



### **PROJECT:** Nigeria Electrification Project

COUNTRY: Nigeria

#### ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK (ESMF) SUMMARY

Original Date: August 2018 Revised Date: January 2020

# Project Background

The Federal Government of Nigeria (FGN) has approached the African Development Bank for support on the Nigeria Electrification Project (NEP). The NEP is primarily geared towards increasing access to electricity off-grid areas of the country through the activities of the Rural Electrification Agency (REA). The NEP will directly provide access to electricity to households, enterprises, community facilities, and small businesses relying predominantly on solar technology.

According to the provisions of the African Development Bank's Integrated Safeguards System, the project has been categorized as category 2 in line with the nature and magnitude of potential environmental and social impacts envisaged for the project. In line with the same provisions, an Environmental and Social Management Framework has been proposed as the appropriate safeguards instrument given that the project includes several subprojects at different locations.

The ESMF provides an agreed process to be implemented by the borrower for the management of potential environmental and social impacts and risks in the context of Category 2 program operations. It provides a detailed set of procedures, methodologies and management measures to ensure that the environmental and social impacts of sub-projects are addressed in an appropriate manner.

This current document has been compiled as a summary of the Environmental and Social Management Framework and the Resettlement Policy Framework, which were prepared by the REA with support from the World Bank.

The project will be implemented in different states of the country and will include three project components and a technical assistance component as detailed in the table below:

#### Table 1: NEP project scale and components

Component	US\$ Million
Solar Hybrid Mini grids for Rural Economic Development	70
Energy-efficient productive use appliances and equipment for SHS and	
mini grids	20
Power Systems for Public Universities (Energizing Education	
Programme)	100
Implementation Support and Technical Assistance	10
Total	200

- Component 1 Solar Hybrid Mini Grids for Rural Economic Development will provide minimum subsidies tender to private mini grid developers to build solar hybrid mini grids in unserved and underserved rural areas.
- Component 2 Energy-efficient productive use appliances and equipment for SHS and mini grids
  will provide result-based financing scheme that intends to support the incremental costs that
  companies incur when including productive use appliances in their operations, namely: product
  transport; marketing and training; end-users financing; installation and end-user training and
  repairs; replacements and support.
- Component 3 Power Systems for Public Universities will support the construction and operations
  of solar mini-girds for beneficiary federal universities in Nigeria. This component will be
  implemented by REA in collaboration with different universities. This will involve the construction
  of power systems that will be executed by REA and handed over to the beneficiary universities for
  operation.
- **Component 4. Institutional Capacity Strengthening:** Providing technical assistance and capacity building to REA and other relevant stakeholders to support national rural electrification scale-up activities.

# Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts

The nature and magnitude of potential adverse environmental and social impacts are considered to be at a low to medium scale and are largely reversible adverse impacts. This is in view of the small size of subprojects.

The identified environmental and social (E&S) risks for each project component are outlined in Table 2 below:

Component/ risk issue	1. Solar Hybrid Mini	2. Energy-efficient	3. Power Systems for
	grids for Rural	productive use	Public Universities
	Economic	appliance and	(Energizing Education
	Development	equipment for SHS	Programme)
		and mini grids	
1. Land acquisition/	Land will be acquired	Not expected for this	There are probable
resettlement	for mini grid sites from	component	risks of land
	individuals families or		encroachment
	communities It is		belonging to host
	evnected that		communities by
	componentions will be		Universities who have
	paid for such		to provide land for the
	paid for such		installation of the color
	acquisitions and any		
	impact on economic		systems. However,
	assets. Voluntary land		REA would have the
	donation (VLD)		responsibility to
	practices are expected		institute stakeholder's
	to be frequent, and		engagement and
	must comply with the		preparing
	following: (a) it meets		Resettlement Action
	the criteria set out in		Plans (RAPs) and/ or
	the VLD guidelines and		Livelihood Restoration
	(b) the process is		Plan (LRP) where
	verified and approved		needed.
	by the REA prior to		
	finalization of the		
	donation.		
2. Waste management	Given the lack of	Same as component 1.	Same as component 1
	formalized procedures		
	and strategies, there		
	are potential risks		
	linked to the disposal		
	of lead-acid batteries		
	and lithium batteries		
	and solar panels used		
	in mini-grids in the		
	long-term.		
3. Labour and working	There are risks of poor	Labour and working	There is risk of poor
conditions	Occupational Health	condition practices are	OHS practices among
	Safety (OHS) practices	generally adequate	EPC contractors. It
	among developers	and shall be	must be ensured that
	exists, although not	maintained. Weak	labor conditions
	expected to he high	labor practices (e.g.	comply with Nigerian
	among international	use of child labor) may	regulation and
	developers working in	he nossible but not	international good
	Nigeria	expected to he	nractice
		frequent or severe.	

