

# STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN (SEP)

# FOR THE









REGIONAL RICE RESILIENT VALUE CHAIN DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (REWARD), GAMBIA

PREPARED BY



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## LIST OF ACRONYMS AND SYMBOLS

Abbreviations	Acronyms

ALARP as low as reasonably practical

ALCs Area Liaison Committees

AfDB African Development Bank

AoI Area of Influence

BID Background Information Document
CALC Community Area Liaison Committee

CBO Community-based organizations

CCs Community Councils

CLC Combined Liaison Committee
CLO Community Liaison Officer
CCR-N Central River Region North

CCR-S Central River Region South

CRC Community Relation Committee

CPCU Central Project Coordinating Unit

EIA Environmental Impact Assessment

ESIA Environmental and Social Impact Assessment

Environmental Management Plan

ESF Environmental and Social Framework

FGD Focus Group Discussions

**EMP** 

GRC Grievance Redress Mechanism

GoTG Government of the Gambia

GIIP Good International Industry Practice

IFAD International Fund for Agriculture Development

IFIs International Financial Institutions
IFC International Finance Corporation

I&APs Interested and/or Affected Parties

ISS Integrated Safeguard System

KII key informant interviews

NEA National Environment Agency

NGO Non-Governmental Organizations

OS Operational Safeguards

SEP Stakeholder Engagement Plan STDs Sexually Transmitted Diseases



PIU Project Implementing Unit

PID Project Information Document

PAC Project-Affected Community

PAP Project Affected Persons

PPP Public Participation Process

PS Performance Standards

REWARD Regional Rice Resilient Value Chain Development

RCVTP Rice Value Chain Transformation Project

RVC Rice Value Chain

TAC Technical Advisory Committee

URR Upper River Region

UNCBD UN Convention on Biological Diversity

UNCCD UN Convention to Combat Desertification



**Glossary of Terms** 

Glossary of Terms	
Area of influence	The area within which the impacts of the proposed
	development or project are likely to be expressed
Background Information	BID is a non-technical summary of the proposed Project,
Document	ESIA process, methods and timeframes intended to provide
	information that will inform the stakeholder engagement
	activities.
Consultation	Consultation refers to two-way communication between the
	consultants, the Project proponent and the affected
	communities.
<b>Community Relations</b>	Committees already established by REWARD among key
Committees	stakeholder group representatives. The committees are
	intended to formalize a system for stakeholders to solve
	problems and/or issues related to the project collectively and
	to receive regular feedback from REWARD on the project
	and will serve as a forum for the project stakeholders to
	express and channel their concerns which affect them directly
	regarding important issues related to the project
Local community	Community within the Project's Area of Influence
200m community	Community within the Project Strated of Influence
Interested and/or Affected	This term is usually used within the context of Environmental
Parties (I&APs)	and Social Impact Assessments (ESIAs). In this context, it
Turies (Text 11 5)	refers to all individuals, communities or groups whose
	interests may be positively or negatively affected by a
	proposal or activity and/or who are concerned with a proposal
	or activity and its consequences. I&APs may include local
	communities, investors, business associations, trade unions,
	customers, consumers, and environmental interest groups. An
	I&AP can therefore be deemed as any public member who
	has an interest in the project, who is directly affected by the
	project or who desires to be kept informed about the project regularly.
Project Area	The area within which most of the Project impacts are likely
Froject Area	to be expressed (also see Area of Influence)
Dublic Darticination	*
Public Participation	This term is mostly used during the ESIA process to allow all
	potential I&APs an opportunity to comment on the EIA. It
	can be seen as the process where I&APs are allowed to
	comment on or raise issues relevant to a project. It should be
	seen as a continuous, two-way communication process to
	promote public understanding of the project and to keep the
	public fully informed about it. In this way, it allows the public
	to voice their opinions and/or perceptions of the project and propose relevant management strategies
Stalzahaldawa	<u> </u>
Stakeholders	The International Finance Corporation's (IFC) Handbook on Stakeholder Engagement (2007) defines stakeholders as:
	Stakeholder Engagement (2007) defines stakeholders as:
	"[] persons or groups who are directly or indirectly affected
	by a project, as well as those who may have an interest in a
	project and/or the ability to influence its outcomes, either
	positively or negatively" (IFC, 2007: p 10). However, in this
	plan, the term is more broadly applied to refer to
	organisations or groups of people collectively who have an



Stakeholder Engagement Process	interest in the project and who have a direct influence on it.  Stakeholders might include, but are not limited to:  National and local government departments and officials;  Conservation organisations/bodies;  Project-Affected Communities;  Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) or Community-Based Organisations (CBOs);  raditional authorities;  Farmers;  Groups who are subject to systematic vulnerability.  The stakeholder engagement process is equivalent to the statutory required 'public participation process' referred to in Lesotho's EIA Guidelines (2009) but is used in this report as it infers a wider range of stakeholders; notably the authorities/international governments who are not considered to be 'public'. Stakeholder engagement is aligned with international good practice terminology and indicates ongoing, proactive management of stakeholders and their concerns throughout the project's operational life. PPP refers only to the process undertaken for the ESIA.
Stakeholder Engagement	The Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) is an execution plan
Plan	for ESIA stakeholder engagement activities. The SEP details the method and approach of stakeholder consultation, timeframes, communication mechanisms and tools, as well as monitoring, recording and tracking of stakeholder issues during the ESIA process.
Project-Affected	This refers to a community/ies affected by the project either
Community (PAC)	from primary (direct) or secondary socio-economic effect (i.e. further spin-off effects), but also from a livelihood perspective. Apart from the obvious beneficiaries of the project in terms of future healthcare provision and employment, these communities are not necessarily near the project site and might even be several kilometres away. In defining the PACs, the following questions should be asked:  • What project-related socio-economic impacts are anticipated?  • Which communities surrounding the proposed area would be directly or indirectly affected by these impacts (i.e. the beneficiaries especially)?  • Which other communities/businesses would be the beneficiaries of the project?
Vulnerability	Someone who may be more adversely affected than another
	person by the project. A vulnerable person is typically someone who needs more assistance from a project developer
	should his or her life be impacted negatively by the project.
	From a theoretical perspective, a useful way to conceptualize
	vulnerability is through the Sustainable Livelihoods
	Framework. The latter framework typically considers the
	skills, assets (material and social) and approaches available to, and used by, individuals and groups to survive (UPDP, 2017). The term sustainability implies that such individuals or



groups can confront and overcome moments of stress and/or crises in their lives, whilst being able to maintain or even improve their current and future skills and assets (ibid.). Using this framework, a person or group's vulnerability can be measured by considering shocks, trends or seasonality based on five livelihood assets or capitals (referred to as the Sustainable Livelihoods Framework Pentagon). These five capitals are human, natural, financial, social, and physical capital.



#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

In accordance with the requirements of the African Development Bank (AfDB), the "Stakeholders Engagement Plan (SEP)" for the Regional Rice Resilient Value Chain Development Program (REWARD) in the Central River Region (CRR) and the Upper River Region (URR) has been prepared. This SEP analyzes project stakeholders to ensure their inclusion in the project. The report is based on primary data from stakeholder consultation surveys and secondary data from similar projects in The Gambia. The preparation of this document was inspired by the SEP for the REWARD Project, which is coordinated by the Ministry of Agriculture and funded by the AfDB, utilizing comparable environmental and social safeguard instruments.

The SEP will serve as an operational tool to define protocols for effectively engaging project stakeholders, including central and local government entities, local and affected communities, and other interested parties. It aims to disseminate project activities, outputs, and results, coordinate and hold consultations, and develop clear communication channels for all relevant stakeholders. The SEP also outlines the Grievance Redress Mechanism to enhance communication and engagement.

The SEP aims to: (a) raise awareness and inform stakeholders and target audiences about the project's objectives, investments, and activities, and (b) maximize the project's impact by making its results and deliverables accessible to stakeholders and the wider audience. Implementing the SEP is crucial for the project's success and the sustainability of its investments in the long term.

#### **Identification of Stakeholders:**

The SEP was developed considering the diversity of relevant stakeholders, categorized into two groups based on their interests and impact:

- i. Primary stakeholders: Directly affected, either positively or negatively, by the project, decisions, or actions.
- ii. Secondary stakeholders: Indirectly affected by the project, decisions, or actions, such as those who do not live in the project area but rely on the rice supply chain, including traders, retailers, and consumers in other regions, as well as organizations involved in rice distribution and marketing.

These stakeholders include government ministries and agencies, local communities, vulnerable or disadvantaged groups, NGOs, private sector entities, academic institutions, development partners, and the general public. A non-exhaustive list of identified stakeholders was prepared, with roles defined, and will be continuously updated throughout the project implementation.



# **Engagement Methods:**

For the REWARD Project, various methods and techniques have been and will be used to engage stakeholders. Communication and dissemination of information, as well as the collection of stakeholder feedback, will be conducted through correspondences (phone, emails, text messages), one-on-one meetings, group or focus meetings, public meetings, print media, radio announcements, internet media, workshops, surveys, the project website, and direct communication with rice farmers. Stakeholder engagement will occur throughout the project lifespan, with information exchanged including project components, activities, opportunities, challenges, progress, impacts, and mitigation measures.

Table 1: Stakeholder's Levels of Consultation and Process

Stakeholder	Communication	Timing	Information to Convey
Group	Techniques		and/or Collect
Government Ministries and Agencies	One-on-one meetings, official correspondences (emails, letters), workshops	Quarterly	Project objectives, progress updates, policy implications, regulatory requirements
Local Communities	Public meetings, community forums, radio announcements	Bi-monthly	Project activities, potential impacts, feedback on project interventions, grievance mechanisms
Vulnerable or Disadvantaged Groups	Focus group discussions, face-to-face meetings, surveys	Monthly	Specific concerns, potential benefits, mitigation measures, tailored support needs
NGOs and Development Partners	Workshops, official correspondences, joint meetings	Quarterly	Collaboration opportunities, project updates, environmental and social impacts, feedback collection
Private Sector Entities	Sector-specific meetings, emails, direct consultations	Bi-monthly	Business opportunities, potential impacts on operations, partnership possibilities, feedback collection
Academic Institutions	Workshops, seminars, official correspondences	Semi- annually	Research opportunities, project innovations, educational collaborations, feedback on project impacts
General Public (Students, Families)	Public meetings, social media updates, project website	Monthly	General project information, educational content, progress updates, opportunities for community involvement

## **Institutional Arrangement**

Several government agencies will be involved in implementing the SEP activities. The Ministry of Agriculture (MOA) will be the overall coordinating Ministry of the project while the Central Project Coordinating Unit (CPCU)/Project Implementing Unit (PIU) will be the Project



Implementing entity.

# **Grievance Redress Mechanism:**

A grievance redress mechanism has been developed to resolve grievances raised by stakeholders transparently and impartially, while being culturally acceptable.



### 1.0 INTRODUCTION

# 1.1 Background

The AfDB Operating Safeguard 1 (OS1-Assessment and Management of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts) and OS 10 (Stakeholder Engagement) states that the borrower or client shall be responsible for carrying out and providing evidence of meaningful consultation (i.e. consultation that is free, prior and informed) with communities likely to be affected by environmental and social impacts, and with other local stakeholders. The key focus of meaningful consultation is inclusivity; namely, the approach taken needs to ensure that all groups (including those that are disadvantaged or vulnerable) are embraced within the consultation process on equal terms and that all groups are given the capacity to express their views with the knowledge that these views will be properly considered.

The Bank requires that stakeholder engagement starts at an early stage during project preparation and that it should continue throughout. The results of such engagement should be adequately reflected in project design, as well as in the preparation of project documentation. In all cases, consultation should be carried out after, or in conjunction with, the release of environmental and social information.

Similarly, the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA), 1994, is the principal legislation for managing the natural environment in Gambia. Relevant parts for the stakeholder engagement include Part II - Administration, which requires the Agency to promote public awareness of environmental issues (Section 10 (h)) and integrate public views into environmental policies through wide consultation (Section 19.1 (f)). Part IV - Environmental Planning mandates the Agency to consider public views in national planning by conducting open public consultations (Section 20 (4)). Additionally, Part V - Environmental Impact Assessment, Audits, and Monitoring specifies that the Agency must invite public comments on the environmental impact statement, consider these comments, and potentially hold public hearings (Section 24).

The Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, derived from NEMA, emphasize public participation in the EIA process for development projects. Part II - Environmental Impact Assessment Procedure requires developers to seek the views of affected communities and other interested parties, hold meetings to explain the project, and document these consultations (Section

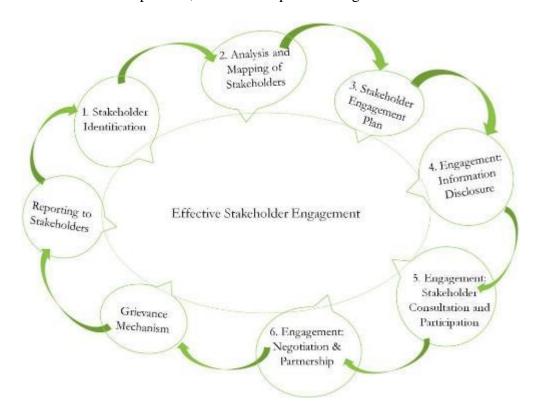


16 (1) and 16 (2)). Part IV - Review of the Environmental Impact Statement mandates that developers must invite public comments on the draft environmental impact statement through media with national coverage (Section 20 (1) and 20 (2)). This inclusive approach ensures that community concerns and feedback are integrated into environmental planning and decision-making, promoting transparency and accountability.

Therefore, in practice, the stakeholder engagement process involves employing measures to identify relevant stakeholders, share information with them, listen to their views, involve them in the processes of project planning and decision-making, contribute to their capacity-building and ultimately empower them to initiate, manage and control their self-development.

The SEP also guides development in terms of providing project owners with impact-driven recommendations as to how such concerns, issues, and/or impacts should be addressed and to which audiences. In essence, therefore, a SEP is a dynamic document that outlines engagement methods between a project owner and all its stakeholders.

A SEP involves several components, which are depicted in Figure 1



**Figure 1: SEP Components** 



A key consideration for a SEP is to comprehend and hence predict the nature, frequency, and level of effort with which various stakeholder engagement activities need to be used. Such engagement needs to be scaled to the identified socio-economic and environmental risks and associated impacts. Above all, a SEP, as a social performance enhancer, ensures that good relationships are created and maintained between a project owner and all its stakeholders.

The SEP describes the mechanisms by which people – especially local communities – and other stakeholders are informed about the Project and given opportunities to provide comments and input to the Project development.

# 1.2 Brief Project Description

The Regional Rice Resilient Value Chain Development (REWARD) Program is a regional rice development program designed in response to the African Development Bank's (AfDB) commitment to financing the implementation of countries' food and Agriculture Compacts as presented at the Feed Africa II themed "Feed Africa: Food Sovereignty and Resilience", that was held in Dakar in January 2023. The program is targeted at 15 West African countries, to progressively cover a total area of 750,000 hectares of irrigated land.

The Gambian Ministry of Agriculture proposes to implement the Regional Rice Resilient Value Chain Development Project (REWARD) in Gambia funded by the African Development Bank (AfDB), and the Government of the Gambia (GoTG). The Project will be implemented by the Central Project Coordinating Unit (CPCU) through the Project Implementing Unit (PIU) within the context of food sufficiency/sovereignty/security, the country's fertilizer policy and seed policy. The REWARD Program is a standalone program that is to build on the existing structures and improve the gains from Phase I of the Rice Value Chain Transformation Project (RVCTP). REWARD will focus on delivering key interventions such as developing as well as expansion of new areas, rehabilitation of existing irrigation schemes, land preparation, mechanization along the value chain, improved post-harvest management and a streamlined seed system which will set the pace for a sustainable rice production system in the Gambia.

The Gambia REWARD Program is very crucial in ensuring food sufficiency, economic empowerment of farmers and the overall national economy. The project will be executed in



communities situated in the rice fields and valleys of the Upper River Region (URR), Central River Region North (CRR-N) and Central River Region South (CRR-S).

Generally, the Gambian REWARD implementation will consist of four (4) components, which are described below:

# Component 1: Development of Sustainable Climate-Resilient Rice Production Systems to Ensure Adequate Production of Quality Rice Paddy to Supply Millers

This component aims at the development of sustainable climate-resilient rice production systems to ensure adequate production of quality rice paddy to supply millers comprising rehabilitation/new land development; social infrastructure facilities including rural roads; tackle fragility and enforcing environmental and social safeguards; improving access to climate-resilient quality inputs and services; and capacity building.

