

Ground water recharge and solar micro-irrigation to ensure food security and enhance resilience in vulnerable tribal areas of Odisha

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL MANAGEMENT PLAN



Page 2 of 17

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1	In	ntroduction	3
	1.1	Background of the project	3
2	Р	Project Objectives	3
3	Р	Project Components	4
4	A	Assumptions	5
5	R	Regulatory framework:	6
	5.1	Labour and Working Conditions:	6
	5.2	The Orissa Irrigation Act, 1959:	6
	5.3	The Orissa Pani Panchayat Act, 2002:	6
	5.4	National Water Policy 2012:	6
	5.5	National Environment Policy, 2006:	7
	5.6	State Agricultural Policy – 2013:	7
6	C	Consultation Summary	7
7	K	Key Environmental And Social Issues Or Challenges	7
8	Ti	Tribal Development Plan:	9
	8.1	Tribal Development Planning Framework	11
9	In	mplementation arrangement for ESMP	13
	9.1	The Implementation Arrangement for ESMP shall be as follows:	13
	9.2	Broad Responsibility Framework at EE Level	14
1	0	Monitoring and Reporting	15
1	1	Budget for ESMP	15
1	2	Capacity development.	16
1	3	Grievance Redressal Mechanism	16
	13.1	1 At Execution Entity Level	16
	13.2	2 Mechanism for Receiving Grievances at AE Level	17



Introduction

An ESMP is a management tool used to assist in minimising the impact to the environment and reach a set of environmental objectives. To ensure the environmental objectives of the projects are met, this ESMP will be used to structure and control the environmental management safeguards that are required to avoid or mitigate adverse effects on the environment.

This Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) has been prepared in support of a project proposal on "Ground water recharge and solar micro-irrigation to ensure food security and enhance resilience in vulnerable tribal areas of Odisha" submitted by the Government of Odisha (India) to the Green Climate Fund. This project forms part of a larger Tank System Improvement project being cleared by Department of Economic Affairs, Government of India for World Bank funding. The components related to installation of recharge shaft and solar pumping and other climate resilience building measures would be supported by GCF whereas tank renovation would be supported by World Bank and convergence funding of Government of Odisha. This ESMP is based on the issues identified during the stakeholder consultation, prior experience of the tank rehabilitation project and good practices followed by other multi-lateral agencies.

1.1 BACKGROUND OF THE PROJECT

The state of Odisha is highly vulnerable to climate change due to high monsoon variability. This has caused drought and flood affecting the food security of agriculture dependent communities and pushed the vulnerable sections to margin. As per the climate change projection for the region, the temperature would breach 2^o C barrier by end of the 21st century. Groundwater is highly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. Groundwater either directly or indirectly is vulnerable to the impacts of climate change and temperature is an important factor impacting the groundwater table through human stress and high evapotranspiration. The rising temperature may result in greater heat stress for people and ecosystems and it would enhance energy and water drawl, induce drought and impact food security.

Many districts in Odisha state face multi-hazard scenario as 13 districts (out of 30 districts) are severely food insecure and 5 are extremely food insecure. Lack of adequate infrastructure for enhanced run off has implication on water conservation and overall enhancement of risk and vulnerability for the people living in the fringe. As of now as per Census 2011 in Odisha, around 38.5% families travel at least half a km to fetch drinking water in villages. The number of such families was 32.5% in 2001, which increased by 6% in 10 years. To respond to these challenges the project on "Ground water recharge and solar micro-irrigation to ensure food security and enhance resilience in vulnerable tribal areas of Odisha" is prepared with an objective to enhance groundwater recharge through community ponds by structural adaptation measures and use of solar pumps for micro irrigation to ensure water security and food security in the vulnerable areas of the state.

2 Project Objectives

The project is expected to achieve (i) Augmentation of ground water recharge to improve water table and water quality for health and well-being of about 5.2 million vulnerable communities through water security (ii) Improved food security through resilient crop planning (through



irrigation) through installation of Ground Water Recharge Shaft (GWRS) in 10,000 tanks. (iii) Use of 1000 solar pumps for irrigation is not only improve energy access but also will be part of low emission climate resilient crop planning strategy of the state.

