Annex [#]. Social and Environmental Screening Template

The completed template, which constitutes the Social and Environmental Screening Report, must be included as an annex to the Project Document. Please refer to the <u>Social and Environmental Screening Procedure</u> and <u>Toolkit</u> for guidance on how to answer the 6 questions.

Project Information

| Project Information | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| 1. Project Title | India High Range Mountain Landscape Project, Munnar | | | | | |
| 2. Project Number | 87493 | | | | | |
| 3. Location (Global/Region/Country) | South Asia, India, Kerala, Munnar | | | | | |

Part A. Integrating Overarching Principles to Strengthen Social and Environmental Sustainability

QUESTION 1: How Does the Project Integrate the Overarching Principles in order to Strengthen Social and Environmental Sustainability?

Briefly describe in the space below how the Project mainstreams the human-rights based approach

The human right based approach of the project is reflected in its long-term goal. The project's long-term goal is to contribute sustainable governance of globally significant biological diversity of India by mainstreaming conservation considerations into production activities in the mountain landscapes, while also considering development imperatives, need for sustaining livelihoods of the local communities. The project will work closely with the local communities by providing technical and financial support for engendering sustainable use of natural wild resources. Project's planned interventions include skills upliftment, value addition to on-farm and forest produce will result in income augmentation of communities. Equal opportunities for vulnerable segment of society like minorities, differently abled persons, poorest of the poor or destitute, and elderly persons among the local community have been ensured. The project aims to engage and ensure informed participation the project stakeholders and communities through meaningful, effective and informed consultation processes in the formulation/design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of Project's outputs and impacts. Further, appropriate regular information sharing initiatives (community consultation and disclosure meetings, stakeholder workshops, media briefings, etc.) will be supported by the project to ensure required level transparency. Besides, the project aims to strengthen community/ village-based organizations like local self-government institutions (PRIs), Joint Forest Management Committees (JFMCs) involving local communities (mostly tribal), Self Help Groups (SHGs), Biodiversity Management Committee (BMCs), Eco Development Committee (EDC), VSS (Van Samrakshana Samiti, Farmer clusters/collectives, and other CBOs, which are the key conduits for reaching out to the grassroots on account of their local presence, reach, flexibility of operations and rapport and will implement project interventions through this localized approach. if appropriately capacitated and effectively empowered, these local organization will become an effective vehicle for sustainable resource management. Project activities in HRML will provide economic benefits and livelihood opportunities for local poor and marginalized communities and other beneficiaries for enhancing sustainable resource management practices through promotion of artisanal enterprises (e.g. reed mat weaving), community-based tourism, NTFP based enterprises etc. The project will also recognize the traditional knowledge of local communities and fully integrate this in designing project interventions. A policy document is also envisaged for integrating the rights, principles and standards into planning, policy and implementation while MS BC into production sectors These interventions will be developed with the full participation of communities

Briefly describe in the space below how the Project is likely to improve gender equality and women's empowerment

Standalone gender action plan, based on the gender analysis has not been prepared under the project. However, the project has all components that ensure gender equity and community involvement in resource appraisal, participatory planning, resource conservation, resource utilization and developing market mechanism. Consultation is the underlying principle for planning any activity as it is to be undertaken by the stakeholders themselves and no separate institution is contemplated for implementation. Accordingly, the project gives maximum emphasis to building social capital among women and tribal groups. To ensure that social exclusion is minimized and social and gender equity maximized, project activities targeting the livelihoods/ subsistence sector will be founded on extensive stakeholder participation. Further, specific project activities will be developed to support empowerment of women in project activities. Existing networks of community organizations and local self-help groups including women groups like Kudumbashree will be targeted towards this. The stress will be given to revitalize existing institutions rather than establishing new ones. The project will target the institutions operating at the community level to enable them to actively participate in developing and implementing activities to ensure continuity and replicability once the project is completed.

Briefly describe in the space below how the Project mainstreams environmental sustainability

The project adopts a 'landscape approach' to resource governance as against the 'exclusive protected area centric approach with an objective to maintain the ecological integrity of the whole of HRML and its constituent parts. The project intents to push the conservation agenda beyond the frontiers of conservation sector by mainstreaming biodiversity considerations into the livelihoods and other commercial production sectors. The project ensure ecological sustainability in HRML through the following key measures: (i) production of knowledge base on the biodiversity values of HRML that will provide guidance to policy and program managers for taking informed decisions on resource use; (ii) facilitate the development of a landscape-level land use plan that will look at current land use in the project area and will then provide a road map for how land uses/ production practices by the different sectors can be made more compatible with the conservation needs of HRML; (iii) helping individual sectors to develop biodiversity-friendly sector plans to factor in biodiversity concern in sectoral operations; (iv) putting in place a cross-sectoral institutional mechanism to promote cross-sectoral dialogue and joint actions by different sectors that operate in the landscape for pre-program planning and concurrent and post project monitoring; (v) develop capacities of Panchyati Raj Institutions(PRIs) and key production sector institutions (tea, cardamom and tourism) for conservation through participatory approach to strengthen sustainability to implement biodiversity-friendly sector plans; (vi) expansion of the PA system by 30 percent over the baseline; (viii) develop community based micro plans for sustainable natural resource use along with capacity building and other technical assistance to implement these plans, (ix) develop markets and branding for produce from conservation-friendly production systems; (x) strengthen the management planning process in HRML and devise strategies for addressing new generation threats to bio

