



FRAMEWORK FOR RESPONSIBLE AND INCLUSIVE LAND AGRICULTURAL INVESTMENT (FRILIA)



TABLE OF CONTENT

RESETTLEMENT POLICY FRAMEWORK (RPF)	i
List of Table	v
LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS	vi
DEFINITION OF KEY TERMS	viii
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	
CHAPTER ONE	2
INTRODUCTION	2
1. Introduction	2
1.2 Objective of FRILIA	4
1.3 Purpose	4
1.4 Justification	4
1.5 Principle	5
1.6 Nature and Scope	5
1.7 Applicable Law and Implementation	6
1.8 Grievance Redress Mechanism	7
1.9 Public Consultation	7
1.10 Monitoring and Evaluation	7
1.11 Intended Users	7
1.12 Content	8
CHAPTER TWO	11
PRINCIPLES AND OBJECTIVES OF FRILIA	11
2.1 Introduction	11
2.2 Involuntary Resettlement Risks	12
2.3 The Principle of Involuntary Resettlement	15
2.4 Potential Impacts and Risks	17
2.5 Framework to avoid or minimize impacts	19

2.6	Mitigation Measures	19
2.7.	Identification and Assistance to Vulnerable Group	20
2.8	Provisions to be made in RAPs	21
CHAPTER THREE		23
RAP METHODOLOGY		23
3.1	Introduction	23
3.2	Stakeholders Engagement	24
3.3	General Approach	26
3.4	RAP Procedure	26
3.5.1	Categories of Entitlement	29
3.6	Resettlement Action Plan	32
CHAPTER FOUR		35
ENTITLEMENT AND ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA		35
4.1	Principles	35
4.2	Eligibility Criteria	37
4.3	Eligibility for Community/Village/Clan Compensation	40
4.4	Methods to Determine Cut-Off Date	41
4.5	Common complications in the Application of Cut-off Date	41
4.6	Defining Entitlements and Preparing an Entitlement Matrix	42
4.7	Principles Applicable to Vulnerable Groups	46
4.7.1	<i>Vulnerability Categories</i>	46
4.7.2	<i>Vulnerability Assessment Criteria</i>	47
CHAPTER FIVE		49
LEGAL GUIDELINES IN RESETTLEMENT PLAN AND ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RISK		49
5.1	Land Ownership in Nigeria	49
5.2	Nigerian Legal/Institutional Guidelines and Requirements	50
5.2.1	<i>Land Use Act of 1978 and Resettlement Procedures</i>	50
5.2.2	<i>Requirements of the Land Use Act</i>	51
5.3	Land Acquisition Procedures in Nigeria	53

5.4	The World Bank Environment and Social Standards	55
5.4.1	<i>Objectives of ESS 5</i>	56
5.4.2	<i>Applicability of ESS5</i>	57
5.5	International Standards for Land Acquisition and Resettlement	58
5.6	Gap Analysis between Nigerian Law and World Bank ESS5	62
CHAPTER SIX		67
METHODS FOR VALUING ASSETS AND COMPENSATION ARRANGEMENT		67
6.1	Methods of Valuation for Different Categories of Assets/Entitlements	67
6.2	Description of Key Valuation Approaches and Compensation Terms	68
6.3	Valuation Methods for Categories of Impacted Assets	68
6.4	Mechanism for Voluntary Donation of Land: Procedure and Records	73
6.5	Arrangements for Compensation	75
6.6	Procedures for Delivery of Compensation	77
CHAPTER SEVEN		79
GRIEVANCE REDRESS MECHANISM		79
7.1	Introduction	79
7.2	Objectives of GRM	81
7.3	Benefit of GRM	81
7.4	How can grievances be Submitted?	82
7.5	Expectation When Grievances Arise	86
7.6	Grievance Redress Process	86
7.7	Financing of GRM	88
7.8	World Bank Grievance Redress Service (GRS)	91
CHAPTER EIGHT		93
CONSULTATIONS, STAKEHOLDER PARTICIPATION AND DISCLOSURE		93
8.1	Purpose of Stakeholders' Engagement	93
8.2	Stakeholders Identification	94
8.3	Summary of the Stakeholder Consultation	94

8.4	Mechanism for Future Engagement/Consultation of PAPs	95
8.5	Tools for Consultation of Stakeholders	95
8.6	Disclosure Requirements	96
CHAPTER NINE		99
THE COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT AND DEVELOPMENT		99
9.1	Introduction	99
9.2.	Benefits and intended Use	100
9.3	Community Needs Assessment Steps	101
9.4	Stakeholder Mapping	104
9.5	Data Collection and Analysis Methods	104
CHAPTER TEN		107
GLOBAL MEMORANDUM OF UNDRSTANDING		107
CHAPTER ELEVEN		111
OUT-GROWERS AND FOOD SECURITY IN IMO STATE		111
11.0	Introduction	111
11.1	Overview of Out-Growing in Imo State	112
11.2	Role of Out-Growers in Food Security	113
11.3	Agriculture Best Practices in Imo State	114
11.4	Access to Resources in Imo State Agricultural Toolkit	118
11.4.1	Risk Management in Agriculture	120
11.5	Market Linkages in Imo State Agriculture	122
11.6	Value Addition in Imo State Agriculture	124
11.7	Community Engagement in Imo State Agriculture	127
11.8	Environmental Stewardship: Training and Capacity Building	129
11.9	Extension Services: Monitoring and Evaluation	130

- Report of Stakeholders Consultation
- Pictures from stakeholders Engagement
- Attendance list of stakeholder Engagement
- Checklist of for resettlement screening Affected Plot Sheet
- Memorandum of Understanding
- Grievance Log
- Grievance Redress Form
- Claim Registration and follow Up Form
- Quarterly Grievance Report Form

LIST OF TABLE

Table 2.1: Impact Matrix of Imo State.....	18
Table 4.1: Eligibility Criteria for Compensation.....	38
Table 4.2: Eligible PAPs, Assets and Compensation Guidelines.....	43
Table 4.3: Vulnerability Assessment Tool.....	47
Table 5.1: Gaps between Nigerian Law and World Bank ESS5	62
Table 6.1: Method of Valuation.....	72
Table 7.1: Implementation Plan for Grievance Mechanism.....	89
Table 8.1: summary of consultation meeting held with stakeholders.....	96

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

AIDS	-	Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome
ARAP	-	Abbreviated Resettlement Action Plan
BPE	-	Bureau of Public Procurement
DAI	-	Disclosure and Access to Information
CIF	-	Community Investment Fund
CLFS	-	Cluster Level Federations
CRP	-	Community Resource Person
CSO	-	Civil Society Organization
EA	-	Environmental Assessment
ESIA	-	Environmental and Social Impact Assessment
ESMF	-	Environmental and Social Management Framework
ESMP	-	Environmental and Social Management Plan
ESSs	-	Environmental and Social Standards
FGN	-	Federal Government of Nigeria
FGD	-	Focus Group Discussion
FMWR	-	Federal Ministry of Water Resources
GBV	-	Gender Based Violence
GEM	-	Growth and Employment
GRC	-	Grievance Redress Committee
FRILIA	-	Framework for Responsible and Inclusive Land Intensive Investment in Agriculture
HIV	-	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
IDA	-	International Development Association
ICP	-	Investment Climate Program
ICT	-	Information and Communication Technology
IPR	-	Intellectual Property Rights
ITES	-	Information Technology Enabled Services
LGA	-	Local Government Authority
MDAs	-	Ministries Departments and Agencies

NBS	-	National Bureau of Statistics
NGO	-	Non-Governmental Organization
IPV	-	Non-Intimate partner violence
OVC	-	Orphan and Vulnerable Children
PAP	-	Project Affected Person
PDO	-	Project Development Objective
PEBEC	-	Presidential Enabling Business Environment Council
RSA	-	Result Area
SABER	-	State Action on Business Enabling Reforms
PIM	-	Project Implementation Manual
PWDs	-	Persons with Disabilities
FPCU	-	Federal Project Coordinating Unit
RAP	-	Resettlement Action Plan
ROW	-	Right of Way
RPF	-	Resettlement Policy Framework
SEA	-	Sexual Exploitation and Abuse
SH	-	Sexual Harassment
SLM	-	Sustainable Land Management
SMOEs	-	State Ministry of Environment
SPCU	-	State Project Coordinating Unit
SSI	-	Semi Structured Interview
STIs	-	Sexually Transmitted Diseases
TA	-	Technical Assistance
VO	-	Village Organization
WAG	-	Women Affinity Group
WB	-	World Bank
WF	-	Ward facilitator

FOREWORD

I am honored to present the Imo State Framework for Responsible and Inclusive Land Intensive Investment in Agriculture (FRILIA). This groundbreaking initiative signifies a significant leap toward sustainable and inclusive agricultural development in our state.

Imo State, with its rich agricultural potential, embraces FRILIA as a testament to our dedication to harnessing this potential responsibly. This framework is designed to ensure that agricultural investments contribute to economic growth, the well-being of our communities, and the preservation of our environment.

These FRILIA toolkits serve as a comprehensive reference and guide to enhance the governance of land, fisheries, and forests. Our overarching goal is to achieve food security for all and support the progressive realization of the right to adequate food within our national food security context. Additionally, these toolkits are crafted to attract foreign investments in commercial agriculture, fostering economic benefits such as increased revenues, employment opportunities, and integration into global value chains.

This framework adopts two vital guiding principles: the Principles for Responsible Agriculture Investment (RAI) and the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries, and Forests (VGGT).

By adopting the Principles for Responsible Agriculture Investment, we affirm our commitment to responsible investment practices in agriculture and food systems. We recognize the pivotal role such investments play in promoting food security and nutrition while respecting human rights. Our alignment with these principles underscores our commitment to ensuring that Imo State's agriculture thrives economically, fostering social inclusivity and environmental sustainability.

Furthermore, incorporating the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries, and Forests reflects our dedication to securing tenure rights and facilitating equitable access to vital resources. We understand that these resources are integral to eradicating hunger and poverty, supporting sustainable development, and enhancing environmental conservation within the context of our national food security objectives.

The Imo State FRILIA is a dynamic framework emphasizing collaboration, inclusivity, and responsible stewardship of our land and natural resources. It symbolizes our collective vision for an agricultural sector that not only yields economic prosperity but also ensures the well-being of our citizens and the resilience of our environment.

I sincerely appreciate all stakeholders, including farmers, investors, researchers, and development partners, for their invaluable contributions in shaping FRILIA. Together, we

embark on a journey towards responsible and inclusive land-intensive investment in agriculture, setting a precedent for sustainable development in Imo State.

I invite everyone to actively engage with the Imo State FRILIA actively, fostering a spirit of collaboration and commitment as we work towards a future where agriculture drives positive change and prosperity in our state.

Commissioner for Agriculture and Natural Resources

Hon Lambert Orisakwe

Imo State

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The FRILIA toolkits were prepared by the Imo State Ministry of Agriculture in collaboration with Reigns Management Consult staff and volunteers and guidance from the Nigerian Governors Forum Secretariat under the World Bank-assisted program on States Action on Business Enabling Reform (PFoR) Program. We would specifically like to acknowledge the time and input of:

- Reigns Management Staff—Paul Adepelumi, Ph.D., Adebisola Odunuga, Abdulateef Baba Mohammed and Heather Eisenlord
- Imo State SEBEC Staff— Mr. Chuck Chukwuemeka (Commissioner for Finance and State SABER Coordinator. Calistus Chukwu (State Reform Champion),

Executive Summary

Imo State, positioned at the forefront of transformative agricultural development, introduces the Framework for Responsible and Inclusive Land Intensive Investment in Agriculture (FRILIA). This visionary framework is designed to harness the rich agricultural potential of the state, guided by globally recognized agreements—the Principles for Responsible Agriculture Investment (RAI) and the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries, and Forests (VGGT). Nigeria's steadfast commitment to these agreements underscores their importance, emphasizing responsible agricultural practices, respect for human rights, secure tenure rights, and equitable land access.

The imperative to unlock Imo State's agricultural potential is rooted in a dedicated pursuit of a sustainable agro-based industrial economy. In harmony with the Federal Government's diversification agenda, Imo State envisions agriculture as the linchpin for industrialization, private investments, job creation, and revenue generation. At the core of this vision is the recognition that responsible and inclusive land management is pivotal for translating agricultural potential into tangible socio-economic outcomes.

Key Features:

1. **Global Alignment:** Imo State's commitment to the RAI and VGGT agreements positions the FRILIA framework on a global stage, emphasizing responsible investment practices and the protection of human rights.
2. **Diversification Agenda:** Aligned with the Federal Government's diversification agenda, FRILIA positions agriculture as a central force for industrialization, private investments, job creation, and revenue generation in Imo State.
3. **Sustainable Agro-based Industrial Economy:** FRILIA is a strategic tool to propel Imo State towards a sustainable agro-based industrial economy, emphasizing responsible land management for long-term benefits.
4. **Inclusive Land Management:** The framework recognizes the critical role of responsible and inclusive land management in achieving tangible socio-economic outcomes, ensuring equitable access to land, and fostering sustainable development.

Objectives:

- **Unlocking Agricultural Potential:** FRILIA aims to unlock Imo State's agricultural potential, promoting responsible and inclusive land-intensive investment to eradicate hunger, alleviate poverty, and support sustainable development.

- **Global Appeal:** The framework seeks to enhance Imo State's global appeal for land-based agricultural investments, fostering economic growth internationally.
- **Food Security:** FRILIA prioritizes ensuring food security for Imo State's population while providing attractive commercial yields for investors, balancing local empowerment with global engagement.

Implementation Strategies:

- **Innovative Approaches:** Implementing FRILIA will involve innovative approaches to community mapping, socio-economic analysis, land use, and resettlement, aligning with global best practices.
- **Adoption of Best Practices:** Imo State commits to adopting international best practices, ensuring the framework aligns with responsible and inclusive land-intensive agricultural investment principles.

Imo State FRILIA is more than a document; it is a strategic roadmap towards a sustainable, inclusive, and prosperous future. By responsibly harnessing agricultural potential, the state aims to secure its own food supply and position itself as a global hub for sustainable agricultural investment. This framework reflects Imo State's dedication to responsible and transformative agrarian development, marking the way to a future where the land yields prosperity.

Commissioner for Agriculture and Natural Resources
Hon Lambert Orisakwe
Imo State





HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

This comprehensive framework has been crafted to provide invaluable guidance to investors in agriculture, offering insights into agricultural investments and contracts within the unique context of Imo State. Agricultural investment contracts can be intricate, and specific provisions may pose challenges in comprehension. Therefore, stakeholders are strongly encouraged to align their investment strategies with the principles outlined herein, ensuring a holistic approach that prioritizes economic growth, social inclusivity, and environmental sustainability.

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION



1. Introduction

OVERVIEW OF RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT IN AGRICULTURE IN IMO STATE

1.0 Overview

In Imo State, the formulation and application of the Framework for Responsible and Inclusive Land Intensive Investment in Agriculture (FRILIA) reflect a deep understanding of the critical role that responsible investment plays in advancing food security, nutrition, and the realization of the right to adequate food within the framework of national food security. Acknowledging agriculture and food systems as a spectrum of activities from production to consumption, involving various elements such as goods, livestock, fisheries, and forestry, the FRILIA framework aligns with global principles advocating for responsible investment practices. These practices aim to significantly contribute to sustainable livelihoods, particularly for smallholders and marginalized groups, fostering decent work, poverty eradication, social and gender equality, elimination of child labor, and overall economic growth.



The FRILIA framework prioritizes the four dimensions of food security and nutrition—availability, access, stability, and utilization—necessitating a substantial increase in responsible investment. As per the guiding principles in the document, responsible investment entails creating productive assets and capital formation, including physical, human, and intangible capital, to realize food security, nutrition, and sustainable development. Aligned with these principles, responsible investment necessitates the utmost respect, protection, and promotion of human rights, echoing the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other pertinent international instruments.

Smallholders, farmers, are acknowledged as integral players in the agricultural sector and are deserving of priority in investments. The FRILIA framework emphasizes strengthening and securing the capacity of smallholders to invest, promoting responsible investment both in collaboration with and by these essential contributors to the agricultural landscape. Farmers, with a specific acknowledgment of family farms, are considered critical contributors to food security and nutrition, investing their capital and labor into their agricultural activities. The FRILIA framework highlights the multiplier effects of investing in agriculture and food systems, emphasizing its potential to contribute to complementary sectors and overall economic development. While large investments are vital, the sustainability of such assets relies on accompanying investments in public goods and services, including infrastructure and reinforced local government capacities. The FRILIA framework recognizes the interdependence of responsible investment and well-functioning ecosystems, emphasizing the importance of sustainable use of natural resources.

Furthermore, the framework adopts a holistic approach, recognizing the value of safety and health in generating productive agriculture and food systems. Responsible investment insists on gender equality, age considerations, and non-discrimination, emphasizing the importance of reliable, coherent, and transparent laws and regulations.

The Principles for Responsible Investment in Agriculture and Food Systems, endorsed by the Committee on World Food Security, provide a distinctive value proposition through a multi-stakeholder, holistic, and consensus-driven approach. Drawing upon existing guiding frameworks like the Principles for Responsible Agricultural Investment (PRAI) and the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries, and Forests (VGGT), the IMO state FRILIA framework seeks to foster global ownership and application. This embodies a commitment to responsible, inclusive, and sustainable land-intensive investment in agriculture.



1.2 Objectives:

The overarching objectives of the Imo FRILIA Toolkits are to create a paradigm shift in how agricultural investments are approached and executed in the state. The toolkits aim to:

1. Promote responsible agricultural practices aligning with global standards and principles.
2. Facilitate integrating economic growth with social inclusivity and environmental sustainability.
3. Provide stakeholders with practical resources and guidelines to navigate the complexities of land-intensive investments in agriculture.
4. Foster collaboration and shared responsibility among farmers, investors, policymakers, researchers, and development partners.

1.3 Purpose:

The FRILIA Toolkits transcend mere guidelines; they are practical, actionable resources intended for stakeholders involved in the agricultural sector. Whether a farmer seeking sustainable land-use practices, an investor aiming for responsible investment, or a policymaker crafting regulations, these toolkits cater to a diverse audience. In Imo State, where communities are intricately connected to the land and its resources, the toolkits aim to ensure that the benefits of agricultural development are equitably distributed, respecting the rights and well-being of both present and future generations.

1.4. Justification for FRILIA:

The FRILIA Toolkits are justified by recognizing that agriculture if approached responsibly, can drive economic growth, poverty alleviation, and environmental conservation. Imo State, like many regions globally, faces the challenge of balancing the need for increased agricultural productivity with the imperative to protect the environment and uphold the rights of its citizens. Agricultural investments, if not guided by responsible principles, risk contributing to environmental degradation, social inequality, and the violation of human rights. The FRILIA Toolkits were conceived as a response to this challenge, providing a structured and practical approach to guide stakeholders in making informed decisions that benefit the economy and the community.



1.5. Principles of FRILIA:

FRILIA aligns with the Principles for Responsible Investment in Agriculture and Food Systems endorsed by the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) in 2014. These principles include:

1. **Respecting Human Rights:** Ensuring that all investments in agriculture and food systems respect, protect, and fulfill human rights, particularly the right to adequate food.
2. **Prioritizing Smallholders:** Recognizing the vital role of smallholders, including family farmers, and ensuring that investments prioritize their interests, livelihoods, and resources.
3. **Gender Equality:** Promoting gender equality by addressing women's specific needs and challenges in agriculture and ensuring their active participation and benefit from investments.
4. **Sustainability:** Encouraging environmentally sustainable practices and the responsible use of natural resources to ensure the long-term viability of agricultural systems.
5. **Transparency and Accountability:** Promoting transparency and accountability in all stages of investment, from planning and decision-making to implementation and evaluation.
6. **Participation and Inclusiveness:** Fostering inclusive and participatory processes that involve all relevant stakeholders, including local communities, in decision-making related to agricultural investments.
7. **Holistic Approach:** Adopting a holistic approach that considers social, economic, and environmental factors to promote public health and well-being.

1.6. Nature and Scope:

The nature and scope of the Imo FRILIA Toolkits are expansive, covering a wide array of topics crucial for responsible land-intensive investment in agriculture. These include but are not limited to:

1. **Land Governance:** Ensuring secure land tenure, transparent land administration, and fair land distribution.
2. **Investment Practices:** Encouraging responsible and ethical investment practices prioritizing long-term sustainability over short-term gains.
3. **Community Engagement:** Fostering collaboration and communication between stakeholders to ensure local communities actively participate in and benefit from agricultural activities.



4. Environmental Stewardship: Promoting practices that protect and enhance the natural environment, including soil conservation, water management, and biodiversity preservation.

The comprehensive nature of the toolkits reflects the understanding that responsible agricultural development involves a multifaceted approach that considers economic, social, and environmental dimensions.

1.7. Applicable Law and Implementation:

Imo State's primary legal framework governing land acquisition and takeover is the Nigerian Land Use Act of 1978. This Act serves as the principal in-country legislation for such processes. Concurrently, the World Bank Operational Policy 4.12, addressing Involuntary Resettlement, represents the World Bank's overarching policy for all operations involving involuntary resettlement. An analysis of both documents considered entitlement and eligibility considerations in cases involving the loss of assets, including land, economic tree structures, employment, and businesses.

The evaluation scrutinized both systems for similarities and divergences in processes related to land acquisition, displacement of individuals, compensation rates, and entitlement structures. In instances where disparities were identified, a recommendation was made to adhere to the more stringent and pro-poor provisions, ensuring equitable outcomes for the project. Given the anticipated linkage with World Bank Operational Policy 4.12, the project in Imo State will align with international standards for involuntary resettlement.

The Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF) is a comprehensive guide for addressing issues stemming from physical and economic displacement and restricting access to or use of communal natural resources. Notably, the RPF ensures that Project-Affected People (PAP) are consulted before implementing any subproject activities and mandates the thorough consideration of appropriate mitigation measures. In cases where significant impacts are identified, a site-specific Resettlement Action Plan (RAP) will be diligently prepared to address the scope and magnitude of the effects.

