

Annex 2. Social and Environmental Screening Procedure

Project Information

| <i>Project Information</i> | |
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| 1. PROGRAMME Title | ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME |
| 2. PROGRAMME Number | TBD |
| 3. Location | Liberia |

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

Liberia has ratified several international agreements and human rights instruments. The national constitution and other policy frameworks together with the international human rights instruments strive to protect, promote and respect human rights in Liberia. Liberia has made significant efforts towards reforming and creating national laws and policies relevant to natural resource management, ecotourism, conservation, sustainable economic development and the enjoyment of human rights and freedoms. The existence of these laws and policies will underpin and guide the implementation of the Energy and Environment (E&E) Programme. At the heart of the Energy and Environment Programme are efforts to address climate change and disaster risk issues, equitable sharing and management of natural resources, expanding access to modern forms of energy, sustainable waste management, livelihood diversification and youth empowerment. In particular, measures will be taken to support the participation of most vulnerable people, women and youth groups, traditional communities, as well as marginalized groups such as poor rural farmers in the implementation, and monitoring and evaluation of Programme activities in ways that value their knowledge and respond to their needs. The Programme will further strengthen the overall framework and infrastructure for climate monitoring and specific products for agriculture and fisheries. The climate monitoring system will benefit vulnerable and poor communities engaged in climate sensitive livelihood schemes through enhanced food security and increased income. Related to this, the E&E Programme will seek ensure that the Early Warning Systems (EWS) is accessible to local communities through the media and other means to relay extreme weather events. The EWS will provide downstream communities with information such as impending flood to take proactive steps to ensuring the protection of their assets through early relocation to safer spaces; thus, proving them the right to life and the pursuit of happiness. This will have significant social benefit as it allows communities to be aware of the actions they need to take to reduce the impacts of extreme weather events due to the negative effects of climate change.

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

Through the E&E Programme, UNDP, in collaboration with the relevant government partners, will take proactive and clear measures to ensure the mainstreaming of gender in all the policies, strategies and action plans to be developed. In particular, **gender-responsive sectoral adaptation plans and tools will be developed and implemented for improved climate-resilience at national and sub-national levels.** The design of various interventions will be focused on gender mainstreaming interventions. Following other programmes previously implemented, women will be defined as preferred beneficiaries, when applicable. Gender-sensitive and gender-responsive approaches will also be applied to enable meaningful and full participation of women stakeholders in the design and implementation of Programme activities, as well as to ensure the collection of sex-disaggregated data, and the equitable representation of women in the management and evaluation of the E & E Programme activities.

Climate change will impact men and women differently. The impact will be severe especially on women and girls as compared to men. Sea erosion due to rising sea-levels, as well as increased flooding of lowlands and agricultural/ farmlands will continue to have significant impact on women in Liberia. This is often exacerbated by cultural norms which often hinders the ability of women to have access to and control of productive resources and participate actively in decision-making. The level of illiteracy among women is much higher than it is among men in Liberia; cultural norms about visibility and traditional gender roles imply heavy workloads on women as well. All of these impose time constraints on women and turn to limit their awareness about opportunities in general and participation in development programmes.

As a response to this, the E&E Programme will strive to address gender dimensions of adaptation interventions in rural communities within the targeted counties. Women will be supported by the Programme to engage in agro-processing schemes, fish processing schemes, business advisory support services and other business incubation support in the area of sustainable waste management. The Programme will build on existing programmes in supporting women's groups through training activities to gain marketable skills (such as food and fish processing) to improve their livelihoods. Further, the Programme will place a high emphasis on activities that improve the capacity of women across the value chain. For example, activities for the identification of actions that enhance market demand of a commodity, marketing of products and financial management and adding value to products will be promoted. This is crucial to ensure the long-term sustainability and success of livelihood interventions and ensure far better value for money. At all stages of the E&E Programme implementation, gender analysis will be conducted and will seek to ensure that over 60% of Programme direct beneficiaries are women and youth.

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

The Programme is expected to have limited environmental impact with significant environmental benefits. By enabling better predictive management of floods and risk-informed planning for coastal infrastructure, agriculture and fisheries. The Programme will generate a number of co-benefits for the environment and people/communities who depend upon it, taking specific measures to protect biodiversity and critical habitats. The Programme will yield environmental benefits through strengthened ecosystem resilience; reforestation, conservation and management of mangroves for improved livelihoods in Liberia. The Programme will further seek to support sustainable water and waste resource planning and use, including for integrated water resource management policies and plans. The Liberian environment is under immense threats from many natural and man-made factors (e.g. human activities) that have imposed enormous negative consequences for the lives, livelihoods, safety and health of its population. Climate change, disasters, environmental pollutions; encroachment and depletion of the rainforest and biodiversity; inadequate energy infrastructure and supply; unsustainable environmental practices as well as their associated impact have continued to negatively affect the lives and livelihood of the people.

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The Energy and Environment Programme proposes to tackle these challenges within a broader development context that would facilitate synergies amongst the following: Livelihood Diversification, Disaster Resilience and Climate Change, Biodiversity, Conservation, Ecotourism and Land Management, Renewable Energy Access and sustainable waste Management.

