

## 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 [Social and Environmental Screening Procedure](#) for guidance on how to answer the 6 questions.]

### Project Information

<b>Project Information</b>	
1. Project Title	Strengthening ANBO UNESCO
2. Project Number	PIMS 6005
3. Location (Global/Region/Country)	Mauritius

### 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 project integrates overarching human rights principles in order to strengthen social and environmental sustainability by including measures to assist the Government to realize human rights. UNDP consistently applies the Human Rights Based approach (HRBA) in all programming, taking into account the responsibilities of the duty-bearers and the obligations of the right-holders. The project design includes the identification of the Government authorities as the primary duty-bearer in ensuring effective sustainable land management and also contributing to biodiversity conservation across the production landscapes of Mauritius and Rodrigues to optimize ecosystem services through sovereign ownership and legal frameworks, but recognizes the importance of partnerships across various sectors, and the integral engagement and involvement of the rights-holders themselves in this agenda. These rights-holders include district officials, farmers (crop and livestock), fishermen and other community members participating with the Government on mainstreaming SLM across the production landscapes, leading to improved, more resilient livelihoods. This is articulated in Components 1 and 2.

Equality principles are being applied during the project concept and project design phases and will also be applied during project implementation. This is including extensive cross-sectoral stakeholder engagement, including government agencies, NGOs, resource user and industry associations, also development partners over a period of over one year. The project is built upon the recommendations of the National Portfolio Formulation Exercise (NPFE) conducted with a broad range of stakeholders from July 2014 to October 2015. During project implementation the final design of specific initiatives will continue to include key stakeholders and to ensure their inputs are considered in decision-making. During project implementation, there will also be ongoing participation and inclusion of all stakeholders in activities that may impact them, both positively and negatively. Community groups, including those who represent the interests of potentially affected marginalized groups, will be contacted early in the PPG process to elicit their interest and cooperation. There is a long and successful tradition of community participation in biodiversity conservation activities in Rodrigues. This tradition is not yet as strong in Mauritius. RRA and MWF will help to adapt the approaches used in Rodrigues to Mauritius and extend them to encompass SLM where relevant. Short-term positive impacts will include capacity building among all groups in communities on SLM in production landscapes, including climate smart agriculture (CSA) to support land users to increase the resilience of their farming systems to the impacts of CC.

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

Gender and social issues will be fully considered in the project and gender concerns as a cross-cutting issue that will be tracked as part of the project's M&E system. During the PPG, a gender assessment will be conducted to develop a project-specific gender mainstreaming strategy and action plan. The project will pursue a gender-sensitive approach in which gender equality in participation will be strongly promoted. The proposed project will be designed to be consistent with the GEF Policy on Gender Mainstreaming (PL/SD/02. May 1, 2012) which aims to "promote the goal of gender equality through GEF operations". The project will proactively seek to ensure meaningful participation of women taking into account the specific constraints and barriers they may face. The project will promote the equal participation and empowerment of women to strengthen their roles in planning and decision-making, and to improve their productivity, food security, incomes and living conditions. The success factors behind existing good practice examples of women's inclusion in activities such as community participation in restoration work in Rodrigues (and other SIDS) will be investigated as the basis for scaling-up. Under all components, participation of women on an equal footing will be promoted in terms of both numbers involved and degree of participation in decision-making. Equal participation of men and women in decision-making forums and in capacity building activities will be encouraged. During the design phase of the project, the role played by women in different project components (gender baseline) will be documented and this information will be used in planning and implementing project activities to help ensure that the project promotes gender equality. UNDP will encourage qualified women applicants for positions under the project, following UNDP rules and regulations.

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

By 2015, Mauritius had achieved most but not all of the MDG targets. The country is, however, still working to achieve its targets on inequality, reducing under-5 mortality, maternal mortality ratio, representation of women in Parliament and reducing biodiversity loss. This project will help to redress the latter gap by mainstreaming SLM across production landscapes, specifically catalysing the rehabilitation of 10km (>500ha) of river reserves and increasing tree cover outside of forest areas, supported by the modernization and upgrade of the capacity of selected existing nurseries to ensure a reliable supply of trees (focusing on native species, but as deemed appropriate also including non-invasive exotics). Mainstreaming approaches to SLM will include: review of the existing legal framework in the forest sector and National Forestry Action Plan (NFAP) in operation; analysis and support for innovative mechanisms to ensure financial sustainability of the forestry sector; protection from fire and species enrichment of Signal Mountain (10ha) and creation of fire breaks (5km); SLM and other technologies for CSA (crop and livestock) on Mauritius and Rodrigues (>500ha) using participatory learning approaches; and 1,000 ha of production landscape planted with native trees to enhance productivity and ecosystem services with emphasis on identified highly degraded watersheds across Mauritius.