Part B. Identifying and Managing Social and Environmental Risks

| QUESTION 2: What are the Potential Social and Environmental Risks? Note: Describe briefly potential social and environmental risks identified in Attachment 1 – Risk Screening Checklist (based on any "Yes" responses). If no risks have been identified in Attachment 1 then note "No Risks Identified" and skip to Question 4 and Select "Low Risk". Questions 5 and 6 not required for Low Risk Projects. | social and e | nvironmental | level of significance of the potential risks? and 5 below before proceeding to Question | QUESTION 6: What social and environmental assessment and management measures have been conducted and/or are required to address potential risks (for Risks with Moderate and High Significance)? |
|---|------------------------------------|--------------|---|--|
| Risk Description | Impact and Probability (1-5) | Significance | Comments | Description of assessment and management measures as reflected in the Project design. If |

| | | (Low, Moderate, High) | | ESIA or SESA is required note that the assessment should consider all potential impacts and risks. |
|---|---------------|-----------------------------|--|--|
| Risk 1: Risk of restriction of access/use of traditional crop varieties/resources that have been customarily used by local farming communities including IPs/ tribal communities while developing a landscape level conservation strategy (output 1.1) and preparation and piloting of spatial crop planning in the project landscapes (output 1.2) (Principle 1: 1.2, 1.3, 1.6, 1.7; Standard 5: 5.2; Standard 6: 6.1, 6.2, 6.3 6.4, 6.6) | I = 3 P =3 | MODERATE | The project landscape has diverse cultural (tribal and non-tribal) and linguistic affinities (Malayalam, Tamil and tribal dialects). The region has a high proportion of Scheduled Caste (SC) and Scheduled Tribe (ST) population with all project Grama Panchayats having nearly 50% SC and ST population together, except for Mankulam, Adimali and Kuttampuzha. ST population is highest in the Grama Panchayats of Vattavada, Kanthalloor, Marayoor, Mankulam, with Edamalakudy having 100% tribal population. The major source of livelihood in the region is agriculture and allied activities like agricultural laborer and plantation workers in tea estates and employment in industrial establishments like tea-processing units and micro- enterprises and tourism. Non-timber forest produce (NTFP) accounts for a significant part of the livelihood, especially among the tribal communities in the region. The project has envisaged to have a landscape level land use plan for the project area to ensure sustainable resource use practices in the project area. The activities are targeted towards conservation of agrobiodiversity, forest ecosystems and services, richness and diversity of aquatic systems and life forms, and attaining carbon neutrality in production processes. However, it is possible that preparation and implementation of landscape level | Assessment & Management: A Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA ¹) approach should be integrated in the Landscape Level Land Use Plan (LLLUP) and conservation strategy wherein spatial crop plan and other sectoral plans will be the part. As a part of SESA, a screening procedure should be applied before initiation of the planning process to avoid restriction of access/use or cultivation of traditional crop varieties and natural resources. |

¹ It refers to a range of analytical and participatory approaches that aim to integrate social and environmental considerations into policies, plans and programs and evaluate the interlinkages with economic and social considerations. SESA evaluates the effect of policy changes on a broad, cross-sectoral basis with the aim of making "upstream" development decision making more sustainable. It should be noted that whereas SESAs are required for relevant High-Risk Projects, the instrument may also be utilized to address potential impacts of Moderate Risk Projects.

| | | | conservation strategy integrating into sectoral planning processes of local governments (1.1.13) and preparation and piloting of spatial crop planning (1.2.1) to select the most appropriate crop choices for the area taking into consideration the traditional practices and current sectoral demand in the landscapes may restrict the access/use/cultivating of some of the traditional crop varieties/resources that have been customarily used by local farming communities including IPs/ tribal communities. There could be crop varieties and natural resource items which have less sector demand due to less economic values but have high cultural significance. | |
|--|----------------|-----|--|---|
| Risk 2: The validation traditional knowledge and developing models for equitable benefit sharing from use of genetic/biological resources (Output 1.2 (Activity 1.2.5) could have inadvertent impacts if the validation and sharing knowledge is done in a way that is not culturally appropriate and commercialize without obtaining consent of peoples using FPIC approach (Standard 1: 1,2, 1.9; Standard 4: 4.1, 4.2; Standard 6: 6.1, 6.2, 6.4, 6.9) | I = 3 P = 2 | LOW | Traditional/ethnic knowledge on the use of genetic/biological resources pertaining to the mountain landscape will be validated for its potential for development of utility/value added products (e.g. herbal drugs, functional foods/nutraceuticals and functional makeup/cosmeceuticals), based on which prospective models for benefit sharing will be evolved (1.2.5). There is the chance that this could have unintended adverse impacts, such as validation and sharing knowledge in a way that is not culturally appropriate or without prior consent of community following FPIC approach. | Assessment and management: The probability of this occurring is low as the project will work directly with local communities to identify traditional knowledge that is suitable for revival and use. Further, the project will engage experts to support project design and implementation of activities. However, a targeted assessment/review to assess the potential risks during the implementation phase should be done to ensure that the validation process wouldn't result any unintended adverse impacts on ownership, tenure and patent and using rights of natural resources and traditional livelihoods of tribal/indigenous communities. If the targeted assessment confirms violation of any rights due to the validation process, an FPIC process may be required. A checklist provided in the UNDP Guidance Note on Social and Environmental Standards (SES) 6: Indigenous Peoples (2017) should be used for appraising whether the validation process of traditional knowledge may require an FPIC. Project activities that may adversely affect the existence, value, use or enjoyment of indigenous lands, resources or territories shall not be conducted unless agreement |

| | | | | on mitigation measures has been achieved through |
|--|----------------|----------|---|--|
| | | | | the FPIC process. |
| Risk 3: Pose potential risks to environment and occupational, community health and safety due to the collection, segregation, transport, storage, and treatment and/or disposal of municipal solid waste (Output 1.2 & 2.2). (Standard 3: 3.1, 3.2, 3.6 & 3.7; Standard 7: 7.1) | I = 3 P = 3 | MODERATE | The project will support developing a Detailed Project Report (DPR) for 'Green Munnar' and for creating models in decentralized solid waste management including waste minimization, treatment and disposal under Output 1.2(Activity 1.2.1(2) through preparation and piloting of comprehensive Sanitation and Waste management plan. The models would include various waste minimization activities, composting techniques, bio- methanation process including toilet linked biogas and energy generation from biogas, suitable treatment system for chicken and slaughter wastes, management of plastic wastes, disposal of rejects, community service provider facility and appropriate institutional arrangements for solid waste management. The Output 2.2 (2.2.6: Sanitation and waste management linked models) proposes to set up a model septage treatment plant. Waste collection, management and disposal involve a variety of complex activities, with a great potential to affect health directly and indirectly, through many pathways and mechanisms. Improper waste management and insecure shipments of waste can have negative impacts on both environment and public health. Negative impacts can be due to different handling and disposal activities resulting in soil, water and air pollution. Inadequately disposed of or untreated waste may cause serious health problems for populations surrounding the area of disposal. Leaks from the waste may contaminate soils and water streams, and | Assessment & Management: Assessment of the proposed activities under this output revealed that impacts and risks are limited in scale and can be identified with a reasonable degree of certainty and can often be handled through application of standard best practices ² , but require further targeted assessment/review to assess the potential risks during the implementation phase to ensure zero or minimal level of environmental and OHS issues/risks by following guidelines of MSW management in compliance with UNDP Social and Environmental Standards (SES). Environmental and health risk assessment methodologies and practices applicable to waste management will be followed while preparing the DPR and relevant technical guidelines on operational safety procedures for waste handling, transport, storage and disposal in accordance with international practice will be adopted during the project implementation. Use of appropriate personal protection equipment (PPE) will be made mandatory to all personals who deal with solid waste materials. Training program will be implemented which involves provision of the necessary operational and safeguards exercise to the staff and community members that are to be directly involved in the solid waste management activities. The training will be delivered in advance of starting actual site work and be updated throughout the period of work on the site as required. The scope of the training would cover overall steps of solid waste management with specific emphasis on collection, segregation, packaging, transportation and disposal and landfill |