This component consists of three (3) subcomponents including:

**Sub-component 1.1**: Sustainable climate-resilient irrigation schemes and irrigation management services

**Sub-component 1.2**: Improving the availability of, and access to, climate-resilient quality inputs, mechanization services, and knowledge for climate-smart Agriculture

Sub-component 1.3: Institutional Capacity Strengthening/Capacity Building

# Component 2: Processing & Marketing: Development of rice processing clusters, agribusiness and market links for trade facilitation

The component will contribute to value addition and marketing through support to processing and marketing development of rice processing clusters, agribusiness and market links for trade facilitation.

This component consists of three (3) subcomponents including:

**Sub-component 2.1:** Developing/modernizing processing infrastructure and strengthening capacities of smallholders and commercial players along the value chain.

**Sub-component 2.2:** Developing information systems, innovative technologies (incl. digital) and consumer-oriented branding to improve access to markets.



**Sub-component 2.3:** Promoting private sector investment by supporting businesses, especially run by women/youth, and improving the availability of finance across the value chain to facilitate lending to processors, farmers, and other businesses.

Component 3: Policy & Governance: Support to policy/regulatory reforms and harmonization at the regional/national level to ensure a competitive rice value chain for imports

This component will focus on policy and governance and will support policy/regulatory reforms and harmonization at the regional/national level to ensure a competitive rice value chain for imports.

This component consists of three (3) subcomponents including:

Sub-component 3.1: Support to policy reforms and harmonization at regional/national scaleSub-component 3.2: Enhancement of control and regulations for agricultural inputs at regional/national levels

**Sub-component 3.3:** Regional and National management and monitoring systems based on digital technologies in line with ECOWAS Rice Observatory (ERO)

# **Component 4: Program Coordination and Management**

The objective of this component is to ensure swift and efficient implementation of project activities and attainment of objectives. The component will support regional and national coordination, monitoring and evaluation and facilitate results management and reporting on the implementation of the project. Specific activities will comprise reporting (including fiduciary), operations (including procurement and day-to-day management), communication and visibility enhancement (TV and other mass media) and knowledge management; as well as monitoring and evaluation (Mid-term Review and Project Completion Report). It will also cater for vehicles, motorcycles and office equipment.

Specifically, the Gambia REWARD project is aimed at addressing the following critical areas:

- 1. Enhancing access to develop land and water management, seed and mechanization services,
- 2. Boost commercial production of rice through a private-public sector-driven intervention.



3. Promote value addition, and marketing, of local rice competitiveness.

# 1.3 Project Sites and Locations

The project sites cover two (2) administrative regions comprising three agricultural regions namely: The Central River Region North (CRR-N), Central River Region South (CRR-S) and the Upper River Region (URR).

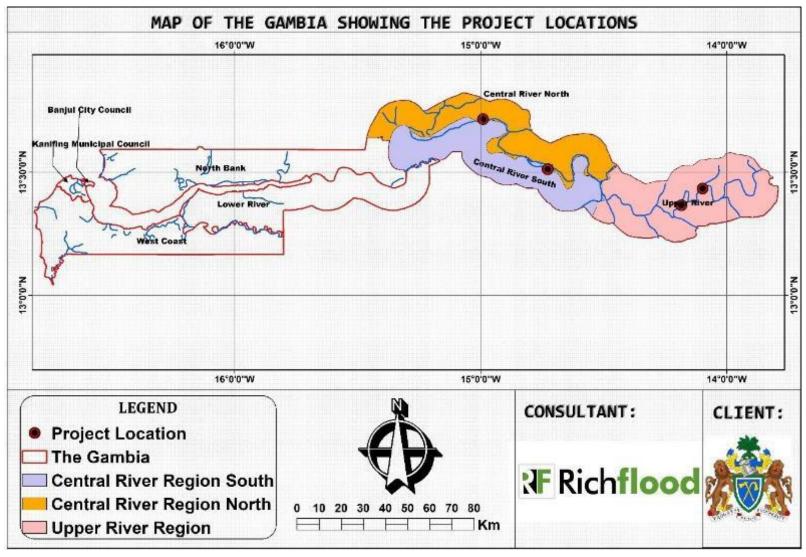
There are a total of five (5) intervention sites identified and selected for the REWARD Project. While there are two (2) sites selected at the Central River Region North (CRR-N), one (1) site at the Central River Region South (CRR-S), two (2) sites were selected at the Upper River Region (URR). The choice and selection of the project sites have primarily been based on the production potential (availability of fresh water throughout the year) as well as the high potential in pump irrigable lands that will enhance agricultural production in the country thus prioritizing investment in areas with high market potential as well as areas with low risk of crop failure and high market potential.

The intervention sites are:

- 1. Central River Region North (CRR-N): Sanguley and Safalu
- 2. Central River Region South (CRR-S): Keserr Kunda
- 3. Upper River Region (URR): Dumpha Kunda and Limbambulu Bambo.

The Map showing the project locations is shown in Figures 2a and 2b below:





**Figure 1.1:** Map of the Gambia Showing the Project Intervention Sites *Source: Richflood GIS Unit, 2024* 



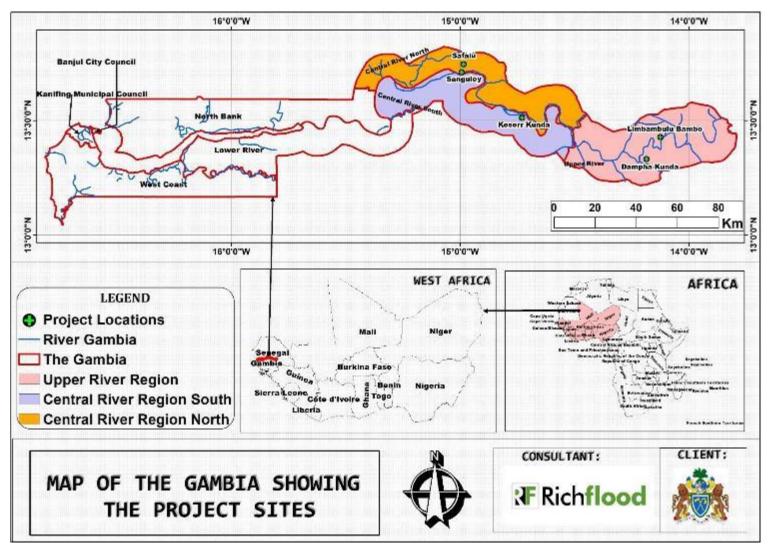


Figure 1.2: Map of the Gambia Showing the five project locations

Source: Richflood GIS Unit, 2024



# 1.4 Purpose of the Stakeholder Engagement Plan

The overall purpose of this SEP is to ensure that a consistent, comprehensive and coordinated approach is taken to stakeholder engagement and Project disclosure throughout the project. It is further intended to demonstrate the commitment of the REWARD CPCU and PIU to an international best practice approach to engagement. The REWARD CPCU and PIU are committed to full compliance with all relevant Gambian regulations, as well as aligning with international standards namely the African Development Bank (AfDB) Principles on Stakeholder Engagement (2015).

In line with current international best practices, this SEP aims to ensure that stakeholder engagement is conducted based on timely, relevant, and accessible information. In this way, the SEP seeks to ensure that stakeholders are given sufficient opportunity to voice their opinions and concerns and that these concerns influence project decisions.

Specifically, SEP serves the following purposes:

- Stakeholder identification and analysis;
- Planning how the engagement with stakeholders will take place;
- Information disclosure;
- Consultation with stakeholders;
- Addressing and responding to grievances;
- Monitoring and reporting on SEP.

# 1.5 Objectives of the Stakeholder Engagement Plan

The objective of the stakeholders' engagement is to facilitate project participatory decision-making by involving project-affected parties (PAPs) and project-interested parties, in a timely manner so that these groups are provided enough opportunity to voice their opinions and concerns to shape both the design and implementation of the project.

The overall objectives of engaging stakeholders throughout the project include:

- Identify the roles and responsibilities of all stakeholders and ensure their participation in all stages of the project cycle;
- Establish a systematic approach to stakeholder and citizen engagements that will help to identify stakeholders and build and maintain a constructive relationship with them, in particular, project-affected parties;



- Assess the level of stakeholder interest and support for the project and to enable stakeholders' views to be considered in project design and environmental and social performance;
- Promote and provide means for effective and inclusive engagement with project-affected parties throughout the project cycle on issues that could potentially affect them;
- Ensure that appropriate project information on environmental and social risks and impacts is disclosed to stakeholders in a timely, understandable, accessible and appropriate manner and format taking special consideration for the disadvantaged or vulnerable groups;
- Provide project-affected parties with accessible and inclusive means to raise issues and grievances and allow the Project Implementing Entity and its Project Implementation Unit to respond to and manage such grievances.

# 1.6 Scope of the Stakeholder Engagement Plan

The scope of this SEP is to cover stakeholder engagement activities over the life cycle of the project in all the five (5) intervention sites covering all the four (4) components and subcomponents of the projects. This SEP will be updated and adjusted accordingly. Figure 1.3 below shows the general activity of stakeholder engagement and consultation during lifecycle of the components in all the project's components.

The priority E&S issues/risks that require stakeholder engagement across project lifespan include:

- Water Resource Management
- Biodiversity Conservation
- Land Degradation
- Climate Change Adaptation
- Labor Practices and Working Conditions
- Gender Equality and Social Inclusion
- Cultural Heritage
- Occupational Health and Safety
- Food Safety



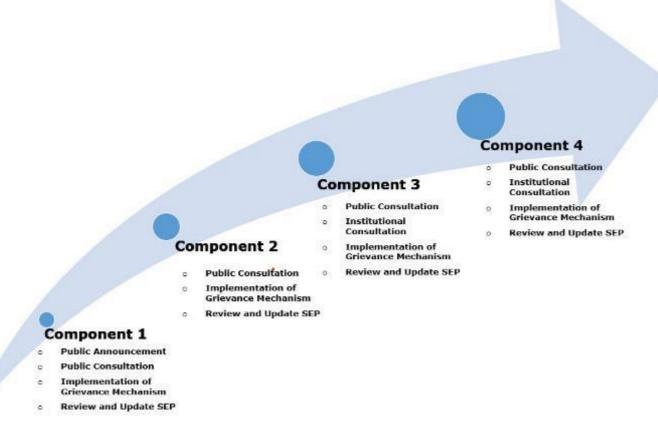


Figure 1.3: Stakeholder Engagement during Lifecycle project



# 2.0 NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS AND LEGISLATIONS

# 2.1 Key National Legal Provisions for Environmental and Social Safeguards and Citizen Engagement

This section presents a brief overview of the national legal provisions that necessitate citizenship engagement, disclosure of public information and adequate response to queries, concerns and grievances raised by the public on key government actions. The relevant national policies that will guide the project engagements are given in Table 2.1.

**Table 2.1: Relevant National Policies** 

Policy	Description	Relevance to the Project	Focal Institution
National Social	The policy is to contribute	The policy seeks to create a	Department of
Protection Policy,	<b>Protection Policy,</b> towards alleviating poverty		Social Welfare
NSPP (2015-2025)	and vulnerability, and protect	social protection system that	
	people from exploitation and	provides support to those in	
	discrimination in the country,	need while promoting	
	in line with the Government	resilience and poverty	
	of The Gambia's Vision and	alleviation in The Gambia	
	National Development Plan.	and social services available	
		to The Gambia's poorest and	
		most vulnerable people.	
The Gambia	Oversees the NEA and	The proposed Regional Rice	National
Environmental Action	implementation of	Resilient Value Chain	Environmental
Plan (GEAP 2019-	environmental laws and	Development Program will	Agency (NEA)
2029)	policies of The Gambia	trigger the GEAP which will	
		in turn guide the general	
		environmental planning and	
		natural resources	
		management	



Policy	Description	Relevance to the Project	<b>Focal Institution</b>
The National	Protects public and	Relevant to the Project since	Department
Health Service	environmental health	dust, noise and other risks	of Health
Policy, (2021-2023)	including nuisance and other	can be associated with the	Services
	risks associated withthis	Projects activities such as	
	Project	field development using	
		tractors,	
		rehabilitation and	
		construction of irrigation	
		systems and other	
		infrastructure	
National Policy for	Policy provides a legitimate	Relevant to this Project	Department
the Advancement of	point of reference for	since it will benefit both men	of Social
Gambian Women	addressing gender	and women equitably.	Welfare
and Girls (1999-2009)	inequalities at all levels of		
	government and all		
	stakeholders		
Gambia National	To mainstream gender in	Women will be consulted	Ministry of
Gender & Women	national and sectoral planning	widely, and will be	Gender and
<b>Empowerment Policy</b>	and programming to ensure	involved in the local	Women's
(2010–2020)	equity and equality	monitoring and evaluation	Affairs
Labour Act (2007)	Provides a legal framework	The project in hiring and	Department of
		managing its labour force or	Labour
		human resources should adhere	
	hiring of labour, and	to this.	
	protection of wages		
The Children's Act	O	Children must be protected	Department of
2005	responsibilities of children		Social Welfare
	and provides for their care,		
	protection, and maintenance.	of access to construction sites,	
		child labour, and violence	
		against children (VAC).	



Policy	Description	Relevance to the Project	<b>Focal Institution</b>	
Sexual Offences Acts	Updates the law and	There is a need to protect	Department of	
2013	procedures regarding the trial	dures regarding the trial vulnerable persons within the		
	of rape, other sexual offenses,	Project site and project-related		
		activities against sexual offenses		
		as defined in the Act		
The Women's Act	The Act aims to advance	Relevant to this Project	Department of	
2010	women's rights to land and	because of the potential	Social Welfare	
	natural resources to promote	impact of skills development		
	their economic and social	and related matters, which is a		
	empowerment	source of livelihood for		
		women; they need to avoid		
		gender-based violence (GVB)		
		and sexual exploitation and		
		abuse (SEA).		
Public Health Act,	Protects public and	Noise and other public	Department of	
1990	environmental health	health and safety risks	Health Services	
	including abatement of	associated with the project		
	nuisances and conditions	must be prevented or		
	injurious to health	reduced. Health structures		
		are also controlled under		
		this Act		
Food Safety and	This act regulates food safety	This Act regulates handling,	Department of	
Quality Act (2011)	and quality standards in The	processing, and distribution	Health	
	Gambia It establishes	to ensure safety standards	Services	
	mechanisms for ensuring that	bolstering consumer		
	food products meet specified	confidence and market		
	safety and quality criteria to	competitiveness through		
	protect public health.	quality control measures.		

# 2.2 African Development Bank's Environmental and Social Standards

Regional Rice Resilient Value Chain Development Program (REWARD) expects that the Project will be financed with the participation of international financial institutions (IFIs), the African Development Bank (AfDB), and the Government of the Gambia (GoTG). Such IFIs



will likely require the Project to comply with applicable international environmental and social sustainability standards.

The AfDB has articulated a comprehensive approach to integrate environmental and social considerations into the implementation of development projects. Ensuring environmental and social sustainability is pivotal for achieving successful development outcomes, and the AfDB is committed to systematically mainstreaming these considerations into its Program and Project Management Cycles.

This commitment is formalized through the Integrated Safeguard System (ISS), which encompasses various policies and strategies designed to guide the Bank and its clients in addressing environmental and social aspects throughout the project cycle. The ISS is supported by key documents, including Environmental and Social Assessment Procedures with accompanying guidelines. These guidelines provide clear directives for both the Bank and its borrowers or clients, outlining the specific procedures to uphold operational safeguards (OS) and meet the conditions required.

Furthermore, the ISS incorporates Sectoral Directives, offering technical guidance on methodological approaches, standards, and management measures essential for complying with operational safeguards.

The ISS consolidates the five specific safeguard criteria that Bank clients must adhere to when managing environmental and social impacts and risks. These criteria align with five Operational Safeguards (SOs), concise policy statements that delineate the operational conditions for Bank-financed operations. Table 2.2 below presents an overview of the relevant Operational Safeguards and their significance to the project.

Table 2.2: Applicable AfDB Operational Safeguards (OS)

AfBD Operational	Description	Relevance to the Project		
Safeguards				
OS 1: Environmental	Sets out the Bank's overarching	The project aligns with OS1 by		
Assessment	requirements to identify, assess, and	necessitating thorough		
	manage potential environmental and social	environmental and social impact		
	risks and impacts of a project. Requirements	assessments, incorporating		
	include climate change vulnerability	climate change vulnerability		
	assessment; public consultation; appraisal	assessments, and ensuring public		
	and treatment of vulnerable groups; and	consultation.		