3 **Project Components**

The details on the project components are presented in the table below:

Component	Sub-component (if applicable)			
	Sub-component 1.1 Baseline study for 10,000 tanks are conducted			
Component 1.	and database developed			
Ground water	Sub-component 1.2 Tank improvement plan and estimate for the			
recharge system	recharge shaft installation developed			
for concrete	Sub-component 1.3 Standard Operating procedure for installation and			
Adaptation	maintenance developed			
	Sub-component 1.4 Ground water recharge system installed in 10,000			
	tanks			
	Sub-component 2.1 Tank water level and other assessments and			
Component 2:	renovation completed for all 10000 with necessary Dug well creation			
Renovation of	for irrigation			
Community Tank	Sub-component 2.2 Crop water budgeting based on agro-climatic			
(From	Zone prepared			
Convergence	Sub-component 2.3 Water sharing master plan developed			
runu)	Sub-component 2.4 Livelinood improvement plan prepared			
	Sub-component 2.5 Water quality sample drawn from random wells			
	sub-component s.1 identification chiena for 1000 solar pump			
	Sub component 3.2 Procurement plan and standard supplier contract			
Component 3:	for 1000 solar numps developed			
Integration of Solar	Sub-component 3.3 1000 solar nump installed and baseline audit			
Pumps for	completed			
Irrigation	Sub-component 3 4 2000 village level para-professionals are certified			
	in operation and maintenance of pumps			
	Sub-component 3.5 Energy saving report generated			
	Sub-component 4.1 Training need assessment for sample households			
	in tank command and PPs completed			
	Sub-component 4.2 Training modules prepared and partners identified			
	for both training and demonstration			
Component 4	Sub-component 4.3 Training of 500 engineer 20,000 jal sathis			
Component 4:	completed and certified			
of stakeholders	Sub-component 4.4 Training and demonstration organized in			
UI SLAKEHUIUEIS	convergence with relevant departmental programmes of the			
	government			
	Sub-component 4.5 Landless and women members covered under			
	capacity building for off-farm initiatives			
	Sub-component 4.6 FPOs are linked			
Component 5:	Sub-component 5.1 A geospatial tank quality management database			
Quality	and MIS prepared			
Management &	Sub-component 5.2 Water Quality and dynamic ground water			
Monitoring	modelling tool developed			



GREEN CLIMATE FUND FUNDING PROPOSAL

Page 5 of 17

	Sub-component 5.3 Baseline and independent assessment report				
	based on project objective and indicators preparedSub-component5.4Processmonitoringreportthatestimates				
	adaptation and mitigation benefit prepared				
	Sub-component 6.1 Preparation of policy briefs for Odisha ground				
	water management and development regulation, state water policy				
	and relevant facilitation				
Component 6	Sub-component 6.2 Process documentation and preparation standard				
Knowledge	operating procedure for development of solar pumping value chain				
Management	Sub-component 6.3 Science to policy knowledge product framework				
Knowlodgo	developed				
Management	Sub-component 6.4 Process document for convergence with other				
Management	departments are developed				
	Sub-component 6.5 Quarterly project newsletter published				
	Sub-component 6.6 Ten peer learning workshops are conducted				
	during the lifecycle of the project				
	Sub-component 7.1 Inter departmental steering committee for the				
	project notified				
	Sub-component 7.2 Project Implementation plan developed and				
Component 7	approved				
Project	Sub-component 7.3 Agreements for good and services signed and				
Management	service providers mobilized				
-	Sub-component 7.4 Seamless reporting to AE established				
	Sub-component 7.5 Fund flows, physical work progress and web				
	based monitoring ensured				
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4 Assumptions

The following assumptions have been made in the preparation of this Environmental and Social Management Plan:

- a. The tank improvement / renovation would be carried for existing tank and no displacement of people is envisaged. The tank selection criteria will also include this parameter.
- b. The tanks selected would not fall in any of the sensitive locations / areas in terms of cultural heritages, biodiversity sensitive areas. The project would have positive impact on ecosystem. The tank selection criteria will also include this parameter.
- c. The works related to excavation/ desiltation of tanks would be undertaken during the low water level availability in tanks and dry season and mostly would be undertaken in pre-monsoon seasons.
- d. The desilted material would be utilized for strengthening of bunds and would be used in farmers' field for agricultural lands.
- e. The water resources management strategy based on the water budgeting and water master plan proposed under the project would result in sustainable water resources management and would not create any adverse impact on ground water resources.
- f. Integration of community based organizations such as Pani Panchayats (water user associations), Gram Panchayats, farmer producer's organizations in beneficiary and tank selection, project execution and participatory monitoring would be helpful in addressing the issues related to equity and transparency.



Page 6 of 17

5 Regulatory framework:

5.1 Labour and Working Conditions:

Broadly the following activities will be undertaken in the project under various components where the skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled labour will be involved;

- Renovation of ponds and construction of dugwells in ponds area for recharge
- Collection of water quality samples
- Installation of 1000 solar pumps
- Involvement in base line survey
- Para professionals for capacity building of local communities

Major laws governing the labour and working conditions are as given below:

- i. <u>The Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986</u> and Rules are also effective in State of Odisha.
- ii. <u>The Minimum Wages Act, 1948</u> ensures that all labours get wages as per the Minimum Wages announced by State or as per State policy
- iii. <u>Equal Remuneration Act, 1976</u> clearly says that Duty of employer to pay equal remuneration to men and women workers for same work or work of a similar nature.

All the above Laws and other necessary legal provisions would be followed during execution of the project. Primary responsibility of the adherence to these requirements would be by EE and AE would ensure the necessary monitoring and reporting of the aspects related to labour and working conditions.

5.2 The Orissa Irrigation Act, 1959:

An Act to consolidate and amend the laws relating to irrigation, assessment and levy of water rate and cess in force in different parts of the State of Orissa 1 [and to provide for the Regulation of use of water from Government source]

5.3 The Orissa Pani Panchayat Act, 2002:

An act to provide for farmers' participation in the management of irrigation systems and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

5.4 National Water Policy 2012:

The Policy aims to evolve a National Framework Law as an umbrella statement of general principles governing the exercise of legislative and/or executive (or devolved) powers by the Centre, the States and the local governing bodies. It indicates the framework for equitable and sustainable water management approach to be followed encompassing, surface and ground water resources.



Page 7 of 17

5.5 National Environment Policy, 2006:

The National Environment Policy is intended to be a guide to action: in regulatory reform, programmes and projects for environmental conservation; and review and enactment of legislation, by agencies of the Central, State, and Local Governments. The policy also seeks to stimulate partnerships of different stakeholders, i.e. public agencies, local communities, academic and scientific institutions, the investment community, and international development partners, in harnessing their respective resources and strengths for environmental management. The dominant theme of this policy is that while conservation of environmental resources is necessary to secure livelihoods and well-being of all, the most secure basis for conservation is to ensure that people dependent on particular resources obtain better livelihoods from the fact of conservation, than from degradation of the resource.

5.6 State Agricultural Policy – 2013:

The policy aims to promote organic farming systems and integrated pest management and nutrient management strategies.

6 Consultation Summary

The project was conceived based on the detailed community consultations to understand the various environmental and social parameters. The analysis of responses established that the priority of the project has been improving tank capacity, diversifying agriculture for lowering down the load of biotic stresses, improving soil nutritional quality through a sustainable use through integrated pest and nutrient management strategies. Interventions essentially relate to the development of appropriate tank improvement/rehabilitation system and use of low emission solar technologies for reducing risk to agriculture in command areas and the impacts are expected to be mostly positive. It is anticipated that based on the communities' needs, the projects will be fully accepted.

