398

Date ISDS Prepared/Updated: 26-Sep-2012

I. BASIC INFORMATION

1. Basic Project Data

Country:	Sierra Leone	Project ID:	P126180
Project Name:	Sierra Leone Energy Access Project - Sierra Leone Infrastructure Development Fund (P126180)		
Task Team Leader:	Elvira Morella		
Estimated Appraisal Date:	11-Sep-2012	Estimated Board Date:	13-Dec-2012
Managing Unit:	AFTG2	Lending Instrument:	Specific Investment Loan
Sector:	General energy sector (100%)		
Theme:	Infrastructure services for private sector development (100%)		
Financing (In USD Million)			
Financing Source			Amount
Borrower			0.00
Sierra Leone Infrastructure Trust Fund			16.00
Total			16.00
Environmental Category:	B - Partial Assessment		
Is this a Repeater project?	No		

2. Project Objectives

The Project Development Objective are to: : (i) reduce losses in electricity supply in Freetown Capital Western Area; (ii) improve commercial performance of the National Power Authority; and (iii) increase access to electricity in selected rural areas.

3. Project Description

The Project will consist of three major components:

Component I: Rehabilitation of Primary Distribution Network, Loss Reduction and Improvement of NPA's Operational and Commercial Performance. This component envisages multiple investment and technical assistance activities. Part of investments will focus on the rehabilitation of key components of the primary distribution network (33/11kV) in Freetown area, including overhead

lines and substations, raising its transfer capacity by approximately 8MW and contributing significantly to raise system stability, reliability and quality of supply. In addition, the Project will finance supply and installation of approximately 20,000 pre-paid meters as well as an appropriate vending and control system to replace the current aging system. Since NPA currently has no means of precisely locating high loss areas in the network, the Project will also finance supply and installation of a statistical metering and data management system. Finally, an appropriate business information system will be installed to replace manual systems and improve utility management, particularly in the financial, commercial and logistics areas. Investments in each area will be complemented with extensive technical assistance to ensure optimal application of the investment support. Additional technical assistance will focus on strengthening NPA's expertise in two key areas: (i) operations, through focused training on system operation with an emphasis on operating regulations and safety; and (ii) commercial management, by providing support to the implementation of the loss reduction program.

Component II: Rural Electrification. This component will launch a pilot program for the installation of PV systems in public buildings in 14 rural villages, to demonstrate applicability of the solar technology for larger deployment. Villages have been selected by the Ministry of Energy and Water Resources and the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development from each administrative district, based on gender diversity, number of public buildings where the PV systems can be installed and road accessibility. The development of small-scale decentralized solar power supply in rural areas has been included by the GoSL's in the National Energy Policy and Strategic Plan. Also, a roadmap for scaling-up renewable energy technologies (RETs) and markedly solar power has been identified. The pilot installation of PV systems is expected to complement current efforts by other donors as well as to leverage wider donor support to the GoSL's long-term program of rural electrification using solar energy. In the short term, this component promises high returns in terms of improved living standards for the populations of the villages targeted under the Project.

Component III: Project Implementation Management. This component has been specifically designed to strengthen project implementation and management capacity. The component will finance external expertise that will support key project management functions.

4. Project location and salient physical characteristics relevant to the safeguard analysis (if known)

The project will apply the Bank's safeguards policies on Environmental Assessment (OP/BP4.01) and Involuntary Resettlement (OP/BP4.12) specifically for components I and II of the project. An Environment and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) was prepared by the Government of Sierra Leone (GoSL) in July 2012. The ESIA primarily covers the areas surrounding the facilities that will be rehabilitated under Component I (above), including the 33kV/11kV distribution line and substations between the Blackhall Road and the Wellington substations in Freetown Western Capital Area. Reinforcement of the line was initially carried out under the completed IDA-financed Power and Water Project (P087203). A Resettlement Action Plan (RAP) was implemented and a RAP Completion Report was disclosed in November 10, 2011. The compensation payments for 29 households along the distribution line were finalized in end-October 2011. Additionally, there were five livelihood restoration programs provided for small enterprises, including training workshops for skills and youth employment.

A site investigation of the right-of-way (RoW) of the distribution line from Blackhall Road to Wellington was undertaken in February, 2012 to verify the conditions of the project affected persons (PAPs) compensated under the 2011 RAP. Further site investigations conducted during appraisal of the project verified what was reported in February 2012 as follows: (i) two PAPs who received

payments in 2011 for removing structures within the vertical clearance limit (7 m) had returned and constructed new structures. At the time of appraisal, these were in the process of being removed by an inter-agency committee set up by GoSL to enforce the restrictions on land uses inside the RoW; and (ii) “new encroachers” in the RoW who had set up structures despite the demarcation enforced by NPA were notified that all structures within the vertical clearance limit would be removed. The NPA and the Office of National Security (ONS) are coordinating the program for removing these structures, following the guidelines and procedures adopted in the 2011 RAP. Over the longer-term, the GoSL will enforce an Action Plan for monitoring the RoW and ensure that further encroachments inside the RoW are effectively managed.