² Refer UNDP Guidance Note on Municipal Solid Waste Management (2016), Chapter 3.7 Health and Safety for Workers, pp 37

| | | | produce air pollution through emissions of e.g. heavy metals and persistent organic pollutants (POPs), ultimately creating health hazards. Other nuisances caused by uncontrolled or mismanaged waste disposal which may affect citizens negatively include impacts at local level, such as landscape deterioration, local water and air pollution, as well as littering. | handling procedures, inventory control and record keeping, site monitoring, emergency response and overall safeguards - related EHS practices and procedures. The curriculum for the training will utilize the various international guidance materials available. |
|---|---------------|-----|---|--|
| Risk 4: Risk of losing sources of livelihoods by local and tribal communities while selecting/identifying commodity/product value chain interventions for developing and piloting business models (Output 1.3). (Principle 1: 1.2, 1.3, 1.6; Standard 5: 5.2; Standard 6: 6.1, 6.2, 6.3 6.4,6.6) | I =2 P = 2 | LOW | The mountain landscape has different types of livelihood activities being practiced, which are linked to products/services and value chains addressing the specific socio- economic needs of the local and tribal communities. The output 1.3 aims to identify ecologically sustainable commodity/product value chain interventions (1.3.1), and develop business models (1.3.2) for these interventions, which will be piloted on the ground. While doing so it is likely that some livelihood activities based on particular commodities/products practiced by the local communities will be excluded and the local communities will be affected negatively losing sources of livelihoods. Along the reed belt of the landscape (Kuttampuzha and Athirappilly Panchayats), there is demand for community processing and marketing centers for bamboo, reed and cane based utility and artisanal products. The project aims (output 1.3, page 34, paragraph 5 of Project's Revised Implementation Strategies (2017)) to explore options for creating new institutional mechanisms for the extraction and management of reeds through tribal communities under the Forest Rights Act. The selection of ecologically sustainable commodity/product value chain | Assessment & Management: A targeted assessment will be conducted following Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) approach of community consultations. The stakeholder engagement process for FPIC will include following: 1. Identification of communities, sub-groups within communities, and other stakeholders with potential interests in the land or other natural resources that are proposed to be developed, appropriated, utilized, or impacted by the proposed project activity 2. Communication of full, accurate information regarding the Project (e.g. positive and negative, potential risks and short and/or long-term impacts, benefits) in the most appropriate language and medium, ensuring that is easily understandable and accessible (innovative and creative forms of communication may be required) 3. Information reaches all members of affected indigenous community and is consistent with the community's mechanisms for information sharing 4. A secure, culturally appropriate and trusted environment for discussions is provided 5. Decision-making processes, timelines, and languages for communicating are determined by discussion with the affected indigenous peoples are respected. |

| | | | interventions and development of business models and introduction of new institutional mechanism for extraction of resources without ensuring meaningful participation of the IPs/tribal communities in the processes and obtaining their prior consent may restrict their access to and use of natural resources causing difficulties in their livelihoods. | A checklist will be used for appraising whether an activity may require an FPIC. If FPIC is required, due procedures ³ of obtaining Free Prior Informed Consent (FPIC) for the project will be followed. Project activities that may adversely affect livelihood sources and use or enjoyment of indigenous lands, resources or territories shall not be conducted unless agreement on mitigation measures has been achieved through the FPIC process. |
|---|---------------|----------|--|---|
| Risk 5: Risk of reduction of customary natural resource management rights of tribal communities in project landscape while developing and implementing resource management plans (Output 1.4). (Standard 5: 5.4; Standard 6: 6.1, 6 2, 6.3 and 6.4) | I =3 P = 3 | MODERATE | The project landscape is inhabited by significant population of scheduled tribes. ST population is highest in the Grama Panchayats of Vattavada, Kanthalloor, Marayoor, Mankulam, with Edamalakudy having 100% tribal population. The major source of livelihood in the region is agriculture and allied activities like agricultural laborer and plantation workers in tea estates and employment in industrial establishments like tea-processing units and micro-enterprises and tourism. Non-timber forest produce (NTFP) accounts for a significant part of the livelihood, especially among the tribal communities in the region. The project intents to develop community-based models for sustainable access and use of forest resources by local communities (Output 1.4) by developing a sustainable development strategy for life and livelihoods in Edamalakudy GP (Activity 1.4.1) and facilitating Forest committees and other stakeholders on formulation and implementation of Community Forest Rights (CFR) management plan in three Grama Panchayats (GPs) (Activity 1.4.2) which could potentially include regulations / restrictions on management rights / access | Assessment and management: A SESA approach should be integrated and apply while formulating livelihood strategies in Edamalakudy GP and CFR management plan for selected Gram Panchyats. As part of SESA, a screening procedure will be followed to identify and avoid chances of curtailing of resource management right of Indigenous/Tribal peoples of the project landscapes while formulating the livelihood strategies and CFR management plan. The SESA would be useful tool to evaluate potential social and environmental consequences of new strategies and plans mainly by: Identifying potential adverse social and environmental impacts associated with strategy /plan and policies options engaging decision makers and stakeholders to ensure a common understanding and broad support for formulation and implementation of the strategies, plan and policies. For the stakeholder engagement process for FPIC, See Risk 4 above. |

³ See UNDP's Guidance Note on Social and Environmental Standards (SES) 6: Indigenous Peoples (2017), section 3.2, Pp 11-13 for the FPIC procedures.

