

**THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA
President Office**

**Tanzania Social Action Fund
Production Social Safety Net III (PSSN III)**



VULNERABLE GROUPS PLANNING FRAMEWORK

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Abbreviations:

ASP	Adaptive Social Protection
CBO	Community Based Organization
CMC	Community Management Committees
CSOs	Civil Society Organization
CS-PW	Climate - Smart Public Work
ESF	Environmental and Social Framework
ESMF	Environmental and Social Management Framework
ESS	Environmental and Social Standards
FGD	Focus group discussion
FPIC	Free, Prior and Informed Consent
GBV	Gender Based Violence
GRM	Grievance Redress Mechanism
HIV/AIDS	Human immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
LGA	Local Government Authorities
MEL	Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning
MIS	Management Information System
MLHHSD	Ministry of Lands, Housing and Human Settlements Development
MNRT	Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism
NSC	National Steering Committee
NGO	Non-Governmental Organizations
O&OD	Obstacles and Opportunities for Development
RPF	Resettlement Policy Framework
PAA	Project Area Authority
PCT	Productive Cash Transfers
PSSN	Productive Social Safety Net
SEA	Sexual Exploitation and Abuse
SE	Stakeholder Engagement
SEP	Stakeholder Engagement Plan
SET	Sector Experts Team
SS-VGPs	Site Specific Vulnerable Group Plans
TASAF	Tanzania Social Action Fund
TMU	TASAF Management Unit
URT	United Republic of Tanzania
VCs	Village Councils
VEO	Village Executive Officer
VGs	Vulnerable Groups
VGP	Vulnerable Groups Plan
VGPF	Vulnerable Groups Planning Framework

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Government of United Republic of Tanzania (URT) has requested the World Bank and other Development Partners (DP) for their continued support of the Second Phase of the Productive Social Safety Net Project (PSSN III) herein referred as the Project or PSSN III. The PSSN III is designed to advance the social protection agenda which will consolidate and strengthen the effectiveness of social safety nets in order to build human capital and help extremely poor household move into sustainable livelihoods, with the main objective to enhance income-generating opportunities and human capital for targeted of PSSN beneficiaries and build adaptive social protection delivery systems.

While all Environmental and Social Standards (ESS's) apply to the Program, it is likely that six of them will be mostly applied. These Standards contribute to poverty reduction and sustainable development by ensuring that projects supported by the Bank enhance opportunities for Vulnerable Group Communities to participate in, and benefit from the development process in ways that do not threaten their unique cultural identities and wellbeing. This VGPF is based on relevant aspects of Tanzanian law and the World Bank's ESS's, in particular ESS 7 (Sub-Saharan Africa Historically Underserved Traditional Local Communities) and ESS 10 (Stakeholder Engagement and Information Disclosure).

Vulnerable Groups in the Project refer to those that are present in the Project areas of intervention meeting the four cumulative criteria of ESS7. Project such individuals or groups are susceptible to exclusion from, and/or are unable to fully participate in the mainstreaming consultation process and as such may require specific measures and assistance to ensure adequate inclusion in Project activities.

Vulnerable Groups include hunter-gatherer communities, pastoralist and agro-pastoralist communities meeting ESS7 requirements. The vulnerability of these communities is evidenced by their livelihood style as most of them live in geographically difficult to access areas which deprive them of access to social services. They also depend mainly on roots, herbs and wild animals for livelihood which has been greatly impacted by the climate change effects thus rendering being scarce.

The Vulnerable Groups Planning Framework (VGPF) is a guide for fully engaging Vulnerable Group Communities in specific plans that will be developed during the implementation of PSSN III at the community level. The Site-specific Vulnerable Group Plans (VGPs) will be prepared through a highly participatory, flexible and pragmatic process using participatory planning approach.



The implementation of the VGPF in the Project will help the Vulnerable Groups to create important opportunities for improving their quality of life and wellbeing. The Project will have potential benefits to Vulnerable Groups with minor negative impacts of less significance and magnitude. The Project is aimed at maintaining and strengthening positive outcomes and mitigating negative impacts.

The TASAF Management Unit (TMU) will establish a monitoring system involving TMU staff at national and PAA levels, as well as communities to ensure effective implementation of VGPs at the community level. The Project will continue to strengthen and upgrade the Grievance Redress Mechanism which provides a formal channel for community members to air grievances and to improve performance and provide a high level of accountability

The budget for implementation of VGPs at the community level will depend on the number of Vulnerable Groups, nature, type and time. All costs required to implement the Plans will be incorporated in the Project budget.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

The Government of the United Republic of Tanzania (URT) has requested the World Bank and other Development Partners (DP), for their continued support of the Productive Social Safety Net Project (PSSN) III, which would be implemented in the third phase of the Tanzania Social Action Fund. The third phase of Productive Social Safety Net (PSSN III) will continue to support Tanzania's flagship safety net program, providing targeted assistance to extreme poor and vulnerable households and drawing extensively from lessons learned from PSSN I and PSSN II from 2012 to 2025. The project is expected to reach all the 100 Project Area Authority, but activities will be more narrowly geographically targeted in this phase. PSSN III will seek to streamline interventions and place greater emphasis on those with significant evidence of impact and cost-effectiveness, emphasizing resilience and income generation.

The Project will continue to support PSSN's core activities – cash transfers, economic inclusion, and climate smart public works – while investing in adaptive and digital delivery systems throughout the delivery chain. This will comprise investments in digital and dynamic delivery systems that would enable more efficient and effective responses to the needs of vulnerable populations, facilitating targeted interventions with a climate resilience focus. The Project will deliver integrated interventions aimed at achieving the following goals: (i) boosting productivity and income-generating capabilities of the household, (ii) smoothing consumption, encouraging saving and facilitating the transition to alternative, climate-resilient livelihoods; (iii) protect and promote human capital development, (iv) Building resilience to withstand shocks.

PSSN III would build on nearly 15 years of continuous investment in the Project and SP delivery systems to further enhance access to productive income-generating opportunities for the poor and modernize the social protection delivery systems by making it digital and adaptive. This would enable the country to achieve its long-term goals of reducing poverty, building resilience to shocks, creating productive income-earning opportunities, and promoting human capital development. The Project focuses on three core components, that are 1) Promoting resilience and economic inclusion through Adaptive Safety Nets, 2) Strengthening and modernizing social protection delivery systems and 3) Project Management.

There has also been progress in systems development within the capacity building component. A strong focus on capacity building at national, regional, PAA and community levels has ensured effective Project implementation. Transparency and accountability created effective checks and balances. Trust in programming modalities has promoted buy-in of stakeholders, including Development Partners, which have contributed substantial financial resources. Furthermore, an effective targeting and enrolment process has been established; a Management Information System (MIS) now facilitates effective delivery and monitoring of project interventions; a Unified Registry

of Beneficiaries captures detailed information on all beneficiary households; there is a Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) in place; and e-payments have been rolled out in all PAAs.

1.2 Environmental and Social standards applied during PSSN I and II

PSSN I triggered World Bank Operational Policies (OPs) on environmental and social safeguards. The project prepared the following environmental and social instruments: the Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF), Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) and Vulnerable Groups Planning Framework (VGPF).

PSSN II applied the Environmental and Social Framework (ESF) and its respective Environmental and Social Standards (ESSs) responsible for management of environmental and social impacts. The Standards applied are; ESS1 on Environmental and Social Assessment and management, ESS2 on Labor and Working Condition, ESS5 on Land Acquisition and Restriction on Land Use, ESS7 on Vulnerable Groups Planning Framework, and ESS10 on Stakeholders Engagement and Information Disclosure.

The VGPF was prepared because the project was designed to target the extremely poor and vulnerable populations throughout the country, including those groups present in the Project areas that meet the 4 cumulative requirements of ESS7. The project targets overall groups meeting 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), (iii) are not integrated with society and (iv) lack equal decision-making power in the community.

The VGPF provided guidance to ensure that: there is meaningful and culturally appropriate 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 mechanism; and there is Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning of the implementation of the Vulnerable Groups Plan(s).

1.3 PSSN III Project description

The implementation of PSSN III is a follow-up Project after the phase out of PSSN II to advance the social protection agenda in Tanzania. It will consolidate and strengthen the effectiveness of social safety nets in order to build human capital and help extremely poor households move into sustainable livelihoods. The Project Development Objective (PDO) is to enhance income-generating opportunities and human capital for targeted of PSSN beneficiaries and build adaptive social protection delivery systems.

In attaining this objective, ‘Targeted households’ will be those identified as the poorest through the robust PSSN targeting process that includes community-based targeting, followed by verification through a proxy means test (PMT). The Project will enhance access to income earning opportunities and socio-economic services primarily by overcoming demand-side constraints.

Linkages of the Project with a range of Ministries and sectors will also promote a complementary supply-side response, where supply of services is the binding constraint on access.

Key principles guiding the design of PSSN III have been the following:

- i. an increased focus on productive impacts;
- ii. continuing to strengthen community empowerment through participatory project management and direct financing;
- iii. promoting transparency and accountability among stakeholders at all levels;
- iv. enhancing the capacities of implementers at all levels to provide effective implementation management and to integrate sub projects within the context of decentralization;
- v. aligning the center with peripheries so as to leverage the use of public resources in favor of poor communities and disadvantaged groups; and
- vi. the use of technology for effective delivery.

PSSN III Project will focus on three core components, that are 1) Promoting resilience and economic inclusion through Adaptive Safety Nets, 2) Strengthening and modernizing social protection delivery systems and 3) Project Management.

i. Promoting resilience and economic inclusion through Adaptive Safety Net

This component aims to enhance household resilience and promote economic inclusion among poor and vulnerable populations. Its overall goal is to establish a streamlined, cost-efficient, and adaptive safety net system that integrates income support with opportunities for productive engagement and climate resilience. Implementation will be carried out through two key sub-components of Productive Cash transfer and Climate - Smart Public Work (CS-PW).

Productive Cash Transfers (PCT):

PCT is the core intervention of PSSN III, providing bi-monthly cash transfers to ensure household consumption, promote savings and investment, and build resilience. All households receive an unconditional cash transfer, with top-ups based on household composition (e.g., children, people with disabilities). Transfers are inflation-adjusted, and beneficiaries participate in quarterly community sessions on topics such as climate awareness, nutrition, and financial literacy.

Economic Inclusion Support:

PSSN III through Economic inclusion it strengthens the “cash plus” approach through 1) Basic Support (500,000 households), which Focuses on financial and digital literacy, savings group promotion, and connections to local services, and 2) Enhanced Support (100,000 households) which Builds on the basic package with entrepreneurship training, life skills development, coaching, and a one-time productive grant, following a graduation model with support from private sector partners

Climate-Smart Public Works (CS-PW)

This sub-component offers temporary, labor-intensive employment during lean seasons to 100,000 new, seasonally vulnerable households. It supports climate change adaptation through community asset creation (e.g., soil conservation, water projects) while providing income. Targeting is based on labor capacity and vulnerability. The Project will operate in selected high-risk areas and maintain high labor intensity (at least 72%). Projects will be selected through participatory planning and aligned with local climate resilience priorities.

ii. Strengthening and Modernizing Social Protection Delivery Systems

This component focuses on enhancing the efficiency, flexibility, and responsiveness of PSSN's delivery systems by modernizing operations and building the foundation for Adaptive Social Protection (ASP), it supports the development of digital tools, robust data systems, and institutional capacity to deliver shock-responsive social protection, in line with the National Social Protection Policy (NSPP). This component is divided into two sub-components:

The modernization of delivery systems under PSSN III focuses on enhancing efficiency and adaptability through digital and institutional improvements. This includes upgrading and expanding TASAF's registry of poor households, scaling up the e-payment system to ensure all beneficiaries including savings groups receive digital payments, and introducing ICT tools to support data collection, monitoring and evaluation, communication, and grievance tracking. The Project will also strengthen the Management Information System (MIS) and invest in digital infrastructure such as tablets and smartphones. Clear protocols for targeting, graduation, and updating household information will be developed, while local capacity will be built through structured, phased training aligned with the Project rollout. Additionally, institutional and technical support for Adaptive Social Protection (ASP) will be provided by fostering national coordination, building stakeholder consensus, supporting relevant policy and legal frameworks, and financing technical assistance, learning exchanges, workshops, and communication tools essential for effective ASP implementation.

iii. Project Management.

