

Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) for Energy Infrastructure Projects



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Abbreviations

BO	Local staff in the communities employed by Ministry of Regional Development. (<i>Bestuursopzichter</i>).
CR	Community Relations
DC	District Commissioner
DEV	Rural electrification department of the Ministry of Natural Resources (<i>Dienst Elektriciteits Voorziening</i>)
EA	Environmental Assessment
EBS	N.V. Energie Bedrijven Suriname
EHS	Environment, Health and Safety
EPAR	Energievoorziening Paramaribo
ESIA	Environmental and Social Impact Assessment
ESMP	Environmental and Social Management Plan
GoS	Government of Suriname
HSE	Health, Safety and Environment
HSEQ	Health Safety Environment & Quality
IDB	Inter-American Development Bank
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NIMOS	National Institute for Environment and Development in Suriname (Nationaal Instituut voor Milieu en Ontwikkeling in Suriname)
Ministry of OWT & C	Ministerie van Openbare Werken, Transport en Communicatie
MNH	Ministry of Natural Resources
PAPs	Project Affected Persons
PV	Photo Voltaic
SBB	Stichting Bosebeheer en Bostoezicht
VIDS	Association for indigenous Village Leaders in Suriname (<i>Vereniging Inheemse Dorpshoofden Suriname</i>)
VSG	Association of Saamaka Authorities (<i>Vereniging van Saramaccaanse Gezagsdragers</i>)

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 PURPOSE OF THIS DOCUMENT

This document presents the Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) as part of the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment for the Energy Infrastructure Projects.

The ESMP details the approach which includes the set of mitigation, monitoring and institutional measures, which will be followed during all phases of the project in the four project areas to ensure that all negative impacts on the social environment are eliminated or reduced to acceptable levels. The plan also includes actions needed to implement these measures and to ensure that responsibilities and appropriate resources are efficiently allocated to the project.

This document is intended as a dynamic document that may be continually edited and updated as new insights develop during the implementation of the project. A first update will be required upon start of project activities at a currently unknown date.

The ESMP as a minimum complies with the national laws and regulations and with international best practices. The Environmental Assessment (EA) guidelines of the National Institute for Environment and Development in Suriname (NIMOS 2009) and the Environment and Safeguards Compliance Policy (OP-703) of the IDB have been used as guidance.

1.2 PROJECT BACKGROUND

In Suriname, the Ministerie van Natuurlijke Hulpbronnen (Ministry of Natural Resources, MNH) has responsibility for energy policy and supervision of the energy sector. The N.V. Energie Bedrijven Suriname (EBS, borrower) is the state-owned utility company supervised by the MNH and in charge of the operation of the power system. EBS's operations entail generation, transmission, distribution and commercialization of electricity. The Government of Suriname (GoS)/EBS and the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) are preparing a loan agreement to finance operation SU-L1055. The Inter-American Development Bank (IDB or the Bank) policy requires that an Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) is carried out by the project sponsor/borrower for all projects to be financed by the Bank with potentially significant impacts on the natural and human environment.

This study entails four (4) infrastructure projects proposed for IDB financing:

- Powaka- Zanderij transmission line project: the construction of a new 33 kV transmission line between substation Powaka and substation Zanderij.
- Koina Kondre project: extension of the 12kV grid from substation Powaka along the Afobakaweg to Koina Kondre.
- “Upgrade critical infrastructure Commewijne including solar plant Alliance”, hereafter referred to as the Commewijne Project:
 1. Construction of a new 33 kV double-circuit transmission line from substation Peperpot towards Plantation Richelieu;
 2. Furthermore, a new 33 kV single-circuit transmission line from Plantation Richelieu towards substation Marienburg and from Plantation Richelieu towards substation La Paix (OSM);
 3. Construction of a substation at Marienburg;
 4. The installation of a second underwater 12 kV cable from substation Marienburg to Johanna Margaretha, and
 5. The construction of a 200 kWp solar plant in Alliance.
- Brownsweg solar plant project: construction of a 500kWp grid-connected Photo Voltaic (PV) power plant in Brownsweg.

It should be noted that the abovementioned projects are still under review of the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB). The final decision for financing of these projects still has to be made.

1.3 STRUCTURE OF THIS ESMP

This ESMP is made up of two parts:

Part 1: Introduction (Chapter 1): Provides brief background to the project as well as a brief description of the purpose and structure of the ESMP.

Part 2: Specifications and Procedures (Chapter 2): Explains the environmental and social specifications for the project and sets out the roles and responsibilities and capacity development and training.

Part 3: Monitoring (Chapter 3): Sets out the monitoring measures for implementation of the ESMP.

2 SPECIFICATIONS & PROCEDURES

2.1 INTRODUCTION

This section of the ESMP builds on the ESIA to identify feasible and cost-effective measures that may reduce potentially significant social impacts to acceptable levels. The plan includes compensatory measures if mitigation measures are not feasible, cost-effective or sufficient.

2.2 MOST SIGNIFICANT IMPACTS

A description and rating of all environmental and social impacts, as well as proposed mitigation measures, have been provided in the ESIA study. Two potential moderate negative social and a few minor environmental impacts were identified.

In all sites, a moderate negative social impact could result from potential disturbance of cultural heritage sites. In the impact areas of the Powaka-Zanderij Transmission Line Project and the Koina Kondre Project, most significant negative impacts are related to false expectations. Another potential negative impact identified, concerns the potential liabilities related to land tenure and land inheritance boundary disputes in the Hanover-Mawakabo plantation area.

These most significant potential impacts are social impacts and these are described below.