The project ESMP would communicated to the community and concerned stakeholders. The roles and responsibilities of all the stakeholders would be communicated in the local language. The inception workshops would inform about the ESMP as well as grievance mechanism. The community and other stakeholders would be integral part of ESMP operationalization.

7 Key Environmental and Social Issues or Challenges

The objective of assessing potential environment effects is to identify issues and plan for actions to avoid adverse impacts and enhance environmental benefits from the project. The direct positive environmental effects are on improved ground water quality, bio diversity in catchment of ponds area, soil quality and low GHG emission. Based on risk parameters and components of the projects, the project would have minimum impact on environmental and social parameters as per the GCF E &S policy and hence the project is categorised under Medium Risk Category i.e "Category B".

The specific environmental and social effects from the project activities are given in the following paragraphs:



Page 8 of 17

Component		Environmental and Social Issues Identified	Mitigation Measures	Mitigation Plan and Responsibility	
1.	1. Desilting and Renovation of TanksDisturbance aquatic life biodiversityThe selection of the ta be based on the criter desilting activities wo minimum or nil effect life and biodiversity in areas.		The selection of the tanks would be based on the criteria that the desilting activities would cause minimum or nil effect on aquatic life and biodiversity in the project areas.	Phase: selection, planning phase and implementation Responsibility: Primary – EE, DPMU Secondary - SO Tertiary - PP	
	Silt transportation and disposal creating the pollution issues for strengthening of also for agricultu required / conse farmers.		The silt generated due to desilting activities would be primarily used for strengthening of the bunds and also for agriculture field as required / consented by the farmers.	Phase: planning and implementation phase Responsibility: Primary – EE, DPMU Secondary – SO Tertiary – PP	
		Soil erosion in catchment areas due to increased runoff	The activities related to desilting would be taken-up in such a way to reduce likely erosion and runoff as well as minimum disturbance to vegetation in the tank area and feeder channels. Promotion of soil and water conservation works in catchment areas would be undertaken	Phase: Planning, Implementation Responsibility: Primary – EE, DPMU Secondary – SO Tertiary – PP	
		Support from Local Community	Selection of tanks would be done through community consultation and their priorities for taking up these activities for selected tanks such as way that their livelihood is not impacted adversely.	Phase: Selection, Planning, Implementation Responsibility: Primary – EE, DPMU Secondary – SO Tertiary – PP	
2.	Installation of Recharge System	Pollutants in Catchment area mix with ground water	The project would promote integrated pest management and nutrient management strategy in the catchment areas of the tanks. As such the overall pesticide and fertiliser consumption in Odisha are much below than national and international average consumption. The water quality measurements on periodic basis are in-built in the project design and implementation.	Phase: Implementation Responsibility: Primary – EE, DPMU Secondary – SO Tertiary – PP	
3.	Installation of Solar Pumps	Overdraft of ground water	One of the major intervention under the proposed project is development of crop water budgeting as well as water sharing master plan preparation (component 2 sub-component – 2.3 & 2.3). These planning processes would include the sustainable development & management of ground water	Phase: Implementation Responsibility: Primary – EE, DPMU Secondary – SO Tertiary – PP and beneficiaries	



Page 9 of 17

		resources. Further the beneficiaries of solar pumping programme will have a MoU to abide by water-budget norms, water sharing plan, Environment and Social Management Plan (on pesticide use). The same will contain unauthorized abstraction of water and water contamination.	
	Equity in selection of beneficiary and water use	Beneficiaries for Project intervention i.e. solar pumps would be selected based on the vulnerability, resource efficiency and technical norms	Phase: Selection and Implementation Responsibility: Primary – EE, DPMU Secondary – SO Tertiary – PP
Climate Resilient Livelihoods	Intensive use of fertiliser and pesticides	The project would promote integrated pest management and nutrient management strategy in project areas.	Phase: Implementation Responsibility: Primary – EE, DPMU Secondary – SO Tertiary – PP
Training and Capacity Building	Ensuring equity	The selection of beneficiaries would be based on vulnerability levels and inclusive approach would be followed. The selection of beneficiaries would be done through community consultation involving gram panchayats and pani - panchayats aimed at improving effectiveness of the interventions planned.	Phase: Implementation Responsibility: Primary – EE, DPMU Secondary – SO Tertiary – PP