Part B. Identifying and Managing Social and Environmental Risks

| <p>QUESTION 2: What are the Potential Social and Environmental Risks? <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 state Question 4 and Select Low Risk Questions 5 and 6 of the Low Risk Projects.</i></p> | <p>QUESTION 3: What is the level of significance of the potential social and environmental risks? <i>Note: Respond to Questions 4 and 5 below before proceeding to Question 6</i></p> | <p>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)?</p> | | |
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| <p>Risk Description</p> | <p>Impact and Probability (1-5)</p> | <p>Significance (Low, Moderate, High)</p> | <p>Comments</p> | <p>Description of assessment and management measures as reflected in the Project design. If ESI or SESA is required note that the assessment should consider all potential impacts and risks.</p> |
| <p>Risk 1: Movement of sediments during the rehabilitation and protection of mangroves and construction of resilient coastal protection infrastructure.</p> | <p>I = 3 P = 3</p> | <p>Moderate</p> | <p>During mangrove rehabilitation and the construction of the coastal protection infrastructure, it will be necessary to undertake earth works to re-stabilize the areas. The earth works will move sediment that, if not properly contained, may</p> | <p>There is the potential for sediment movement during the construction of coastal protection infrastructure as indicated in Outcome 1 of the Energy and Environment Programme. The rehabilitation, planting and protection mangroves will also require some movement of sediments. To ensure that the sediment is not mobilized through either wind or more specifically water movement, it will be necessary to prepare an erosion control sediment plan and install silt curtains to restrict sediment movement. The plan shall contain aspects including</p> |




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| | | | enter the marine environment | but not limited to the installation of sediment curtains to reduce sediment movement and the covering of sediment where possible. |
| | I = 3 P = 3 | Moderate | During the restoration of mangroves, there is the potential for temporary disruption of livelihood activities for individuals who are currently operating aquaculture facilities or other farming activities in mangrove areas of mangroves that are proposed for restoration. | There is the potential that the Programme will impact on small scale rural farmers within areas of mangrove and forest restoration. Systematic stakeholder consultations and evidenced based planning will be undertaken prior to the site selection for to ensure that any temporary interruption to livelihoods (e.g. relocation of farmlands) is addressed by existing government programmes benefiting the poor or by other means. In such cases, a livelihood restoration plan or similar sustainable livelihood Initiatives will be developed to ensure households are compensated equal to their existing livelihoods income during any interruption period. Dispute resolution mechanism will be developed to address grievances as a result of the temporal loss of livelihoods. |
| Risk 2: Loss of livelihoods through relocation of farming activities from mangroves and protected areas. | | | | |
| | I = 2 P = 2 | Low | Noise will most likely occur using construction equipment. This can impact on local coastal communities living the adjacent area. | Noise shields should be constructed to reduce the potential for noise to reach these communities if an impact occurs. The noise will mainly relate to the construction of coastal defense walls, which will have very limited temporal scales. Extensive community engagement and broad stakeholder consultation will be undertaken prior to the construction. |
| Risk 3: Noise arising from Construction activities | | | | |
| QUESTION 4: What is the overall Project risk categorization? | | | | |
| | | Select one | | Comments |
| | | <i>Low Risk</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| | | <i>Moderate Risk</i> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | The Programme has the potential to prevent people from undertaking their existing livelihoods in the protected areas and the proposed mangroves to be restored. The Programme could also lead to coastal pollution due to the movement of sediments and |

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| | | | other lubricants during the construction of the coastal defense wall. The risks are therefore considered to be moderate. However, if the appropriate mitigation measures are put in place during the Programme, the Programme will have a low risk over the short to medium-term impacts. |
| | High Risk | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| QUESTION 5: Based on the identified risks and risk categorization, what requirements of the SES are relevant? | | | |
| | Check all that apply | | Comments |
| | <i>Principle 1: Human Rights</i> | X | The Programme will lead to social equity and equality. |
| | <i>Principle 2: Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment</i> | X | The E&E Programme in collaboration with the relevant government partners will take proactive and clear measures to ensure the mainstreaming of gender in all the policies, strategies and action plans to be developed under this Programme. In particular, gender-responsive sectoral adaptation plans and tools will be developed and implemented for improved climate-resilience at national and country-levels. The design of various interventions will be focused on mainstreaming gender and, following other programmes previously implemented in Liberia, women will be defined as preferred beneficiaries when applicable. Gender-sensitive and gender-responsive approaches will also be applied to enable meaningful and full participation of women stakeholders in the design of detail Programme activities, and to ensure the collection of sex-disaggregated data, and the equitable representation of women in the management and evaluation of the E & E Programme activities. |