AfBD Operational	Description	Relevance to the Project
Safeguards		
	grievance procedures. OS1 requires that the siting, design, construction, and operation of projects should avoid significant damage to cultural heritage (both physical and intangible). These include culturally sensitive sites such as mosques, cemeteries, historical relics, and artifacts.	
OS 3:	The policy prescribes requirements to	The project aligns with OS3 by
Biodiversity and	identify and implement opportunities to	incorporating measures to identify
Ecosystem Service	conserve and sustainably use biodiversity	and implement opportunities for
	and natural habitats.	biodiversity conservation and
		sustainable use of ecosystems,
		recognizing the importance of
		preserving natural habitats.
Climate Safeguards	The CSS provides a set of decision-making	The project aligns with the CSS by
System (CSS)	tools and guides to enable the Bank to	utilizing decision-making tools to
	screen projects for risks associated with	assess and address climate change
	climate change.	risks, ensuring its resilience to
		climate-related challenges.
OS 4: Pollution	This safeguard covers the range of impacts	The project aligns with OS4 by
prevention and	of pollution, waste, and hazardous materials	adhering to international
control, hazardous	for which there are agreed international	conventions and industry-specific
materials and	conventions and comprehensive industry-	standards for pollution prevention,
resource efficiency	specific standards, particularly the	waste management, and resource
	Environment Health and Safety (EHS)	efficiency, particularly following
	Guidelines <sup>1</sup>	the EHS Guidelines.
OS 5:	The policy outlines the need for contractors	The project aligns with OS5 by
Labour conditions,	and other actors to: protect workers' rights;	prioritizing the protection of
health and safety	establish, maintain, and improve the	workers' rights, ensuring a healthy
	employee-employer relationship; protect	and safe working environment,
	the workforce from inequality, social	and preventing issues such as child

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> It is important to note that when national legislation and regulations differ from the standards and measures presented in the EHS Guidelines, whichever is more stringent would prevail.



AfBD Operational	Description	Relevance to the Project		
Safeguards				
	exclusion, child labour, and forced labour;	labour and forced labour. It		
	establish requirements to provide safe and	emphasizes maintaining positive		
	healthy working conditions.	employee-employer relationships		
		and protecting the workforce from		
		social inequalities.		

# 2.3 Applicable Policies of the AfDB

The Project design and recommended mitigation will endeavour to uphold international best practices and maintain or reduce impacts to ALARP (as low as reasonably practical) levels. The following international requirements and standards have been considered;

- The African Development Bank's Integrated Safeguards Systems (ISS);
- AfDB Civil Society Engagement Framework (2012)
- The African Development Bank's Integrated Safeguards Policy (ISP);
- The African Development Bank's Agriculture and Rural Development Policy (ARDP);
- The African Development Bank's Integrated Water Resources Management Policy (IWRMP);
- The African Development Bank's Integrated Environmental and Social Impact Assessment Guidelines;



#### 3.0 STAKEHOLDER IDENTIFICATION

#### 3.1 Stakeholders Identification

Project stakeholders are people who have a role in the Project, or could be affected by the Project, or who are interested in the Project. Project stakeholders can further be categorized as primary and secondary stakeholders. Primary stakeholders are individuals, groups or local communities that may be affected by the Project, positively or negatively, and directly or indirectly especially those who are directly affected, including those who are disadvantaged or vulnerable. Secondary stakeholders, on the other hand, are broader stakeholders who may be able to influence the outcome of the Project because of their knowledge about the affected communities or political influence over them.

During the recent stakeholder engagement, a list of stakeholders was developed by taking into account the following considerations:

- Potential Project's impacts during its life cycle, with a focus on the operational phase,
- Type of stakeholder engagement mandated by laws and Project standards,
- Potentially people/organizations (directly and indirectly) affected by potential impacts in the Project's area of influence; and
- Vulnerable groups<sup>2</sup> required special engagement efforts.

### The identified stakeholders include the following:

- REWARD Project Implementation Unit (PIU)
- Central Project Coordinating Unit (CPCU) Members
- The Gambian Ministry of Agriculture
- The Gambian National Environment Agency (NEA)
- Members of Sanguley Community, Traditional ruler, Men group, Women group, Youth group, Religious leaders

- Poor or near-poor households certified by the Government;
- Female-headed households;
- Households with orphans or abandoned children;
- Households with an elderly person above the age of 60 living alone;
- Households with an elderly person from 80 years old without social welfare or insurance;
- Households with a physically disabled member;
- Households with a mentally disabled member incapable of work;
- Households with a member with HIV/AIDS and unable to work;
- Households with a single parent from a poor household who are raising children under the age of 16, or children aged 16-18 and attending school; and
- Households with an illiterate breadwinner.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Vulnerable households are defined as meeting at least one of the following criteria:



- Members of Safalu Community, Traditional ruler, Men group, Women group, Youth group, Religious leaders
- Members of Keserr Kunda Community, Traditional ruler, Men group, Women group,
   Youth group, Religious leaders
- Members of Dampha Kunda Community, Traditional ruler, Men group, Women group, Youth group, Religious leaders
- Members of Limbambulu Bambo Community, Traditional ruler, Men group, Women group, Youth group, Religious leaders
- The Governor of Central River Region (CRR) and the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)
- Regional Agricultural Team (CRR and URR)
- National Agency for Women Farmers Association (NAWFA)
- National Farmers platform
- Plant Protection Services (PPS)
- Department of Forestry (DoF)
- Rice Farmers' Cooperative Society (Keserr Kunda)
- Maruo's Farm
- Department of Parks and Wildlife Management (DPWM)
- Department of Water Resources (DWR)
- African Development Bank (AfDB)
- Soil and Water Management Services (SWMS) of the Department of Agriculture
- Agricultural Engineering Services (AES)
- The Gambian Department of Labour
- The Gambian Ministry of Employment and Trade
- The Gambian Ministry of Gender and Children Affairs
- The Gambian Traditional leaders, Representatives of local groups including youth and women group
- Vulnerable Groups

# 3.2 Stakeholder Analysis

This is the process of identifying the individuals or groups that are likely to affect or be affected by a proposed project, and understanding them according to their impact on the project and the impact the project will have on them. This information is then used to assess the manner in



which the interests of the stakeholders should be addressed in the project plan, policy, program, or other action.

A preliminary stakeholder analysis is undertaken to clarify stakeholders' interest in the Project and their ability to influence the Project's development. Accordingly, a priority contact list is identified. A high rating for the priority contact list indicates the importance of continuous and regular consultation and engagement. On the other hand, a medium rating for the priority contact list does not reduce the importance of the entity as a stakeholder but indicates that their engagement is required at specific stages or milestones of the Project (i.e. when the involvement of these entities is triggered for a specific purpose such as obtaining a specific service).

Furthermore, the stakeholders are categorized into High Influence, Medium Influence/and Low Influence. The stakeholders who are categorized as a high influence are those who have a high influence on the project or are likely to be heavily impacted by the project activities and are thus high up on the project proponent's priority list for engagement and consultation. Similarly, the stakeholders categorized as medium influence are those who have a moderate influence on the project or even though they are to be impacted by the project, it is unlikely to be substantial and is thus neither high nor low in the project proponent's list for engagement. On the other hand, the stakeholders with low influence are those who have minimal influence on the decision making.

# 3.3 Stakeholder Categorisation

After stakeholders had been identified and grouped, the stakeholders were categorised based on their concerns about the Project development activities. These include:

- ➤ Environmental this includes alteration of current environmental conditions such as emissions and local air quality, elevated noise/ disturbance levels, damage, and depletion to ecological systems, generations and disposal of waste and reduction in the aesthetic value of the environment, changes in resources availability, etc.;
- ➤ Social this includes economic displacement due to land acquisition, livelihoods, agricultural activities, impacts on water, community health and safety, employment of temporary/local/foreign workforce, labour safety, right of way, visual impacts, utility requirements, infrastructure requirements, materials supply, etc.; and
- > Technical this includes feasibility, traffic safety, emergency preparedness, knowledge sharing, project management issues, etc.



# 3.4 Stakeholder Mapping

# Stakeholders Mapping/Ranking of Stakeholder's Interests and Influence

To define stakeholder relationships, vulnerability, and interest in and influence on Project activities, stakeholders were assessed and mapped. Mapping was done according to influence, interest, and the degree of potential impact based on the stakeholder mapping matrix as demonstrated in *Figure 4*.

Since the interest and influence of the stakeholder and the list of stakeholders may be changed throughout Project development, the stakeholder analysis should be updated to reflect the change.

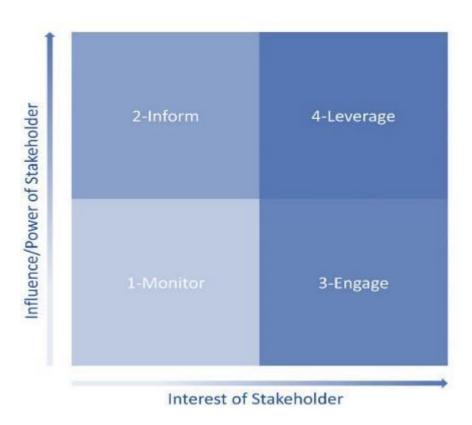


Figure 4: Stakeholder Mapping Matrix

A stakeholder mapping matrix is a tool that assists in identifying where stakeholders stand depending on their influence and interest. The influence and interest of stakeholders can be classified as low or high.

A definition of each group based on the stakeholder mapping can be summarised as follows:

1. **Monitor** – low influence and low interest: Typically, this group includes those who have limited interest and influence on the Project including the media and non-governmental organizations (NGOs).



- 2. **Inform** high influence and low interest: From an impact assessment perspective, these are stakeholders that have the potential to influence Project outcomes but may not have a specific interest in impact assessment-related issues. Stakeholders in this group should be kept informed on the progress of the Project Development and usually include statutory consultees.
- 3. **Engage** low influence and high interest: This group is also important and includes those groups or organizations that are not adversely affected, but whose interests determine them as stakeholders. As such, this group should be kept engaged and the Project should maintain an open channel of communication with this group throughout Project phases. Typically, this group would include local communities not directly affected by the Project and authorities who have limited influence on the Project.
- 4. **Leverage** high influence and high interest: This group of stakeholders is often the most important to the Project as they can influence Project outcomes and also have a high level of interest in aspects of impact assessment. Stakeholders in this group should be engaged throughout the Project life cycle. This group of stakeholders would typically include statutory approval bodies and affected communities.

The stakeholder prioritization matrix is summarised in Table 3.1



**Table 3.1: Stakeholder Prioritization Matrix** 

Catagorias	Stakeholders Concerns Influence Interest Level of				T arral of		
Categories	Stakeholders	Concerns		iniluence	interest	Level of Influence	
		Environment	Social	Technical			and Interest
Local communities	Local communities in the Project's proximity (Dampha Kunda, Sanguley, Safalu, Limnambulu Bambo and Keserr Kunda) who may receive any impact from the Project's operational activities	<b>✓</b>	<b>✓</b>	✓	High	High	4- Leverage
Government	National Authorities						
and local	National Environment Agency (NEA)	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	High	Low	
government bodies	Department of Parks and Wildlife Management (DPWM)	✓	✓	✓	High	Low	
	Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs for Fiscal Management	✓	✓	✓	High	Low	
	Ministry of Justice for Policy and Governance Reforms	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	High	Low	2-Inform
	Ministry of Local Government and Lands	<b>√</b>	<b>V</b>	<b>√</b>	High	Low	
	Ministry of Information and Communication	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	High	Low	
	Department of Forestry (DoF)	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	High	Low	
	Plant Protection Services (PPS)	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	High	Low	
	Department of Water Resources (DWR)	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	High	Low	
	African Development Bank (AfDB)	<b>√</b>	$\checkmark$	<b>√</b>	High	High	
	Soil and Water Management Services (SWMS) of the Department of Agriculture	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	High	High	4-
	Agricultural Engineering Services (AES)	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	High	High	Leverage
	The Gambian Ministry of Agriculture	<b>√</b>	$\checkmark$	<b>√</b>	High	High	
	Central Project Coordinating Unit (CPCU) Members	✓	<b>✓</b>	✓	High	High	
	Gambia Department of Labour	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	Low	High	3-Engage
	Ministry of Employment and Trade	<b>√</b>	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	Low	High	
	Ministry of Gender and Children Affairs	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	Low	High	
	National Agency for Women Farmers Association (NAWFA)	✓	✓	✓	Low	High	
	National Farmers platform	$\checkmark$	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	Low	High	
	Regional Authorities  The Governor and Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) of Central River Region	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	High	High	
	(CRR)  The Governor and Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) of Upper River Region (URR)	✓	<b>✓</b>	<b>✓</b>	High	High	



Categories	Stakeholders	C	oncer	ns	Influence	Interest	Level of
		Environment	Social	Technical			Influence and Interest
	The Regional Agricultural Director of the Central River Region North (CRR-N)	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	High	High	
	The Regional Agricultural Director of the Central River Region South (CRR-S)	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>✓</b>	High	High	4- Leverage
	The Regional Agricultural Director of the Upper River Region (URR)	✓	✓	✓	High	High	
	Community Authorities	I	I	I	TT: 1		
	Members of Sanguley Community, Traditional ruler, Men group, Women group, Youth group, Religious leaders	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>✓</b>	High	High	4- Leverage
	Members of Safalu Community, Traditional ruler, Men group, Women group, Youth group, Religious leaders	✓	✓	✓	High	High	
	Members of Keserr Kunda Community, Traditional ruler, Men group, Women group, Youth group, Religious leaders	✓	✓	✓	High	High	
	Members of Dampha Kunda Community, Traditional ruler, Men group, Women group, Youth group, Religious leaders	✓	<b>√</b>	✓	High	High	
	Members of Limbambulu Bambo Community, Traditional ruler, Men group, Women group, Youth group, Religious leaders	✓	✓	✓	High	High	
	Vulnerable Groups	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	High	High	
	Community-based organizations (i.e. the Gambian Traditional leaders, Representatives of local groups including youth and women group	✓	✓		Low	High	3-Engage
Economically	Farmers	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	High	High	4-
Interested	Maruo's Farm	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	High	High	Leverage
Parties and Business	Individual shareholder	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	<b>√</b>	High	High	
Partners	African Development Bank (AfDB)	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	$\checkmark$	High	High	
	Rice Farmers' Cooperative Society	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	High	High	
	Government of the Gambia (GoTG)	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	$\checkmark$	High	High	
Academic groups	Academic groups that will participate in project reviews in the project development (e.g. Universities)	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	Low	Low	1-Monitor
Non- governmental	NGOs that might be interested in the project development and its potential impacts	✓	✓	✓	Low	Low	
organizations	National media	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	$\checkmark$	Low	Low	
(NGOs) & Media	State media	✓	<b>√</b>	✓	Low	Low	

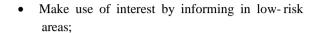


## 4.0 ENGAGEMENT METHODS AND STRATEGY

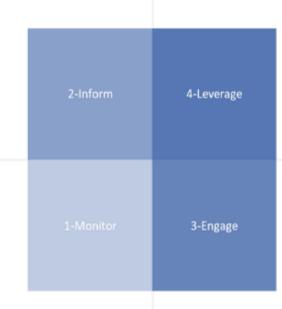
## 4.1 Stakeholder Engagement Strategy

Based on the results of the above mapping, the Project analyzed the stakeholder groups to determine the most appropriate method of engagement for each key group (see Figure 5 below). This analysis considered the groups' concerns, their level of interest in the Project and their potential to be impacted (including positive/negative and direct/indirect).





- Keep informed and consulted in interest area; and
- The Project will be responsive to direct requests for further information



- Inform and consult in interest areas through formal communications such as meetings or letters, writing documents;
- Involve in governance and decision-making; and
- Keep ongoing engagement and collaborative working in areas of mutual interest

- Inform via public communications (for example through the Project website and press communications);
- The Project will be responsive to direct requests for further information and engagement if the stakeholders ask to be consulted; and
- Monitor for their feedback

- Keep engaged and consulted regularly;
- Seek to obtain their support and technical guidance;
- The Project aims to be proactive in its communications, providing information and seeking views at regular intervals; and.
- Fluid on-going two-way information flow.

Figure 5: Stakeholder Engagement Strategies



## 4.2 Communication Methods or Channels

A variety of communication methods have been used during the engagement process. They were determined based on the level and objective of engagement, as well as the target group.

The techniques used during SEP preparation and which will be used and expanded to other methods during the entire project cycle are presented in Table 4.1.