1. Cultural heritage sites: No known cultural heritage sites will be disturbed by the project. However, given that only a small number of existing archaeological sites have been registered, chance finds may occur. There are several cultural sites that are used for Afro-Surinamese religious ceremonies in the area of Hanover Plantation (Powaka-Zanderij project) and the impact area of the Koina Kondre project. Care must be taken to not disturb these locations.
2. Potential liabilities related to land tenure and land inheritance boundary disputes in the Hannover-Mawakabo plantation area Powaka-Zanderij Transmission Line Project. Current developments with regard to the new road project have led to disagreement among the former plantation owners (“nazaten”), and the descendants of former plantation slaves (“afstammelingen”) and between stakeholders and the Government of Suriname. Main point of argument is ownership and the right of land. A new project within the plantation area may lead to difficulties with regard to land tenure and boundaries. Cumulative impacts of the new road project can intensify current impact.
3. False expectations
Powaka-Zanderij Transmission Line Project: the projected 33 kV transmission line will run along a new road that is being constructed by the Ministry of Public Works, Transport and Communication (OWTC), and will run through the plantations of Hanover and Mawakabo. Rights-holders of the plantation lands reported that the government has promised compensation for the expropriation of land, including improvement of the access road to the plantation (now ongoing) and public services such as electricity and drinking water for the plantations (see ESIA report for more background and details). Expectations and agreements as a result of this project can have indirect and cumulative impact on the current project. Work on the Powaka – Zanderij Transmission Project could give the impression that plantations will be supplied with electricity. It can be difficult for stakeholders to distinguish between a transmission line and a distribution line, and between the IDB/EBS project and the GoS road project.
Koina – Kondre Project. The Koina Kondre project area runs from the Powaka substation up to the bridge across the Marchall Creek. Two villages, Koina Kondra and Rama, and a number of individual and clustered houses are scattered on both sides along the Afobaka Road. The inhabitants have been waiting for years for a connection to the EPAR network but despite promises from the GoS, this has not yet been realized. During the introduction

meeting in the village of Koina Kondre the EBS presented the plan to provide 24/7 electricity to the communities in the area by extending a 12 kV grid (approximately 24 km) starting in the S/S Powaka along the Afobaka Road. A timeline was not shared with the stakeholders. Additionally, during the consultation meeting for the stakeholders of the Koina Kondre project the Minister of the Natural Resources and the District Commissioner, in presence of the director of EBS, promised the communities a larger generator and an extension of the current network prior to the May 2020 elections. For the communities details of this promise are unknown and expectations are high.

Other negative impacts are relatively minor, and can effectively be mitigated:

- **Reputational damage.** The reputation of project partners may be damaged when (false) expectations are not met. No promises should be made with regard to connecting households/villages to the network. Especially in this time when elections are approaching, experience shows that all kinds of unfounded statements are being made. Even if statements are not made by the project partners themselves, these statements can still be linked to project partners. Clear and transparent communication, including a timeline, must be pursued and use of the project for political party campaigning should be avoided.
- **Switch to paid electricity.** At this moment, the 260 households in the Koina Kondre project area receive electricity - a couple of hours per day- for free from the Service for Electricity provision (DEV) from the ministry of Natural resources. Once connected to the EPAR net, these households will have to pay. As a result unexpected electricity expenses may lead to shortage in household budget. If people fail to pay they will be disconnected and a fee must be paid to get reconnected. Additionally, at the moment there are no paying offices in the area. To mitigate these expected impacts it is proposed to follow the communication model that was used in Atjoni/Pokigron, including awareness sessions for the community members.
- **Loss of work for DEV staff.** When generators in Koina Kondre and Rama will be replaced by the EPAR network DEV staff (2 persons) will be superfluous. They will remain contracted with the government but a suitable work alternative will have to be provided.
- **Land tenure issues in other 3 project areas.** Proposed project areas and/or planned attributes such as poles (could) fall (partly) within community forest concessions, land of individuals etc. It is advised to obtain clarity about land tenure status and to negotiate with stakeholders about suitable solutions. Point of attention is that the Maroon community members claim customary land rights to the land of their neighborhood, as well as to defined areas around the villages where they go to plant, hunt and collect forest products.
- **Visual and aesthetics as a result of poor waste management and improper storage of materials.** This can be effectively mitigated by having a proper waste management plan in place and according to the EBS EHS and waste management requirements.

Other minor environmental impacts include land take for the solar plants, clearance of vegetation, and elevated noise from the substations in the operational phase and animal electrocution by transmission lines. All these minor impacts can be effectively mitigated by implementation of recommended measures.

Finally, positive impacts were identified including improvement of energy supply and livelihood opportunities.

These impacts have been described and rated in the ESIA study, and associated mitigation measures have been identified. No more extensive mitigation plans were developed for these impacts. For further detail, see ESIA impact rating and mitigation section.

2.3 MITIGATION PLANS FOR POTENTIAL MODERATE NEGATIVE SOCIAL IMPACTS

Mitigation Measure/Plan 1. Protect Cultural Heritage Sites		Version 1: 15/07/2019		
Risk / Impact to be addressed:	Potential disturbance of archaeological sites and other sites of cultural relevance			
<i>Summary of Current Situation:</i>				
<p>Given the history of the various regions where the EBS Projects are planned, it is possible that pre-Columbian or more recent archaeological artifacts are encountered during excavation activities. These chances are small because activities take place at already disturbed areas.</p> <p>In the project areas of the Powaka-Zanderij project and the Koina Kondre project there are several locations that are used for Afro-Surinamese religious ceremonies.</p> <p>Mitigation measures to minimize and compensate impact:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In the case of encounter of archaeological artifacts, stop work immediately and follow chance-find procedures as outlined in the SIA Discuss planned location of poles with local area inhabitants prior to placement 				
Stage of Project to which measure applies	Preconstruction	X	Estimated cost(s):	<i>In Preconstruction phase:</i> Cost of Community Relations staff member of EBS. <i>Construction phase</i> In the case of chance-find, archaeologist to perform necessary procedures
	Construction	X		
	Operation			
	Closure			
<i>Applicable Requirements and Standards:</i>				
Environment and Safeguards Compliance Policy (2006), particularly sections on critical cultural sites. Follow guidelines presented in IDB note "Managing the Impacts of IDB Projects on Cultural Heritage".				
<i>Indicators to measure success:</i>	<i>Performance goals for Indicators:</i>			
No complaints about disturbance of critical cultural sites filed to EBS/IDB.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local stakeholders do not experience damage to sites they use for cultural ceremonies and activities. If archeological artifacts have been encountered, an archaeologist has been hired to guide further process. 			
<i>Responsibility for implementation of measure:</i>	<p><i>EBS Community Relations staff:</i> Communicate with local area inhabitants of Hannover and Koina Kondre area about exact location of cultural sites.</p> <p><i>EBS Project team:</i> Inform contractor about chance find procedures to be followed.</p> <p><i>Contractor:</i> Initiate chance find procedures upon unanticipated discovery of material remains of archaeological or historical significance</p>			
<i>Frequency of inspection/ compliance verification:</i>	Reporting to IDB			
<i>Additional Information / Guidance:</i>	No known material remains of archaeological or historical significance have been recorded in the locations where earth movement activities will take place.			

