



Project Information Document/ Integrated Safeguards Data Sheet (PID/ISDS)

Concept Stage | Date Prepared/Updated: 30-Mar-2018 | Report No: PIDISDSC23393

**BASIC INFORMATION****A. Basic Project Data**

Country Western Africa	Project ID P164810	Parent Project ID (if any)	Project Name West Africa Agricultural Transformation Project (P164810)
Region AFRICA	Estimated Appraisal Date May 07, 2018	Estimated Board Date Jun 29, 2018	Practice Area (Lead) Agriculture
Financing Instrument Investment Project Financing	Borrower(s) Ministry of Economy Planning and Regional Development (Cameroun), Ministère de l'Économie et des Finances (Cote d'Ivoire), Ministère de l'Économie, des Finances et du Développement (Burkina Faso), Ministry of Finance (Liberia), Ministry of Finance and Economic Development (Sierra Leone), Ministry of Finance (Ghana)	Implementing Agency CORAF/WECARD, Ministère de l'Agriculture et du Développement Rural (Cote d'Ivoire), Ministère de l'Agriculture et du Développement Rural (Cameroun), Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food Security (Sierra Leone), Ministère de l'Agriculture et des Aménagements Hydrauliques (Burkina Faso), Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Ghana)	

Proposed Development Objective(s)

The PDO is to accelerate adoption of agricultural innovations by producers and processors, and facilitate stakeholders their access to regional agricultural markets for targeted technologies and products.

Financing (in USD Million)**SUMMARY**

Total Project Cost	400.00
Total Financing	400.00
Financing Gap	0.00

DETAILS



Total World Bank Group Financing	376.00
World Bank Lending	376.00

Environmental Assessment Category

B-Partial Assessment

Concept Review Decision

Track II-The review did authorize the preparation to continue

Other Decision (as needed)

B. Introduction and Context

Regional and Country Context

- The Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) is home to about 350 million inhabitants**, about 55 percent of whom live in rural areas. Most derive their food and livelihood from agriculture, which contributes about 29 percent of gross domestic product (GDP) and 28 percent of exports by value. Over the last decade, West African countries have experienced strong economic growth (from 2010-2014 annual GDP growth was at 5.46 percent). This positive economic performance has been driven mainly by growing domestic demand, robust foreign investment, favorable commodity prices, and somewhat improved economic governance (Africa progress, 2015). However, in 2015, GDP growth decreased severely, mainly due to the oil price crisis, which affected particularly the region’s biggest economy, Nigeria, where year-over-year growth fell from 6.30 percent in 2014 to 2.65 percent in 2015. In addition, the 2014 Ebola outbreak that hit Sierra Leone, Liberia, and Guinea exacted a heavy toll on the economic performance of these three countries.
- ECOWAS is experiencing a rapid population growth which will result in food shortage if not accompanied by output and productivity growth.** Population has grown roughly twice as fast in SSA and in West Africa as it has globally. At the same time demand for food in West Africa has grown at a rate of 4.3 percent per year, which is faster than in SSA and globally.. On the other hand, in SSA and in West Africa around 60 percent of output growth is coming from expansion of cultivated area and another 20 percent from increased application of inputs per acre. This indicates both the persistence of barriers to realizing productivity gains, as well as the magnitude of potential gains still to be realized from technical change. Changes in temperature and precipitation are also critical to crop and livestock production.
- Job creation for youth is another major concerns of African policymakers as more than 100 million youth will enter the labor force over the next decade.** Sub-Saharan Africa has the world’s fastest growing population and the world’s youngest population with over 60 percent under the age of 25. It is also the only region with a growing rural population with a predicted increase of 150 million (30 percent) by 2050. Under the most optimistic projections, wage jobs will absorb only 25 percent of youth labor.