**Table 4.1: Communication Methods for the Stakeholders** 

<b>Engagement Method</b>	Appropriate Application of the Method
Correspondences	■ Distribute information to Government officials in ministries and
(Phone, Emails, letters,	agencies, Local Governments, NGOs, and private sector/professional,
text messages)	organizations,
	<ul> <li>Invite stakeholders to meetings and follow-up</li> </ul>
One-on-one meetings	<ul><li>Seeking views and opinions;</li></ul>
	<ul> <li>Enable stakeholders to speak freely about sensitive issues;</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Build personal relationships;</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Record meetings</li> </ul>
Formal meetings	<ul> <li>Present the Project information to a group of stakeholders;</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Allow groups to comment – opinions and views;</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Build impersonal relations with high-level stakeholders;</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Disseminate technical information;</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Record discussions</li> </ul>
Public meetings	<ul> <li>Present Project information to a large group of stakeholders, especially</li> </ul>
	communities;
	<ul> <li>Allow the group to provide their views and opinions;</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Build relationships with the communities, especially those impacted and</li> </ul>
	vulnerable/disadvantaged;
	<ul> <li>Distribute non-technical information;</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Facilitate meetings with presentations, PowerPoint, posters etc.;</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Record discussions, comments, questions.</li> </ul>
Focus group meetings	<ul> <li>Present project information to a group of stakeholders;</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Allow stakeholders to provide their views on targeted baseline</li> </ul>
	information;
	<ul> <li>Build relationships with communities;</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Record responses</li> </ul>



<b>Engagement Method</b>	Appropriate Application of the Method
Print media and	<ul> <li>Before the subprojects construction is initiated, an announcement on the</li> </ul>
Radio announcements	radio and national newspaper will be published in the local language.
	<ul> <li>Disseminate project information to large audiences, and illiterate</li> </ul>
	stakeholders;
	<ul> <li>Inform stakeholders about consultation meetings;</li> </ul>
Internet media	■ Facebook page, WhatsApp groups, Twitter, Skype among others
Workshops	<ul> <li>Present project information to a group of stakeholders;</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Allow the group of stakeholders to provide their views and opinions;</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Use participatory exercises to facilitate group discussions, brainstorm</li> </ul>
	issues, analyze information, and develop recommendations and
	strategies;
	<ul> <li>Recording of responses</li> </ul>
Surveys	<ul> <li>Gather opinions and views from individual stakeholders</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Gather baseline data</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Record data</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Develop a baseline database for monitoring impacts</li> </ul>
Website	<ul> <li>Present project information and progress updates;</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Disclose findings of SEP, and other relevant project documentation</li> </ul>
Direct	■ Seek PAPs participation during the social economic survey and
Communication with	valuation exercise;
owners of affected	■ Share findings of the valuation report, seek PAPs approval and
properties, land,	signature;
crops/asset	<ul> <li>Communicate cut-of-date</li> </ul>



#### 5.0 ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

### 5.1 Stakeholder Engagement Activities

Stakeholder engagement activities commenced from 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2024 to 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2024, with the first field survey (see Table 5.1). Meetings were undertaken with stakeholders in Dampha Kunda, Limbambulu Bambo, Keserr Kunda, Sanguley, and Safalu, communities. Also, a virtual stakeholder engagement meeting was held on 21<sup>st</sup> March 2024 via zoom. The Project's consultants, with support from the Project Sponsor, conducted consultations with regulatory bodies from federal, state, and local government levels through formal meetings; with local authorities through informal interviews, and consultation with affected communities' representatives through key informant interviews (KIIs), focus group discussions (FGDs), and household surveys. Objectives of the stakeholder engagement activities were to:

- Update about Project progress;
- Obtain information related to the socio-economic conditions of host communities;
- Attain feedback or perceptions about the Project development and recommendations for host communities' development; and
- Get acceptance and support from the People to survey the area.

A summary of the Stakeholder engagement activities is presented in *Table 5.1* and a summary of discussions, concerns, and recommendations is generated during the sections below. The details of the engagement are contained in Appendix 2 (Minute of Meetings).



**Table 5.1: Summary of Stakeholder Engagement Undertaken** 

Type of Engagement	Group	Location	Comments, Issues and Views	Required Action / Response	Date
Institutional	RVCTP (PIU)	RVCTP Office	Pledged their commitment to the success of	Total commitment	23/01/2024
Engagement Meeting	CPCU Coordinating Members	CPCU Office, Banjul	the project  Promised to make every resource available to make the project a huge success	Total support	24/01/2024
	The Governor of Central River Region (CRR) and the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)	Governor's office, Janjanbureh	<ul> <li>Ensuring timely and fair resolution of issues raised by community members.</li> <li>Recognize the need for continuous engagement with the members of the community.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>The project will implement a structured process to address and resolve grievances promptly and fairly, as outlined in the GRM Manual.</li> <li>The project will establish regular community meetings and feedback sessions to maintain ongoing engagement, as per the Stakeholder Engagement Plan</li> </ul>	26/01/2024
	Regional Agricultural Team (CRR-South)	Regional Agriculture office, Sapu	Non-routine or uncontrolled releases from the agrochemical storage facility possibly result in impacts on human health.	The project will ensure strict compliance with safety standards for agrochemical storage and handling, and provide training for workers (ESMP and PMP).	26/01/2024
	Regional Agricultural Team (CRR-North)	Regional Agriculture office, Kuntaur	Stakeholders raised concerns about increased risks to the environment related to waste management and the use of agrochemicals, and the need to establish a robust environmental management plan.	The project will implement a comprehensive environmental management plan focusing on waste management and the safe use of agrochemicals.	27/01/2024
	National Environmental Agency (NEA), National Agency	RVCTP Office	Concerns about the potential increase in pest populations due to expanded rice cultivation.	The project will implement an integrated pest management strategy to control pest	29/01/2024



Type of Engagement	Group	Location	Comments, Issues and Views	Required Action / Response	Date
	for Women Farmers Association (NAWFA), National Farmers platform, Plant Protection Services (PPS), Department of Forestry (DoF),		<ul> <li>There is a need for an effective pest management strategy that minimizes the use of harmful chemicals.</li> <li>Stakeholders suggested integrated pest management approaches to control pest populations while protecting the environment.</li> </ul>	populations effectively, as outlined in the PMP.  • The project will develop and promote the use of environmentally friendly pest management techniques, as per the PMP.  • The project will adopt integrated pest management approaches that prioritize environmental sustainability, as outlined in the PMP.	
Community Engagement Meeting	Community Leaders; Dampha Kunda, FGD Men, Women and Youths	Dampha Kunda Community	<ul> <li>Community members express concern about conflict with communities based on experience with poor land development of the rice fields.</li> <li>Threat of human-wildlife conflict from attack and destruction of rice field by hippopotamus, Quelea birds, monkeys, and warthogs</li> <li>Work health-related issues from lack of waiting shades and sanitary facilities at the rice fields</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>The project will ensure comprehensive planning and community involvement in all stages of land development to mitigate conflicts, as outlined in the Stakeholder Engagement Plan.</li> <li>The project will implement wildlife management strategies and provide protective measures for crops, like the erection of perimeter fencing, engagement of local security to help secure the project area, etc</li> <li>The project will provide adequate waiting sheds at the rice fields</li> </ul>	25/01/2024



Type of Engagement	Group	Location	Comments, Issues and Views	Required Action / Response	Date
Community Engagement Meeting	Community leaders Limbambulu Bambo FGD Men, Women, Children and Youths	Limbambulu Bambo village	<ul> <li>Community members feared the project might impact water quality, specifically pesticide and saltwater intrusion.</li> <li>Migration of youth from the village to the cities in the area seeking greener pastures</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>The project will develop a plan that addresses pesticide use and saltwater intrusion.</li> <li>The project will develop a plan to address it, as well as recommendations to address youth migration</li> </ul>	25/01/2024
Community Engagement Meeting	Community leaders, Sanguley, FGD Men, Women and Youths.	Sanguley village	<ul> <li>Increased windstorms and dust due to the clearing of vegetation in the proposed rice field expansion areas.</li> <li>Community members requested a clear and accessible mechanism for lodging complaints and grievances.</li> <li>Grazing issues between farmers and nomadic cattle rearers.</li> <li>Sexual exploitation and abuse by previous contractors during the previous land development.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>The project will develop a plan that includes measures to reduce dust and wind erosion such as planting trees to serve as windbreakers</li> <li>The project will establish and publicize a clear grievance redress mechanism for community members, as per the GRM Manual.</li> <li>The project will facilitate dialogue between farmers and cattle rearers to develop mutually beneficial grazing agreements.</li> <li>The project will establish strict policies and training programs to prevent sexual exploitation and abuse and ensure accountability by both workers and contractors</li> </ul>	27/01/2024



Type of Engagement	Group	Location	Comments, Issues and Views	Required Action / Response	Date
Community	Community	Safalu village	Prevalence of windstorms and dust at the	• The project will implement	27/01/2024
Engagement Meeting	leaders, Safalu,		rice fields.	measures such as windbreaks	
	FGD Men, Women		Work health-related issues from lack of	and dust suppression	
	and Youths		waiting shades and sanitary facilities at the	techniques to mitigate	
			rice fields.	windstorm and dust impact	
			The need to involve the community	• The project will provide	
			members and local knowledge in future	adequate sanitary facilities and	
			land development within the area.	waiting sheds at the rice fields	
			Engaging in strenuous activities during	• The project will include local	
			ploughing, especially for women due to	knowledge and expertise in the	
			lack of tractors.	planning and	
				implementation phases, in line	
				with the recommendations.	
				• The project will provide	
				mechanized farming	
				equipment and training to	
				reduce physical strain during	
NGO /GDO	D: E .			ploughing activities	25/01/2024
NGOs/CBOs	Rice Farmers'	Sapu	Stakeholders emphasized the importance of	The project will ensure	27/01/2024
	Cooperative		transparency and accountability in the	transparency and accountability in	
	Society (Keserr		grievance redress process.	the grievance redress process	
	Kunda)	)		through regular updates and open	
	Maruo's Farm	Maruo's Farm		communication (GRM Manual)	
A Justinian di	Danastus ( C	Factory	0.1.1.1.	m	21/02/2024
Administrative	Department of	Zoom	Stakeholders demand to know if Pest and	• The pest and Pesticide	21/03/2024
meeting	Parks and Wildlife		pesticide management will be incorporated	management report is a	
	Management		into the report.	separate document report. It is	



Type of Engagement	Group	Location	Comments, Issues and Views	Required Action / Response	Date
	(DPWM),		Community Calls for their Involvement	a separate document that	
	Department of		during the land development Processes and	contains more robust	
	Water Resources		projects	information, which is readily	
	(DWR), National		• Concerns were raised about the	available.	
	Environmental		Involvement of the locals during the	• All the complaints from the	
	Agency (NEA),		rehabilitation of the Rice fields	households were documented	
	African		The question was asked on the different	and every concern will be	
	Development Bank		Roles of Each Agency Regarding	factored in by the engineers.	
	(AfDB), Soil and		Pesticides, Hazards and	A meeting conducted at the	
	Water		• Request was made for the RVCT team to	village square between the	
	Management		produce a jingle in a local dialect and calls	RICHFLOOD team and the	
	Services (SWMS)		for the RVCT team to share its report to key	locals emphasized the	
	of the Department		stakeholders and ministries.	importance of indigenous	
	of Agriculture,		• Request was made on the process of	knowledge for the	
	Agricultural		addressing grievances on the Whatsapp	construction of the rice fields.	
	Engineering		Groups	Each institution in Gambia has	
	Services (AES),			a different role. The National	
	Gambia			Environmental Agency is	
	Department of			responsible for Regulation	
	Labour, Ministry of			that is what sort of pesticide is	
	Employment and			allowed to come into the	
	Trade, Ministry of			country and what sort of	
	Gender and			pesticide should be used. Any	
	Children Affairs,			time a project is dealing with	
	Traditional leaders,			pesticide, the first point of	
	Representatives of			contact should be with the	
	local groups			hazardous chemical and	
				pesticide agency.	



**Type of Engagement Comments, Issues and Views Required Action / Response** Group Location Date including youth • During the process of the and women group validation, the document is spread farther at the national level to stakeholders and partners for their input. After that, there would be a radio discussion, newspaper publication and public consultation at the national, regional and administrative level. • A grievances proper requires mechanism reporting structure that starts from the community level, consisting of a group of 5 or 6.



## 5.2 Opinion, Concerns and Expectations

During the consultations, stakeholders in all the potential Project sites were adequately sensitized on the following:

- Project background and components;
- Processes procedures as well as the role of the stakeholders and institutions during the implementation of the Project
- Benefits of the Project to the entire country and specifically in the aspect of rice production
- Provision of additional capacity to meet current and future rice cultivation requirements including increased production capacity to enhance the country's global competitiveness in both regional and international markets.

At the same time, the Consultant indicated the potential environmental, social and economic impacts of the Project. These would include impacts on the environment (during rehabilitation of existing irrigation infrastructure, and use of agrochemicals) and Project facilities due to climate change, job creation, which could boost the local economy, improved livelihoods and economic opportunities through increased agricultural productivity and related agribusiness ventures etc.

In general, the stakeholders highly appreciated and welcomed the project. They highlighted the importance of the rice fields within the context of National development for the livelihoods of the people, as well as the numerous benefits they will get from the increased rice production capacity. These benefits they maintained would include their ability to engage in mechanized farming and new businesses that would raise their standard of living.

The opinions, concerns and expectations of the populations and persons likely to be affected by the Project have been provided in Table 5.2 below and the mitigative measures have been integrated into the ESMP.



Table 5.2: Summary of Stakeholders' Feedback, Concerns, and Expectations

Comments, Issues and Views	Required Action / Response	Expectations
Community members express concern about conflict with communities based on experience with poor land development of the rice fields.  Threat of human-wildlife conflict from attack and destruction of rice field by hippopotamus, Quelea birds, monkeys, and warthogs.  Recognize the need for continuous engagement with the members of the community.  The need to involve the community members and local knowledge in future land	The project will ensure comprehensive planning and community involvement in all stages of land development to mitigate conflicts, as outlined in the Stakeholder Engagement Plan.  The project will implement wildlife management strategies and provide protective measures for crops, like the erection of perimeter fencing, engagement of local security to help secure the project area, etc  The project will establish regular community meetings and feedback sessions to maintain ongoing engagement, as per the Stakeholder Engagement Plan.  The project will include local knowledge and expertise in the planning and implementation phases, in line with	<ul> <li>Stakeholders expect that the project will assist in providing potable water for the communities within the area.</li> <li>Enhanced livelihoods for residents.</li> <li>Stakeholders are happy about the project and expect the project will provide local development support, including improved health services.</li> <li>Enhancement of foreign exchange savings.</li> </ul>
development within the area.  Community members expressed fears that the project might impact water quality, specifically pesticide and saltwater intrusion.  Stakeholders raised concerns about increased risks to the environment related to waste management and the use of agrochemicals, and the need to establish a robust environmental management plan.	the recommendations.  The project will develop a plan that addresses pesticide use and saltwater intrusion.  The project will implement a comprehensive environmental management plan focusing on waste management and the safe use of agrochemicals.	<ul> <li>Promote environmental sustainability and technological advancements.</li> <li>Stakeholders expect support from the project in terms of quality seedlings and farming maintenance and machinery.</li> <li>Stakeholders expect market</li> </ul>
Work health-related issues from lack of waiting shades and sanitary facilities at the rice fields.  Increased windstorms and dust due to the clearing of vegetation in the proposed rice field expansion areas.  Non-routine or uncontrolled releases from the agrochemical storage facility possibly result in impacts on human health.	The project will provide adequate sanitary facilities and waiting sheds at the rice fields  The project will develop a plan that includes measures to reduce dust and wind erosion such as planting trees to serve as windbreakers  The project will ensure strict compliance with safety standards for agrochemical storage and handling, and provide training for workers (ESMP and PMP).	<ul> <li>diversification as a result of the project.</li> <li>Stable market creation for local farmers, ensuring a consistent outlet for produce.</li> <li>The project will assist the milling</li> </ul>



Comments, Issues and Views	Required Action / Response	Expectations
Community members requested a clear and accessible mechanism for lodging complaints and grievances.  Ensuring timely and fair resolution of issues raised by community members.  Stakeholders emphasized the importance of	The project will establish and publicize a clear grievance redress mechanism for community members, as per the GRM Manual.  The project will implement a structured process to address and resolve grievances promptly and fairly, as outlined in the GRM Manual.  The project will ensure transparency and accountability	factory to stimulate business growth and development in the locality.  The project will lead to an increase in rice production.  The project will enhance food security and availability.
transparency and accountability in the grievance redress process.  Concerns about the potential increase in pest populations due to expanded rice cultivation.	in the grievance redress process through regular updates and open communication (GRM Manual).  The project will implement an integrated pest management strategy to control pest populations effectively, as outlined in the PMP.	<ul> <li>Utilization of by-products, such as converting rice husk into biofuel and using bran for animal feed.</li> <li>Increased efficiency and higher yields of high-quality rice.</li> </ul>
There is a need for an effective pest management strategy that minimizes the use of harmful chemicals.  Stakeholders suggested integrated pest	The project will develop and promote the use of environmentally friendly pest management techniques, as per the PMP.  The project will adopt integrated pest management	<ul> <li>Expansion of rice output.</li> <li>Enhanced production of quality rice in The Gambia.</li> </ul>
management approaches to control pest populations while protecting the environment.  Grazing issues between farmers and nomadic cattle rearers.	approaches that prioritize environmental sustainability, as outlined in the PMP.  The project will facilitate dialogue between farmers and cattle rearers to develop mutually beneficial grazing agreements	<ul> <li>The presence of agro-processing plants serves as a motivation for youth engagement in rice farming.</li> <li>Provision of sanitary facilities to</li> </ul>
Sexual exploitation and abuse by previous contractors during the previous land development.  Prevalence of windstorms and dust at the rice fields.	The project will establish strict policies and training programs to prevent sexual exploitation and abuse and ensure accountability by both workers and contractors  The project will implement measures such as windbreaks and dust suppression techniques to mitigate windstorm and dust impact	<ul> <li>avoid open defecation.</li> <li>Provision of waiting sheds for breaks, rest, and shelter during rainfalls and harsh weather.</li> </ul>
Engaging in strenuous activities during ploughing, especially for women due to lack of tractors.	The project will provide mechanized farming equipment and training to reduce physical strain during ploughing activities	



#### 5.3 Planned Stakeholder Engagement

Given the need for an effective and systematic approach to address the project's communication requirements to engage with stakeholders, an Action Plan (Tables 5.4-5.6) has been developed indicating specific consultations that will be carried out in the course of the Project implementation.

