ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL MANAGEMENT PLAN SUMMARY

Project Title: Restoration of Farm Infrastructure and Rural Livelihoods Project (RFIRLP)
Project Number: P-KE-AAA-002
Country: KENYA
Department: OSAN
Division: OSAN 1.

a) Brief description of the project and key environmental and social components

The overall sector goal of the project is to contribute to improved livelihoods among vulnerable groups and to reduce poverty. The specific objective is to restore agricultural production and livelihoods for 19,000 farm families displaced by the PEV in the districts of Molo and Uashin Gishu in the Rift Valley Province. The Project has only one component, other than the Project Coordination component. The activities under component 1, On-Farm Infrastructure, are to:

- Reconstruct 19,000 low-cost houses for returning farm families with priority given to female headed households during selection
- Provide 19,000 returning farm families with basic agricultural inputs through NAAIAP’s voucher system using accredited private stockists
- Distribute 1,900 tons of fertiliser and 190 tons of maize seeds to returning farm families
- 6,775 hectares of land planted with maize seeds during the 2010 long rains
- 34,200 tons of maize produced

b) Major environmental and social impacts

The Project is classified as Category 2, as the site specific environmental and/or social impacts can be minimized by the application of mitigation measures.

Positive Impacts:
Improving farm inputs access and provision of shelter to returning farm families will lead to i) improvement of the overall food security and livelihoods of the farmers and the people living in the two districts. This will result in the overall improvement of the health and social well-being of the farming communities, reducing their vulnerability to drought and contribute to poverty reduction through increase agricultural productivity and farm income; ii) creation of employment for the population of the two districts will improve incomes; iii) farmers and surrounding communities will have the opportunity to learn and practice improved agricultural methods and efficient utilization of farm inputs and natural resources; iv) the technical and managerial assistance provided to the line ministry at the central and district levels and farmer groups, through the establishment of community groups will strengthen their institutional capacities and optimize their operational performance; and v) the harvesting of water from the roof will lead to cleaner water, reduced runoff of water and soil erosion.
Negative Impacts:
There are occupational health and safety risks associated with the construction of shelters and temporary disturbance during the construction phase. The use of mud for the house walls can create shallow pits which can become breeding grounds for mosquitoes.

Climate Change:
The two districts have a unimodal rainfall and there has not been significant changes in its pattern in recent times. The farmers are returning to the same area of land that they left and will be planting the same crops in only one planting season. The houses are to be built on previous sites with no new area being cleared which could have contributed to land degradation and changes in the climatic patterns in the long run.

c) Enhancement and mitigation program
The project will address the negative impacts through several mitigation measures such as: beneficiaries will be encouraged to plant vegetation in the shallow pits that will be used to provide mud for the house walls. The National Environmental Management Authority (NEMA) will review and, if satisfied, provide a Certificate of Approval of EIA for the Annual Work Plan (AWP) to the Ministry of State for Special Programmes (MSSP) with conditions of approval for environmental mitigation measures identified for each lot of the houses. In addition, the provision of mosquito nets and protective clothing and the establishment of community based management system to ensure ownership and sustainability will be required. In addition, campaigns and training of communities will increase awareness and full community participation in decision-making and taking appropriate actions for environmental work.

As for climate change, provision for the harvesting of the runoff from the roofs of the newly constructed houses ensures that the water does not erode surrounding areas, especially hill slopes, thereby reducing the risk of weather pattern changes. Runoff collection and storage may offset the lack of water in drought periods.

d) Monitoring program and complementary initiatives
All bio-physical and social factors will be continuously monitored by both the communities and the extension staff from relevant ministries [Agriculture; Environment; Gender] as well as the local authorities and take necessary actions whenever required. The NEMA district officer will oversee the implementation of the project to ensure that all planned mitigation measures are put in place. The ESMP was drawn up to guide the process of monitoring.

e) Institutional arrangements and capacity building requirements
Ministry of Agriculture will be the implementing Agency, assisted by Ministry of Public Works on infrastructure and Hydrological Services on water resources elements. NEMA will provide the necessary guidance on matters concerning environment. The project will train relevant Government extension staff of the participating ministries in various fields to enhance their skills, particularly in; hydrology, water quality monitoring, soil-moisture management, on-farm technologies, and data collection/processing & archiving, information management. The project will facilitate the production of guidelines, equipment and tools required for monitoring including but not limited to: guidelines for hydrometry, water quality sampling and testing,
socio-economic monitoring, and other areas as listed above; protective clothing, hand tools will be provided.

**f) Public consultations and disclosure requirements**
Beneficiary and affected communities will be continuously consulted on matters concerning environmental management and shall be fully involved in the entire project cycle. This will ensure ownership and sustainable provision of services.

**g) Estimated costs**
The costs for all actions related to environmental management have been estimated at USD 45,000 and included in the project cost.

**h) Implementation schedule and reporting**
The ESMP schedule was prepared and presented in the PAR.