1.8. Grievance Redress Mechanism:

The RPF recognizes that PAPs may have grievances from non-implementation or dissatisfaction with RAP implementation. The RPF provides a mechanism and the levels of grievance uptakes to ensure that PAPs' grievances are addressed out of court. However, PAPs have the right to approach the court for redress if dissatisfied with the judgment of the grievance committee. The RPF provides insight into the constituents of the GRC, the funding, and the management plan.



1.9. Public Consultation:

Stakeholder and community consultations were deliberately planned and carried out during the preparation of this RPF following the requirements of SABER on developing FRILIA Toolkits. Those consulted included relevant government agencies, project-affected areas, and social groups within the clusters and sites potentially receiving project financing support. The summary of the outcome of the consultations is documented in Appendix 5.

1.10. Monitoring and Evaluation:

The RPF states that RAPs will be monitored to measure the performance of the RAP implementation and livelihood reinstatement program. Monitoring will be internal (by the monitoring and evaluation officer) and external by an independent auditor.

1.11. Users:

Intended Users in the Context of Imo State Framework for Investment in Intensive Land Agriculture:

The diverse stakeholders involved in responsible investment in agriculture and food systems are the intended users of the Imo State Framework for Investment in Intensive Land Agriculture. This inclusivity is reflective of the collaborative and multi-faceted nature of the framework. The principles laid out in the framework specifically cater to stakeholders engaged in, benefiting from, or affected by investments in agriculture and food systems. Key users of the regulations include:

- i. States
- ii. Inter-governmental and Regional Organizations
- iii. Financing Institutions, Donors, Foundations, and Funds
- iv. Research Organizations, Universities, and Extension Organizations
- v. Large and Smallholders and their Organizations
- vi. Business Enterprises, including Farmers.
- vii. Civil Society Organizations
- viii. Workers and their Organizations



- ix. Communities
- x. Investors
- xi. Consumer Organizations

These categories encompass a wide range of actors, emphasizing the comprehensive and collaborative approach envisaged by the framework. By addressing these intended users' diverse needs and perspectives, the Imo State Framework strives to foster responsible investment practices that contribute to the region's sustainable development of agriculture and food systems.

1.12. Principles and Implementations:

In Imo State, the fundamental principles underpinning the implementation of the Imo Framework for Responsible and Inclusive Land Intensive Investment in Agriculture (FRILIA) are crucial for fostering responsible governance of land tenure, fisheries, and forests. The following principles guide the implementation are:

1. **Human Dignity:** Acknowledging all individuals' inherent dignity and equal, inalienable human rights.
2. **Non-discrimination:** Ensuring that no one is subject to discrimination under laws, policies, or in practice.
3. **Equity and Justice:** Recognizing that equality may necessitate acknowledging differences and taking positive action, including empowerment, to promote equitable tenure rights and access to land, fisheries, and forests for all individuals, encompassing women, men, youth, and vulnerable populations.
4. **Gender Equality:** Ensuring the equal rights of women and men to enjoy all human rights while acknowledging differences and implementing specific measures to accelerate de facto equality. States in Imo should guarantee that women and girls have equal tenure rights and access to land, fisheries, and forests irrespective of their civil and marital status.
5. **Holistic and Sustainable Approach:** Recognizing the interconnected nature of natural resources and adopting an integrated, sustainable approach to their administration.
6. **Consultation and Participation:** Engaging and seeking the support of those with legitimate tenure rights who could be affected by decisions before they are made. Responding to contributions, considering power imbalances, and ensuring active, free, effective, meaningful, and informed participation in decision-making.
7. **Rule of Law:** Adopting a rules-based approach through laws widely publicized in



applicable languages, equally enforced, independently adjudicated, and consistent with existing obligations under national and international law. Consideration is given to voluntary commitments under proper regional and international instruments.

8. **Accountability:** Holding individuals, public agencies, and non-state actors accountable for their actions and decisions based on the principles of the rule of law.
9. **Continuous Improvement:** Imo State commits to enhancing mechanisms for monitoring and analyzing tenure governance. This includes developing evidence-based programs and ensuring ongoing improvements to implementing FRILIA, aligning with the evolving needs and dynamics of the region.

[The content of the FRILIA will be presented in the following format:](#)

1. Introduction
2. Principles and objective governing resettlement preparation and implementation in Imo State under inclusive land intensive investment in agriculture
3. Rap methodology
4. Entitlement and eligibility criteria
5. Legal/institutional guidelines, requirements and principles governing resettlement in Imo State
6. Methods for valuing assets and compensation arrangement
7. Grievance redress mechanism
8. Consultations, stakeholder participation and disclosure
9. The community needs assessment and development
10. Global memorandum of understanding
11. Out-growers and food security toolkits in Imo State





CHAPTER TWO

PRINCIPLES AND OBJECTIVES OF RESETTLEMENT IN IMO STATE



2.1 Introduction

Generally, involuntary resettlement, unless properly managed, may result in long-term hardship and impoverishment for affected persons and communities, as well as environmental damage and social stress in areas to which they have been displaced. For these reasons, most projects, such as SABER supported by the Bank are designed to avoid involuntary resettlement. Where it is unavoidable to embark on involuntary resettlement, appropriate measures to minimize to the extent possible are chosen.



2.2 Involuntary Resettlement Risks

It is generally recognized that the impacts due to involuntary resettlement from development projects give rise to severe economic, social and environmental risks if left unmitigated such as listed below:

1. Landlessness

- Land expropriation removes the main foundation on which many people build livelihoods.
- Often land is lost forever and sometimes it is partially replaced, seldom fully replaced or fully compensated. This is the main form of de-capitalization and pauperization of the people who are displaced, and both natural and man-made capital is lost.

2. Homelessness

- Loss of shelter may be only temporary for many people, but for some it remains a chronic condition and is also felt as loss of identity and cultural impoverishment.
- Loss of housing may have consequences on family cohesion and on mutual help networks if neighboring households of the same kinship group get scattered.
- Group relocation of neighbors is therefore usually preferable over dispersed relocation.

3. Joblessness

- Loss of salaried employment occurs both in rural and urban displacement.
- People losing jobs may be industrial or service workers, landless agricultural labourers/ or artisans.
- Unemployment or under-employment among those who are resettled may linger long after physical relocation.
- Creating new jobs for them is difficult and requires substantial investments, new creative approaches, and reliance on sharing project benefits.



4. Food insecurity

- Destruction of crops diminishes self-sufficiency, dismantles local arrangements for food supply, and thus increases the risk of chronic food insecurity. This is defined as calorie-protein intake levels below the minimum necessary for normal growth and work.

5. Increased morbidity and mortality

- Vulnerability of the poorest people to illness is increased by forced relocation, because it tends to be associated with increased stress, psychological traumas, or the outbreak of parasitic diseases.
- Decreases in health levels result from unsafe water supply and sewage systems that proliferates epidemic infections, diarrhea, dysentery, etc.

6. Educational loss

- Involuntary displacement disrupts all public services at the departure sites, with heavy effects particularly on school programmes.
- Interruption of school attendance causes prolonged loss of access to education; some children do not return to school at all and are prematurely sent by their families to join the labour force.

7. Social displacement

- The dismantling of community structures and social organization, the dispersion of informal and formal networks, local associations, etc. is a massive loss of social capital. Such displacement undermines livelihoods in ways usually not recognized and not measured by planners and is a cause of disempowerment and impoverishment.



8. Marginalization

- This occurs when relocated families lose economic power and slide towards lesser socio-economic positions.
- Middle-income households become small landholders while small shopkeepers and craftsmen lose business and fall below poverty thresholds.
- Economic marginalization tends to be accompanied by social and psychological marginalization.

9. Loss of access to common property

- Poor farmers, particularly those without assets, suffer loss of access to the common property goods belonging to communities that are relocated (e.g., loss of access to forests, water bodies, grazing lands fishing areas, cemetery lands, etc.). This represents a form of income loss and livelihood deterioration that is typically overlooked by planners and therefore uncompensated.

The World Bank ESS5 is developed to ensure that negative impacts of projects in intensive agriculture land investment projects, development on people do not occur. And even if it does occur, the affected persons/people are commensurately compensated for their loss (of land, property or access) in kind e.g. land for land or a combination of land and cash or when cash compensation becomes inevitable.

It should be noted that massive involuntary displacement is not envisaged. Also, it is not envisaged that acquisition of large-land for agriculture will lead to the acquisition of protected areas (PA) or community resource management areas. However, in the unlikely event that this happens the procedures offered by ESS5 which is negotiated process framework, will be followed.



Also, when resources, formerly available to local people and indispensable to their livelihoods, a process framework will be negotiated between the affected community and the sub-project proponent that will provide for an appropriate and acceptable replacement for that component of livelihood.

2.3 The Principle of Involuntary Resettlement in Imo State

Under ESS5, those affected by resettlement are defined as those who are directly affected socially and economically by:

(a) The taking of land and other assets resulting in:

1. relocation or loss of shelter.
2. loss of assets or access to assets; or

loss of direct income sources or means of livelihood (i.e., income and livelihoods directly dependent on the affected areas), whether the affected persons must move to another location.

(b) The involuntary restriction or access to legally designated parks and protected areas results in adverse impacts on the livelihood of the displaced persons.

ESS5 applies in:

1. All components under project, whether they are directly funded in whole or in part by the Bank.
2. All persons displaced due to the sub-projects after the cutoff date regardless of the total number affected and the severity of the impact and whether they have legal title to the land.
3. Squatters or other land occupiers who lack legal title or legal occupancy rights to the land they occupy should be entitled to



assistance in accordance with the objectives of the RPF.

(c) This RPF further applies to other activities resulting in involuntary resettlement that are:

1. Directly and significantly projects during related to projects under implementation
2. Necessary to achieve its objectives as set forth in the project documents.

As required by the policy, implementation of individual resettlement and compensation plans are a prerequisite for the commencement of sub-project activities causing resettlement. It is further required that these measures include provision of compensation required for relocation, prior to displacement, and preparation and provision of resettlement sites (if necessary) with adequate facilities, where required. In particular, the taking of land and related assets or the denial of access to such assets should take place only after compensation has been paid or, where applicable, resettlement sites, new homes, related infrastructure, public services. In all cases, of displacement, moving allowances and other necessary transitional expenses shall be provided to displaced persons. Persons deemed to be vulnerable shall be provided with appropriate support that allows them to resettle to a new location without undue hardship.

This assistance could include special transportation, assistance in locating a suitable new location and helping to set up suitable special support services in the new location such as mobility. Below is an overview of options that can be offered to compensate loss of land or access to normal means of livelihood is given below:

1. Make alternative housing and / or cash compensation available prior to relocation Build new resettlement sites for displaced persons with improved living conditions.



2. In the case of physically displaced persons with recognized or recognizable rights, offer the choice of replacement property of equal or higher value, equivalent or better characteristics and advantages of location or cash compensation at full replacement value.
3. Where these displaced persons own and occupy structures, compensate them for the loss of assets other than land, such as dwellings and other improvements to the land, at replacement cost but sufficient for them to reestablish themselves elsewhere.

Compensation in kind in lieu of cash when the affected party depends on land for livelihood where feasible. Based on consultation with such displaced persons, provide relocation assistance adequate for them to restore their livelihood at an adequate alternative site. It is important to stress that the policy is not designed to address “economic displacement” in itself. “Economic displacement” could occur where people suffer losses or damage due to project activities that do not involve the taking of land.

For example, if a road is realigned causing a business located along the former roadway loses customers, this is a purely economic displacement and not subject to ESS5 because land was not taken from the business itself. If, on the other hand, construction of a drainage canal involves cutting off access by persons to a school or health facility, some compensation could be called for due to the taking of land to build the canal. In summary, ESS5 demands mitigation only when land is taken or if the use of land is changed.

The policy does not discourage compensation for other kinds of losses and damage such as loss of “goodwill” but such compensation is not required by ESS 5.

2.4 Potential Impacts and Risks

The Imo State will finalize project selection based on the community needs and assessment, and then, actual project impacts will be identified based on Census, Inventory of Losses (IOL) and Socio-Economic Survey (SES). However, the broad social risks and impacts of the proposed projects may include: (i) land acquisition, requisition, and voluntary land donation along the expanded right-of-Way (ROW); (ii) permanent and/or temporary physical displacement of residential and commercial households including the Common Property Resources (CPR); (iii) temporary economic displacement of some vendors and businesses along the ROW and in market areas; (iv) Loss of trees and crops and (iv) Increased risk of GBV



Table 2.1: Impact Matrix of Imo State

Variables	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Loss due to ESS5 from acquisition of land for large investment in Agriculture
Land	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Loss of land for residential purpose• Loss of land for agriculture, commercial and industrial uses.
Structures	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Loss of building (residential/ commercial)• Loss of temporal / removable structures (Kiosk, containers, etc.)• Fence walls, pavements, concrete wells, tombs
Public Utility	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Disconnection of utility services (electric pole, transformers, etc)
Plants & Crops	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Loss of crops and economic trees
Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Loss of business income and wages
Accommodation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Loss of shelter / accommodation



2.5 Framework to avoid or minimize Impacts and Risks to the Success

From the experience of similar projects and the concerns from stakeholder consultations conducted, this RPF in line with the World Bank ESSs provides guidance to impact avoidance and minimization. The Bank's ESS5 requires that as much as reasonably practicable, involuntary resettlement should be avoided or minimized. In line with this, risk will be controlled by avoiding/minimizing some of the impacts through the following considerations:

- a. Early consultation with potential PAPs and project communities, where their suggestions could help to avoid adverse impacts;
- b. Design changes that avoids encumbrances or impacts;
- c. Use of existing right of way that minimizes encumbrances for infrastructure facility;
- d. Offering host communities, the opportunity to participate in the planning process of the sub projects including issues on land acquisition.

2.6 Mitigation Measures

Impacts that cannot be avoided will be addressed via adequate compensation and will be determined via social assessment during ARAP/RAP preparation stage within the location for land acquisition/investment.

The framework for the compensation / resettlement will then be applied incorporating the following:

- a) institutional arrangements;
- b) resettlement / compensation eligibility criteria;
- c) valuation procedures;
- d) implementation procedures;
- e) financial responsibilities; and
- f) monitoring and evaluation plan.

Livelihood restoration measures will consider issues such as:

- a) income;
- b) other non-monetary sources of livelihood;
- c) constraints and opportunities for income generation;



- d) number of persons notable to revert to previous occupation; and
- e) existing skills of affected persons.

PAPs will be consciously consulted and engaged to continuously participate in all involuntary resettlement planning processes that would lead to the preparation of Resettlement Plans.

2.7 Identification and Assistance to Vulnerable Groups

Vulnerable group or persons refers to PAPs who will be disproportionately affected by the impacts of the involuntary resettlement because of their vulnerability conditions. The principles adopted under resettlement process entails special measures and assistance for vulnerable affected persons, such as female-headed households, aged persons above 65 years, disabled persons, and the poorest of the poor. Vulnerable persons among the PAPs will be identified and special assistance offered during the compensation implementation process. Cross River State will identify and assess vulnerable persons through census and the RAP process when project scope and activities are properly identified and confirmed.

2.7.1 Assistance to vulnerable persons

RAPs for various sub-projects will include specialized assistance and support for vulnerable persons, depending on the circumstances of vulnerability and needs. Assistance to vulnera:

- Financial management training to support better and effective utilization of compensation funds;
- Movement assistance including secured transport and rent subsidy.
- Logistical support for vulnerable households to assist them access their compensation benefits, e.g. transport to bank to cash compensation cheques; and
- Assistance in building: providing materials, workforce, or building housesble people may include but not limited to the following:



2.8 Provisions to be made in RAPs

RAPs to be prepared for sub-projects will include measures for identifying and assisting vulnerable people at the census stage. Upon identification, further assessment will be conducted to identify the cause and impacts of their vulnerability, either through direct interviews by the RAP consultant or the state project coordinator or social officer at the project inception stage of the RAP/ARAP preparation stage. This is to ensure participation and early identification to ensure that their vulnerability may be known upfront and appropriate measures taken to minimize the project adverse impacts on them.

The resettlement plan will formulate measures to ensure that socio-economic conditions, needs and priorities of women are identified, and the process of land acquisition and resettlement does not disadvantage women. It will ensure that gender impacts are adequately addressed and mitigated. Women focus groups discussions will be conducted to address specific women issues. During disbursement of compensation and provision of assistance, priority will be given to female-headed households.





CHAPTER THREE

RAP METHODOLOGY



3.1 Introduction

“This Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF) sets out the guidelines and procedures for crafting individual A/RAPs once we determine specific project locations, activities, and designs. At this juncture, it's imperative to grasp the legal and regulatory foundations governing involuntary resettlement within the project's jurisdiction. Accordingly, we've gathered and scrutinised documentation on land tenure, involuntary resettlement, and compensation from sources including the World Bank, the Federal Government of Nigeria (under the Land Use Act), state laws on land expropriation, and community regulations governing land ownership and use. Identifying stakeholders and engaging in thorough consultations prove pivotal for sustainable project execution, especially when involving the physical and economic displacement of people. To this end, below is the list of stakeholders for public consultation meetings.



3 .2. Stakeholders for Consultation and Engagement

The lists of stakeholders consulted include:

1. Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources
2. Ministry of Community, Government, Culture and Traditional Affairs
3. Ministry of Environment
4. Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Tourism
5. Ministry of Lands, Survey, Housing and Urban Planning
6. Ministry of Works and Transport
7. Ministry of Finance
- 8 . Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development
9. Ministry of Finance
10. Farmers Associations including women farmers' association
11. Cooperative Societies, CSOs/NGOs



3.3 General Approach

The purpose of the stakeholders engagement was to consult with each stakeholder on their mandate and interest in the project. The consultation also looked at their capacities and capacity gaps towards the implementation of safeguards (RPF, ESMFs and PMP). Various supporting documentation from the respective MDAs/stakeholders was collected for preparing the RPF report. At the end of the consultations, we worked with the PIU to convene a wider stakeholder workshop for aggregation and harmonization of findings from across the sectors.

3.3.1 Specific methodology on task-by-task basis

In preparing the RPF, satisfactory steps were taken to deliver the objective of the RPF by undertaking the following tasks which complements the initial broad tasks enunciated in the earlier section on

Task 1: Project Planning

Meetings were held with the client for harmonization of pertinent issues in the TOR which provided a platform for questions and clarifications. Relevant documents and contact addresses of the agencies/desk officers in the participating states as well as introduction letters were collected.

Task 2: Literature Review involves

- Review of relevant Nigerian and World Bank Operational Policy (OP 4.12) and procedure regarding land take and involuntary resettlement.
- Reviewed laws and regulations relating to the agencies responsible for implementation resettlement activities in the sub-projects
- Identified gaps between local laws covering resettlement and the Bank's resettlement policy, and the mechanisms for addressing such gaps



- Reviewed some previous RPFs prepared for other recent World Bank projects in Nigeria (e.g. RAMP, FADAMA 2, NEWMAP)
- Reviewed and incorporated relevant data on population and social characteristics in the project areas;

Task 3: Field Work and Data Gathering

- Undertook social survey in the area where project investments will occur in the State to assist in defining the content of the RPF. This included a preliminary identification of existing land conflicts and/or patterns of conflict in the project area and how such conflicts are being resolved, as well as any changes in land use or livelihoods which have occurred in recent years, including any population influx, other development projects in the area. It also covered gender and gender-based violence issues.
- Undertook Public Consultation with the relevant stakeholders

Task 4: Development and preparation of Resettlement Policy Framework report This involves the following line of actions:

- Analysis of social groups and population in the participating states that may be affected by the project
- General description of project impacts, avoidance measures and mitigation measures
- Description of eligibility conditions for entitlement of compensation
- Description of entitlement for categories of affected assets
- Description of valuation framework
- Description of framework for preparing Grievance Redress Mechanism
- Procedure for assessing capacity need for A/RAP implementation.



Task 5: Reporting Requirements

- ▶ Preparation and Submission of Inception Report
- ▶ Preparation and Submission of Draft Report
- ▶ Preparation and Submission of Draft Final Report
- ▶ Preparation and Submission of Final Report

3.4 Procedure to be followed in Involuntary Resettlement / preparation of RAP

Involuntary Resettlement guideline of the World Bank has core requirements spelled out as follow:

- ▶ Avoid or minimize involuntary resettlement/land where feasible, exploring all viable alternative project designs,
 - ▶ Consult and encourage community participation in planning and implementing resettlement,
 - ▶ Identify project affected persons, consult them and inform them of their rights in involuntary resettlement.
 - ▶ Assist project affected persons (PAPs) in improving their former living standards, income earning capacity, and production levels, or at least in restoring them back to the former status,
- Provide assistance to affected persons regardless of the legality of land tenure.
- ▶ Prepare a socioeconomic census and land asset inventory of the area.
 - ▶ Develop a Resettlement Action Plan (RAP) or ARAP; A/RAP review and approval.
 - ▶ Implement the A/RAP and,



- ▶ Implement the A/RAP and,
- ▶ Monitor RAP or ARAP implementation and success.
- ▶ The principles outlined in the World Bank's Operational Policy 4.12 have been adopted in preparing this Policy Framework and will be applied to the RAP(s) for the sub-projects. In this regard, the following principles and objectives apply:
 - ▶ Acquisition of land and other assets and resettlement of people will be minimized as much as possible.
 - ▶ All PAPs will be entitled to be provided with rehabilitation measures sufficient to assist them to improving or at least maintaining their pre-project living standards, income earning capacity and production levels. The rehabilitation measures to be provided are:
 - ▶ Compensation at replacement cost without deduction for depreciation.
 - ▶ Transaction fees or salvage materials for house and other structures
 - ▶ Agricultural land for land of equal productive capacity or in cash at substitution cost according to the PAPs preference.
 - ▶ Replacement of premise land of equal size acceptable to the PAP or in cash at the substitution cost; Compensation for income losses from businesses and transfer and subsistence allowances and;
 - ▶ Additional assistance measures for vulnerable PAPs.