#### **5.3.1** Proposed methods for future engagement

REWARD is committed to continuously providing its stakeholders with project-related information through the following proposed methods of engagement:

- Distribution of project documents (info leaflets/maps);
- Emails and SMS/WhatsApp messages;
- Social media platforms (WhatsApp groups, Facebook, or Twitter profiles);
- General community meetings;
- Public meetings;
- Government liaison (formal meetings);
- Company website updates and information-sharing;
- ❖ Annual reporting (especially for shareholders);
- CSI reporting; and
- Using the existing GRCs as a communication mechanism through which a Grievance Mechanism should be managed.

Print publications and the use of online information may not be practical in the communities given the high levels of illiteracy in the area. However, these platforms will be used for information-sharing with stakeholders such as government authorities, shareholders, lenders, relevant NGOs or CBOs.

During most meetings, especially with people who do not have access to emails, handing out notices or information either before, or after the meeting, is recommended. The type of printed publications should depend on the stakeholder group, which should prescribe the level of information to be provided, the structure of the information (formal/informal language), and the language in which it should be drafted. Short pamphlet-style PowerPoint presentation printouts usually work well for rural communities and can combine infographics and pictures when dealing with illiterate or vulnerable stakeholders. For more formal meetings with government departments or officials, handouts might not be required, as most of these stakeholders have email addresses or access to computers on which to review documents sent to them.

Online information is often the most suitable way of communicating information related to project activities, to stakeholders who are most directly affected by such activities. This is also frequently



the best way to ensure that information is consistent, and for different stakeholder groups to select the preferred language in which they prefer to read the information. However, care should be taken in terms of the level of information to be provided and whether the stakeholder has access to such online portals. Another consideration is the fact that online information-sharing requires a stakeholder to actively log in or visit a particular website, as opposed to such a stakeholder being provided with the information. Requiring a stakeholder to visit a website should be carefully considered, as many do not have access to data, or cannot afford this. Therefore, although online communication should be used, information that is critical for distribution to all stakeholders cannot be shared on online platforms only. REWARD will make a consistent, sufficient, and demonstrative effort to ensure that information is also disseminated to women and the vulnerable in a manner that is accessible to these groups in a free manner. REWARD will document specific engagement efforts used for women and vulnerable groups.

## 5.4 Engagement Planning and Scheduling

Consultation should be a two-way sharing of information between REWARD and other stakeholders. Various consultation methods can be applied to ensure such two-way communication. These include FGDs, one-on-one discussions with affected individuals, or written correspondence/comments and/or grievances.

The primary vehicle for stakeholder engagements is sensitive to the needs of the PACs and different stakeholder groups. Any consultation, whether this is with government authorities, local communities, or adjacent land users, should be planned for at least a week, allowing the interest group to make proper planning arrangements and to be able to attend the consultation (such as a meeting, for example).

The IFC recognizes that certain members of society are easily excluded from stakeholder engagement through cultural or religious barriers. This often happens through a heavy reliance on community representatives and leaders, who may not provide sufficient opportunities for the vulnerable (or women) to participate in stakeholder engagement. The IFC (2012) states: "When the stakeholder engagement process depends substantially on community representatives, the client willmake every reasonable effort to verify that such persons do represent the views of Affected Communities and that they can be relied upon to faithfully communicate the results of consultations to their constituents". All efforts shall therefore be made by REWARD to ensure that vulnerable people (especially women) are invited to participate freely and openly.

Should it be necessary, newspaper advertisements, social media, or radio adverts need to be placed to inform the wider public and community members of particular meetings. All those affected by a



meeting should be invited or informed that meeting minutes will be sent to them.

REWARD must adhere to annual planning to ensure that stakeholder needs are met systematically. Relevant meetings should be planned every month by an engagement schedule where meeting minutes and actions are also logged against an engagement identification number.

Given the need for an effective and systematic approach to address the project's communication requirements to engage with stakeholders, an Action Plan (Table 5.5) has been developed indicating specific consultations that will be carried out in the course of the Project implementation.

#### **5.4.1** Formal and informal meetings

Depending on the stakeholder group, certain consultations will be more formal than others. For example, meetings with government departments and officials are often more formal and will require aset agenda, presentation, and related documents to be prepared in preparation for the meetings. Informal meetings, on the other hand, usually work well for smaller groups and do not necessarily require formal minutes or agendas. REWARD will make a consistent, sufficient, and demonstrative effort to ensure that information is also disseminated to women and the vulnerable in a manner that is accessible to these groups in a free manner. For this purpose, REWARD will appoint women and vulnerable group representatives in each village. Such a representative should be part of all engagements and have the freedom and right to speak on behalf of other women and vulnerable people in a manner that is free and documented by REWARD. REWARD will document specific engagement efforts used for women and vulnerable groups.

#### **5.4.2** Meeting Minutes

Any meeting, whether face-to-face meeting or virtual, should be followed up with detailed minutes at least five days after the respective meeting. This should include a signed attendance register of those who attended the meeting, coupled with a declaration for each attendee to provide informed consent to offer his or her details for public record in this manner. One reason behind minute-taking is to, before a meeting, refresh attendees' memory about the previous meeting's discussions and action points, and to measure actions that had been taken since the last meeting. The minutes will demonstrate how the vulnerable women had an opportunity to participate in the meeting. Relevant government authorities should be queried as to how often they require feedback on the project and meetings, as well as in which format they prefer to have minutes sent to them. Minutes should be drafted in English; however, in some instances, minutes should also be drafted in a local language. All meeting minutes shall become public documents as these should be distributed to relevant government authorities and those affected at least within five days of a particular meeting. General email correspondences need to be followed up with telephonic conversations and consequent minute-taking.



For those affected members who might not have access to internet facilities, minutes also need to be lodged at a central location (or with the leaders) at least a week after a meeting or formal interaction, and stakeholders should be well-informed as to how these minutes can be accessed and comments made. Minutes need to be amended as soon as any feedback has been received, and the revised minutes need to be disseminated in the same fashion. Of pivotal importance is to inform those affected of the disseminated minutes and the procedures for reviewing and commenting on these.

Reasonable effort will be made by REWARD to ensure that vulnerable people (especially women) have access to such material and the means to engage with REWARD freely and openly despite cultural or religious barriers.

## 5.5 Period of Operation and Frequency

REWARD will manage its quarterly stakeholder engagements primarily using its GRCs. The proposed frequency of GRC meetings and reporting is provided in Table 5.3

Table 5.3: Proposed Stakeholder Engagement Frequency

Project Phases	Activity	Frequency
Preparation Phase	Re-evaluate GRCs and, if required, re-establish or establish more	Once-off
	Re-introduce the Community Relations Officers (CROs)	Once-off
	GRC meetings andmanagement plans Disclosure Phase	Once-off
Implementation Phase	GRC meetings	Quarterly
	Socio-economic monitoring and grievanceand commitment register management	
Closure Phase	Close-out report compiled forsubmission on completion of the project	Once-off
	GRC meetings	

# 5.6 Proposed Stakeholder Engagement Programme during the Various Components of the Project

This section outlines the proposed engagement schedules for the different components of the program:

Component 1: Development of Sustainable, Climate-Resilient Rice Production Systems



Component 2: Processing & Marketing

Component 3: Policy & Governance

Component 4: Program Coordination and Management

#### **5.6.1** Preparation Phase (Components 3 & 4)

The Preparation Phase encompasses policy and regulatory reforms, harmonization efforts, and the development of management and monitoring systems essential before physical construction and operational activities commence. This phase also includes initial program coordination necessary to facilitate later project phases.

During this phase, stakeholders will receive detailed information as outlined in Table 5.4 for the Stakeholder Engagement Activity Schedule. This includes disclosure of the Project Appraisal Document, which outlines the strategic objectives and rationale for the project. The Stakeholder Engagement Plan will describe how stakeholders will be involved and consulted throughout the project lifecycle. The Environmental and Social Commitment Plan outlines commitments to mitigate environmental and social impacts, while the Environmental and Social Management Plan details how these commitments will be implemented and monitored. Additionally, the Grievance Mechanism will be disclosed to outline procedures for addressing stakeholder concerns and grievances.



# Table 5.4: Stakeholder Engagement Activity Schedule for the Project Preparation Phase

No	Action	Target stakeholders	Responsibility	Engagement tools	Date and frequency	Costs Estimates (\$US)
1	Draft ESIA and management plan disclosures	All stakeholders	<ul><li>Richflood</li><li>REWARD</li></ul>	,	Continuous engagements	25,000
2	Disclosure of the SEP and grievance mechanism	All stakeholders, especially those within the social AoI specifically	<ul><li>REWARD</li><li>Construction contractor</li><li>CRCs</li></ul>	<ul> <li>Noticeboards</li> <li>Leaflets</li> <li>Hard and soft summary copies in English and French</li> <li>Website announcements</li> <li>Formal government, NGO/CBO and community meetings</li> <li>CRCs engagements</li> </ul>	Continuous engagements	15,000
3	Grievance management	All stakeholders	<ul><li>REWARD</li><li>Construction contractor</li><li>CRCs</li></ul>	Record of grievances	Continuous engagements	10,000



## 5.6.2 Project Implementation Phase (Components 1, 2 & 4)

The Project Implementation Phase involves the physical execution of project activities, including:

- Establishing climate-resilient irrigation schemes and infrastructure.
- Construction and modernization of processing facilities and infrastructure.
- Management of irrigation schemes, access to inputs, mechanization services, and knowledge transfer.
- Activities related to market access, strengthening capacities, developing information systems,
   and promoting private sector investment.
- Continuous coordination, monitoring, evaluation, reporting, and management throughout the project's lifecycle.

During this phase, stakeholders will receive information regarding the purpose and nature of construction activities to ensure transparency and understanding of project operations. Recruitment and procurement procedures will be disclosed to maintain accountability and fairness in hiring and sourcing. Regular Project Progress Reports will update stakeholders on milestones and achievements, fostering transparency and accountability. Information on potential disturbances such as pollution (dust), noise, and vibrations, etc., will also be provided to prepare stakeholders for any environmental impacts.

Additionally, stakeholders will be informed about the Stakeholder Engagement Plan, which outlines ongoing engagement strategies. The Environmental and Social Commitment Plan will continue to guide environmental and social responsibility throughout the implementation phase. Labour Management Procedures will ensure fair and ethical treatment of workers, while the Environmental and Social Management Plan will monitor and mitigate environmental and social impacts. The Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) will remain accessible to address stakeholder concerns promptly and effectively.



# Table 5.5: Stakeholder Engagement Activity Schedule for the Project Implementation Phase

No	Action	Target stakeholders	Responsibility	Engagement tools	Date and Frequency	Cost Estimates (\$US)
1	Information disclosure on:  • Purpose and nature of construction activities  • Early notification of construction starting dates and duration  • Potential social/health-related impacts	All stakeholders, especially:  Those within the Social AoI specifically  Farmers using land within the Social AoI  The vulnerable	REWARD CRO	<ul> <li>Regular site visits</li> <li>Annual environmental and socialmonitoring reports</li> <li>Formal government, NGO/CBOand community meetings</li> <li>CRCs engagements</li> <li>Grievance Mechanism</li> <li>Village banners</li> <li>Leaflets</li> <li>Noticeboards</li> <li>Website announcements</li> </ul>	The first quarter of 2024 and as required for the duration of the Construction Phase	30,000
3	Information on disturbances such as pollution (dust), noise, and vibrations	<ul> <li>Those within the Social AoI, and especially all the PACs</li> <li>All Social AoI land-users</li> <li>Farmers using land within the Social AoI</li> <li>Local authorities and</li> </ul>		<ul> <li>Regular site visits</li> <li>Warning signs with relevant contact details</li> <li>Regular health and safety meetings through the CRCs sitepresence of contractors' teams</li> <li>Noticeboards</li> </ul>		35,000 25,000
3	procurement	<ul> <li>Local authorities and relevant NGOs/CBOs</li> <li>Those within the Social AoI, and especially all the PACs</li> </ul>		<ul><li> Nonceboards</li><li> Website announcements</li><li> Village banners</li><li> CRCs engagements</li></ul>		



No	Action	Target stakeholders	Responsibility	Engagement tools	Date and Frequency	Cost Estimates (\$US)
4	Disclosure information on project environmental and social construction performance	All stakeholders	REWARD     Constructio     n     contractor	Website announcements		25,000
5	Information on any activity likely to cause a disturbance such as pollution (dust), noise, and vibrations	<ul> <li>Those within the Social AoI, and especially all the PACs</li> <li>All Social AoI land-users</li> <li>Farmers using land within the Social AoI</li> </ul>	REWARD	<ul> <li>Formal government</li> <li>Regular site visits</li> <li>Warning signs with relevant contactdetails</li> <li>Regular health and safety meetings through the CRCs</li> <li>Regular CRO site presence</li> <li>Noticeboards</li> <li>Village banners/information boxes</li> <li>Website announcements</li> <li>Grievance Mechanism</li> <li>Disturbance monitoring and evaluation</li> </ul>	For the remaining lifecycle of the project	25,000
6	Continues SEP and Grievance Mechanism information- sharing	All stakeholders		<ul> <li>Information boxes</li> <li>Regular site visits and engagements</li> <li>Noticeboards</li> <li>Training tools/records</li> <li>CRCs meetings</li> </ul>		50,000
7	Grievance management	All stakeholders, especially:  • Land users inside		<ul><li> Grievance boxes in the PACs</li><li> Noticeboards</li></ul>		15,000



No	Action	Target stakeholders	Responsibility	Engagement tools	Date and Frequency	Cost Estimates (\$US)
		the Social AoI and the vulnerable		<ul> <li>Regular CLO site presence</li> <li>Grievance records</li> <li>CRCs meetings</li> <li>Direct messaging (texts/phone calls) and engagements with affected stakeholders</li> </ul>		
8	Recruitment and procurement	<ul> <li>Local authorities and relevant NGOs/CBOs</li> <li>Those within the Project's AoI, and especially all the PACs</li> </ul>	<ul><li>REWARD</li><li>Construction contractor</li></ul>	<ul><li>Noticeboards</li><li>Website announcements</li><li>Village banners</li><li>CRCs engagements</li></ul>	For the remaining lifecycle of the project	10,000
9	Information disclosure on any updated management plan	All stakeholders	REWARD	<ul> <li>Formal government, NGO/CBO, and community meetings</li> <li>CRCs engagements</li> <li>Leaflets and summary documentation (English)</li> <li>Presentations (English)</li> <li>Noticeboards</li> <li>Website announcements</li> <li>Mass media announcements</li> <li>Hard and soft copies of all documentation to be disclosed (English)</li> <li>Updated issues and response trails</li> </ul>	As required for the remaining lifecycle of the project	35,000





No	Action	Target stakeholders	Responsibility	Engagement tools	Date and Frequency	Cost Estimates (\$US)
				Draft and final meeting minutes		
10	Develop and publish annual environmental and social monitoring reporting	All stakeholders	REWARD	<ul> <li>Annual environmental and social monitoring reports</li> <li>Soft copies on the REWARD website</li> </ul>	Annually for the remaining lifecycle of the project	25,000



## **5.6.3** Project Closure (Component 4)

The Project Closure Phase involves the final stages of the project, ensuring proper completion and transition. During this phase, stakeholders will be informed about:

- Final project outcomes and achievements.
- Disposal or transfer of project assets, where applicable.
- Closure of project accounts and financial reporting.
- Lessons learned and best practices identified during project implementation.
- Post-project monitoring and evaluation activities.
- Stakeholder feedback mechanisms to assess overall project impact and stakeholder satisfaction.