EE – Executing Entity, DPMU – District Project Management Unit, SO – Support Organisation, PP – Pani Panchayat,

8 Tribal Development Plan:

The state has a sizeable tribal population. Though the tribals will not be adversely affected by the project, it is proposed that efforts would be made to ensure their inclusion and equity. In order to ensure the same a Tribal Development Plan is proposed as given below:

Tribal Livelihoods: As part of the project execution efforts at ensuring better livelihoods for tribals would be useful to accomplish inclusiveness of the development objectives. Accordingly, livelihood support packages will be formulated through the Livelihood Improvement Plan as per project component.

Capacity Support and Capacity Building for the tribals: Capacity of stakeholders to manage and execute programs at different levels (community, block, district and state level) of project operation is another important issue or challenge before the project. The capacity building plan will have a special emphasis on inclusion of vulnerable communities including tribals and sustained effort will be made to enhance their participation, skill and to be part of the enterprise value chain.



Page 10 of 17

Project	Project Approach and Strategy	Expected Outcome
Stages		
Preparatory Phase	Discussion with tribal families / farmers of the project area in general and exclusively in scheduled areas on project component and activities; Identifying key issues in the way of their greater involvement and benefitting from the project intervention;	Key intervention areas are identified and guidelines prepared for improved participation of tribal in general and tribal farmers, in particular.
	Preparing a priority list of actions, based on the identified issues and interest of tribal farmers / families of the project area. Preparing cluster specific plan of action for better inclusion of tribal in different activities that are feasible for their greater participation.	implementation to ensure greater involvement and participation of tribal by activities
Implementation Phase	Implementing priority actions that are finalized during preparatory phase; Initiatives for convergence with tribal development schemes of Government at the village / cluster level;	Participation of tribal / tribal farmers in different activities implemented under the project;
	Priority action in inaccessible scheduled areas (project clusters) for establishment of infrastructures that are planned under the project, based on feasibility; Equal opportunity to dispersed tribal (living in a mixed community) for accessing project	Project supported infrastructure and services in less accessible scheduled areas / tribal dominated areas;
	benefits, as per the plan for beneficiary coverage; Ensuring greater participation of tribal community in activities / sub-activities taken up under each component / sub-components	Inclusion of tribes and their active involvement ensured with better operational and management capabilities;
	of the project; Taking measures, adhering to the scope of the project, to build the capacity of tribal farmers in agricultural technologies, marketing, institution management etc., as per the project requirements; Taking measures that are legally binding	Adoption of improved farming technologies by the tribal farmers and hence better yield from the available land.
	Monitoring of actions taken under the project for inclusion of tribal by project component / sub-components and initiating corrective measures accordingly; Documenting success and learning from different initiatives undertaken by the project	
	that ensures greater participation of tribal.	