The specific locations of the public buildings (e.g. schools, health centers, community centers) on which PV systems will be installed as part of component III of the project are not known. The GoSL has selected some 14 villages for the installation of the solar technology. The installation and maintenance of the solar panels are anticipated to have minimum environmental impacts. No land acquisition will take place since solar facilities will be installed on public buildings.

5. Environmental and Social Safeguards Specialists

Maria Concepcion J. Cruz (AFTCS)

Moses Yao Duphey (AFTN3)

6. Safeguard Policies	Triggered?	Explanation (Optional)
Environmental Assessment OP/ BP 4.01	Yes	An Environment and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) was completed and covered the areas where rehabilitation and upgrading of the existing distribution line and substations will take place. The ESIA also covers the proposed sites for installation of solar panels. Guidance on control of pollution and waste management, especially in the substations is included in the ESIA
Natural Habitats OP/BP 4.04	No	The distribution line and substations will not pass or even be close to any protected areas or critical habitat, including those with any high biodiversity.
Forests OP/BP 4.36	No	The distribution line and substations will not pass through any forested areas hence no impacts on forests are expected.
Pest Management OP 4.09	No	No herbicides or pesticides will be used in the maintenance of the right of way of the distribution line.
Physical Cultural Resources OP/ BP 4.11	No	There will not be any earthworks involved.
Indigenous Peoples OP/BP 4.10	No	A social assessment was completed under the completed IDA-financed Power and Water Project. The findings confirmed that there are no Indigenous Peoples in the project area, which is located mostly in peri-urban and urban areas.

Involuntary Resettlement OP/BP 4.12	Yes	<p>The status of project affected persons (PAPs) who were allowed by GoSL to remain within the vicinity of the Blackhall to Wellington distribution line was assessed. The results of this assessment indicated that: (i) some of the previously compensated PAPs moved back inside the RoW and constructed new structures that continued to pose safety issues and thus had to be moved; and (ii) “new encroachers” have since moved inside the RoW and are now in the process of being relocated. Both activities concerning removal of structures were completed following guidelines defined in the 2011 RAP (under the completed IDA-financed Power and Water project).</p> <p>For the solar systems, no land acquisition nor restriction of access will take place since the beneficiaries are social infrastructures (schools, health centers, community centers) that are in state-owned lands.</p>
Safety of Dams OP/BP 4.37	No	N/A
Projects on International Waterways OP/BP 7.50	No	N/A
Projects in Disputed Areas OP/BP 7.60	No	N/A

II. Key Safeguard Policy Issues and Their Management

A. Summary of Key Safeguard Issues

<p>1. Describe any safeguard issues and impacts associated with the Restructured project. Identify and describe any potential large scale, significant and/or irreversible impacts:</p> <p>Activities under component I are expected to have minimal environmental and social impacts, since all distribution network facilities to be rehabilitated are existing and no new construction will take place. Nonetheless, an ESIA has been prepared to ensure that adequate mitigation measures for addressing potential impacts on the environment and surrounding communities are implemented.</p> <p>The ESIA contains the guidelines and procedures for assessing environmental and social impacts throughout the rehabilitation of the distribution lines and substations. For example, standards for controlling pollution and waste management are defined. Guidance on developing a socio-economic database and identifying new encroachers inside the RoW are also included in the ESIA. Institutional arrangements and monitoring and evaluation of the status of the distribution lines and substations are addressed in a separate section of the ESIA.</p> <p>The installation of photovoltaic systems on public buildings in selected rural villages under component II of the Project is also expected to have minimal environmental and social impacts.</p>
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<p>Any potential impacts are covered in the Environment and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA).</p> <p>Given these anticipated impacts, the project is classified as category B (partial environmental assessment).</p>
<p>2. Describe any potential indirect and/or long term impacts due to anticipated future activities in the project area:</p>
<p>The project is expected to cause indirect impacts in the following areas: (i) hydrology and water quality; (ii) socioeconomic conditions; (iii) land use and public recreation; and (iv) utilities. Direct impacts on air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, geology, soil, landscape, public health and safety, public services, traffic and transportation, and livelihoods have been also assessed along with mitigation measures.</p> <p>Removing critical distribution capacity bottlenecks along Freetown distribution network will enable expanded, stable and more reliable electricity supply to Freetown residents. In rural areas, the pilot installation of photovoltaic (PV) systems will improve the living conditions of the populations targeted under the project, while supporting the GoSL's long-term program to scale up rural access to electricity using solar energy.</p> <p>Communities living in and around the RoW of the distribution line and in the perimeter of the substations to be rehabilitated under the project may expect to receive electricity services, which are not at a direct output of the project. These expectations will continue to be managed by the project and under ongoing community development programs through intensive communication and consultations.</p>
<p>3. Describe any project alternatives (if relevant) considered to help avoid or minimize adverse impacts.</p>
<p>The distribution facilities to be rehabilitated under the project are existing and there is no plan to move them to alternate sites. The routing of the distribution line in the Freetown area was set up several decades ago. Although at that time it was designed to avoid densely populated areas, today the RoW is occupied by slum settlements. In order to avoid adverse impacts, the project will take into account the existing physical conditions and ensure that repairs and rehabilitation works are conducted in an appropriate manner and consistent with the guidelines defined in the ESIA.</p>
<p>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.</p>
<p>An inter-ministerial committee has been specifically set up for monitoring the RoW of distribution lines in urban areas and ensuring that encroachments are controlled.</p> <p>The PMU established at the MoEWR is currently staffed with sufficiently trained environmental and social specialists. A safeguard training program was sponsored by the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development (MoFED) in March 2012 and conducted by the Bank's Accra-based safeguards team. The effectiveness of these training sessions were verified during appraisal of the project and found helpful in building in-country staff capacities, especially within the MoEWR.</p> <p>The current PMU personnel have been hired under the Bumbuna Project and their contracts are set to expire soon. A qualified environmental and social development specialist will be hired under the project to oversee environmental and social management. The project also envisages technical assistance to support implementation and update of the ESMP; ensure risk mitigation; and build</p>