Severely affected people will also be provided with income restoration measures, to include: Adequate income restoration measures such as, preferential access to employment generated by the project, local procurement of goods and services, microfinance loan schemes, local community development programmes and adequate cash compensation for loss of income, Replacement premise and agricultural land will be as nearby as possible to the land that was lost and be accepted to the PAP.



3.5 Categories of Entitlement

Different project-affected people will sustain different levels of impacts by the project in various ways, which will have implications for the type of compensation that they receive. The World Bank's OP 4.12 makes provision for this by requesting an entitlement matrix, as part of all RAPs. The entitlement matrix is central to any RAP. It is also useful for planning the resettlement and compensation budget. When a full census has been carried out, as part of the RAP, a list of the categories of entitlement will be drafted. These individual RAPs, which must be consistent with this RPF, will be prepared by the investor/proponent, validated by the affected people and the government.

3.5.1 Aim and Objectives of the RPF Consultancy

Where involuntary resettlement is not properly managed, long-term hardship may be wreaked on the intended beneficiaries of the project and communities. It may give rise to severe economic, social and environmental risks resulting in production and communal systems being dismantled, people facing impoverishment when their productive skills may be less applicable and the competition of resources greater; community institutions and social networks being weakened; kin/clan groups being dispersed; and cultural identity, traditional authority, and the potential for mutual help are diminished or lost. For these reasons, projects supported by the World Bank are designed to avoid involuntary resettlement. Where it is unavoidable to embark on involuntary resettlement, appropriate measures to minimize, as much as possible, are chosen. For adverse impacts on displaced persons and host communities, carefully planned and implemented framework is ensured to mitigate the impacts. RPF provides basic and binding principles that will be applied in all such situations. Basic principles are:

- 3.5.1.1** If possible, all resettlement should be avoided exploring viable alternatives in Project design;



- 3.5.1.2** If this proves to be impossible, all adverse effects should be rendered to the barest minimum;
- 3.5.1.3** When unavoidable adverse effects and social impact occurs, all loss of property shall be compensated at replacement costs and PAPs livelihood restored at least to the level before the Project implementation.
- 3.5.1.4** PAPs will be assisted in their effort in livelihood restoration and living standards in real terms to the level prior to project implementation and resettlement.
- 3.5.1.5** All resettlement needs to be managed in accordance with national laws, OP 4.12, accepted international best practices and this document.
- 3.5.1.6** Special support during the resettlement process will be provided for affected vulnerable groups according to their specific vulnerability.

The process of planning and implementing resettlement will ensure inclusion of women in all public consultations. Where feasible, gender-differentiated mitigation measures with the goal to provide women the possibility to be effectively protected by mitigation measures provided for resettlement impacts, will be given under this RPF.

RAPs will be prepared for all cases of resettlement under each sub-project. Full RAPs will be prepared for all cases when resettlement impacts are significant. ARAP is prepared when less than 300 people are affected, and resettlement impacts are minor, as provided by the OP

4.12. -RPF and the RAPs will be publicly disclosed with public consultations held prior to its approval to allow affected persons and stakeholders to participate in project development and planning and implementation of resettlement programs.

During the project implementation and resettlement cycle, stakeholders will be provided with clear information about grievance rights and procedures. All grievances will be considered during project implementation and resettlement activities.



- All resettlement activities should be conceived as sustainable projects providing sufficient investment resources to enable principles and goals of resettlement defined by this RPF and RAPs.

The goal of screening is to identify and consider resettlement issues as early as possible.

The principles outlined in the World Bank's Operational Policy 4.12 have been adopted in preparing this Policy Framework and will be applied to the RAP(s) for the sub-projects. In this regard, the following principles and objectives apply:

- Acquisition of land and other assets and resettlement of people will be minimized as much as possible;
- All PAPs will be entitled to be provided with rehabilitation measures sufficient to assist them to improving or at least maintaining their pre-project living standards, income earning capacity and production levels.

The rehabilitation measures to be provided are:

- Compensation at replacement cost without deduction for depreciation;
- Transaction fees or salvage materials for house and other structures;
- Agricultural land for land of equal productive capacity or in cash at substitution cost according to the PAPs preference;
- Replacement of premise land of equal size acceptable to the PAP or in cash at the substitution cost;
- Compensation for income losses from businesses and transfer and subsistence allowances and;
- Additional assistance measures for vulnerable PAPs.



Vulnerable people will also be provided with income restoration measures, to include: Adequate income restoration measures such as, preferential access to employment generated by the project, local procurement of goods and services, microfinance loan schemes, local community development programmes and adequate cash compensation for loss of income, Replacement premises and agricultural land will be as nearby as possible to the land that was lost and be acceptable to the PAP

3.5 Types of Resettlement Plans

Abbreviated Resettlement Action Plan (ARAP): When the impacts on the entire displaced population are minor (i.e. if affected people are not physically displaced and less than 10% of their productive assets are lost) or fewer than 200 people are displaced, then the Bank may approve the preparation of an Abbreviated Resettlement Plan (ARAP). The contents of the ARAP are to be:

1. a census survey of displaced persons and valuation of assets.
2. Description of compensation and other resettlement assistance to be provided.
3. Consultations with displaced people about acceptable alternatives.
4. Institutional responsibility for implementation and procedures for grievance redress.
5. Arrangements for monitoring and implementation, and
6. A timetable and budget.

3.6 Resettlement Action Plan (RAP):

For impacts that are not considered minor, the preparation of a Resettlement Plan (RAP) is required for each site. World bank OP 4.12 article 25 sets the requirements of the RAP to include:



1. Description of the project
2. Potential Impacts
3. Objectives
4. Socioeconomic Studies
5. Legal Framework
6. Institutional Framework.
7. Eligibility
8. Valuation of and compensation for losses
9. Resettlement measures
10. Site selection, site preparation, and relocation
11. Housing, infrastructure, and social services
12. Environmental protection and management
13. Community participation
14. Integration with host populations
15. Grievance procedures
16. Organizational responsibilities
17. Implementation schedule
18. Cost and budget
19. Monitoring and evaluation

The entitlement matrix is key to any RAP. It is useful for planning the resettlement and compensation budget. When a full census has been carried out, as part of the RAP, a list of the categories of entitlement will be drafted.



CHAPTER FOUR

ENTITLEMENT AND ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA



4.1 Principles

In involuntary resettlement, entitlement concept relates to the principle of compensation or resettlement assistance that applies to different categories of project affected persons (PAP); while eligibility refers to the condition or criteria that qualifies a PAP for entitlement. The involuntary taking of land results in relocation or loss of shelter and loss of assets or access to assets or loss of means of livelihood, whether or not the PAPs must move to another location. The principle of ESS5 stipulates that all persons residing, conducting activities or earning income within the project affected areas at the cut-off-date, which is the last day of inventory of loss of asset will be entitled to compensation and resettlement assistance. To determine their eligibility, PAPs are classified as follows:



- a. Person who has formal right to land (including customary and traditional rights recognized under Nigerian law);
- b. Persons with temporary or leased rights to use land; and
- c. Persons who do not have formal legal right to lands or other assets at the time of the census, but who have claim to such legal rights by virtue of occupation or use of those assets.
- d. Businesses within the community

Those covered under (a) and (b) above are to be provided compensation for the loss, and other assistance in accordance with this RPF. Persons covered under (c) above are to be provided with resettlement assistance in lieu of compensation for the land they occupy, and other assistance, as necessary, to achieve the objectives set out in this RPF, if they occupy the project area prior to a cut-off date established by the project authorities in close consultation with the potential PAPs, local community leaders and the respective local authorities and acceptable to the World Bank.

Persons who encroach on the area after the cut-off date are not entitled to compensation or any other form of resettlement assistance. All persons included in (a), (b) or (c) above are to be provided with compensation for loss of assets other than land. It is therefore clear that all project affected persons irrespective of their status or whether they have formal titles, legal rights or not, squatters or otherwise encroaching illegally on land, are eligible for some kind of assistance if they occupied the land or had use of it, before the entitlement cut-off date. The principles adopted entails special measures and assistance for vulnerable affected persons, such as female-headed households, disabled persons, migrants and the poor. PAPs affected through land acquisition, relocation loss of residence and structures, and business enterprise are entitled to a combination of compensation measures and resettlement assistance, depending on ownership right and lost assets. PAP will be entitled to compensation and resettlement assistance that will help in the restoration of their livelihoods to at least, pre-project standards.



4.2 Eligibility Criteria and Proof for Individual and Household Compensation

This RPF stipulates eligibility and provisions for compensating all types of losses (land, crops/trees, structures, business/employment, and workdays/wages). All PAPs including non-titled or informal dwellers will be compensated for lost assets (crops, structures, trees and/or business losses) and will receive (i) compensation (as required, to match replacement value), and/or (ii) replacement land, structures, seedlings, other resettlement assistance such as shifting allowance, assistance with rebuilding structures and compensation for loss of workdays/income. Persons who occupy the area after the socio- economic study (census and valuation) have been completed are not eligible for compensation or any form of resettlement assistance, except possibly for moving expense. Similarly, assets, built after the cut-off date are not eligible for compensation (Table 4.1).



Table 4.1: Eligibility Criteria for Compensation

PAP CLASSIFICATION	ELIGIBLE FOR		
	Compensation	No Compensation	Assistance
Those with legal Right	Land or asset at replacement cost	For land, assets, and structure on the land after the cut-off-date	Assistance as needed
Those with temporary or leased rights at cut-off-date	Land and assets at replacement cost	For land, assets, and structure on the land after the cut-off-date	Assistance as needed
Those with no legally recognized right but arrived before cut-off-date	Assets at replacement cost except that compensation maybe “topped off” to allow the PAP to acquire a new residence		Assistance as needed.
Those who arrived after cut-off-date	None	None	None
Those with business located within the Community	Assets and loss income as a result of lost business during project duration	For business located in community after the cut-off-date and outside the affected area	Assistance as needed



The Imo State will consider various forms of evidence as proof of eligibility as stated in this RPF to cover the following:

- a. PAPs with formal legal rights, documented in the form of land title registration certificates, leasehold indentures, rent receipts, and building and planning permits among others. Also, unprocessed/unregistered formal legal documents will be established in the RAP.
- b. PAPs with no formal or recognized legal rights-criteria for establishing non- formal, undocumented or unrecognized claims to eligibility shall be established paying attention to each situation and its peculiarities. Alternative means of proof of eligibility will include:
 - Affidavit signed by landlords and tenants; and
 - Witnessed or evidence by recognized traditional authority, customary heads, community elders, family heads and elders and the general
 - community.

During the preparation / implementation of RAPs, PAPs recent passport photograph or a digital image will be captured, PAPs contact address, Phone Number, and Name of Next-of Kin will be collected and documented for use as means of eligibility for identification of PAPs during screening for compensation. In this project, the absence of formal titles should not constitute a barrier to resettlement assistance and rehabilitation.

Where legally permissible, the resettlement plan should include measures to ensure that documentation of ownership or occupancy, such as title deeds and lease agreements, and compensation (including the bank accounts established for payment of compensation), are issued in the names of both spouses or of single female heads of households, as relevant to each situation. In circumstances in which local customary tenure systems do not give women equal opportunities or rights with regard to property, alternative steps are taken to ensure that access of women to security of tenure is equivalent to that of men and does not further disadvantage women.



4.3 Eligibility for Community/Village/Clan Compensation

Community compensation will be in-kind only for a community as a whole in the form of reconstruction of the structure to at least the same standard or equivalent better standard to that being built by the program in the area to serve the same function. Communities (districts, villages and clans) permanently losing land and/or access to assets and or resources under customary rights will be eligible for compensation. Example of community compensation could include construction of marketplaces, community lock up shops, community hall, and employment for locals within the projects sites as well as sinking of boreholes, rehabilitation/construction of schools and health centers. The rationale for this is to ensure that the pre-project socio-economic status of communities were restored and/or improved upon. The local community leaders will play a crucial role in identifying community needs.

Where an affected asset/land belongs to a family group or an association, it will be advised that as much as possible, the asset should be reallocated to each eligible member/owner so that each person be captured and compensated separately. Where this arrangement is not possible or desirable, the household or association may agree within themselves and present one person among them to be recognized as the PAP. In that case, compensation will be paid to the person to whom the family had agreed to represent their common interest. The PAP is the one whose identification / photograph will be captured during census and inventory. It is important to note that the eligibility may be claimed collectively e.g. as a community or religious group. Communities permanently losing land and/or access to assets and or resources under statutory/customary rights will be eligible for compensation. Example of community compensation includes public toilets, marketplaces, taxi parks, schools, and health centers. The rationale for this is to ensure that the pre-project socio-economic status of communities adversely impacted is also restored. The local community leaders will play a crucial role in identifying users of land.



4.4 Methods to determine cut-off date

Cut-off date is the date after which eligibility for compensation or resettlement assistance will not be considered. To avoid an influx of outsiders to subproject areas and misuse of the compensation policy, the day when the assessment of persons and their property in the project area is completed will serve as the cut-off date for eligibility and no new arrivals in the project area or assets created after the cut-off date will be eligible for compensation after this date. Given its importance therefore, this cut-off date must be effectively communicated to the project affected persons through the community leaders and using culturally appropriate awareness campaign and effective medium of public communication in the community and in local languages to ensure dissemination of the message to the least PAP as much as possible. The detailed census of PAPs will be appended to the RAP/ARAPS. Sub-projects should only be approved if they include at least a preliminary RAP and budget. Special attention shall be taken to secure the sites from opportunistic invasion. These measures should include close consultation with the recognized PAPs, signs that inform public of intended use of site and security patrols to identify opportunistic invaders.

4.5 Common complications in the application of cut-off date

The application of cut-off date sometimes become controversial especially if there is a delay between the time the census is carried out and the start and completion of the project. However, the World Bank's ESS5 recognizes that individuals and households who occupy project-affected areas after the cut-off date are not eligible for compensation.



A common complication encountered with respect to cut-off dates involves historic cut-off dates, which were established when a project was ready for development but which, due to project delays, has become outdated. In such situations, natural population growth (for example, grown children from previously eligible households) may result in new households eligible for resettlement benefits and assistance that were not listed in the original survey. It is good practice for planners to make provision for population movements as well as natural population increase. If there is a significant time lag between the completion of the census and implementation of the resettlement or livelihood restoration plan (such as more than three years), a repeat census and inventory and evaluation of assets are undertaken and the resettlement plan updated accordingly.

There is also the complication of unfinished structures which were later finished at or after the time of census / cut-off date. Unfinished structures should be identified during mapping prior to setting of cut-off date. Thus, unfinished sites should be secured, and unused materials piled at the site should be noted and the cut-off survey can estimate investment which should be compensated for in lieu of expenses (including labour) incurred until the cut-off date.

Diligent efforts should be made to ensure that the claims of individuals or groups who, for valid reasons, are not present at the time of the census but who have a claim to land or assets, are addressed. Nevertheless, if works are not initiated two years or more after declaration of a cut-off date, a new census and evaluation of properties must be carried out.

4.6 Defining Entitlements and Preparing an Entitlement Matrix

The basis of what is to be paid as compensation will be determined by identifying the most appropriate entitlement for each loss. Based on the entitlements, options for resettlement will be selected in accordance with Bank ESS5. The RAP planner will prepare an entitlement matrix with respect to both temporary and permanent displacement. This matrix will set the measure for the payment for



all losses or impacts. It will also list the type of loss, criteria for eligibility and define entitlements as presented in Table 4.2.

Based on this comparison, entitlement matrix is designed to assist the process by bridging the gaps between requirements under Nigeria Law and the World Bank ESS5. The higher of the two standards is followed in this entitlement matrix, since this procedure also satisfies the requirements of the lesser standard. The missing values in the entitlement matrix will be

TYPE OF LOSS	ENTITLED PERSON	DESCRIPTION OF ENTITLEMENT
Permanent loss of land 1.1 Cultivable/ Residential/ Commercial Land	1.1 (a) Legal owners of land (b) Occupancy/Hereditary tenant	1.1 (a) Cash compensation at replacement value based on market rate plus 10% compulsory acquisition surcharge (b) &(c) Compensation will be paid as plus a one – time lump sum grant for restoration of livelihood and assistance for relocation.
2. Damage to land (such as abutting sub - project site) 2.1 by excavation	2.1. (a) Legal owner/g (b) Village/s or clan/s with owner	2.1 (a) & (b) Restoration of the land to pre contribution condition or cash compensation at prevailing rates for necessary bulldozer / tractor hours to
3. Loss in income and livelihood 3.1 Temporary loss of access to land for cultivation	3.1 Cultivator occupying land	3.1 Estimated net income for each lost cropping season, based on the land record averages of crops and area planted in the previous four years



<p>3.2 loss of Agricultura; crops , and fruits and wood trees.</p> <p>3.3 Loss of income by agricultural tenants because of loss of the land were cultivating</p>	<p>3.2.(a) Owner/s of crops or tress. Includes crops trees owned by encroachers /squatters</p> <p>(b) Tenant</p> <p>3.3 Persons working on the affected lands</p>	<p>3.2 (a) Cash compensation for loss of agricultural crops at current market value of mature crops, based on average production. Compensation for loss of fruit trees for average fruit production for next 25 years to be computed at current market value.</p> <p>Compensation for the loss of woods – trees at current market value of wood (timber or firewood, as the case may be).</p> <p>3.2(b) Partial compensation to tenants for loss of their crops / trees as per due share or agreement (verbal or written)</p> <p>3.3 One-time lump sum grant to agricultural tenants (permanent, short-term or long- term agricultural labor (this will be in addition to their shares in crop/ tree compensation)</p>
---	---	--



<p>4. Permanent loss of structures, Residential and commercial Structures</p>	<p>4.1.(a) Owners of structures whether or not the land on which the structure stands is legally occupied</p>	<p>4.1.(a) Cash compensation for loss of built -up structures at full replacement costs.</p> <p>Owners of affected structures will be allowed to take/ reuse their salvageable materials for building/ rehabilitation of structure.</p> <p>In case of relocation, transfer allowance to cover cost of shifting (transport plus loading, unloading) the effects</p>
<p>4.2. Cultural, Religious, and community structure/ facilities</p>	<p>4.2 School, church, water channels, pathways and other community structures/ installations</p>	<p>4.2 Complete rehabilitation/ restoration by the project; or, cash compensation for restoring affected cultural / community structures and installations , to the recognized patron/ custodian.</p>
<p>5. Special provision for vulnerable APs</p> <p>5.1 Re-establishing and /or enhancing livelihood</p>	<p>5.1 Women headed households, disabled or elderly persons and the landless</p>	<p>5. Needs based special assistance to be provided either in cash or in kind.</p>
<p>5.2 Change in livelihood for women and other vulnerable APs that need to substitute their income because of adverse impact</p>	<p>5.2.(a) Vulnerable Aps, particularly women enrolled in a vocational training facility.</p> <p>5.2.(b) Owners /s whose landholding has been reduced to less than 5 acres</p>	<p>5.2(a) &(b). Restoring of livelihood (vocational training) and subsistence allowance at agreed rate per day for a total of 6 months while enrolled in a vocational training facility.</p>
<p>6. Loss of grazing area</p>	<p>Cattle Rearers</p>	<p>Relocation to new grazing area and where possible assist the cattle herdsmen to locate new grazing fields</p> <p>Consider possible compensation for loss income for the period of locating new grazing area.</p>



4.7 Principles Applicable to Vulnerable Groups

4.7.1 Vulnerability Categories

This RPF classifies vulnerability in two stages: pre-existing vulnerability and transitional hardship vulnerability. Pre-existing vulnerability refers to the vulnerability condition which would be present with or without Project development. Transitional hardship vulnerability occurs when those directly affected by the Project (PAPs), are unable to adjust to new conditions due to shock or stress related to Project activities. This scope of vulnerability in this RPF is however confined to the transitional hardship group or simply PAPs that may become vulnerable as a result of this project.

4.7.2 Vulnerability Assessment Criteria

Vulnerable PAPs may require more assistance than others during the implementation of the RAPs because of their vulnerability status. Criteria for inclusiveness include: female headed household, aged persons (65 years and above), PAPS incapacitated by ill health, and the poorest of the poor PAPs. The vulnerability assessment tool in Table 4.3 is useful in identifying the poorest of the poor group. PAPs that fall within all or most of the conditions (at least 80%) in Table 4,3 are in abject poverty according to this RPF, and therefore, classified as vulnerable.



Table 4.3: Vulnerability Assessment Tool

HOUSEHOLD VULNERABILITY				
S/N	Category	Indicators	True	False
1	Pre- project Extreme poverty, the pre- disposed	No arm		
		No land		
		No Job		
		No Business		
2	House hold Composition	Elders and /or children only or women and children only or disabled or diseased only		
3.	Income	None from Farm		
		None from Jobs		
		None from business		
		None from rental		
4.	Food	Have no stored food		
		Claim to be eating one meal or less /day		
5.	Housing	Homeless or Living in Charitable housing		
6.	Social Support	No Extended Family Support		
		No Community / Neighbourhood support		
7.	Health	HH has ->1 disabled, disease, drug addict or prostitute.		



CHAPTER FIVE

LAND ACCESS, EASEMENT AND INVOLUNTARY RESETTLEMENT MANAGEMENT IN IMO STATE



5.1 Land Ownership in Nigeria

A range of diverse cultural and traditional practices and customs characterize the complex land ownership in Nigeria. The land tenure system in Nigeria is essentially an intricate mix of traditional customary land ownership and the national legislation known as the Land Use Act (LUA) 1978. However, the Land Use Act (LUA) of 1978, reviewed under Cap 202, 1990 is the legal framework for land acquisition and resettlement in Nigeria.

Community Driven Projects are land based. To this end, various interests and titles to particular pieces of land may be impacted. Therefore, an analysis of the legal framework for the project will be carried out in the RAP and this will consider the various land holding arrangements in the assessment of entitlements and compensations for the various interests for lands acquired.