Table 2: Key Environmental and Social Risks by Project Component

4. Community health and safety issues	General construction impacts, as well as moderate labor influx, can be expected and may be associated with security and gender-based violence concerns.	Supply of productive use appliances and equipment generally has low risk of community health and safety concerns.	Same as component 1.
5. Biodiversity impacts	Possible impacts/risk in terms of biodiversity is related to avian collision with the solar panel installations. Due to small size of mini grids this risk is not expected to be high. Impacts on sensitive natural habitats are possible where mini grids are constructed in such areas. Initial screening done through electricity demand surveys indicate this is not to be a frequent case.	Not expected.	Same as component 1.
6. Resource consumption (water)	There are potential risks associated with stress on local water in cases, where the installations are in semi-arid communities or communities with poor access to water use and supply is possible due to the need to wash solar panels frequently.	Not expected.	Same as component 1.

# Applicable Environmental and Social Requirements

Applicable E&S requirements are comprised of the following

- a. Regulatory, Administrative and Legal Framework of Nigeria, including federal, state, and local legislation as well as international treaties, acts and conventions;
- E&S Exclusion Criteria relating to labour and waste management: a. Exclusion Criteria for Min-Grid Developers, SHS Companies, and Contractors (applicable to all components) as detailed in the project's full ESMF;
- c. Exclusion Criteria for Mini-Gird and Power Generation Sites relating to the selection of projects in view of considerations for critical habitats, national regulations, and land acquisition and compensation (applicable to component 1 and 3) as detailed in the project's full ESMF;
- d. AfDB and World Bank's E&S requirements including the AfDB Operational Safeguards and relevant World Bank Environmental, Health, and Safety Guidelines.
- e. The legal framework for land acquisition and resettlement for the project include:
  - i. the Nigerian Land Use Act (LUA) of 1978,
  - ii. and the AfDB's Operational Safeguards on Involuntary Resettlement.
  - iii. the relevant World Bank policy (OP) 4.12,

It is understood that in the event of divergence between the National legislations and the requirements of the financiers, that which favours the Project Affected Persons (PAPs) more shall take precedence over the other.

REA will provide overall coordination of the project and lead in the implementation of the project components, which will include overall responsibility for E&S due diligence and compliance monitoring. Specific arrangements and responsibilities for each component are as follows:

- Under Component 1, REA will establish operating guidelines and specific construction requirements for site and developer selection, which include E&S aspects. Competent private sector mini grid developers who apply for grants to support their activities for identification, development, construction, and operation of mini grids across the country will have to indicate in their respective proposals how they intend to address E&S sustainability issues that could be associated with these activities. These selected companies will be responsible for putting in place a corporate Environmental and Social Management System (ESMS), satisfactory to REA, for implementing the E&S risk identification and management measures on the ground, to ensure subproject compliance with applicable E&S requirements as stated above.
- Under Component 2, REA will establish Result-Based Financing selection criteria and compliance clauses in the grant agreement, both of which will include E&S requirements. Qualified productive use appliances and equipment distribution companies will distribute equipment to existing mini grid sites and NEP-AfDB mini grid sites per the grant agreement and will be required to have an ESMS that will focus on key risks for this component (labour issues, battery/ waste management, and OHS issues).
- Under Component 3, REA will lead by coordinating the design of each system and hiring qualified contractors to conduct the construction. The contractors will need to comply with government and REA's requirements, including AfDB and World Bank E&S requirements. The AfDB will review the Contractor's bidding documents to ensure all required E&S clauses are incorporated. The beneficiary