Mitigation Measure/Plan 2. Approach and include relevant stakeholders, provide transparent, complete and consistent communication, document communication		Version 1: 19/9/19	
Risk / Impact to be addressed:	Potential liabilities related to land tenure and land inheritance boundary disputes in the Hannover-Mawakabo plantation area.		
<i>Summary of Current Situation:</i>			
The projected 33 kV transmission line will among others run along a new road that is being constructed by the			

Ministry of Public Works, Transport and Communication (OWTC). Neither the Ministry of OWTC nor the contractor for the new road, China Dalian International Group (Dalian), performed an ESIA study prior to this project. Agreements have been made between the government and stakeholders (Plantation board). At the moment there is disagreement among the former plantation owners (“nazaten”), and the descendants of former plantation slaves (“afstammelingen”) and between stakeholders and the Government of Suriname. Main point of argument is ownership and the right of land. A new project within the plantation may lead to difficulties with regard to land tenure and boundaries. Cumulative impacts of the new road project can intensify current impact. The descendants of the former plantation owners and former enslaved people are organized in different community organizations. It is currently unclear what the degree of representation is.

Mitigation measures to minimize and compensate impact:

- Review and when necessary adjust the EBS community and stakeholders engagement plan based on IDB principles
- Follow EBS Community and Stakeholders engagement plan throughout the all phases of the project with regard to all Project Affected Persons (PAPs). Including:
- Be aware of the historical and current context, particularly related to land tenure situations.
- Look carefully at claims to ownership of land and other assets.
- Conduct in-depth stakeholder analysis and consultations
- Work with legal specialists to assist CR department in land tenure situations.

Stage of Project to which measure applies	Preconstruction	X	Estimated cost(s):	<i>In all phases:</i> Cost of Community Relations staff member of EBS. Cost of Legal department staff member of EBS. Costs of meetings and visits at location, approx. \$500
	Construction	X		
	Operation	X		
	Closure	X		

Applicable Requirements and Standards:

Guidelines on Consultation and Stakeholder Engagement in IDB Projects

Follow guidelines presented in IDB’s Operational Policy (OP) on Environmental and Safeguards Compliance Policy (IDB OP-703)

Corporate Standards, Guidelines and Procedures of EBS.

Indicators to measure success:

Number of liability issues received.
PAP’s level of satisfaction with Project in general.
Number of complaints received / expressions of discontent observed

Performance goals for Indicators:

- During community meetings, majority of PAPs indicate that they are “content” with their relationship with EBS.
- During community meetings, majority of PAPs indicate that they are “content” with the way that EBS communicates with them.
- During community meetings, majority of PAPs indicate that they are “content” with the Grievance Redress Mechanisms.
- During community meetings, majority of PAPs indicate that they are “content” with the EBS Project.

Responsibility for implementation of measure:

EBS Community Relations staff: Develop messaging protocol / communication strategy for different affected stakeholder communities.

EBS Project staff: Hold validation meetings in all Project locations.

EBS Legal staff: Provide information about relevant legal matters and handle and assess liability issues

Frequency of inspection/ compliance verification:

Proposed monthly contact (phone or meeting) with PAPs to keep people up to date and manage expectations. Include this in implementation of Plan 3.

Additional Information / Guidance:

Make sure information is very well documented.

Mitigation Measure/Plan 3. Provide transparent, complete and consistent communication			Version 1: 15/07/2019	
Risk / Impact to be addressed:		False expectations may lead to protest		
<p><i>Summary of Current Situation:</i> Promises about near future (6-9 months) connection to the EPAR net (Hanover/Mawakabo) and improved access to electricity by means of a larger generator (Koina Kondre) have been made to local populations in the project area. For local people, it may not be clear that the IDB/EBS Project (SU-P1055) is unrelated to these promises. This situation may create false expectations, and frustration if electricity is not delivered within the expected timeframe.</p>				
<p><i>Description of Measures to be implemented:</i></p> <p>Transparent, complete and consistent information must be provided to the Project Affected Persons (PAPs) of all Projects, with specific emphasis on the Koina Kondre project and the Powaka -Zanderij transmission line project.</p> <p>Mitigation measures to minimize and compensate impact:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meaningful engagement, based on a communication strategy with clear messaging for all projects, but especially the Koina Kondre project and the Powaka-Zanderij transmission line project, which establishes what information must be provided (incl. time line), and what information cannot be provided during meetings related to this Project – SU-P1055 (e.g. details about projects not related to the IDB/EBS project). • A transparent grievance redress mechanism, must be in place. Contact information of the EBS staff member responsible for community relations must be available to the PAPs in said areas. Vice versa, the communities in questions must appoint a contact person through which project related information may be communicated. This person may be identified during the validation meetings in the communities. • Prior to any Project activities that affect PAPs, hold engage in/with the relevant communities. This can be a small meeting between the EBS community relations person and the main communities counter parts. Especially for major project activities, engagement will preferably occur during a face-to-face meeting rather than a phone call. Meetings must be held in the language the community feels most comfortable with. 				
Stage of project to which measure applies	Preconstruction	X	Estimated cost(s):	<i>In Preconstruction phase:</i> Cost of transportation to communities, total 20 trips in the next 2 years: USD 600
	Construction	X		
	Operation			
	Closure			
<p><i>Applicable Requirements and Standards:</i></p> <p>IDB OP 703</p>				
<p><i>Indicators to measure success:</i></p> <p>PAP's level of satisfaction with communication</p> <p>PAO's level of satisfaction with Project in general.</p> <p>Number of complaints received / expressions of discontent observed</p>			<p><i>Performance goals for Indicators:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During community meetings, majority of PAPs indicate that they are "content" with the way that EBS communicates with them. • During community meetings, majority of PAPs indicate that they are "content" with the EBS Project. 	
<p><i>Responsibility for implementation of</i></p>		<p><i>EBS Community Relations staff:</i> Develop messaging protocol / communication strategy for different affected stakeholder communities.</p>		