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| | <p>1. Biodiversity Conservation and Natural Resource Management</p> | <p>X</p> | <p>The Programme will yield environmental benefits through strengthened ecosystem resilience, reforestation, conservation and management of mangroves for improved livelihoods in Liberia. The Programme will further seek to support sustainable water and waste resource planning and use including for integrated water resource management policies and plans.</p> |
| | <p>2. Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation</p> | <p>X</p> | <p>The Programme will lead to increased funding for climate change adaptation and mitigation in Liberia.</p> |
| | <p>3. Community Health, Safety and Working Conditions</p> | <p>X</p> | <p>The Programme has a positive benefit of increasing the communities' health and safety through waste management and therefore improving the longevity of peoples' lives and incomes, therefore providing valuable resources to both the environment and community. Increased food security through livelihood diversification will enhance community welfare and social cohesion.</p> |
| | <p>4. Cultural Heritage</p> | <p><input type="checkbox"/></p> | <p>No impact on culture heritage</p> |
| | <p>5. Displacement and Resettlement</p> | <p><input type="checkbox"/></p> | <p>No impact on displacement and resettlement</p> |
| | <p>6. Indigenous Peoples</p> | <p><input type="checkbox"/></p> | <p>No impact on indigenous people</p> |
| | <p>7. Pollution Prevention and Resource Efficiency</p> | <p>X</p> | <p>The Programme will lead to sustainable waste management practices including resource efficiency and reduce environmental pollution.</p> |

15/1/2018

Final Sign Off

| Signature | Date | Description |
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| <p>QA Assessor</p>  <p>Moses Massah E&E Programme Specialist</p> | <p>02-03-20</p> | <p>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.</p> |
| <p>QA Approver</p>  <p>Violet Baffour Deputy Resident Representative (Programme)</p> | <p>2nd March 2020</p> | <p>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.</p> |
| <p>PAC Chair</p>  <p>Pa Lamin Beyai Resident Representative</p> | <p>02/03/2020</p> | <p>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.</p> |

SESP Attachment I. Social and Environmental Risk Screening Checklist

| Checklist: Potential Social and Environmental Risks | | Answer (Yes/No) |
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| Principle 1: Human Rights | | |
| 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? ¹ | 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 a 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 |
| Principle 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? | 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 |

¹ 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.

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| <p>4 Would the Project potentially limit women's ability to use, develop and protect natural resources, considering 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></p> | No |
| <p>Principle 3: Environmental Sustainability: Screening questions regarding environmental risks are encompassed by the specific Standard-related questions below</p> | |
| <p>Standard 1: Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Natural Resource Management</p> | |
| <p>1.1 Would the Project potentially cause adverse impacts to habitats (e.g. modified, natural, and critical habitats) and/or ecosystems and services? <i>For example, through habitat loss, conversion or degradation, fragmentation, hydrological changes</i></p> | No |
| <p>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?</p> | No |
| <p>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)</p> | No |
| <p>1.4 Would Project activities pose risks to endangered species?</p> | No |
| <p>1.5 Would the Project pose a risk of introducing invasive alien species?</p> | |
| <p>1.6 Does the Project involve harvesting of natural forests, plantation development, or reforestation?</p> | No |
| <p>1.7 Does the Project involve the production and/or harvesting of fish populations or other aquatic species?</p> | No |
| <p>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></p> | No |
| <p>1.9 Does the Project involve utilization of genetic resources? (e.g. collection and/or harvesting, commercial development)</p> | No |
| <p>1.10 Would the Project generate potential adverse transboundary or global environmental concerns?</p> | No |

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| <p>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?</p> <p><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></p> | No |
| <p>Standard 2: Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation</p> | |
| <p>2.1 Will the proposed Project result in significant² greenhouse gas emissions or may exacerbate climate change?</p> | No |
| <p>2.2 Would the potential outcomes of the Project be sensitive or vulnerable to potential impacts of climate change?</p> | Yes |
| <p>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)?</p> <p><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></p> | No |
| <p>Standard 3: Community Health, Safety and Working Conditions</p> | |
| <p>3.1 Would elements of Project construction, operation, or decommissioning pose potential safety risks to local communities?</p> | No |
| <p>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)?</p> | No |
| <p>3.3 Does the Project involve large-scale infrastructure development (e.g. dams, roads, buildings)?</p> | No (includes construction of coastal defense wall) |
| <p>3.4 Would failure of structural elements of the Project pose risks to communities? (e.g. collapse of buildings or infrastructure)</p> | No (provided the engineering designs and construction meet international standards) |

² Regarding 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.]

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| 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)? | |
| Standard 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) | No |
| 4.2 | Does the Project propose utilizing tangible and/or intangible forms of cultural heritage for commercial or other purposes? | No |
| Standard 5: Displacement and Resettlement | | |
| 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)? | yes |
| 5.3 | Is there a risk that the Project would lead to forced evictions? ³ | 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 |
| Standard 6: Indigenous Peoples | | |

³ 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.

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| 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 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)? <i>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.</i> | 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 |
| 6.5 | Does the proposed Project involve the utilization and/or commercial development of natural resources on lands and territories claimed by indigenous peoples? | No |
| 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? | No |
| 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? | No |
| Standard 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? | 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? | No |

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| <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> | | |
| 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 |