Stakeholders will have opportunities to provide feedback and participate the Project closeout meetings. The Stakeholder Engagement Plan will outline how stakeholders will be involved in the closure phase, ensuring transparency and accountability until the project's formal conclusion.



Table 5.6: Stakeholder Engagement Activity Schedule for the Project Closure Phase

No.	Action	Target Stakeholders	Responsibility	Engagement Tools	Date and Frequency	Cost Estimates (\$US)
1	Final project outcomes and achievements disclosure	All stakeholders	REWARD	Project Completion and Evaluation Report	End of Project	20,000
2	Disposal or transfer of project assets	Local authorities, relevant organizations, community members		Direct communication (letters, meetings), public notices	End of Project	15,000
3	Closure of project accounts and financial reporting	Funding agencies, local authorities, project team		Financial reports, audit reports	End of Project	10,000
4	Lessons learned and best practices identified during project implementation	Project team, stakeholders involved throughout the project		Lessons Learned extract, workshops, webinars	End of Project	15,000
5	Post-project monitoring and evaluation activities	All stakeholders		Monitoring and Evaluation Report, surveys	End of Project	20,000
6	Stakeholder feedback mechanisms to assess project impact and satisfaction	All stakeholders		Feedback surveys, stakeholder meetings	End of Project	15,000



# 6.0 INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS, ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Stakeholders' engagement programs will be managed by a Community Relations Office (CRO). Table 6.1 provides the roles and responsibilities of REWARD management and other relevant stakeholders referred to in this SEP.

**Table 6.1: Roles and Responsibilities** 

Table 0.1. Roles and Responsibilities				
Roles and Responsibilities				
✓ Manage, implement, and regularly update the SEP and Grievance				
Mechanism				
✓ Reporting back to stakeholders				
✓ AfDB and government liaison				
✓ Assigning relevant staff to give effect to components of the SEP as				
required				
✓ REWARD management and implementation of this SEP. This				
includes making all the required arrangements forthe execution of				
this plan and REWARD activities.				
✓ Manage the Grievance Mechanism for externalstakeholders				
✓ Reporting back to stakeholders				
✓ Regularly update the SEP and Grievance Mechanismas required				
and disclose to all stakeholders				
✓ Implement and monitor stakeholder information exchange and				
participation strategies. Record-keeping, minute-taking, and				
attendance register completions (including relevant translations as				
required.				
✓ Government liaison				
✓ Attend/participate in disclosure				
✓ Attending REWARD/CRO meeting/event invitations				
✓ Reviewing relevant minutes and providing feedback to REWARD				
✓ Be represented in the Community Relations Committee (GRC)				
✓ Continuous monitoring and evaluation				
✓ Holding REWARD accountable for good performance (reporting poor				



Responsible Action Party	Roles and Responsibilities						
	performance to the state ministries, through the Grievance						
	Mechanism or directly to REWARD)						
RICHFLOOD	✓ Update and finalize this SEP						
	Completion and disclosure						
PACs	✓ Attend/participate in disclosure						
	✓ Be represented in the GRCs						
	✓ Holding REWARD accountable for good performance (reporting						
	poor performance to the state ministries, through the Grievance						
	Mechanism or directly to REWARD)						
	Use the Grievance Mechanism to make REWARD aware of any						
	potential issues and/or concerns						
	✓ Report to the relevant ministries should REWARD not implement this SEP						
	adequately						
All Stakeholders	✓ Attend/participate in disclosure						
	✓ Attending REWARD/CRO meeting/event invitations						
	✓ Holding REWARD accountable for good performance (reporting						
	poor performance to the state ministries, through the Grievance						
	Mechanism or directly to REWARD)						
	✓ Reviewing relevant minutes for meetings/events attended and						
	providing feedback to REWARD						

## 6.1 Capacity Building

To ensure that REWARD is well-equipped to perform its duties in a demanding environment, an annualstakeholder engagement capacity-building plan must be submitted to the Community Social Relation Manager. Based on the analysis of previous engagements the following topics must be coveredthrough formal capacity-building interventions in the upcoming reporting year:

- ✓ International good practice standards in stakeholder engagement;
- ✓ Crisis communication and conflict management;
- ✓ Reporting and record-keeping; and
- ✓ Scheduling and project management.



#### 7.0 MONITORING AND EVALUATION

#### 7.1 Monitoring

Monitoring stakeholder engagement is a process of periodically collecting information on the implementation of the stakeholder engagement plan and understanding the current progress of implementation. A process of establishing monitoring criteria is an initial phase of development which then helps to improve practices and implementation in the future, receive accountability internally and externally related to resources used. The results to be analyzed will provide a background for planning better initiatives for project operation, and also for deciding on future action. The following SEP activities require monitoring and evaluation from assigned personnel and teams in the Project:

- Implementation of SEP that includes update of stakeholder database and issues, as well as
  documentation of stakeholder engagement activities. Throughout the project life,
  REWARD PIU will maintain open communication channels with relevant stakeholders as
  identified. Any additional stakeholders identified during the lifecycle will also be added
  and communication with them will be initiated.
- Implementation of Grievance Mechanism as part of SEP which includes dissemination of Grievance Mechanism, grievance logging and tracking, effectiveness of grievance management, and number of grievances solved.

Several mechanisms may be implemented as part of the action plan to assist in the collection, measurement and analysis of engagement activities, which includes direct surveys of priority stakeholder groups; evaluation sessions following events such as workshops; and Project internet site. Evaluation of SEP implementation will be carried out at least annually. Evaluation is essential to provide feedback to improve Project SEP and enhance Project-stakeholder relationships.

# 7.2 Reporting

The reporting of stakeholder engagement activities will be undertaken throughout the Project. This will help facilitate continuous improvement of the engagement process. Stakeholder engagement activities and significant changes or updates in the project and upgrade, stakeholders' concerns, as well as environmental and social issues will be continuously reported and published to a wider audience in a transparent way through public domain documents. All action plan requirements and



stakeholder engagement activities shall be audited in terms of whether they have been undertaken and the extent to which they have been effective in the context of the Plan's stated objectives and Key Performance Indicators (KPIs). A number of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) will be monitored by the project on a regular basis, including the following parameters:

- ♣ Number of public hearings, consultation meetings and other public discussions/forums conducted within a reporting period (e.g. monthly, quarterly, or annually);
- ♣ Frequency of public engagement activities;
- ♣ Number and details of vulnerable individuals involved in consultation meetings;
- ♣ Number of public grievances received within a reporting period (e.g. monthly, quarterly, or annually) and number of those resolved within the prescribed timeline;
- Type of public grievances received; and
- ♣ Number of press materials published/broadcasted in the local, state, and national media.

The monitoring and documentation of SEP activities will be the responsibility of the CLO and HSSE Manager of REWARD Project to cascade messages from engagements with national and regional stakeholders, and this specific responsibility will include:

- ✓ Agreed SEP key performance indicators and metrics.
- ✓ Monitoring ongoing engagement and consultation activities.
- ✓ Tracking potential risks and issues.
- ✓ Confirming consultation documentation is up to date and accessible.
- ✓ Regularly assessing the effectiveness of engagement and consultation methods.
- ✓ Adjusting the ongoing plan according to the updates along with the rules, procedures and restrictions.
- ✓ Updating the SEP annually to ensure that it remains aligned with the Project's objectives.

#### 7.3 Evaluation Report

Within stakeholder engagement, impact measurement is particularly important as engagements are often qualitative and difficult to measure. REWARD PIU will develop a monitoring and evaluation system to assess the compliance of this SEP with the AfDB's ISS and relevant national legislation. The objectives of such monitoring and evaluation are to:



- ➤ Build stakeholder trust;
- > Create communication channels; and
- > Create continuous stakeholder feedback

To monitor and evaluate the SEP, REWARD PIU shall develop Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) to guide future updates and revisions of this plan. An example of relevant KPIs that REWARD PIU could use includes:

- Record of consultations;
- Record of draft and final meeting minutes and attendance registers;
- Number of complaints received via the Grievance Mechanism;
- Number of complaints responded to via Grievance Mechanism;
- Grievance statuses;
- Internal audits; and
- External communications.

For each KPI, a target and monitoring measure will be developed. As an example, the monitoring measure for "record of consultations" will be "reporting", whilst a monitoring measure for "number of community complaints" could be the entries in the grievance register. Table 7.1 below provides an example of indicators to use to measure these objectives, together with engagement methods.

Table 7.1: Proposed measures of success in stakeholder engagement

OBJECTIVE		INDICATOR		MEASUREMENT METHOD
Build stakeholder	•	Increasing trust levels	•	Perception survey
trust	•	Satisfactory grievance close-	•	Grievance register close-out frequency
		out	•	Number of stakeholders using
	•	Increased use of channels		each channel
	•	Commitments delivered	•	Number of commitments and
				promisesdelivered per year
			•	Number of legacy issues resolved
				andclosed out



OBJECTIVE	INDICATOR	MEASUREMENT METHOD
Create	Successfully established	Revised GRC ToR signed and
communicatio	andfunctioning GRCs	GRC engagements held and
nchannels	• Proactive broad-	number of participants per
	based community	engagement
	engagement	Number of engagements per PAC per
		topicand number of participants per
		engagement
		Number of instances where
		community participation
		influenced decision-making
		SED projects selected, designed
		and evaluated with GRC
		participation
Create	Actions from engagements	Number of closed-out actions
continuous	closed out proactively	Number of engagements
stakeholder	SEP is updated regularly in	Number of topics updated
feedback	keeping with stakeholder	Frequency of updates
	needsand feedback	

Should any non-conformances be identified, REWARD PIU shall investigate and communicate these to the relevant government ministries and departments. Appropriate corrective actions will be identified for non-conformances and REWARD PIU will be held accountable by the appropriate quarters to implement such actions. The SEP will be bi-annually reviewed and updated as required. All grievances (both for the PACs and employees) will be summarised and reported to management departments monthly. All stakeholder engagement activities, as well as the community commitments register, shall be annually disclosed through the annual environmental and social reporting system.



#### 8.0 COMMUNICATION PLAN

#### 8.1 Communication Goals

The overall communication goals for the REWARD project are listed below:

- 1. Build awareness and knowledge of the REWARD Project
- 2. Create a knowledge-sharing and learning culture
- 3. Encourage dialogue and create a two-way information flow
- 4. Keep key stakeholders informed on a regularly and timely basis
- 5. Influence behavior through capacity building and understanding

# **8.2** Communication Principles

The fundamental driving force for all communication under the REWARD Project is expressed in the principles in the Table 8.1 below. These are essential for ensuring that the objective of the project and the communication goals are achieved in an accountable and effective way. This principles will be adopted in communicating to the REWARD stakeholders.

**Table 8.1: Communication Principles** 

Principles	Approach					
Integrity	Share information in an open, transparent and accountable way;					
	Provide the necessary and promised communication tools;					
	Do what has been promised to do					
Dialogue and	Positive two-way dialogue;					
responsiveness	• Listen actively to all stakeholders and value their opinions;					
	Provide easy, accessible opportunities to provide feedback, especially					
	for target audiences directly affected by the REWARD Project					
Clarity	Communicate in a clear and concise manner;					
	Communicate in a language and style that is easy to understand					
Audience	Gain insight into the needs and perceptions of target audiences;					
adaption	Tailor communication to meet the needs of target audiences;					



Principles	Approach
	Share information in a format that is easy and accessible for all target
	audiences
Respect	Respect and support human rights;
	Treat every person with dignity and courtesy;
	Embrace diversity and fair treatment for all

### 8.3 Key Messages

For communication to be effective, it must focus on being consistent, trustworthy and on delivering a few key messages that are repeated across different communication materials. The key messages need to be clear, short, benefit-oriented and written in a language and style that target audiences can understand and relate to. Throughout, when communicating the REWARD Project to the target audience, it is important to take the sensitive nature of the issues into account as well as the real and perceived risks by each target audience.

The starting point for defining these messages is the communication goals. Other elements to take into consideration are stakeholder identification, analysis and allocation of roles, current awareness and knowledge of the project. In some cases, the same messages will be applied towards target audiences while in others they need to be tailored. The key messages will be translated into the local languages of the target audience. The main interests of internal stakeholders are a successful and timely implementation of the REWARD, and a smooth flow of information. Key messages towards external stakeholders are more diverse.

Table 8.2: Key Messages towards Internal and External Stakeholders

Target Audience	Key Messages			
Internal Stakeholder	REWARD will ensure a successful and timely implementation of			
	the Project by:			
	Working as a team and sharing our knowledge;			
	Building awareness and knowledge of the REWARD;			
	Listening and engaging in a two-way dialogue;			



Target Audience	Key Messages
	<ul> <li>Keeping stakeholders informed on regular and timely basis;</li> <li>Striving to improve livelihoods through capacity building and</li> </ul>
	<ul><li>understanding;</li><li>Respecting human rights.</li></ul>
External Stakeholder	<ul> <li>Some of the socio-economic benefits and social impacts of the project will include enhanced production of rice in The Gambia, income generation for farmers, etc.</li> <li>The project will create empowerment opportunities for community members through land development activities and provision of agricultural equipment across the selected rice fields.</li> <li>A comprehensive approach to grievance redress for the project will be established, along with clear communication channels for addressing concerns.</li> <li>We can achieve more by working together – men, women and youth</li> </ul>

**Table 8.3: Communication Schedule** 

<b>Engagement Activities</b>	Schedule/Timing
Community meetings	Continuous
Consultations	Continuous
Focus group discussion	As required
Surveys	As required
Radio broadcasts	Continuous

### **8.4** Emergencies or Crisis Communication

Stakeholders will have the opportunity to communicate in case of crises or emergency to the following contacts



- Contacting the Ministry of Agriculture, the Gambia through the REWARD Central Project Coordinating Unit (CPCU) and Project Implementation Unit (PIU) on: +220 707 3234/ +220 326 2739
- Sending an email to <a href="mailto:smendy@rvctpgm.com">smendy@rvctpgm.com</a>



#### 9.0 REGULAR REVIEW AND UPDATE

Regular review and update are critical components for the successful implementation of the REWARD Program. These mechanisms ensure that the program remains responsive to evolving circumstances, stakeholder feedback, and emerging challenges and opportunities. By embedding a structured process for review and update, the REWARD Program can maintain its relevance, efficiency, and effectiveness throughout its lifecycle.

#### 9.1 Objectives

The primary objectives of the regular review and update process are to:

- 1. **Ensure Alignment with Goals**: Maintain alignment with the program's objectives, national policies, and the evolving needs of stakeholders.
- 2. **Enhance Responsiveness**: Quickly adapt to changing environmental, social, and economic conditions.
- 3. **Incorporate Feedback**: Utilize stakeholder feedback to improve program design and implementation.
- 4. **Monitor Progress**: Track the progress of project components against set milestones and objectives.
- 5. **Identify and Mitigate Risks**: Recognize emerging risks and implement timely mitigation measures.

#### 9.2 Process

The process of regular review and update involves several key steps:

- 1. Periodic Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E)
  - Scheduled Reviews: Conduct regular, scheduled reviews (e.g., quarterly, biannually, annually) to assess the progress of the program against predefined indicators and milestones.
  - Mid-term Reviews: Implement comprehensive mid-term evaluations to examine the overall performance and make significant course corrections if necessary.
  - End-of-Phase Evaluations: At the end of each project phase, conduct thorough evaluations to inform the planning and design of subsequent phases.

