

Executive summary

The ESMF is developed as a practical tool that provides background to ICEMA, guidelines on how to develop subprojects and, consolidates all Safeguard Instruments relevant to the Project. It aims to inform Extension staff (MET, other line ministries) and Support Organisation staff (field-based NGOs) of the aims and objectives of ICEMA, the rationale for the Community Funding Facility (CFF) and the implementation of Safeguard Instruments during the planning and implementation of subprojects. As far possible, with the help of the ESMF, ICEMA will try to make the implementation of and compliance with Safeguard as smooth as possible – cooperation from partners is crucial.

Some issues, concepts and phrases are repeated throughout the document in various related sections and serve the purpose of emphasising an important point that needs to be considered during the planning stages of a subproject. For e.g., community participation is mandatory during subproject planning and implementation but, ICEMA is aware that communities have, in some instances, entrusted Conservancy Committees as their voice and representation for decision making. The importance of Management Plans is also stressed as the long-term developmental guide for a conservancy and should serve as a guiding document when ideas for subprojects are considered.

Extension and Support Organisation staff members are encouraged to contact the ICEMA Project Office during technical assistance delivery to conservancies/ community forests for subproject planning and implementation. The prompt address of constraints can assure faster appraisal and approval of proposals and implementation of subprojects.

Section A of the ESMF introduces the Framework and elaborates its purpose and objectives. The purpose of the Framework is overall to provide ICEMA Project partners, the MET, CBOs and support organisations, with a guideline for subproject planning and development. The overall objective of the Framework is to present the ICEMA project and its coordination and institutional arrangements and, provide all information about a Safeguard Instruments and their implementation and the National Environmental Management framework for Namibia.

Section B, is important to read and revisit as it outlines subproject criteria. This can ensure that time and effort is not wasted generating a subproject proposal that is not eligible under CFF funding, although it might be eligible for funding somewhere else.

Section C tackles environmental management; planning at conservancy level, following Namibia's Environmental Assessment policy and the development of Environmental Management Plans (EMP) when deemed necessary. Under section E, environmental and social management requirements, the ESMF introduces the World Bank Operational Policies, the safeguard relevant to ICEMA and emphasises the need for compliance with national environmental management requirements.

Section D elaborates the preparation, approval and implementation of subprojects; providing guidelines and strongly encouraging community participation.

Section E provides information about Namibia's policy provisions for environmental management; it describes the need and use of an Environmental Management Plan (EMP) and addresses

issues related to Cultural Property and Natural Habitats and Forest Areas with regard to subproject planning and development.

Sections F to G provide more information about the use of safeguards under ICEMA and the CFF with strong emphasis on available guidelines and technical assistance. The Resettlement Policy Framework is addressed as subprojects may acquire land for use and in that remove/restrict access to resources or involuntarily resettle people. Procedures for incorporating this under a subproject and guidance for the planning of resettlement and compensation are elaborated. Under section G the Indigenous Peoples Development Plan (IPDP) is elaborated with emphasis on the inclusion of the San peoples in a subproject. It is important that San communities in conservancies and community forests participate in subproject planning, implementation and monitoring and evaluation.

This document is intended to provide practical guidelines and assistance in the development of subproject proposals, we thus encourage you to please comment on its usefulness and make recommendations for its improvement.