

REPUBLIC OF RWANDA
Ministry of Infrastructure

**ENERGY WATER AND SANITATION
AUTHORITY (EWSA)**



Electricity Access Rollout Programme (EARP)

Head Office: Avenue de l' Ihema,
P.O.Box 537, Kigali-Rwanda
Tel: +(250)252573666
Fax: +(250)(0)252573802
E-mail: info@ewsa.rw
Website: www.ewsa.rw

**ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE
INSTALLATION OF LOW VOLTAGE AND MEDIUM
VOLTAGE LINES AND SERVICE CONNECTIONS IN
JANJA AREA IN GAKENKE**

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LIST OF ACRONYMS

ARAP	Abbreviated Resettlement Action Plan
EMF	Electromagnetic Fields
EA	Environmental Audit
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EMP	Environmental Management Plan
IAPs	Interested and Affected Parties
IDA	International Development Association
LV	Low Voltage
MV	Medium Voltage
MININFRA	Ministry of Infrastructure
FONENWA	National Fund of the Environment in Rwanda
NDF	Nordic Development Fund
PPE	Personal Protective Equipment
PCBs	Polychlorinated biphenyls
PAPs	project Affected Parties
PCU	Project Coordination Unit
RPF	Resettlement Policy Framework
RoW	Right Of Way
REMA	Rwanda Environment Management Authority
EARP	Electricity Access Roll-Out Program
MINIFOM	Ministry of Mines and Forests
MINELA	Ministry of Environment and Lands
KCC	Kigali City Council
EWSA	Energy, Water and Sanitation Authority

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

0. BACKGROUND

The Government of Rwanda, in its effort to sustain economic growth, has increased and stabilised the power production since the severe power shortages in 2004. However, infrastructure bottlenecks in the urban areas and limited access in the rural areas have emerged as a significant constraint. One of three major strategic objectives of the Economic Development and Poverty Reduction Strategy (EDPRS 2008-2012) is to expand access while also improving the quality and lowering the cost of economic infrastructure – especially transport, power, and communications. The Government of Rwanda (GoR) also exercises a strong leadership role in donor coordination and has begun to work with donors on a clearer division of labour by identifying areas of individual donor comparative advantage.

In connection with the mentioned strategy, the Government of Rwanda through Energy, Water and Sanitation Authority (EWSA) is embarked on a country-wide **Electricity Access Program** to realize the primary EDPRS target for the electricity sector of tripling access by 2012 to about 16 percent of households and at least 50 percent of identified public institutions in health, education and local administration. This will require about 160'000 new grid connections, and will also include efforts to reach rural consumers and service providers currently off the national grid.

In this regard, EWSA has established a new Electricity Access Scale-up Roll-out Program (EARP) as a part of its corporate structure. The program will be implemented within the framework of a Sector Wide approach (SWAp) to encompass all donors active in the sector under one common sector investment program. The overall investment envelope for the first SWAp time (2009-2013) is estimated at \$378 million, for the program period covered by the Prospectus that has been endorsed by all the Partners and key sector institutions in Rwanda, including EWSA.

The prospectus outlines the overarching spatial least cost rollout plan and priority connection targets through the medium term, the rollout strategy and the financing policy platform for the EARP. Additionally, the EARP implementation will be subject to a monitoring, evaluation and results framework as well as the oversight and accountability process of regular reviews as

agreed with the energy sector working group (SWG), chaired by Ministry of infrastructure (MININFRA) on advice from the partners.

A number of development partners so far committed to support the program including World Bank IDA, World Bank GEF/ESMAP CEIF, African Development Bank, BADEA, OFID, Saudi Funds, Netherlands, Japan, and others.

It is in this regard that Rwandan Government through its cooperation with World Bank applied for grant to undertake the construction of transmission and distribution lines in Janja area in Gakenke district. (56.2 km of MV and 62 km of LV to have a total of 3,670 new connection).

I. DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT

I.1. INTRODUCTION

This is a rural electrification project which is in the context of the effort of the Ministry of Infrastructure to meet the national Economic Development and Poverty Reduction Strategy (EDPRS) target to increase access to electricity on a national scale, and to supply reliable and affordable energy to Rwandan householders. This lack of electricity in some parts of rural areas caused concentration of economic activities in urban areas, causing a lot people to shift from nearby centres for green pasture.

The electricity access roll-out program aims at increasing connections, boost economic activities all over the country, direct and indirect creation of jobs and raise off-firm jobs. The ongoing EARP will enable energy sector stakeholders to connect at least 16% of the population or 350,000 customers to the grid by 2012. It is in this regard therefore that remote areas have been identified to benefit this grant.

Currently, the Rwandan transmission system is composed of 370 km 110 kV and 70 kV lines linking the southern substation Mururu II to Gikondo as well as the 70 kV line from Jabana to Rwinkavu. The transmission system has also eleven 110kV substations, and four 70kV substations that supply all Country.

According to the high energy demand the Rwandan generated electricity needs to be transmitted and distributed to the beneficiaries. It is in this line that there is a need of the construction of transmission and distribution lines in Janja area in Gakenke district.

I.2. OBJECTIVES OF THE PROJECT

The purpose and objectives of this project are as follow:

- Reducing poverty through increase of electricity access rate by direct or indirect job creation
- Reduce CO₂ emissions from kerosene by providing clean electric energy
- Uplift living standards in the targeted areas as investors have been limited by having no electricity guarantee
- To reduce the use of charcoal which result in deforestation and end up causing soil erosion

- To create foundation for other infrastructure like ICT infrastructure and other investments that require electricity.

I.3. PROJECT ACTIVITIES

The project components shall consist of the construction of transmission and distribution lines Janja area in Gakenke district. (56.2 km of MV and 62 km of LV to have a total of 3,670 new connection).

The Works will consist of:

- Construction and installation of MV and pole mounted transformer substation in along the transmission line in the subproject area
- Construction and installation of LV lines and poles along the distribution line in the subproject area
- Transportation of line building materials from Kigali to the Contractor's warehouse on site
- Storage and management of the materials in the warehouse
- Line and topographic surveys, profile calculations and calculation of structures and detailed plans for pole and cables
- Providing as built drawings of the lines.
- Arrangement of system shut-downs and outage notifications
- Testing and commissioning of works
- Inventory of damaged items in transit

I.4. TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION

Description of Works

This part of the document will give a detailed explanation of the works to be completed. The MV networks will mainly be constructed with 12m wood poles. Where anchoring of poles with a stay is not possible, or where the excavation for the stay will result in high expropriation cost, unsupported concrete poles will be used. The correct design strength for the pole must be calculated, and the correct foundation type must be used.

Allowance is made or some 14m wood and steel poles for special needs.

Conductors used include 35/6 and 70/12 and 120/20 mm² ACSR.

Low Voltage lines will be constructed with ABC conductor on 9m wood poles.

The installation of service connections and split prepaid meters are included in the Contract. Prepaid meters will be supplied by EWSA.

The transformer sizing as well as LV and MV conductor sizing was done by means of a load forecast study and load flow analysis and is assumed to be accurate. The Contractor must report any instance where this information seems to be inaccurate due to actual consumers to be connected on the network.

The overall project plan is shown in figure 1 below.

Line Profiling

The proposed line route is indicated in ArcGIS software. This route is an indication of the route to be surveyed by the Contractor. The positions of LV lines and transformers are given as accurate as possible and final surveying of this must be done by the Contractor. Conductor sizes were calculated in the preliminary design and the information is available from the ArcGIS database.

A number of poles with different strength specifications, as well as strain insulators are included in the BOQ. The Contractor must design the lines to fall within the specifications of this equipment as far as possible.