4. **From a regional perspective, market integration and trade are key drivers of regional food security, as they contribute both to food self-sufficiency in the Sahel region and import substitution in coastal countries.** According to OECD (2016), markets provide two thirds of food supply in West Africa. Between 1980 and 2007, the marketed surplus of a crop such as maize increased eightfold, from 0.6 million to 4.8 million metric tons in the region. Currently, the sub-region is however still characterized by poor market structures and linkages. Weak value chain development results in large price differences between production areas and sales areas, penalizing both the final consumers and producers. Stimulating investment throughout the value chains, reducing input costs, promoting access to credit, and supporting market facilitation, will all be needed for the upgrading of the major value chains.
5. **While at global level the first Millennium Development Goal (MDG) target of halving poverty was met (36.4 percent in 1990 to 14.5 percent in 2011), this was not the case in West Africa.** Hence, the ECOWAS region needs an economic growth that is more transformational, sustained, inclusive and pro-poor to lift above the poverty threshold the 148 million poor, most of whom reside in rural areas with agriculture as their main source of livelihood. Moreover, there is strong evidence that GDP growth generated in agriculture is at least twice more effective in reducing poverty than growth generated by other sectors (World Bank 2008).
6. **Renewed commitments for Agriculture sector development.** Africa's agricultural development acquired new momentum when, in January 2014, the African Union adopted the 'Malabo Declaration on Accelerated Agricultural Growth and Transformation' in which African heads of states and governments recommitted to the principles and value of the Comprehensive Africa Agricultural Development Program (CAADP), including to uphold the 10 percent target for public spending on agriculture, to double agricultural productivity, and to sustain annual growth in agricultural gross domestic product of at least 6 percent. In September 2015, the United Nations (UN) adopted 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), including the second SDG, "to end hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture". The African Development Bank (ADB) launched "Feed Africa: Strategy for Agricultural Transformation in Africa, 2016-2025," which aims at ending hunger and rural poverty in Africa within the next decade. The World Bank has committed itself to the twin goals of eliminating extreme poverty by 2030, and boosting shared prosperity (measured as the income of the bottom 40 percent in any given country).
7. **The agenda for agricultural transformation between now and 2030 is complex and requires a regional approach.** Agriculture must address a multi-functional purpose including contributing to growth, poverty reduction, climate resilience, job creation, and improved nutrition. In addition, a multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder approach will be required to achieve those objectives. The challenges facing agriculture in West Africa and the potential solutions transcend national boundaries and can be addressed most effectively by using a regional integration approach.

Sectoral and Institutional Context

8. **West African agriculture is making important progress, yet several challenges remain to be addressed,** such as weak institutions (research, education, extension etc.); low adoption rate of innovations and improved technologies, increasing youth population and unemployment; low private investments in the agricultural sector, weak connection of production to domestic and



regional markets; inadequate policies and weak implementation of regional regulations; and vulnerability to internal/external shocks. The sub-region remains reliant on food imports and still structurally food insecure, particularly in the North of coastal countries and the Sahel region. Climate change, population growth and degradation of natural resources are posing additional challenges to rural livelihoods in natural resources dependent rural economies.

9. **West Africa is still lagging other parts of Africa when it comes to agricultural research and extension capacity and investment.** In recent years, West African countries have become increasingly focused on investing in agriculture to accelerate economic growth. Despite the increased political support compared with other African regions, West Africa invests a substantially smaller share of its Agriculture GDP in agricultural research and extension, is more dependent on volatile donor funding, and employs both a much older pool of scientists and extension staff (many of whom are approaching retirement age) and a much smaller share of female agricultural scientists. Moreover, West Africa is severely challenged in terms of research infrastructure, equipment and facilities which limit the conduct of productive research, which compromises the quantity and quality of research outputs and ultimately translates into reduced impact. Extension system is dominated by public extension services, poorly equipped, with outdated methods and tools to speed technology transfer and adoption.
10. **The large and growing youth population poses a big challenge for economic development but it also represents a potentially asset for improving productivity and economic growth in all sectors including agriculture (Ulimwengu, Collins, Yeboah and Traub, 2016).** The agricultural sector has a strategic role to play in addressing the youth jobs agenda, because if the productivity, profitability, competitiveness of agricultural value chains can be enhanced, the agricultural sector could provide gainful employment for large numbers of youth.
11. **The West Africa Agricultural Productivity Program (WAAPP), a successful regional integration program, contributed to the recent agricultural performance observed over the region¹.** WAAPP has been successful in addressing some key agricultural constraints and has become the flagship Bank and ECOWAS regional integration program. The program started in 2008 and will close in 2019. As of June 2017, the program had reached around 8.0 million direct beneficiaries, 43 percent of whom are women, and more than 70 million indirect beneficiaries in 13 countries. Around 200 improved technologies have been released as regional public goods, and adopted by about 4.2 million producers/processors, while about 4.7 million hectares are covered by these new technologies. Other major achievements of the program include : (i) contribution to the replacement of retiring scientists in the national agriculture research system (more than 1,000 young scientists have received WAAPP scholarships for higher academic/scientific training (MSc and PhD) several of whom have re-integrated into the national or regional research system); (ii) creation of a new framework and new tools to enhance regional integration in the agriculture sector including (a) transformation of national centers of specialization (NCoS) into Regional Centers of Excellence (RCoE), (b) development of an agricultural innovation and technology exchange market and a regional chart to facilitate scientist and stakeholder exchange visits, (c) the introduction of new and disruptive tools such as digital technologies in agriculture (e-extension, e-voucher) and Innovation Platforms (IP), (e) the strengthening of the national seed systems and the support to