<i>measure:</i>	<i>EBS Project staff:</i> Hold validation meetings in all Project locations.
<i>Frequency of inspection/ compliance verification:</i>	Proposed monthly contact (phone or meeting) with PAPs, especially in the project areas of Koina Kondre and Powaka-Zanderij, to keep people up to date and manage expectations.
<i>Additional Information / Guidance:</i>	None

2.4 AWARENESS

Awareness sessions covering all matters regarding prevention, mitigation and monitoring measures, shall be run for all personnel on site. The objectives of the ESMP and the specific provisions of the ESMP shall be known to all personnel involved in reconstruction activities prior to commencement of the projects.

Awareness must cover the specific community relations management requirements as set out in the ESMP, but must also ensure that all on-site personnel are aware of and familiar with the all relevant requirements. A copy of the ESMP shall be available on site to ensure that all the on-site personnel as well as suppliers and or visitors are familiar with and understand the specifications contained in the ESMP.

The Contractor is responsible for the awareness of their staff. Toolbox meetings shall be held covering topics as provided in this SMP. Pre-job discussions shall be held prior to the commencement of activities.

2.6 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

2.6.1 INTRODUCTION

Community or stakeholder engagement is about building and maintaining constructive relationships over time. It is an ongoing process between the project owner and its stakeholders that extends throughout the life of the project and encompasses a range of activities and approaches, from information sharing and consultation, to participation, negotiation, and partnerships. It enables people to be informed about local issues related to project activities and to contribute ideas and help identify solutions. It strengthens community cooperation and builds the people's trust. The nature and frequency of community engagement should reflect the level of project risks and impacts.

However, to ensure that there is a consistent and coordinated approach to the stakeholders of the projects it is necessary to have appropriate processes for disclosure and communication in place. This section presents the ways to inform all relevant area inhabitants and other persons and organizations with an interest in the target areas about the projects.

2.6.2 PURPOSE

Community engagement in the current context is seen as the way of interacting with stakeholders/residents. It is an ongoing process which allows a two-way communication. Stakeholders/ residents and project executors will both benefit from community engagement. The purpose is to help outline how to obtain a better understanding of the public's interest and perspective regarding the project activities in the project areas. It also helps people within the community feel involved in and be heard about the project.

Two way communications can be achieved through:

- Keeping the communities informed about project activities and issues that affect, or are important to the communities.
- Making use of a grievance mechanism to listen to issues that affect, or are important to the community. It needs to be ensured that the local communities are aware of this grievance mechanism and how to utilize it. The complaints registry and investigation procedure will be used to ensure that all grievances are adequately addressed.
- Involve all relevant authorities during planning, construction, operation and decommissioning, including districts authorities, (local) representatives of concerned government agencies and traditional authorities.

Meaningful community engagement usually results in minimization of vagueness, conflict and delays, and the establishment of relationships in the local community that can benefit current and future projects. It can limit the number of surprises that occur during a project because all parties share information openly and consistently.

2.6.3 STAKEHOLDERS

Stakeholders can be defined as those people and organizations who may affect, are affected by, or perceive themselves to be affected by, a decision or activity. Also, persons, organizations and institutions that have an interest in the specific field that will be dealt with, can be seen as a stakeholder. The ESIA for the current project has identified the following stakeholders:

- National Government: Ministry of Natural Resources (incl. DEV and EBS), Ministry of Regional Development, Foundation for Forest Management and Forest Control (*Stichting*)

voor *Bosbeheer en Bostoezicht, SBB*), National Institute for Environment and Development in Suriname (Nationaal Instituut voor Milieu en Ontwikkeling in Suriname).

- District Government of Para, Commewijne and Brokopondo.
- Traditional authorities of the communities of Brownsweg and Koina Kondre.
- NGO's and organisations representing stakeholders (e.g. Plantation Board, Stichting Wi Anofru).
- Local residents: people living in project areas.
- Entrepreneurs: representative of allotment project, tourism resorts, wood landings, concession owners.

2.6.4 DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION ABOUT PROJECT ACTIVITIES

The disclosure of information sets out the policy and measures regarding the way project information will be made available to the public.

2.6.4.1 GENERAL PUBLIC

The general public should be made aware of the project activities and be able to find information about it, if desired. Disclosure activities could include:

- Leave printed copies of the ESIA report, with a non-technical summary in Dutch, in public places (i.e. The office of the District Commissioner of Para, Brokopondo and Commewijne) and with government officers such as local Government Supervisors (*Bestuursopzichters, BO's*).
- Publish a link of the digital copy of the ESIA report, with a non-technical summary in Dutch, on the BIC Facebook pages of the districts and on the NIMOS website.
- Publish press releases in the national newspapers.
- Broadcast project information through media (local radio and TV stations)
- Place a billboard at strategic locations at the project sites with the following project information:
 1. Description of the project activities.
 2. Locations of activities.
 3. Dates of activities.
 4. Contact information of the Community Relations department and the responsible CR officer for this project.
- Stakeholders must be timely informed about any changes in activities schedule for the different phases of the project.