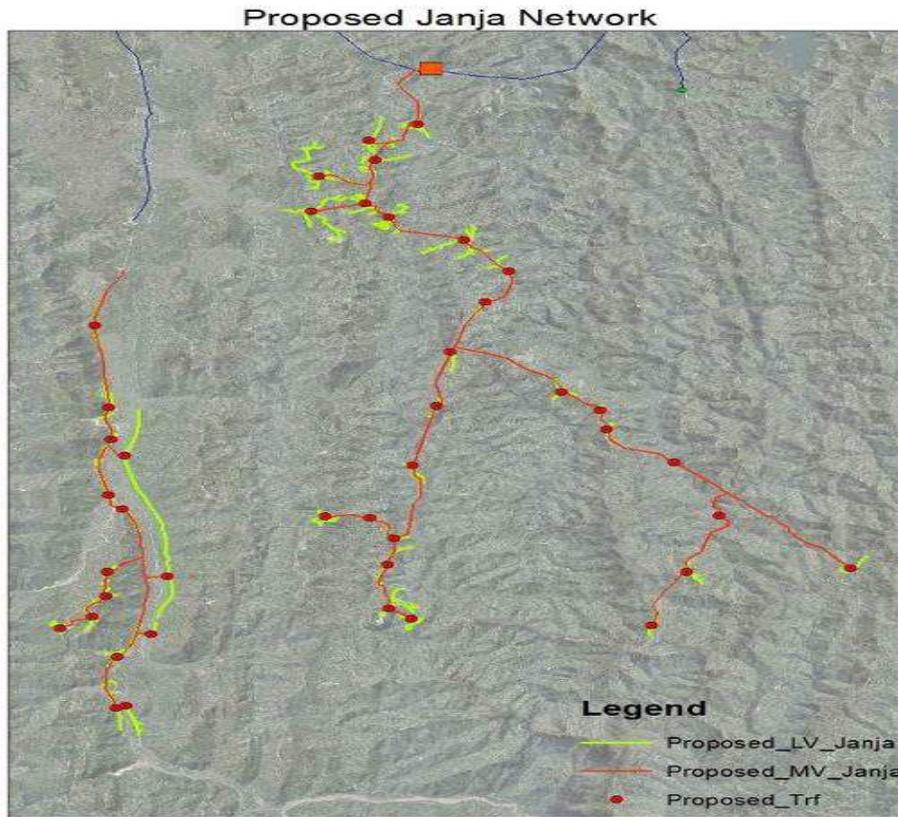


Figure 1: MV and LV Line Routes for Janja

General Technical Specifications

Scope

This section covers the general technical specifications for the electrical part of the works and consequently describes the supply, installation and commissioning of all the electrical equipment for the 30kV/15kV/400V networks in Rwanda. Where the specification refers to items not required for the project, the specific clauses shall be ignored.

Environmental Data

The project is located in an area of Rwanda with a climate characterized as sub-tropical to tropical.

The following summarised climate data will form the design data for the working conditions of the equipment:

Air Temperatures:

Maximum outdoor temperature	+40°C
Minimum outdoor temperature	+ 5°C
Maximum daily average temperature	+30°C
Annual average temperature	+20°C

Rainfall

Annual average rainfall	1,500mm
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Solar Radiation

Maximum solar radiation	5,200 W/m ²
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Isokeronic Level

Average	70 days/year
Altitude	> 1,500m

Air Humidity:

Maximum at +35°C	95%
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Wind:

Maximum wind velocity	40 m/s
Maximum Sustained Wind speed	29m/s

Safety Precautions

The contractor shall work strictly in accordance with the safety precautions of the Rwandan Government. The contractor shall take all the necessary precautions to ensure the safety of personnel when working on or near live electrical equipment. The Contractor shall notify the Engineer in advance of all switching or disconnecting of HV equipment.

The contractor shall hold monthly safety meetings and minutes of such meetings must be forwarded to the engineer.

Quality Assurance

The supplier shall provide current certification showing the manufacturer's compliance with ISO 9000 or equivalent national standard.

Packing and Shipping

Packing

All equipment, including accessories, shall be packed and securely clamped against movement in robust, wooden, non returnable packing cases to ensure safe transit from the manufacturer's works to the work sites.

All equipment be handled with due care. Specifically, poles shall not be bound together, they shall not be dragged along the ground and hand cant hooks, pole tongs and other pointed tools shall not be applied to the ground line section of treated poles. The packing shall provide suitable protection against all climatic conditions prevailing during transport and on site.

Equipment or material liable to deterioration by sea water, moisture, or ingress of foreign matter shall be totally sealed in strong polythene bags.

All accessories shall be carefully packed so that they are fully protected during transport and handling operations and in storage.

Internal surfaces of loose accessories shall be sealed off by means of gaskets and blanking off plates. Equipment and surfaces liable to deterioration due to condensation shall be protected by packs of silica gel or other approved desiccant.

The manufacturer or supplier may be consulted on the adequacy of warehousing arrangements and he or she shall be required to accept responsibility for the advice given, in so far as these arrangements may have a bearing on the behaviour of the equipment in subsequent service.

Poles shall be securely clamped against movement to ensure safe transit from the supplier's facilities to the site. All accessories (such as wood plugs) shall be carefully packed so that they are fully protected during transport and handling operations and while in storage.

Shipping or Inland Transportation

The contractor shall be responsible for the shipping of all plant and equipment supplied from abroad to the ports of entry and for the transport of all goods to site and for all the costs and expenses resulting from it, including customs clearance, offloading, warehousing and insurance.

All transport accessories, such as riding lugs, jacking pads, blanking off plates, etc. shall become the property of EWSA.

Each consignment shall be accompanied by a fully detailed shipping or inland transportation list in a sealed waterproof envelope. One copy of each information list shall be sent to EWSA prior to dispatching.

Hazardous Substances

The supplier shall submit safety data sheets for all substances used in the preservative treatment of the poles. These substances shall be classified in accordance with the European Union SI 426: European Communities (dangerous substances) (classification, packaging, labelling and notification) regulation, 1992, or any subsequent amendment.

The Contractor shall give an assurance that there are no other substances classified as hazardous with the poles supplied. The supplier shall accept responsibility for the disposal of such hazardous substances, should any be found.

The Contractor shall also be responsible for any injury resulting from the use of hazardous substances.

STANDARDS AND SPECIFICATIONS

LOW VOLTAGE AERIAL BUNDLE CABLES (600/1000V)

The present specification is applied to the isolated aerial bundled cables (twisted cables) for rated voltage U_0/U equal to 0.6/1 kV, with a cross-linked polyethylene (XLPE) insulating sheath and intended for overhead low voltage lines.

This specification fixes the characteristics of these isolated twisted cables and defines the tests to which they shall comply.

CABLE DESIGN

Conducting cores

The core of conductors has a circular stranded cross-section.

The wires of the support core neutral conductor are in aluminium-silicon-magnesium alloy.

Core of conductors other than neutral messenger is carried out in aluminium wires with purity at least equal to that corresponding to 1350 code in conformity with IEC 60889 standard.

The presence of welding on the elementary wires of the stranded core is tolerated, but when one considers the whole of the wires of the support neutral, two consecutive weldings must be distant at least 50 m.

Insulating sheath

The insulating sheath is an extruded sheath in black colour reticulated polyethylene. It must be possible to withdraw it easily.

In the case of neutral messenger, a paper-type separator can be applied to the core.

For phase conductors, the presence of a separator is optional, but when there is one separator, it must be coloured in the mass and must be the same on all the twisted cable cores.

SPECIFICATIONS

Characteristics of the conducting cores

The aluminium wires used for manufacturing of phase conductor cores of abc cables without neutral messenger shall present before wiring, a tensile strength at least equal to 120 MPa.

The aluminium alloy wires used for conducting cores manufacturing of the support core neutral must present before wiring, the following characteristics:

Nominal diameter of wires: 3.15 mm for the 54,6 mm² for the neutral messenger

Linear expansion rate: $23 \cdot 10^{-6}$ per degree Celcius

Modulus of elasticity: 62.000 MPa

600/1000V GENERAL PURPOSE LV CABLES

The cable design offered for use at L.V. shall meet the following requirements.

Conductors

The conductors shall conform to IEC-228. Refer to Table 1 for conductor type and size.

Insulation

Cable insulation shall consist of polyvinyl chloride, **PVC**. Insulation thickness shall conform to IEC-502.

Armouring

Armouring shall be applied helically forming a layer of galvanised steel wire over an inner covering. Armour shall comply with the requirements of IEC 502, Clause 11.

Oversheath

All cables shall have a **black coloured P.V.C. oversheath**, which shall be embossed at regular intervals as per Clause 12.4 of this specification.

Core Identification

Individual cores shall be colour coded as per Table 1.

CABLE OVERSHEATH

The following requirements apply to 600/1000V cables.

The thickness of PVC oversheaths shall be in accordance with IEC 502.

PVC oversheaths shall be of a heat, moisture, and sunlight resistant material that is fire retardant and low acid emitting when subjected to the temperature limits of the underlying insulation. Solutions to which the oversheath is resistant shall include petrol, oil, acids and alkalis. The oversheath shall contain a termite, insect and rodent repellent of a permanent nature.

LV SERVICE DROP CABLES

This specification establishes the technical characteristics of single phase LV concentric power cables for overhead service drop with nominal voltage 0,6/1 kV. This cable is self supported type. Metal shall be **copper**.

The cable will be installed aerially between pole top and house meter.