universities will provide land and all other support needed to enable construction and then operate the system once built. As the universities are expected to provide land for the project (however, REA will be responsible for compensation costs, where compensation and livelihood restoration are needed as well as be responsible for conducting stakeholder engagement).

REA's Project Implementation Unit (PIU) will oversee implementation of all E&S processes. REA will ensure that mini grid developers have adequate Environmental and Social Management Systems (ESMS), and Terms of Reference (TOR) for hiring the consultants/ contractors and that other project documents are consistent with relevant country, AfDB and World Bank requirements.

Furthermore, REA will supervise REA's zonal offices in the six geopolitical zones, which will support REA in managing and monitoring subprojects in their specific zones. It is also REA's responsibility to provide leadership around strategic E&S issues, including strategy and engagement with private sector project participants to deal with out-of-use solar devices, such as batteries and other e-waste disposal and recycling, dealing with land-related issues, and harmonizing funder and government E&S requirements for mini grid development.

Specific attention will be paid to gender dynamics as women and men have different access to information, legal standing, marital status and income and literacy rates at the project site, which influences how they participant in consultations and how they are impacted by e.g. land acquisition and livelihood restoration. A gender specialist will be hired and embedded in the PIU to build capacity at REA and work across the various counterparts e.g. contractors and solar enterprises to deliver on the gender actions outlined in the ESMF and under the project.

# Environmental and Social Risk Management Process and Responsibilities

The successful implementation of the ESMF depends on the commitment of the private sector and related institutions, and the capacity within the institutions to apply or use the ESMF effectively, and the appropriate and functional institutional arrangements, among others. The details of institutional arrangements, the roles and responsibilities of the institutions that would be involved in the implementation of the ESMF, including primary and secondary institutions, are presented in Table 3 below for each project component.

#### Operational **Roles and Responsibilities (REA and Private Sector)** process steps (by component) **Other Key stake holders** REA **Private Sector** Component 1: Solar Hybrid Mini grids for Rural Economic Development 1. Setting applicable E&S Mini grids developers AfDB sets applicable E&S Sets applicable E&S requirements requirements incorporate applicable requirements. and E&S requirements in includes them in the rant institutional application process for their mini grid developers Environmental and (including applying (a) Social Management Exclusion Criteria for System (ESMS) that will Developers Mini-Grid ensure developers and Contractors and (b) manage E&S risk Exclusion Criteria for consistently in Mini-Gird and Power subprojects. Generation Sites). Requires mini grid developers to prepare Environmental and Social Management Systems (ESMS) to manage E&S risks across each subprojects developer will design and implement. Integrates E&S requirements in legal agreements with mini grid developers 2. Screening for E&S Validates verifies Federal Determine key E&S risks Ministry of 1 developer process and risks and impacts and impacts of individual Environment screen and risk categorization mini grids, applies categorize project Exclusion Criteria for proposals based on E&S Mini Grid and Power risks and impacts. Generation Sites, and assign E&S risk category (I or II). Any subproject requiring resettlement must be category I. Submits list of category I sites to REA before construction for verification 3. E&S due diligence and Conducts site visits for all Prepare and integrate AfDB reviews and risk management category I mini grids and provides clearance for into design: for a sample selection of • For category I, ESIA, as ESIAs, RAPs and LRPs as category II mini grids well as RAP and LRP as required required Federal Ministry of • For category II, ESMP Environment (FMoE) • For both, Stakeholder provides environmental Engagement Plan (SEP) clearance, as required. and grievance mechanism.