Table 1: Disclosure of information about the project to different stakeholders

Who?	How?	When?	Advised specific activities?
Government	Direct approach of stakeholders (e-mail and meeting).	One month in advance One week in advance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inform the District-Commissioner and his staff about the schedule of activities with exact dates, time and locations and discuss the proposed activities. • Make sure that local authorities such as the District Secretary, the Government Supervisors (<i>Bestuursopzichters</i>), District Council (DR) and Resort Council (RR) members are informed about the activities of the projects, their dates, time and locations, so that they can respond to any questions from citizens. Make sure they have contact information of Community Responsibility representative of EBS.
Traditional authorities	Direct approach of stakeholders (by phone, and meetings).	One month in advance One week in advance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inform captains of the villages about the schedule of activities with exact dates, time and locations and discuss the proposed activities. • Make sure captains and basja's are informed about the activities of the projects, their dates, time and locations, so that they can respond to any questions from citizens. Make sure they have contact information of Community Responsibility representative of EBS. • Follow specific guidelines for the Suriname context described in the "Community Engagement Strategy for the Government" (<i>Community Engagement Strategie voor de Overheid</i> (version 1.1, 2016), which was developed by the Association for indigenous Village Leaders in Suriname (VIDS) and the Association of Saamaka Authorities (<i>Vereniging van Saramakaanse Gezagsdragers, VSG</i>).
NGO (incl. Vereniging Plantage Hannover-Mawakabo), Stichting Wi Anofru).	Direct approach of stakeholders (by phone, e-mail and meetings).	One month in advance One week in advance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inform the board of the associations about the schedule of activities with exact dates, time and locations and discuss the proposed activities. • Make sure board members are informed about the activities of the projects, their dates, time and locations, so that they can respond to any questions from citizens. Make sure they have contact information of Community Responsibility representative of EBS.
Local residents	Internet / Social media CR Department Direct approach of stakeholders (e-mail and meeting). Personal contact or through the local authorities	One month in advance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Place an up-to-date schedule of project activities on the BIC Facebook page. • Inform all stakeholders (incl. Vereniging Plantage Hannover- Mawakabo) via social media (with a link on posters/pamphlets/newspaper/working-schedules). • Distribute information and schedules directly to affected stakeholders via internet. It should, however, be realized that not all stakeholders have access to internet. • Inform local residents during stakeholder meetings about the schedule of activities with exact dates, time and locations and discuss the proposed activities. Use story boards when appropriate and discuss most appropriate language of meeting with audience. • Provide relevant stakeholders with a name and contact information of the Community Responsibility representative of EBS who should be contacted in the case of questions, concerns or complaints. • The working schedule should be made available for the local stakeholders through the District-

	<p>Media</p> <p>Posters/ Pamphlets Billboard</p> <p>General</p>		<p>Commissioner, the Government Supervisors (Bestuursopzichers) and District Council (DR) and Resort Council (RR) whatever is most appropriate.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inform local stakeholders about the complaints procedure and emphasize the commitment to address grievances and good neighborly relations. • Publish the working schedule in national newspapers and through local radio and TV channels. It should be made clear when (date and time) and where the activities will take place. • Place posters/pamphlets with operation schedules at the local BO offices. • Place a billboard at the construction site with general project information, project dates and contact information. • Follow specific guidelines for the Suriname context described in the “Community Engagement Strategy for the Government” (<i>Community Engagement Strategie voor de Overheid</i> (version 1.1, 2016), which was developed by the Association for indigenous Village Leaders in Suriname (VIDS) and the Association of Saamaka Authorities (<i>Vereniging van Saramakaanse Gezagsdragers VSG</i>).
<p>Entrepreneurs active in the project areas</p>	<p>Direct approach of stakeholders (by meetings).</p> <p>Media</p> <p>Billboard</p>	<p>One month in advance</p> <p>Two weeks in advance</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inform the representatives during stakeholder meetings about the schedule of activities with exact dates, time and locations and discuss the proposed activities. • Make sure representatives are informed about the activities of the projects, their dates, time and locations, so that they can respond to any questions from citizens. Make sure they have contact information of Community Responsibility representative of EBS. • Use national and local media (newspapers, TV, radio, social media) to inform stakeholders about the timeline and location of activities. • Place a billboard at the construction site with general project information, project dates and contact information.

2.6.5 GENERAL COMMUNICATION MECHANISMS

For the execution of the project, the following general communication mechanisms should be in place:

1. **Appoint a community relations officer:** The community relations officer should be a person who can nurture meaningful relationships with stakeholders and who is easy to approach. Additionally, this person should have a clear understanding of the specific guidelines for the Suriname context described in the “Community Engagement Strategy for the Government” (*Community Engagement Strategie voor de Overheid* (version 1.1, 2016), which was developed by the Association for indigenous Village Leaders in Suriname (VIDS) and the Association of Saamaka Authorities (*Vereniging van Saramakaanse Gezagsdragers, VSG*). The name and phone number of this person should appear on all written communication (e.g. pamphlets, billboard). The community relations officer must be able to get assistance from a legal specialist when necessary.
2. **Grievance redress mechanism:** EBS is advised to follow a grievance mechanism consistent with IDB policies and requirements to prevent and address concerns and grievances related to Project impacts. The mechanism is an integral part of effective social performance. It aims to be accessible to all stakeholders, including the poor and the vulnerable, so that the issues raised are resolved effectively and expeditiously. Resolution principles that form the basis of the grievance mechanism are: proportionality, cultural appropriateness, accessibility, transparency and accountability. The processes of the grievance mechanism should include:
 - Receive and register comments
 - Review and investigate complaints and grievances
 - Develop resolution options
 - Respond to grievance and agree on resolution
 - Monitor implementation of resolution
 - Finish tracking as closed out
 - Evaluate lessons learned

Affected individuals and communities, as well as other stakeholders, should have the right to protest against project activities. Such protests must be filed within a 30-day calendar period from receipt of notification of the project activities.