CABLE DESIGN

Circular stranded hard drawn copper phase conductor, XLPE insulated with identified neutral and bare earth conductors arranged concentrically around it, polyethylene sheathed 600/1000v service connection cable. Nylon ripcord laid under sheath

Characteristic requirements

Phase cores constitution: Circular stranded hard drawn copper phase conductor,
XLPE insulated

Neutral conductor: bare or isolated wires arranged concentrically around insulated
phase conductor,

Communication pilot cores: a pair of isolated communication pilot cores to allow using the service drop cable with split prepayment meters. The pair of communication cores shall be isolated in proper colour of insulating matter, different from color of neutral wires insulation matter.

Outer sheath: Polyethylene sheathed 600/1000v house service drop cable with Nylon ripcord laid under sheath.

CONDUCTOR CHARACTERISTICS

Conductor characteristics shall be in conformity with the standard of reference.

The conductor will be delivered completely lubricated including the external layer with a neutral grease with respect to aluminium.

This grease must be in conformity with the requirements of standard NFEN 50.326; its dropping point ("point de goutte") must be at least equal to 105°C.

15KV DISTRIBUTION TRANSFORMERS

This specification establishes the technical characteristics of Three-phase 15KV/BT conventional overhead distribution transformers for distribution overhead network.

STANDARDS

The equipments shall comply with this specification and the following standards:

IEC 60076 : power transformer,

or

ANSI/IEEE C 57.12.90: Test code for liquid immersed distribution power and regulating transformer

ANSI/IEEE C 57.12.80: Power and Distribution transformer

ANSI/IEEE C 57.12.00: Liquid-immersed distribution Power and regulating transformer,

30KV DISTRIBUTION TRANSFORMERS

This specification establishes the technical characteristics of Three-phase 30KV/BT conventional overhead distribution transformers for distribution overhead network.

STANDARDS

The equipments shall comply with this specification and the following standards:

IEC 60076 : power transformer,

Or

ANSI/IEEE C 57.12.90: Test code for liquid immersed distribution power and regulating transformer

ANSI/IEEE C 57.12.80: Power and Distribution transformer

ANSI/IEEE C 57.12.00: Liquid-immersed distribution Power and regulating transformer.

TRANSFORMER LV DISTRIBUTION BOX

LV DB

LV equipment shall be housed in a Galvanized box with two hinged doors and lockable latch. The cost for padlocks shall be included in the LV DB price.

Mounting of the box shall be by means of fixing it to two (2) lengths of suitably sized Galvanized angle iron mounted between the poles below the transformer for the new pole mounted transformers.

The box shall have an insulated neutral busbar connected to the neutral bushing but insulated from the body to a basic insulation level of 1000V.

The box shall have a gland plate to accept 2 x 95mm² 4 core armoured copper cables from the transformer LV bushings.

A reliable earthing terminal, having a clamping screw or nut, for connection to an earth conductor suitable for the fault condition specified shall be provided. The diameter of the clamping screw/nut shall be M12 or greater and shall be connected to the HV earthing system.

Phase rotation will be indicated in the door of this box.

15KV SURGE ARRESTORS

This specification establishes the technical characteristics of arresters designed to protect equipment and used to limit overvoltages on the distribution overhead network.

STANDARDS

The arresters shall comply with this specification and the following standards :

IEC 60099-4 : Surge arresters - Part 4 : Metal-oxide surge arresters without gaps for a.c. systems.

Or

ANSI/IEEE C-62-11: Arresters for AC power circuits.

CHARACTERISTICS OF NETWORK

The arresters will be installed on the 3 wires overhead network with isolated neutral:

Nominal voltage of network : 15 KV.

Maximum voltage of network : 16.5 KV.

Frequency : 50 Hz

30KV SURGE ARRESTORS

This specification establishes the technical characteristics of arresters designed to protect equipment and used to limit overvoltages on the distribution overhead network.

STANDARDS

The arresters shall comply with this specification and the following standards :

IEC 60099-4 : Surge arresters - Part 4 : Metal-oxide surge arresters without gaps for A.C. systems.

Or

ANSI/IEEE C-62-11 : Arresters for AC power circuits.

30KV INSULATED FUSE CUTOUTS

This specification establishes the technical characteristics of MV fuse cutout for overhead distribution network operated on 15kV or 30kV, but insulated on **30KV**.

STANDARDS :

Cut outs shall comply with this specification and the following standards :

ANSI/IEEE C-62-11 : Arresters for AC power circuits.

ANSI C 37.41: IEEE Standard Design Test for High Voltage Fuses, Distribution Enclosed Single Pole Air Switches, Fuse and Accessories.

or

IEC 60282-2 : High Voltage Fuses.

IEC 61109 : Insulators for overhead lines – Composite suspension and tension insulators for a.c. systems with a nominal voltage greater than 1 000 V – Definitions, test methods and acceptance criteria.

WOOD POLES

The present technical specification concerns the supply of wood poles intended for the construction of electrical distribution (Medium voltage and low voltage) overhead lines regardless of their rated voltage.

NORMATIVE REFERENCES

The following standards are applicable to the present specification

NFC 67-100 : wood pole for overhead lines-specifications.

EN 12490 : Durability of wood and wood-based products — Preservative-treated solid wood — Determination of the penetration and retention of creosote in treated wood

EN 12465 : Wood poles for overhead lines- Durability requirements

EN 12479: Wood poles for overhead lines-Sizes- Methods of measurement and permissible deviations

EN 12510 : Wood poles for overhead lines-Strength grading criteria

EN 50423-1 : Overhead electrical lines exceeding AC 1 kV up to and including AC 45 kV – Part 1 : General requirements – Common specifications

EN 12511: Wood poles for overhead lines- Determination of characteristic values

EN 60652 : Loading tests on overhead line structures

EN 12509 : Timber poles for overhead lines-Test methods- Determination of modulus of elasticity, bending-strength, density and moisture content

SABS 754 (latest version): Eucalyptus poles, cross-arms and spacers for power distribution and telephone systems

Any other international standards guaranteeing for this type of material a quality higher or equal to the standards above mentioned are also accepted.

NB: Wood Poles proposed according to SAS Standard shall have at least the minimum pole characteristics required by NFC 67 100.

PRESERVATIVE TREATMENT

Wood specie and preservative treatment:

The adopted treatment process shall be compatible with the proposed wood specie, in accordance with NFC 67 100 standard or equivalent. The supplier shall indicate the proposed specie and adapted preservative treatment in its offer.

Freshly felled poles are accepted as well as dried poles. The preservative treatment process shall be adapted to each of both cases, in accordance with NFC 67 100 or equivalent.

For dry poles, drying minimum period of time shall be at least 6 months for the smallest poles.

CONCRETE POLES

The present technical specification concerns the supply of Prestressed Concrete poles (PCP) intended for the construction of electrical distribution (Medium voltage and low voltage) overhead lines regardless of their rated voltage.

NORMATIVE REFERENCES

The following standards are applicable to the present specification

EN 12843 : Precast concrete products Masts and poles

NFC 67 – 250: Prestressed Concrete poles

NFC 67 – 220: Supports for overhead lines- Concrete poles of Class D and E

Any other international standards guaranteeing for this type of material a quality higher or equal to the standards above mentioned are also accepted.

STEEL POLES

This Technical Specification covers the technical characteristics of welded round conical steel poles (“tubular”) used in overhead distribution systems, regardless of their rated voltage.

STANDARDS:

The following standards are applicable for the present specification:

EN 10025: Hot rolled products of structural steel

EN 10149 : Hot-rolled flat products made of high yield strength for cold forming

EN 10079 : Definition of steel products

NFA 35 - 503 : Steel for galvanization by hot immersion.

ISO 1461: Hot dip galvanized coatings on fabricated iron and steel articles - Specifications and test methods.

ISO 14713: Protection against corrosion of iron and steel in structures - Zinc and aluminium coatings - Guidelines.

Any other international standards guaranteeing for this type of material a quality higher or equal to the standards above mentioned are also accepted.

SETTING OUT AND ERECTION

General

Wayleaves and right of access facilities, subject to the requirements of landowners and tenants will be provided by the Employer, but the Contractor will be responsible for the provision of access routes or tracks along the line routes to enable him to carry out the erection of the transmission line.

The Contractor will be provided with a set of plans showing the routes of the transmission lines and any setting out details which may be required. The terminal points at ends of each line will be indicated by the Engineer.

The Contractor shall set out the route of the line determining the alignment and the co-ordinates of all terminal and turning points. The work shall be undertaken by competent surveyors who are familiar with the requirements and working conditions.

The route shall be pegged on the centre-line by means of steel pins positioned every kilometre, or such smaller distance as may be required to provide intervisibility between intermediate points. Each turning point shall be pegged and referenced by providing four additional steel pins, giving a means of relocating should the turning point marker be displaced or removed. Each turning point position and reference system shall be recorded on a field distance. The fourth peg shall be placed in any convenient location and recorded. Where distinctive features are present these shall be recorded also. The steel pins shall be 16mm diameter and not less than 750mm long, and shall be driven into the ground to leave 50mm protruding.