#### **Table 3: Institutional Responsibilities**

4. Monitoring	Conducts monitoring activities during mini grid construction and operation (sample, risk- based checks and site visits)	Conduct self-monitoring activities in line with their ESMS, maintain monitoring records.	N/A
5. Reporting	Reviews annual E&S reports from developers and conducts follow-ups. Maintains records of developer screening, ESIAs, ESMPs, RAPs/ LRPs, other relevant document	Prepare annual E&S reports to REA. Report any incidents or accidents within several days of occurrence	N/A
6. Independent E&S	Engages independent	Provide all relevant	Independent E&S
audit	E&S auditor	reports and documents	auditor conducts annual
		auditor	E&S performance
Component 2: Productive	use appliances and equipr	nent for mini grids and SHS	
1. Company's grant	Incorporates E&S	Productive use	N/A
application	requirements (ESMS, clean track E&S record,	appliances and equipment companies	
	applies Exclusion Criteria	prepares elements	
	SHS Companies, and	with REA's	
	Contractors) into	requirements;	
	application and grant	Submit statement of	
	agreements. Conducts	current practice for	
	companies' FSMS	waste disposal/recycling	
2. Distribution	Conducts sample	Remain in good	N/A
company's operations	performance checks, as	compliance to all	
	needed	Participate in electrical	
		appliances waste	
		disposal/ recycle	
		program.	
3 Monitoring	Oversees (under TOR for	Conduct self-monitoring	Ν/Δ
3. Wollitoling	general monitoring of	provide relevant	
	SHS companies)	documentation	
	monitoring E&S		
	compliance by		
Component 3: Power systems for public universities (Energizing Education Programme)			
1 ERC imposed	compliance by independent company tems for public universities	(Energizing Education Prog	ramme)
1. E&S impact	compliance by independent company tems for public universities Prepares ESIAs and ESMPs for university	(Energizing Education Prog Contractors engaged to	ramme) AfDB provides clearance for the ESIAc/ ESMPs
1. E&S impact assessment	compliance by independent company tems for public universities Prepares ESIAs and ESMPs for university mini grid sub-projects:	(Energizing Education Prog Contractors engaged to construct university power systems integrate	ramme) AfDB provides clearance for the ESIAs/ ESMPs FMoE provides
1. E&S impact assessment	compliance by independent company tems for public universities Prepares ESIAs and ESMPs for university mini grid sub-projects; Applies Exclusion Criteria	(Energizing Education Prog Contractors engaged to construct university power systems integrate ESIA/ESMP	ramme) AfDB provides clearance for the ESIAs/ ESMPs FMoE provides environmental
1. E&S impact assessment	compliance by independent company tems for public universities Prepares ESIAs and ESMPs for university mini grid sub-projects; Applies Exclusion Criteria for Min-Grid Developers;	(Energizing Education Prog Contractors engaged to construct university power systems integrate ESIA/ESMP requirements into their	AfDB provides clearance for the ESIAs/ ESMPs FMoE provides environmental clearance.
1. E&S impact assessment	compliance by independent company tems for public universities Prepares ESIAs and ESMPs for university mini grid sub-projects; Applies Exclusion Criteria for Min-Grid Developers; Applies Exclusion Criteria	(Energizing Education Prog Contractors engaged to construct university power systems integrate ESIA/ESMP requirements into their activities.	ramme) AfDB provides clearance for the ESIAs/ ESMPs FMoE provides environmental clearance.