This component focuses on supporting effective and continuous implementation of the Project by financing essential Project management functions. This includes covering costs related to staffing, logistics, coordination, monitoring, evaluation and Learning (MELL), supervision, financial management, procurement, and safeguards compliance. It will also support regular project coordination meetings and other management activities to ensure the smooth operation and effectiveness of the program. In addition, this component will finance communication efforts and stakeholder engagement to promote transparency and inclusive participation throughout the implementation process. Further, the component will strengthen grievance redress and other social accountability mechanisms to ensure the Project is accountable to the citizens served.

1.4 Environmental and Social Standards under PSSN III

The Project will use the Environmental and Social Framework (ESF) applying the 5 relevant standards out of the 10 Environmental and Social Standards (ESSs). The ESSs that apply to Project

includes: Assessment and Management of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts (ESS 1); Labor and Working Conditions (ESS 2); Land Acquisition, Restrictions on Land use and Involuntary Resettlement(ESS 5); Sub Saharan African Historically Underserved Traditional Local Communities(ESS7); Cultural Heritage (ESS 8); and Stakeholder Engagement and Information Disclosure (ESS 10). These standards contribute to poverty reduction and sustainable development by ensuring that projects supported by the bank enhance opportunities for the Vulnerable Group Communities to participate in, and benefit from the development process in ways that do not threaten their unique cultural identities and wellbeing.

The Constitution of the United Republic of Tanzania accords equal opportunities to all citizens, men and women alike without regard to their color, tribe, religion, or station in life. The Government of Tanzania further acknowledges the presence of certain Vulnerable Groups that should equally benefit from Project activities. To this end, support for Vulnerable Groups will be applied in the context of ESS 7. Therefore, Vulnerable Group Planning Framework is prepared to address the requirements of ESS7.

2.0 VULNERABLE GROUP PLANNING FRAMEWORK

The Vulnerable Group Planning Framework (VGPF) provides guidance for Project implementation. This VGPF is based on Tanzanian law and the World Bank's ESS's, in particular ESS 7 (Sub-Saharan Africa Historically Underserved Traditional Local Communities) and ESS 10 (Stakeholder Engagement and Information Disclosure).

The rationale of the VGPF

The project area covers three communities that have been identified across PSSN phases as meeting ESS7 criteria: the Hadzabe (hunter-gatherers in Arusha and Simiyu regions), the Akie (hunter-gatherers in Manyara and Tanga regions), and the Barbaig/Datoga (pastoralists and agro-pastoralists). These groups are geographically isolated, largely outside formal administrative and social protection systems, and have distinct livelihood systems, languages, and cultural practices that set them apart from the general PSSN III target population. Their presence in the project area makes a targeted framework necessary. The VGPF will ensure their inclusion addressing specific needs, vulnerabilities, and rights of these communities in a culturally appropriate manner. Additionally, The VGPF will ensure these communities receive benefits that are appropriate to their cultural context and livelihood. The VGPF for Project will be prepared through a highly participatory, culturally appropriate and inclusive, flexible and pragmatic process using participatory planning based on the findings of stakeholders' engagements conducted. The PAAs facilitators, in consultation with VGs in their respective areas, will develop a Site Specific VGPs that are culturally appropriate and inclusive.

The Vulnerable Groups identified under the Project have the following characteristics:

- Self-identification as members of a distinct social group and recognition of this identity by others;
- Collective attachment to ancestral territories and areas of seasonal use or occupation, as well as natural resources in those areas;
- Customary cultural, economic or/and social institutions that are distinct or separate from those of the mainstream society and culture;
- A distinct language, which is different from the official language of the country

The Vulnerable Groups are inextricably linked to the land on which they live and the natural resources on which they depend. They are therefore particularly vulnerable if their land and resources are transformed, encroached upon, or significantly degraded. Different activities which are implemented in the project area could undermine language use, cultural practices, institutional arrangements, and religious or spiritual beliefs that VGs view as essential to their identity or well-being.

The implementation of VGPs in the Project will help the VGs create important opportunities for improving their quality of life and well-being. The project will help create improved access to

markets, schools, clinics and other services that seek to improve living conditions. The Project will ensure participation of VGs in order to benefit from Project-related activities that may help them fulfill an aspiration to play an active and meaningful role in sustainable development.

The Vulnerable Groups Planning Framework is designed to ensure inclusion of VGs into the Project design, planning and undertaking of planned activities to enhance development process with full respect to the dignity, human rights, economies, and culture of Vulnerable Groups.

2.1 Objectives of the Vulnerable Groups Planning Framework

The Vulnerable Groups Planning Framework has a broad objective of ensuring a thorough engagement of the VGs in the country's development plans which will enable them:

- To ensure that the development process fosters full respect for human rights, dignity, aspirations, identity, culture, and natural resources-based livelihoods;
- To avoid adverse impacts of the Project, or to minimize, mitigate and/or compensate for such impacts, if needed;
- To promote sustainable development benefits and opportunities in a manner that is culturally appropriate and inclusive;
- To improve project design and promote local support by establishing and maintaining an ongoing relationship based on meaningful consultation throughout the lifecycle of the Program;
- To undertake Free, Prior and Informed Consent, where required under the three circumstances set forth in ESS7; and to recognize, respect and preserve the culture, knowledge, and practices of VGs, as well as providing an opportunity to adapt to changing conditions in an acceptable manner and timeframe.

2.2 Elements of Vulnerable Groups Planning Framework

The VGPF will be used as the guideline for the preparation of Site-Specific Vulnerable Group Plans (SS-VGPs) when villages and sites have been identified in areas where Vulnerable Groups are present or in which they have a collective attachment, as determined during the environmental and social assessment process. The SS-VGPs will include the following elements, as needed:

- a. **A summary of the social assessment of VGs**, including, where applicable, baseline data of the demographic, economic, social, cultural and political characteristics of the affected communities, the geographically distinct habitats, ancestral territories, or areas of seasonal use and occupation that they have traditionally owned or customarily used or occupied, as well as to the land in the project area and to natural resources in these areas on which they depend, and an assessment of their degree of vulnerability and the constraints they face to access project benefits.

- b. **A summary of a scale appropriate to the project**, of the legal and institutional framework applicable to vulnerable group communities. Besides describing the legal status of VGs in the country's constitution, legislation (laws, regulations, administrative orders) and customary law, this section should also include an assessment of the ability of their communities to obtain access to and effectively use the legal system to defend their rights.
- c. **A summary of the framework for meaning consultation** with the targeted VGs during project preparation and implementation. The consultations should: (i) involve representative bodies and organizations of the VGs (e.g., councils of elders or village councils, or Community Influential People) and, where appropriate, other community members; (ii) provide sufficient time for VGs' decision-making processes; and (iii) allow for the effective participation by VGs in the design of project activities or mitigation measures that could potentially affect them either positively or negatively. Feedback on the project would be gathered through separate group meetings with vulnerable groups, including their leaders, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), community-based organizations (CBOs), civil society organizations (CSOs) and other affected persons. The consultations should also help inform the social assessment with regard to demographic data, such as the social and economic situation and social and economic impacts. Finally, a summary needs to be prepared for the FPIC process and how its requirements have been met.
- d. **A summary of the Stakeholder Engagement Plan**, which would include stakeholder analysis and engagement planning, disclosure of information, and meaningful consultation, in a culturally appropriate and gender and inter-generationally inclusive manner.
- e. **An assessment of the nature and degree of the expected direct and indirect economic, social, cultural (including cultural heritage), and environmental impacts** on VGs who are present in, or have collective attachment to, the project area. This includes potential positive and negative impacts on VGs of each project component and proposed mitigation measures to avoid, minimize or compensate for adverse impacts.
 - i. Where alternatives have been explored and adverse impacts are unavoidable, the Project will minimize these impacts in a culturally appropriate manner proportionate to the nature and scale of such impacts and the form and degree of vulnerability. The Project and the affected VGs should identify mitigation measures as well as opportunities for culturally appropriate and sustainable development benefits. The Project will ensure the timely delivery of agreed measures to affected VGs.
 - ii. The determination, delivery, and distribution of compensation and shared benefits to affected VGs should take account of the institutions, rules and customs of these groups as well as their level of interaction with mainstream society. Where applicable, eligibility for compensation can either be individually or collectively-based or be a combination of both.
 - iii. Various factors including, but not limited to, the nature of the project, the project context and the vulnerability of affected VGs will determine how they will benefit from the project. Identified opportunities should aim to address the goals and preferences of

the affected VGs, including improving their standard of living and livelihoods in a culturally appropriate manner, and to foster the long-term sustainability of the natural resources on which they depend.

- f. **Institutional arrangements**, with a clear description of responsibilities and accountabilities. This should include measures to strengthen the capacity of implementing agency at the central as well as the PAA level to address VG issues and the possibility of involving local CBOs, CSOs and NGOs with expertise in VG issues;
- g. **The Grievance Mechanism**. TASAF will ensure that a grievance mechanism is established for the project, which is culturally appropriate and accessible to affected VGs, and takes into account the availability of judicial recourse and customary dispute settlement mechanisms among VGs. When designing the grievance procedures, priority should be given to resolving grievances through the local grievance mechanism.
- h. **The cost estimates and financing plan for the VGP implementation**. The implementation of the VGP will require financial support especially during the application of recommended mitigation measures. The cost estimates for the capacity building, planning and implementation of Site Specific VGP will be incorporated into the total Project budget for the capacity building as well the budget for the implementation of subprojects.
- i. **Mechanisms and benchmarks appropriate to the project for monitoring, evaluation, and reporting** on the implementation of the VGP. Monitoring arrangements should include the following tasks:
 - Administrative monitoring to ensure that implementation is on schedule and problems are dealt with on a timely basis;
 - Socio-economic monitoring during and after VGP implementation, utilizing the baseline information established by the socio-economic survey of VGs undertaken during Project preparation to ensure that impacts on VGs are mitigated and benefits reach VGs; and
 - Overall monitoring.

3.0 RELEVANT NATIONAL POLICIES AND LEGAL FRAMEWORK

The GoT has no specific legislation or policy regarding VGs, however the policy and legal framework on the Vulnerable Groups is based on the Constitution of the United Republic of Tanzania. One of the key principles of the Tanzanian Constitution is “Ujamaa” or family-hood, namely that a person becomes a person through the people or community. To this end, the Constitution emphasizes the importance of not singling out individuals, tribes or ethnic groups.

The following Articles emphasize the principle of national unity:

Article 8(2): The structure of the Government of the United Republic and the Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar or any of their organs, and the discharge of their functions shall be so affected as to take into account the unity of the United Republic and the need to promote national unity and preserve national dignity.