At overhead line or telephone crossings where the line being surveyed crosses between two poles or structures, the conductor height shall be assumed to be an imaginary straight line connecting the uppermost attachment point on the two poles or structures and not the actual height of any conductors at the crossing point.

Field sketches of all power and communication line crossings shall be made at the time of setting out, show the general disposition of conductors, insulators and earth wire. The pole height to the upper attachment shall be measured accurately from the elevation datum.

Planting Depth

Poles excavations shall normally be as follows:

USE	LENGTH (m)	PLANTING DEPTH (mm)
LV	9	1500
MV	12	1700
MV	13	1800
MV	14	1900
MV	15	2000

Backfill and Compaction

Backfilling and compaction of the hole shall be done in layers of not more than 200mm. Each layer shall be compacted to the normal adjacent soil density or better. Manual or mechanical means of compaction may be used. Inspections of compaction density shall be done by the Engineer.

All excavated material must be returned in the foundation, and no material should be left over.

Pegging of Structure Positions

The Contractor shall be responsible to ascertain the correctness of structure positions on site according to the drawings and shall, where so required, re-measure and determine positions in conjunction with the Engineer. The co-ordinates for each pole shall be accurately measured and the type of structure, i.e. strain, intermediate, etc, shall be noted.

The as-pegged as well as the as-built information shall be submitted to the Engineer in both hardcopy and ArcGis software format.

Network poles must be available to every consumer stand after construction allowing an average of 4 consumer connections per pole. The network shall stop within 40m of each house in the zone under construction.

Site Preparation

The Contractor will be responsible for the pruning or complete removal of trees where necessary along the routes of overhead lines.

Where trees are to be removed, the Contractor shall completely uproot the relevant trees by means of a monkey winch or other approved methods, and stack them in a position approved by the Employer or Engineer. All holes caused by such uprooting shall be filled by him to leave the site clean and tidy, all to the satisfaction of the Engineer. Utmost care shall be taken when uprooting trees, as the Contractor will be responsible for all the claims due to any damage and/or injury caused by such uprooting of trees.

Where the branches of trees are to be pruned, such pruning shall be neatly carried out in an effective and workmanlike fashion to the satisfaction of the Engineer.

Unless specifically indicated otherwise herein or on the accompanying drawing, Tenderers shall allow in their tenders for:

The removal of trees, except shrubs, with trunks within 5m from the nearest conductor along the routes of all lines.

The pruning of all tree branches, along the routes of all lines, in such a way that no branch will project through a vertical plane parallel to and 3m from the nearest conductor, on the understanding that such branches of which the highest points are below 6m above ground level need not be pruned unless it is within 3m from any pole.

Protection of Natural Vegetation

The Contractor shall exercise proper care not to destroy damage or remove any natural trees and vegetation, except where he is instructed or given permission to do so in cases where it is unavoidable. No trucks or plants shall be allowed to run over areas not specifically set aside for this purpose.

The Contractor shall take care not to have field fires developing from his site. He shall be responsible for any losses and claims, which could arise from field fires starting due to his negligence. In the case of any field fires threatening the site, he shall give all assistance to protect the site against such fires from elsewhere. The Contractor shall at his own expense do all the protection as described and shall not be specially paid for any fencing or fire breaks, etc.

The following trees shall under no circumstances be uprooted or damaged in any way except with the consent of the Engineer:

Transvaal Ebony	<i>Diospyros mespiliformis</i>
Baobab	<i>Adansonia digitata</i>
Wild Fig	<i>Ficus Capensis</i>
Cape Ash	<i>Ekebergia Capensis</i>
Yellow woods	<i>Podocarpus</i>
Stinkwoods	<i>Ocotea Bullata</i>
Kiaat	<i>Pterocarpus Angolensis</i>
Tambotie	<i>Spirostachys Africana</i>
Cabbage Tree	<i>Cussonia's</i>

During the field visit, it was observed that there will be no resettlement or loss of permanent structures either from the construction of substation, transmission and distribute at Janja in Gakenke district.

CONSTRUCTION

When the Contractor is about to commence work on any property he shall be responsible for ascertaining from the Engineer that the Wayleaves are in order and give the occupier of such property adequate notice of the commencement of the work.

If the Contractor wishes to make a camp on any property he shall first obtain written permission to do so from the occupier of such property. All staff shall be provided with badges indicating their employment by the Contractor and adequate supervision shall be employed to protect the interests of the occupier of the property.

When the Contractor is about to carry out erection of the conductors or installation of earth electrodes or counterpoise along or across public roads, telegraph or telephone lines, railways or across power lines he shall be responsible for giving the requisite notice to the appropriate authorities of the date and time at which he proposes to perform the work.

Where the local authorities and other public undertakings affected deem it necessary for the protection of the public and the assistance of traffic, to provide flagmen or watchmen or installation of warning lights, etc., the cost of such provision shall be borne by the Contractor.

The Contractor shall be held responsible for any injury to the Public and damage to livestock due, in the opinion of the Engineer, to failure to comply with the above requirements.

In the event of any dispute or questions of damage or for the adequacy of provisions made for permanent or temporary replacement or repair, the Contractor shall at once inform the Employer.

II. DESCRIPTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT

II.1. DESCRIPTION OF THE PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT: METEOROLOGY, HYDROGRAPHY, GEOLOGY, RELIEF AND BIODIVERSITY

This chapter gives background information of the project area as a whole then narrows down to project specific site in terms of its location, administrative set-up, climate, settlement patterns, and the major environment attributes, which will play a crucial role in the identification of impacts and influence the overall direction in the development of the project.

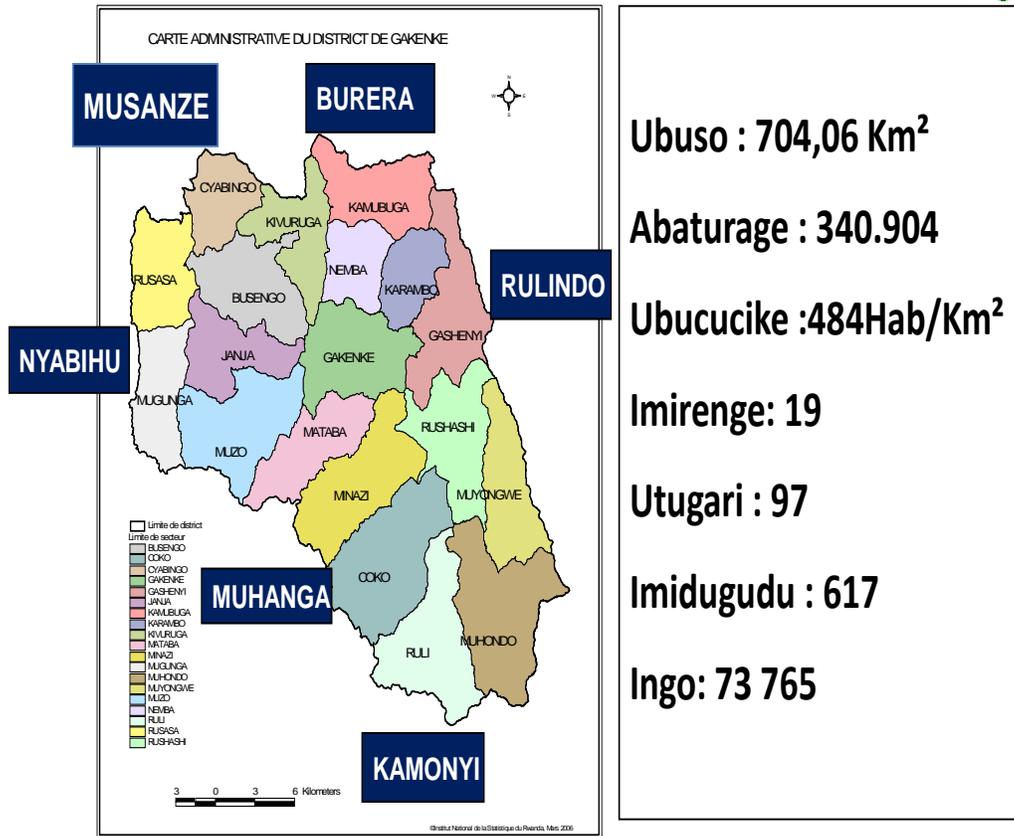
Project Location

The project area is situated in the Northern zone in Gakenke district which is one of the five districts of the North Province, Gakenke is located in a mountainous area with abundant rainfall, water systems typically utilize springs with gravity-fed systems. Combinations of limited individual connections and public water points or kiosks exist at the village level. Community water supplies are increasingly managed by private operators with a growing network of technical support.