Page 11 of 17

8.1 Tribal Development Planning Framework

Activity	Sub-Activity	Key Challenges	Project Approach and Strategy
Deselia e Otrada	Mapping Preferences / Needs of	Capturing needs of tribal	Initiative to identify needs of tribal farmers by land
Baseline Study	the stakeholders	farmers in a mixed population	nolding pattern.
		where ST concentration is less	Listing seed preference by tribal / non-tribal category
Tank		Interior tribal villages near forest	Project will give equal emphasis on interior tribal
Improvement	Identification of Tanks	may be covered inadequately	areas / villages near forest for development of tanks,
Plan		due to inaccessibility	involving tribal farmers.
Standard			Interior forest areas and tribal areas where no
Operating	Engagement of stakeholders to	Tribal representation usually	farmer's groups/PPs are there, project will take
Procedure	develop the SOP	poor in the decision making	special measures to involving tribal members to
1100000010			contribute to SOP development
Ground water	Recharge system installation		Project will involve tribals in the labour component
recharge system	and monitoring	Lack of skills in the tribal areas	and further develop their skill for recharge monitoring
installation			with proper %age amongst the jalsathis
Livelihood	To promote activities that would	High dependency on forest and	Based on the needs identified during the baseline for
Improvement	use the additional water	distress migration to nearby	the tribals a focussed livelihood package will be
Plan	availability to enhance food	cities and states	developed i.e. backyard poultry, mushroom
	security		cultivation, solar drying, etc.
			Emphasis for coverage of tribal farmers through
Crop-water		Lack of participation in decision	awareness and motivational inputs.
budgeting and		making by tribals in PP and elite	
water sharing		capture	Proportionate inclusion of STs during selection &
			enrolment in PP's executive body
	Identification of women	Coverage of ST families and	Operational guidelines to identify at least one-third
Solar nump	bonoficiarios to bo trained in	woman mombers in skill	sites for solar installation where maximum inclusion
installation	O&M and assembling of	development and certification	of tribal families is feasible
installation	modules and maintenance		
		programme	



Page 12 of 17

Activity	Sub-Activity	Key Challenges	Project Approach and Strategy
			Proportionate coverage of tribal families under skill
			development and certification programme
Capacity building	For O&M of recharge structure, monitoring water quality	Involvement of STs and their enrolment as jalsathis	Operational guidelines for inclusion of tribal families on proportionate basis, based on their interest in various training and demonstrations and membership of FPOs
	Well and bore well, artificial recharging	Involvement of STs in availing artificial recharging facility	Proportionate coverage of tribal families having recharge wells based on their interest.
Water use Efficiency improvement	Promotion of Drip and Sprinkler irrigation system	Coverage of STs	Proportionate coverage of tribal families under drip / sprinkler irrigation system. Demonstration and training on use of irrigation
			system
Strengthening of Commodity specific FPOs / FPC	Promotion of FPC	Inaccessible / poorly accessible pockets may not have FPOs / FPCs	Project will take exclusive measure to promote FPCs in inaccessible tribal areas Capacity building of tribal members on FPC management



Page 13 of 17

9 Implementation arrangement for ESMP

9.1 The Implementation Arrangement for ESMP shall be as follows:

Key Responsibility	Planning Stage	Implementation Stage		
Accredited Entity	 Development of ESMP Disclosure & Communication of ESMP 	 Periodic monitoring and reporting on ESMP Monitoring and redressal of grievance Verification of E&S Audits 		
Project Management Unit under Dept. of Water Resources - PMU (executive entity)	 Planning and selection of tank so as to avoid soil erosion, low of biodiversity and minimal disturbance to aquatic life due to tank renovation/ desiltation and installation of recharge system. Developing advocacy and communication strategy for sensitizing environmental & Social compliance Setting-up of grievance mechanism. 	 Ensure implementation of selection criteria for tank & beneficiary identification. Coordinate with support organisation, pani panchayat, for execution of the ESMP. Capacity building of the community based organisations on E&S parameters. Ensuring Grievance redressal. Monitoring and reporting of ESMP Ensuring compliance to applicable regulations and policy framework. Environmental & Social Audit 		
District Project Management Unit (DPMU)	 DPMU will coordinate with GP, and User Groups for finalizing interventions required for implementing EMF DPMU will undertake environmental & Social audit in selected tanks Validate technical proposals and finalize the work plan and necessary agreement between User Group, Pani Panchayat, and DPMU 	 Continuous monitoring and supervision ensure compliance to the ESMP framework. Help preparing district's environmental & social monitoring report. 		
Pani Panchayat	 Preparation of water security plans Ensuring equity in 	 Awareness among the users about the E&S safeguards Promotion of IPM and INM and 		