Below is a broad land ownership classification in Nigeria:

1. Community land (Ancestral Land): owned by all the people.
2. Communal land: consists mostly of under-developed forests and owned by nobody. Those who clear it first claim ownership.
3. Clan or family land: owned by clans and families
4. Institutional land: land allocated to traditional institutions such as traditional authorities and chiefs.
5. Individual land: land acquired by an individual, which may be inherited by the immediate family, depending on customary practices or purchased or allocated by the government

Although the scenarios painted above holds in Nigeria, the government still acts as the owner of all lands by the Land Use Act 1978. What this means is that the government can acquire land from anywhere including individual lands through land acquisition procedure and revocation of rights.

5.2 Nigerian Legal/Institutional Guidelines and Requirements

5.2.1 Land Use Act of 1978 and Resettlement Procedures

The Land Use Act, 1978 (amended as Cap 202, 1990 Laws of the Federation of Nigeria) is the applicable law regarding ownership, transfer, acquisition and all such dealings on Land. The provisions of the Act vest every Parcel of Land in every State of the Federation in the Executive Governor of the State. The Governor holds such parcel of land in trust for the people and government of the State. The Act categorized the land in a state to urban and rural lands. The administration of the urban land is vested in the Governor, while the latter is vested in the Local Government Councils. At any rate, all lands irrespective of the category belongs to the State while individuals only enjoy a right of occupancy as contained in the certificate of occupancy, or where the grants are “deemed”. Relevant Sections of these laws with respect to land ownership and property rights, resettlement and compensation are summarized in this section.



The concept of ownership of land as known in the western context is varied by the Act. The Governor administers the land for the common good and benefits of all Nigerians. The law makes it lawful for the Governor to grant statutory rights of occupancy for all purposes; such as agriculture (including grazing and ancillary activities), residential and other purposes. But the limit of such grant is 500 hectares for agricultural purpose and 5,000 for grazing with the consent of the Governor. The Statutory rights of Occupancy are for a definite time (the limit is 99 years) and may be granted subject to the terms of any contract made between the state Governor and the Holder.

The local Government, under the Act is allowed to enter, use and occupy for public purposes any land within its jurisdiction that does not fall within an area compulsorily acquired by the Government of the Federation or of relevant State; or subject to any laws relating to minerals or mineral oils.

5.2.2 Requirements of the Land Use Act

The State is required to establish an administrative system for the revocation of the rights of occupancy, and payment of compensation for the affected parties. So, the Land Use Act provides for the establishment of a Land Use and Allocation Committee in each State that determines disputes as to compensation payable for improvements on the land. (Section 2 (2) (c).

In addition, each State is required to set up a Land Allocation Advisory Committee, to advise the Local Government on matters related to the management of land. The holder or occupier of such revoked land is to be entitled to the value of the unexhausted development as at the date of revocation. (Section 6) (5). Where land subject to customary right of Occupancy and used for agricultural purposes is revoked under the Land Use Act, the local government can allocate alternative land for the same purpose (section 6) (6).



If local government refuses or neglects within a reasonable time to pay compensation to a holder or occupier, the Governor may proceed to effect assessment under section 29 and direct the Local Government to pay the amount of such compensation to the holder or occupier. (Section 6) (7).

Where a right of occupancy is revoked on the ground either that the land is required by the Local, State or Federal Government for public purpose or for the extraction of building materials, the holder and the occupier shall be entitled to compensation for the value at the date of revocation of their unexhausted improvements. Unexhausted improvement has been defined by the Act as:

anything of any quality permanently attached to the land directly resulting from the expenditure of capital or labour by any occupier or any person acting on his behalf and increasing the productive capacity the utility or the amenity thereof and includes buildings plantations of long-lived crops or trees, fencing walls, roads and irrigation or reclamation works, but does not include the result of ordinary cultivation other than growing produce.

Developed Land is also defined in the generous manner under Section 50(1) as follows:

1. Land where there exists any physical improvement in the nature of road development services, water, electricity, drainage, building, structure or such improvements that may enhance the value of the land for industrial, agricultural or residential purposes.
2. It follows from the foregoing that compensation is not payable on vacant land on which there exist no physical improvements resulting from the expenditure of capital or labor. The compensation payable is the estimated value of the unexhausted improvements at the date of revocation.



5.3 Land Acquisition Procedures in Nigeria

Land acquisition procedure in all the states of Nigeria is similar and derives from the national legislation- the Land Use Act 1978. According to sections 28 and 29 of the legislation, the compulsory land acquisition needs to follow these steps:

- a. Individuals/organizations request land from the State Governor, who in turn instructs the Commissioner of Land to obtain the land through compulsory land acquisition.
- b. The Commissioner of Land instructs the Surveyor General to demarcate the land and conduct a land survey i.e. identifies the owner and establishes the compensation entitled under the national legislation.
- c. After the Commissioner of Land has reviewed and approved the survey results, the Director of Land issues a public announcement/notice to the concerned communities that invites all right holders to identify themselves to the authorities.
- d. After the end of the public disclosure period a final survey is conducted to confirm the findings of the land survey and/or register any changes.
- e. After the survey results have been either accepted by the right holders or confirmed by the Director of Lands, compensation is paid, and the land becomes the possession of the State government, which then in turn can issue a certificate of occupancy to the investor.

To conduct this process the State Government is required to establish a Land Use and Allocation Committee that reviews and solves disputes related to the compensation amounts. In addition, the State Government is required to set up a Land Allocation Advisory Committee, to advise the Local Governments on how to identify and allocate replacement land, when customary rights of occupancy on agriculture land are expropriated. The State Government has further the right to take over the process if the Local Government doesn't solve this issue in a reasonable time.



As the land is held in trust by the State Government, there is no compensation foreseen for the land as such, but for the “unexhausted improvement”, which is defined as anything of any quality permanently attached to the land directly resulting from the expenditure of capital or labor by any occupier or any person acting on his behalf, and increasing the productive capacity the utility or the amenity thereof and includes buildings plantations of long-lived crops or trees, fencing walls, roads and irrigation or reclamation works, but does not include the result of ordinary cultivation other than growing produce.” Consequently, developed land is defined in section 50(1) as “land where there exist any physical improvement road development services, water, electricity, drainage, building, structure or such improvements that may enhance the value of the land for industrial, agricultural or residential purposes”.

In sum, the provisions of the Land Use Act with a view on compensation are:

- a. Compensation is not paid for fallow or undeveloped land i.e. with no physical improvements resulting from expenditure, capital or labor.
- b. Compensation is estimated based on the value of improvements.
- c. The provision of Section 6(5) of the Act, which defines that the “holder” and the “occupier” of customary right of occupancy are entitled for this compensation, is rather confusing and vague as it fails to acknowledge that the holder of the certificate of occupancy might be different from the occupier /user of the land, just as the user of improvement on land (e.g. house) may be a tenant rather than the owner, who is the holder of certificate of occupancy.
- d. When the right of occupancy is revoked in respect of a part of a larger portion of land, compensation shall be computed in respect of the whole land for an amount equal to the rent, if any, paid by the occupier during the year in which the right of occupancy was revoked less a proportionate amount calculated in relation to the area not affected by the revocation; and any interest payable shall be assessed and computed in the like manner.
- e. When there are buildings, improvement or crops on the portion revoked, the compensation amount shall follow the principle outlined above.



The Act makes no clear description of how the public or the PAPs will be consulted in the process of involuntary resettlement and again remains rather vague by saying “there shall be a public notice so that those who have interest in the affected land will indicate their interest”.

5.4 The World Bank Environment and Social Standards

Since October 2018, all World Bank funded Investment Project Financing (IPF) are required to follow the Environmental and Social Framework (ESF) consisting of ten (10) Environment and Social Standards (ESS). These ESSs set out their requirement for the borrowers relating to the identification and assessment of environmental and social risks and impacts associated with any project. The ESSs support the borrowers in achieving good international practice relating to environmental and social sustainability, assist them in fulfilling their national and international environmental and social obligations, enhance transparency and accountability and ensure sustainable development outcome through continuous stakeholder engagement. Among the 10 standards, ESS5 on Land Acquisition, Restrictions on Land Use and Involuntary Resettlement recognizes that project-related land acquisition and restrictions on land use can have adverse impacts on communities and persons. Cross River State has prepared this RPF following the guidelines suggested under ESS5.



5.4.1 Objectives of ESS 5

- a. To avoid involuntary resettlement or, when unavoidable, minimize involuntary resettlement by exploring project design alternatives;
- b. To avoid forced eviction;
- c. To mitigate unavoidable adverse social and economic impacts from land acquisition or restrictions on land use by: (a) providing timely compensation for loss of assets at replacement cost and (b) assisting displaced persons in their efforts to improve, or at least restore, their livelihoods and living standards, in real terms, to pre-displacement levels or to levels prevailing prior to the beginning of project implementation, whichever is higher.
- d. To improve living conditions of poor or vulnerable persons who are physically displaced, through provision of adequate housing, access to services and facilities, and security of tenure.
- e. To conceive and execute resettlement activities as sustainable development programs, providing sufficient investment resources to enable displaced persons to benefit directly from the project, as the nature of the project may warrant.
- f. To ensure that resettlement activities are planned and implemented with appropriate disclosure of information, meaningful consultation, and the informed participation of those affected.



5.4.2 Applicability of ESS5

ESS5 will apply as the direct social and economic impacts of a project that are permanent or temporary and are caused by the involuntary taking of land resulting in (i) relocation or loss of shelter; (ii) loss of assets or access to assets; (iii) loss of income sources or means of livelihood, whether or not the affected persons must move to another location; or (iv) the involuntary restriction of access to legally designated parks and protected areas resulting in adverse impacts on the livelihoods of the displaced persons. The ESS5 also applies in case any subproject activities found as 'linked' or 'associated facility'. This ESS5 requirements and provisions apply to all components of Imo State Project that result in involuntary resettlement, regardless of the source of financing. In addition, ESS5 applies to permanent or temporary physical and economic displacement resulting from the following types of land acquisition or restrictions on land use undertaken or imposed in connection with project implementation:

- a. Land rights or land use rights acquired or restricted through expropriation or other compulsory procedures in accordance with national law;
- b. Land rights or land use rights acquired or restricted through negotiated settlements with property owners or those with legal rights to the land, if failure to reach settlement would have resulted in expropriation or other compulsory procedures;
- c. Restrictions on land use and access to natural resources that cause a community or groups within a community to lose access to resource usage where they have traditional or customary tenure, or recognizable usage rights. This may include situations where legally designated protected areas, forests, biodiversity areas or buffer zones are established in connection with the project;
- d. Relocation of people without formal, traditional, or recognizable usage rights, who are occupying or utilizing land prior to a project specific cut-off date;
- e. Displacement of people as a result of project impacts that render their land unusable or inaccessible;

- f. Restriction on access to land or use of other resources including communal property and natural resources such as marine and aquatic resources, timber and non-timber forest products, fresh water, medicinal plants, hunting and gathering grounds and grazing and cropping areas; Land rights or claims to land or resources relinquished by individuals or communities without full payment of compensation; and
- g. Land acquisition or land use restrictions occurring prior to the project, but which were undertaken or initiated in anticipation of, or in preparation for, the project.

5.5 International Standards for Land Acquisition and Resettlement

International standards and approaches to access and value assets and land involving compulsory acquisition or displacement is gradually being adopted in Nigeria based on lessons learned from early investments that caused significant resistance by public and private actors in Nigeria. Consultations with varied stakeholders for this RPF reveal that most states in Nigeria have improved on the valuation rate it uses for assets, which is a departure from the obsolete gazetted rate contained in the Land Use Act of 1978. The current rates used by individual states are varied but under this project, the participating states have committed to complying with the requirements of the World Bank Environmental and Social Standards (ESS).

The World Bank ESS5 applies to all components of this Project including activities resulting in involuntary resettlement that are (a) directly and significantly related to the project, (b) necessary to achieve its objectives as set forth in the project documents and (c) carried out, or planned to be carried out, contemporaneously with the investments.



The Bank's ESS5 covers direct economic and social impacts caused by the involuntary taking of land resulting in (i) relocation or loss of shelter; (ii) loss of assets or access to assets; or (iii) loss of income sources or means of livelihood, whether the affected persons must move to another location. To address these impacts a RPF and subsequent RAPs are prepared to ensure that the displaced persons are (i) informed about their options and rights pertaining to resettlement, (ii) consulted on, offered choices among, and provided with technically and economically feasible resettlement alternatives, and (iii) provided prompt and effective compensation at full replacement cost for losses of assets attributable directly to the investment.

If the impacts include physical relocation, the RPF and RAPs include measures to ensure that the displaced persons are (i) provided assistance (such as moving allowances) during relocation; and (ii) provided with residential housing, or housing sites, or, as required, agricultural sites for which a combination of productive potential, locational advantages, and other factors is at least equivalent to the advantages of the old site. Where necessary, the RPF and RAPs shall also include measures to ensure that displaced persons are (i) offered support after displacement, for a transition period, based on a reasonable estimate of the time likely to be needed to restore their livelihood and standards of living and (ii) provided with development assistance in addition to compensation measures as outlined above (iii) such as land preparation, credit facilities, training, or job opportunities. Attention should be paid to the needs of vulnerable groups among those displaced, especially those below the poverty line, the landless, the elderly, women and children, indigenous peoples, ethnic minorities, or other displaced persons who may not be protected through national land compensation legislation.

The implementation of the land acquisition and resettlement activities shall be linked to the implementation of the investments to ensure that displacement does not occur before necessary measures for resettlement are in place. These measures include provision of compensation and of other assistance required for relocation, prior to displacement, and preparation and provision of resettlement sites with



adequate facilities, where required. Taking of land and related assets shall take place only after compensation has been paid and, where applicable, resettlement sites and moving allowances have been provided to the displaced persons. As indicated for displaced people whose livelihoods are land-based, preference should be given to land-based resettlement strategies provided with land for which a combination of productive potential, location advantages, and other factors is at least equivalent to the advantages of the land taken. If land is not the preferred option of the displaced persons or sufficient land is not available at a reasonable price, non-land-based options built around opportunities for employment or self-employment should be provided in addition to cash compensation for land and other assets lost. The lack of adequate land must be demonstrated and documented to the satisfaction of the Bank.

Payment of cash compensation for lost assets may be appropriate where (a) livelihoods are land-based but the land taken for the project is a small fraction of the affected asset and the residual is economically viable; (b) active markets for land, housing, and labor exist, displaced persons use such markets, and there is sufficient supply of land and housing; or (c) livelihoods are not land-based. Cash compensation levels should be sufficient to replace the lost land and other assets at full replacement cost in local markets. Displaced persons may be classified in one of the following three groups:

- a. those who have formal legal rights to land (including customary and traditional rights recognized under the laws of the country);
- b. those who do not have formal legal rights to land at the time the census begins but have a claim to such land or assets--provided that such claims are recognized under the laws of the country or become recognized through a process identified in the RAP; and
- c. those who have no recognizable legal right or claim to the land they are occupying.



Persons covered under para. (a) and (b) are provided compensation for the land they lose, and other assistance. Persons covered under para. (c) are provided resettlement assistance in lieu of compensation for the land they occupy, and other assistance, as necessary, to achieve the objectives set out in ESS5, if they occupy the project area prior to a cut-off. Persons who encroach on the area after the cut-off date are not entitled to compensation or any other form of resettlement assistance. All persons are provided compensation for loss of assets other than land.

5.6 Gap Analysis between Nigerian Law and World Bank ESS5 and Gap Filling Measures

In Table 5.1, a comparison between Nigerian Land law and the WB ESS 5 is shown. Whereas the law relating to land administration in Nigeria is wide and varied, entitlements for payment of compensation are essentially based on right of ownership. The Bank's ESS 5 is fundamentally different from this and states that affected persons are entitled to some form of compensation whether or not they have legal title if they occupy the land by an announced cut-off date. The Table provides assessment of key relevant clauses in the Nigerian extant law regarding involuntary resettlement/land acquisition and that of the World Bank ESS 5 and provides solutions to existing gaps.

The Nigeria Land Use Act and World Bank ESS 5 agree that compensation should be given to PAPs in the event of land acquisition and displacement of persons prior to the commencement of works. Thus, all land to be acquired by the government for this project will be so acquired subject to the Laws of Nigeria and the Bank ESS 5



Table 5.1: Gaps between Nigerian Law and World Bank ESS5 and Gap filling Measures / Actions

CATEGORY	NIGERIAN LAW	WORL BANK ESS5	MEASURES TO FILLING THE GAPS
Minimization of resettlement	No requirement to consider all options of project design in order to minimize the need for resettlement or displacement	Involuntary resettlement should be avoided where feasible, or minimized, exploring all viable alternative project designs	Design of footprints (actual and specific designs) of project related activities particularly commercial farmland will be undertaken to minimize resettlement.
Information and consultation	Its lawful to revoke or acquire land by the governor after issuance of notice. No consultation is required	PAPs are required to be meaningfully consulted and participate in the resettlement process	PAPs shall be consulted and engaged in the resettlement process.
Timing of compensation	The law is silent on the timing of payment	Compensation implementation to take precedence before construction or displacement	Compensation and resettlement implementation to take place before construction or displacement
Livelihood restoration	Makes no prescription on livelihood restoration measures	Requires that vulnerable PAPs be rehabilitated	livelihood restoration measures will be put in place for vulnerable PAPs
Grievance process	The land use and allocation committee appointed by the Governor is vested with all disputes/ grievance and compensation Matters	Requires that a grievance redress mechanism be set early constituting the representatives of PAPs and prefers local redress mechanism. The law court is the last resort when available mechanism or outcome is unsatisfactory to PAP.	A grievance redress committee(GRC) shall be established early and existing local redress process shall be considered to address issues of project induced grievances. PAPs or their representatives shall be member of GRC.
Owners of economic trees and crops	Compensation for an amount equal to the value as prescribed by	Compensation for the market value of the yield plus the cost of	Compensation for the market value of the yield plus the cost of



Community land with customary right	Compensation in cash to the community, chief or leader of the community for the benefit of the community	Land for land compensation or any other in-kind compensation agreed to with the community	Land for land compensation or any other in-kind compensation agreed to with the community
Agricultural land	Entitled to alternative agricultural land	Land for the land compensation	Land for land compensation
Fallow Land	No compensation	Land for land compensation subject to land holding right	Land for land compensation subject to land holding right.
Statutory and customary right land owners	Cash compensation equal to the rent paid by the occupier during the year in which the Right of occupancy was revoked	Recommends land- for- land compensation or other form of compensation at full replacement cost	Recommends land- for- land compensation or other form of compensation at full replacement cost
Owners of “Non-permanent” Building	Cash compensation based on the market value of the building (that means depreciation is allowed)	Entitled to in-kind compensation or cash compensation at full replacement cost including labour and other relocation expenses, prior to displacement	Entitled to in-kind compensation or cash compensation at full replacement labour and relocation expenses, prior to displacement.
Owners of “permanent” building and installations	Resettlement in any other place by way of reasonable alternative accommodation or cash compensation based on market value	Entitled to in-kind compensation or cash compensation at full replacement cost including labour and relocation expenses, prior to displacement.	Entitled to in-kind compensation or cash compensation at full replacement cost including labour and relocation expenses, prior to displacement.
Rejection of compensation	No categorical Statement	The taking of land and related assets may only proceed if the project has deposited funds equal to the amount offered as compensation plus 10 percent in a secure form of escrow or other interest-bearing deposit satisfying the banks fiduciary requirements.	The project must provide a means satisfactory for resolving the dispute concerning the offer of compensation in a timely and equitable manners as issues are resolved.



5.7 Major outcomes of the Review of Nigeria Legislation and the International Policy on Involuntary Resettlement

Following the review and gap analysis contained in Table 5.1, the following conclusions can be made:

- a. In the event of divergence between the Nigeria Legislation and the World Bank Environmental and Social Standards, the more stringent and pro-poor law is to be followed in the implementation of this project.
- b. That entitlement value for affected land and assets varies with the type of asset which are identified as follow:

State (urban and non-urban) owned Land

State owned land would be allocated free by the Governor or Local Government (perhaps eAJ xcept for processing and registration fees). The State Agency would be expected to pay compensation/resettlement assistance to acquire land in this category in cases where the state- owned land is being used by landlords or squatters, settled upon or otherwise being used.

Privately owned Land

Privately owned property, would have to be acquired at the replacement cost. The guiding principle is that whoever was using the land to be acquired would be provided other land of equal size and quality.

Assets held under Customary Law

According to Nigeria law, assets held under customary rights are in the Local Government jurisdictions only and would have to be valued according to the following method and compensation paid for:

- I. The project would compensate for assets and investments, including labour, buildings, and other improvements, according to the provisions of the resettlement plan.



Compensation rates would be based on replacement costs as of the date and time that the replacement is to be provided;

ii. Compensation would not be made after the entitlement cut-off date in compliance with this policy. Under customary law land belongs to chiefdoms, towns and villages;

iii. The permanent loss of any such land will be covered by community compensation, which will be in-kind, only. However, because the Bank's ESS5 makes no distinction between statute and customary rights, not only assets and investments will be compensated for, but also land; Thus, a customary land owner or land user on state owned land will be compensated for land, assets, investments, loss of access etc. at market rates at the time of the loss.



CHAPTER SIX

VALUATION AND COMPENSATION



6.1 Methods of Valuation for Different Categories of Assets/Entitlements

This section of the RPF sets out the detailed requirements for determining the value of affected assets, and the scope of valuation covers all categories of impacts/assets identified during the social assessment and described in the entitlement matrix. The essence is to ensure appropriate procedure and fair compensation to the project affected groups that are in tandem with best practices which ESS5 supports. Therefore, the basis of this valuation is derived from the ESS5 of the World Bank and the Land Use Act 1978 of Nigeria. The valuation will estimate asset compensation rates based on full replacement cost without depreciation (Table 6). The replacement cost approach is based on the premise that the costs of replacing productive assets is based on damages caused by project operations.