| | | | to and use of resources through revisiting customary practices of resource management including updating of the formal operational policies, plans and guidelines. Thus, the rights of tribal/indigenous peoples may be regulated or reduced to access resources while developing livelihood strategy and CFR management plan as marginalized/vulnerable groups may be excluded from participatory processes due to lack of stakeholders' engagement process for FPIC. | |
|--|---------------|----------|--|--|
| Risk: 6 Risk of imposing regulation or restrictions on customary resource use/management right of local communities while reviewing and harmonizing policy and legal framework (Output 1.5) for ensuring sustainable resource use and management at the landscape level. (Principle 1: 1.2, 1.3, 1.6, 1.7; Standard 5: 5.2; Standard 6: 6.1, 6.2, 6.3 6.4, 6.6) | I =3 P = 3 | MODERATE | This output targets to influence policies at various levels on sustainable resource use and management through a thorough review and deliberation process towards improved environmental management framework, which could potentially include regulations / restrictions on management rights / access to and use of resources through the updating of operational policies, plans and guidelines. If the review process and stakeholder engagement and deliberation process proposed in 1.5.1 & 1.5.2 respectively fail to ensure active participation of local marginalized and vulnerable communities in the policies and legal review, the rights of local communities and tribal/indigenous peoples may be regulated or restricted while reviewing and proposing policies and strategies for harmonizing the policy and legal framework for the sustainable resource use and management of mountain landscapes. | Assessment & Management: A Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA) approach should be integrated in the landscape planning approach and processes. As a part of SESA, a screening procedure will be followed during the planning process to avoid: 1) the restriction of access to lands/resources that the tribal/indigenous communities currently claim/use; 2) impacts on rights, lands territories, resources, traditional livelihoods of tribal/indigenous communities. If avoidance is not possible, potential impacts on indigenous peoples, their lands, territories and resources need to be assessed following Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) processes. As a part of SESA, a checklist ⁴ will be used for appraising whether an activity may require an FPIC. Project activities that may adversely affect the existence, value, use or enjoyment of indigenous lands, resources or territories shall not be conducted unless agreement on mitigation measures has been achieved through the FPIC process. |

⁴ UNDP's Guidance Note on Social and Environmental Standards (SES) 6: Indigenous Peoples (2017)

| Г | I =3 MODERA | The output 2.1 sime to facilitate | Accessment & Management: Same as Disk & For |
|---|-------------|---|--|
| | P = 3 | | Assessment & Management: Same as Risk 6. For |
| | P = 3 | mainstreaming biodiversity considerations | fisheries, project to conduct stock assessment of |
| | | in the perspective plans and sectoral plans | native fish resources and to establish of a system |
| | | for sustainably managing the resources and | for periodic monitoring to ensure a sustainable fish |
| | | systems of the landscape (including forest | stock with species diversity. |
| | | ecosystems, plantations and agri-systems). | |
| Risk 7: Risk of restriction of access/use of | | The activities for achieving this output will | |
| natural resources and overuse of fish | | involve review of existing management | |
| resources that ultimate result reduction of | | plans including forest working plans and | |
| livelihood opportunities of IPs/ tribal | | other sectoral plan documents by a team of | |
| communities as a result of | | experts for the level/extent of incorporation | |
| 1. formulating landscape level | | of biodiversity concerns and conservation | |
| resource management plans and | | measures considered for implementation. | |
| updating and revising sustainable | | | |
| resource management systems | | The output 3.3 focuses on improving | |
| with mainstreaming biodiversity | | management effectiveness of biodiversity | |
| considerations (Output 3.1) | | rich ecosystems through assessment and | |
| 2. strengthening management | | mapping of vulnerable and degraded areas | |
| effectiveness of designated | | (Activity 3.3.1) and supporting preparation | |
| biodiversity rich ecosystems to | | of plans and implementation of | |
| address existing and emerging | | management and working plans for | |
| challenges to ecosystem | | vulnerable and degraded forest areas | |
| conservation and services (Output | | (Activity 3.3.2). | |
| 3.3) | | | |
| 3. Formulation and implementation of | | Activities of output 3.4 are targeted at the | |
| population restoration plan for | | formulation of population restoration plans | |
| conservation of Rare, endangered | | for the rare category (IUCN) and endemic | |
| and threatened (RET) ecosystems | | species of plants in the forests of the | |
| and endemic species in the | | mountain landscape unit needing | |
| landscape (Output 3.4) | | conservation management. The activities | |
| 4. Production and harvesting of fish | | are targeted towards effectively checking | |
| resources (1.2.1) | | degradation of forest systems and | |
| | | extinction of species, particularly exclusive | |
| (Principle 1: 1.3; 1.4, 1.6 ,1.7; Standard 5: | | endemics and rare category species of the | |
| 5.2,5,4; Standard 6: 6.1, 6.2, 6.4, 6.6) | | landscape. Similarly, project support is | |
| | | being utilized for production and harvesting | |
| | | of fish population | |
| | | | |
| | | The planning activities and process propose | |
| | | under outputs 3.1, 3.3 & 3.4) could | |
| | | potentially include enforcement of | |
| | | regulations / restrictions on management | |