Page 14 of 17

	selection of beneficiaries.	organic practices.
	Helps User Groups in preparing the environmental plan at the tank level.	Coordinate with User Groups for financial management and Community contribution
	 Facilitating tank renovation plan preparation and recharge shaft installation. 	 Social audit of tank renovation and recharge shaft installation
Support Organisation (SO)	Help DPMU, User Groups in planning, community mobilization, environmental & Social Audit and overall compliance.	 Provide technical input to User Groups while executing the source protection work Coordinate with User Groups, Pani Panchayat for monitoring the entire source protection work
User Groups	 Assess the environmental risk in village meeting 	 Implement the environmental mitigation measures
	 Plan the mitigation measure with the help of SO and Pani Panchayat 	 Monitor the entire process and give continuous feed back Pani Panchayat, SO
Line Departments: Agriculture, OREDA, Panchayat raj, Burol	 Coordinate with PMU for climate resilient livelihood measures, installation of solar pumping systems, catchment treatment 	 Ensure timely implementation project works related to desilting/ renovation. Ensuring the required compliance with regulation and policy
Development (Forest & Watershed)	WOIKS	framework including labour laws.

9.2 Broad Responsibility Framework at EE Level

		Review/		
Activity	Primary	Secondary	Assessment	Approva I
Motivation and Awareness Generation for the project	SO	DPMU (Communicatio n unit)	PMU (Communicati on unit)	PMU
Socio-economic Survey (sociocultural resource mapping and infrastructural survey) for identification of tanks and beneficiaries	SO and EE (may engage the third party agency for survey)	DPMU	PMU	PMU



Page 15 of 17

Micro-planning process with inclusive targeting for landless, women headed household SC-STs	SO	DPMU	PMU	
Preliminary estimation crop- water requirements, water budgeting and planning by Pani Panchayat (Ayacutdars in absence of PPs) supported by Support Agencies	SO in coordinatio n with DoWR officials	DPMU in coordination with from Revenue Department Officials	PMU	PMU
Preliminary Identification of jalsathis by Pani Panchayat supported by Support Agencies	SO in coordinatio n with DoWR officials	DPMU in coordination with from Revenue Department Officials	PMU	PMU
Receipt, Hearing and Disposal of Objections if any	DPMU	PMU	Steering Committee	Steering Committ ee
Gram Sabha Approval and Consultation before finalising assistance patterns and the microplanning	SO, DPMU	PMU	Steering Committee	Steering Committ ee

10 Monitoring and Reporting

ESMP will involve two layers of monitoring systems: Internal and External Monitoring process

(a) Internal Monitoring Process: The internal periodic (half yearly) monitoring will be undertaken by the Project Executing Agency (Department of Water Resources). Each of environment and social parameters will be monitored along with the implementation of their mitigation measures. The Executing Agency will submit a Compliance and Impact Monitoring Report to the AE every six months and the consolidated report will also be annexed in the Annual Report.

(b) External Monitoring Process: Conduct of Environment Audit and Social Audit will be carried out in sample tank every year to verify the implementation of ESMP and to report on the conduct of ESMP and its impact in the tank/ village. The Audit Reports will be shared with the AE by EE and a consolidated statement of these audits will be annexed to the Annual Report of the project.

11 Budget for ESMP

The budget for ESMP is built into the project implementation plan preparation. There will be one environment and safeguard specialist at PMU to coordinate the ESMP implementation.



Page 16 of 17

12 Capacity development.

The executing entity i.e. Department of Water Resources, Government of Odisha has been involved in the implementation of externally aided projects. The Odisha Community Tank Management Programme (OCTMP) phase I has been successfully implemented by the DoWR. The Implementation Completion and Result Report indicated that all the environmental and social safeguards were successfully implemented under the OCTMP I.

However, the need based capacity building requirement at EE level, including the field staff level, will be assessed during first 6 month by AE and the necessary training and capacity building would be provided.

Similarly, the officers involved in monitoring and management of project at AE level would be given need based sensitization and capacity building during initial phase of project implementation. The same has been factored in the AE management cost / fees.