Face-to-face meetings, telephone conversations and messaging, and e-mail should be made available for raising issues, concerns and grievances. Issues, concerns and grievances may be made in the language the person is most comfortable with. The processes identified should be tracked from acknowledgement, investigation and verification, to remedial action. Grievances will be sorted, categorized by risk level (related to delay of Project activities or increased budget needs), and logged. Based on the grievance topic and its risk categorization, EBS should identify an appropriate team of one to three people to undertake an investigation.

After investigation and agreement on the action plan, remedial activities should be monitored and evaluated. Feedback on the investigation results, action plan, and results of remedial activities should be provided to the complainant.

If no solution identified by the Project is acceptable to the complainant, the Project will organize a consultation committee. The committee should result in a solution acceptable to all, and identify responsibilities and an action plan. The Project should begin implementation of the agreed redress solution and convey the outcome to the IDB within seven working days.

If the complainant is still dissatisfied, the Project will invoke a legal resolution process based on the Suriname legal framework described above, complemented by the IDB guidelines. Where Suriname legislation and IDB safeguard guidelines are in disagreement, the more stringent one will prevail. The use of the resolution initiates a negotiation process. The EBS will identify and describe any grievance voiced by PAPs, as well as details on investigation, remedial actions and results to the IDB in periodic progress reporting.

- 3. Compensation mechanism:** Any proven damage should be compensated and a mechanism should be developed in order to be prepared in case claims would be made.

2.7 EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN

An emergency response plan on site requires efficient and effective action to contain and remediate damage. If contractors will be hired they will be required to submit an emergency response plan to cover any emergencies arising during this project and shall ensure that essential emergency response equipment and materials will be available on-site. All on-site personnel must be aware of the Emergency Response Plan and their responsibilities, and are adequately trained therein. Where needed the local fire department and police will be contacted.

3 MONITORING

This section provides a description of the methods that will be used to monitor performance against ESMP commitments. Monitoring the performance of on-site personnel against the commitments of the ESMP is essential. Monitoring should be done on a daily, weekly and monthly basis.

3.1 OBJECTIVES

The overall objective of monitoring is to make an evaluation of the process to:

- Ensure that adverse project impacts are effectively and efficiently mitigated, as set out in mitigation plans.
- Collect data for accountability to key stakeholders. These data will also serve as supporting material in case of grievances or concerns expressed by stakeholders. They will allow the EBS to show Project stakeholders how and when mitigation measures have been implemented, and with what results.
- Enhance sustainability of the Project by early detection of conditions that necessitate additional mitigation measures, or unanticipated issues that jeopardize planned mitigation measures.
- Gather the views and feedback of beneficiaries and other stakeholders on Project impacts and mitigation measures at different times before, during and after the Project.
- Improve service delivery, planning and allocating resources.

3.2 MONITORING

EBS will ensure continuous documentation of the efficiency, effectiveness, impact and sustainability of mitigation measures. The data collected in the context of the ESIA study serves as the baseline against which change will be measured. Indicators for monitoring (as seen in the following tables) will cover process, outputs and impacts.

Table 2: Indicators for Monitoring of Social Impacts

Monitoring Indicators	Basis for Indicators
Budget and timeframe	Have PAPs been informed sufficiently both personally, and through public Project meetings?
Delivery of PAP entitlements	Have the specific guidelines to minimize impacts been followed?
Consultation, grievance and special Issues	Has consultation taken place as scheduled? Has any PAP used the grievance redress procedures? If so, what was the grievance and what were the outcomes? Have conflicts been resolved?

3.3 REPORTING

The frequency and nature of reporting of environmental management performance will depend upon the nature of the activity and aspect that is being managed. Reporting will take several forms. The table below gives an overview of regular reports and reporting lines for the Contractor:

Table 3: Regular reports and report lines

Report Name	Description	Frequency	Responsibility of	Receiver
Method statement/ Planning of works	Method statement	One week before commencement	Contractor	EBS
Weekly report of safety talks	Toolbox sheets or pre job discussions	Weekly	Contractor	EBS
Weekly HSE inspection report	Compliance with ESIA	Weekly	Contractor	EBS
CR inspection report	Compliance with ESIA	As often as required	Contractor	EBS
Incidents/Accidents/Near Miss	Report type and consequences for loss of days	Within 24 hours	Contractor	EBS
Monthly progress reports including project progress, HSE and CR aspects, waste log reports	Reports on monthly progress of the project covering several aspects Compliance with ESIA and SMP	Monthly	Contractor	EBS
Completion Inspection report	Report on completion of construction	At the end of the construction phase	Contractor	EBS

3.4 FEEDBACK

Feedback on performance will be communicated to the appropriate parties concerned. Any substandard performance will trigger a process that notifies the responsible party of the nature of the issue and indicates the actions that are required to rectify the situation. This will be followed up by further inspection and/or monitoring to ensure that the sub-standard performance has been corrected.

Appendices

Appendix A Environmental & Social Specifications

Table 4: Environmental Specification Table during the Construction Phase

Component	Impact Assessment	Mitigation Measures	Responsibility	Monitoring & Performance Evaluation		Compliance reporting
				Performance Indicators	Monitoring Methods	
Visual and Aesthetics	Transportation and handling of materials: storage		Contractor/EBS	Number of registered complaints	Visual observations, records	Complete weekly ESMP checklist
	Improper waste management and poor material storage result in untidy environment around project sites	Have proper material storage and have waste management in place; monitor compliance				
Air quality	Construction traffic and equipment at project site, and other project traffic: exhaust gasses and dust from traffic.	Proper maintenance of vehicles and equipment	Contractor/EBS	Visual inspections, visibility of exhaust gasses and dust coming off the project site	Visual observations, records	Complete weekly ESMP checklist/ Complaint report
	Construction activities at project sites: dust from soil works and handling of materials.	Prevent dust emissions by covering and/or wetting of dust generating materials during construction or by placing dust screens.				
Noise	Increased noise levels at project sites and along project transport routes: project traffic and construction activities on-site.	Proper maintenance of vehicles and equipment	Contractor/EBS	Number of registered complaints	Records and statistics	Complaint Report
Land and soil	Land take for transmission lines.		Contractor/EBS	Visual inspections, Number of registered complaints	Visual observations, records	Complaint Report
	Land take for solar plants and substation	Cannot be mitigated, inherent to project				