| | | | rights / access to and use of resources through operational policies, plans and | |
|---|----------------|----------|--|---|
| | | | guidelines. Tribal/indigenous communities | |
| | | | may be excluded from the resource | |
| | | | management, ecosystem management and | |
| | | | conservation of RET ecosystems and | |
| | | | endemic species planning processes and/or | |
| | | | project benefits and access to basic services | |
| | | | or resources may be restricted while | |
| | | | implementing the resources and | |
| | | | ecosystems management plans/models. | |
| | | | Free, prior and informed consent of | |
| | | | tribal/indigenous communities residing in | |
| | | | project areas is required while drafting any | |
| | | | policies/plans that affects natural resources | |
| | | | on which they are depended for survival. | |
| Risk 8: Risk of low capacity to implement activities in accordance with UNDP social and environmental safeguards (Principle 1: 1.5) | I = 3 P = 3 | MODERATE | This risk applies for multiple outputs of the project. Review of project documents and interaction with some of project officials and officials of implementing agencies revealed that the officials of State and District Forest/Wildlife Departments; Department of Local Self Government and District Planning Committee represented by the District Collector including technical agencies/consultants under these department need capacity enhancement measures to apply required provisions of UNDP Social and Environmental Standards (SES). | Assessment and Management: Targeted assessment/review is required during the implementation phase to ensure ongoing compliance with UNDP Social and Environmental Standards (SES). Necessary orientation and training to comply with the required provisions of UNDP SES will be provided to the responsible officials and staff including consultants of the implementing agencies. These trainings will be linked and integrated with Activity 3.1.2: Informed capacity building on sustainable management of natural resources and ecosystem services and Activity 3.3.3: Capacity building of forest officials, front-line staff, VSS and EDC for implementation of |
| | | | Project has done stakeholder analysis in 2014 and initiated a community consultation process during the project preparation but project document is silence on stakeholder engagement plan. Similarly, FPIC related consultations to obtain consent from all project-affected tribal communities has not yet been initiated, as a result, local indigenous/tribal community are not fully aware about the FPIC procedures and understand their rights on this. Particularly | management plans. Based on the model perspective/sectoral plans developed through Activity 3.1.1 workshops/training programs will be conducted for the planners, management personnel and field staff of the concerned sectors for informed capacity building in evolving sustainable natural resource management plans incorporating biodiversity and ecosystem considerations and its effective |

| | | | capacity enhancement measures are required for HWC management, and strengthening human-rights approaches to forest and wildlife-related law enforcement including community consultation approaches for preparation and implementation of different plans, policies and strategies of natural resource management under this project. Similarly, issues of low or limited capacity of implementing agencies to address and respect the human rights and economic rights of local community in tandem with sustainable natural resource management may limit the success of implementation of the project outputs. | implementation in the field in tandem with UNDP SES requirements. For effective implementation of the management plans, the capacity of officials and frontline staff of the Forest Department and volunteers/workers of VSS and EDC will be strengthened through appropriate training. Comprehensive training manuals will be prepared based on the above management plans and reports, and a set of workshops will be conducted at various levels of the target groups coupled with field visits/demonstrations. UNDP SES requirements are also integrated while developing the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) proposes under Activity 2.4.2. These SOPs will be based on documentation of successful pilots conducted as part of the project. Such SOPs will clearly list out step-by-step processes to help the implementing agency for replicating the project activities. |
|--|----------------|----------|--|---|
| Risk 9: Project activities and approaches to landscape-level plans, policies and strategies of sustainable resource management and biodiversity conservation might not fully incorporate or reflect views of women and girls and ensure equitable opportunities for their involvement and benefit. (Principle 1: 1.4; Principle 2: 2.2, 2.3) | I = 3 P = 3 | MODERATE | This risk applies for multiple outputs of the project. Review of project documents shows that standalone gender analysis has not been the required part of the project document preparation, though it is mentioned that project will follow a participatory approach while planning and implementing all its outputs. Kudumbashree community institutions, a poverty eradication and women empowerment mission, has been recognized as local level project partners. However, the project document has not mentioned explicitly how participation of women in planning process, capacity building activities and access to opportunities and benefits from the project will be ensured. Thus, the risk of exclusion of women and girls while developing and | Assessment and Management: A Gender Action Plan (GAD) prepared through a gender analysis based on specific consultations with representative women and girls in the project landscapes and review of literatures should be prepared and integrated with project document during the initial years of the project implementation. The Gender Action Plan should identify differential needs, interests, concerns and practices of both men and women in the local community for ensuring their better participation and development in the landscape management and resource conservation process. In addition, the Gender Action Plan should reflect a need for measures to ensure equitable access to resources and comparable benefits among genders |

| | | | implementing the landscape level management plans, policies and strategies of sustainable resource management and other project related benefits and opportunities. The probability of the risk still exists due to the existing gender divisions of labor, gender-specific challenges, gender differential needs, and the different roles that men and women play in relation to the conservation of natural resources and domestic affairs. | clearly propose specific activities to ensure project opportunities and benefits flow to women and girls. |
|---|--------------|----------|--|---|
| Risk 10: Project may exclude marginalized/vulnerable groups from participatory processes and/or project benefits due to lack of effective community engagement/ FPIC approach in place and support (Principle 1: 1.4; Principle 2: 2.2, 2.3; Standard 6: 6.4) | I= 3 P= 3 | MODERATE | The project landscape has provided habitat for both tribal and non-tribal populations of farming and forest dependent communities. Project has initiated a community/stakeholder consultation process during the project preparation but standalone stakeholder engagement plan has not been prepared, though a section on stakeholder analysis was included in the project document of 2014. Similarly, FPIC related consultations to obtain consent from all project-affected tribal communities has not yet been initiated. The findings of community consultations conducted during PPG suggest that marginalized groups including tribal, scheduled caste, women and youth have limited access to information and awareness of their rights and entitlements. Besides, local indigenous communities are not fully aware about FPIC procedures and understand their responsibilities and rights on this. | Assessment and management: A revision of stakeholder analysis <i>(</i> done in 2014 <i>)</i> is being done by Kerala Institute of Local Administration (KILA). Based on the revision, a stakeholder engagement plan will be designed and executed as an integral part of project planning and implementation. Project to adopt differentiated measures to ensure that impacts do not fall disproportionately on marginalized groups. The stakeholder engagement process for FPIC should be followed while consulting with affected IP/Tribal communities, if FPIC is required (See management measures proposed for Risk 4). Capacity of the implementing agencies will be enhanced for effective community engagement and delivery of a human rights-based approach to site- based forest and wildlife law enforcement, planning and implementation of management policies, plans, and strategies. The capacity building activities will be integrated with the capacity building measures and approach proposed in output 3.1 (Activity 3.1.2) |
| Risk 11: Risk of physical as well as economic displacement if land acquisition is required for activities 2.2.4 & 2.2.6 and risk of force eviction if Human Wildlife Interface | P=3 I=3 | MODERATE | Land acquisition, physical and economic displacement and force eviction are not anticipated and avoided to the extent possible under this project. However, | Assessment and management: Project has not envisioned relocation of settlement. If such relocation is inevitable in future, required initiation and planning during the detail design phase of the activities will be |

