

WWF Environmental and Social Safeguards Categorization Memorandum

Project Title: Expanding and consolidating Madagascar's marine protected areas network	Date: 7/12/18
Project Location and salient physical characteristics relevant to the safeguard analysis: <p>The fourth largest island in the world, Madagascar is home to highly diverse and complex marine ecosystems. Estuaries, mangroves, seagrass beds, and coral reefs characterize it's 5,600 km long coastline. An estimated 10 million people, including over 250,000 artisanal fishers, rely on these healthy marine and coastal ecosystems for food, revenue, and livelihoods.</p> <p>The proposed project has not determined project locations. These locations will be determined based on (1) KBA mapping which will be done under the project Year 1, (2) this mapping will be integrated into a strategy and action plan which will guide MPA/LMMA expansion at the national level. The project site selection criteria and selection process will be based on this action plan.</p>	Project Categorization (A, B, C): B
Project Description: <p>The project objective is to ensure Madagascar's marine biodiversity and productivity are effectively managed through a sustainable, resilient national network of MPA. The project components are</p> <p><u>Component 1: Establishing an extended, representative and sustainable network of coastal and marine protected areas and LMMAs.</u> This outcome will be achieved through the following: (i) review and update marine KBA proposals based on new IUCN selection criteria while also integrating the results with the recent priority mapping of marine biodiversity; (ii) define eligibility criteria for LMMAs/OECM with respect to Aichi Target 11 and, based on this criteria, document those sites that may be legitimately included in accounting measures to track progress towards Aichi Target 11; and (iii) based on the priority mapping, the participative development and implementation of a strategy and action plan to attain the Sydney Promise. The second outcome will support implementation of this action plan by providing subgrants to operational partners that will see 2 million ha of MPA/LMMA through to submission for gazettelement.</p> <p><u>Component 2: building a robust enabling environment for MPAs/ LMMAs.</u> This will (i) update regulatory frameworks for MPAs, particularly with respect to streamlining the creation process and improving adaptation to the special conditions; (ii) support ongoing dialogue and exchanges between government and promoters with the aim of defining a clear regulatory framework for LMMAs and strengthened user rights in both LMMAs and MPAs; and (iii) strengthen MEEF institutional capacity to convey convincing arguments for MPA/LMMA integration into a national MSP process, and defend the importance of these sites with respect to other developmental sectors.</p> <p><u>Project Component 3: Enhancing management effectiveness and contributions to sustainable development through MPAs and LMMAs at site level</u> will primarily support existing MPAs and LMMAs where there is at least a moderate level of management capacity, and an opportunity to improve local livelihoods and test revenue generating mechanisms. The following activities will be applied to the same sites where possible, to ensure consolidation of activities and maximize impact: (i) innovative ways to increase local stakeholder revenues to improve livelihoods and to strengthen their motivation to manage healthy MPAs and LMMAs; (ii) voluntary cost recovery from increased local revenues as a means to finance routine management activities; and (iii) enhanced management effectiveness through essential infrastructures and equipment, the development and deployment of management tools that are well adapted to local conditions.</p>	

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Component 4: Knowledge management, monitoring and evaluation A fourth project component for knowledge management, monitoring and evaluation underpins the project to ensure successful execution as well as building lasting capacity for long-term impact and sustainability. It will leverage existing best practices to ensure that knowledge is shared, results are analyzed and available to all interested partners, and lessons learned are used for adaptive management purposes. In addition, Component 4 include a communications strategy to support all project components.

Safeguard Policies Triggered	Yes	No
Natural Habitats	X	
Pest Management		X
Indigenous Peoples		X
Involuntary Resettlement	X	

Summary of Key Safeguard Issues:

Environment and Social Risk Management: Overall, the environmental and social impacts of the project are expected to be positive. However, small scale, localized negative effects may arise during the implementation of some site-specific activities including of construction of small infrastructure for effective fisheries management. Therefore, the project has been classified as a Category B project. Since the locations and impacts cannot be clearly defined at this stage, an Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) is prepared by the Executing Agency. The ESMF was prepared in a consultative and participatory manner and includes a set of implementable mitigation measures to be used to develop situation specific Environmental and Social Management Plans (ESMP). The ESMF will also include environmental and social screening procedures along with an environmental and social check-list to be applied on each proposed sub activity financed under the subgrant mechanism.

Natural Habitat: As stated above, the overall environmental and social impacts of the proposed project are expected to be overwhelmingly positive and the project expected impacts on Natural Habitats are also expected to be significantly positive, through efforts to improve participatory conservation and management of key marine habitats. Nonetheless, potential minor small-scale impacts on Natural Habitats may occur and additional expansion of areas under management could have variant impacts on livelihoods. Provision would be made in the ESMF to adequately address such possibilities. Any relevant sub grant financed activity under the project will be screened for its potential to cause negative impacts to natural habitats under the ESMF procedures. If any such activity is likely to cause irreversible or significant damage to habitats it will be excluded from project grant funding.

Indigenous People; There are no indigenous people in the project area.

Involuntary Resettlement: The project is not expected to involve land acquisition leading to involuntary resettlement of project affected persons (PAPs). However, because the project proposes to strengthen the effective management and protection of marine resources as well as potentially expand areas under protection, these access restrictions, be it seasonal or temporary, may provide some prospect for negative impacts on livelihoods for some individuals in some coastal communities, at least in the short-term. Where restrictions to access of resources are taking place under community-based projects, such as fisheries co-management arrangements, the policy does not apply. However, it is reasonable to assume that some

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decisions taken to restrict access to fisheries could be initiated by the Government and will not fall solely within the authority of the local communities. Therefore, as part of the ESMF, a Process Framework (PF) will be prepared and extensively consulted upon to ensure peoples views and concerns are fully taken into consideration in the final project design. The PF will establish a process whereby individuals, households or communities who may lose some or all of their livelihoods from fishing or fisheries-related activities, as a result of project investments, are able to participate in a process to minimize such negative impact on project affected communities' livelihood and living condition.

Pest Management: The project will not involve the procurement and use of pesticides.

Describe any potential indirect and/or long term impacts due to anticipated future activities in the project area:

The project expects to achieve improved conservation and sustainable use of natural resources as its long-term impact of project interventions, which will be both environmentally and socially positive.

Required actions: (type of ESIA, ESMP, IPP, IPMP, RAP, consultations, disclosure)

An ESMF will be prepared which will include a Process Framework

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