#### 2. Stakeholder Consultations



- Engagement Sessions: Organize regular stakeholder engagement sessions, including workshops, focus groups, and public consultations, to gather feedback and insights.
- Feedback Mechanisms: Establish continuous feedback channels such as suggestion boxes, surveys, and hotlines to capture stakeholder input.

#### 3. Data Collection and Analysis

- Routine Data Collection: Collect data on key performance indicators (KPIs)
   routinely to monitor progress and identify areas needing improvement.
- Analysis and Reporting: Analyze the collected data to generate reports that inform decision-making and strategic planning.

#### 4. Risk Assessment and Management

- Risk Monitoring: Regularly review and update the risk register to identify new risks and assess the status of existing risks.
- Mitigation Strategies: Develop and implement risk mitigation strategies based on the latest risk assessments.

#### 5. Policy and Regulatory Review

- Compliance Checks: Ensure continuous compliance with national and regional policies, regulations, and standards.
- Policy Updates: Review and update policies and procedures to reflect changes in the regulatory landscape and best practices.

#### 9.3 Implementation Framework

The implementation framework for regular review and update includes:

#### 1. Roles and Responsibilities

- Central Project Coordinating Unit (CPCU): Oversee the overall review and update process, ensuring alignment with the program's strategic objectives.
- o **Project Implementing Unit (PIU)**: Conduct day-to-day monitoring, data collection, and initial analysis, and facilitate stakeholder consultations.
- External Evaluators: Engage independent evaluators for mid-term and end-ofphase evaluations to provide unbiased assessments.

#### 2. Tools and Technologies



- M&E Systems: Utilize advanced monitoring and evaluation systems to track progress and generate reports.
- Data Management Platforms: Implement data management platforms to store, analyze, and visualize data for informed decision-making.
- Communication Tools: Leverage communication tools to facilitate stakeholder engagement and feedback collection.

#### 3. Reporting and Communication

- Regular Reporting: Produce regular reports on the program's progress, challenges, and outcomes, and share them with stakeholders.
- Transparent Communication: Maintain transparency in communication with stakeholders regarding updates and changes to the program.

#### 9.4 Continuous Improvement

Continuous improvement is a powerful approach that helps enhance processes and outcomes over time. Strategies for continuously improving stakeholder engagement include:

#### 1. Identify Stakeholders

Identifying all relevant parties affected by the project operation and also creating stakeholder maps to categorize them based on their level of influence and interest is the first step to continuous improvement.

#### 2. Understand Needs and Expectations

Dive deeper into stakeholders' concerns, interests, and expectations. This understanding ensures that the project aligns with their interests. Regular interaction also helps manage expectations and fosters a cooperative environment.

#### 3. Tailored Communication

A stakeholder communication strategy should be developed. Outline how the engagement with stakeholders will be, including communication frequency and methods (meetings, emails, reports, etc.). Customizing communication to address the unique needs of each stakeholder group should be included.



#### 4. Regular Updates and Feedback

Keeping stakeholders continually informed about project performance at all stages is required. Report against the formal communication matrix and engagement metrics established initially. Solicit ongoing feedback to ensure alignment and address any concerns.

#### **5. Conflict Resolution**

Anticipate conflicts and a plan should be drafted in place to resolve them. Proactively address disagreements to maintain positive stakeholder relationships.

#### **6.** Celebrate Milestones

Publicize high-level wins and major milestones as they are achieved. Recognize and celebrate progress to foster stakeholder engagement and trust.

Stakeholder engagement is crucial for managing expectations, reducing risks, and improving decision-making. By implementing these strategies, stakeholder relationships can be enhanced and drives project success



#### 10.0 RISK MANAGEMENT

Effective risk management is crucial for the successful implementation of the Stakeholders Engagement Plan (SEP) for the Rice Value Chain Transformation Program (REWARD) Project. The first step in managing risks involves a thorough identification of potential issues that could arise during stakeholder engagement. This includes recognizing the diverse factors that may hinder the effective communication and involvement of stakeholders. Potential risks could stem from resistance among stakeholders, communication barriers, resource constraints, environmental and social disruptions, regulatory and policy changes, environmental concerns, social conflicts, and occupational hazards. Each of these risks can significantly impact the project's progress and the overall engagement process if not properly managed. For each identified risk, specific mitigation strategies must be developed to minimize their potential impact. In addition to mitigation strategies, it is essential to prepare contingency plans for high-impact risks that may not be fully mitigated. These plans ensure that the project can quickly adapt and respond to unforeseen events.

The following are the steps involved in stakeholder risk management

- i) Identify risks
- ii) Map stakeholders
- iii) Plan strategy
- iv) Engage stakeholders
- v) Measure progress
- vi) Adjust strategy

#### 10.1 **Stakeholder Risk Management Strategy**

Developing a stakeholder risk management strategy involves several key steps to ensure effective identification, mitigation, communication, monitoring, and adjustment of risks. The following is a structured guide:

1. **Determine the severity of risks**: Assess the probability, potential aftermath, timeframe, and initiating factors of risk events. Consider the potential impacts on the project.



- Develop a plan for mitigating the risks: Create strategies to counter identified risks, whether it involves avoiding, accepting, reducing, or transferring risks based on their severity and potential impacts.
- 3. Communicate the risk: Ensure comprehensive awareness of risks and their potential impacts across the organization. Communication should be relevant, easy to understand, and contextualized. Establish clear risk reports and communication channels to enhance decision-making.
- 4. **Monitor the effectiveness of your plan**: Regularly assess and evaluate the effectiveness of risk management initiatives. Stakeholder feedback is crucial in this process.
- 5. **Assess and adjust the strategy**: Recognize that risk management is an ongoing process. Continuously review the risk landscape to identify emerging threats and adjust strategies as necessary to achieve desired outcomes.

#### 10.2 Risk Identification

The identification of social risks involves examining four key aspects before engaging stakeholders:

- 1. **Issue**: Identify existing problems or rumors related to project operations.
- 2. **Stakeholder**: Determine who raised the issue and their representation, which may include civil society, NGOs, international agencies, or individuals.
- 3. **Means**: Understand stakeholder influences and issue mobilization.
- 4. **Perception**: Assess public perception of the project, which may be accurate or inaccurate.

Based on this analysis and the likelihood of the issue, risks can be predicted and categorized into different stages. React promptly if risks fall into the "critical" or "high" categories, while considering appropriate actions for risks categorized as "moderate," "low," or "very low."



	Area of Risk (Consequence)							
Likelihood	Catastrophic	Major	Medium	Minor	Low			
Almost Certain	Critical	Critical	Critical	High	Moderate			
Likely	Critical	Critical	High	High	Moderate			
Possible	Critical	High	High	Moderate	Low			
Unlikely	High	High	Moderate	Low	Low			
Rare	High	Moderate	Low	Low	Very Low			

Figure 6: Risk Identification

Table 10.1: Risk Management for Stakeholder Engagement Plan

Potential Risk	Description	Mitigation Strategies	<b>Contingency Plans</b>
Stakeholder Resistance	Resistance due to perceived negative impacts or lack of trust in the project team.	<ul> <li>Establish transparent communication channels.</li> <li>Involve stakeholders in decision-making processes.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Implement targeted outreach and reengagement strategies.</li> <li>Address specific concerns raised by stakeholders.</li> </ul>
Communication Barriers	Differences in language, literacy levels, and access to communication tools.	<ul> <li>Use local languages and visual aids.</li> <li>Utilize community radio and social media platforms.</li> </ul>	Establish alternative engagement methods such as virtual meetings and online surveys.
Resource Constraints	Limited financial, human, or technical resources.	<ul> <li>Secure funding for stakeholder engagement activities.</li> <li>Hire skilled personnel.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Identify non-essential activities to defer or scale down.</li> <li>Reallocate resources to critical engagement activities.</li> </ul>



Potential Risk	Description	Mitigation Strategies	<b>Contingency Plans</b>
Environmental and Social Disruptions	Unforeseen events such as floods, droughts, conflicts, or health crises.	<ul> <li>Develop flexible engagement plans.</li> <li>Create alternative meeting venues and virtual engagement options.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Implement a crisis communication plan.</li> <li>Provide interim responses and revise timelines as needed.</li> </ul>
Regulatory and Policy Changes	Changes in local or national policies and regulations.	<ul> <li>Monitor policy and regulatory landscape.</li> <li>Engage with policymakers and regulatory bodies.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Engage in policy advocacy.</li> <li>Adapt project plans to align with new regulations.</li> </ul>
Environmental Concerns	Issues due to use of pesticides, machinery, waste management, and water pollution.	<ul> <li>Implement sustainable practices.</li> <li>Regular environmental monitoring.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Develop environmental management plans.</li> <li>Engage environmental experts for consultation.</li> </ul>
Social Conflicts	Grazing conflicts, wildlife attacks, child labor,gender- based violence.	<ul> <li>Foster community dialogues.</li> <li>Implement safety and awareness programs.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Establish conflict resolution mechanisms.</li> <li>Collaborate with local authorities for rapid intervention.</li> </ul>
Occupational Hazards	Lack of drying floors, waiting sheds, insufficient PPE.	<ul> <li>Provide necessary infrastructure.</li> <li>Ensure availability of PPE.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Develop health and safety protocols.</li> <li>Conduct regular safety training and drills.</li> </ul>



#### 11.0 FEEDBACK MECHANISM

Effective feedback mechanisms are vital for the success of the REWARD) Program. These mechanisms ensure that stakeholders' voices are heard and their comments are integrated into the project planning and execution processes. This section outlines the methods for collecting feedback, the process for analyzing and incorporating feedback, and the strategies for reporting feedback to stakeholders.

#### 11.1 Feedback Collection

Collecting feedback from stakeholders is the first step in understanding their perspectives, concerns, and suggestions. The following methods will be employed:

#### 1. Surveys

- Online Surveys: Disseminated through digital platforms to reach a broad audience, including farmers, community members, and other stakeholders.
- Paper-Based Surveys: Distributed in community meetings and events to capture feedback from those with limited access to digital tools.

#### 2. Interviews

- In-Depth Interviews: Conducted with key informants such as local leaders, government officials, and project staff to gather detailed insights.
- Focus Group Discussions: Organized with various stakeholder groups to facilitate in-depth discussions on specific issues and gather diverse perspectives.

#### 3. Suggestion Boxes

- Physical Suggestion Boxes: Placed in accessible locations within communities, such as community centers and local government offices, to collect anonymous feedback.
- Digital Suggestion Boxes: Established on project websites and social media platforms to provide a convenient feedback channel for all stakeholders.

#### 4. Community Meetings

 Regular community meetings will be held to facilitate direct communication and allow stakeholders to voice their opinions and concerns openly.



#### 11.2 Feedback Analysis

Once feedback is collected, it will be systematically analyzed and incorporated into the project planning and execution processes. The following steps outline the feedback analysis process that will be adopted:

#### 1. **Data Compilation**

 All feedback collected will be gathered from various methods into a centralized database for comprehensive analysis.

#### 2. Categorization

 Feedback based on themes will be categorized, such as environmental concerns, social issues, economic challenges, and operational suggestions.

#### 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Analysis

- Quantitative Analysis: Statistical methods will be used to analyze survey responses and identify trends and common issues.
- Qualitative Analysis: Content analysis will be performed on interview transcripts, focus group discussions, and open-ended survey responses to extract key insights and recurring themes.

#### 4. Prioritization

on the project. This helps to focus on the most critical issues first.

#### 5. Integration into Planning:

 Prioritized feedback will be incorporated into the project's planning and execution strategies. Adjust project activities, timelines, and resources as necessary to address stakeholders' concerns and suggestions.

#### 11.3 Feedback Reporting

Reporting feedback to stakeholders is crucial for maintaining transparency and building trust. The following strategies will be used to report feedback:

#### 1. Regular Updates



 Regular updates will be provided to stakeholders on how their feedback has been addressed. This can be done through newsletters, community meetings, and digital platforms.

#### 2. Feedback Summary Reports:

Summary reports that highlight the key feedback received, the analysis conducted, and the actions taken in response will be prepared and disseminated. These reports would be clear, concise, and accessible to all stakeholders.

#### 3. Public Meetings and Workshops

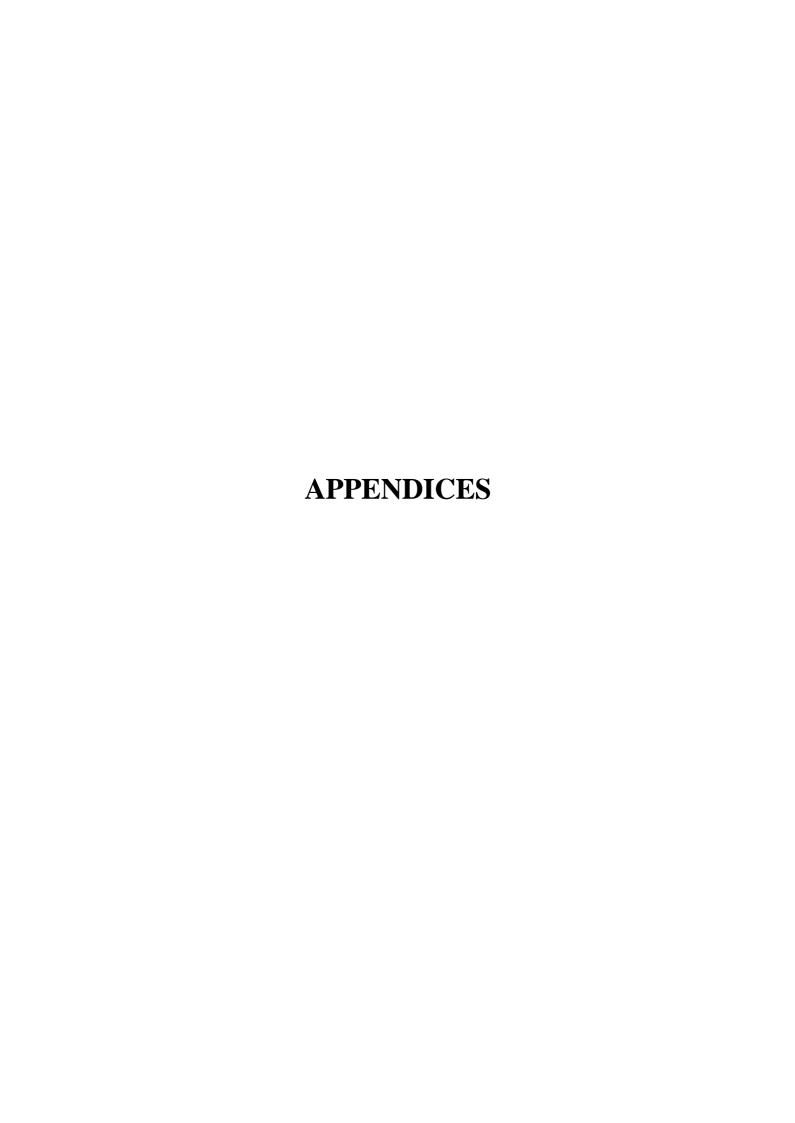
 Public meetings and workshops will be hosted to present feedback findings and discuss the implemented changes. These events will also serve as platforms for further dialogue and continuous engagement.

#### 4. Digital Communication

 Digital communication channels will be utilized, such as emails, social media, and the project website to share feedback reports and updates widely.

#### 5. **Direct Communication**

 Direct engagements with key stakeholders will be done through follow-up interviews, phone calls, and personal meetings to provide detailed feedback and address any further concerns.



## APPENDIX I: STAKEHOLDER REGISTER

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### APPENDIX II: ENGAGEMENT LOG

Inception meeting 1: RVCTP/PIU



## Inception meeting 2: RVCTP/PIU/CPCU











Scoping/public consultation: Governor's office Upper River Region



Scoping/public consultation: Governor's office Central River Region



## Scoping/public consultation: Governor's office Central River Region









## Scoping/Community consultation: Daphan Kunda



# **XF** Richflood

# ESIA Stakeholders Engagement Minute of Meeting

Date	25-01-2024
Venue	Dangha Kunda, Upper Rue Region
Meeting Type	Community Consultation
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## Scoping/Community consultation: Limbambulu Bambo



**HF Richflood** 

## ESIA Stakeholders Engagement Minute of Meeting

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### Scoping/Community consultation: Sanguley



### ESIA Stakeholders Engagement Minute of Meeting

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### Scoping/Community consultation: Safalu



#### ESIA Stakeholders Engagement Minute of Meeting

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Scoping/Public consultation: Rice Growers Association, CRR south





Scoping/Public consultation with large scale Commercial Rice farmer: Maruos Farm, Kesser Kunda, CRR south

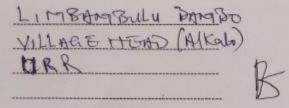




#### Annex B: Stakeholders Invitation Letters

### : Richflood

24th January, 2024



#### INCEPTION WORKSHOP FOR THE ESIA STUDY FOR THE PROPOSED REGIONAL RICE RESILIENT VALUE CHAINS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (REWARD)

The above subject matter refers.