13 Grievance Redressal Mechanism

13.1 At Execution Entity Level

- i. The Executing Entity will establish a grievance redress mechanism early in the project implementation phase. EE will put in place Grievance Mechanism to provide people with an accessible, transparent, fair and effective process for receiving and addressing their complaints about environmental or social concerns caused by the project.
- ii. This will be set up at the village level, in which any person aggrieved by any aspect of the Project can lodge an oral or written grievance to local authorities at pani panchayat level who are involved in project implementation.
- iii. If the complaint is not addressed at the pani panchayat level the aggrieved person/party can approach the DPMU for the redressal. The DMPU would report the number of complaints received, addressed and pending in its quarterly report.
- iv. Name, designation and number of the concerned official of DPMU and PMU to whom the project activity related grievances can be addressed will be displayed in the project area. The names of contact persons and their mobile numbers will also be displayed on these boards.
- v. If the aggrieved person is not satisfied with the outcome of initial stage consideration at village or DPMU level, the aggrieved person can refer the issue to the Grievance Committee that will be formed at PMU level. EE will keep a record of all complaints referred to the grievance committee, including a description of issues raised and the outcome of the review process. A system of monitoring the action taken and disposal of such complaints shall be put in place.
- vi. The grievances will also include resolution of specific concerns of affected communities and project participants regarding environmental and social performance.
- vii. The Gram Panchayat which finalize the interventions will pro-actively disclose the grievance mechanism that exists in the project. To maintain consistency across villages a pamphlet related to the project comprising of the grievance mechanism will be printed and distributed in the village committee meeting. A copy of the pamphlet will be kept in the office of the Gram Panchayat so that it can be accessed during the course of project implementation.



- viii. All grievances received either orally or in written form will be recorded in the Complaint Register maintained in the Pani Panchayat office, DPMU, PMU. Each complaint will be identified by a complaint number and will be followed up and the resolution of the grievance will also be recorded. A consolidated statement of complaints received and resolved will be reported to the State Steering Committee. The same would also form part of MIS reporting to AE by EE.
- ix. Information related to grievance mechanism will be provided in local language.

13.2 Mechanism for Receiving Grievances at AE Level

- i. Apart from the above defined grievance mechanism at EE and project village level, there would be separate Grievance mechanism at the level of AE. Addressing Grievances will be part of the overall role of NABARD as AE.
- ii. This mechanism would be a separate channel for reporting and addressing of the grievances for the community members. The same would be specifically useful if the field level mechanism is not found to be effective by community member/s, especially in respect of complaints against EE.
- iii. AE will designate a person at the Regional Office level for anchoring the grievance Cell. Villagers would be made aware about the designated person's contact details, office timings and about different means of receiving complaints such as letter, phone call, personal visit, where and how the complaints can be made and information to be provided by complainant etc. and the information would be made available at the project offices.
- iv. AE's designated person at the Odisha Regional Office of NABARD will be given authority to receive the complaint and act on the complaints received from the field persons / project participants (which may also include acting upon the complaints launched against the EE). The designated person will regularly screen the type of complaints, will suggest course of action including remedial measures, for taking decision by the Competent Authority.
- v. While deciding such contact point at AE level, care would be taken to see that the concerned person is well versed with the local language and is thus able to communicate with the person wishing to file complaint
- vi. In addition to NABARD's Regional Office, one more contact point for receiving such complaints would be NABARD's designated officials who would be involved in field activities monitoring and evaluation. To use this system effectively, the villagers would be informed in advance about such official visits so that the community will be able to share their complaints with the concerned NABARD officials. During such monitoring visits, the designated NABARD (AE) officials will be mandated to go through all grievances which are recorded in the Complaint Register maintained in the cluster office.
- vii. Apart from the above project specific mechanism NABARD has a separate grievance reporting mechanism also through its website (https://www.nabard.org/english/grievanceform.aspx). The community members can also register their grievances with NABARD through the portal.