Water quality	Increased turbidity of road side ditches and canals due to erosion of road sides during works	Prevent soil piling to the minimum. Compact loose surfaces as soon as possible	Contractor/EBS	Change of water color and appearance	Visual inspection	Complete ESMP checklist
	Increased turbidity of the Commewijne River as a result of cable placement at the bottom					
Vegetation	Habitat destruction due to vegetation clearance for transmission lines	Limit vegetation clearing to the minimum.	Contractor/EBS	Actual clearance not exceeding planned clearance	Field inspections	Complete ESMP checklist/ Progress Reports
	Habitat destruction due to vegetation clearance for solar plants and Mariënburg substation, riser pole locations					
Flora and fauna	Loss of endangered, threatened or vulnerable plant or animal species due to habitat loss or disturbance during project activities	None.				
Protected areas	Disturbance or damage to protected areas	None.				

Table 5: Environmental Specification Table during the Operation Phase

Component	Impact Assessment	Mitigation Measures	Responsibility	Monitoring & Performance Evaluation		Compliance reporting
				Performance Indicators	Monitoring Methods	
Visual and Aesthetics	Physical presence of transmission lines and plants/ substation	Establish low vegetation barrier around solar plants and substation Mariënburg	Contractor/EBS	Number of registered complaints	Visual observations, records	Complete weekly ESMP checklist
	Improper waste management results in dirty environment around project sites	Have waste management in place and monitor compliance				
Noise	Elevated noise level near the proposed Mariënburg substation	Do not allow residential development in the area directly around the substation.	Contractor/EBS	Number of registered complaints	Records and statistics	Complaint Report
Flora and fauna	Interference by transmission lines with bird flight paths and increased potential for bird collisions	None	Contractor/EBS	Visual inspections	Visual observations	Complete weekly ESMP checklist
	Animal electrocutions by transmission lines	Prevent pole climbing by placing a small barrier				

Table 6: Social Specification Table of the EBS energy infrastructure projects

Component	Impact Assessment	Mitigation Measures	Responsibility	Monitoring & Performance Evaluation		Compliance reporting
				Performance Indicators	Monitoring Methods	
General						
Improved energy supply	Redundancy in power supply; fewer power outages; potential for population growth and economic development	Anticipate new requests for connections to the grid.	EBS	Number of registered complaints	Records and statistics	Complaint Report
Livelihood	Small number of temporary employment opportunities in construction phase; digging, boat transportation.	As much as possible, hire local field hands for temporary jobs.	EBS	Percentage of local people employed	Keep register the local employees (attendance list)	Weekly Report
Cultural Heritage	Disturbance of archeological and other cultural heritage sites	Discuss location of cultural sites with plantation population and Koina Kondre. Follow international best practice as described in this ESIA	Contractor/EBS	Visual inspections	International Best Practices procedures/ Visual observations	Complete weekly ESMP checklist
Powaka-Zanderij transmission line						
False expectations	People from Hanover may get impression that transmission line will provide them with electricity. They may get upset when this is not the case, especially given recent government promises that they will be connected to the grid. Frustration may lead to	Clear and transparent communication with local stakeholders, including descendants of plantations Hanover and Mawakabo, about the current EBS project. Emphasize that the road project and related GoS promises are unrelated to the transmission line	EBS	Number of registered complaints	Frequently communicating with the neighbors	Complaint Report

	protest	project. Avoid use of the project for political party campaigning.				
	Damage to reputation IDB if people believe that EBS/IDB promised them electricity					
Potential liabilities related to land tenure and land inheritance boundary disputes.	The current developments with regard to the new road project have led to disagreement among the former plantation owners (“nazaten”), and the descendants of former plantation slaves (“afstammeligen”) and between stakeholders and the Government of Suriname. Main point of argument is ownership and the right of land. A new project within the plantation may also lead to difficulties with regard to land tenure and boundaries. Expectations and agreements as a result of the governmental project can have indirect and cumulative impact on the current project.	Take this situation seriously and follow the community and stakeholders engagement plan based on IDB principles. This includes making sure all stakeholders are included in consultation and communication during all phases of the project. Make sure all information is well documented.	EBS	Minutes of meeting (MoM) of all the stakeholder/validation meetings	Frequently communicating with the communities	Complaint Report/MoMs
Koina Kondre project						
False expectations	During the information meeting, the Min. of	ASAP, have another meeting with inhabitants	EBS	Minutes of meeting (MoM)	Frequently communicating	Complaint Report/MoMs

	<p>Natural Resources and District Commissioner, in presence of the director of EBS, promised the local stakeholders a new, larger energy generator and extension of the net before May 2020. People may get upset when this commitment is not met. The community is already frustrated about earlier unmet promises of electricity, and has barricaded the road before. During the information meeting, no time line was presented to the community. People probably expect to be connected to the grid within a year, and may get frustrated when nothing happens soon.</p>	<p>of the Koina Kondre project area, to explain what the EBS project is, and emphasize that a generator is not part of it. During validation meeting, make sure that the meeting is a-political. Avoid participation of political figureheads and avoid use of this project for political party campaigning. Transparent and honest communication about the project and its timeline. No false promises. Ensure that it is clear who will be connected to the EPAR system – also with regard to distance from the road.</p>		<p>of all the stakeholder/validation meetings</p>	<p>with the communities</p>	
Switch to paid electricity	<p>Reduced household budget</p> <p>If people fail to pay they will be disconnected. A fee must be paid to get reconnected.</p> <p>Cost in time and money to pay bills in Paramaribo or other EBS payment station.</p>	<p>Follow communication model of Atjoni/Pokigron and Powaka</p> <p>Transparent and honest communication about payment.</p> <p>Awareness session on what people can expect.</p> <p>Send EBS team to collect payment when fees are</p>	EBS	EBS Payment records	Frequently communicating with the communities	Weekly Report