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Venue: The Conference Room, RVCTP Office, Ministry of Agriculture WALIC Complex Kerr Serign.

Date: 29th January, 2024 Time: 10:00 am prompt

Further engagement for this project will be undertaken online via zoom using the details below:

Link: https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84251652234

Meeting ID: 842 5165 2234

Passcode: 212605

Date: 15th February 2024 and 14th March 2024

Time: 3pm daily GMT+1

Your valuable inputs and comments will be highly appreciated as you attend these meetings.

Please Note: All cost of attendance will be borne by attendec. For further enquiries and comments, please call

+234 814 524 5247 or send an email to projects@richflood.com

Kind regards

Comfort Asokoro-Ogaji Managing Consultant

#### ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SAFEGUARD CONSULTANTS |

Head Offices Abuja, Nigeria; 4 Justice Chukwudifo Oputa Street, Asokoro.

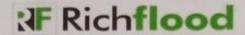
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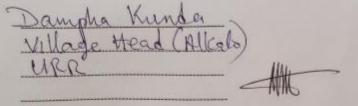
East Africa: Flot Nn. 6418, Avenue Du Commorce, Kigali, Rivanda | Central Africa: I, Corner <u>Formorika, Bolgillo</u>, Kinshese, Congo · Kinshand

South Africa: Est floor, New Road Office Park, 1 New Road, Errands Gardens, 1685, <u>MicRosof</u> (North Africa: <u>Mauden</u> Sheraton, 11799 Caire, Egypt.

Tel: +234 806 423 9910 | Office: +44 20 7788 7530 | Office: +234 814 5424 | Office: +234 803 451 7767

Email: info@richflood.com, www.richflood.com.





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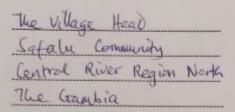
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### **XF** Richflood

24th January, 2024



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24th January, 2024

The Village Head Sangular Village Coural Viver Riegion North

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Managing Consultant

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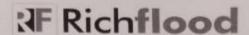
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South Africa: 1st floor, New Road Office Park, 5 New Road, Errands Gardens, 1684, Mosteon | North Africa: Massage, Sheraton, 11799 Cairo, Egypt.

Tel: +234 806 423 9910 | Office: +44 20 7788 7530 | Office: +034 814 524 5247 | Office: +234 803 451 7767

Email: info@richflood.com, www.richflood.com.



The Governor,

Central Upper River Region,
Basse,
The Gambia

## INCEPTION WORKSHOP FOR THE ESIA AND PEST MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE PROPOSED REGIONAL RICE RESILIENT VALUE CHAINS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (REWARD)

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Venue: The Governor's Office, Upper River Region, Basse

Date: 25th January, 2024 Time: 9:00 am prompt

Further engagement for this project will be undertaken online via zoom using the details below:

Link: https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84251652234

Meeting ID: 842 5165 2234

Passcode: 212605

Date: 15th February 2024 and 14th March 2024

Time: 3pm daily GMT+1

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Kind regards

Comfort Asokoro-Ogaji

Managing Consultant

GOVERMOR'S OFFICE
CENTRAL RIVER REGION
JAMJAN UREN
Sign:
Date: 26 1 1 2 M

#### | ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SAFEGUARD CONSULTANTS |

Head Office: Abuja, Nigeria; 4 Justice Chukwudifo Oputa Street, Asokoro.

UK: 71-75 Shelton Street, Covent Sarden, London, WC2H 9/Q | USA: 16192. Coastal Highway, Lewes Delaware 1995b, County of Sussex.
East Africa: Flot No. 541b, Avenue Du Commerce, Rigali, Rwanda | Central Africa: 1, Corner Komoriko, Boboliko, Kinshasa, Congo - Kinshasa
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Email: info@frichflood.com, www.richflood.com



#### The Director,

Department of Forestry Status in the GambiaFC5C+J8V, Marina Parade, Banjul, Gambia.

# INCEPTION WORKSHOP FOR THE ESIA STUDY AND PEST & PESTICIDE MANAGEMENT PLAN (PPMP) FOR THE PROPOSED REGIONAL RICE RESILIENT VALUE CHAINS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (REWARD)

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Date: 25th January, 2024 20 H Jenny, 2024

Time: 10:00 am prompt

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Managing Consultant

25-01-2024

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#### The Honourable Minister,

Ministry of Agriculture. The Quadrangle, Banjul. The Gambia.

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The Director,

Department of Parks and Wildlife Management (DPWM). Jimpex Road, Kanifing, PO Box 48, Banjul Gambia.



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The Honourable Minister, Trade, Regional Integration & Employment Independence Drive, Banjul, The Gambia.

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Example of the Commerce of the Commerce



The Honourable Minister, Ministry of Lands, Regional, Government & Religious Affairs The Quadrangle, New Administrative, Banjul.

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Tel: +234 806 423 9910 | Office: +44 20 7788 7550 | Office: +234 814 524 5247 | Office: +234 803 451 7767
Empil: with Middle Communication of the Communication of the



The Honourable Minister,

Ministry of Health and Social Welfare F842+G76, Bertil Harding Hwy, Serrekunda, Gambia

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Link: https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84251652

Meeting ID: 842 5165 2234

Passcode: 212605

Date: 15th February 2024 and 14th March 2024

Time: 3pm daily GMT+1

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+234 814 524 5247 or send an email to projects@richflood.com

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Comfort Asokoro-Ogaji Managing Consultant

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SAFEGUARD CONSULTANTS |

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8 1ha Jobe 26/1/2024

The Director
Department of Water Resources
7A Marina Parade Banjul, Gambia.

## INCEPTION WORKSHOP FOR THE ESIA STUDY AND PEST & PESTICIDE MANAGEMENT PLAN (PPMP) FOR THE PROPOSED REGIONAL RICE RESILIENT VALUE CHAINS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (REWARD)

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Venue: The Conference Room, RVCTP Office, Ministry of Agriculture WALIC Complex Kerr Serign.

Date: 25th January, 2024 29th January, with

Time: 10:00 am prompt

Further engagement for this project will be undertaken at designated venues, online via zoom, and with selected NGOs, CBOs and focused groups discussions across project affected areas and through national MDAs.

The virtual engagement login details are as follows:

Link: https://us06web.zpont.us/j/84251652234

Meeting ID: 842 5165 2234

Passcode: 212605

Date: 15th February 2024 and 14th March 2024

Time: 3pm daily GMT+1

Your valuable inputs and comments will be highly appreciated as you attend these meetings.

Please Note: All cost of attendance will be borne by attendee. For further enquiries and comments, please call

+234 814 524 5247 or send an email to projects@richflood.com

Kind regards

Trulint and

Comfort Asokoro-Ogaji Managing Consultant

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SAFEGUARD CONSULTANTS

Head Office: Abuja, Nigeria; 4 Justice Chukwudifo Oputa Street, Asokoro

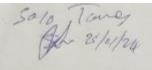
UK: 71-75 Shelton Street, Covent Garden, London, WC2H 9IQ | USA: 15192. Coastal Highway, Lenes Delaware 19968, County of Susses.

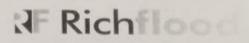
East Africa: Flot No. 6418, Avenue Du Commerce, Kigali, Rwende | Central Africa 1, Corner Komoriko, Boboliko, Kinshasa, Congo - Kinshere

South Africa: 1st floor, New Road Office Park, S New Road, Errands Gardens, 1684, Midrand | North Africa: Mazaken Sherston, 11799 Calvo, Egypt

Tel: +234 806 423 9910 | Office: +44 20 7788 7530 | Office: +234 814 524 5247 | Office: +234 803 451 7767

Empile: https://doi.org/10.1006/j.com/10.10





The General Director, National Environment Agency Gambia. Jimpex Road, Kanifing, PO Box 48, Banjul, The Gambia.

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East Afrika: Plot No. 5418. Avenue Du Commerce, Kigali, Rwanda | Central Afrika: L. Comer Komoniko, Boboliko, Kinshase, Congo - Kinshase
Seoth Afrika: 1st floor, New Road Office Park, 5 New Read, Errands Gardens, 1664. Middand | North Africe: Masaket Sharaton, 11795 Ceira, Egypt.

Tel: +234 806 423 9910 | Office: +44 20 7788 7550 | Office: +234 814 524 5247 | Office: +234 805 451 7787

Emplishment Sharaton Comments (1995) | Office: +234 814 524 5247 | Office: +234 805 451 7787





The Director,
Department of Labour,
Bakau,
The Gambia

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Comfort Asokoro-Ogaji Managing Consultant For more Into Please call 1679831 /3387713

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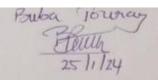
UK, 73-75 Shelton Street, Covent Garden, London, WC2H 3/Q | USA; 16192 Coastal Highway, Lewes Delaware 19958, County of Susanz.

East Africa: Fice No. 6413, Avenue Du Cummerce, Kigzil, Reands | Centual Africa 1, Comer <u>Enmorting, Boboling</u>, Kinishasa, Conger - Kinishasa

South Africa: Ist ficor, New Road Office Park, 5 New Road, Errands Gardens, 1684, Miditand | North Africa: Massiag Sheraton, 11799 Cairo, Egypt.

Tel: +234 806 423 9910 | Office: +44 20 7788 7530 | Office: +234 814 524 5247 | Office: +234 803 451 7767

Email: info@richflood.com, www.richflood.com





The Honourable Minister

Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Natural Resources 1st Floor, GIEPA House, 48 Kairaba Avenue, Serekunda, The Gambia.

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Link: https://doi.org/10.000/00.200m.us/j/84251652

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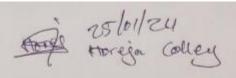
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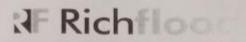
Managing Consultant

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The Director, Agricultural Engineering Services, The Gambia.

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#### The Honourable Minister,

Ministry of Gender and Children Affairs. Fatou Golen Plaza, Adjacent to Election House, Bertil Harding Highway, Bakau.

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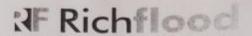
Managing Consultant

26/01/24

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Executive Director, National Women's Farmers Association. 98 Kairaba Avenue. Serekunda.

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Managing Consultant

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### **XF** Richflood

27/01/2024

Musadarboez@gmail.com

24th January, 2024

Marus Farms Limited Central River Region

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### **XF Richflood**

24th January, 2024

The Regional Agricultural Director

CRR South

Use Grandia

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Head Office: Abuja, Nigeria; 4 Justice Chukwudifo Oputa Street, Asokoro.

John Mandy RAD CRES
THE Tel 2308149

UK: 71-75 Shelton Street, Covers Garden, London, WC2H 9/G | USA: 16192. Coastal Highway, Lewes Delaware 19958, County of Sussess.

Lest Africa: Flot No. 5418, Avenue Di Commerce, Kigat, Rivanda | Central Africa 1, Corner Economico, Babellio, Kinshasa, Corner Cincluse

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Tel: 4234 806 423 9910 | Office: 444 20 7788 7580 | Office: 4234 814 524 5247 | Office: 4234 803 451 7767

Email: info@richflood.com, www.dchlood.com.

### Richflood

24th January, 2024

The 1	Regional	Agrico	utnerel	Director
Centre	el River	Region	Hooth,	
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### **F** Richflood

24th January, 2024

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27/1/24 Tol 5387084 Makang Jama Plana Secrectary:

| ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SAFEGUARD CONSULTANTS |

Head Office: Abuja, Nigeria; 4 Justice Chukwudifo Opula Street, Asokoro.

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### Richflood

24th January, 2024

Demphy Hunder Resident Kaba Fara Rice arrives Association

#### INCEPTION WORKSHOP FOR THE ESIA STUDY FOR THE PROPOSED REGIONAL RICE RESILIENT VALUE CHAINS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (REWARD)

The above subject matter refers,

Richflood International Limited works closely with the public and private sectors in Africa providing services related to Environmental and Social Impact Assessments (ESIAs), we help clients meet international lender requirement such as the IFC, World bank, AfDB etc and we provide guidance to lenders in making informed investment decisions by evaluating environmental and social risks.

Richflood has been engaged by the Ministry of Agriculture through the Rice Value Chain Transformation Project (RVCTP) as the designated Environmental Consultant to undertake the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) study for the proposed REWARD Program. You are hereby officially notified and invited to the Stakeholders Engagement Meeting, scheduled as follows;

Venue: The Conference Room, RVCTP Office, Ministry of Agriculture WALIC Complex Kerr Serign.

Date: 29th January, 2024 Time: 10:00 am prompt

Further engagement for this project will be undertaken online via zoom using the details below:

Link: https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84251652234

Meeting ID: 842 5165 2234

Passcode: 212605

Date: 15th February 2024 and 14th March 2024

Time: 3pm daily GMT+1

Your valuable inputs and comments will be highly appreciated as you attend these meetings.

Please Note: All cost of attendance will be borne by attendee. For further enquiries and comments, please call

+234 814 524 5247 or send an email to projects@richflood.com

Kind regards

Comfort Asokoro-Ogaji Managing Consultant

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#### **Appendix III - Templates**

### **A.** Grievance Complaint Form

Date:
RegionDistrictArea of Concern
File N°
COMPLAINT
Name of Complainant:
Address:
Type of assets affected:
DESCRIPTION OF COMPLAINT:
Signature Complainant
Follow-up actions undertaken:

At Date	
(Signature of Complainant)	Signature of Chairman of Committee
Resolution	
At Date	
Signature of Complainant	Signature of Chairman of the Committee

# В. **Acknowledgement Receipt Registration** No. ..... Subproject: ..... Location: ..... Name and Address of Complainant: PFI of Concern.... Date of Complaint: ..... (dd/mm/yyyy) Documents comprising the complaint: (petition, supporting documents etc.) 1) 2) 3) 4) Summary of Complaint: Name and Signature of the Complainant: Name and Signature of Person receiving the complaint:

<b>C.</b>	Grievance Information Form (GIF)
Subpro	oject:
Place	of Registration:
Regist	ration No:
Contac	et details of the complainant:
Name:	Age: Gender:
Addre	ss:
Telepl	none No Email Address:
Locati	on related to the complaint/issue: Location/Town:
PFI of	Concern:
Catego	ory of complainant:
•	Affected person
•	Mediator for affected person
•	Civil organization / Service Organization
•	Other(specify)
Summ	ary of grievance:
•••••	
•••••	
•••••	
(Attac	h letter or a petition / documents as submitted) Source of complaint: Attachments:
1)	
2)	
3)	Prepared by: Date:(dd/mm/yyyy)

## Subproject: ...... Location: ..... Date:....(yyyy/mm/dd) Place of Registration:.... Registration No.: Concern PFI.... Contact details of the complainant: Name: Gender: Gender: Email Address: ......Location related to the complaint / issue: Location/Town:.... Category of complainant: Affected person • Mediator for affected person • Civil organization / Service Organization • Other (specify) Summary of grievance: (Attach letter or a petition / documents as submitted) Source of complaint: Attachments: 1) 2) 3) Letter Telephone

**Grievance Information Documentation Form (GIF)** 

D.

Email

Verbal	Comp	olaint Box			
Other	(Specify	Attachments:	1)	2)	3)
Prepare	ed by:	— Date:	(dd/mm/yyyy	)	

_	ord Format – (Grievance Red		_
Project:	Location:		
Concern PFI			
Date of the Meet	ting:	Complaint Register	No:
Venue of meetin	g:		
Details of Partic	ipants:		
Summary of Gri	evance:		
Notes on Discus	sion:		
		•••••	
Decisions taken	in the meeting / Recommen	dations of GRC:	
Issue	Solved	/	Unsolved

### F. Template for Recording Engagement Activities

Date	Location	Stakeholder Group	Form of Engagement	Purpose of Engagement	Key findings/conclusion	Reference to MoMs	Remarks

**G. Grievance Tracking Sheet** 

Grievance Number	Date Submission	of	Complainant Name	Contact Information	Nature of Grievance	Current Status	Assigned Responsible Person	Date of Action	Resolution Outcome	Remarks/ Comments