| Management (3.3.5 and 3.3.6) required relocation of settlement at HWC risks. (<u>Standard 5: 5.1, 5.2; Standard 6: 6.3,6.4,</u> <u>6.6</u>) | | Implementation of following activities may require land acquisition which could result physical and economic displacement: 1. Parking area development (project intents to use KDHP and HATC grounds) for traffic management under model traffic planning in Munnar and its vicinity (2.2.4) 2. Set up a model septage treatment plant under Sanitation and Solid waste management to plant (2.2.6). There is a risk that the project would lead to forced evictions, particularly the settlements located at high HWC risks need relocation as a part of Human Wildlife Interface management (3.3.5 and 3.3.6) if avoidance is not possible. | carried out to assess the likely impacts of physical and economic displacement. As a part of the assessment, a screening procedure will be followed during the detail design process to avoid: 1) Land acquisition, physical and economic displacement and force eviction; 2) the restriction of access to lands/resources as result of the detail design and 3) identify encroachers and squatters occupying at KDHP and HATC lands to be used for parking area development. If avoidance is not possible, potential impacts on the people and communities subject to physical displacement and resettlement and people and communities potentially subject to economic displacement. will be identified and appropriate mitigation measures/resettlement plans with due consultation with affected peoples will be proposed and incorporated in the Project Document (with management measures/plans incorporated into budget and monitoring framework). |
|--|------------|---|---|
| Risk 12: The benefits generated by the project under (Outputs 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4 and 3.1, 3.3, 3.4) may be offset or could be sensitive or vulnerable to potential impacts of climate change and variability (Standard 2: 2.2; 2.3) | I=3 P=3 | ATE The project areas under the landscape are subject to stresses associated with climate change, including droughts, floods and erratic monsoon rains. These short-term events can have serious local impacts on livelihoods of local communities as well as wildlife including direct mortality and dispersion into human-dominated areas. Longer term trends affect ecological zones, species distribution, phenology, occurrence of Invasive alien species (IAS) etc. Similarly, if the Project fails to protect rights of users, and extractive resources activities are allowed to occur in forested areas, the Project could indirectly increase social and environmental vulnerability to climate change. | Assessment & Management: Climate proofing is an important element in the project design and GP level LAPCC been developed as part of climate proofing. To start with, the project proposes to address this risk by building a better understanding on the impacts of climate change on HRML (Output 1.1). The findings of this study will give inputs into the process of landscape-level planning – a key focus being on maintaining functional connectivity across the landscape, and maintaining functional diversity (both key to enhancing the resilience of ecosystems to climate changes induced fire, drought and other perturbations). By reducing existing anthropogenic stressors to ecosystems, the project will enhance the capacity of ecosystems to recover following such climate changed induced perturbation. |

| Risk 13: The COVID-19 pandemic presents huge challenges for planning and implementation of the project | I= 4 P=4 | HIGH | At present the entire wor the pandemic caused coronavirus, commonly kr 19. It is evident that the COV would create a significant of globally and India is no exe already created and continually create healt economic adverse outcome short term but in the mediu as well. Though COVID-19 I with the project, it should with recognizing that this is usual and that circumsta highly adaptive responsiv design to avoid, minimize a may be a rapidly evolving s | by the novel nown as COVID- VID-19 pandemic economic impact ception. This has will certainly th, social and es not only in the im and long term has no direct link I deal COVID 19 is not business as ances require a re management nd manage what ituation. | Besides screening and assessment of climate change vulnerabilities with possible adaptation measures for all project outputs needs to be integrated into the project planning and implementation approach and processes. This will consider, for example, increased climatic variability, increase in frequency and intensity of natural disasters such as droughts and floods, and ecological shifts. Assessment & Management: A system of regular assessment should be place for evaluating the current situation of the project, putting in place mitigation measures to avoid or minimize the chance of infection, and planning what to do if either project workers/ staff become infected or the work force includes workers from proximate communities affected by COVID-19. The project required to institute preventive measures against the risk of COVID transmission at project sites and offices Risks of the COVID-19 can be minimized through careful scenario planning, clear procedures and protocols, management systems, effective communication and coordination, and the need for high levels of responsiveness in a changing environment. |
|--|--|------|--|---|--|
| | | | | Commonte | |
| | Select one (see <u>SESP</u> for guidance) Low Risk | | Comments | | |
| | | | Moderate Risk ⁵ | | The project is expected to have positive impacts on |
| | | | - | _ | biodiversity and people's livelihoods in the HRML. The project will provide long-term ecological security of the globally significant biodiversity of |

⁵ Risk of the COVID-19 pandemic for planning and implementation of the project has been considered as contextual but not project induced risk. It is categorized as High but excluded from overall risk categorization since it is not project caused risk.

| the landscape by reinforcing the management effectiveness of forest lands, mainstreaming biodiversity in to the planning and operations of the economic production sectors, and supporting sustainable livelihood in the subsistence sectors. It proposes to adopt collaborative governance and know-how for multiple use management of the mountain landscape to conserve biodiversity, which will bring about a paradigm shift from the current sector-based and unsustainable practices to an integrated multiple use management of mountain landscapes to deliver global environmental benefits. |
|--|
| The E & S risks for the project outputs have been assessed and identified following UNDP's Social and Environmental Standards (SES) and Social and Environmental Screening Procedure (SESP). A total of 13 risks have been identified for this project that could have potential negative impacts in the absence of safeguards. Of the total 13 risks, one is rated as Low, one is rated High and the remaining 11 risks are rated as Moderate. The high risk of the COVID-19 pandemic for the project has been considered as contextual but not project induced and excluded from overall risk categorization. Therefore, the overall SESP risk categorization for the project is Moderate. The potential moderate- related risks (localized impacts, low likelihood) related to the project include restriction of access/use of natural resource, curtailing of customary management right and failure to obtaining Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) of affected indigenous/tribal peoples; possibility of exclusion of women and vulnerable and |
| disadvantaged groups in accessing project opportunities and benefits for SES; low or limited capacity of implementing agencies to comply with UNDP social and environmental safeguards, climate change vulnerability project intended outcomes, risks to environment and occupational, community health and safety and risk of violation/abuse of |

| High Risk | | human-rights due to low capacity of duty bearers, risk of altering or commercializing traditional knowledge of natural resource use and management and risk of physical as well as economic displacement if land acquisition and relocation is required for some specific project activities. These social and environmental risks and impacts identified so far, are limited in scale, can be known with a reasonable degree of certainty, and can be addressed through application of standard best practice, mitigation measures and stakeholder engagement during Project implementation. | |
|---|-------------|--|--|
| QUESTION 5: Based on the identified risks and risk | | | |
| categorization, what requirements of the SES are re | elevant? | | |
| Check all that apply | | Comments | |
| Principle 1: Human Rights | | | |
| Principle 2: Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment | | | |
| 1. Biodiversity Conservation and Natural Resource Management | | | |
| 2. Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation | \boxtimes | | |
| 3. Community Health, Safety and Working Conditions | | | |
| 4. Cultural Heritage | \boxtimes | | |
| 5. Displacement and Resettlement | | NB: Displacement from access to resource is likely but physical displacement or eviction is not expected from project activities | |
| 6. Indigenous Peoples | | | |
| 7. Pollution Prevention and Resource Efficiency | \boxtimes | | |