	Integrates E&S clauses in bidding documents for contractors.		
2. Resettlement and livelihood restoration planning	Prepares RAPs as needed and provide funds for compensation as required at full replacement cost in line with AfDB requirements. Maintains targeted stakeholder engagement efforts and a grievance redress mechanism, in addition to general grievance mechanism.	Contractors ensure that works are not started until resettlement is completed.	African Development Bank provides clearance for RAPs and LRPs as required; REA prepares and implement RAPs and stakeholder engagement with support from the Universities.
3. Monitoring	Monitors contractor E&S performance before and during construction.	Self-monitors against ESMPs.	Universities support REA in monitoring process
4. Independent E&S audit	Engages independent E&S auditor	Provide all relevant reports and documents to the independent E&S auditor	Universities will assist independent auditors by providing necessary documents and information.

### Environmental and Social Monitoring and Reporting

REA is responsible for ensuring there is adequate capacity for the implementation of the applicable E&S requirements as defined above. Consequently, the PIU and regional REA staff will monitor and evaluate the project performance on E&S risk management against the provisions of the ESMF, collect and assess data and statistics on project outputs and outcomes to include in yearly progress reports which REA will submit to the AfDB. REA will rely on its own information systems and reports submitted by the mini-grid developers plan and monitor project outputs and outcomes for off grid electrification.

# Mitigation Measures for E&S Risks

Developing strategic solutions for E&S risk management is imperative for the success of the project. These are cross-cutting issues that go beyond the specific E&S due diligence of separate subprojects. Instead, they require strategic consideration and collaboration at the market/sector level. The following issues have been identified as systemic and resources have been allocated to developing strategic solutions for them (as specified in the capacity building section below).

### Battery Storage, Recycling, and Disposal

Lack of good alternatives of current battery recycling and disposal options used for accumulating and storing energy is a long-term issue that requires sector-wide solutions. Lead-acid battery recycling facilities in Nigeria are currently uncertified and known to have unsafe occupational health and safety practices. REA will engage private sector developers in resolving this risk by developing a targeted strategy without compromising project efficiency.

#### Land Use Challenges

The installation of solar systems typically involves considerable land footprint which constitutes a potential risk for the project. In addition to project specific provisions for E&S due diligence and management of land acquisition related issues, there is also room for standardized collaborative approach between the government and private sector.

#### Harmonization of E&S Standards

The Nigerian market, especially for SHS, has started to enjoy the entry of international companies and financiers, who have varying standards, including E&S standards they use (companies) or require as a condition of investment (financiers). On the other hand, local Nigerian companies may lag in this area. This can lead to inconsistencies of E&S risk management, so it would be important to ensure level playing field for all market participants. This can include encouraging both voluntary market-based solutions and streamlining of policy and regulatory environment, such as licensing, for sustainable solar power development. With respect to the latter, current regulatory environment for mini grid developments in terms of obtaining Ministry of Environment clearance may present a challenge due to lengthy processes that may not be efficient vis-à-vis the risk profile of mini grids which is oftentimes moderate to low risk. Engagement with relevant government agencies as part of the strategic discussion on E&S standards and processes will be an important contribution to project's success.

#### Guiding Principles for Resettlement Planning

The documentations prepared to elaborate the management of E&S risks for the project include a Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF) which was prepared in response to World Bank requirements. This framework identifies the guiding principles for resettlement planning for the borrower and the processes to follow in screening subproject activities to ensure appropriate measures are in place to address issues arising from potential land acquisition/disruption of livelihood under NEP.

Once the proposed intervention has been designed and before actual work begins, a socioeconomic study and census (including complex households such as compounds) shall be carried out within the area directly affected by the project where land will be acquired or displaced. The socioeconomic study should focus on such issues as livelihoods, household and compound composition, clan and sub-clan organization, other forms of social organization, ethnic groups, traditional and non-traditional leadership and other factors in the area, conflict and other issues relevant to the implementation of a resettlement plan. The census should include information on all income sources including remittances. The water supply available to each household and the availability of electric power will also be recorded. All the above data shall be photographically documented. Concurrently, data will be collected on services available to households in the area such as educational institutions, health-care facilities, places of worship, extension agencies, shops and any other services normally used by household members should be recorded. Distance from households to such facilities should be noted.