		collected in Powaka. Establish new, nearby payment location (e.g. Klaaskreek)				
24/7 power supply	The people of the various Koina Kondre settlements currently have no electricity at all, or unreliable electricity for a few hours a day. The project will provide them with 24/7 electricity, which will allow people to run a freezer, have radio and TV, charge cell phones, make homework in the evening, etc.	Ensure that EBS connects all relevant houses and businesses; i.e. that none are “forgotten”.	EBS	Number of registered electricity connections	Records and statistics	Complete weekly ESMP checklist
	Students/children can read and study in evenings			Number of registered complaints	Records and statistics	Complaint Report
Livelihood	24/7 access to electricity may open up small business opportunities for local area inhabitants, such as the sale of bush meat or fish, and wood processing.	Additional measures could be promoted by the government or NGO’s, but this is not part of the project.	EBS	Number of registered businesses at KKF	Records and statistics	KKF Reports
	Existing businesses, including tourism resorts and wood landings, may reduce energy expenses.	Timely discussion with firms beyond 300m from the road about options for connection.		Electricity consumption of the existing businesses	Records for electricity consumption	Monitoring Reports

	Loss of activities for DEV staff (2 persons). As public workers, they will continue to be employed. Possible relocation, or other job in the same community. ‘	Ensure that new job does not require moving away. Hire previous DEV staff as local EBS staff, and train accordingly.		Percentage of local people employed	Keep register the employees (attendance list)	Weekly Report
Brownsweg						
Land tenure issues	The proposed area is part of community forest concession of the community of Djanka Kondre, in name of Kapitein v/d Kamp. Need for negotiation. Lack of clarity about possible land request from an area inhabitant (filed since 2011). If the areas overlap; need for negotiation.	Obtain clarity about land tenure status and possible land request (ongoing). Negotiation with Project Affected Persons, DC (and SBB) about suitable solution. If applicable, compensation measures.	EBS	Information at MI-GLIS/ Districts Commissioner regarding landownership status	Records and statistics	GLIS reports
Commewijne/Alliance						
Land tenure	Anchor lines of electricity poles may have to be anchored in private plots.	Use standard EBS procedures to deal with land owners on whose lands lines may need to be anchored.	EBS	Enforce EBS procedures	Records and statistics	EBS procedures report

Appendix B Weekly ESMP Checklist

Weekly ESMP Checklist

Location:
 Date:
 Inspection by:
 Reviewed by:

Nature of environmental Control required	Issue	Corrective Action mentioned in the following document: - Local laws - ESMP - Internal Non-Conformity (NCPN) - Other	Specification/Comments
1. Corporate wide involvement All personnel and staff are aware of the ESMP.			
2. Social Cooperation All involved parties have been informed about the activities Required Permits and No objections are in place. Grievance Mechanism is in place			
3. Safety Method statements have been approved. Safety plan is in places including traffic management Drivers are trained Equipment and vehicles are in optimum conditions			

Toolbox talks/Pre-job talks have been held.			
4. Waste Management Waste is being collected in proper waste bins No waste littering on-site Waste records are being kept including waste type, volume and disposed location.			
5. Air Quality Control All equipment and vehicles are properly maintained. Speed limits have been implemented to minimize dust			
6. Emission Control All equipment and vehicles are properly maintained.			
7. Soil Protection Loading limits have been implemented to the least stable unpaved road section.			
8. Erosion Prevention Heavy equipment on unstable soil has been limited. Excavation works have been limited in wet conditions			
9. Noise Control Large and noisy transport have been limited to working hours Conductors and Insulators are properly maintained.			
10. Traffic Control Introduction of alternative routes for traffic especially during peak hours and certain construction			

activities			
11. Environmental Emergency Response Planning An emergency response plan and team are in place			

Appendix C CR Checklist

Community Engagement Checklist

Note: Where mitigation measure is not relevant for process being inspected please place N/A.

Mitigation Measure	Compliance Yes/no	Remarks
Preparation and planning stage		
A community liaison officer been appointed and His/her name is published for stakeholders.		Name:
A printed copy of the final ESIA report is available for the public		
Billboard with general project information have been placed.		Location(s):
General project information has been broadcasted by the local radio station (attach information sheet provided to station).		Date:
The following authorities are informed about the project schedule, working locations and/or specific activities:		Date and information medium:
• NIMOS		
• Districts Commissioner.		
• Traditional Authorities		
• Local police.		
• Local fire brigade.		
Issues related to specific locations have been discussed with:		Date and outcome:
• Local stakeholders		
Compensation measures are in place in case of damage to public or private property.		
Efforts have been made to promote local employment (explain).		
Efforts have been made to promote local entrepreneurship (explain).		
Construction and Operation phase - monthly or more often as required		
Specific information about large transports has been broadcasted by national radio and/or TV.		Date of transport:
Any change in program or activities has been communicated with the DC, NIMOS and other involved specific stakeholders.		Specify changes:
On-site personnel are aware of community-related ESMP issues.		
Complaints on community issues related to the project were received (if "yes" present brief description).		
Complaints were received with regard to the execution of the project and about the behavior of personnel (if "yes"		

present brief description).		
Complaints registered with regard to physical disturbance.		
Feedback was given to people who filed complaints (if "yes" present brief description).		
Compliments were received (if yes, specify).		

Completed by:

Function:

Date:

Sign:

Approved by (please check off which is relevant)

	<u>Function</u>	<u>Signature</u>
1		
2		

CR Representative

Received and checked by:

Date:

Sign: