



Concept Environmental and Social Review Summary

Concept Stage

(ESRS Concept Stage)

Date Prepared/Updated: 09/07/2020 | Report No: ESRSC01363



BASIC INFORMATION

A. Basic Project Data

Country	Region	Project ID	Parent Project ID (if any)
Western Africa	AFRICA WEST	P173398	
Project Name	Accelerating Impacts of CGIAR Climate Research for Africa (AICCRA)		
Practice Area (Lead)	Financing Instrument	Estimated Appraisal Date	Estimated Board Date
Agriculture and Food	Investment Project Financing	9/10/2020	11/12/2020
Borrower(s)	Implementing Agency(ies)		
International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT)	International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT), International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI)		

Proposed Development Objective

The Development Objective is to increase access for agriculture research and extension service providers in Africa to knowledge, technologies, and decision making tools relevant to enhancing the resilience of agriculture and food systems in the face of climate change.

Financing (in USD Million)	Amount
Total Project Cost	60.00

B. Is the project being prepared in a Situation of Urgent Need of Assistance or Capacity Constraints, as per Bank IPF Policy, para. 12?

No

C. Summary Description of Proposed Project [including overview of Country, Sectoral & Institutional Contexts and Relationship to CPF]

AICCRA will fill a critical gap by seeking to make the cutting-edge CGIAR research and innovation available to National Agriculture Research Services (NARS) and key stakeholders in Sub-Saharan Africa. It will support the critical knowledge creation and capacity building activities to enable regional and national-level stakeholders to take CSA innovations to



scale. It will achieve that by fostering partnerships between CGIAR and local scientists, universities, public sector stakeholders, farmer organizations and private sector. AICCRA will seek to facilitate the development of Climate Information Services (CIS) and ultimately promote the adoption of CSA solutions across parts of Sub-Saharan Africa most vulnerable to climate change. The project will also support on-the-ground activities in selected countries in Western, Eastern and Southern Africa where CGIAR science has the greatest chance of success in delivering catalytic results, which can be adopted by other countries in the region.

D. Environmental and Social Overview

D.1. Detailed project location(s) and salient physical characteristics relevant to the E&S assessment [geographic, environmental, social]

AICCRA funds predominantly “soft activities” such as knowledge generation and transfer, capacity building, and technical assistance. A negative list will be used to preclude investment of IDA funds in large scale works or other activities that could generate significant adverse social or environmental impacts. It supports overall the CGIAR Research Program on Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security (CCAFS) in Africa. AICCRA consists of four components as follows: (i) Knowledge and Services, will finance key knowledge products and tools to address critical gaps in the design and provision of climate services, investment planning and related policy support towards CSA upscaling (e.g., development of business models and identification of innovative finance options for scaling-up CSA and climate-resilient value chains; Undertaking climate, agricultural and environmental policy coherence analyses to identify regional policy overlaps, gaps and alignment; Identification of adaptation interventions targeted to agricultural land-use categories, small-scale farmer groups and associated climate hazards; development of ag-data hubs, climate service and visualization tools for early warning climate services and climate-informed digital agro-advisories to support agricultural decisions); (ii) Partnerships for Delivery will build institutional governance and human capacity, through training, partnerships, networks, at regional and national levels, to help beneficiaries anticipate climate effects and impacts on agriculture, food security and rural livelihoods and prioritize best-bet adaptive measures and application domains; it will finance the training and capacity enhancement of diverse groups of beneficiaries through the development of innovative partnerships, for sustained delivery and use of climate services; (iii) Supporting Climate-Smart Agriculture (CSA) roll-out - will support small-scale farmers and intermediaries in selected value chains to accessing and implementing best-bet CSA options, associated with climate informed agricultural advisory services (including testing and assessment of the climate-smartness of innovative CSA options to inform new investment cases and identify scaling mechanisms, especially for women and youth; participatory selection and prioritization of best-bet and promising CSA options in key value chains, through stakeholder engagement; identification of suitable CSA value chain options to be integrated into tailored climate-informed agro-advisory systems for distinct smallholder profiles; and refining investment opportunities from existing climate-smart agriculture investment plans). All these activities will target specific outputs Africa-wide, as well as geographically tailored activities in Western (Mali, Ghana and Senegal) and Eastern/Southern Africa (Ethiopia, Kenya and Zambia). The AICCRA activities are well interlinked with other ongoing Bank funded programs such as the food security and climate change in Sub-Saharan Africa (FSRP) Program.

D. 2. Borrower’s Institutional Capacity

The Project will strengthen systemic capacity to promote climate adaptation in agriculture and promote dissemination of the results of CGIAR climate research throughout Africa region. The project will strengthen links between regional economic communities, research organizations, climate/ meteorological agencies and farmer organizations in the targeted countries throughout Africa. These agencies have strong relationships with National Agriculture Research Services (NARS), private inputs suppliers, and civil society organizations. The Project will



promote strong partnership with regional organizations such as the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the West and Central African Council for Agricultural Research for Development (CORAF), Southern African Development Community (SADC) and with the private sector. The borrower for this IDA funding is the International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT), which serves as Lead Center for CCAFS. CIAT will on-grant IDA funds via MoUs (known as Program Performance Agreements – PPAs) to other CGIAR Centers that are partners in CCAFS, including the International Center for Research on the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT), which will serve as the regional implementation entity responsible for many activities in Western Africa, and the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI), which will serve as the regional implementation entity responsible for many activities in Eastern and Southern Africa. CIAT as the IDA grant recipient and Lead Center for CCAFS will be accountable to the Bank for fiduciary and safeguards compliance, with considerable responsibility for fiduciary management and reporting, and safeguards implementation and monitoring delegated to the CGIAR Partner Centers. This will require the Partner Centers to strengthen their existing fiduciary and safeguards systems. In order to strengthen its ESF capacity, CIAT would need to hire two environmental specialists for East and West Africa, co-located with ICRISAT (Bamako, Mali) and ILRI (Nairobi, Kenya), who will be supported by social consultants.

II. SCREENING OF POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL (ES) RISKS AND IMPACTS

A. Environmental and Social Risk Classification (ESRC)

Moderate

Environmental Risk Rating

Moderate

The TA will support agricultural research and innovations that among other aspects will focus on how to increase productivity on existing farm land and improve efficiency in the use of land and agricultural inputs to secure food while contributing to environmental goals. The activities supported by AICCRA are predominantly “soft activities” such as knowledge generation and transfer, capacity building, and technical assistance concerning agricultural innovation and research linked to adaptation to climate change. Overall, the TA outcomes will support policies and institutions and Governments to operate across the agriculture–environment nexus and build capacity on the ground as agricultural scientists and researchers engage with farmers and communities to address problems of achieving short-term production goals for food security while ensuring long-term sustainability. Any negative irreversible impacts on environment of different combinations of technologies and research activities on the agriculture will not be funded under this TA (as such a “negative list of activities will guide CIAT and other AICCRA funds receivers such as scientific communities when approving or implementing research activities and tasks that might adversely affect biodiversity conservation or sustainable management of living resources and cultural heritage will be restricted). Some environmental risks linked to research trial process in existing research stations may be related to waste management, pest management, resource use (including water, soil, energy) and environmental health and safety (EHS) issues yet these will be of Low to Moderate level. Given that CIAT and the participatory centers are not familiar with ESF aspects, the environmental risk of this TA is considered Moderate.

Social Risk Rating

Moderate

The Project will not finance activities that involve land acquisition, restrictions on land use and involuntary resettlement. It will also not finance activities that adversely affect livelihoods or affect land tenure arrangements. The Project will be implemented mainly in established agricultural research stations. The project has few social risks, which will be managed through the Environmental and Social Management System. These include labor

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arrangements, stakeholder engagement and public consultation, grievance redress and sexual exploitation and abuse/sexual harassment.

B. Environment and Social Standards (ESSs) that Apply to the Activities Being Considered

B.1. General Assessment

ESS1 Assessment and Management of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts

Overview of the relevance of the Standard for the Project:

The support to CGIAR under AICCRA will promote innovations in agriculture that would contribute to producing more food (especially during emergencies and food crises times such as health pandemics or locust infestations) without increasing environmental pressures. The funded technical assistance is expected to support innovations at the scale of the agronomic system, the landscape, and the institutional environment. The activities will also promote evidence on the role of biodiversity in supporting progress toward higher crop yields and ensuring greater system resilience. As such, CIAT (through its implementing agencies) will endorse research activities under this TA that will underpin innovations to allow more food and biofuel to be produced in ways that alleviate rural poverty, improve diets and health, and support the environmental assets. The approach to implementation of environmental and social risk management measures is that of putting in place and continually strengthening an Environmental and Social Management System (ESMS) in line with the requirements of the Bank's Environmental and Social Framework (ESF). CIAT, with support from the Bank, will prepare an Environment and Social Risk Management (ESRM) Tool and Sector Guide, which will be included in the Project Operations Manual. The guide will address environmental and social risks and impacts in the project and provide requirements and tools for CIAT and the institutions receiving grant funding from CIAT. This includes: screening tools; appropriate and proportional mitigation measures, based on the ESF, the Bank's Environmental Health and Safety Guidelines (EHSGs) and Good International Industry Practice (GIIP); monitoring and evaluation; and capacity-building.

In addition to preparing the ESRM and Sector Guide, the project will include:

- (i) Ex-ante review of the environmental and social risks and impacts of CCAF's work program;
- (ii) Ex-post review (annual environmental and social monitoring report) of IDA-funded activities, which includes information on sub-projects; and
- (iii) Explicit exclusion of activities on a "negative list" (e.g. no genetically modified organisms (GMOs), economic and physical displacement, adverse impacts on biodiversity and cultural heritage).

CIAT will be accountable for ensuring that agencies receiving grants undertake project and subproject activities according to the requirements of the ESMS. The project's monitoring and evaluation system will track activities and flag environmental and social risks and impacts that need to be managed.

Areas where "Use of Borrower Framework" is being considered:

Not applicable..

ESS10 Stakeholder Engagement and Information Disclosure

The Bank and CGIAR counterparts will continue design an impactful program that benefits Sub-Saharan Africa and promotes climate resilience, while complying with CGIAR and Bank policies and systems, by directly supporting the CGIAR Research Program on Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security (CCAFS) in Africa. CCAFS is an established



multi-partner program involving numerous CGIAR research centers and multiple regional and local partners, dedicated to mobilizing cutting-edge climate science for the benefit of vulnerable populations in Africa and worldwide. The project will prepare a SEP to ensure that stakeholders are regularly consulted about the project, and can provide input during project preparation and implementation. The SEP will take into account social distancing measures during the COVID-19 pandemic. The project will also include a grievance mechanism to address complaints.

B.2. Specific Risks and Impacts

A brief description of the potential environmental and social risks and impacts relevant to the Project.

ESS2 Labor and Working Conditions

The ESS2 standard applies to staff working in the project implementation unit. The ESMS also will include labor measures for employees of agencies receiving grants under the project. Key aspects will include terms and working conditions, equality of opportunity, workers' associations and provisions that do not allow for forced or child labor. The project will include measures to address OHS (e.g. pesticide and fertilizer use, equipment use) and SEA/SH risks. The project will also include a grievance mechanism for labor complaints.

ESS3 Resource Efficiency and Pollution Prevention and Management

The ESS3 standard is relevant. The TA will finance agricultural technologies that will promote more efficient use of resources and will support improvements in achieving water and fertilizer use efficiency especially at the level of small-scale farmers to ensure land conservation and productivity. The TA may fund relevant capacity building and training on proper use of fertilizers for farmers (e.g., use of nitrogenous fertilizer is essential for modern agriculture, yet its misuse has negative impacts on water quality and climate through emissions).