6.2 Description of Key Valuation Approaches and Compensation Terms

(a) Replacement Cost Approach (RCA): Replacement cost is the market value of the affected asset plus transaction cost. The RCA assumes that cost and value are related. It involves finding the estimate of the gross replacement cost of an asset which is the estimated cost of constructing a substitute structure or buying an alternative land in a location and size of equal value at current market prices.

(b) Market Comparison Approach (MCA): This involves the direct comparison of the property's value determining features with those of immediate and surrounding vicinity that sold recently. This method simply arrives at the value of an asset by taking an estimate of similar asset (in size, frame and location) sold in recent time to arrive at the cost of the asset to be acquired or demolished by a project. It is most desirable when cash compensation is the choice compensation.

6.3 Valuation Methods for Categories of Impacted Assets¹.Land

The following land asset types identified under Nigeria law in this policy framework include:

a. State (urban and non-urban) owned Land

State owned land will be allocated free by the Governor or Local Government (perhaps except for processing and registration fees). The State Agency will be expected to pay compensation to acquire land in this category in cases where the state-owned land is being used by landlords or squatters, settled upon or otherwise being used.

b. Assets held under Customary Law

According to Nigeria law, assets held under customary rights are in the Local Government jurisdictions only and will be valued according to the following method and compensation paid for. The project will compensate assets and investments, including buildings, and other improvements, according to the provisions of the resettlement plan. Compensation rates will be replacement cost as determined by surveys of recent transactions of similar assets in the same area as of the date and time that the replacement is to be provided. Under customary law land belongs to chiefdoms, towns and villages. The permanent loss of any such land will be covered by community compensation, which will be in-kind only. A customary land owner or land user on state owned land will be compensated for land, assets, investments, loss of access etc. at replacement rates at the time of the loss.



c. Privately owned Land

In the event of permanent land acquisition of titled land, the first premise is provision of replacement land. The guiding principle is that whoever was using the land to be acquired will be provided other land of equal size and quality. In the case where no alternative land is available within a reasonable distance such as to minimize disruption to other aspects of socio-economic life, cash compensation at full replacement value should be provided using the MCA method. This should be valued based on the prevailing market value in the locality to purchase an equally productive plot of land in the same locality. In addition, any associated costs of purchasing the land i.e., taxes, registration fees will need to be included in the compensation.

Also, the PAP will be compensated for any permanent improvements made to the land (for instance irrigation structures). This will be calculated based on the price of making the permanent improvement at current prevailing market rates for labor, equipment and materials.

Where land lost is only a small proportion of total land owned by the PAP, but renders the remaining land as unusable, the compensation provided should be calculated based on the total land affected (i.e., the actual land lost plus the remaining unusable land). If land is required temporarily, standing crop will be compensated at fully matured market rate or government rate, whichever is higher. The compensation will be paid to the sharecroppers rather than the owner, where the tiller is not the owner (e.g. tenant or share cropper). There will hence be no adjustment in the terms of the rent of share cropping agreement.



2. Structure/Building

The replacement cost approach will be adopted for the valuation of dwellings and structures. To use replacement cost approach relevant data to be captured during RAP preparation include:

- Location details of the affected land (boundaries of the area/section of the land);
- Affected immovable properties (detailed measurement of building/structure and materials used);
- Property details including construction information such as number of rooms, type of roof, wall, fence walls, gates, pavements, interior ancillary decoration, etc.
- Prices of items collected in different local markets used to construct different types of structures (e.g. poles, bricks, rafters, bundles of straw, corrugated iron sheets, doors etc.), including labour required.
- Categorizing temporary structures based on constructional details (wall materials), size of structure and use of structure;
- Costs for transportation and delivery of these items to the acquired/ replacement land or building site.
- Social profile/data on affected household (owner, tenants, dependents and livelihood)

-
Compensation will be made for structures that are (i) abandoned because of relocation or resettlement of an individual or household, or (ii) directly damaged by subproject activities.

3. Fruit trees/Farm crops/Woodlots

Impacts associated with losses of income from any of the above items will be calculated as follows:



a. Compensation for fruit tree is cash compensation for average fruit production for 3 years at current market value. Although government rate prepared by NTDF exists, market research will be conducted by appropriate experts (independent quantity survey) to determine if the government rate is in tune with current market rate. Where this rate is different from current market rate, the later will be used to fulfil the condition “current market ate” of ESS5

b. Compensation for farm crops is at full market value of crop yield per hectare. This entails conducting an inventory of size of hectares farmed by each PAP and the type of crop. The existing market value of crop yield per hectare will be determined and adjusted (as may be necessary for inflation) during RAP preparation so that end result will be reminiscent of prevailing market price at the time of RAP compensation.

c. Compensation for woodlot is Cash compensation at current market value. All woodlot attracts a flat rate using market rate.



The valuation methods for categories of impacted assets are shown in table below;

Table 6.1: Method of Valuation

S/NO	TYPE OF LOSS	COMPARATIVE SALES METHOD	BASED ON THE OPEN MARKET VALUE OF COMPARABLE RECENT TRANSACTION
1.	Loss of building, structures and other civil works	Replacement cost method or comparative sales method (which ever given a commensurate value)	Full replacement cost value as if new- recent construction cost rates
2	Loss of business income and loss of business Goodwill	Comparative method	Based on the average monthly net profit
3.	Loss of income from rent and expenditure incurred for alternative accommodation during reinstatement period	Comparative sales methos	Based on the comparable rent payment , rent advance paid.
4.	Expenditure incurred for transfer of moveable properties and temporary structures	Comparative methos	Based on truck/ transport hiring charges.
5.	Loss of wages -loss of fees form	Comparative Method	Based on current fees and wages
6.	Loss of access to land used for agriculture	Comparative method	Based on crop compensation resettlement assistance; Economic rehabilitation assistance.



6.4 Mechanism for Voluntary Donation of Land: Procedure and Records

The Project anticipates that land for widening of existing setbacks or establishment of agro logistic hub may be donated by communities or individuals that will be directly benefitting from the project on a voluntary basis. This RPF recognizes that these voluntary donations should not severely affect the living standards of PAPs and that the community agrees to replace any of their losses. This RPF requires that voluntary donations are confirmed and verified by an independent third party. The following procedures, records and safeguards will be adhered to by the Project and included in respective RAPs of subprojects, which involve voluntary donations of land and other assets:

1. Site Selection Consultations

While selecting a site for a structure for any of the sub-projects or activities associated with the sub- projects, proponent should conduct detailed consultations with customarily recognized or legally titled landowners and any non-titled affected people, such as squatters, tenants, and herders that may have traditional access to these areas. The SPCU/Project team will facilitate meetings to reach consensus for locations that have least adverse impact. The donors of such land could be a community/clan or sub- clan that owns undivided land collectively or as individuals.



2. Replacement of Losses of the Vulnerable and Poor

Where site selection severely affects the living standards of PAPs, the project will undertake to replace the loss by relocating them to a similar location with comparable resources within the same community or paying reasonable compensation that is acceptable to them. To help facilitate a mutual understanding of 'reasonable compensation,' the Project team will guide both parties in line with the compensation and valuation principles in the Project's Entitlement Matrix.

3. Record of Communally Guaranteed Amelioration Measures, Third Party Verification, and Grievance Redress

Agreed measures to replace losses of people severely affected by the donations will be verbally accepted by all the PAPs (recognized heads of each household) in the presence of a mutually agreed third party and documented on an affidavit which shall include a description of the amelioration measures guaranteed by the community. The donor community will be represented by a recognized elder(s) of clan(s) or sub-clan(s) who will affix their signatures and/or thumb impressions on the affidavit. The NGOs that are present or involved in facilitating the community mobilization will play the role of the third party. The NGO will also affix their signatures and/or thumb impressions on the affidavit. Construction will only proceed after the donor community has replaced losses through agreed measures and the amelioration has been verified by the PAPs themselves to the mutually agreed third party, verbally and documented in an affidavit to which all PAPs (recognized heads of each household) and the third party affix their signatures and/or thumb impressions. The PAPs will be informed of voluntary donation procedures as part of the disclosure policy of the Project and have access to the grievance redress mechanism outline in this RPF.

4. Record of Donation and Verified Transfer by Legal Authority

Donations by the community or an individual will be documented on an affidavit and confirmed verbally by the individual owner or a recognized elder(s) of clan(s) or sub-clan(s) in front or in the presence of two witnesses known from the same community certifying the identity of the donors. The donors and witnesses will affix their signatures and /or thumb impressions with dates on the affidavit and the land will be transferred in the name of the community organization (CO) of the respective subproject.



6.5 Arrangements for Compensation

A Compensation and Relocation Committee will be set up and be responsible for planning, coordinating and monitoring of compensation and relocation activities. The compensation process for the subproject will involve several steps to be carried out in accordance with the resettlement and compensation plan and the RAP. This will be in accordance with the individual project resettlement and compensation plans as outlined below:

1. Public Participation

This process seeks the involvement and concerns of the PAPs and the communities in a participatory approach with the project, from the beginning to implementation. Public participation with local communities is an ongoing process throughout resettlement planning and this will have taken off at the screening stage. PAPs will be notified during the identification of subprojects and consulted with as part of the screening process.

The subsequent socio-economic survey will record all relevant information about the PAPs and ensure that this is accurately reflected in the RAP in order to allocate the appropriate compensation. Periodic monitoring will ensure that PAPs have been consulted and that compensation and relocation has been carried out satisfactorily. This will ensure that no affected individual household is simply “notified” one day that they are affected in this way.

2. Notification

Landowners will be notified by the State Agency that their property is required for development of the subproject. The user will be informed through both a formal notification, both written and verbal, to be delivered in the presence of the community heads and the Coordination Committee. To ensure that any sensitive areas are accurately identified during this procedure, all necessary community heads, religious leaders, other elders and individuals will accompany the project team to the site.



3. Documentation of Holdings and Assets

The Imo State officials and the local community will arrange meetings with the project affected persons to discuss the compensation process. For each individual or household affected, the project officials complete a compensation dossier containing necessary personal information on the affected party and those individuals considered as household members, total land holdings, inventory of assets affected, and information for monitoring future arrangements. The dossier shall be confirmed and witnessed by village/community officials and will be kept up-to-date. This is necessary because it ensures monitoring of an individual over time. All claims and assets should be documented in writing.

4. Agreement on Compensation and Preparation of Contracts

The types of compensation shall be clearly explained to the individual or household involved. The Imo State will draw up a contract, listing all property and/or land being surrendered, and the types of compensation (cheque and/or in-kind). A person selecting in-kind compensation has an order form, which is signed and witnessed. The compensation contract and the grievance redress mechanisms are to be read aloud in the presence of the affected party and the representative of the local government chairman (or his/her representative), the project officials, and other community leaders prior to signing.

5. Compensation Payments

All handing over of property such as land and buildings and compensation payments will be made in the presence of the affected party, representative of the state environmental agency, representative from the State Project Management Unit, NGO and the community officials.



6.6 Procedures for Delivery of Compensation

The procedure for delivery Includes the following:

- a. Full payment of compensation is carried out before possession of acquired sites and before civil works begin.
- b. Offers to Project Affected Persons (PAPs) and allow them to accept or reject compensation for transparency's sake, offer a counter claim and seek redress under the grievance procedures established
- c. Land/Asset valuation committee communicates the amount to be paid to the acquiring agency and the Ministry of lands will ensure that the amounts are fair and adequate.
- d. Cheques in the name of the beneficiary or deposits to the beneficiary's bank account shall be the preferred and first mode of payment; however, payment may be by banker's draft where the amounts involved are "minimal". SPCUs shall make arrangements with nearest bank to effect payments by banker's draft;
- e. Payments are made to the affected person personally by the State Agency in the presence of Land/Asset Valuation Committee and an independent witness of the affected person/opinion leader.
- f. Proper receipts are issued and copies given to the affected person, the Finance Department of the Plateau State Agency and the Land/Asset Valuation committed/Asset Valuation committee.



CHAPTER SEVEN

GRIEVANCE REDRESS MECHANISM



7.1 Introduction

This RPF anticipates that disputes or complaints may arise as a fallout of land Acquisition, Restrictions on Land Use and Involuntary Resettlement resulting from the implementation of this Project. Therefore, Imo State acknowledges the right of PAPs to grievance redress, and hence in consultation with stakeholders establishes this Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) as alternative dispute resolution arrangement. Going through the court (judicial system) by aggrieved PAPs for redress may take longer periods and many times, are accompanied with court injunctions which adversely affect project implementation. Therefore, establishing a GRM is a proactive measure for addressing and resolving complaints out of court.



As experienced in past projects, complaints and grievances may arise during implementation of the resettlement and compensation programme and may be relayed to the following issues:

- a. Disputed ownership of a given asset by two or more affected individuals having claim on the same land and inheritance of the acquired lands to affected persons,
- b. Incomplete census as well as inadequate valuation of affected assets,
- c. Compensation entitlements, complains against noise, pollution, accident,
- d. Errors related to identification and disputes on boundaries between affected individual(s) in specifying their land parcels and associated development.
- e. Disagreements on plot/asset valuation.
- f. Divorces, successor and family issues resulting into ownership dispute or dispute share between heirs or family.
- g. Where affected individual(s) opt for a resettlement-based option, disagreement on the resettlement package (the location of the resettlement site does not suit them).
- h. GBV and other social and environmental issues.

In view of this, Imo State will establish a procedure to deal with and resolve any queies as well as address complaints and grievances about any irregularities in the application of the guidelines adopted in this RPF for assessment and mitigation of social and environmental impacts through grievance redress mechanism (GRM). The GRM will deal with complaints and grievances related to both resettlement and other social and environmental issues beyond resettlement in this Project. Grievance redress committees (GRC) will be formed to receive and resolve complaints as well as grievances from aggrieved persons from the local stakeholders including the project-affected persons. Based on consensus, the procedure will help to resolve issues/conflicts amicably and quickly, saving the aggrieved persons from having to resort to expensive, time-consuming legal actions. The procedure will, however, not pre-empt a person's right to go to the courts of law.



7.2 Objectives of GRM

The fundamental objectives of the GRM, implemented through the GRC serving as a par-legal body, are to resolve any resettlement-related grievances locally in consultation with the aggrieved party to facilitate smooth implementation of the social and environmental action plans. Another important objective is to democratize the development process at the local level and to establish accountability to the affected people. In other words, the grievance mechanisms:

- a. Provide a way to reduce risk for projects.
- b. Provide an effective avenue for expressing concerns and achieving remedies for communities and promote a mutually constructive relationship.
- c. Prevent and address community concerns and assist larger processes that create positive social change.
- d. change.

7.3 Benefit GRM

The establishment of a GRM is beneficial for organizational and Project strengthening. Grievances should be seen as a gift and not a threat to the Project. Grievances submitted are a source of valuable information that can help to strengthen the implementation of the Project and provide support and protection to Project beneficiaries. Imo State ability to resolve grievances demonstrates transparency and accountability to beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries.

Who can raise grievances?

Anyone can raise a grievance about Imo State. Beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries are all welcome to submit complaints on any aspect of Imo State via any of the available grievance channels (e.g. in-person to staff or volunteers or by phone, letter, email, or social media).



Structure for managing grievances and Staff responsible

The following can receive grievances from complainants under the State Imo GRM:

1. Grievance Volunteers and Ward Facilitators (at community the level)
2. LGA Field Supervisors (LFS) and Support Officers (at LGA level)
3. Imo State GRM Focal Points - specifically the Social Safeguards and Environmental Safeguards Anchors and Advisers (at State the level)
4. Imo State GRM Focal Points – specifically the Social Safeguards and Environmental Safeguards Anchors and Advisers (at Federal the level)

7.4 How can grievances be Submitted?

At the LGA, State levels:

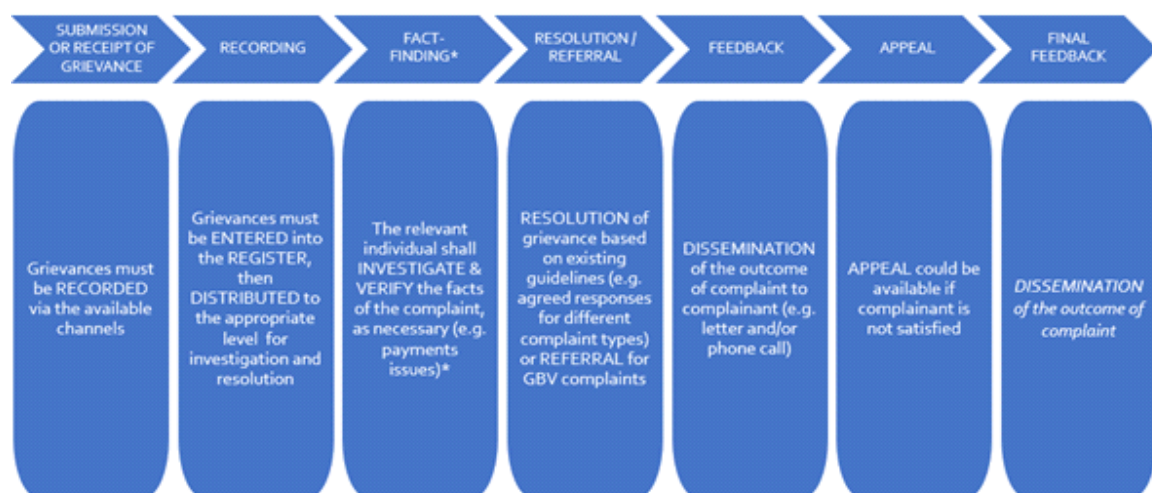
1. LFSs / WSOs: Complaints can be made through the LFSs or WSOs in person or in writing. They are also responsible for reviewing any complaints relating to their LGA received via any channel. They are effectively trained on project activities to collate and address grievances, channeling them as necessary to the Plateau State GRM Fps.
2. Imo State GRM FPs: Grievances can be made at the state offices either in person, via telephone, in writing, or through any other accessible channel as there are Imo State GRM FPs that have been trained on effectively handling and managing grievances. Telephone numbers for State hotlines will be displayed at various state and local government offices and in Project communities.

Addressing complaints related to GBV and SEA/SH

The Imo State GRM takes complaints related to gender-based violence (GBV) and sexual exploitation or abuse / sexual harassment seriously. A separate GBV accountability and Response Framework have been prepared to address GBV allegations and to hold perpetrators accountable. However, for any complaint that is reported to the GRM (including complaints involving other forms of GBV that are not related to the project), the GRM will also have procedures in place to refer the individual to GBV service providers.

BASIC PROCESSES IN GRIEVANCE HANDLING

The following are basic processes to be followed in handling grievances:



*There is no investigation for GBV complaints – these should be referred via the appropriate referral pathway if the complainant so desires.



Service Standards for Imo State GRM

- Imo State will ensure that all grievances are handled and resolved within the specified time frame depending on the category of complaint. The maximum time frame for resolving categories of issues that are within the remit of Imo State will be 3 months (90 days).
- Imo State will ensure that feedback is provided to complainants on the status of their grievances within 28 working days from the time the complaint was first received.
- Where investigations are likely to take more than 7 days, Imo State will provide complainants with a progress update.
- Imo State will guarantee that all complainants are treated with respect and fairness.
- Imo State will ensure that persons with disabilities and other vulnerable groups can easily access the GRM using available channels for registering complaints.
- Imo State will ensure that GBV and SEA/SH complaints are treated appropriately following a survivor-centered approach

Guiding Principles

To effectively manage grievances, there are basic principles that must be followed to ensure that the grievance redress mechanism is effective and valuable to beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries. The key principles include the following:

I. Communicated and Visible

A good grievance mechanism should be clearly communicated to all relevant stakeholders (beneficiaries, the general public, and others). Information on how to channel grievances should be clear and widely publicized. Beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries should be informed on the timelines and the necessary steps that will be taken in handling their grievances. Information on what type of grievances can be made should also be clearly communicated to the beneficiaries, staff, and any other interested party. In the case of NFWP the Ward Facilitators (WFs), WAG Support Officers (WSOs), and LGA Field Supervisors



(LFSs) are the frontline staff who engage directly with citizens hence should be well knowledgeable on how the GRM operates. Accessible: An effective GRM should be easily accessible by all. It should offer multiple channels for receiving and responding to grievances (e.g. in person, by phone, in writing, etc.). The conditions of the beneficiaries and other interested citizens should be taken into account when establishing a GRM. For example, if the GRM has a hotline element and there are beneficiaries with no phones, the grievance handling process should offer other alternatives such as face to face interaction or writing letters as alternatives for channeling grievances.

Also, a good GRM should enable and encourage the use of different local languages in channeling grievances, which makes it more accessible for those who may not understand the official language.

II. Responsive

It is essential that a GRM should be responsive to the needs of its beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries. It should ensure that grievances are acknowledged, and issues resolved promptly. Staff handling the complaints must follow the agreed targeted timelines for resolving grievances. A responsive GRM will ensure that complainants are regularly informed on the progress or status of their grievances. A good GRM should be responsive to the needs of different people, including vulnerable persons such as the elderly or disabled, and those who cannot speak or write in English. It should also take a survivor-centered approach to gender-based violence (GBV) and sexual exploitation and abuse / sexual harassment (SEA/SH) complaints.

III. Fair and Objective

Grievance handling staff should be fair and objective when handling and managing grievances. Grievances should be handled with all sense of fairness and without any bias. Staff receiving grievances should be objective and empathetic towards the complainant and should not be defensive, unfair or seen to be taking sides. Complainants should feel that they were treated fairly and with respect.



7.5 Expectation When Grievances Arise

When local people present a grievance, they generally expect to receive one or more of the following: acknowledgement of their problem, an honest response to questions/issues brought forward, an apology, adequate compensation, modification of the conduct that caused the grievance and some other fair remedies. In voicing their concerns, they also expect to be heard and taken seriously. Therefore, the company, contractors, or government officials must convince people that they can voice grievances and work to resolve them without retaliation. To address these challenges, companies are being called upon to lead and work with their host communities to fund non-judicial, dialogue-based approaches for preventing and addressing community grievances.