- In the East: Rulindo district (Northern Province)
- In the West: Nyabihu and Ngororero districts (Western Province)
- In the North: Musanze and Burera districts (Northern Province)
- In the South: Kamonyi and Muhanga districts (Southern Province)



IMITERERE Y'AKARERE KA GAKENKE



ABESAMIHIGO

1

Figure: Gakenke district

DESCRIPTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT

Description of the Physical Environment: Meteorology, Hydrography, Geology, Relief and Biodiversity

The agro-bio-climatic

The natural vegetation has disappeared under the pressure of human population. Hence natural areas have been replaced by agro-bio-climatic regions. According to the classification of MINAGRI mapping, the district is composed of two agro-bio-climatic: the region called the

central region in the south and east of the district and the agro-bio-region which were determined from some key parameters are: climate, soils, topography and vegetation.

Climate.

The climatic parameters:

The climate is observed from two parameters: temperature and precipitation. Available observations allow us to describe and present their implication on poverty of the people in the following.

Temperature.

While rainfall is fairly well observed through several stations, it is not the same temperatures for which approximations done. In a first approach, we observe that for the whole country, there is a contrast between its geographical position and temperature. It is located at about 2 degrees south of the equator and one would expect at a temperature warmer than it is.

Instead of an expected equatorial temperature, there are temperatures in temperate regions. The most characteristic elements of this phenomenon is due to its elevation in general. And the highlands of the district are cooler in the country. Average temperatures will range between 15 ° C and 18 ° C throughout the year. This has implications for agriculture. There is thus a potential for some crops (maize, wheat, potatoes,) and a virtual exclusion of others that require more heat.

As the population tends to generalize the crop throughout the country, the potential output is uncertain. The temperature becomes a limiting factor as it could be a potential in the production if the agricultural specialization was strictly observed. If this specialization was well observed, the potential production determined by the climate would increase the volume of crops and thus promote exchanges between people of different regions. In planning ahead, it will be important to determine with sufficient accuracy plants suitable for each region to exploit the benefits of the climate through temperature levels.

Precipitation.

The level of calculated mean monthly precipitation of about 50 years in the current Gakenke district shows that there are two seasons of heavy rains (February to May and October-December) and two seasons when rainfall decreases sharply (from June to September and December -January). As in the rest of Rwanda, the agricultural year which begins in September with the rains and know four seasons: one rainy season that extends from September to December with a peak in November, the first dry season between December and February, a second rainy season between February and June followed by a second dry season extends from June to August

In general, the district is well watered by referring to the total annual rainfall averaging to 1240 mm. Taking the average as that which applies throughout the district, this means that it falls on average 1.2 m³ of water over 1m² of land in the district.

On the contrary, this potential is now considered a bottleneck. It creates a lot of nuisances. It takes everything in its path and the marshes are flooded during rainy seasons. When it does not rain, especially during the long dry season, the fields remain uncultivated because farmers can not sow or plant as they have lost their moisture. The perceived problem there is a problem of management of this potential. Rational management of this water would make it beneficial for the people of the region.

The effects of climate on soil conservation.

The effects of climate on soil conservation are generally expressed also by the rainfall. The other elements of climate such as temperature play very poorly on soil conservation in the district. Indeed, there is today, soils in the highlands of Rwanda are generally washed out where systems of soil conservation have not been developed. This is the case in the district that is the subject of description.

The effects of climate on agricultural production.

Here as elsewhere, the effects of climate on agricultural production is carried out negatively in two ways. The first is a gradual decline in production because of soil conservation is uncertain. Then the result of the production is below what it should be the result of conduct of the

population in agricultural practices. People speculate agricultural practices and unsuitable to the climate of a part or all of the district. This applies to the persistence of the banana in the high altitude areas where it can not bear the temperature that prevails there.

But the climate of the district that brings inconveniences. It is also a potential of the district. Indeed, it allows specialization of the district in speculation of some crops and promote an improvement in trade between different districts first, then among the countries of the region.

Relief

The relief of the district is dominated by agro bio climatic highlands with an average altitude of 2000 meters. The relief is characterized by steeply sloping hills connected either by valleys sleep slided or by flooded marshes.

Hydrography.

Hydrography is the description of all the running water of a region. It concerns mainly the surface water. This data is in principle an important potential for development. Water is used to support life for people, animals and plants. But this potential can become a bottleneck if not properly managed, especially in a hilly region of Gakenke district where steep slopes predominate. We describe the four aspects: the rivers, drinking water, water for agriculture and water for energy.

Natural forests.

The natural forest has completely disappeared from the district. The vegetation on the type of district is anthropogenic.

DESCRIPTION OF THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

Agriculture

Major economic activities are small scale businesses and agriculture. The Northern Province is leading in the production of food in country, the region has been blessed by its fertile soils and its geographical location as it bordered by Uganda in the north, and this also boosts business across the border. There is a variety of farm products cultivated in the higher altitude north and in the lower altitude central, east and southern parts of the province.

It has fertile agricultural land, producing crops like rice, maize, Cassava, Bananas, beans and coffee. Lush pastures support the cows which produce milk for nation, as well as sheep, goats.

Infrastructure

The industrial sector in Gakenke District is not very well developed. In the district there are only 12 coffee processing centers and two centers for seedling variety improvement. This is usually brought about by lack socio-economic infrastructure like roads, water, electricity etc. Roads covering a distance of 33km were constructed and these are Kaziba-Akarere, Kirenge-Rushashi, Buranga-Murambo. There were also small roads that were repaired during the monthly community work exercise covering a distance of 59.4km. Four bridges of Cyacika, Mugunga-Vunga, Kamina, Kivuruga were constructed and are operational.

EDUCATION

The district constructed forty classes in Curugusi, Rukura, Kirabo, Rwakirari, and Gakoro. There are 9,250 pupils in Nursery schools 51% of these are girls. Forty Nursery schools were provided with 2000 iron sheets. There are 79,521 pupils in Primary schools with 51.5% being girls, and 98% of primary school going children are already in school.

Ninety schools of illiteracy elimination in all sectors were given materials like chalk, books and wood. 7,237 people are being taught how to read and write. Nyarutovu school that has been selected as the exemplary school was provided with a laboratory in order to improve science and technology in the district. There is also an improvement in school enrollment and schools did well national examinations in the last years.

TRADE

The District of Gakenke indulges in trade through shops, small bars, restaurants and some hotels. There are some markets of which some are well constructed and others still operate without any roofing and traders have to endure the risk of rain and sun throughout the day. There are also micro finance institutions, banks and credit and saving cooperatives. The district also trades with the neighboring districts especially in agricultural products. The district has built and upgraded some markets and this has facilitated the smooth running of trade within the district. There is a remarkable increase in trade with more people getting involved.

There is need to encourage foreign investors to invest in the district especially in the agricultural sector due to the soil fertility in the district and abundance of cheap labor. There is also need to encourage the population to use modern methods of technology in order to increase their productivity and hence improve their standards of living.

HEALTH

The district of Gakenke has established family planning committees in all the villages in the district and family planning services are being offered in six secondary family planning posts put in place by religious organizations. The number of women that have been participating have grown from 8.1% to 16%, however, men have also been participating in this endeavor with 70 men in 2007 but have tripled to 288 in 2008.

It has also upgraded some health centers including Muhondo, Coko, Bushoka, and Rutake Health Centers. These health centers helped in providing testing and counseling services (VCT&PMTCT) to more than 15,600 people. People are being sensitized to look after their hygiene especially drinking boiled water, using clean food utensils, and cleaning their homesteads. At the village level, there are people responsible for monitoring how all this is being implemented.

People have been encouraged also to subscribe to the mutual health insurance and there is a big improvement with an increase in the number registered members. Some organizations and

corporate companies have been helping the vulnerable and the poor to be able to pay for this mutual health insurance.

INDUSTRY

The industrial sector in Gakenke District is not very well developed. In the district there are only 12 coffee processing centers and two centers for seedling variety improvement. This is usually brought about by lack socio-economic infrastructure like roads, water, electricity etc

There is need to encourage foreign investors to invest in the district especially in the agricultural sector due to the soil fertility in the district and abundance of cheap labor. There is also need to encourage the population to use modern methods of technology in order to increase the productivity and hence improve their standards of living.

LAND AND HOUSING

Within the framework of Gakenke Town planning, 222 plots of land have been demarcated. The district is also planning to provide the population with socio-economic infrastructures like clean water, modern market, electricity, and upgrading Nemba Hospital.

In the district plan of developing agglomeration sites, 21 023 plots of land out of 35 000 (60%) that had been considered for demarcation in villages that would be used as examples to others were successfully demarcated.

These agglomerations commonly known as Imidugudu will help the District to plan well, especially with regard to provision major infrastructure like roads, water, electricity, recreational facilities, etc to a big number of people.

