



Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Agriculture  
PHILIPPINE RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECT  
National Project Coordination Office  
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Quezon City 1100, Philippines

## TERMS OF REFERENCE

### SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SAFEGUARDS SPECIALIST (SES Specialist) PSO SES-UNIT

#### BACKGROUND

The Government of the Philippines (GOP) has received a loan from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD or the "Bank"), specifically under Loan Agreement for IBRD Loan No. 8421-PH dated September 8, 2014 in an amount equivalent to FIVE HUNDRED ONE MILLION TWO HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND UNITED STATES DOLLARS (US\$501,250,000) for the purpose of part-financing the Philippine Rural Development Project (PRDP), and another loan from the same Bank in the amount of ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTY MILLION UNITED STATES DOLLARS (\$170,000,000), under Loan Agreement for IBRD Loan No. 8816-PH dated March 2, 2018, for the purpose of providing additional financing to scale up the original Project.

The development objective of the Project is to increase rural incomes and enhance farm and fishery productivity in targeted areas in all the 16 regions of the country. It is envisaged to promote more inclusive rural development by supporting smallholders and fisher-folk to increase their marketable surpluses, and by improving access to markets. The PRDP would also support reforms in the planning, resource programming and implementation practices of the DA. It will facilitate the integration and financing of priority local investments derived from the DA's agricultural and fisheries modernization plans which have been developed using a value chain approach, and through a consultative process with local stakeholders. The Project will be implemented over a period of six years (2014 to 2020).

Specific investments and interventions are implemented under four (4) central components of the Project enumerated and briefly described as follows:

**Component 1: Local and National Levels Planning (I-PLAN).** This component supports the implementation and mainstreaming of the DA's AFMP planning framework, thereby providing an operational platform for integrated technical support service delivery at the local and national levels. At the regional and local levels, regional AFMPs are being developed taking into account spatial and value chain analysis and using tools for vulnerability and suitability assessment, participatory resource analysis. The local AFMPs shall build on the success of local governments in the implementation of their own development plans.

**Component 2: Infrastructure Development (I-BUILD).** A network of strategic rural infrastructure is being established, linking priority value chains in targeted Project areas that are identified through the regional AFMPs. By the end of the Project, the component will be able to establish an improved access to strategic and climate-resilient rural infrastructure and facilities that primarily benefit target beneficiaries. These rural infrastructures include farm-to-market roads (FMRs), bridges, communal irrigation systems (CIS), potable water systems (PWS), production and post-production facilities and other infrastructure such as fish landings, fish sanctuary/Protected Area guardhouses, among others.

**Component 3: Enterprise Development (I-REAP).** This aims to strengthen and develop viable rural agro- industries through investments in the appropriate segments of efficient value chains of key agricultural and fishery products in targeted Project areas. Specifically, I-REAP is designed to: (i) increase productivity and marketability of agriculture and fishery products through increased access to information and support services; and (ii) increase farm and fishery household incomes through engagement in value-adding activities.

**Component 4: Project Implementation Support (I-SUPPORT).** Providing overall operational support to the implementation is the I-SUPPORT component that ensures efficient and effective delivery of the Project transactions in terms of financial management, procurement, monitoring & evaluation, geotagging, social and environmental safeguards and grievance redress mechanism. It leads in the introduction of innovations and reforms towards more effective and efficient administrative support system in Project implementation, mainly working through the existing DA bureaucracy. At the national level, the National Project Coordination Office (NPCO) is established at the DA Central Office to steer the overall implementation of the Project. Four (4) Project Support Offices (PSOs) have been established to support the implementation in the main islands of the country (2 in Luzon, 1 in Visayas and 1 in Mindanao). A Regional Project Coordination Office (RPCO) is formed and functioning in each Regional Office of the DA to focus on the implementation of the Project in the region.

## **SCOPE OF THE ASSIGNMENT**

Under the general supervision of the Social and Environmental Unit Head, the Social and Environmental Safeguards Specialist will be responsible in the provision of technical assistance to the RPCOs and partner LGUs in ensuring the compliance and implementation of Safeguards Policy and adhering to the general procedures and guidelines of the World Bank (WB) in order to ensure quality output of program interventions. He/She will also ensure the timely delivery of the SES Unit's expected outcomes in the whole project operations. He/She will work closely with consultants and other members of the PRDP-PSO and RPCO team members.

## DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Social and Environmental Safeguards Specialist obligates to undertake and perform the following tasks in SES Unit, I-SUPPORT, PRDP-PSO:

### a. General tasks:

- 1) Ensure compliance with and/or implementation of the Safeguards Policy of the Project particularly on the following:
  - i. The effective application of the Indigenous Peoples (IPs) Development Framework in all project components and processes at the PSOs, Regional, Provincial and Municipal levels. This includes assisting in ensuring proper consultation and full participation of concerned IPs, especially in securing the Free Prior and Informed Consent and other clearances issued by IPs;
  - ii. The effective application of Land Acquisition Rehabilitation and Resettlement Framework. This task includes assisting the RPCOs in ensuring: (a) the proper acquisition and documentation of Right of Way (ROW) papers; (b) that persons affected and/or displaced on account of the implementation of PRDP projects are thoroughly consulted and justly compensated
  - i. The adoption of general environmental policies relative to specific types and locations of developments proposed by LGUs;
  - ii. The conformity of individual subprojects with technical guidelines and specifications for an environmentally-sound design;
  - iii. That the project proponents conduct environmental assessments (EA) for the preparation of environmental and social management/mitigation plans;
  - iv. That project proponents secure appropriate environmental clearances from concerned regulatory agencies.
- 2) Ensure the effective installation and implementation of Safeguards policies and processes at all levels;
- 3) Serve as safeguards advisor to the project support and regional offices and LGU SES focal persons to ensure alignment among all project components on safeguards related issues;

### b. Specific tasks:

- 1) Conduct appraisal and review of feasibility studies, environmental engineering designs and business plans to check compliance with the Integrated Environmental and Social Safeguards Framework (IESSF) and recommend appropriate measures in the Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP);
- 2) Lead in the conduct of site validation, spot monitoring of selected subprojects and evaluation of safeguards compliance by the LGU, Contractor for infrastructure subprojects and Proponent Groups (PGs) for enterprise subprojects;

- 3) Conduct post review of subprojects issued with NOL by the Project Support Offices;
- 4) Serve as trainer or resource person in safeguards related training programs for technical staff at the RPCO and LGU level;
- 5) Monitor the registry of grievances and resolution of grievance lodged at the RPCO, LGU, PG level and/or participate in the conduct of investigation and resolution process of grievance lodged/elevated at PSO level;
- 6) Contribute in the development and improvement of the SES Operations Manual and SES Instruments;
- 7) Lead in the crafting of lessons learned from the project experiences on LGUs' and contractors compliance with safeguards policies (to form part of the Safeguards Semi-annual Report at the PSO level)
- 8) Conduct regular consultation, coordination and management meetings among the units and components at the PSO and with the RPCO, LGU in the implementation of the Project and provides feedback and recommendations on how to resolve complex issues;
- 9) Perform other relevant tasks as the Unit Head, PSO Project Director/Deputy Project Director may assign.

## REQUIRED EXPERTISE & QUALIFICATION

### A. Education & Relevant Experiences

- Graduate of Bachelor's Degree in Social Sciences, Agriculture, Forestry, Environmental Science, Engineering, Development Management and related field of study. A Masters degree is an advantage;
- Preferably with Professional License related to Agriculture or Environment.
- Minimum of six (6) years of professional working experience related to safeguards and with knowledge on a) consultation and resettlement process, b) environmental and social impact assessment, and c) environmental and social management plan for rural infrastructure and enterprise development projects;
- With six (6) years working experience on development projects, preferably in foreign assisted projects implemented by Local Government Units.

### B. Knowledge, Competencies and Skills

- With technical knowledge on various Safeguards related laws, policies and processes particularly on Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Processes, Indigenous Peoples Right Act (IPRA Law), Philippine Environmental Laws, Philippine Environmental Impact Statement System and preferably knowledgeable with World Bank safeguards policies;
- In depth knowledge of social, environmental and cultural issues affecting the implementation of rural infrastructure and enterprise subprojects;

- Capability to provide guidance on negotiation and conflict resolution processes;
- Innovativeness and effectiveness capability under varying work assignments, conditions and time pressures;
- Strong interpersonal and ability to work in multidisciplinary teams;
- Strong inter-organizational management skills in working with other components of PRDP;
- Can work with limited supervision and under tight timelines;
- Proficient written and oral communication skills.

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