Final Sign Off

Signature

Date

| QA Assessor | UNDP staff member responsible for the Project, typically a UNDP Programme Officer. Final signature confirms they have "checked" to ensure that the SESP is adequately conducted. |
|-------------|---|
| QA Approver | UNDP senior manager, typically the UNDP Deputy Country Director (DCD), Country Director (CD), Deputy Resident Representative (DRR), or Resident Representative (RR). The QA Approver cannot also be the QA Assessor. Final signature confirms they have "cleared" the SESP prior to submittal to the PAC. |
| PAC Chair | UNDP chair of the PAC. In some cases PAC Chair may also be the QA Approver. Final signature confirms that the SESP was considered as part of the project appraisal and considered in recommendations of the PAC. |

SESP Attachment 1. Social and Environmental Risk Screening Checklist

| Che | cklist Potential Social and Environmental <u>Risks</u> | |
|----------------------------|--|--------------------|
| Principles 1: Human Rights | | Answer (Yes/No) |
| 1. | Could the Project lead to adverse impacts on enjoyment of the human rights (civil, political, economic, social or cultural) of the affected population and particularly of marginalized groups? | No |
| 2. | Is there a likelihood that the Project would have inequitable or discriminatory adverse impacts on affected populations, particularly people living in poverty or marginalized or excluded individuals or groups? ⁶ | No |
| 3. | Could the Project potentially restrict availability, quality of and access to resources or basic services, in particular to marginalized individuals or groups? | Yes |
| 4. | Is there a likelihood that the Project would exclude any potentially affected stakeholders, in particular marginalized groups, from fully participating in decisions that may affect them? | Yes |
| 5. | Is there a risk that duty-bearers do not have the capacity to meet their obligations in the Project? | Yes |
| 6. | Is there a risk that rights-holders do not have the capacity to claim their rights? | Yes |
| | Communities are only partially aware of the relevance or impact of a few rights like the Forest Rights Act. | |
| 7. | Have local communities or individuals, given the opportunity, raised human rights concerns regarding the Project during the stakeholder engagement process? | Yes |
| 8. | Is there a risk that the Project would exacerbate conflicts among and/or the risk of violence to project- affected communities and individuals? | No |
| Prine | ciple 2: Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment | |
| 1. | Is there a likelihood that the proposed Project would have adverse impacts on gender equality and/or the situation of women and girls? | No |
| 2. | Would the Project potentially reproduce discriminations against women based on gender, especially regarding participation in design and implementation or access to opportunities and benefits? | Yes |
| 3. | Have women's groups/leaders raised gender equality concerns regarding the Project during the stakeholder engagement process and has this been included in the overall Project proposal and in the risk assessment? | Yes |
| 4. | Would the Project potentially limit women's ability to use, develop and protect natural resources, taking into account different roles and positions of women and men in accessing environmental goods and services? | No |
| | For example, activities that could lead to natural resources degradation or depletion in communities who depend on these resources for their livelihoods and well being | |

⁶ Prohibited grounds of discrimination include race, ethnicity, gender, age, language, disability, sexual orientation, religion, political or other opinion, national or social or geographical origin, property, birth or other status including as an indigenous person or as a member of a minority. References to "women and men" or similar is understood to include women and men, boys and girls, and other groups discriminated against based on their gender identities, such as transgender people and transsexuals.

The project envisages to ensure sustainable use of natural resources not by limiting access but by enhancing their capacities in effective and efficient use of the same. Principle 3: Environmental Sustainability: Screening questions regarding environmental risks are encompassed by the specific Standard-related questions below Standard 1: Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Natural Resource Management No 1.1 Would the Project potentially cause adverse impacts to habitats (e.g. modified, natural, and critical habitats) and/or ecosystems and ecosystem services? For example, through habitat loss, conversion or dearadation, fragmentation, hydrological changes Yes 1.2 Are any Project activities proposed within or adjacent to critical habitats and/or environmentally sensitive areas, including legally protected areas (e.g. nature reserve, national park), areas proposed for protection, or recognized as such by authoritative sources and/or indigenous peoples or local communities? No 1.3 Does the Project involve changes to the use of lands and resources that may have adverse impacts on habitats, ecosystems, and/or livelihoods? (Note: if restrictions and/or limitations of access to lands would apply, refer to Standard 5) No 1.4 Would Project activities pose risks to endangered species? No 1.5 Would the Project pose a risk of introducing invasive alien species? Yes 1.6 Does the Project involve harvesting of natural forests, plantation development, or reforestation? Yes 1.7 Does the Project involve the production and/or harvesting of fish populations or other aquatic species? No 1.8 Does the Project involve significant extraction, diversion or containment of surface or ground water? For example, construction of dams, reservoirs, river basin developments, groundwater extraction 1.9 Does the Project involve utilization of genetic resources? (e.g. collection and/or harvesting, commercial Yes development) 1.10 Would the Project generate potential adverse transboundary or global environmental concerns? No Would the Project result in secondary or consequential development activities which could lead to adverse 1.11 No social and environmental effects, or would it generate cumulative impacts with other known existing or planned activities in the area? For example, a new road through forested lands will generate direct environmental and social impacts (e.g. felling of trees, earthworks, potential relocation of inhabitants). The new road may also facilitate encroachment on lands by illegal settlers or generate unplanned commercial development along the route, potentially in sensitive areas. These are indirect, secondary, or induced impacts that need to be considered. Also, if similar developments in the same forested area are planned, then cumulative impacts of multiple activities (even if not part of the same Project) need to be considered. Standard 2: Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation 2.1 Will the proposed Project result in significant⁷ greenhouse gas emissions or may exacerbate climate No change? 2.2 Would the potential outcomes of the Project be sensitive or vulnerable to potential impacts of climate Yes change?