III. POLICY, LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE FRAMEWORK

III.1. POLICIES RELEVANT TO THE PROJECT

A. Energy Policy

The national policy goal is to meet the energy challenges and needs of the Rwandan population for economic and social development in an environmentally sound and sustainable manner.

Since 1994, the energy sector as well as the overall economy has gone through structural modifications, where the role of the Government has changed, markets have been liberalised and private sector initiatives encouraged. Hence, the energy policy document has to take into account structural changes in the economy and political transformations at national and international levels.

The national policy objective for the development of the energy sector is to provide an input in the development process by establishing an efficient energy production, procurement, transportation, distribution, and end-user systems in an environmentally sound manner.

The Energy Policy, therefore, focuses on market mechanisms and means to reach the objective, and achieve an efficient energy sector with a balance between national and commercial interests.

An interactive and participatory process between government, other stakeholders and relevant groups has been necessary as part of the formulation process in order to incorporate views of market actors and energy consumers to address the complex nature of the sector.

Specifically, the energy policy takes into consideration the need to:

- (a) Have affordable and reliable energy supplies country wide;

- (b) Reform the market for energy services and establishes an adequate institutional framework, which facilitates investment, expansion of services, efficient pricing mechanisms and other financial incentives;
- (c) Enhance the development and utilisation of indigenous and renewable energy sources and technologies,
- (d) Adequately take into account environmental considerations for all energy activities,
- (e) Increase energy efficiency and conservation in all sectors; and
- (f) Increase energy education and build gender-balanced capacity in energy planning, implementation and monitoring.

Domestic energy demand has grown rapidly due to population growth and the increase in economic activities especially during the last ten years

The vision of the energy sector is to effectively contribute to the growth of the national economy and thereby improve the standard of living for the entire nation in a sustainable and environmentally sound manner. The mission of the energy sector is to create conditions for the provision of safe, reliable, efficient, cost-effective and environmentally appropriate energy services to all sectors on a sustainable basis. By fulfilling its vision and mission, the energy sector will contribute to social economic development, and in the long-term framework, poverty reduction.

The national energy policy objectives are to ensure availability of reliable and affordable energy supplies and their use in a rational and sustainable manner in order to support national development goals. The national energy policy, therefore, aims to establish an efficient energy production, procurement, transportation, distribution and end-use systems in an environmentally sound and sustainable manner.

Short and medium term priority policy actions

The priority for Rwanda is to implement projects now, to overcome the current electricity crisis, to prevent the next electricity crisis, to tackle proactively the wood crisis, to begin to provide greater access to modern energy and to reduce reliance on petroleum products due to the oil price crisis. Without implementation further capacity building and studies will have no value.

The management and institutional capacity has to continue to progress if these projects are to be delivered effectively and efficiently. This will require further external support and guidance.

Several policy actions will be implemented in order to achieve the broad and specific objectives of this energy policy. Strategic financial interventions required to move forward the policy priority actions are indicated alongside the proposed actions.

Below are the priority policy actions:

- Meet the crisis of blackouts caused by delayed investment and drought
- Provide economic power by developing the use of Lake Kivu methane, and by bringing on line more hydro power.
- Enhance overall electrical infrastructure to meet demand growth and supply quality needs – generation, transmission and major distribution construction and rehabilitation.
- Deliver a programme of rural electrification on the basis of enhanced distribution networks, micro hydro, and solar power.
- Implement a wood and charcoal efficiency and substitution strategy to counter the deforestation crisis.
- Continue steady progress to a viable electricity and gas sector, consistent with meeting social needs.
- Commence utilisation of Kivu gas for other than power generation.

B. Land Policy

Apart from a few scattered land regulations, most of which date back to the colonial period, Rwanda has never had a proper land policy, a situation that enhances the existing duality between the very restrictive written law and the widely practised customary law, giving rise to insecurity, instability and precariousness of land tenure.

The Rwandan Government, therefore, found it compelling and necessary to establish a national land policy that would guarantee a safe and stable form of land tenure, and bring about a rational and planned use of land while ensuring sound land management and an efficient land administration.

The following are the main obstacles that hinder the efficient management of land in Rwanda, necessitating the establishment of a national land policy that would guide the essential land reforms:

- Strong pressure on the already spatially limited land resources by a rapidly growing population;
- Domination of the agricultural sector which lacks any specialization in terms of human resources and equipment, and lack of alternative concrete and realistic options that would reduce the pressure on land resource;
- A land tenure system dominated by customary law which favours land fragmentation, a practice which reduces further the size of the family farms which are already below the threshold of the average surface area that is economically viable;
- A considerable number of landless persons who have to be resettled at all costs;
- Scattered farming plots that are difficult to manage due to the scattered mode of human settlement;
- Lack of a reliable land registration system that would guarantee the security of land tenure;
- Weak and inadequate existing methods of land-use planning and land improvement (outline of land potential, land use and land development; reliable methods of soil and water conservation);
- Disorderly and fraudulent land transactions, necessitating the establishment of regulations that would enable the authorities to give to the land a recognised market value that brings considerable profit to the Government Treasury;
- Unplanned use of marshlands which, in spite of their good agricultural soil, cannot be wholly recovered for agricultural purposes, in view of the following factors:
 - Abundance of water which is necessary as a useful water reservoir;
 - The soil make-up, which does not lend itself easily to the current cultivation methods;
 - The biotic environment and biodiversity which should be protected at all costs;
 - The obvious poor coordination among various institutions which use with land to support their activities;

Currently, the land tenure system in Rwanda operates in a dual legal system: On one hand, there is: the customary law, which governs almost all the rural land and promotes the excessive parcelling out of plots through the successive father-to-son inheritance system. And

on the other, there is the written law, which mostly governs land in urban districts and some rural lands managed by churches and other natural and legal persons. This law confers several land tenure rights to individuals such as land tenancy, long term lease and title deeds (particularly in towns).

On the whole, Rwanda's land tenure system requires comprehensive reforms, from the elaboration of a national land policy to the establishment of a land law and land code, which will guide the judicious use and management of the land resource for the economy to be able to take off in such a way that our country is freed from the grips of poverty.

In the perspective of the harmonious and sustainable development, the overall objective of the national land policy of Rwanda is to establish a land tenure system that guarantees tenure security for all Rwandans and give guidance to the necessary land reforms with a view to good management and rational use of national land resources.

In Rwanda, there are currently two modes of land acquisition, namely acquisition according to customary law or conceptions, and acquisition according to the rules of the written law.

According to custom, land ownership is held by whoever occupies the land first. This rule has always been respected in our society. However, in modern times, land acquisition by occupation has become obsolete since all vacant land belongs to the State. Likewise, the provisions of the decree-law No. 09/76 of 4th March 1976, article 1, stipulate that 'all land not held under the written law and affected or not by customary law or land occupation belongs to the State'.

Customarily, land rights are passed on from father to son through inheritance. Girls are excluded from inheritance of the family land from the father. Concerning inheritance rights of widows, the custom merely gives them the right to use the land that belonged to their deceased husbands.

In its original customary conception, land was owned collectively. Any disposal of land was therefore inconceivable, since such land was considered as family property that belonged to the ancestors, as well as to present and future generations.

With the introduction of the subdivision of land into individual plots due to successive inheritance procedures, each family owner of a plot of land was considered as the real owner

of the plot, having the right to dispose of it as it wishes. However, Article 2 of the decree-law No. 09/76 of 4th March 1976 stipulates that nobody may sell off his land rights except with the written authorization of the Minister of Lands upon the recommendation of the Municipal Council where the land is located.

In actual fact, ownership through prescription originates from the written law since traditionally, title deeds were unheard of Rwandans consider that once a right has been acquired or recognized, even customarily, it is indefeasible. This is why the many existing landless people, not having received any new land, continue to feel cheated and left out because they have no right over the land which they owned customarily over 30 years ago, since the law has fixed the time limit of acquisition by prescription to 10 years.

Tenancy contracts of plots for building purposes for a 3-year period in urban areas. Long lease contracts of land for agricultural purposes for a period of 15 years or more in rural areas. Free assignment contracts in both rural and urban areas to natural or legal persons for social activities with real impact on the welfare of the people. Sale contracts and title deeds for plots that are built in urban areas. This is a system of land tenure by urban residents who first lease plots with the contractual obligation of developing them. The Ministry of Lands delivers the title deeds after confirming that the plots have been developed. Right of access: mode of land acquisition which is common for public institutions.

Apart from the above-mentioned different modes of land acquisition and land ownership, there is the case of the landless people who live in rural areas and who must live from farming. These are mostly the refugees of 1959 who were forced into exile for political reasons and left their land behind. These same refugees have now returned to their country and find themselves landless. They cannot claim back their previously owned land which has been occupied by other Rwandans who remained in the country, because the Arusha Peace Accords fixed the time limit for acquisition by prescription to 10 years.