The valuation procedures of all assets that will be affected will be conducted by a qualified valuer/surveyor. Compensation for loss of income and assets will be at replacement cost such that the Project Affected Persons (PAPs) will experience no net loss and eligibility criteria have been developed for this. Project affected persons, communities, NGOs, relevant stakeholders shall participate in the resettlement/rehabilitation process. The specific plans/mechanisms for consultation participation will be detailed in the RAP and shall include resettlement committees for PAPs and communities and interagency committees for participating stakeholders

#### Grievance Redress Mechanism

The NEP RPF provides for grievance redress mechanism which is a non-judicial procedure within the agency (-ies) responsible for the resettlement. It is envisaged that this will provide an open and transparent avenue to address concerns related to compensations. The AfDB also provides an Independent Review Mechanism, which project affected people can use to address concerns related to

the E&S impacts of project. A Rehabilitation and Resettlement Committee shall be constituted within the PIU to monitor and review the progress of implementation of the scheme or plan of rehabilitation and resettlement of the affected families and to carry out post implementation social audits.

#### **RPF** Coordination and Implementation

The Rural Electricity Agency (REA) will be the main responsible institution for implementing the Project. REA will also facilitate liaisons with all key private sector entities that are to be involved in preparing and implementing the actual subprojects and ensure that every effort is made to enhance the positive impacts of the project and reduce/mitigate negative impacts.

#### Resettlement Activities and Implementation

A detailed, time-bound implementation schedule will be included in each RAP, which will include the specification of the sequence and time frame of the necessary activities for land acquisition, release of funds to the acquiring agency, payment of compensation for various categories of loss and relocation, demolition of structures and transfer of land, grievance redress, and monitoring and evaluation.

#### **Budgets and Costs**

With respect to land acquisition and compensation issue, at this stage, it is not possible to estimate the likely number of people who may be affected. This is because the technical designs and details have not yet been developed and the land needs have not yet been fully identified. The budget will be developed from the specific social assessment studies and mitigation/livelihood restoration measures to be developed. The budget will cover resettlement activities including compensation cost for affected assets. Funds for preparation and implementing inventory assessments as well as land acquisition and resettlement action plans;

- a. Component 1: This component will be implemented by private sector mini grid developers. As such, funds for preparation and implementing site specific land acquisition and resettlement action plans should be factored into the private sector agreement.
- b. Component 3: This component will be implemented by the government through REA, as such, funds for preparation and implementing inventory assessments as well as land acquisition and resettlement action plan will be the responsibility of the government of Nigeria.

### Institutional Arrangement

Rural Electrification Agency: REA will provide overall coordination of the Project and lead in the implementation of the different components (1-3), which will include overall responsibility for resettlement and compliance monitoring. Further, REA will be responsible for the overall coordination of the project implementation and oversight.

To achieve this made, REA has put in place a Project Implementation Unit (PIU) for coordinating the day to day activities with the relevant line departments. Specifically, with regard to Environmental and social issues, the PIU, through its Safeguards Unit, will liaise closely with other relevant Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs), Mini grid developers/companies and others in preparing a coordinated response on the environmental and social aspects of the NEP sub-projects.

An officer of the PIU has been designated as the Social Safeguards Officer to oversee the implementation of the RPF as well as any other social provisions as deemed fit for project implementation as per the requirements of the AfDB and Government of Nigeria and the respective State governments.

The PIU shall set up an Environmental and Social Safeguards Unit with staff trained in resettlement, which shall ensure and supervise the implementation of this RPF and preparing RAPs/Abbreviated Resettlement Action Plan (ARAP) as identified.