Article 9: The object of this Constitution is to facilitate the building of the United Republic as a nation of equal and free individuals enjoying freedom, justice, fraternity and concord, through the pursuit of the policy of Socialism and Self Reliance which emphasizes the application of socialist principles while taking into account the conditions prevailing in the United Republic. Therefore, the state authority and all its agencies are obliged to direct their policies and programmes towards ensuring (g) that the Government and all its agencies accord equal opportunities to all citizens, men and women alike without regard to their color, tribe, religion, or station in life.

Article 29: (1) Every person in the United Republic has the right to enjoy fundamental human rights and to enjoy the benefits accruing from the fulfillment by every person of this duty to society, as stipulated under Articles 12 to 28 of this Part of this Chapter of the Constitution.

(2) Every person in the United Republic has the right to equal protection under the laws of the United Republic.

(3) A citizen of the United Republic shall not have a right, status or special position on the basis of his lineage, tradition or descent.

(4) It is hereby prohibited for any law to confer any right, status, or special position upon any citizen of the United Republic on the basis of lineage, tradition or descent.

(5) In order that all persons may benefit from the rights and freedoms guaranteed by this Constitution, every person has the duty to conduct himself and his affairs in the manner that does not infringe upon the rights and freedoms of others or the public interest.

3.1 Policies related to Vulnerable Groups

There are national policies that are applied to address social remedies to general public with specific sections discussing Vulnerable Groups. Among the key policies include the following:

3.1.1 National Land Policy (1995)

The National Land Policy advocates equitable distribution and access to land by all citizens. It aims at ensuring that existing rights in land especially customary rights of small holders (i.e. peasants and herdsmen who form the majority of the country's population) are recognized, clarified, and secured by law. Under the policy framework, land is to be put to its most productive use to promote rapid social and economic development of the country among other objectives. This implies that land that provides livelihood to Vulnerable Groups is to be protected and made available for their use.

3.1.2 National Human Settlement Policy (2000)

There are fourteen (14) main objectives but for the purpose of this Project the following five (5) shall be emphasized because they have direct or indirect impacts on the Program.

- To make serviced land available for shelter and human settlement development in general to all sections of the community including women, youth, the elderly, disabled and vulnerable communities
- To improve the level of provision of infrastructure and social services for sustainable human settlement development;
- To facilitate creation of employment opportunities and eradication of poverty;
- To protect the environment of human settlements and of ecosystems from pollution, degradation and destruction in order to attain sustainable development; and
- To encourage development of housing areas that are functional, healthy, aesthetically pleasant and environmentally friendly.

3.1.3 Agriculture and Livestock Policy (1997)

The overall aim of the Policy is to promote and ensure a secure land tenure system to encourage optimal use of land resources and facilitate broad-based social and economic development without upsetting or endangering the ecological balance of the environment. The land use plan in the Project will be observed to protect the rights of hunters-gatherers, livestock keepers, and specific uses on Vulnerable Groups.

3.1.4 National Gender Policy (2002)

The main objective of this policy is to provide guidelines to ensure gender sensitive plans, programs and strategies in all sectors and institutions. The policy emphasizes on gender equality with the aims of establishing strategies on poverty eradication through ensuring that both women and men get access to existing resources for their development. It values the role played by women in bringing about development in the society. The Project will therefore ensure gender equality and easy availability of resources to Vulnerable Groups

3.1.5 National Policy on HIV/AIDS (2001)

The overall goal of the National Policy on HIV/AIDS is to provide a framework for leadership and coordination of the National multi-sectoral response to the HIV/AIDS epidemic. This includes formulation, by all sectors, of appropriate interventions which will be effective in preventing transmission of HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted infections, protecting and supporting Vulnerable Communities, mitigating the social and economic impact of HIV/AIDS.

In most cases, poverty of the Vulnerable Groups in the communities entice some household members to engage in illicit relationships that expose them to elevated risks of contracting HIV/AIDS infection. Thus, the National Policy on HIV/AIDS is relevant in this respect since it provides a larger framework for intervention and protection of all people against HIV/AIDS.

3.1.6 Legislation frameworks:

Several legislation frameworks have a close link to the design and implementation of the Project (PSSN III), its components, sub-projects under components and the communities served by the Program. Here are those identified to significantly influence the Project implementation.

3.1.7 The Land Act No 4 and 5 of 1999

The Land Act Cap. 113, establishes three categories of land: general, village and reserved. In addition, land may be declared ‘hazard land’ where its development might lead to environmental damage, e.g. locations, such as wetlands, mangrove swamps and coral reefs, steep lands and other areas of environmental significance or fragility.

The Act recognizes customary tenure as of equal status to granted rights of occupancy and allows livestock keepers to own pasture lands either individually or in groups. Importantly, the land act promotes gender equality by recognizing equal access to land ownership and use by all citizens—men and women and giving them equal representation on the land committees.

3.1.8 Village Land Act (No. 7), 1999

The Village Land Act, (No. 7), 1999 was enacted specifically for the administration and management of land in villages. Under the provisions of this act, the Village Council is responsible for management of village land and is empowered to do so in accordance with the principles of a trustee managing property on behalf of a beneficiary. In addition, the Village Council is required to manage land by upholding the principles of sustainable development, relationship between land uses, other natural resources and the environment. Many PSSN III subprojects shall be established and operated within village lands.

3.1.9 The National Climate Change Strategy (URT of 2012)

The goal of this Strategy is to enable Tanzania to effectively adapt to and participate in global efforts to mitigate to climate change with a view to achieving sustainable economic growth in the context of Tanzania’s national development blueprint, Vision 2025; Five Years National

Development plan; and national cross sectorial policies in line with established international policy frameworks. Most of the sub-projects implemented under PSSN III may be affected by Climate Change effects; hence, mitigation is necessary for resilience and adaptation.

3.1.10 Environmental Management Act 2004

Section 7 (1) of the Environmental Management Act of 2004 stipulates its objectives which include providing for and promote the enhancement, protection, conservation and management of the environment. In achieving this objective section 7 (3) (b) reiterates that adverse effects be prevented or minimized through long term integrated planning and coordination, integration and corporation of efforts, which consider the entire environment as a whole entity, whereas section 7 (3) (g) insist on access to justice which gives individual, the public and interest groups of persons the opportunity to protect their rights to participation and contest decisions that do not take their interest into account. These sections emphasize the importance of consultation and ultimate participation of VG in Project implementation.

The **National Environmental Policy (1997)** seeks to improve conditions of degraded areas including rural and urban settlements in order that all Tanzanians may live in safe and healthful productive and aesthetically pleasant surroundings, raise the awareness and understanding of the essential linkages between environment and development and to promote individual and community participation in environmental action and to ensure sustainability, security and equitable use of resources meeting the basic needs of present and future generations without degrading the environment or risking health or safety. The policy thus has a two-pronged focus, i.e. satisfaction of basic needs and protecting the environment in the course of development. Resources channeling shall be targeted at addressing poverty related environmental problems. Strategic attention shall be directed towards eradicating communicable disease, guaranteeing food, shelter, safe water for all, sustainable energy supply as well as employment and income generation in rural and urban areas, particularly combat poverty.

In its introduction, the national Environmental Policy stipulates that lives of all Tanzanians are intimately connected to environment such that people's survival and those of future generations depends on the harmonious relationship with natural elements. Such a measure means that people have to strive to manage the environment and its resources in ways that enhance potential growth as well as opportunity for sustainable development of current and future generations. Furthermore, it is highly illuminated that there is an ostensible cause-and-effect relationship between poverty and environmental degradation whereby environmental degradation leads to widespread poverty and it is equally true that poverty is a habitual cause of environmental degradation because it undermines.

The **National Forestry Policy (1999)** support the Forest Act (2002) which recognizes six different kinds of forest tenure categories. National forest reserves are gazetted forests owned and managed

by the central government through the FBD in the MNRT for conservation and productive purposes. Local authority forest reserves (LAFRs) are gazetted forests managed at the level of district councils under local governments as production and protection forests. Village land forest reserves (VLFRs) are a new category of forests, which became legalized with passage of the 2002 Forest Act. VLFRs, as the name suggests, occur on village land and, as such, are managed by the village council on behalf of village residents. They are managed for both production and protection purposes, depending on their location, size, and composition.

Community forest reserves (CFRs) are found on village land and are similar in all respects to VLFRs, apart from the fact that their management is delegated by the village council to a group of persons within the community (such as a women's group or a group of charcoal producers). Private forests (PFs) are those forests owned by individuals or companies that have acquired land title deeds from the government. They may occur on general or village land. General lands, formerly known as public forest lands, are non-gazetted or non-reserved lands and are managed by the commissioner of lands on behalf of the president. These areas constitute the bulk of forests, a total of 20.5 million hectares, or 57 percent of all forest land in Tanzania. They are "open access" areas, characterized by insecure land tenure, shifting cultivation, and widespread unregulated harvesting for fuel wood, poles, and timber.

The Forest Policy and the Forest Act both provide a strong foundation and legal basis for community involvement in forest management.

The **Community Development Policy, 1996**, enables Tanzanians as individuals or in their families or in groups/associations to contribute more to the government initiatives of promoting efforts on self-reliance and therefore bring about development at all levels.

The **Cultural Heritage Policy, 2008**, recognizes that as long as the public is the main custodian of cultural resources, its implementation is on public involvement. Currently, the government's role is to create conducive environment, coordinate as well as supervise policy implementation. The government envisages that policy implementation would enhance sustainable conservation of cultural heritage; create public awareness, confidence as well as national pride; and expand investment opportunities in the cultural heritage tourism sector.

4.0 SOCIO-ECONOMIC SITUATION OF VGs IN THE PROJECT AREA

4.1 General Characteristics of the VGs

The following is a general description on the social economic characteristics as well as other livelihood factors pertaining to Vulnerable Groups in the Project area.

4.1.1 General location

The majority of the VGs live in northern Tanzania, particularly in Arusha and Manyara regions and partly in Singida and Simiyu regions. The Hadzabe live around Lake Eyasi and are mainly found in Mkalama, Karatu, Mbulu and Meatu Districts. The Akie, also called Ndorobo are found in Kiteto District in Manyara region and share many similarities with Maasai. The Barbaig, also known as Datoga, occupy the northern volcanic highlands near Mount Hanang and around the Rift Valley, and are mainly found in Hanang, Babati and Karatu Districts.

4.1.2 Demographics of the VGs in the Project Area

Although history tells something different, at present, subsistence agriculture and animal husbandry are the main source of livelihoods in all areas visited. Traditionally, the Akie and Hadzabe have been predominantly hunter-gathers and pastoralists. Men usually go hunting while women take care of children and do gathering. Men hunt small animals within their areas, women collect herbs and fruits from the forest, including honey from traditional bee hives to feed their families. They do not remain in one place. They move from one place to another looking for their daily needs. Another characteristic is that Hadzabe women build the houses, so the house belongs to the woman. Hunting and gathering as a means of livelihood has been increasingly diminishing due to harsh climatic conditions which has resulted in the disappearance of wild animals for hunting. Government laws also prohibit the Hadzabe from hunting without license.

The Barbaig/Datoga are traditionally pastoralists. Men usually take care of their animals (cows, goats, and sheep) and women take care of children. Climatic changes have resulted in drought; thus, there is insufficient pasture and water for livestock. This has forced them to start practicing agriculture by engaging in subsistence farming during the rainy season. However, those with large herds of cattle have shifted to other places in search of greener pastures. In most of the villages, agriculture is increasingly becoming the means of livelihood. Animals are kept as assets to absorb shocks in case of natural calamities and emerging uncertainties. Maize is the main food crop while beans are both food and cash crops. The sunflower is also emerging as a dependable cash crop in most of the areas in the districts. Other economic activities include bee keeping, particularly in the Akie communities, which trade honey and dairy products.