Component 3 is considered extremely important to ensure that the project specifically targets women in all activities and has sustainable long-term impacts. The component includes knowledge sharing and is designed to ensure that this project benefits from lessons of past projects (avoiding reinventing the wheel) and shares its results to enable others to benefit (scaling-up achievements post-project).

## Part B. Identifying and Managing Social and Environmental Risks

<b>QUESTION 2: What are the Potential Social and Environmental Risks?</b> <i>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.</i>	<b>QUESTION 3: What is the level of significance of the potential social and environmental risks?</b> <i>Note: Respond to Questions 4 and 5 below before proceeding to Question 6</i>			<b>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)?</b>
<b>Risk Description</b>	<b>Impact and Probability (1-5)</b>	<b>Significance (Low, Moderate, High)</b>	<b>Comments</b>	<b>Description of assessment and management measures as reflected in the Project design. If ESIA or SESA is required note that the assessment should consider all potential impacts and risks.</b>
Risk 1: The project could potentially cause adverse impacts to habitats (e.g. modified, natural and critical habitats) and/or ecosystems and ecosystem services	I = 1 P = 1	<b>Low</b>	Replacement of invasive vegetation with indigenous species or non-invasive exotic species may have short term negative consequences such as locally increased erosion and local loss of species.	Clearance of sites (Signal Mountain, river reserves) and species as part of restoration activities will be undertaken according to management plans developed through a participatory process and informed by good practice restoration guidelines currently being developed in Mauritius. These guidelines have been informed by international experience and nearly 30 years of restoration experience in Mauritius. They will guide practitioners in terms of restoration practices such as which species to clear, how to manage erosion-prone areas, how to minimize non-target impacts, when to replant and which species to use where.
Risk 2: Some project activities are proposed adjacent to critical habitats and/or environmentally sensitive areas, including legally protected areas (e.g. nature reserves, national parks), areas proposed for protection, or recognized as such by authoritative sources and/or local communities	I = 1 P = 5	<b>Low</b>	Project restoration activities will be undertaken adjacent to legally protected areas.	Good restoration practice guidelines will be followed for all relevant project activities (see Risk 1).  There are no indigenous peoples in Mauritius.

Risk 3: The project involves some reforestation	I = 1 P = 5	<b>Low</b>	Some activities will involve clearance of invasive plants (Signal Hill), which can be utilized to recover costs and/or provide local benefits.	The harvesting of invasive plants will be undertaken as per management plans developed through a participatory process and informed by good practice restoration guidelines currently being developed in Mauritius (see Risk 1).  Considerable tree planting will be catalysed by the project, in degraded river reserves and across wider agricultural areas. Again, this will be informed by good practice restoration guidelines currently being developed in Mauritius (see Risk 1)
Risk 4: Potential outcomes of the project are sensitive or vulnerable to potential impacts of climate change	I = 4 P = 2	<b>Moderate</b>	It is widely believed that climate change is increasing the encroachment of IAS on Signal Hill and contributing to the deterioration of the quality of habitats such as river reserves. SLM technologies will be advocated as part of CSA approaches – but unexpected impacts of CC (including increased frequency of cyclones) could deleteriously affect agricultural systems.	The project cannot control the impacts of climate change but by supporting restoration of degraded lands across the production landscapes (particularly tree planting) and CSA the project will enhance the resilience of land user systems and ecosystems.
Risk 5: The project would potentially involve the application of agrochemicals that may have a negative effect on the environment or human health	I = 2 P = 2	<b>Low</b>	Some approaches to CSA include use of herbicides (within some conservation agriculture systems).	The project will endeavor to avoid advocating use of herbicides in CSA.
<b>QUESTION 4: What is the overall Project risk categorization?</b>				
<b>Select one (see <a href="#">SESP</a> for guidance)</b>			<b>Comments</b>	
<i>Low Risk</i>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<i>Moderate Risk</i>			<input type="checkbox"/>	
<i>High Risk</i>			<input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>QUESTION 5: Based on the identified risks and risk categorization, what requirements of the SES are relevant?</b>				
Check all that apply			<b>Comments</b>	
<i>Principle 1: Human Rights</i>			<input type="checkbox"/>	
<i>Principle 2: Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment</i>			<input type="checkbox"/>	

	<b>1. Biodiversity Conservation and Natural Resource Management</b>	X	
	<b>2. Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation</b>	X	
	<b>3. Community Health, Safety and Working Conditions</b>	X	
	<b>4. Cultural Heritage</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>5. Displacement and Resettlement</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>6. Indigenous Peoples</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>7. Pollution Prevention and Resource Efficiency</b>	X	