7.6 Grievance Redress Process

At the time that the individual resettlement plans are approved and individual compensation contracts are signed, affected individuals and communities will have been informed of the process for expressing dissatisfaction and to seek redress. The grievance procedure will be simple and administered as far as possible at the local levels to facilitate access, flexibility and ensure transparency. All the grievances will be channeled via the Resettlement and Compensation Committee for each sub project at the sub- project level.

There is no ideal model or one-size-fits-all approach to grievance resolution. The best solutions to conflicts are generally achieved through localized mechanisms that take account of the specific issues, cultural context, local customs and project conditions and scale. Annex 4 contains grievance redress forms that could be used for grievance mechanism. In its simplest form, grievance mechanisms can be broken down into the following primary components:



a. Registration

The first step is the presentation of a grievance at the uptake point at any level. The social contact person or secretary of the committee will receive grievance from the complainant, register and acknowledge receipt of grievance to the grievant within 2 days. The registration form will capture the following data: 1) Case number, 2) Name of the complainant, 3) Date of the grievance, 4) Gender, 5) Complete address, 6) Category of the grievance, 7) persons involved, and impacts on complainant life, 8) Proofs and witnesses, and 9) Previous records of similar grievances.

b. Verification

The verification determines among other things whether the matter has relationship with the project activities, and whether the matter can be handled/resolved at the level where it is presented. This will determine if the matter should be referred to the next level or not. Part of the investigations may also be to assess the cost of lost or risk involved in the grievance. The processing step is when options for the approach to resolving the case are weighed and determined. Parties involved in the case are brought together for the first attempt at resolution with suggestions from the parties on practical steps to be taken which may also involve site visit for physical inspection and determination of the claim.

c. Feedback

All responses to the complainant in a grievance redress process that moves beyond a unit level must be communicated in writing and/or by verbal presentation to the complainant. This will include a follow up on the corresponding authority where cases are referred, to ascertain the status of reported cases. Feedback on outcome of each case should get to the complainant through the secretary of committee or social contact/safeguard person. It is expected that reported complaints at each level will be resolved and determined within 21 days from date of receipt of the complaint.

Grievance resolution will be a continuous process in subproject level activities and implementation. The Imo State will keep records of all resolved and unresolved complaints and grievances (one file for each case record) and make them available for review as and when asked for by the Bank and any other interested persons/entities. The Imo State will also prepare periodic reports on the grievance resolution process and publish these on the Imo State website. The Imo State program intends to strengthen the



GRM through information and communication technology to ensure that all complaints including those of sexual exploitation and abuse are immediately reported to the Government. Imo State will integrate the GRM on a web-based dashboard, to adequately and promptly address any potential grievance related to Gender Based Violence and SEA.

The complaints registered in this system will be managed by a dedicated administrator that will liaise immediately with any GBV and SEA complaints with the contractors, consultant and Imo State for immediate measures. If the GRM receives a case on sexual exploitation and abuse related to the project, it will be recorded, and the complainant will be referred to the relevant assistance, if needed, for referral to any other service providers. The supervision consultant will keep the information confidential to protect privacy of GBV and SEA complainants. In cases, where the perpetrator(s) is linked to project activities then the contractor will take appropriate actions as per the Code of Conduct signed by the particular person and under the effective law in Nigeria. Imo State will report activities and outcomes of GBV and SEA surveillance and management to the World Bank on a regular basis.

7.7 Financing of the Grievance Redress Mechanism and Cost of Remediation

The proponent shall be responsible for the funding of logistics for the GRC as well as the eventual compensation or resettlement remediation that aggrieved party may be entitled to. The proponent will also be responsible for the cost of the judicial process for cases that result to court for adjudication. Table 7.1 below show the implementation plan for the GRM.



Table 7.1: Implementation Plan for Grievance Mechanism

STEPS	PROCESS	DESCRIPTION	COMPLETION TIME	RESPONSIBLE AGENCY/PERSON
1	Receipt of complaint	Document date of receipt, name of complainant , village, nature of complaint , inform the SPCU	1 day	Secretary to GRC at project level
2.	Acknowledgement of grievance	By letter, email, phone	1-5 days	Social safeguard officer at SPCU
3.	Screen and establish the merit of the grievance	Visit the site, listen to the complainant / community; and assess the merit	7-14 days	GRC including the social safeguard officer & the aggrieved PAP or his / her representative.



4.	Implement and monitor a redress action	Where complaint is justified, carry out resettlement redress in line with the entitlement matrix/ESS5	21 days or at a time specified in writing to the aggrieved PAP	PC-PCU and social safeguard Officer
5.	Extra intervention for dissatisfied	Review the redress steps and conclusions, provide intervention solution	2-3 weeks of receiving status	PC-PCU
6.	Judicial adjudication	Take complaint to court of law	No fixed time	Complainant
7.	Funding of grievance process	GRC logistics and training, redress compensation, court process	No fixed time	The proponent (Government or Investor)



CHAPTER EIGHT

CONSULTATIONS, STAKEHOLDER PARTICIPATION AND DISCLOSURE



8.1 Purpose of Stakeholders' Engagement

Stakeholder and Community consultations are key to the success of the project as well this RPF. Consultation is important both as a tool for information gathering and for carrying the stakeholders along in order to achieve sustainability. Consultations which began at this stage of the RPF will continue during the RAP/ARAP preparation stage up to the project implementation stage.

The thrust of the consultations carried out in preparing this RPF are to:

1. notify project affected persons and community about the project set up and development objectives;
2. establishing and maintain a two-way process of dialogue and understanding between the project and its stakeholders,
3. create ownership and
4. elicit broader inputs and suggestions that will ensure project sustainability and success.



8.2 Stakeholders Identification

The RPF team worked in conjunction with the Imo State in identifying the stakeholders. Stakeholders include groups, institutions and MDAs who will be affected by the project and/or those that have responsibilities in project implementation. In addition to the list stated below for identified stakeholders, it is expected that more stakeholders at the rural and community levels will be identified at the RAP/ARAP development stage. Among the identified stakeholders at this stage include:

The lists of stakeholders consulted include:

1. Ministry of Agriculture
2. Bureau of Lands, Survey and Town Planning
3. Ministry of Environment
4. Ministry of Commerce and Industry
5. Ministry of Education
6. Ministry of Works
7. Ministry of Transport
8. Ministry of Forestry
9. Ministry of Finance, Budget and Planning
10. Ministry of Water Resources
11. Local Government Councils
12. Farmers Associations including women farmers' association
13. Ministry of Social Development
14. Cooperative Societies, CSOs/NGOs

8.4 Summary of stakeholders consultation

The thrust of the consultations carried out in preparing this RPF are to:

- notify project affected persons and community about the project set up and development objectives;
- establish and maintain a two-way process of dialogue and



- understanding between the project and its stakeholders,
- create ownership and elicit broader inputs and suggestions that will ensure project sustainability and success.

8.5 Mechanism for Future Engagement/Consultation of PAPs

PAPs shall be consulted via the use of the existing recognized traditional structures in which consultation is conducted through the village/community leadership. This means of engagement is widely acceptable and an effortless way to reach all the groups in the community based on the existing traditional governance structure. The use of social gatherings such as Women Associations, Village Meeting Structure, Cooperative Groups, Churches and Mosques will be important for dissemination of information to PAPs, and finally, there is the need to segment consultations into smaller targeted groups. This is premised at giving a voice to less advantaged groups, minority settlers and groups in the resettlement planning. To do this effectively, the attendance records of the various groups having phone numbers and contacts will be used to call or reach out to PAPs, including coordinating them for group meetings as and when necessary

8.6 Table for consultation of Stakeholders

Depending on the target stakeholder and objective of consultation at any point, one or a combination of the following tools should be used.



STAKEHOLDER	CONSULTATION TOOLS
Project affected person and groups	Focus group discussions, questionnaire, worship centres.
Livestock Farmer Groups	Community town hall meetings, print materials
Traders, Land owners, tenants, squatters, Herdsmen, vulnerable group/ women, crop farmers	Phone call, Visit, meetings
Government Agencies / Ministries contractors	Phone calls, e-mails, visit, meetings, electronic media.

8.4 Disclosure Requirements

As a standard practice, the Project safeguard documents including RPF and RAP/s released for disclosure are accompanied by making available the registers of comments and suggestions from the public that are subsequently documented by the Imo State Government in a formal manner. Imo State Government will continue applying the similar approach to disclosure for any additional safeguard appraisal materials that will be prepared as part of the project development.

The RPF and RAP will be disclosed in compliance with relevant Nigerian regulations and the World Bank operational policy. It will be disclosed in-country at designated centres such as Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Federal Ministry of Environment, State Ministry of Land and Survey, State Ministry of Environment, other stakeholders in the nineteen states of northern Nigeria and at strategic locations in the affected communities. It



will also be disclosed in 2 daily newspapers for 21 days as required by the Nigerian extant laws. Electronic copies of the safeguard documents will be placed on the project website and also, the World Bank will disclose the document on its website. This will allow stakeholders with access to Internet to view information about the planned development and to initiate their involvement in the public consultation process. The website will be equipped with an on-line feedback feature that will enable readers to leave their comments in relation to the disclosed materials.

The mechanisms which will be used for facilitating input from stakeholders will include press releases and announcements in the media, notifications of the aforementioned disclosed materials to local, regional and national NGOs as well as other interested parties.





CHAPTER NINE

THE COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT AND DEVELOPMENT



9.1 Introduction

The Community Needs Assessment Toolkit for Agricultural Development is a comprehensive guide for systematically understanding the unique requirements, challenges, and opportunities within communities in Imo State. The primary purpose is to inform decision-makers, policymakers, and stakeholders about the specific needs of the local population in the context of agriculture. This toolkit i) systematically analyzes the agricultural landscape to identify gaps and prioritize the most pressing community needs, ii) enables data-driven decision-making for targeted interventions, iii). facilitate meaningful engagement with community members, local authorities, and relevant stakeholders in the agricultural sector, and foster a participatory approach to development by involving those directly affected by agricultural initiatives; iv) provide essential insights to inform the development of policies and strategies that align with the specific needs and aspirations of the community and enhance the effectiveness of governmental and non-governmental



interventions in the agricultural sector.

The Community Needs Assessment Toolkit role includes:

- **Standardizing Data Collection:** Standardizes data collection tools, including surveys, questionnaires, and interview guides, ensuring comprehensive coverage of key aspects.
- **Analysis and Reporting Framework:** Offers a framework for systematically analyzing collected data, leading to clear, actionable insights.
- **Facilitates the creation of reports** that succinctly communicate findings and recommendations.
- **Engagement and Collaboration:** Encourages collaborative efforts among stakeholders, fostering a sense of shared responsibility for agricultural development.
- **Acts as a catalyst** for open dialogue and constructive engagement between policymakers, implementers, and the community.

Imo State aims to create a foundation for sustainable agricultural development responsive to its diverse communities' unique characteristics and aspirations by emphasizing the importance of community needs assessment and providing a structured toolkit. This, in turn, will contribute to the resilience, prosperity, and self-reliance of local populations engaged in agriculture.

9.2 Benefits and Intended Use

Ultimately, the guidance provided in this toolkit aims to help users develop an exosystemic view of community needs, priorities, visions, assets, and complex relationships and establish an actionable game plan to address community needs and build capacity. The significance of conducting a community needs assessment in the context of agricultural development cannot be overstated. It lays the groundwork for informed, targeted, and sustainable investments in agriculture in the following ways:

- **Resource Optimization:** Helps channel resources efficiently by identifying areas where interventions are most needed and yield the most significant impact, prevents resource misallocation, and ensures that investments align with the community's actual needs.
- Community Empowerment:** Empowers local communities by giving them a voice in the decision-making process and fosters a sense of ownership and responsibility



among community members, contributing to the long-term sustainability of agricultural initiatives.

- Tailored Interventions: Enables the design of interventions tailored to each community's specific socioeconomic, cultural, and environmental context. Increases the likelihood of successful implementation and acceptance by the community.
- Sustainability and Resilience: Promotes the development of sustainable agricultural practices that consider communities' ecological and economic resilience and mitigate risks by addressing vulnerabilities identified through the needs assessment.

9.3 Community Needs Assessment Steps

A. Planning and Preparation

A.1 Defining Objectives:

One of the critical initial steps in conducting a Community Needs Assessment is clearly defining the objectives. This process is pivotal in ensuring that the assessment aligns with broader agricultural development goals in Imo State. Here is a guide to assist stakeholders in this crucial task: Below is the simplified flowchart of the steps.



Objective: Clearly define the purpose of stakeholder identification within the community needs assessment for agricultural development.	
Preliminary Assessment:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Activity: Conduct an initial assessment of the community and agricultural land scape. • Purpose: Understand existing challenges, opportunity, and potential stakeholders. • Output: Preliminary list of potential stakeholders
Stakeholders Categories:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Activity: Categorize stakeholders into primary, secondary, and tertiary groups. • Purpose: systematically organize stakeholders based on their direct or indirect impact on agricultural development. • Output: Categorized stakeholder groups.
Key Stakeholder Criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Activity: Establish Criteria for identifying key stakeholders (e.g., influence, interest, expertise). • Purpose: Define the characteristics that make a stakeholder “key” in the context of the needs assessment. • Output: Criteria for key stakeholder identification.
Engagement Matrix	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Activity: Develop a matrix to visualize stakeholder influence and interest. • Purpose: Identify stakeholders based on their level of influence and interest in agricultural development. • Output: Stakeholder engagement matrix.

Consultation with Experts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Activity: Seek input from agricultural experts, community leaders, and government officials. • Purpose: Validate and enrich the list of key stakeholders based on their expertise and insights. • Output Expert- Validated Stakeholders list
Community Input:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Activity: Engage with community members through surveys, meetings, or workshops. • Purpose: Capture the perspectives of the local community regarding stakeholders and potential influencers. • Output: Community – informed stakeholders list.
Output:	Compile the final list of critical stakeholders, considering input from preliminary assessments, stakeholder categories, criteria, engagement matrix, expert consultations and community feedback.
Next Steps:	Use the identified key stakeholders to inform the stakeholder engagement strategy, ensuring that the right individuals and organizations are involved in the community needs assessment process.

9.4 Stakeholder Mapping

Stakeholder Mapping Template

Stakeholder mapping is crucial in understanding the diverse entities involved in agricultural development. This template provides a structured format for identifying and mapping relevant stakeholders regarding community needs assessment and farming initiatives in Imo State

Stakeholders Category	Name	Role/Position	Contact
Primary Stakeholders	E.g., Farmers, agricultural laborers, local agribusinesses .		
Secondary Stakeholders	Example: Local businesses, schools, and farmer service providers .		
Tertiary Stakeholders	Examples: Government agencies, research institutions, international organizations.		

9.5 Data Collection and Analysis Methods

The following methods can be used for data gathering methods:

- Surveys and Questionnaires: Develop sample survey and questionnaire templates for gathering information on community needs, preferences, and challenges related to agriculture.
- Focus Group Discussions: Provide guidelines for conducting focus group discussions to gather qualitative insights from community members.
- Interviews: Offer sample interview guides for engaging key individuals such as local leaders, farmers, and agricultural experts.



- **Field Observations:** Outline methods for conducting field observations to assess the community's existing agricultural practices and infrastructure.

Data Analysis and Interpretation

- **Data Compilation:** Provide tools for systematically compiling data from surveys, interviews, and observations.
- **Data Analysis Techniques:** Include guidelines on employing various data analysis techniques to derive meaningful insights.

Report Generation

Template for Needs Assessment Report: Develop a comprehensive needs assessment report template, including an executive summary, key findings, and recommendations.

Visual Representation: Encourage the use of visual elements such as charts, graphs, and maps to enhance the readability and impact of the report.





CHAPTER TEN

GLOBAL MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING



Imo State, in its pursuit of sustainable development and global engagement, recognizes the crucial role of strategic partnerships in fostering economic growth, enhancing educational systems, and advancing agricultural investment initiatives. To streamline and formalize these collaborations, the state is introducing this International Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) template tailored to investment in large-scale agriculture.

These MoU templates provide a standardized and transparent framework for initiating and managing partnerships between Imo State and external entities. Whether engaging in economic and agricultural initiatives, these templates serve as foundational documents, delineating roles, expectations, and timelines to ensure the success of collaborative endeavors.

The agricultural production contract upon which the Guide focuses typically involves two parties: a “producer” directly involved in the production of farm products as an independent



person or enterprise and a “contractor” committed to purchase or otherwise take delivery of those products – typically an agribusiness company engaged in processing or marketing activities. However, the agreement may be part of a complex transaction involving other parties (e.g. several producers, a public entity, an input supplier, or a banking institution). As a result, the agricultural production contract may either influence or affect separate contractual relationships. The participation of other parties is discussed in the Guide only insofar as it may affect the mutual obligations and remedies of the producer and the contractor.

Sections of the Guide

1. Responsibilities:

In every collaboration, defining clear responsibilities is paramount. The MoU templates include dedicated sections outlining each party's specific roles and obligations. Whether it's the state government, educational institutions, healthcare providers, or economic development partners, clarity in responsibilities is essential for effective execution.

2. Expectations:

Mutual expectations are articulated within the templates to align the goals of all parties involved. This section clarifies the anticipated outcomes of the collaboration, ensuring that the stakeholders share a common understanding of the project's purpose and envisioned impact on Imo State.

3. Timelines:

Time is a critical factor in project management. The MoU templates incorporate sections detailing project timelines, milestones, and deadlines. This ensures that all collaborators are synchronized in their efforts and that the initiatives progress efficiently toward their goals.

How to Use the Templates:

Selection: Choose the relevant MoU template based on the nature of the collaboration (small or large-scale investment in agriculture).

Customization: Tailor the template to suit the specifics of the partnership. Insert details such as names, addresses, and project details where required.



Legal Review: Before finalizing any agreement, it is advisable to seek legal counsel. Ensure that the terms and conditions comply with local regulations and adequately protect the interests of all parties.

Signing: Once customized and reviewed, the parties involved should sign the MoU to formalize the collaboration.

By embracing these MoU templates, Imo State aims to foster a conducive environment for impactful, transparent, and accountable collaborations. The state is poised to strengthen its global ties and accelerate progress toward its development objectives by adhering to these standardized frameworks. Annex 5 presents the MOU template.





CHAPTER ELEVEN OUTGROWERS IN THE IMO STATE



11.1 Introduction

Imo State, endowed with rich agricultural potential, is embarking on a transformative journey towards sustainable and inclusive agricultural development by launching the Outgrowers Program Toolkit. This comprehensive toolkit is a testament to the state's commitment to fostering economic growth, ensuring food security, and empowering local communities.

Unlocking Agricultural Prosperity:

Imo State recognizes the pivotal role that agriculture plays in its socio-economic landscape. The Outgrowers Program Toolkit is strategically designed to unlock agricultural prosperity by creating a supportive ecosystem for farmers, agribusinesses, and local communities. Through innovative and inclusive strategies, the toolkit aims to enhance productivity, promote sustainable practices, and contribute to the overall growth of the agricultural sector.



Empowering Local Communities:

At the heart of the Outgrowers Program is the empowerment of local communities. The toolkit empowers smallholders, farmers, and entrepreneurs by providing practical resources, guidelines, and collaborative platforms, ensuring they actively participate in and benefit from the agricultural value chain. The Imo State envisions a program that not only boosts agricultural output but also uplifts the livelihoods of its citizens.

Sustainable Agricultural Practices:

Imo State is committed to promoting sustainable agricultural practices that balance economic development with environmental stewardship. The Outgrowers Program Toolkit integrates best practices to ensure that agricultural activities contribute to the state's long-term ecological and economic sustainability.

Collaboration for Success:

Success in agriculture requires collaboration among various stakeholders. The toolkit emphasizes the importance of cooperation between farmers, agribusinesses, government agencies, and development partners. Imo State aims to create a thriving agricultural ecosystem that benefits all by fostering strong partnerships.

Key Components of the Toolkit:

The Outgrowers Program Toolkit encompasses a range of essential components, including guidelines for responsible land use, sustainable farming techniques, community engagement strategies, and avenues for accessing financial support. These components are carefully curated to address the diverse needs of stakeholders involved in the agricultural sector.

Roadmap to Agricultural Prosperity:

Imo State believes that the Outgrowers Program Toolkit is not just a guide but a roadmap towards agricultural prosperity. It invites all stakeholders to actively participate, collaborate, and contribute to realizing a sustainable, inclusive, and thriving agricultural landscape in Imo State.



As we embark on this journey, Imo State invites farmers, agribusinesses, policymakers, researchers, and development partners to actively leverage the Outgrowers Program Toolkit. Together, let us cultivate a future where agriculture is a source of prosperity, resilience, and shared success for the people of Imo State.

11.2 Overview of Outgrowers Program

The Imo State Outgrowers Program is a progressive and comprehensive initiative to catalyze sustainable growth within the agricultural sector. Rooted in the commitment to empower local communities, enhance agricultural productivity, and embrace sustainable practices, the program signifies a pivotal step towards a resilient and inclusive agrarian ecosystem.

Key Objectives:

- 1. Enhancing Agricultural Productivity:** A primary goal of the program is to boost agricultural output by providing strategic support, resources, and knowledge to farmers and agribusinesses.
- 2. Community Empowerment:** Focused on uplifting local communities, the program seeks to create economic opportunities and improve the socio-economic well-being of smallholders and entrepreneurs.
- 3. Sustainable Agricultural Practices:** The program prioritizes environmentally conscious farming methods, aiming for ecological sustainability and responsible use of natural resources.
- 4. Collaborative Ecosystem:** Emphasizing collaboration, the program seeks to build a robust and interconnected agricultural ecosystem, fostering cooperation among farmers, agribusinesses, government entities, and development partners.

Key Features:

- 1. Inclusive Approach:** The program is designed with inclusivity at its core, ensuring that smallholders, farmers, and entrepreneurs are active participants and beneficiaries in the agricultural value chain.
- 2. Sustainable Agriculture:** Imo State's commitment to sustainable agriculture is evident in the program's incorporation of practices that align with global standards for responsible land use and ecological conservation.