Another group is the Simjega (Wahunzi or ironsmiths), which are related to the Datoga. They do not own cows but are doing small scale farming (both men and women). The Wahunzi (ironsmiths) make arrows for hunting. They build house together (men build poles, women place the mud

around the house), and men and women jointly take care of children. Men also search for food for their families.

4.1.3 Income, Livelihoods and Economics

While some communities engage in foraging and hunting, others farm and herd, and, in some cases, certain communities are agro-pastoralists who are sedentary. Their land is being highly encroached by other ethnic groups. As a result, they face scarcity of land for practicing their traditional activities, pastoralists or as hunt-gatherers, something which contributes to them shifting their economic activities to small-scale farming or casual labour to survive.

The effect of climate change has forced VGs to transform their livelihood style from purely pastoralist to agro-pastoralist. However, most of the VGs are engaging in subsistence farming which is characterized by low yield and unreliable rainfall. Similarly, in animal keeping, production is very low due to several reasons including lack of modern methods and influx of many animal diseases.

4.1.4 Land Tenure arrangements,

Community members largely depend on land as a natural resource whether they are farmers, or pastoralists, or hunter-gathers. In the Barbaig/Datoga communities, which are pastoralist, land ownership and tenure system is male dominated. Most of the land is held under customary private ownership whereby sons obtain land from their father-heads of the families from family land. After the death of the father, each son is given a portion of his father's land to inherit. The result of this inheritance pattern (and a continued growth in population) is that increasingly, smaller farms are being inherited. On the other hand, the Akie/Hadzabe, who are hunter-gatherers, traditionally had no culture of owning land individually because they were mobile people, moving from place to place, hunting wild animals and gathering fruits in the forest. Currently they own land pieces individually, though some of them are still landless.

In order to address encroachment of land on which VGs depend, the Village Councils have established a land register at the village to enable people who have pieces of land to get customary land ownership. The initiative also facilitates women to possess land legally and it plays a great role in solving land conflicts in the respective district. Proper timing and use of resources to ensure sustainability is practiced and bylaws have been instituted to harmonize land use management.

4.1.5 Culture and Cultural Identity

The cultural identity of VGs is closely linked to the land on which they live and/or the routes through which they herd their livestock. Some live with other communities; others are more isolated. Currently, most agro-pastoralist communities have been more successful in becoming integrated into other communities in which they settle. For example, agro-pastoralists are able to participate in decision making processes. They have been renting land, growing crops and even

had positions in community governance structures and community-based organizations (CBOs). The hunter-gatherers, on the other hand, have tended to be more isolated from communities and decision making. This is due in part to a less sedentary, more nomadic lifestyle.

4.1.6 Education, housing, health, healthcare

Generally, the availability of social services is minimal in the areas where these communities reside. They usually stay in the peripheral areas as a result; even if the facilities are available, they need to travel long distance to access those services. Given the nature of villages in VGs area, children have to walk long distances to school, which emphasizes the need for additional schools in their sub villages. Introduction of boarding schools is also needed to help VGs children gain access to education since their parents are moving from one place to another. Provision of mobile clinic is needed for children and women, as some pregnant women give birth at home in dangerous situations.

4.1.7 Food, water, energy security

The hunter-gatherers and pastoralists are facing a serious shortage of water for both human beings and animals. The shortage of water forces VGs to move from one place to another looking for alternative sources of water. The time spent looking for water hinders them from engaging in other development activities. The livelihood of the Barbaig, has mainly depended on livestock keeping. Currently they have undergone major transformation in their livelihoods as they are also engaging in farming. They keep cattle, goats and sheep while also producing farm crops like maize, beans and sunflowers. The VG communities lack basic access to energy, partly as a result of their relative isolation and poverty, and because some of them are nomadic.

4.1.8 Institutions and Project Stakeholders

The national governance structure for decision making is vertically structured with horizontal linkage across various government departments. The detailed institutional arrangement at different levels is as seen in Section 6.

4.2 STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

Stakeholder engagement is the cornerstone in the involvement and participation of VGs in implementation of PSSN III project. The Project will ensure effective participation of all stakeholders throughout the Project cycle. Stakeholder engagement (SE) is a method that involves gathering information from all parties in a particular community. The key points included listening to all stakeholders' opinions sincerely, extensively, patiently and modestly; respecting all participants; showing interests in their knowledge, speeches and behaviors; and encourage knowledge sharing and obtain their commitment to participate in the Project implementation. To the area where VG are present, the PAA facilitators will undertake a stakeholder engagement to identify their needs and a better way of engaging them in the Project activities. The breadth, depth,

and type of engagement required will be proportional to the nature and scale of the proposed sub-projects VGs.

TASAF's Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) has been prepared according to the following principles:

- The SEP will describe the timing and methods of engagement with all stakeholders throughout the life cycle of the project as agreed between the Bank and TASAF, distinguishing between project-affected parties and other interested parties. The SEP will also describe the range and timing of information to be communicated to project-affected parties and other interested parties, as well as the type of information to be sought from them.
- The SEP will be designed to take into account the main characteristics and interests of the stakeholders, and the different levels of engagement and consultation that will be appropriate for different stakeholders. The SEP will set out how communication with stakeholders will be handled throughout project preparation and implementation.
- The SEP will describe the measures that will be used to remove obstacles to participation, and how the views of differently affected groups will be captured. Dedicated approaches and an increased level of resources may be needed for communication with such differently affected groups so that they can obtain the information they need regarding the issues that will potentially affect them.
- When the stakeholder engagement with local individuals and communities depends substantially on community representatives (such as village heads, clan heads, community and religious leaders, local government representatives, civil society representatives, politicians or others), TASAF will make reasonable efforts to verify that such persons do, in fact, represent the views of such individuals and communities, and that they are facilitating the communication process in an appropriate manner (for example, by conveying, in an accurate and timely manner, information provided by TASAF to the communities and the comments and the concerns of such communities to TASAF).

For the purposes of this VGPF, the SEP will be in the format of a framework approach, outlining general principles and a collaborative strategy to identify stakeholders and plan for an engagement process that will be implemented once the locations and project activities are finalized.

4.3 Consultation Meetings

The consultation process is the dynamic process of dialogue between stakeholders based upon a genuine exchange of views, with the objective of influencing decisions, policies or programs actions. At the beginning of Project implementation, sensitization meetings will be held at the community level. These meetings will be organized by the Village Councils, which have the overall responsibility for the economic and social development of the Village. Vulnerable Groups

enrolled in the Project are eligible for effective participation in all activities implemented in the PSSN III.

4.4 Rationale of Conducting a Stakeholders Engagement Process with VGs

The stakeholder's engagement of VG communities has been carried out to ensure meaningful participation of these groups into PSSN III. In view of PSSN III's design, various activities are envisaged in its components, which include a Promoting resilience and economic inclusion through Adaptive Safety Nets, Strengthening and modernizing social protection delivery systems and Project Management. Such activities are proposed and undertaken by the communities to address community needs, increase household income provide assets to respective communities. The VG communities will also be engaged in activities with specific interventions suitable for traditional cultural settings, which will be done without compromising VGs fundamental interests and values. The stakeholders' engagements will ensure that these communities are made aware of Project activities, and that opportunities are availed and capitalize on for the advancement of socio-economic development of the community.

4.5 Methodologies to undertake Stakeholders Engagement

In preparing this VGPF, consultations have been undertaken with VGs. A summary of the methodology, dates, locations, stakeholders consulted, issues raised and description of how they will be addressed is attached as Annex 3. In preparing the VGPs, information will be gathered through separate group meetings with Vulnerable Groups, including their leaders, NGOs, CBOs, and affected persons. Discussions will focus on potential positive and negative impacts of implementing activities under the project for the VGs, measures to enhance positive impacts, and, strategies/options to minimize and/or mitigate negative impacts, if any.

The stakeholder's engagement process will be conducted using documentation review, interviews with key informants, and focus group discussions and Special Village Assembly Meetings with VGs, and other identified Civil Society Organizations (CSOs). The process will generate data and information based on the indicators summarized in **Table 1 below**

Table 1: VG Stakeholders Engagement Process Matrix

Issues	Activity	Responsible	Indicators
Screening for Presence of VGs	Carry out an inventory of VG	PAAs, VGs, and Village Council (VC) representatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maps indicating location of VG communities • Number of households with VGs • Number of members of household by category (Age, sex, occupation)

Issues	Activity	Responsible	Indicators
Orientation and Mobilization of VGs	Community meetings	PAAAs, VGs and VC representatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of Community meeting minutes • Number of VGs attended • Total number of participants in place
Consultations with VGs	Participatory Rural Appraisals	PAAAs, VGs and VC representatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General Village assembly meeting minutes • Attendance of VGs by categories • Detailed social screening report
Development of strategies for participation of VGs and mitigation measures	Participatory planning with VGs	PAAAs, VGs, VC representatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • List of positive impacts to be strengthened • List of negative impacts to be mitigated • Compensation measures, if required
Carry out capacity building for VGs , if needs arise/	Conduct information-sharing session	PAAAs, VGs and VC representatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • List of VG attendance • Minutes of the meetings • Information sharing reports
Participatory MEL with VGs	To conduct participatory MEL	PAAAs, VGs and VC representatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MEL reports accessible to VGs and implementing agencies. • List of VG representatives attended the process

4.6 Meaningful and culturally appropriate consultation

The Project undertakes a meaningful consultation to the VGs in a culturally appropriate manner, provide them with clear opportunities to express their views on potential project risks, impacts, and its proposed mitigation measures. This will be an ongoing and inclusive process designed to ensure that vulnerable group communities are actively participating and benefiting from the Project, while also strengthening stakeholder engagement to support informed and responsive decisions making.

PSSN III will sustain structured engagement with a broad range of stakeholders including vulnerable groups, in a manner proportionate to the level of project risks and impacts. Through these consultations, the Project will systematically capture communities concerns and feedback ensuring that issues raised are effectively addressed and integrated into both Project design and implementation for improved outcomes

Building on this approach, special attention is given to vulnerable groups, by ensuring they receive timely and relevant information about the Project such as anticipated project impacts in a socially appropriate manner at every stage of Project preparation and implementation. Their active participation will be systematically promoted throughout the project cycle, ensuring that they are meaningfully engaged in identifying challenges and contributing to the design of appropriate and inclusive solutions.

To ensure meaningful consultation for the smooth implementation of PSSN III Project in areas with VGs, the Project will apply a range of inclusive and context appropriate consultation methods. These includes meeting with Village and traditional and vulnerable group leaders, conducting special village assembly meetings, conducting meeting with vulnerable group communities, held discussion with key informants and conducting a guided Focus Group Discussions. Throughout these consultations, the Project will actively listen to participants' views and opinions, foster a respectful environment, and encourage open sharing of knowledge and idea, ensuring that all VG voices are heard and valued equally to enable them to secure confidence in the Project implementation.

Continuous monitoring will be done to assess the quality and effectiveness of participation of vulnerable groups. This will ensure that their views are consistently given due consideration and integrated into the project processes, thereby strengthening trust, inclusiveness and confidence in the Project implementation.

To ensure effective access to Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM), VG will be supported to submit their grievances through their recognized leader or designated representative considering possible language barriers and communication challenges. The project will ensure that grievances received through these channels are properly recorded, addressed in a timely manner, and that feedback is communicated back to the affected individuals through the same trusted representative in an understandable and culturally appropriate manner.