C. Land Law

This organic law n° 08/2005 of 14/07/2005, determines the use and management of land in Rwanda. It also institutes the principles that are respected on land legal rights accepted on any land in the country as well as all other appendages whether natural or artificial.

Land is part of the public domain of all Rwandans; ancestors, present and future generations. With exceptions of the rights given to people, the state has supreme powers to manage all the national land, and this is done in public interest aimed at sustainable, economic development and social welfare, in accordance with procedures provided for by law. In that regard, it is the state that guarantees the right to own and use the land. The state also has rights to expropriation due to public interest, settlement and general land management through procedures provided by law and prior to appropriate compensation.

This organic law protects equally the rights over the land acquired from custom and the rights acquired from written law. With regard to law, owners of land acquired from custom are all persons who inherited the land from their parents, those who acquired it from competent authorities or those who acquired it through any other means recognized by national custom whether purchase, gift, exchange and sharing.

A land can be categorized urban and rural land (which is confined within boundaries of towns and municipalities established by law), individual land (composed of the land acquired through custom, written law which excludes public land or district, town, municipality and the City of Kigali land, the one acquired from competent authorities, purchased land, gift, exchange and sharing and state land (which makes up the public domain consists of all the land meant to be used by public or land reserved for organs of state services as well as national land reserved for environmental protection;

1° Land containing lakes and rivers as listed by an order of the Minister having water in his or her attributions;

2° Shores of lakes and rivers up to the length determined by an order of the Minister having environment in his or her attributions starting from the furthest line reached by water depending on successive floods. This is not concerned with exceptional floods;

3° Land occupied by springs and wells determined in accordance with an order of the Minister having water in his or her attributions;

4° National land reserved for environmental conservation composed of natural forests, national parks, reserved swamps, public gardens and tourist sites ;

5° State roads and their boundaries which were listed by the order of the Minister having infrastructure in his or her attributions;

6° Land and buildings the administration reserved for public activities or the land used by public administration organs).

Under this law, registration of land a person owns is obligatory. An employee called the Land Officer who directs the land bureau, shall keep land registers and issues certificates approving ownership of land.

Regarding land issues, he or she holds the power of the public notary and in regard to administration; he or she is supervised by administration of town, municipality or district in which the land he or she is responsible to register is located.

Without prejudice to laws related to human settlement, general land organization and use, the landowner shall enjoy full rights to exploit his or her land in accordance with the existing laws and regulations. However, the laws stipulates that the landowner has no right over minerals and any other wealth underground; they belong to the State but the landowner is allowed before others to enjoy rights of their exploitation upon his or her request and if he or she is capable.

Besides the rights that are enjoyed by the land owners, there some obligations that have to be full filled; unless it is considered to be necessary, the landlord shall not act against other people's rights.

In that regard he or she shall not:

- 1° refuse passage to his or her neighbors leading to their homes when there is not any other way;
- 2° blocking water that is naturally flowing through his or her land from other persons' land above his or hers;
- 3° refuse other people to draw water from a well found on his or her land unless he or she can prove that such a well has been dug or built by him or her.

The law envisages penalties in case of non compliance of the obligations of the land owners. There exist administrative penalties (requisition of degraded and the unexploited land, forceful confiscation of degraded and unexploited land, repossession of requisitioned land) and penal sanctions (payment of cash as fines).

III.2. ORGANIC LAW ON ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND MANAGEMENT

The law sets out the general legal framework for environment protection and management in Rwanda. It also constitutes environment as a one of the priority concerns of the Government of Rwanda. Under the fundamental principle on national environmental protection policy develops national strategies, plans and programs, aiming at ensuring the conservation and use of sustainable environmental resources.

The law gives right to every natural or legal person in Rwanda to live in a healthy and balanced environment. They also have the obligation to contribute individually or collectively to safeguard country's natural, historical and socio-cultural heritage.

The framework of the law on the protection and management of natural resources centres on avoiding and reducing the disastrous consequences on environment. It measures result from an environmental evaluation of policies, programs and projects, aimed at preventing the consequences of such activities.

The principle of sustainability of environment and equity among generation emphasizes human beings at the core of sustainable development. They therefore, have a right to a healthy and productive life in harmony with nature. They must so as to equitably meet the needs of the present and future generation.

The protection and management of environment is currently registered in the environmental organic law that has been published in the official Rwanda newspaper in April 8th 2005.

Under the article 65 put, Rwanda Environment Management Authority (REMA) is the institution charged with the responsibility of ensuring environmental protection by demanding for EIA studies to be undertaken before projects are executed.

The present organic law has the following objectives:

- To protect human and natural environment;

- To establish fundamental principles of management and protection of environment against all forms of degradation so as to develop natural resources and to fight all kinds of pollutions and nuisances;
- To improve the living conditions of the population while preserving ecosystems and available resources;
- To ensure sustainable environment and resources as well as rational and sustainable use of resources, taking into account the equality between the present and future generations;
- To guarantee to all Rwandans an economically viable, ecologically rational and socially acceptable development;
- To establish the precaution principle in order to reduce the negative effects on Environment and ensure the rehabilitation of degraded areas.

Chapter IV of the Organic Law Article 67 clearly calls for the need to subject subprojects to mandatory Environmental Impact Assessment.

Article 3: States that every person has the duty to protect safeguard and promote environment. The States shall protect, conserve and manage the environment.

Article 67: Further specifies that every subproject shall be subjected to environmental impact assessment prior to its commencement. It shall be the same for programs, plans and policies likely to affect the environment. Specific details of subprojects referred to in this Article shall be spelt out by the order of the Minister in charge of environment.

Article 68:

The Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) shall include at least the following:

- A brief description of the subproject and its variants.
- Analysis of direct and indirect foreseeable consequences on the environment.
- Analysis of the initial state of the environment.
- Measures envisaged reducing, preventing or compensating for the consequences.
- Reasons for the choice.
- A summary of requisitions from clause 1 to 5 of this article;
- A definition of the evaluation and monitoring methods used regularly and environmental indicators before (initial state), during and after implementation of

- the subproject or, as the case may be, at the final evaluation stage of the subproject;
- A financial evaluation of measures recommended preventing, reducing or compensating for the negative effects of the subproject on the environment and measures for regular monitoring and control of relevant environmental indicators.

Article 69:

States that the analysis and approval of environmental impact assessments is done by the Rwanda Environmental Protection Authority or any other person given a written authorisation. The subproject promoter shall pay a levy which shall be assessed from the amount invested or to be invested, excluding the amount of operating cost. The assessment of this levy shall be fixed by law establishing the National Fund for the Environment. The impact study shall be done at the expense and under the responsibility of the promoter.

The Organic Law also puts in place the National Fund of the Environment in Rwanda (FONERWA). The composition, the working and the assignments of these institutions will be determined by particular laws.

The article 66 of the Organic Law on the environment specifies that it has created, to the level of the Provinces, of the City of Kigali, of the Districts, the Cities, the Sectors and the Cells, Committees responsible for the conservation and the protection of the environment. The composition, the working and the assignments of these committees will be determined by Decree of the prime minister.

Title IV of Article 67 of the Organic Law requires that the execution of Policies, Plans and Subprojects must be subject to mandatory EIA studies to identify the potential adverse impacts they could have on the environment.

Further to this through the Ministerial Decree, a list of all the subproject that must be subjected to mandatory EIA has been put in place under article 30 of the Organic Law which stipulates that works of public or private construction as roads, dams etc must be subjected to EIA studies.

Article 69 of the Organic Law further specifies that the EIA studies undertaken must be submitted to REMA for approval and the studies must be undertaken at the proponent's expense.

III.3. ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE PROCEDURES

The Constitution of the Republic of Rwanda, adopted in June 2003, ensures the protection and sustainable management of environment and encourages rational use of natural resources. Organic Law (No. 04/2005 of 08/04/2005) and various socio-economic development policies and strategies such as “Rwanda Investment And Exports Strategic Action Plan, 2005-2007” and “Vision 2020” call for a well regulated environment management system that takes into account principles of sustainable development while at the same time contributing to poverty reduction. The Organic Law (Article 67) requires that projects, programmes and policies that may affect the environment shall be subjected to environmental impact assessment before obtaining authorisation for implementation. Article 69 gives REMA legal authority to oversee the conduct of EIA.

The Organic Law on environment protection made environmental Impact assessment (EIA) mandatory for approval of major development projects, activities and programs in the Republic of Rwanda. However, besides the legislation, guidance is needed of a more technical nature to streamline the conduct of EIA and appraisal of EIA reports. As such, the establishment of “*General Guidelines and Procedures for Environmental Impact Assessment*”, which unifies the legal requirements with the practical conduct of EIA, meets a need in the pursuit for sustainable development in Rwanda.