¹ 13 out of the 15 ECOWAS countries benefitted from WAAPP series: Senegal, Ghana and Mali, (WAAPP-1A approved in 2007 and WAAPP-2A approved in 2012 and 2013), Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire and Nigeria (WAAPP-1B approved in 2010), and Benin, Ivory Coast, Guinea, Liberia, Niger, Sierra Leone, The Gambia and Togo (WAAPP-1C approved in 2011).



set-up and operationalize the regional seed council and the establishment of a regional seed market, and (f) the adoption of ECOWAS common regulations on seeds, fertilizers and pesticides to create an enabling environment for regional cooperation on technology generation and adoption.

12. **Much more is needed, however, if West Africa is to reach the ambitious future agricultural transformation targets set by CAADP and the United Nations.** The recent increase in political support to agricultural research must be translated into a clear set of policy directives by governments if the many challenges facing agricultural research systems are to be addressed. Still critical challenges include: (i) consolidate and expand WAAPP achievements in strengthening the West Africa research system through the establishment of Regional Centers of Excellence in order to generate more innovations as common goods and create a conducive environment which will accelerate transfer of knowledge and technologies from the CGIAR and other advanced research systems; (ii) strengthen and modernize the public and private extension services to accelerate wide adoption of improved technologies and innovation by end users; (iii) improve profitability and competitiveness of primary production and create the enabling environment to attract private investment into services in the agricultural sector, processing and marketing, thereby creating higher earnings on farms and new jobs in the agri-food systems; and (iv) strengthen the Governments' capacity to respond promptly and effectively to eligible emergencies.
13. **The proposed West Africa Agriculture Transformation Project (WAATP) would therefore try to contribute to bridging the gaps identified above** by scaling up the achievements under WAAPP, while going beyond WAAPP's objective of increasing productivity to address, using a more holistic approach, the broader issue of accelerating regional food availability in quantity and quality to feed a growing and urbanized population.

Relationship to CPF

14. The WAATP fits within the Malabo Declaration on African Agriculture and CAADP, FARA's Science Agenda for Agriculture in Africa and the Regional Agricultural Policy/Strategy of West and Central Africa's Regional Economic Communities (ECOWAS, UEMOA and ECCAS). It also fits within West Africa Governments' new generation of National Agriculture Investment Plans (NAIPs) for food and nutrition security developed under the CAADP process. WAATP is aligned with Pillar 3 of the World Bank Regional Integration Assistance Strategy for Sub-Saharan Africa (RIASS-updated in 2011), as well as the Bank's Country Assistance Strategies (CAS) and Country Partnership Framework for participating countries. It would be one of the major programs to support the IDA 18 Business Plan for West Africa (2017). The program is also aligned with the Bank's Agriculture Global Practice increased focus on climate change, nutrition, promoting value-addition and jobs. It will be a key tool to speed up the achievement of the Bank's twin goals of eliminating extreme poverty by 2030 and boosting shared prosperity, measured as the income of the bottom 40 percent.