5.0 POTENTIAL IMPACTS OF PROJECT TO VULNERABLE GROUPS

The implementation of the Project to VG communities will be based on a choice of subprojects to be identified and prioritized by respective communities. Since the Project is expected to have potential benefits to vulnerable communities; negative impacts are also expected. The Project will continually maintain and strengthen positive outcomes and mitigate negative impacts. The following are potential impacts expected through Project activities:

5.1 Potential impacts of Productive Cash Transfer

The execution of Productive Cash Transfer to Vulnerable Groups may have both positive and negative impacts. The positive impacts include speeding changes towards development in the communities. Productive Transfer will enable VG to access improved nutrition, improved shelters and commodities of their choice. On the other hand, productive cash transfers may have negative impacts to Vulnerable Groups since cash received might interfere with traditions and cultural norms, such as hunting methods and community life styles.

5.2 Potential impacts of Climate-Smart Labour-Intensive Public Works

During the implementation of Climate smart PW, land for the sub-projects will be required. These sub-projects may affect access to common assets/resources and/or livelihoods of the surrounding communities. As such, sub-projects to be financed will be screened to establish the presence of VG or their representative and such subprojects in land will not require any land acquisition, physical or economic resettlement, or impacts on the access to natural resources that they may depend on. The VGs will be consulted in line with ESS7 requirements, and any identified negative impacts on VG are mitigated and positive impacts are enhanced in line with ESS7

Climate-Smart Labour-Intensive Public Works supports implementation of subprojects to improve management of existing natural resources and address potential impacts of climate change. The menu is diverse and includes, among others, reforestation, water management, land recovery, construction of terraces to mitigate erosion, water source protection and small-scale irrigation schemes. These are simple community assets tailored to complement the existing livelihoods and natural resource base. Selection of sub-projects appropriate to a Vulnerable Groups will follow a participatory process aligned with ESS7 and using O&OD planning tools. This enables VGs to assess their local needs and challenges, prioritize these needs, suggest possible solutions, and develop action plans in order to address the prioritized needs in a culturally appropriate and participatory manner in line with ESS7.

5.3 Potential impacts of basic and enhanced economic inclusion activities

There are more livelihood support impacts to VGs during the implementation of Basic and Enhanced economic inclusion activities under PSSN III. It is expected that there will be an increase in household income resulting from various income generating activities. The expected impacts include taking land from VGs for sub project implementation, inadequate involvement of VG in

the implementation of sub-projects, invading VGs cultural and traditional sites and affect their traditional means of feeding and living. Most of the potential impacts are well addressed by appropriate application of Environmental and Social Standards (ESS). Awareness rising to the communities within the Vulnerable Groups is seen as another way of dealing with potential adverse impacts.

Possible subprojects that communities may prioritize on after carrying out community participatory planning are; Construction of rainwater harvesting and storage tanks, Construction of charco dam, Construction of community ponds, Digging of Shallow wells, Springs Improvement, Restoration of degraded areas, Flood control infrastructures, Forestry, Agro forestry and Forage Development, Construction of Irrigation infrastructures, Climate smart Community access road construction, Soil and water conservation infrastructures, Area enclosure including bee keeping and forage banks, Construction of water supply networks, Health and education facilities

5.4 Anticipated Impacts and proposed mitigation for CS-of Proposed Sub-projects

Among the anticipated impacts of Climate Smart Public Works subprojects at community levels are explained in Table 3 below.

Table 3: Potential Risks and Mitigation Measures

<i>Risks</i>	<i>Possible Actions</i>	<i>Responsible</i>
Conflicts about resource utilization from CS-PW (water) among humans and animals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure adequate distribution of water points for both people and livestock 	PAA, Village Councils, VG
Increased risk of exposure to communicable diseases such as HIV/AIDS, TB and STDs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Design public health messages and measures to alert and combat spread of diseases • Awareness campaigns on disease outbreaks 	PAA, Village Councils, VG
Loss of traditional livelihoods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Design projects to blend with traditional livelihoods to the extent possible • Meetings about changing mindsets 	PAA, Village Councils
Inadequate participation of women in decision-making processes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PAA and Community leaders should ensure equal participation of women in decision making 	PAA, and Village Council, NGOs, CBOs

Risks	Possible Actions	Responsible
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continuous awareness creation on women's rights to land, natural resources and livelihoods 	
Inadequate participation of VGs due to communication barriers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use of communication mechanism that will assure their participation in the program; participation by local leaders from their groups Adequate communication framework to ensure VG's voices are heard, pending issues resolved and grievances heard 	TMU PAAs VCs CMCs

5.5 Site Specific Vulnerable Groups Plans

Site Specific Vulnerable Group Plans (SS-VGPs) will be prepared when sites and sub-project activities have been identified in areas where Vulnerable Groups are present or in which they have a collective attachment, as determined during the environmental and social screening process. The Social Assessment (SA) will give baseline data of the demographic, economic, social, cultural and political characteristics, land use as well as natural resources in the area of which the VGs depend on.

Based on the findings of SA, a VGP will be developed to address (i) aspirations, needs, and preferred options of the affected vulnerable groups; (ii) local social organization, beliefs, ancestral territory, and resource use patterns among the affected vulnerable groups; (iii) potential positive and negative impacts on vulnerable groups; (iv) measures to avoid or mitigate adverse impacts; (v) measures to ensure project benefits will accrue to vulnerable groups; (vi) measures to strengthen the capacity of local authority and relevant government departments to address vulnerable groups' issues; (vii) the possibility of involving local CBOs and NGOs with expertise; (viii) budget allocation; and (ix) monitoring.

The Vulnerable Groups Plan (VGP) will provide guidance on environmental and social issues to be addressed during implementation of the program¹. The VGPs will identify potential environmental and social impacts and propose appropriate mitigation measures. The VGP may vary depending on social-cultural behavior, geographical location and livelihood activities of the respective community. Table 4 below shows sample of a Site-Specific Vulnerable Group Plan with key anticipated impacts and its proposed mitigation measures

¹ It will complement the Environmental and Social Management Plan.

Table 4: Sample of impacts and mitigation measures for Site Specific VGPs

Anticipated Impacts	Proposed mitigation measures
Living a nomadic life	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Information should be given early to the Village and traditional leaders about the Project activities
Living an isolation life/ far from other communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Involvement of traditional leaders of the respective GVs in the areas• Information should be given early to the Village and traditional leaders about the Project activities
Language barrier	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Use of translators to resolve language barriers
Stigma to the VGs communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Awareness rising on respecting the traditions and customs of others• Awareness rising on importance of collaboration and non-discrimination in the community
Disappearance of cultural practices	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Awareness raising on the importance of VGs to preserving their culture

6.0 INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS

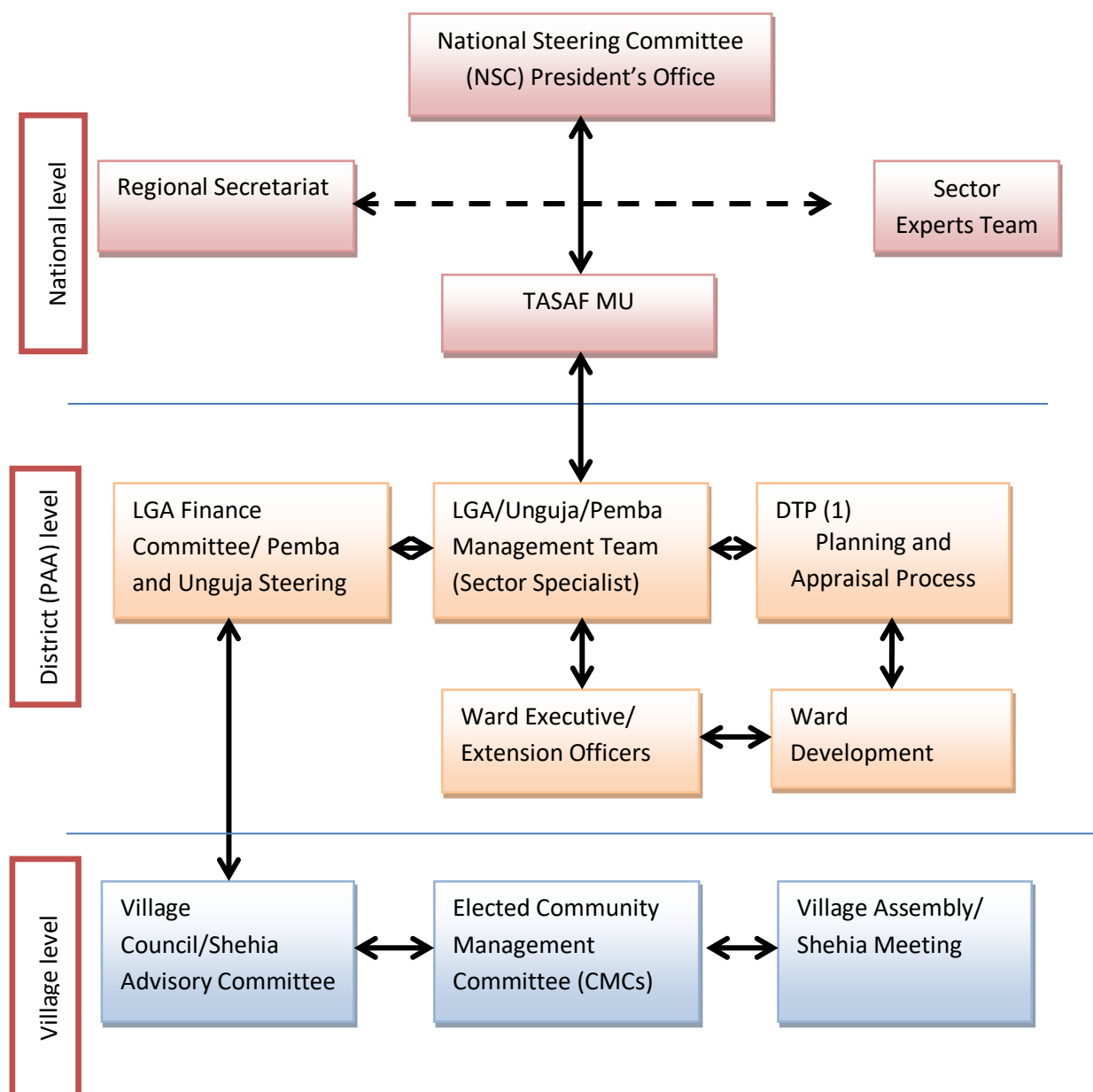
The presence of the organized arrangement of various institutions is the prerequisite for effective application of the Environmental and Social Standards at all levels. The Project will be implemented through government structures and will promote inter-ministerial co-ordination at national and PAA levels. The national governance structure for decision making is vertically structured, with horizontal linkages across various government departments. At the national level, there will be three bodies, namely the National Steering Committee (NSC), TASAF Management Unit (TMU) and Sector Experts Team (SET) to ensure adherence to safeguards standards during the implementation of the Program.

At the Regional level, the Regional Administrative Secretary (RAS) will appoint a Regional PSSN Coordinator to supervise PAA and report to the President' Office Regional Administration and Local Government (PO-RALG). At the PAA level, the Project is managed by the PAA Director, supported by several heads of departments and officers who are supporting the Directors technically on the implementation of Project activities initiated by Vulnerable Groups. Those officers include Environmental and Social Safeguards Officers, Planners, Engineers, Community Development Officers, Water, Natural Resources, Land Officers, etc.