### Final Sign Off

<b>Signature</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Description</b>
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

<b>Checklist Potential Social and Environmental Risks</b>		
<b>Principles 1: Human Rights</b>		<b>Answer (Yes/No)</b>
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? <sup>1</sup>	No
3.	Could the Project potentially restrict availability, quality of and access to resources or basic services, in particular to marginalized individuals or groups?	No
4.	Is there likelihood that the Project would exclude any potentially affected stakeholders, in particular marginalized groups, from fully participating in decisions that may affect them?	No
5.	Is there a risk that duty-bearers do not have the capacity to meet their obligations in the Project?	No
6.	Is there a risk that rights-holders do not have the capacity to claim their rights?	No
7.	Have local communities or individuals, given the opportunity, raised human rights concerns regarding the Project during the stakeholder engagement process?	No
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
<b>Principle 2: Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment</b>		
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?	No
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?	No
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?  <i>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</i>	No
<b>Principle 3: Environmental Sustainability:</b> Screening questions regarding environmental risks are encompassed by the specific Standard-related questions below		
<b>Standard 1: Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Natural Resource Management</b>		
1.1	Would the Project potentially cause adverse impacts to habitats (e.g. modified, natural, and critical habitats) and/or ecosystems and ecosystem services?  <i>For example, through habitat loss, conversion or degradation, fragmentation, hydrological changes</i>	No

<sup>1</sup> 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.

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?	No
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? <i>For example, construction of dams, reservoirs, river basin developments, groundwater extraction</i>	No
1.9	Does the Project involve utilization of genetic resources? (e.g. collection and/or harvesting, commercial development)	No
1.10	Would the Project generate potential adverse transboundary or global environmental concerns?	No
1.11	Would the Project result in secondary or consequential development activities which could lead to adverse social and environmental effects, or would it generate cumulative impacts with other known existing or planned activities in the area? <i>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.</i>	No
<b>Standard 2: Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation</b>		
2.1	Will the proposed Project result in significant <sup>2</sup> greenhouse gas emissions or may exacerbate climate change?	No
2.2	Would the potential outcomes of the Project be sensitive or vulnerable to potential impacts of climate change?	Yes
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)? <i>For example, changes to land use planning may encourage further development of floodplains, potentially increasing the population's vulnerability to climate change, specifically flooding</i>	No
<b>Standard 3: Community Health, Safety and Working Conditions</b>		
3.1	Would elements of Project construction, operation, or decommissioning pose potential safety risks to local communities?	No
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)?	No
3.3	Does the Project involve large-scale infrastructure development (e.g. dams, roads, buildings)?	No

<sup>2</sup> In regards to CO<sub>2</sub>, '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.]

3.4	Would failure of structural elements of the Project pose risks to communities? (e.g. collapse of buildings or infrastructure)	No
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)?	No
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?	No
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
<b>Standard 4: Cultural Heritage</b>		
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)	No
4.2	Does the Project propose utilizing tangible and/or intangible forms of cultural heritage for commercial or other purposes?	Yes
<b>Standard 5: Displacement and Resettlement</b>		
5.1	Would the Project potentially involve temporary or permanent and full or partial physical displacement?	No
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)?	No
5.3	Is there a risk that the Project would lead to forced evictions? <sup>3</sup>	No
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?	No
<b>Standard 6: Indigenous Peoples</b>		
6.1	Are indigenous peoples present in the Project area (including Project area of influence)?	No
6.2	Is it likely that the Project or portions of the Project will be located on lands and territories claimed by indigenous peoples?	No
6.3	Would the proposed Project potentially affect the rights, lands and territories of indigenous peoples (regardless of whether Indigenous Peoples possess the legal titles to such areas)?	No
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?	No
6.4	Does the proposed Project involve the utilization and/or commercial development of natural resources on lands and territories claimed by indigenous peoples?	No

<sup>3</sup> 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 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.

6.5	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?	No
6.6	Would the Project adversely affect the development priorities of indigenous peoples as defined by them?	No
6.7	Would the Project potentially affect the traditional livelihoods, physical and cultural survival of indigenous peoples?	No
6.8	Would the Project potentially affect the Cultural Heritage of indigenous peoples, including through the commercialization or use of their traditional knowledge and practices?	No
<b>Standard 7: Pollution Prevention and Resource Efficiency</b>		
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?	No
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?  <i>For example, DDT, PCBs and other chemicals listed in international conventions such as the Stockholm Conventions on Persistent Organic Pollutants or the Montreal Protocol</i>	No
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 water?	No