C. Proposed Development Objective(s)

15. The PDO is to accelerate the adoption of innovations by agricultural producers and processors and to facilitate regional market access for targeted technologies and products.

Key Results (From PCN)

16. The proposed PDO-level performance indicators (disaggregated by country) are: Direct project beneficiaries (number); Producers/processors adopting an innovation supported by the project (number); Producers/processors adopting an innovation generated by other countries (number);



Area under improved agricultural technology supported by the Project (hectares); Volumes exported by the members of the multi-stakeholder platforms supported by the Project in the Burkina/Ghana/Cote d'Ivoire market corridors (tons).

17. The primarily targeted project beneficiaries are small scale agricultural producers and processors and their organizations including women and youth groups. Additional beneficiaries would include public and private research institutions and advisory services, government line ministries and regional organizations (CORAF, ECOWAS and ECCA).

D. Concept Description

18. The West Africa Agricultural Transformation Program (WAATP) will be one of the major projects that support the IDA 18 Business Plan for West Africa. Given the high demand from ECOWAS to cover all 15 countries in the sub region, the proposed program would be prepared and executed as a series of projects. The proposed project would therefore be the first in the series of WAATP projects. The project would include Burkina Faso, Cameroun, Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Liberia, and Sierra Leone. The preparation of the subsequent series of projects will follow in FY19/20 and the countries' participation would be based on the availability of national IDA and country's commitment.
19. Depending on their level of participation in the series of WAAPP, the targeted countries in the proposed project can be grouped into three main categories, namely: new country (Cameroun) and countries that have completed the first phase of WAAPP (Burkina Faso, Cote d'Ivoire, Liberia and Sierra Leone) and country that have completed implementation of the second phase of WAAPP (Ghana). The proposed project's activities would take that into account and thus will be based on both the regional priorities and the participating countries' specific priorities. The mechanisms which will be used to identify project activities include: (i) consultation with stakeholders both at country level and regional level (regional wrap up meetings); (ii) consultation with Government officials during preparation missions; and (iii) review of analytical work done at country level (National Investment Plans, Bank CPFs) and any other relevant documents.

Project Component

20. The project will have the following five components:
21. **Component 1- Strengthening the new model for innovation development in West Africa.** The component aims to continue to enhance regional linkages between and among national research entities, strengthen the NCoS supported under WAAPP, and upgrade them to become ECOWAS Regional Centers of Excellence (RCoE) focusing on priority lines of research to be addressed regionally. The RCoE will play a key role in ensuring a solid link with the CGIAR research system, the private sector and the networking of national agricultural research and extension systems to deliver, in a sustainable manner, improved technologies and innovation - which will be screened to ensure that they are climate smart and gender sensitive - for scaling up.
22. **Component 2- Accelerating mass adoption of improved technologies and innovations.** The component aims at scaling up adoption of improved agricultural technologies and innovations improving promoting innovation for youth that will accelerate productivity increases and thus contribute to higher food availability in the sub-region and enhanced regional trade flows. It will include the following two sub-components: (i) **Sub-component 2.1. Demand-driven market-based mass adoption of technologies and innovations.** The sub-component aims to address the key drivers of productivity increase and accelerate mass adoption of innovations. The sub-component will



further consolidate activities already initiated under WAAPP including among others scaling up/introduction of digital agriculture (E-extension, E-vouchers, electronic technology markets), scaling up the use of innovation platforms (IPs) to speed-up adoption; strengthening of the seed system including seed quality inspection and upgrading seed laboratories in order to scale up production of certified seeds; soil fertility management (development of soil maps, promotion of soil testing, monitoring of soil fertility and introduction of targeted fertilizer blending); promotion of mechanization services including innovative schemes such as “Hello Tractor”; and piloting and scaling up of innovative rural finance models (including leasing for mechanization, inventory credit schemes (warrantage), risk sharing facilities) in collaboration with IFC, T&C and commercial banks; and (ii) **Sub-component 2.2: Innovation for youth**. The sub-component would aim at making available to the youth who are already in the rural areas or are showing a great interest in the agricultural sector, the innovations and improved technologies generated under WAAPP. The project would specifically target youth and young adults, in the age range of 18 to 35-years old, and work with them to improve their skills in agricultural production, services to agriculture, and value addition.