At the community level, the governance is under Village/Mtaa Council, whereby administrative roles are executed by Village/Mtaa Executive Officers. The community administration is directly linked with its people, and it is at this level that community meetings are organized for the purpose of public consultation, involvement and notable participation into development activities such as sub-projects design, planning and implementation. The detailed description on the roles of each above-mentioned level is displayed below.

The TMU is the executing agency of this Project and the PAAs are implementing agencies under the guidance of TMU. The TMU will be responsible for overall implementation, monitoring and supervision.

Diagram: Institutional arrangement for implementation of VGP



6.1 Roles of stakeholders during implementation of VG Plan

Different stakeholders will play the following roles in relation to the planning and implementation of site specific Vulnerable Group Plans as follows:

6.1.1 Village and Ward levels

Village leaders and Community Management Committees (CMC) are responsible for the planning, implementation; Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning of site specific VG Plans. Specific responsibilities include:

- i. Awareness creation in the community about the VG Plans;
- ii. Participating in data collection from the community including identification of VGs;
- iii. Facilitating meetings with VGs and other stakeholders;
- iv. Assisting the community in the process of preparing subproject specific VG Plans at community level;
- v. Consolidating Village/Shehia/Mtaa VG Plans at the community level ;
- vi. Participating in the planning, implementation, Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning of subproject specific VG plans at the village level;
- vii. Preparing and submitting implementation reports to the Village Council/Shehia Advisory Council/Mtaa Committee;
- viii. Establishing and maintaining databases and Management Information Systems (MIS) for the VGs; and
- ix. Addressing grievances from VGs.

6.1.2 PAA and regional levels

The PAA and regional levels will be responsible for overall planning and management of the VG Plans as follows:

- i. Awareness creation at PAA and regional levels about the VGP;
- ii. Facilitating community identification of key activities to be included into subproject specific VG Plans;
- iii. Providing technical assistance to village leaders, CMCs and local communities as needed in the preparation of subproject specific VGPs;
- iv. Ensuring that VG Plans are mainstreamed into PAA Annual plans;
- v. Participating in the planning, implementation, Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning of subproject specific VG Plans at PAA levels;
- vi. Reviewing and compiling quarterly progress reports on the implementation of VG Plans;
- vii. Establishing and maintaining updated databases and MIS at PAA and regional levels;
- viii. Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning of the implementation of the VG Plans; and
- ix. Offering support in undertaking Social Assessments.

6.1.3 National Level

At the national level, there will be three bodies, namely the National Steering Committee (NSC), TASAF Management Unit (TMU) and Sector Experts Team (SET) and their roles will be as follows:

- i. Ensuring compliance of the VG Plans with safeguards requirements;

- ii. Providing technical support and capacity building for PAAs, community and other stakeholders on the implementations of the VGP;
- iii. Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning of the impacts of VGP implementation at the community level;
- iv. Reviewing and compiling quarterly progress reports on the implementation of VGP plans;
- v. Establishment and maintenance of effective MEL system including database and MIS at this level; and
- vi. Knowledge management and learning.

7.0 MONITORING, EVALUATION AND REPORTING

All Project results indicators will be disaggregated by gender to monitor women's participation in the sub-components interventions. The sub-projects will also enhance inclusion of VGs who are living in the targeted PAAs. The TMU will establish a monitoring system involving TMU staff at national and district levels, as well as communities to ensure effective implementation of VGPs. A set of monitoring indicators will be determined during VGP implementation.

For any sub-project found to have significant adverse impacts on VGs, the participatory approach of involving external experts, NGOs, PAAs experts, TMU staff and the community will be engaged to verify information of the sub-project specific VG Plans for those sub-projects. The Sector Expert Team (SET) will advise on compliance issues and if any significant issues are found, the TMU will prepare a corrective action plan or an update to the approved VG Plan.

Monitoring Indicators:

Several key indicators and subjects for Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning of VG Plans at community levels are (i) process of consultation activities; (ii) appropriateness of affected assets valuation and compensation; (iii) economic status of VGs in comparison with pre-project conditions; (iv) status of VGs as identified in the SE; (v) any disadvantaged conditions to VGs that was not anticipated during the preparation of VG Plans at the community level and which require corrective actions; and (vi) grievance issues, (vii) number of FPIC Processes developed and implemented, (viii) number of sub-projects including VGs. Required data/information will be collected and analyzed regularly to indicate progress on implementation of VG Plans, project outputs, outcomes and impacts. Results of analysis will be submitted to the Bank semi-annually.

Quarterly Reporting and Performance Review

Quarterly progress reports will be prepared by the PSSN Coordinator at PAA, and the preparation of the progress reports will be supported by the environmental and social safeguards experts in the project and at PAA and community levels. These reports will be submitted to the TMU, reviewed and later to the Bank and will form part of overall safeguards report to the Bank. Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning indicators are as shown table 5 below;

Table 5: Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Indicators

Issues	Indicator	Responsibility	Data Sources
Capacity Building for staff	- Number of individuals and institutions trained - List of participants - Training reports	TMU	Training sessions reports

Issues	Indicator	Responsibility	Data Sources
VG Orientation and Mobilization meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of VG meetings conducted - Number of VG members sensitized - Number of groups involved 	TMU, PAAs, VG Organizations; Other organizations (e.g. elderly)	Reconnaissance survey reports; Community meeting reports
Consultations with VG	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Attendance of PRA/RRA -PRA reports acceptable to VG -Participation by gender and categories of VGs 	TMU, PAAs VGs	RRA reports PRA reports
Mapping of community resources critical to VGs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -List of VGs participated (including participation by VGs and by gender) -Reports verified and accepted by VG 	TMU, PAAs VG	Baseline survey reports; Community transect reports
Development of strategies for participation of VGs in the Project and mitigation measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Number of sub-projects passed by social screening -Number of sub projects implemented -Participation by gender and categories of VGs - Number/proportion of beneficiaries 	TMU, PAAs, VG	TMU progress reports; PAAs reports
Capacity Building	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Number of Trainings -Attendance by VGs - Training report 	TMU, PAA, VG	Training reports
Equitable representation of VGs in decision making organs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Number of meetings attended by VG representatives - participation by VG representatives in Village Councils/committees -Number of VG issues articulated 	TMU, PAAs, VG	PAA Level and NSC reports VGO reports
Participatory MEL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Number of MEL visits -Number of groups with functional MEL systems - Number of VG participants in Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning teams - MEL report 	TMU, PAAs, VG	MEL reports

8.0 THE GRIEVANCE REDRESS MECHANISM

8.1 PSSN III Grievance mechanism overview

The project will continue to strengthen and upgrade the Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) established in the previous program, with further enhancements in PSSN III to integrate digital solutions at all levels, from the community to Project Authority Areas (PAAs) and the national level. Lessons learned from implementing the GRM system in PSSN II have identified key areas for improvement, including coordination, management, and the absence of digital data collection and monitoring. To address these gaps, system upgrades and digitization will be introduced to facilitate timely grievance review and resolution, enhance case tracking, and streamline data collection, reporting, and monitoring.

To strengthen GRM management and coordination, dedicated GRM committees will be established at both the TMU and PAA levels to oversee and manage grievance processes effectively. Additionally, a real-time grievance reporting system will be introduced to improve grievance collection from beneficiaries and the wider community. This will be supported by a functional computerized Management Information System (MIS) and a robust Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) system, both of which have demonstrated their ability to generate timely and accurate information.

8.2 Grievances Reporting Channels

A diverse group of project-affected individuals, including community members, vulnerable groups, project implementers, civil society organizations, and the media will be encouraged to raise grievances and provide feedback to the Project. Awareness and promotion of available grievance reporting channels will be conducted through village assembly, community sessions and various media platforms, including TV, radio, newspapers, posters, flyers, and social media. The following channels will be used to receive program-related grievances:

- **Call center:** Free toll numbers 0800 110057 and 0800 110058
Charged calls number: 0739-000038
- **Mails:** Letters through P.O. Box 2719, Dodoma and Email: malalamiko@tasaf.org
- **Walk in:** To PAAs or TASAF offices
- **Grievance Registers:** Available at Village/Mtaa/Shehia office
- **Media Channels:** Social Media and Main Media
- **Real time channels:** USSD *152*00# and e- mrejesho
- **Phone calls & SMS:** Through Project staff

8.3 Grievances Pathways

To keep the grievance process simple and efficient, complaints will first be received and

addressed at the community level by the Village/Mtaa Council or Shehia. If unresolved, they will be escalated to the PAA level, where the PSSNC and other Project team members will work on solutions. Grievances that cannot be resolved at the PAA level will be forwarded to the TMU for further management and resolution. There is also a room for other levels of the Project to receive grievances i.e. PAA and TMU levels

All grievances at every level will be recorded. At the community level, they will be documented in the GRM register, while at the PAA level, they will be entered into the GRM MIS. Additionally, all grievances recorded at the community level will also be uploaded straight to GRM MIS. Table 6 shows steps for addressing grievances

Table 6: Steps for addressing Grievances

Step	Description	Timeframe	Responsibility
GM implementation structure	National Level: The TMU oversees the entire GRM system, manages the MIS and escalated cases, ensures alignment with policy, builds capacity, and monitors overall performance.	Throughout Project Implementation	GRM Committee, GRO, GRAs, GRM focal person,
	PAA Level: Local authorities coordinate grievance handling at PAA level, manage both digital and non-digital submissions, resolve and report cases, and provide technical support to community-level structures.	Throughout Project Implementation	PAA-level GRM Committee / Focal Person
	Community Level: Community committees and leaders act as the first point of contact, receive and record complaints, raise awareness about the grievance process, and refer unresolved issues to the PAA level.	Throughout Project Implementation	CMCs), Community Focal Person or VEO
Grievance uptake	Grievances can be submitted via the following channels <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Toll-free telephone hotline: 0800110057/0800110058 operated by Call Center USSD through *152*00# 		

Step	Description	Timeframe	Responsibility
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> E-mail to malalamiko@tasaf.go.tz Letter to Executive Director, P.O.BOX 2719 Dodoma In-person at a physical facility: at all PAA's offices, TASAF office Dodoma Social media : facebook, Instagram & Twitter(X) @tasaf.tanzania Online (annexed) form on the following website: www.tasaf.go.tz 	Throughout Project Implementation	Project Beneficiaries, Vulnerable Groups, Communities and all stakeholders
Sorting, processing Verification, investigation , action	<p>Any complaint received is forwarded to PAA; logged in GRM MIS; categorized according to the following complaint types: Payments,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Data Updates, Targeting and Validation, Unsatisfactory services, GBV, Environmental and Social safety, <p>Others (Referring to Grievances that are not PSSN III related but are important in informing the program)</p> <p>Investigation of the complaint is led by PSSNC</p> <p>A proposed resolution is formulated by referring to PSSNMIS and actual situation investigated from the community level and communicated to the complainant by PSSNC and PAA Facilitators</p>	<p>Sorting Upon receipt of complaint,</p> <p>Processing depends on nature of grievance but all grievances shall not exceed 60 days to be resolved.</p>	GRM Committee, Grievance Redress Officer, Grievance Redress Assistant, GRM focal person, PSSNC, PAAF, CMC, VC and VEO/MEO/ Sheha.

