TANZANIA THIRD SOCIAL ACTION FUND –PRODUCTIVE SOCIAL SAFETY NET (TASAF III –PSSN)

DISCLOSURE OF VULNERABLE GROUPS PLANNING FRAMEWORK (VGPF) FOR TASAF III-PSSN

1. The Government of the United Republic of Tanzania with support of International Development Association (IDA) of the World Bank, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), the UK Department for International Development (DFID), and the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) continueto support the Third Phase of Tanzania Social Action Fund (TASAF III) Productive Social Safety Net (PSSN) in all Local Government Authorities in Tanzania Mainland and all Districts in Zanzibar.

2. The ultimate goal of the PSSN is to enable poor and vulnerable households to move on to a positive trajectory, first, by stabilizing food consumption and preventing long-term consequences of extreme poverty; and then, by focusing on enhancing human development capabilities, assets and livelihoods. PSSN has been supporting the poorest and the most vulnerable groups through a series of interventions aimed at (i) protecting households from seasonal and unexpected shocks affecting their income and assets, (ii) providing them with tools to mitigate current poverty and vulnerability, and (iii) promoting them to improve their living standards and get out of food poverty.

3. At the core of the PSSN is the provision of timely and predictable transfers to eligible households. The safety net will be built by a set of instruments to: (i) establish and promote a participatory consultation process and promote the involvement of beneficiaries, communities and local level structures in the design and implementation
of the intervention ii) build capacities of the national, local and community level implementers iii) undertake community based selection of the poorest and register program beneficiaries using community based targeting process and objectively verified through statistical Proxy Means Test (PMT); (iv) monitor program implementation and measure results; (v) improve coordination with other existing assistance interventions; (vi) gradually incorporate or merge new complementary programs into the PSSN; (v) rationalize the social protection expenditure to minimize overlaps and fill gaps; and (vi) create and strengthen links between the safety net interventions with other programs to support beneficiaries to take the opportunities offered by economic growth.

4. PSSN is designed to target the extremely poor and vulnerable populations throughout the country. There are different categories of Vulnerable Groups in the project area authorities exposed to various forms of vulnerability. These groups meet the following criteria: (i) those that may be below the food poverty line, and (ii) lack access to basic social services – (including those that are geographically isolated), and (iii) are not integrated with society and (iv) lack equal decision making power in the community.

Implementation of the program will trigger to a safeguards policy on vulnerable groups, Vulnerable Groups Planning Framework (VGPF). Among the enrolled 1.1 million poor households receiving benefits from PSSN include the most vulnerable groups namely : (i) headed by women, children or elderly, (ii) with a large number of children and youth; and (iii) whose members have persons with disabilities or HIV/AIDS; and in general any “disadvantaged communities” living in extremely poor conditions.

5. The Vulnerable Groups Planning Framework (VGPF) provides guidance for ensuring that: there is free, prior and informed consultation leading to broad community support by vulnerable groups for project activities; any adverse impacts on vulnerable groups are mitigated; the project involves socially appropriate benefit-sharing; there is a grievance redress mechanism; and there is monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of the Vulnerable Groups Plan(s).

6. The Vulnerable Groups Planning Framework (VGPF) is now being disclosed to the public and will be available at the following places:
   • Vice Presidents Office, Division of Environment
   • National Environment Management Council
   • President's Office - Regional Administration and Local Government (PO-RALG) Dodoma and Dar es Salaam
   • Second Vice President's Office, Zanzibar
   • Office of the Directors of all Local Government Authorities (LGAs) in Tanzania Mainland.
The Framework will also be posted on the TASAF website and at the World Bank Information Centre (Infoshop).

Further information may be obtained from the following address.

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