Mini-grid developers/companies will play a critical role in the implementation of this resettlement policy framework. As beneficiaries of subsidies / and or performance grants under the NEP, mini-grid companies will have the responsibility of preparing and implementing safeguards instrument (RAPs, ESMP). These instruments will be prepared in compliance with this Resettlement Policy Framework AfDBs Operational Safeguard on Land Acquisition and Involuntary Resettlement, Environmental and Social Management Framework and in accordance with National regulations related to land acquisition. The RAP prepared by developers will be cleared by REA and sent to AfDB for review and clearance.

## Capacity Building

For effective implementation of the ESMF, there will be a need for technical E&S capacity in REA, the implementing institution, as well as key private sector entities responsible for implementation of activities under project components. Implementers need to identify and understand the social and environmental issues. Appropriate understanding of the mechanisms for implementing the ESMF will need to be provided to the various stakeholders implementing REA projects. It will also be important to ensure that REA has sufficient capacity and systems for effective oversight of the fairly complex processes for E&S risk management with multiple parties involved.

To enhance the respective roles and collaboration of the relevant stakeholders, the following broad areas for (but not limited to) capacity building have been identified as deserving of attention for effective implementation of the ESMF.

- E&S management planning and monitoring systems. impact assessment tools, monitoring tools and activities;
- Preparation and verification of reporting;
- Public participation techniques and citizen engagement, including public awareness creation / educational techniques (on environmental, social and health issues);
- Addressing systemic E&S risks in in the Nigerian off-grid solar market through developing targeted strategic solutions.

### **Public Consultations**

The following key public consultations on the project's E&S aspects were carried out:

1. Stakeholder panel and discussion at the Global Mini-Grid Technical Conference (Abuja, December 4-8, 2017)

A discussion with stakeholders was held as part of the panel titled "Taking mini-grids to scale sustainably: Strategic risks and solutions" that took place on December 5, 2018, during the global conference. The conference was organized by the Federal Government of Nigeria, World Bank, Climate Investment Fund, UKAid, and DFID and had over 600 participants. The panel, chaired by the World Bank, explored key E&S impacts of scaling up mini grids and sought inputs on solutions. The outcomes have been integrated in the ESMF.

2. REA National Consultation Event on the Nigeria Electrification Project, March 23, 2018

The consultation was organized by the Project Implementation Unit (PIU) for the Nigeria Electrification project (NEP) under the Rural Electrification Agency (REA) and held on March 23, 2018 at the premises of the Rural Electrification Agency, on the draft versions of the Environmental Social Management Framework (ESMF) and Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF) in front of relevant interested stakeholders. Stakeholders such as Nigerian Electricity Regulatory Commission (NERC), Federal Ministry of Environment, Federal Ministry of Power Works and Housing, National Universities Commission (NUC), Renewable Energy Association of Nigeria, University of Abuja, National Environmental Standards and Regulations Enforcement Agency (NESREA), Ministry of Women Affairs, Energy Commission of Nigeria, Social Action

(Social Development Integrated Centre), and other concerned institutions were invited. There were 53 participants at the consultation event. The outcomes were incorporated in the ESMF.

# Conclusion

The Nigeria Electrification Project (NEP) can contribute immensely to economic growth and poverty reduction, while solving an urgent environmental and social problem. It can contribute to greenhouse gas reduction and also ameliorate other problems associated with lack of access to electricity in rural areas. The implementation of the Project will attract environmental social impacts (positive and negative) as has been provided for in this ESMF document through preliminary environmental assessments.

Possible negative impacts are mainly related to land acquisition for the solar technology installations and other systemic issues related to the management of waste originating from the implementation of the different components of the program in the medium to long term. The project is assigned Category 2 according to Operation Safeguards rating because the negative impacts are minimal within given locations of the different components of the project, they can be adequately managed and are reversible. The ESMF and RPF have therefore identified potential impacts and proposed mitigation measures, monitoring and reporting activities, which will ensure that the project is implemented in line with the expectations of the national legislations and the policies of the AfDB and other financiers.

### References

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- 2. Federal Republic of Nigeria, Rural Electrification Agency: Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF), Nigeria Electrification Project

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