Step	Description	Timeframe	Responsibility
Acknowledgment and follow-up	Receipt of the grievance is acknowledged to the complainant by GRM MIS as it will be digital submitted.	Digital submission acknowledgment is instant.	Digital system; Local grievance focal points
Monitoring and evaluation	Data on complaints are collected in GRM MIS and reported to GRM Committee every Month	Monthly	Grievance Redress Officer, Grievance Redress Assistant,
Provision of feedback	Feedback from complainants regarding their satisfaction with complaint resolution is collected Quarterly.	Quarterly	GRM Committee, Grievance Redress Officer, Grievance Redress Assistant, GRM focal person, PSSNC, PAAF, CMC, VC and VEO/MEO/Sheha.
Training	Training needs for Project implementers will done to enhance functions of GRM to alleviate gaps emerge during implementations.	Throughout the project implementation	PAA, TMU
Appeals process	If complainant is not satisfied with the resolution, will be required to fill appeal form (Annexed) and submit to the nearest office. E.g. VEOs; PAA or TMU	Throughout the project implementation	PSSNC, PAAF, GRO

The Project GRM will be presented to Vulnerable Groups as needed to meet their requirements and decision-making processes while maintaining the principles underlying the mechanism and the roles and responsibilities. GRM will be discussed and agreed during the preparation of the Vulnerable Groups Plans but may include roles for traditional leaders and decision-making processes for example in addressing land issues. The aim is to ensure that vulnerable groups are able to raise their concerns in a manner they feel will be listened to and which they feel is

accountable to them.

8.1 Gender Based Violence and Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (GBV AND SEA)

Implementation of the Project will have positive impacts to the community. However, there might be potential incidences of Gender Based Violence (GBV) and Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA) among Project participants. Project implementation needs a gender violence free environment to enable beneficiaries make effective utilization of the Project benefits. To enhance this, awareness creation through Village council meetings during beneficiaries targeting and enrolment, Community sessions guide in CCT, village general meetings during micro planning, supervisors occupation health and safety guide when implementing PW subprojects, and encouraging participation of multiple household members during basic skills training will be done to suppress potential occurrence of Gender Based Violence related to Project Implementation.

Once GBV cases happen, in all cases, the incidents will be reported and dealt with through the GRM procedure. Serious complaints raised through the GRM, including Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA) and Sexual Harassment (SH), they should be addressed immediately by referring GBV survivors to support services operating under the Government/National GBV referrals while reporting to PAA through incidence uptake form and TMU through toll free numbers

9.0 BUDGET FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF VG PLAN

For implementation of VG Plans, the PAA Facilitators will conduct awareness raising, to the VGs. on the various project interventions namely Productive Cash Transfer, Climate Smart Public Works and Economic Inclusion activities. This will be followed by detailed community based participatory planning entailing identification of possible subprojects to be implemented. The average estimated budget for awareness raising and developing a site specific VG Plan is USD 86,821 in 7 PAAs, 34 Villages were Vulnerable Groups are found. This budget entail awareness raising, trainings, preparations and implementation of site specific VGPs,

10.0 VGPF DISCLOSURE

The Vulnerable Groups Planning Framework will be made available to the affected vulnerable groups in an appropriate form, manner, and language. Various project phases which include design, launching, implementation, Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning will be disclosed and/or communicated throughout the Project period. Once the Bank accepts the documents as providing an adequate basis for project appraisal, the Bank will make them available to the public in accordance with Bank Policy on Disclosure of Information, and the GoT will also make the documents available to the affected communities in the same manner through press releases.

The VGPF will be disclosed to the affected VG with detailed information of the sub-project. This will be done through public consultation and made available in brochures, leaflets, or booklets, using the national language. Summaries of the VGPF will be made available in hard copies and in the national language at PAA offices and any other local level public offices. Electronic versions of the VGPF will be available on the official website of TASAF and the World Bank external website after approval and endorsement of the VGPF and each sub-project VGP by the Bank.

ANNEX

ANNEX 1: LOCATION OF VULNERABLE GROUP



ANNEX 2: VULNERABLE GROUPS SCREENING CHECKLIST

PART A: Key information

1. Name (s) of type of vulnerable groups in the area.....
2. Total number of village households
3. Total number of vulnerable group households in the area.....
4. Percentage of vulnerable group households in the area
5. Number of vulnerable group households to be affected by the project.....

PART B: Details of Sub-project

S/No	KEY CONCERNS	YES	NO	REMARKS
1	ARE THERE SOCIAL GROUPS IN THE PROJECT AREA THAT MAY BE CONSIDERED VULNERABLE AND MEET CRITERIA OF ESS7?			
2	DO SUCH GROUPS MAINTAIN ECONOMIC, SOCIAL, CULTURAL AND POLITICAL INSTITUTIONS DISTINCT FROM THE DOMINANT SOCIETY?			
3	HAVE SUCH GROUPS BEEN HISTORICALLY, SOCIALLY, CULTURALLY AND ECONOMICALLY MARGINALIZED, DISEMPOWERED, EXCLUDED AND DISCRIMINATED AGAINST?			
4	WILL THE PROJECT DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY BENEFIT OR TARGET THE VULNERABLE GROUPS?			
5	WILL THE PROJECT DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY AFFECT THE VULNERABLE GROUPS' SOCIAL PRACTICES? (E.G. CHILDBEARING, HEALTH, EDUCATION AND GOVERNANCE)			
6	WILL THE PROJECT AFFECT THE LIVELIHOOD SYSTEMS OF THE VULNERABLE GROUPS? E.G. FOOD PRODUCTION SYSTEM, NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT, EMPLOYMENT STATUS			
7	WILL THE PROJECT BE IN AN AREA OCCUPIED, OWNED OR USED BY THE VULNERABLE GROUPS?			

ANNEX 3: Summary of consultation with VGs during the preparation of PSSN III

1. Introduction

Stakeholder consultation is a fundamental aspect of effective engagement strategies. It holds particular importance for both government and community entities, where seeking input from those impacted by or interested in programs has become crucial especially in the context of large-scale Project with potential environmental and social impact. The Second Phase Productive Social Safety Net (PSSN II) has been implemented on the ground of stakeholders' engagement in all Programs activities from conception, design, implementation Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning of its achievements.

During preparation for Third Phase of Productive Social Safety Net (PSSN III) the Project conducted Stakeholders Engagement (SE) as a prerequisite for fulfilling Environmental and Social Framework (ESF) which requires intensive SE throughout the Project phases. It also requires a continuous SE in all Project life cycle to ensure consistent consultation among stakeholder for a better result of achieving its objectives. Stakeholder's consultation was carried out in communities with Vulnerable Groups (VGs) to fulfil requirements of ESS7 and ESS10. The process aimed at informing stakeholders at the PAA and communities about the closure of current Project and preparation of the future Program. Participants were sector experts, village leaders, extension workers, Project Beneficiaries and the general community in the villages visited.

Discussions with VG members revealed several economic and socio-cultural dynamics in the communities, which mostly have affected their livelihood. Site Specific Vulnerable Group Plans will be prepared in villages with vulnerable groups to mitigate the mentioned challenges from stakeholder consultations.

2. Scope of the activity

The vulnerable groups in the Project are found in the northern Tanzania, particularly in Arusha and Manyara regions and partly in Singida and Simiyu regions. Consultations to vulnerable group communities were conducted to the total of 162 (59 male and 113 female) groups of hunter-gathers, pastoralists and agro pastoralist communities in villages of Endamarg (40) and Endesh (34) in Karatu District; Gedamar (8) and Kazaroho (2) in Babati District; Ngapapa (18) and Kimana (17) in Kiteto District and Munguli (43) in Mkalama District. The table below summarises:

Table 1: list of PAAs, villages and the date of consultation

PAA	Name of the Village	Consultation Date	Vulnerable Groups	No of VGs Met
Karatu	Endamaghan	03/12/2024	Hadzabe and Barbaig	40
	Endesh	04/12/2024	Barbaig	34
Kiteto	Ngapapa	08/05/2025	Akie	18
	Kimana	09/05/2025	Akie	17
Babati DC	Kazaroho	10/05/2025	Barbaig	2
	Gedamar	10/05/2025	Barbaig	8
Mkalama	Munguli	11/05/2025	Hadzabe	43

3. Rationale of conducting Stakeholders' Consultations to the VGs

As part of the preparations for the PSSN III, the Project undertakes stakeholder's consultations to the Vulnerable Groups communities to fulfil the Environmental and Social Framework (ESF) which requires intensive stakeholders' consultations throughout the Project phase for a better result and achieving its objectives. The objective of stakeholder's consultation was to gather relevant information from the key stakeholders at PAA and community levels on the potential risks and impacts and identify appropriate mitigation measures for the Project that will be used to update the Project instruments. The Findings and recommendations from the stakeholders' consultations will be used to update the Safeguards Instruments that will be applied during the implementation of PSSN III

4. Procedure applied and Outcomes

4.1 Methodologies used during the Stakeholders consultation

A Courtesy call to the District Executive Directors were held to inform the objectives of conducting stakeholders' consultation at the PAA and Community level and the methodologies that will be used to conduct the exercise. The consultation involved PAAs experts who had more experiences in working with the Project in areas with VGs. At the community level the consultation involves Village leaders, extension workers, Project beneficiaries and the general community in the visited villages. The following were the methodologies used;

4.1.1 Meeting at PAA level with PAA facilitators

Meeting at PAA level were held with PAA sector experts in Karatu DC, Kiteto DC, Babati DC, and Mkalama DC prior to the field work in the communities. A total of 24 Participants attended the sessions 14 being Males and 10 females. The sessions aimed at sharing information about the Project implementation and aggregate relevant suggestions for future Project in order to enhance the planning and implementation of Vulnerable Group Plan Framework. During the meeting PAA facilitators (SE) shared their experiences in working with VGs and recommend areas for improvements in future Program

4.1.2 Focus Group Discussion

Focus group discussions were held with communities of hunter-gathers, pastoralists and agro pastoralist communities respectively in seven villages of Endamarg and Endesh in Karatu District; Endesh and Ngapapa villages of Kiteto DC, Kazaroho and Gedamar in Babati Dc and Munguli village of Mkalama Dc. A total of five (8) FGDs were conducted respectively, with a total of 162 (59 male and 113 female) participants. The interactions mainly focused on getting opinions on the potential impacts of implementing PSSN II program, challenges encountered, measures for enhancing positive impacts, and strategies/options to minimize and/or mitigate negative ones. Participants at the community were Village Chairpersons, Village Executive Officers, members of village councils (VC), representatives of Community management committees (CMC), hunter-gathers, pastoralists and agro-pastoralist communities, and influential leaders.

4.1.3 Focus Group discussions with Vulnerable Groups

Stakeholders were conducted in villages with Vulnerable Groups (VGs) at Karatu in relation to the VGPF. These villages were selected purposely to ensure Project activities respect the Social-cultural interests of VGs and they are full participated in Project implementation through wide consultations. The interactions were mainly focused on getting opinions on the potential impacts of implementing PSSN II Project to the vulnerable groups and measures to enhance positive impacts; and strategies/options to minimize and/or mitigate negative ones.

4.1.3 Special village assembly meetings

The basis of Project implementation considers participation of all stakeholders at all levels; hence Special Village Assembly meetings held at Munguli village in Mkalama DC, Ngapapa village of Kiteto DC and in Endesh Village in Karatu District. The purpose was to enhance communities get informed and speak out their observation, critics as well as recommendations effectively. During the meeting objective of conducting stakeholders' consultations were explained and participants had an opportunity to give their opinion, views and suggestions as far as the implementation of the Project is concerned. A total of 155 community members (66 males and 89 females) attended the meeting. The meeting was organized by the Village Councils which has the overall responsibility for the economic and social development of the Villages.