23. **Component 3- Policies, markets and institutional strengthening.** Building on WAAPP’s initial achievements, the component would support the integration of regional markets for agricultural inputs and outputs with primary focus on removing barriers to intra-regional cross-border trade in technologies, inputs and products, and strengthening the relevant regional institutions responsible for providing leadership and coordination for the integration of regional markets and the implementation of project activities. The component is consisted of the following two sub-components, namely: (i) **Sub-component 3.1: Improving the regional integration of agricultural input and output markets** which is aimed at supporting the implementation of sound regional regulation and policies to strengthen the enabling environment for technologies generation and dissemination; and expand the regional output and input markets for products for which the regional demand is growing rapidly and there are substantial opportunities for increasing regional trade flows. Regional value chains targeted comprises maize, vegetables (onions and tomatoes), cassava and plantain in the central corridor (Burkina, Cote d’Ivoire and Ghana); and (ii) **Sub-component 3.2: Strengthening the Capacity of Regional and National Institutions** responsible for leading and coordinating the definition of regional policies, strategies and programs for agricultural development and the national institutions directly involved in project implementation.
24. **Component 4. Contingent emergency response.** This component, known as the Contingent Emergency Response Component (CERC), will be available should the need arise to redirect some of the project resources to contribute with other projects in the participating countries portfolio to respond to an eligible emergency or crisis. The available resources would be made available to finance emergency response activities and to address crisis and emergency needs
25. **Component 5. Project management, learning, monitoring and evaluation.** This component would aim at ensuring that the project is efficiently managed and performance and impact are carefully tracked. It would among others support: (i) project management, M&E and impact analysis; (ii) annual foresight conferences to monitor trends in the sector and emerging needs; (iii) training of national counterparts to contribute to the analytical work; (iv) measurement of productivity; and (v) regular monitoring by the Agricultural Science and Technology Indicators group (ASTI) of CGIAR and national counterparts of expenditure on R&D.



SAFEGUARDS

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

For now the program is expected to involve six countries namely Burkina Faso, Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Nigeria, Liberia and Sierra Leone.

B. Borrower’s Institutional Capacity for Safeguard Policies

Burkina Faso. The Green Economy and Climate Change Ministry (GECM) oversees environment and climate change and the “Bureau National des Evaluations Environnementales” (BUNEE) is in charge of environmental studies validation, monitoring and supervision. The BUNEE has acceptable technical capacities to supervise the implementation the ESMP.

Cote d’Ivoire. The Ministry of Sanitation, Environment, and Sustainable Development (MINSEDD) is responsible for environmental issues. Its National Agency of Environment (ANDE, Agence Nationale de l’Environnement) in charge of ensuring projects compliance with safeguards is well staffed but its capacities are moderate.

Ghana. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is responsible for environmental regulation. The Ministry (MOFA) has the experience implementing several Worldbank Funded projects.

Sierra Leone. The institutional capacity for safeguards within the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food security (MAFFS) is moderate. However, the Ministry has an ongoing Worldbank funded project and has good capacity within the PMU for safeguards implementation.

Liberia. The capacity of the Liberia EPA has been built through other Worldbank funded projects such as the Urban and Rural Infrastructure Rehabilitation Project (URIRP) and the ongoing Small Holder Tree Crop Project (STCP). The project will also leverage on the capacity built in Integrated Pest Management (IPM) under the ongoing STCP.

Cameroon. The Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MINADER) and Ministry of Livestock, Fisheries and Animal Industries (MINEPIA) will be in charge of project's implementation. These two ministries already implementing projects funded by the World Bank and have proven experience safeguard

For effective implementation of the safeguards requirements for WAATP all countries will recruit a social and environmental safeguards officer who will work closely with the EPA, and any other government institution for social issues, to implement the ESMF, RPF and PMP.