3. Community Engagement: Strong community engagement is a hallmark, ensuring that local perspectives are considered, and stakeholders play an active role in decision-making processes.

4. Financial Support: The program offers avenues for financial support, providing opportunities for investment, growth, and increased economic resilience for participants.

Holistic Approach:

1. Land Use Planning: Responsible land use planning is foundational to the program, ensuring that agricultural activities are conducted in a manner that respects ecological integrity and long-term sustainability.

2. Capacity Building: The program includes provisions for capacity building, equipping farmers and stakeholders with the knowledge and skills necessary for sustainable agricultural practices.

3. Market Access: Facilitating market access is integral, enabling farmers to connect with broader markets, enhancing economic opportunities, and contributing to market-driven agricultural growth.

4. Technological Integration: Embracing technological advancements, the program encourages the adoption of modern farming techniques to improve efficiency, productivity, and overall agricultural yield.

The Imo State Outgrowers Program signifies a transformative shift towards a future where agriculture is a source of sustenance and a dynamic driver of economic growth, community prosperity, and environmental stewardship. With its emphasis on inclusivity, sustainability, and collaboration, the program is poised to catalyze positive change, setting the stage for a resilient and prosperous agricultural sector in Imo State.

11.3 Benefits of Outgrowers Program in Imo State

The Outgrowers Program in Imo State brings forth many benefits, not only for individual farmers but for the community, the environment, and the state's overall economic landscape. This initiative is strategically designed to address various facets of agricultural development, promoting sustainability, inclusivity, and prosperity.



1. Economic Empowerment:

- Int by adhering to sustainable and responsible farming practices.

6. Technology Adoption:

- **Innovation and Efficiency:** Encourages the adoption of modern farming technologies and practices, leading to increased efficiency, reduced waste, and improved overall productivity.

7. Inclusivity and Social Impact:

- **Empowering Vulnerable Groups:** Specifically addresses the needs of vulnerable groups, including smallholders, women, and youth, ensuring they actively participate in and benefit from the agricultural value chain.
- **Social Cohesion:** Fosters community and farmer collaboration, promoting collective prosperity and shared responsibility.

8. Food Security and Nutrition:

- **Local Food Production:** Strengthens local food production, contributing to improved food security for residents of Imo State.
- **Nutritional Diversity:** Promotes the cultivation of diverse crops, enhancing the nutritional diversity of locally available food.

The Outgrowers Program in Imo State catalyzes positive transformation, aligning agricultural practices with global sustainability goals and fostering a future where agriculture is a source of enduring prosperity for all stakeholders.

11.4 Objectives of the Imo State Outgrowers Program Toolkits

The Imo State Outgrowers Program Toolkits are designed with specific objectives to guide and facilitate the successful implementation of the outgrowers program. These objectives encompass a range of goals to promote sustainable agriculture, economic development, and social inclusivity within the state. The key objectives of the toolkits are:

1. Promote Responsible Agricultural Practices:

- Encourage farmers to adopt sustainable and responsible farming practices, prioritizing environmental conservation, soil health, and resource efficiency.



2. Facilitate Economic Growth with Social Inclusivity:

- Foster economic growth within the agricultural sector while ensuring the benefits are equally distributed among all stakeholders, including smallholder farmers and marginalized groups.

3. Provide Practical Resources and Guidelines:

- Offer comprehensive and practical resources that serve as guidelines for farmers, investors, policymakers, and other stakeholders involved in the agricultural sector.

4. Foster Collaboration and Shared Responsibility:

- Facilitate collaboration among farmers, investors, policymakers, researchers, and development partners, creating a collective effort towards responsible and sustainable agricultural development.

5. Enhance Global Attractiveness for Land-Based Investments:

- Increase the attractiveness of Imo State for land-based investments in agriculture, thereby contributing to economic growth and development on a global scale.

6. Ensure Food Security for the State's Population:

- Focus on strategies that secure food production within the state, ensuring a consistent and reliable food supply to meet the needs of the local population.

7. Provide Attractive Commercial Yields for Investors:

- Design the program in a way that not only benefits local farmers but also provides investors with commercially viable returns, making agricultural investments in Imo State attractive.

8. Embrace Local Empowerment and Global Engagement:

- Strike a balance between empowering local communities through agriculture and engaging with global practices and standards to ensure competitiveness on an international scale.

9. Innovative Approaches to Community Mapping and Socio-Economic Analysis:

- Incorporate innovative approaches to community mapping, socio-economic



analysis, and land use planning to ensure that the program aligns with the evolving needs and dynamics of the communities involved.

10. Align with Responsible and Inclusive Land-Intensive Agricultural Investment Principles:

- Adhere to responsible and inclusive land-intensive agricultural investment principles, ensuring that the program contributes positively to economic, social, and environmental dimensions.

11. Contribute to Sustainable Agricultural Development:

- Play a pivotal role in contributing to sustainable agricultural development within Imo State, considering the long-term impacts on the environment, communities, and the overall well-being of stakeholders.

The objectives outlined in the toolkits collectively serve as a roadmap for achieving a balanced, sustainable, and inclusive approach to agricultural development in Imo State through the Outgrowers Program.

11.5. Legal and Regulatory Framework for Agricultural Practices in Imo State

Overview of Existing Agricultural Laws and Regulations in Imo State:

Imo State has established a comprehensive legal and regulatory framework governing agricultural practices within its jurisdiction. This framework encompasses various laws and regulations to ensure responsible and sustainable agricultural development. Some key components of the existing legal and regulatory landscape include:

1. Imo State Agricultural Law:

- The state has a dedicated agricultural law that outlines the rights, responsibilities, and obligations of stakeholders in the agricultural sector. This law addresses land use, crop cultivation, livestock management, and environmental conservation issues.

2. Land Use Laws:

- Imo State has specific laws governing land use, including regulations related to agricultural land. These laws provide guidelines for allocating, using, and managing land for agricultural purposes, emphasizing sustainable practices.

3. Environmental Protection and Conservation Laws:



- To ensure the responsible use of natural resources, Imo State has environmental laws that regulate agricultural activities. These laws prevent soil erosion, promote biodiversity, and safeguard water resources.

Specific Provisions Related to Outgrower Arrangements:

Imo State's legal framework recognizes the significance of outgrower arrangements in promoting inclusive agricultural practices. Specific provisions related to outgrower arrangements include:

1. Contract Farming Legislation:

- Imo State has enacted legislation that addresses contract farming, specifying farmers' and contracting entities' rights and obligations. This legislation promotes fair and transparent agreements between outgrowers and investors.

2. Land Tenure Laws:

- The state's land tenure laws incorporate provisions relevant to outgrower arrangements, emphasizing secure land rights for farmers engaged in such partnerships. This ensures farmers have confidence in their land tenure, promoting long-term investments.

3. Dispute Resolution Mechanisms:

- Imo State has established mechanisms for resolving disputes that may arise in outgrower arrangements. These mechanisms aim to provide fair and timely resolutions to conflicts, fostering a conducive environment for sustainable agricultural partnerships.

Compliance and Adherence to Land-Use Policies:

Imo State strongly emphasizes compliance with land-use policies to ensure responsible and sustainable agricultural practices. The legal framework encourages adherence to the following guidelines:

1. Zoning Regulations:

- Zoning policies guide land allocation for specific agricultural activities, preventing inappropriate land use and promoting efficient land utilization.



2. Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Requirements:

- Projects involving large-scale agricultural activities, including outgrower programs, may be subject to EIA requirements. This ensures that potential environmental impacts are assessed and mitigated.

3. Monitoring and Enforcement Mechanisms:

- Imo State has established monitoring and enforcement mechanisms to ensure compliance with land-use policies. Regular inspections and assessments contribute to the sustainability of agricultural practices and the overall well-being of communities.

In conclusion, Imo State's legal and regulatory framework reflects a commitment to responsible and sustainable agricultural development. By addressing outgrower arrangements and emphasizing compliance with land-use policies, the state aims to create an environment conducive to inclusive and environmentally conscious agricultural practices.

11.6. Key Features

The Outgrowers Program in Imo State is designed to catalyze sustainable agricultural development, promote inclusive practices, and enhance economic prosperity for farmers and stakeholders. The program incorporates several key features that underscore its effectiveness and contribution to the overall growth of the agricultural sector:

1. **Participatory Model:**
 - The Outgrowers Program adopts a participatory model, actively involving farmers in decision-making processes. Farmers play a central role in shaping the program's direction, ensuring their needs and concerns are considered.
2. **Crop Diversification:**
 - Recognizing the importance of crop diversity for resilience and market access, the program encourages farmers to cultivate various crops. This approach enhances food security, provides income opportunities, and contributes to sustainable agricultural practices.
3. **Secure Land Tenure:**
 - The program prioritizes secure land tenure for participating farmers. Clear and transparent land-use agreements are established, providing farmers with confidence in their land rights and fostering long-term



investments in agricultural activities.

4. Training and Capacity Building:

- Capacity building is a fundamental aspect of the Outgrowers Program. Farmers receive training on modern and sustainable agricultural practices, technological advancements, and business skills. This empowers them to enhance productivity and adapt to evolving market demands.

5. Access to Finance:

- To overcome financial barriers, the program facilitates access to finance for participating farmers. This includes support for obtaining credit, investment capital, or financial tools that empower farmers to expand their operations and improve their livelihoods.

6. Market Linkages:

- Establishing robust market linkages is a crucial focus of the program. Farmers are connected to reliable markets, local and international markets, and avenues for them to sell their produce at fair prices. This ensures a steady income stream and promotes economic sustainability.

7. Environmental Sustainability:

- Imo State's Outgrowers Program integrates principles of environmental sustainability. Farmers are educated on eco-friendly farming practices, soil conservation techniques, and water management, contributing to the preservation of natural resources.

8. Inclusive Approach:

- The program adopts an inclusive approach, recognizing the diverse needs of farmers, including women, youth, and vulnerable populations. Specialized support and incentives are provided to ensure all participants benefit equitably from the program.

9. Technological Integration:

- Embracing technological advancements, the program incorporates modern farming technologies and precision agriculture tools. This enhances efficiency and positions farmers to adapt to evolving agricultural trends.



10. Monitoring and Evaluation:

- A robust monitoring and evaluation framework is in place to assess the program's impact. Regular assessments help identify areas for improvement, measure success indicators, and ensure the program remains aligned with its objectives.

11. Community Engagement:

- Community engagement is emphasized, fostering collaboration and a sense of ownership among local communities. The program actively seeks input from communities, addresses their concerns, and ensures that the benefits of agricultural development are shared collectively.

In essence, the critical features of Imo State's Outgrowers Program revolve around empowerment, sustainability, and inclusivity. By integrating these elements, the program aims to create a resilient and prosperous agricultural sector that uplifts farmers' livelihoods and contributes to the state's overall economic development.

11.7. Access to Resources in Imo State

Access to credit facilities is vital for empowering farmers and investors to enhance the agricultural landscape in Imo State. Several credit facilities and financial support programs are available to support agricultural activities in the state. While specific programs may evolve over time, as of my last knowledge update in January 2022, here are some examples of credit facilities that may be available:

1. Agricultural Development Programs (ADPs):

- ADPs often collaborate with financial institutions to provide credit facilities to farmers.
- These programs may offer low-interest loans for various agricultural purposes, including crop production, livestock farming, and agribusiness.

2. Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) Intervention Programs:

- The CBN initiates various intervention programs to support agriculture, such as the Anchor Borrowers' Program.
- These programs provide credit facilities to smallholder farmers and agribusinesses through partnerships with financial institutions.

3. Bank of Agriculture (BOA):

- BOA is a specialized bank that focuses on providing financial services to the agricultural sector.
- It offers loans for agricultural purposes, including crop cultivation, livestock farming, and agro-processing.



4. Commercial Banks:

- Commercial banks operating in Imo State may have specific agricultural loan products.
- Farmers and investors can approach these banks for loans to fund their agricultural projects.

5. Cooperative Societies:

- Agricultural cooperatives often have access to credit facilities to support their members.
- Farmers can join or form cooperatives to benefit from group-based credit programs.

6. Microfinance Institutions:

- Microfinance institutions may provide smaller loans tailored to the needs of smallholder farmers and agribusinesses.
- They play a crucial role in financial inclusion for rural communities.

7. NGO and Development Agency Programs:

- Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and development agencies may implement projects that include credit components for farmers.
- These programs often aim to empower local communities and enhance agricultural productivity.

8. Government Grants and Subsidies:

- Government agricultural initiatives may include grants or subsidized credit to support specific agrarian activities.
- Farmers should stay informed about government programs and eligibility criteria.

9. Imo State Agricultural Development Program (ADP):

- **Description:** The Imo State ADP will likely play a crucial role in agricultural development, providing extension services, training, and support to farmers.
- **Contact:** You can contact the Imo State Ministry of Agriculture or the ADP office for more information.

10. Federal College of Agriculture, Nekede, Imo State:

- **Description:** This institution may offer agricultural training programs and contribute to research and development in agriculture.
- **Contact:** Federal College of Agriculture, Nekede, Imo State.



11. Imo State Ministry of Agriculture:

- **Description:** The state's Ministry of Agriculture is a key government body responsible for formulating and implementing agricultural policies.
- **Contact:** Imo State Ministry of Agriculture, Owerri.

12. Imo State Polytechnic Umuagwo:

- **Description:** The polytechnic might offer agriculture-related programs, including practical training for students.
- **Contact:** Imo State Polytechnic, Umuagwo.

13. Imo State Microfinance Institutions:

- **Description:** Microfinance institutions may provide financial services, including credit facilities, to small-scale farmers.
- **Contact:** Local microfinance institutions operating in Imo State.

14. Imo State Cooperative Federation:

- **Description:** Cooperative societies play a vital role in supporting farmers with collective efforts. The state federation can provide information on cooperative activities.
- **Contact:** Imo State Cooperative Federation.

15. Imo State Chambers of Commerce, Industry, Mines, and Agriculture (ISMCCI):

- **Description:** The chamber of commerce may offer support and networking opportunities for agricultural businesses.
- **Contact:** ISMCCI.

16. Rural Development Centers:

- **Description:** Local rural development centers may provide community-based support, including training and extension services.
- **Contact:** Community-based centers in various local government areas.

17. National Root Crops Research Institute (NRCRI), Umudike:

- **Description:** While located in a neighboring state (Abia), NRCRI could be a resource for root crop research and development.
- **Contact:** NRCRI, Umudike.



Farmers and investors in Imo State should actively engage with local agricultural extension services, cooperative groups, and relevant government agencies to access information about available credit facilities. Additionally, financial institutions and development partners regularly update their offerings, so it's essential to inquire about the most recent programs and eligibility requirements.

For specific and up-to-date information, consider contacting these institutions directly or contacting relevant government offices in Imo State. Local agricultural extension offices can also provide valuable insights and connect farmers with available resources.

11.5 Risk Management in Imo State Agriculture

Implementing effective risk management strategies is crucial in agriculture to mitigate potential challenges and uncertainties. In Imo State, Nigeria, several risk factors may impact agricultural activities. Here are key considerations and strategies for risk management in Imo State agriculture:

1. Climate Risks:

- **Consideration:** Imo State may face climate-related risks, including unpredictable rainfall patterns and extreme weather events.
- **Risk Management:**
 - Promote climate-smart agriculture practices.
 - Invest in drought-resistant and disease-resistant crop varieties.
 - Encourage water management and conservation techniques.

2. Market Risks:

- **Consideration:** Fluctuations in commodity prices and market demand can impact farmers' income.
- **Risk Management:**
 - Diversify crops to reduce reliance on a single commodity.
 - Foster linkages with agricultural cooperatives and agribusinesses.
 - Stay informed about market trends and prices.

3. Financial Risks:

- **Consideration:** Limited access to credit and financial services can hinder



agricultural development.

- **Risk Management:**
 - Advocate for improved access to credit facilities for farmers.
 - Promote the use of agricultural insurance.
 - Encourage savings and investment groups among farmers.

4. Infrastructure Risks:

- **Consideration:** Inadequate infrastructure, such as roads and storage facilities, can disrupt the supply chain.
- **Risk Management:**
 - Advocate for improved rural infrastructure development.
 - Support initiatives to enhance post-harvest storage and processing facilities.

5. Pest and Disease Risks:

- **Consideration:** Crop and livestock diseases can lead to significant yield losses.
- **Risk Management:**
 - Implement pest and disease monitoring systems.
 - Promote the use of resistant crop varieties.
 - Provide education on disease prevention and control.

6. Policy and Regulatory Risks:

- **Consideration:** Changes in government policies and regulations can impact agriculture.
- **Risk Management:**
 - Stay informed about policy changes and engage with relevant authorities.
 - Advocate for policies that support sustainable agriculture.
 - Participate in farmers' associations to amplify collective voices.

7. Social Risks:

- **Consideration:** Social factors, such as conflicts or community disputes, can disrupt agricultural activities.
- **Risk Management:**
 - Promote community engagement and conflict resolution mechanisms.
 - Establish community-based support networks.

8. Technology Risks:

- **Consideration:** Limited adoption of modern agricultural technologies can



hinder productivity.

- **Risk Management:**
 - Facilitate training programs on modern farming techniques.
 - Encourage the use of precision agriculture and information and communication technologies (ICTs).

9. Human Resource Risks:

- **Consideration:** Labor shortages and skills gaps may affect farm operations.
- **Risk Management:**
 - Invest in training programs for farmers and agricultural workers.
 - Promote youth engagement in agriculture.

10. Research and Extension Risks:

- **Consideration:** Limited access to research and extension services can impede innovation.
- **Risk Management:**
 - Support agricultural research and extension programs.
 - Facilitate collaboration between research institutions and farmers.

By addressing these risk factors and implementing proactive risk management strategies, stakeholders in Imo State can contribute to building a more resilient and sustainable agricultural sector. Policymakers, farmers, researchers, and other stakeholders need to work collaboratively to identify and address risks specific to the local context.

11.6 Market Linkages

While specific market linkages in Imo State may vary based on the agricultural sector and commodity, here are key market linkages and platforms that play a role in connecting farmers with buyers, processors, and consumers:

1. Imo State Agricultural Development Program (ADP):

- **Description:** The ADP serves as a key government agency providing support, training, and market information to farmers.
- **Role:** Acts as a facilitator between farmers and markets, providing extension services and market intelligence.

2. Imo State Ministry of Agriculture:

- **Description:** The Ministry of Agriculture is involved in policy



formulation, implementation, and the coordination of agricultural activities in the state.

- **Role:** Implements programs to link farmers with markets, including through cooperatives and value chain development.

3. Agricultural Cooperatives:

- **Description:** Various agricultural cooperatives exist in Imo State, bringing farmers together for collective marketing and bargaining.
- **Role:** Enhances farmers' market access, negotiation power, and ability to participate in larger value chains.

4. Farmers' Markets:

- **Description:** Local farmers' markets provide a direct platform for farmers to sell their produce to consumers.
- **Role:** Facilitates direct interaction between farmers and consumers, fostering community connections.

5. Imo State Agricultural Markets and Processing Company (ISAMPC):

- **Description:** A state-owned company focused on promoting agricultural markets and processing.
- **Role:** Provides infrastructure, support, and coordination to enhance market linkages for agricultural products.

6. Agricultural Trade Fairs and Exhibitions:

- **Description:** Periodic events organized to showcase agricultural products and innovations.
- **Role:** Connects farmers with potential buyers, processors, and distributors, fostering networking and market visibility.

7. Extension Services:

- **Description:** Agricultural extension services provide farmers with information on market trends, quality standards, and best practices.
- **Role:** Empowers farmers with knowledge to meet market requirements and demands.

8. Cooperative Financial Institutions:

- **Description:** Financial institutions associated with agricultural



cooperatives.

- **Role:** Provides financial support to farmers and cooperatives, facilitating investments in production and meeting market demands.

9. Imo State Chambers of Commerce, Industry, Mines, and Agriculture (ISMEDAN):

- **Description:** Represents the business community in the state, including agriculture-related enterprises.
- **Role:** Organizes trade events, promotes networking, and advocates for favorable business policies.

10. E-commerce Platforms:

- **Description:** Online platforms facilitating the sale of agricultural products.
- **Role:** Expands market reach, especially for niche products, and enables farmers to connect with buyers beyond geographical boundaries.

11. Federal Government Agricultural Programs:

- **Description:** National agricultural programs and initiatives that may extend to Imo State.
- **Role:** Provides funding, technical support, and market linkages to farmers through federal initiatives.

12. Processing Industries and Agribusinesses:

- **Description:** Companies involved in processing agricultural products.
- **Role:** Creates market linkages for farmers by providing a market for raw materials and promoting value addition.

13. Transportation and Logistics Services:

- **Description:** Companies involved in transportation and logistics.
- **Role:** Facilitates the movement of agricultural products from farms to markets, reducing post-harvest losses.

14. NGO and Development Partners:

- **Description:** Non-governmental organizations and development partners supporting agriculture.
- **Role:** Implements projects and programs that enhance market linkages, capacity building, and sustainability.

When leveraged effectively, these market linkages contribute to the overall development



11.8 Environmental Stewardship: Training and Capacity Building

Promoting environmental stewardship is crucial for sustainable agriculture. Out-growers in Imo State can benefit from training and capacity-building programs offered by specific institutions:

1. Imo State Ministry of Environment:
 - The Ministry provides training on sustainable agricultural practices that minimize environmental impact.
 - Collaborate with the Ministry for workshops on soil conservation, water management, and biodiversity conservation.
2. Forestry Research Institute of Nigeria (FRIN):
 - FRIN conducts training on agroforestry practices that enhance environmental sustainability.
 - Out-growers can engage with FRIN to learn about the integration of trees and crops for improved ecological balance.
3. Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) like Green Nigeria:
 - Green Nigeria focuses on environmental conservation and sustainable agriculture.
 - Out-growers can participate in training programs organized by Green Nigeria to enhance their knowledge of environmentally friendly farming practices.
4. Agricultural Extension Services:
 - Extension officers, particularly those affiliated with the Imo State
 - Agricultural Development Program can provide on-the-ground training.
 - Work with extension services to conduct workshops on organic farming, conservation tillage, and other eco-friendly agricultural methods.