4.2 Findings from Focus Group Discussion (FGD).

i. Socio-cultural characteristics.

Historically the Vulnerable Groups were hunters and gatherers but nowadays have been changing to subsistence farming and animal keeping as main source of their livelihood. Traditionally, the Akie and Hadzabe have been predominantly hunters and gathers. Men usually go hunting while women take care of children and do gathering. Men hunt small animals within their areas, women collect herbs and fruits from the forest, including honey from traditional bee hives to feed their families. They do not remain in one place, but they move from one place to another looking for their daily needs depending on the availability of the animals in that particular locality.

Another characteristic is that Hadzabe women build the houses, so the house belongs to the woman. At the present, the VG interaction with other communities together with the expansion of economic activities such as agriculture and pastoralism has to be adopted as their main means of living shifting from Hunting and gathering due to deforestation which resulted to disappearance of wild animals for hunting. Another economic activity which was commonly practiced by the Akie and Hadzabe was bee keeping which helped to get honey for food and their source of income because they sell to other communities and get money to buy other needs for their families.

ii. Access to Land, Land Ownership and Tenure

Land as main natural resource is used to conduct different activities such as farming, pastoralism, bee keeping, hunting and gathering. Traditionally the Hadzabe and Akie communities were hunters and gatherers, and they were moving from one place to another depending on the availability of wild animals at that particular location. They had no culture of owning land individually due to their characteristics of being mobile all the time. The interaction of VG with other communities has changed to engage in other socio-economic activities such as farming and animal keeping

which has resulted to some of the Hadzabe and Akie communities starting owning pieces of land individually. The Barbaig community which was traditionally pastoralists had their system of land ownership and tenure whereby a male dominated the land.

The land was inherited from father to sons and when the father of the family die every sons get a portion of land as his inheritance. The Akie and Hadzabe communities lose their land by being encroached by other communities like pastoralists by conducting pastoralism and farming which make the land to be bare for the wild animals to live at their natural habitat.

iii. Interaction with various institutions

During SE meetings in the Akie, Hadzabe and Barbaig communities said that have been working with NGOs, CBOs, and Government institutions successfully by encouraging them to engage in income generating activities such as bee keeping, sensitize them to send their children to schools. Further they have been acknowledging the PSSN initiatives as they are able to send their children to schools, engage themselves in saving groups and access 10% loans from District Councils.

iv. Meaningful Consultation method

The VG communities perform their tradition activities under the village government leadership, any intervention which to be implemented in VG communities should be communicated first to village leaders and then other community leaders follow. In terms communication with VG the message is sent to village government leaders which is sent to their community local leaders with specific group to insist in their language so that they understand the objective of the intervention which is supposed to be done at their village they agree together to participate all together at that particular intervention. For effective communication using the Hadzabe, Akie and Barbaig community leaders said to be very effective in delivering the message to beneficiaries of the intervention rather than using the village government leaders. It also needs time to make sure all the beneficiaries receive the message because some of them might have migrated to other far areas for hunting so they might receive the message late than those who were nearly available. Apart from migrating from one point to another but even their settlement is still a challenge in terms of communication because they live in scattered residential areas which does not encourage smooth communication.

4.3 Issues raised during discussion with Vulnerable Groups.

The following are the key issues raised during the stakeholder's consultation with the Vulnerable Group communities;

- Loss of socio- culture due interaction with other communities.
- Depletion of natural resources due to human activities.
- The need for modern bee hives to increase income.
- Lack of group training on entrepreneurship skills.
- Shortage of water, which contributes to a nomadic way life in the communities
- Long distance from pay point to the centre of the village.
- Gender issues in the Project implementation
- Climate change and its impacts

4.3.1 Analysis of issues raised

i. Loss of social and culture issues due to interface with other communities

The Akie, Hadzabe and Barbaig communities in Kiteto, Karatu and Mkalama are gradually losing their social and cultural values and aspects, such as their language and way of dressing because their land is being encroached upon and the community is being absorbed by nearby communities. This has led to changing perceptions about cultural identity. For example, there are perceptions in the communities that the Maasai are more superior to the Akie. Population increase has forced the people to shift from hunting and gathering fruits into farming and animal keeping. Also, interaction with other communities has resulted in pressure on land availability; hence, some VG communities have requested their own land. Efforts are being made by the government to provide demarcated land for the Akie/Hadzabe in Kiteto and Mkalama so that they can be free to stay together and maintain their culture.

ii. Depletion of natural resources due to human activities

The increase of human activities like farming and pastoralism due to increase in population has impacted negatively the VG community especially Hadzabe and Akie who have lost the land for hunting and gathering so they have to move for a long distance in order to hunt for feeding their families. Apart from farming the pastoralism which has been practised VG especially the Akie resulted to deforestations, and this can lead to wild animals migrating to far distance for conducive environment to live.

iii. Modern bee hives to increase income.

Bee keeping has been commonly practiced in VG communities, especially to Hadzabe and Akie taking it as part and parcel of food to feed their families. They have been harvesting honey from natural hives in small quantities which help them only feeding their families but now days they need the modern bee hives which will help them to get honey for feed and the excess to be sold for buying other family needs. This has been a common practice for the Akie community who have been selling honey to other communities.

iv. Lack of group training on entrepreneurship skills.

The VG community needed entrepreneurship skills training to be conducted at their sub village so that can help them in conducting their business of animals which they have been keeping for a long time and also crops which have been farming also for long time. This was raised at Kazaroho village in Babati DC.

v. Shortage of water, which contributes to a nomadic way life in the communities

The community of Kimana village was the Akie and were practicing pastoralism at their village. The issue of shortage of water was raised by the community of Kimana seriously to show their nomadic way of life which has been their common practice in their life. They needed water for their cattle and domestic uses. They were informed that such projects were supposed to be identified as their concern during micro planning so that could be implemented in the implementation of Climate smart PW subprojects.

vi. Long distance from sub village to the centre of the village which is the pay point.

During discussion at SE meeting the community of Hadzabe at Munguli village in Mkalama DC they congratulated the PSSN Project for helping them in terms food for their families through Conditional cash transfer and through Public Work but they claimed the pay point which was the center of the village was very far from the sub village they live, they said they were too old to walk such a very long distance. It was agreed that the Hadzabe leaders to sit together with the PAA leaders to decide which place will be convenient to both sides.

vii. Gender issues

Through FDGs, VGs applauded TASAF by enhancing women empowerment as through PSSN Project as women are the best attendant in the village meetings compared to men, having a strong courage to stand and argue for their interest; they are economically empowered and engage into economic groups which is different from their former norms. When the teams in FDGs were asked on weather women should continue to be the recipient of PSSN benefits or not, all of them recommended women to be the one. But there are some limitation whereby Community culture and norms hinder efficient gender mainstreaming and responsiveness as lot is still needed to be done on the culture and norm side where in some households' women faces economic abuse because the less men are involved the more it negatively impacts women by making women disadvantaged in their roles and responsibilities

viii. Climate change

Climate change has been increasingly in Tanzania, and its impact increases poverty vulnerability among communities. Recently in VG villages, they have been affected by climate change outcomes of high temperature, prolonged draught, and heavy/abnormal rainfall. Climate change increases the incidences of shocks which along with the above mentioned, but the incidence of animal invasions to the human settlement and farms, animal and agriculture pests and diseases have been affecting the livelihood of VGs. Discussion revealed that, PAAs have been collaborating with other stakeholders in Planning for shocks like World Food Programme who provided guideline on the preparation of Climate change Anticipatory Action; TMA in enhancing there is always a weather forecast to enhance early warnings to the community and preparedness; WEO/VEO/extension officers to mainstream weather information to the communities and enhance adaptations; and RED cross in combatting the impacts by distributing food to the community. PSSN III should have a climate change and shock management plan to guide stakeholders to be engaged, interventions to be taken as well as monitoring and evaluation. VGs have recommended on the tree planting (fruit and natural trees), bee keeping, construction of charco dams and wells, as well as encouraging de-grazing/zero grazing.

4.4 Proposed approaches for ensuring effective VGs participation in the Project.

Among the main objective of conducting stakeholders' consultations was to get the opinions from Vulnerable Groups on how best they can participate in the program. The following are the proposed mechanisms/approaches for their effective participation:

- i. More awareness raising sessions to enable VGs to ensure they are aware of the Program, key activities, benefits and their roles in achieving the Project objectives.
- ii. Project interventions to address needs of the community, including the VGs, as it will ensure their meaningful and active participation in the Program.

- iii. Involvement of village government leaders without neglecting local leaders/group leaders in disseminating Project information in the communities.
- iv. Ensuring VGs have access to important information timely in their communities, as it will help support principles of inclusion, self-determination and respect of VGs by ensuring their voices are visible and prioritized.
- v. Promoting gender equity and social inclusion that will ensure both men and women play key roles in the development process in the communities.
- vi. Enhancing the culture of having regular meetings to share the Project impacts in the communities with Vulnerable Groups
- vii. To conduct participatory monitoring and information sharing with all key stakeholders responsible for planning and implementation of Project activities

The following are the type of sub-project proposals that came out during the focus group discussions in the communities:

- i. Construction of water service such shallow wells or charcoal dams.
- ii. Tree planting (fruits and natural trees)
- iii. Social services – school, dispensaries and warehouses
- iv. Need of supply bee hives and accessories for bee keeping
- v. Modern farming technologies
- vi. Modern technologies of animal husbandry.
- vii. Knowledge of Group formation, savings and entrepreneurship skills
- viii. Linking their products with markets.

5 Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Plan

Participation of the VGs in the Project implementation will be undertaken in a participatory and inclusive manner and monitored closely to ensure that there is meaningful participation in the entire project cycle. Monitoring indicators will be disaggregated by gender to monitor women's participation.

6 Division of the responsibilities

For the meaningful consultation and participation of VGs in the Program, the following stakeholders will play the following roles and responsibilities:

6.1 Village and ward level.

The village and ward level will oversee the participation of vulnerable groups in the Program, specific responsibilities of which are:

- i. Awareness raising at the community level in general and VGs in particular about the Program;
- ii. In partnership with local leaders of vulnerable communities, organizing and conducting meeting with VGs;
- iii. Participating in the participatory planning, implementing, monitoring and reporting on the participation of VGs in the Project activities at village and ward level; and
- iv. Addressing grievances from VGs as they arise and documenting them.

6.2 PAA and Regional level.

The PAA and regional levels will be responsible for overall planning and management of the participation of vulnerable groups in the Project as follows:

- i. Awareness creation at PAA and regional levels about the participation of VGs in the Program;
- ii. Providing technical assistance to village leaders, CMCs and local communities as needed to ensure effective participation of VGs in the Program; and
- iii. Address grievance issues raised by the VGs.

7 Conclusion and recommendations

The following are the conclusion and recommendations based on the findings of stakeholders' consultations conducted in four districts, seven PAA

7.1 Conclusion

Stakeholders' Consultations to PAAs with Vulnerable Groups of Karatu, Kiteto, Babati and Mkalama PAAs achieved the intended results of gathering opinions from the VGs concerning the implementation of the PSSN II Project in their areas. Both beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries in the communities acknowledged that the Project to date has been implemented very successfully and has improved the socio- comic livelihood of the Vulnerable Groups communities.

7.2 Recommendations

- To strengthen awareness on the importance of VGs participation on the Project activities
- The identification of vulnerable groups should be done from time to time due to the nature and lifestyle of migrating from one place to another in search for pasture and food.
- The Project should review and update all the Site-specific Vulnerable Group Plans to suit the design of PSSN III.