capacity for monitoring of the RoW, with a view to reduce the impacts from encroachments and land uses that may negatively affect the operation of distribution facilities.
5. Identify the key stakeholders and describe the mechanisms for consultation and disclosure on safeguard policies, with an emphasis on potentially affected people.
In Freetown area, the project will affect the households currently living in and around the RoW of the distribution line and in the perimeter of the substations to be rehabilitated under the project. In rural areas, the installation of PV systems on public buildings will positively affect the residents of the 14 villages targeted under the project.
Consultations on ESIA were undertaken with different stakeholders, including environmental government agencies, local civil society groups, and community leaders. The ESIA results were presented and discussed in several consultations with government and non-government representatives. The NPA organized a community meeting with occupants of the RoW to inform them on the ESIA and the required safety procedures inside the RoW.

B. Disclosure Requirements Date

Environmental Assessment/Audit/Management Plan/Other	
Date of receipt by the Bank	16-Jul-2012
Date of "in-country" disclosure	26-Sep-2012
Date of submission to InfoShop	26-Sep-2012
For category A projects, date of distributing the Executive Summary of the EA to the Executive Directors	
Resettlement Action Plan/Framework/Policy Process	
Date of receipt by the Bank	19-Apr-2004
Date of "in-country" disclosure	23-Aug-2004
Date of submission to InfoShop	10-Aug-2004
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:	
The ESIA has been cleared for full disclosure. The ESIA has been disclosed in the country and submitted to the Bank's InfoShop on September 26, 2012.	
The RAP was approved and disclosed in 2004. Subsequently, it was updated twice -- in 2007 and 2011 -- under the IDA-financed Power and Water Project. In the second RAP update in 2011, a new segment of the distribution line was added for rehabilitation (existing distribution line).	

C. Compliance Monitoring Indicators at the Corporate Level (to be filled in when the ISDS is finalized by the project decision meeting)

OP/BP/GP 4.01 - Environment Assessment	
Are the cost and the accountabilities for the EMP incorporated in the credit/loan?	Yes [<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>] No [<input type="checkbox"/>] NA [<input type="checkbox"/>]
OP/BP 4.12 - Involuntary Resettlement	
If yes, then did the Regional unit responsible for safeguards or Sector Manager review the plan?	Yes [<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>] No [<input type="checkbox"/>] NA [<input type="checkbox"/>]
The World Bank Policy on Disclosure of Information	

Have relevant safeguard policies documents been sent to the World Bank's Infoshop?	Yes [<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>] No [<input type="checkbox"/>] NA [<input type="checkbox"/>]
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 [<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>] No [<input type="checkbox"/>] NA [<input type="checkbox"/>]
All Safeguard Policies	
Have satisfactory calendar, budget and clear institutional responsibilities been prepared for the implementation of measures related to safeguard policies?	Yes [<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>] No [<input type="checkbox"/>] NA [<input type="checkbox"/>]
Have costs related to safeguard policy measures been included in the project cost?	Yes [<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>] No [<input type="checkbox"/>] NA [<input type="checkbox"/>]
Does the Monitoring and Evaluation system of the project include the monitoring of safeguard impacts and measures related to safeguard policies?	Yes [<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>] No [<input type="checkbox"/>] NA [<input type="checkbox"/>]
Have satisfactory implementation arrangements been agreed with the borrower and the same been adequately reflected in the project legal documents?	Yes [<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>] No [<input type="checkbox"/>] NA [<input type="checkbox"/>]

III. APPROVALS

Task Team Leader:	Elvira Morella	
<i>Approved By</i>		
Regional Safeguards Coordinator:	Name: Alexandra C. Bezeredi (RSA)	Date: 26-Sep-2012
Sector Manager:	Name: Meike van Ginneken (SM)	Date: 12-Sep-2012