ESS4 Community Health and Safety

The ESS4 standard is relevant. The research supported might introduce or promote accidentally new zoonotic diseases which could become a threat to communities while new plant diseases and invasive animals and plants may also challenge future food production. If research activities will include capacity building and training on fertilizers' use, communities and famers might be exposed indirectly to agriculture products/farm chemicals. Overall, the TA will provide research, education, and prevention activities that support the health and safety of agricultural workers and communities and will promote Environmental Health and Safety Guidelines (EHSGs) and Good International Industry Practice (GIIP). Project sites are expected to require some security measures. The project will ensure that these and other activities are managed so as not to harm staff or local populations. The project will also include measures to address SEA/SH risks.

ESS5 Land Acquisition, Restrictions on Land Use and Involuntary Resettlement

The Project will not finance activities that involve land acquisition, restrictions on land use and involuntary resettlement. Any trials in farmers' fields will exclude activities that negatively affect livelihoods or land tenure arrangements.



ESS6 Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Management of Living Natural Resources

The Project will not finance activities that will adversely affect biodiversity conservation or sustainable management of living resources.

ESS7 Indigenous Peoples/Sub-Saharan African Historically Underserved Traditional Local Communities

The Project will be implemented mainly in established agricultural research stations and will not be implemented in areas in which Indigenous Peoples / Sub-Saharan African Historically Underserved Traditional Local Communities are present, or have collective attachment to a proposed project area.

ESS8 Cultural Heritage

The Project will not finance activities that may impact cultural resources.

ESS9 Financial Intermediaries

The project does not meet the ESS9 standard criteria given the lack of an FI per se.

B.3 Other Relevant Project Risks

Not relevant.

C. Legal Operational Policies that Apply

OP 7.50 Projects on International Waterways

No

OP 7.60 Projects in Disputed Areas

No

III. WORLD BANK ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL DUE DILIGENCE

A. Is a common approach being considered?

No

Financing Partners

other donors active in the agricultural research sector

B. Proposed Measures, Actions and Timing (Borrower’s commitments)

Actions to be completed prior to Bank Board Approval:

CIAT will hire two environmental specialists for East and West Africa, co-located with ICRISAT (Bamako, Mali) and ILRI (Nairobi, Kenya). They will be supported by social consultants. CIAT, with support from the Bank, will prepare an Environment and Social Risk Management (ESRM) and Sector Guide, which will be included in the Project Operations

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Manual. The guide will address environmental and social risks and impacts in the project and provide requirements and tools for CIAT and the institutions receiving grant funding from CIAT. This includes: screening tools; appropriate and proportional mitigation measures, based on the ESF, the Bank’s Environmental Health and Safety Guidelines (EHSs) and Good International Industry Practice (GIIP); monitoring and evaluation; and capacity-building.

Possible issues to be addressed in the Borrower Environmental and Social Commitment Plan (ESCP):

Stakeholder engagement process (as part of OM);
activities negative list;

Relevant E&S aspects - possibly also part of the MoUs (known as Program Performance Agreements – PPAs) to other CGIAR Centers that are partners in CCAFS - that will cover: (i) ex-ante review of the environmental and social risks and impacts of each institution’s work program; (ii) Ex-post review (annual environmental and social monitoring report), which includes information on sub-projects; and (iii) explicit exclusion of activities on a "negative list" (e.g. economic and physical displacement, adverse impacts on biodiversity ad cultural heritage);
E&S monitoring and reporting aspects

C. Timing

Tentative target date for preparing the Appraisal Stage ESRS

29-Jun-2020

IV. CONTACT POINTS

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Borrower/Client/Recipient

Borrower: International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT)

Implementing Agency(ies)

Implementing Agency: International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT)

Implementing Agency: International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI)

V. FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

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VI. APPROVAL

Task Team Leader(s):	Michael Morris, Irina I. Klytchnikova
Practice Manager (ENR/Social)	Maria Sarraf Recommended on 07-Jun-2020 at 21:15:47 EDT
Safeguards Advisor ESSA	Nathalie S. Munzberg (SAESSA) Cleared on 07-Sep-2020 at 12:54:58 EDT