11.9 Extension Services: Monitoring and Evaluation

Monitoring and evaluating the impact of extension services are essential for continuous improvement. Specific institutions play a role in this process:



1. Imo State Agricultural Development Program

- Employs a monitoring and evaluation framework to assess the effectiveness of extension services.
- Regular assessments and feedback mechanisms are integral to extension services.

2. Imo State Ministry of Agriculture:

- The Ministry monitors the implementation of agricultural programs, including extension services.
- Collaborate with the Ministry to establish robust monitoring mechanisms and conduct periodic evaluations.

3. International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA):

- IITA engages in research and evaluation of agricultural practices.
- Out-growers can participate in collaborative projects with IITA to assess the impact of extension services on farm productivity and sustainability.

4. Farmers' Cooperatives:

- Establish internal monitoring and evaluation systems within farmers' cooperatives.
- Cooperative members can periodically assess the outcomes of extension services and provide feedback for improvement.

10. Self-Assessment Encouraging out-growers to conduct self-assessments enhances their ability to adapt and improve. Relevant institutions include:

1. Imo State Agricultural Development Program

- Facilitate self-assessment workshops for out-growers.
- Provide guidelines and tools for farmers to assess their own practices, identify areas for improvement, and set goals.

2. National Agricultural Extension and Research Liaison Services (NAERLS):

- NAERLS supports self-assessment initiatives among farmers.
- Engage with NAERLS to access resources and tools that empower out-growers to evaluate their agricultural practices.



3. Agricultural Research Institutes:

- Collaborate with research institutes like the National Root Crops Research Institute (NRCRI) for guidance on self-assessment in specific crop production.
- Provide out-growers with resources to conduct self-assessment in line with best agricultural practices.

4. Community-Based Organizations:

- Strengthen community-based organizations to facilitate self-assessment sessions.
- Encourage out-growers to actively participate in self-assessment activities within their community groups.

By engaging with these institutions, out-growers in Imo State can build capacity, monitor, and evaluate extension services, and conduct self-assessments to continuously improve their environmental stewardship and farming practices.



APPENDIX



APPENDIX

Appendix 1: Report of Stakeholder Consultations

PROFILE	DESCRIPTION
Geographical Location and Profile	Imo State is located in the South East of Nigeria with Owerri as its capital and largest city. Located in the south-eastern region of Nigeria, it occupies the area between the lower River Niger and the upper and middle Imo River. Imo State came into existence in 1976. It consists of twenty-seven (27) Local Government Areas.
Demography	Imo State is bordered by Abia State on the East, River Niger and Delta State to the West, Anambra State on the North and Rivers State to the South. The State lies within latitudes 4°45'N and 7°15'N, and longitude 6°50'E and 7°25'E with an area of around 5,100 sq km. Besides Owerri, Imo State's major towns are Isu, Okigwe, Oguta, Orlu, Atta Ikeduru, Akokwa, Mbaise, Mbaitoli, Mbieri, Ohaji/Egbema, Orodo, Nkwerre, Ubulu, Ngor Okpala, Omuma, Mgbi di, Awo-Omamma, Izombe, Orsu, and Mbano. The state is over 4.8 million people and the population density varies from 230 –1,400 people per square kilometre. Christianity is the predominant religion. In addition to English being official language, Imo state is a predominantly Igbo speaking state, with Igbo people constituting a majority of 98%.
Socio Economic Characterises	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christianity is the principal and significant religion of the state. There are also practitioners of Islam and the original native religions; however, the latter remains in the minority. • Economic Activities: Imo State has a diverse economy, with agriculture, trade, and services playing significant roles. The state is known for its agricultural produce, including cocoa, oil palm, rubber, and fruits. • Tourism: Oguta Lake, Palm Beach Holiday Resort in Awo-omamma and a host of other tourist sites along the banks of the 26 km-length Njaba River present hotspots for tourism. • Education: There are several institutions of higher learning including state and federal government run institutions. They are as follows: Imo State University; Federal University of Technology, Owerri; Federal Polytechnic, Nekede; Eastern Palm University, Orlu; Imo State Polytechnic, Umuagwo; Alvan Ikoku College of Education; Technological Skills Acquisition Institute, Orlu. • Natural Resources: The state is rich in natural resources including crude oil, natural gas, lead and zinc. Economically exploitable flora including iroko, mahogany, obeche, bamboo, rubber tree and oil palm predominate. Other natural resources found in the State are white clay, fine sand and limestone. • Infrastructure Development: The state government has undertaken various infrastructure development projects, including roads and bridges, to improve connectivity and facilitate economic activities within the state. • Healthcare: Efforts have been made to enhance healthcare services, with the construction and renovation of healthcare facilities to improve the population's health outcomes.



Agricultural Sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agriculture is the main occupation of the state’s people and the central source of income. • The state cultivates bananas and plantains, providing staple food and income for local farmers. • Animal husbandry, including poultry farming, is practiced in Imo State. This contributes to the production of meat and eggs for local consumption. • With its proximity to water bodies, aquaculture is practiced in certain areas, contributing to fish production for local consumption and sale. • Poultry farming is a common agricultural practice, providing a source of meat and eggs for local and commercial consumption.
Groups Consulted	<p>The lists of stakeholders consulted include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ministry of Agriculture 2. Bureau of Land and Survey 3. Ministry of Environment 4. Ministry of Commerce 5. Ministry of Education 6. Ministry of Works 7. Ministry of Transport 8. Ministry of Forestry 9. Ministry of Finance, Budget and Planning 10. Ministry of Water Resources 11. Local Government Councils 12. Farmers Associations including women farmers' association 13. Ministry of Industry 14. Ministry of Social Development 15. Cooperative Societies, CSOs/NGO
Number of Participants	23
Purpose of the consultations	<p>The government of Nigeria has requested the assistance of the World Bank to create state business-enabling reforms in agriculture, fiber optic infrastructure, and land -based investment administration. The Project Development Objective (PDO) is to improve the productivity, resilience, and commercialization of producers and processors in selected livestock value chains and to strengthen institutional capacity in service delivery. According to the lead Consultant, SABER triggered Involuntary Resettlement because it may involve land acquisition and displacement of persons physically and/ or economically. Though land take is not anticipated to be large scale, a Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF) is being prepared at this time to describe the procedures and policies that will be followed in preparing a Resettlement Action Plan (RAP), which might be necessary when exact project locations requiring land acquisition or displacement of people would have been determined. This RPF outlines the laws of Nigeria and policies of the World Bank that will be followed</p>



<p>Purpose of the consultations</p>	<p>to prepare RAPs and also gives indication about the categories of Project Affected Persons (PAPs) and their entitlements. The consultant informed them that compensation should take place before project implementation in the case of land acquisition or displacement of individuals. According to the consultant, this project will establish a Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) at various levels. The GRM will enable the PAPs to lodge their complaints, which will be appropriately addressed to avoid conflict.</p>
<p>Perception and Remark</p>	<p>The stakeholders took their time to express their appreciation to the state government and World Bank for the project. They believe the project is a step in the right direction to scale up value chains and encourage those in the sub sector to put in more energy and resources to create more employment and wealth. Each agency also described its mandates and - promised synergizing to support the project development objectives</p>
<p>Areas of Discussion</p>	<p>The consultant inquired for information and inputs of the stakeholders on several issues, including the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The land tenure system in the state, process of land acquisition for small/commercial land holding. • The right of women to land ownership and challenges to land acquisition. • The availability and structure of conflict resolution mechanisms at various levels(cluster, community, and state) and GRM efficiency. • If the state has a gazette for payment of compensation for economic trees and crops; how land unit is measured, cost of acquiring a unit of land for lease and for outright purchase; • Easement and property valuation • Stakeholders Engagement • Community Assessment • Grievance Redress Mechanism • Valuation and Compensation • Environmental and social risk management • Out-growers and food security • International Memorandum of Understanding • Monitoring and Evaluation



Concerns expressed by stakeholders	The stakeholders made input and shared their concerns. Some of the concerns discussed are as follows: 1) Cassava Farmers: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Increase in the number of staff strength (extension workers) to address the needs of rice farmers.• Training for already existing workers.
Perceived Project Impacts	Positive impacts expected from the intervention: Increase in per capita. income, creation of employment, availability of drugs/vaccines for the control of disease at a subsidized rate, sensitization, and training on proper waste management, equipping of veterinary labs for efficient research,
Conclusions	All relevant issues were exhausted, documents were collected, and the meeting ended with a closing remark and prayer by a stakeholder.




















Appendix3: Attendance List of Stakeholder Engagement on FRILIA

FRILIA

MINISTRY OF FINANCE & COORDINATING ECONOMY ,OWERRI/SABER
 STAKEHOLDERS' ENGAGEMENT ON
 BUSINESS ENABLING REFORM ACTION PLAN (BERAP)
 Date: 7th December,2023 Venue : Rock View Hotels, Owerri

ATTENDANCE LIST

	NAME	NAME OF ORGANISATION	SIGNATURE
1	PETER MADUBA C.	IIRS	
2	OKALANWA EZINNE G.	IIRS	
3	TRILLKAWA Austin Ikeh FNITP	Min of Lands, S&PP	
4	AUSTIN CHIDI ODECHIRIKWU	IIRS	
5	Achale B-U	IMSS	
6	ACA DUNDU	Min. of Agric	
7	OJIMKA OBIOMA	MBERS	
8	SAMUEL ASIKOSU	ICAN Owerri	
9	Gulnals Chinedu	ICAN Owerri	
10	Sir Israel Osigwe	ICAN Owerri	
11	OKWARA CATHERINE, N.	Min of Lands, S&PP	
12	Nyemeh Saluk (for Asst-Secret)	Accountant-General's Office	
13	Dr. V. A. Emenem	ALL FARMERS ASSO. OF NIGERIA	
14	Prof Jude Neeke	ISIPA	
15	Echereoto Uchechukwu	Min. of Fin	
16	Lady Chastis Ike-Nnamdi	All farmers Assn of Nigeria	
17	Dayo Oduke	United Bank for Africa plc	



18	Anselm Anokwute	Whitepaper Editor	Bellem
19	Kelechi Ugo	Newsbreak Editor	ln
20	Cornel Ekeh	Global Health Awareness Research Fund.	SR
21	Chibundu Uchegbu	O 4 P	Am
22	Lady Hope Anyiam	Min. of Lands, S&PP	ANB
23	Senator. Onyekwue	statesman.	Aekwue
24			
25			
26			
27			
28			
29			
30			
31			
32			
33			
34			
35			
36			
37			
38			





Structures:
.....
.....

Proposed distribution of compensation:

User 1:
User 2:
User 3:
User 4:

Prepared By: Date:

Affected Building Sheet

Reference:

Location: - County: District: Town:

GPS Coordinates: Photograph number:

Owner:-

Full Name:

Address :
.....

Description:

Permanent:.....Non permanent:

Surface: m² Number of rooms:

Walls: Material: Condition:

Roof: Material: Condition:

Floor: Material: Condition:

Annexes outside:

Latrine: Material: Condition: Bathroom: Material:

..... Condition: Kitchen: Material: Condition:

..... Others:Material:Condition:

Additional features:

.....



Permanently Inhabited:By:Regime of occupation:

Periodically Inhabited: By: Regime of occupation:

Vulnerable group:

- a) Women-headed Household.....
- b) Family with physically and mentally.....
- c) Family with aged members.....
- d) Family with income below poverty line.....
- e) Family losing more than the economic threshold of their land through acquisition/negotiation.....

Valuation proposal (details of calculation on attached sheet):

.....
.....
.....

Proposed distribution of compensation:

User 1:

User 2:

User 3:

User 4:

Prepared By:Date:

Affected Household Sheet

Household Reference:

Location: - County:District:Town:

Reference of Affected Asset:-

Type: - Structure: Plot:Crop: (Tick one)

Reference of Affected Asset Sheet:

Household Information:-

Head of Household: - Name:Age:Sex

Identity Document: - Type:Number:

Composition of Household:-



Number	Name	Relationship with Household Head	Sex	Age
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				

Socio-Economic Information:-

Head of Household:

Occupations: - Primary: Secondary:

Other members of Household:-

Number: Occupation: Highest education level attained:

Number: Occupation: Highest education level attained:

Number: Occupation: Highest education level attained:

Number: Occupation: Highest education level attained:

Total Estimated Household Cash Income:

Education level of Household Members:-

Number: Level:

Number: Level:

Number: Level:

Number: Level:

Project Impact:-

Assessment of the Impact of the Loss of the Affected Asset on Household's Livelihood:

.....

Amount of land owned;

Details of income loss due to loss of land;

Proposed Compensation or Resettlement Package:-



Household's Wishes:

.....

Proposed Package:

Proposed Livelihood Restoration Package:

Household's Wishes:

.....

Proposed Package:

.....



Appendix 5: Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in Investment in Intensive Agriculture Template

Between [Your Organization/Entity] and [Partner Organization/Entity]

This Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) is entered into on [Date], by and between [Your Organization/Entity], located at [Address], hereinafter referred to as "Party A," and [Partner Organization/Entity], located at [Address], hereinafter referred to as "Party B."

Purpose of the MoU: This MoU aims to establish a framework for collaboration between Party A and Party B for the development and investment in intensive agriculture, focusing on [Specify the purpose - e.g., sustainable farming practices, crop diversification, technology integration, etc.].

Terms of Agreement:

1. Objectives: 1.1 Clearly outline the objectives and goals of the collaboration, including but not limited to increased agricultural productivity, sustainable farming practices, and mutual economic benefits.
2. Responsibilities: 2.1 Party A Responsibilities: - Define specific responsibilities, tasks, and contributions expected from Party A, including financial commitments, expertise sharing, and resource provision. 2.2 Party B Responsibilities: - Define specific responsibilities, tasks, and contributions expected from Party B, including land provision, operational management, and adherence to best agricultural practices.
3. Expectations: 3.1 Clearly state the mutual expectations of both parties regarding the collaboration, emphasizing transparency, open communication, and shared success.
4. Timelines: 4.1 Project Timeline: - Outline the proposed timeline for the collaboration, including key milestones such as land preparation, planting seasons, harvest periods, and other relevant events.
5. Resources: 5.1 Resource Allocation: - Specify the resources (financial, human, technological) each party commits to the collaboration, ensuring equitable distribution and optimal utilization.
6. Communication: 6.1 Communication Plan: - Establish a communication plan outlining how information and updates will be shared between the parties, ensuring regular meetings, progress reports, and a designated point of contact.
7. Confidentiality: 7.1 Confidentiality Clause: - Include a clause specifying the confidentiality of information shared between the parties, particularly concerning proprietary technologies, business strategies, and financial data.
8. Termination: 8.1 Termination Clause: - Define the conditions under which either party can terminate the agreement, ensuring a fair and transparent process.

Review and Amendment: This MoU may be amended only by written agreement of both parties.

Termination: Either party may terminate this MoU upon written notice to the other party with



[Specify number] days' notice.

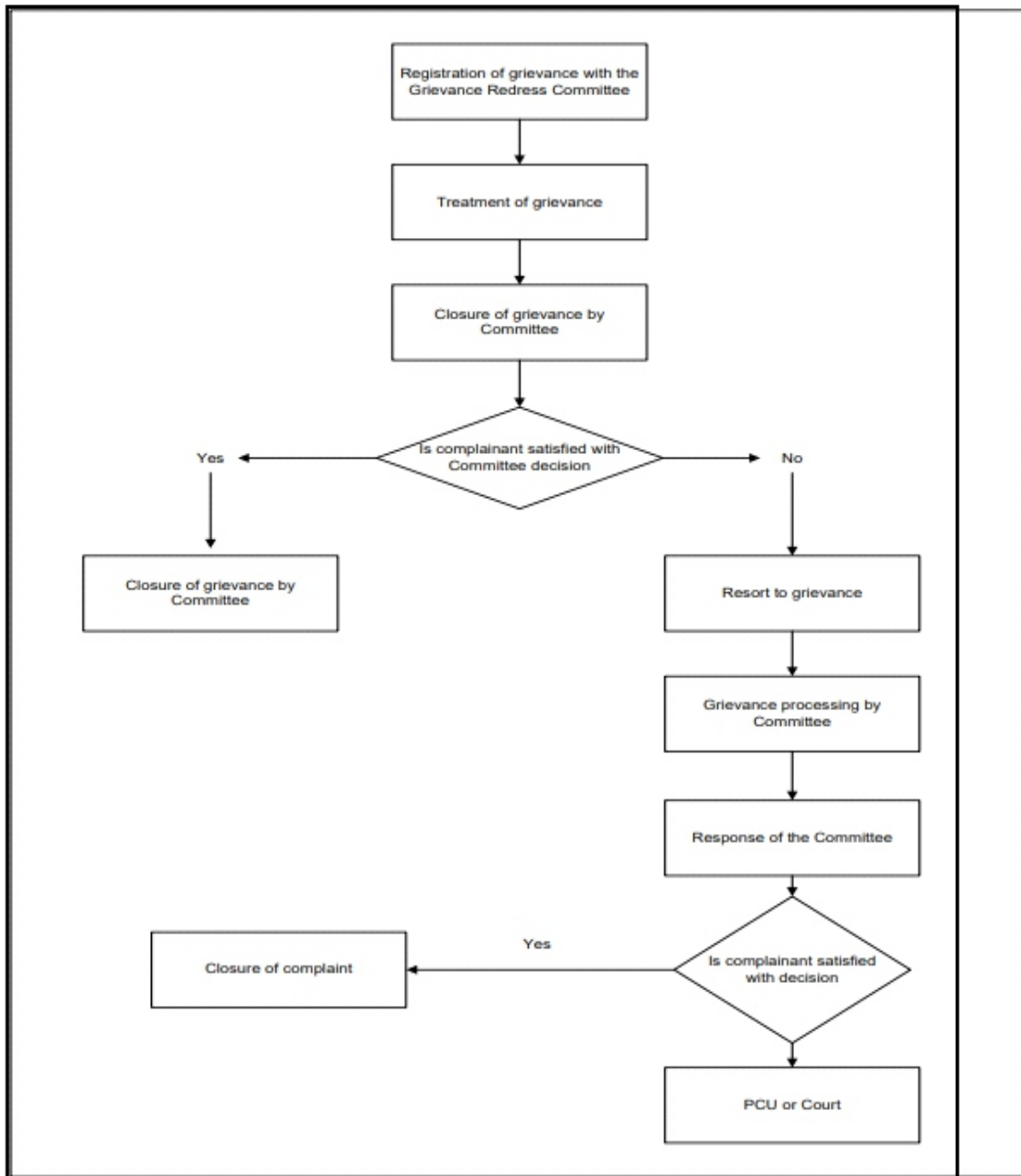
Governing Law: This MoU shall be governed by and construed by the laws of Imo State of Nigeria.

Signatures:

[Name and Title - Party A] [Name and Title - Party B]

Date: _____

Appendix6: Sample Grievance Log





Appendix 7A: Sample Grievance Redress Form and Agreed Resolution Format

Grievance Form				
<i>Grievance Number:</i>		<i>Copies to forward to:</i>		
<i>Name of the Recorder;</i>		<i>(Original)-Receiver Party:</i>		
<i>LG & Community:</i>		<i>(Copy)- Responsible Party:</i>		
<i>Date:</i>				
Information About Grievance				
<i>Define the Grievance.....</i>				
Information about the Complainant		Forms of Receipt:		
Name		<input type="checkbox"/> community Information Meetings		
Phone Line		<input type="checkbox"/> Mail		
Village/ Local Govt. Area		<input type="checkbox"/> Informal		
Signature of Complainant and Date		<input type="checkbox"/> Other		
DETAILS OF GRIEVANCE (addition to list could be made as appropriate)				
<i>1. Access to Land and Resources</i>	<i>2. Damage to</i>	<i>3. Damage to Infrastructure or Community Assets</i>	<i>4. Decrease or Loss of Livelihood</i>	<i>5. Traffic Accident</i>
<i>a) Fishing grounds</i> <i>b) Lands</i> <i>c) Pasturelands</i> <i>d) House</i> <i>e) Commercial site</i> <i>f) Others</i>	<i>a) House</i> <i>b) Land</i> <i>c) Livestock</i> <i>d) Means of livelihood</i> <i>e) Other</i>	<i>a) Road</i> <i>b) Bridge/Passageways</i> <i>c)Power/Telephone Lines</i> <i>d) Water sources, canals and water infrastructure for irrigation and animals</i> <i>e) Drinking water</i> <i>f) Sewerage System</i> <i>g) Others</i>	<i>a) Agriculture</i> <i>b) husbandry</i> <i>c) Beekeeping</i> <i>d) Small scale trade</i> <i>e) Other</i>	<i>a) Injury</i> <i>b) Damage to property</i> <i>c) Damage to livestock</i> <i>e) others</i>
<i>6. Incidents Regarding Expropriation</i>	<i>7. Resettlement Process(Specify)</i>	<i>8. Employment and Recruitment(Specify)</i>	<i>9. Construction Camp and</i>	<i>10. Other (Specify)</i>



and Compensation (Specify)			Community Relations	
			<i>a) Nuisance from dust</i> <i>b) Nuisance from noise</i> <i>c) Vibrations due to explosions</i> <i>d) Misconduct of the project personnel /worker</i> <i>d) Complaint follow up</i> <i>f) Other</i>	

Appendix 7 B: Template of a Claim Registration and Follow-up Form

Prepared by: Date: Aggrieved person: Full name: Residence: Project registration number: Reason for the claim (detailed description of the aggrieved person's version): Composition of the mediation committee: Chair (name, position): LG Chairman/Community Leader/representative (name, position): Project (name, position): Other elders (name, position): Report of mediation efforts: Agreed solution: Implementation of the agreed solution: Close-out: In case no settlement is reached:
--