⁷ In regards to CO₂, 'significant emissions' corresponds generally to more than 25,000 tons per year (from both direct and indirect sources). [The Guidance Note on Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation provides additional information on GHG emissions.]

| 2.3 | Is the proposed Project likely to directly or indirectly increase social and environmental vulnerability to climate change now or in the future (also known as maladaptive practices)? | Yes |
|-------|--|-----|
| | For example, changes to land use planning may encourage further development of floodplains, potentially increasing the population's vulnerability to climate change, specifically flooding | |
| | | |
| Stand | ard 3: Community Health, Safety and Working Conditions | |
| 3.1 | Would elements of Project construction, operation, or decommissioning pose potential safety risks to local communities? | Yes |
| 3.2 | Would the Project pose potential risks to community health and safety due to the transport, storage, and use and/or disposal of hazardous or dangerous materials (e.g. explosives, fuel and other chemicals during construction and operation)? | Yes |
| 3.3 | Does the Project involve large-scale infrastructure development (e.g. dams, roads, buildings)? | No |
| 3.4 | Would failure of structural elements of the Project pose risks to communities? (e.g. collapse of buildings or infrastructure) | No |
| | No such structural elements are envisaged that pose threat or risk to the community | |
| 3.5 | Would the proposed Project be susceptible to or lead to increased vulnerability to earthquakes, subsidence, landslides, erosion, flooding or extreme climatic conditions? | No |
| 3.6 | Would the Project result in potential increased health risks (e.g. from water-borne or other vector-borne diseases or communicable infections such as HIV/AIDS)? | Yes |
| 3.7 | Does the Project pose potential risks and vulnerabilities related to occupational health and safety due to physical, chemical, biological, and radiological hazards during Project construction, operation, or decommissioning? | Yes |
| 3.8 | Does the Project involve support for employment or livelihoods that may fail to comply with national and international labor standards (i.e. principles and standards of ILO fundamental conventions)? | No |
| 3.9 | Does the Project engage security personnel that may pose a potential risk to health and safety of communities and/or individuals (e.g. due to a lack of adequate training or accountability)? | No |
| Stand | ard 4: Cultural Heritage | |
| 4.1 | Will the proposed Project result in interventions that would potentially adversely impact sites, structures, or objects with historical, cultural, artistic, traditional or religious values or intangible forms of culture (e.g. knowledge, innovations, practices)? (Note: Projects intended to protect, and conserve Cultural Heritage may also have inadvertent adverse impacts) | Yes |
| 4.2 | Does the Project propose utilizing tangible and/or intangible forms of cultural heritage for commercial or other purposes? | Yes |
| Stand | ard 5: Displacement and Resettlement | |
| 5.1 | Would the Project potentially involve temporary or permanent and full or partial physical displacement? | Yes |
| 5.2 | Would the Project possibly result in economic displacement (e.g. loss of assets or access to resources due to land acquisition or access restrictions – even in the absence of physical relocation)? | Yes |
| 5.3 | Is there a risk that the Project would lead to forced evictions? ⁸ | No |

⁸ Forced evictions include acts and/or omissions involving the coerced or involuntary displacement of individuals, groups, or communities from homes and/or lands and common property resources that were occupied or depended

| 5.4 | Would the proposed Project possibly affect land tenure arrangements and/or community-based property rights/customary rights to land, territories and/or resources? | Yes |
|-------|---|-----|
| Stand | ard 6: Indigenous Peoples | |
| 6.1 | Are indigenous peoples present in the Project area (including Project area of influence)? | Yes |
| 6.2 | Is it likely that the Project or portions of the Project will be located on lands and territories claimed by indigenous peoples? | Yes |
| 6.3 | Would the proposed Project potentially affect the human rights, lands, natural resources, territories, and traditional livelihoods of indigenous peoples (regardless of whether indigenous peoples possess the legal titles to such areas, whether the Project is located within or outside of the lands and territories inhabited by the affected peoples, or whether the indigenous peoples are recognized as indigenous peoples by the country in question)? | Yes |
| | If the answer to the screening question 6.3 is "yes" the potential risk impacts are considered potentially severe and/or critical and the Project would be categorized as either Moderate or High Risk. | |
| 6.4 | Has there been an absence of culturally appropriate consultations carried out with the objective of achieving FPIC on matters that may affect the rights and interests, lands, resources, territories and traditional livelihoods of the indigenous peoples concerned? | Yes |
| 6.5 | Does the proposed Project involve the utilization and/or commercial development of natural resources on lands and territories claimed by indigenous peoples? | Yes |
| 6.6 | Is there a potential for forced eviction or the whole or partial physical or economic displacement of indigenous peoples, including through access restrictions to lands, territories, and resources? | Yes |
| 6.7 | Would the Project adversely affect the development priorities of indigenous peoples as defined by them? | No |
| 6.8 | Would the Project potentially affect the physical and cultural survival of indigenous peoples? | No |
| 6.9 | Would the Project potentially affect the Cultural Heritage of indigenous peoples, including through the commercialization or use of their traditional knowledge and practices? | Yes |
| Stand | ard 7: Pollution Prevention and Resource Efficiency | |
| 7.1 | Would the Project potentially result in the release of pollutants to the environment due to routine or non- routine circumstances with the potential for adverse local, regional, and/or transboundary impacts? | Yes |
| 7.2 | Would the proposed Project potentially result in the generation of waste (both hazardous and non- hazardous)? | No |
| 7.3 | Will the proposed Project potentially involve the manufacture, trade, release, and/or use of hazardous chemicals and/or materials? Does the Project propose use of chemicals or materials subject to international bans or phase-outs? | No |
| | For example, DDT, PCBs and other chemicals listed in international conventions such as the Stockholm Conventions on Persistent Organic Pollutants or the Montreal Protocol | |
| 7.4 | Will the proposed Project involve the application of pesticides that may have a negative effect on the environment or human health? | No |
| 7.5 | Does the Project include activities that require significant consumption of raw materials, energy, and/or | No |

upon, thus eliminating the ability of an individual, group, or community to reside or work in a particular dwelling, residence, or location without the provision of, and access to, appropriate forms of legal or other protections.