C. Environmental and Social Safeguards Specialists on the Team

Cheikh A. T. Sagna, Social Safeguards Specialist
Abdoulaye Gadiere, Environmental Safeguards Specialist

D. Policies that might apply

Safeguard Policies	Triggered?	Explanation (Optional)
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Environmental Assessment OP/BP 4.01	Yes	Component 1 will support the construction/rehabilitation of infrastructures, would support a new model of mechanization strategy for West Africa including the promotion of zero tillage. Under component 2, the program will strength private and public extension services and their networking at regional level. Those investments may induce potential adverse impacts on environmental. While the exact locations of these investments are not yet known, the proper safeguard instrument to be prepared in compliance with this policy is an Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) for each country. After their preparation, each ESMF will be reviewed, consulted upon and disclosed both in the concerned country and at the World bank website prior to the Decision Meeting.
Natural Habitats OP/BP 4.04	TBD	Will be determined later based on the findings on the field
Forests OP/BP 4.36	TBD	Field visits will help in determining whether the policy is triggered or not
Pest Management OP 4.09	Yes	The component 2 will aim at reducing post-harvest losses. in addition to that, the development of fertilizer blending will also be supported by the ongoing operation. Furthermore, the program will accompany private investments in agriculture and agribusiness(see component 3). Based on these previous elements, the probability of the use of pesticides is high. Consequently, the program will develop in each country a Pest Management Plan(PMP). After, its preparation the said instrument will be reviewed, consulted upon and disclosed throughout each country and at the World bank’s web site prior to decision
Physical Cultural Resources OP/BP 4.11	Yes	This policy is triggered because of the nature of civil works to be financed as they will unquestionably induce excavation with the possibility to discover cultural properties. To prevent any destruction due to excavation during civil works and to make sure all precautions have been taken to safeguard physical cultural resources, a chance find procedure will be included in the ESMF and subsequently detailed in ESIA.
Indigenous Peoples OP/BP 4.10	Yes	This policy is triggered for Cameroun. Actions planned under this project will in general not generate adverse impacts on Indigenous Peoples. However, measures must be taken to anticipate potential risks related to



deforestation and soil degradation that could be caused by preparation of plantation fields with slash-and-burn practices. Moreover, it will be necessary to set actions that could be implemented in order to ensure that IPs fully take advantage of this initiative. An Indigenous Peoples Planning Framework will be prepared to set the general guidelines of actions to be performed and how IPs consultations will be conducted. An Indigenous Peoples Plan will then be developed to define concrete actions, implementation methodology, timeline and budget.

Involuntary Resettlement OP/BP 4.12	Yes	In principle, there will be no land take during project's implementation. However, some specific cases of land acquisition could occur during project implementation (e.g.: in Cameroon, release of IRAD's land occupied by local residents). A Resettlement Planning Framework will be prepared to set general guidelines for the management of such potential land take, access restrictions and assets destruction risks. More detailed instruments (Abbreviated Resettlement Action Plans or Resettlement Action Plans) will be developed based on field realities.
Safety of Dams OP/BP 4.37	No	The program will not finance dam works or activities associated to existing dams.
Projects on International Waterways OP/BP 7.50	No	The program will not finance activities that will interfere with international watercourses; either in terms of water withdraw or discharge of pollutants.
Projects in Disputed Areas OP/BP 7.60	No	The program intervention areas are not under dispute.

E. Safeguard Preparation Plan

Tentative target date for preparing the Appraisal Stage PID/ISDS

Apr 26, 2018

Time frame for launching and completing the safeguard-related studies that may be needed. The specific studies and their timing should be specified in the Appraisal Stage PID/ISDS

The following safeguard instruments are expected to be prepared during the preparation phase for each country being part of the program: i) an Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF), ii) a Pest Management Plan (PMP) and iii) a Resettlement Management Framework(RPF). Moreover, for Cameroun an IPF will also be prepared. All these safeguard documents will be reviewed consulted upon and disclosed by each Government and, by the World Bank through its Website prior to the Decision meeting.



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