For the specific project of the electrification of the janja area in Gakenke district of Rwanda consisting of the construction of substation, transmission and distribution lines, an environmental management plan has to be carried out.

Public Hearing Process

Article 47: The Authority shall on receipt of the developer's environmental impact report, arrange for a public hearing to take place within twenty (20) working days from the first day of public notification, at which relevant Lead Agencies, local governments, civil societies and concerned members of the public may comment on the environmental impact report and express views on impact of the proposed development. The Authority shall cover all costs incidental to the public hearing.

Article 48: All subprojects classified under Impact Level III shall be subjected to a public hearing prior to the decision-making process.

III.4. INTERNATIONAL LEGISLATIONS RELEVANT TO THE SUBPROJECT

Rwanda is a signatory to a number of conventions on sustainable development and is a member of various bilateral and multilateral organizations. Some of the relevant development partners in this subproject are the World Bank and a number of United Nations agencies.

World Bank Environment and Social Safeguards Policies

World Bank Operational Policies (OP) and Bank Procedures (BP) Environmental Assessment - BP4.01 and OP 4.01 (January 1999) all of which require environmental assessment of subprojects proposed for World Bank financing to help ensure that they are environmentally sound and sustainable.

The World Bank provides guidance on EIA requirements through the World Bank Group Environmental Health and Safety Guidelines ¹. The World Bank EIA process is implemented through a set of Operational Policies whose primary objective is to ensure that Bank operations do not cause adverse impacts and that they "do no harm". These safeguard policies are grouped into Environment, Rural Development, Social Development and International Law.

1

http://www1.ifc.org/wps/wcm/connect/Topics_Ext_Content/IFC_External_Corporate_Site/IFC+Sustainability/Sustainability+Framework/Environmental,+Health,+and+Safety+Guidelines/

In this chapter, the Bank's safeguards policies and their applicability are discussed. The World Bank Safeguard Policies are;

- 1) *Environmental Assessment (OP/ BP 4.01,)*
- 2) *Natural Habitats (OP/ BP 4.04,)*
- 3) *Forestry (OP/ BP 4.36)*
- 4) *Pest Management (OP/BP 4.09)*
- 5) *Physical Cultural Resources (OP/BP 4.11)*
- 6) *Indigenous Peoples (OP/BP 4.10)*
- 7) *Involuntary Resettlement (OP/BP 4.12)*
- 8) *Safety of Dams (OP/BP 4.37)*
- 9) *Projects on International Waterways (OP/BP 7.50)*
- 10) *Projects in Disputed Areas (OP/BP 7.60,)*

For this project, only the following Bank policies are triggered.

- 1) *Environmental Assessment (OP/BP 4.01,)*
- 2) *Involuntary Resettlement (OP/BP 4.12)*

Environmental Assessment (OP4.01, BP 4.01, GP 4.01)

This policy requires Environmental Assessment (EA) of projects proposed for Bank financing to help ensure that they are environmentally sound and sustainable, and thus to improve decision making. The EA is a process whose breadth, depth, and type of analysis depend on the nature, scale, and potential environmental impact of the proposed investments under the WaSSIP AF. The EA process takes into account the natural environment (air, water, and land); human health and safety; social aspects (involuntary resettlement, indigenous peoples, and cultural property) and transboundary and global environmental aspects.

The environmental and social impacts of the WaSSIP AF will come from the proposed investment activities. However, since the exact location of almost all these investments will not be identified before World Bank appraisal of the project, the EA process calls for the GoK to prepare an Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF).

This report which will establish a mechanism to determine and assess future potential environmental and social impacts during implementation of WaSSIP AF activities, and then to set out mitigation, monitoring and institutional measures to be taken during operations of these activities, to eliminate adverse environmental and social impacts, offset them, or reduce them to acceptable levels.

Operational Policy 4.01 further requires that the ESMF report must be disclosed as a separate and stand alone document by the Government of Kenya and the World Bank as a condition for bank appraisal. The disclosure should be both in Kenya where it can be accessed by the general public and local communities and at the InfoShop of the World Bank and the date for disclosure must precede the date for appraisal of the program.

The policy further calls for the WaSSIP AF as a whole to be environmentally screened to determine the extent and type of the EA process. The World Bank system assigns a project to one of three project categories, as defined below:

Category “A” Projects

An EIA is always required for projects that are in this category. Impacts are expected to be ‘adverse, sensitive, irreversible and diverse with attributes such as pollutant discharges large enough to cause degradation of air, water, or soil; large-scale physical disturbance of the site or surroundings; extraction, consumption or conversion of substantial amounts of forests and other natural resources; measurable modification of hydrological cycles; use of hazardous materials in more than incidental quantities; and involuntary displacement of people and other significant social disturbances.

Category “B” Projects

Although an EIA is not always required, some environmental analysis is necessary. Category B projects have impacts that are ‘less significant, not as sensitive, numerous, major or diverse. Few, if any, impacts are irreversible, and remedial measures can be more easily designed.’ Typical projects include rehabilitation, maintenance, or upgrades, rather than new construction.

Category “C” Projects

No EIA or other analysis is required. Category C projects result in negligible or minimal direct disturbance of the physical environment. Typical projects include education, family planning, health, and human resource development.

The sub-projects under EARP are assigned an EA Category B, because of the limited negative and environmental impacts of the civil works.

Involuntary Resettlement (OP 4.12)

The objective of this policy to avoid where feasible, or minimize, exploring all viable alternative project designs, to avoid resettlement. This policy is triggered in situations involving involuntary taking of land and involuntary restrictions of access to legally designated parks and protected areas. The policy aims to avoid involuntary resettlement to the extent feasible, or to minimize and mitigate its adverse social and economic impacts.

This policy covers direct economic and social impacts that both result from Bank-assisted investment projects, and are caused by (a) 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 or not the affected persons must move to another location; or (b) the involuntary restriction of access to legally designated parks and protected areas resulting in adverse impacts on the livelihoods of the displaced persons.

For project activities that impact people and livelihoods in this way, WaSSIP AF will have to comply with the requirements of the disclosed RPF and RAPs to comply with this policy.

The policy prescribes compensation and other resettlement measures to achieve its objectives and requires that borrowers prepare adequate resettlement planning instruments prior to project appraisal of proposed projects. The objective of this policy to avoid where feasible, or minimize, exploring all viable alternative project designs, to avoid resettlement.

The policy requires the displaced persons and their communities, and any host communities receiving them, are provided timely and relevant information, consulted on resettlement options, and offered opportunities to participate in planning, implementing, and monitoring resettlement. Appropriate and accessible grievance mechanisms are established for these groups. In new resettlement sites or host communities, infrastructure and public services are

provided as necessary to improve, restore, or maintain accessibility and levels of service for the displaced persons and host communities.

A separate Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF) was thus prepared that establishes standards and procedures for the preparation of Resettlement Action Plans (RAPs), as required. The RAPs would be prepared by WaSSIP AF and its implementing partners. In this case, the World Bank reserves the right to also approve this RAP as a condition for that particular project investment to be financed. This policy would be triggered when a project activity, in the cases mentioned above, for example, causes the involuntary taking of land and other assets resulting in:

- 1) *Relocation or loss of shelter,*
- 2) *Loss of assets or access to assets,*
- 3) *Loss of income sources or means of livelihood, whether or not the affected persons must move to another location,*
- 4) *Loss of land,*

Forests OP4.36

This operational policy aims to reduce deforestation, enhance the environmental contribution of forested areas, promote afforestation, reduce poverty, and encourage economic development.

The policy recognizes the role forests play in poverty alleviation, economic development, and for providing local as well as global environmental services. Success in establishing sustainable forest conservation and management practices depends not only on changing the behavior of all critical stakeholders, but also on a wide range of partnerships to accomplish what no country, government agency, donor, or interest group can do alone.

The forest strategy suggests three equally important and interdependent pillars to guide future Bank involvement with forests including harnessing the potential of forests to reduce poverty, integrating forests in sustainable economic development, and protecting vital local and global environmental services and forest values.

This policy applies to the following types of Bank-financed investment projects: (a) projects that have or may have impacts on the health and quality of forests; (b) projects that affect the rights and welfare of people and their level of dependence upon or interaction with forests; and (c)

projects that aim to bring about changes in the management, protection, or utilization of natural forests or plantations, whether they are publicly, privately, or communally owned.

The Bank does not finance projects that, in its opinion, would involve significant conversion or degradation of critical forest areas or related critical habitats. If a project involves the significant conversion or degradation of natural forests or related natural habitats that the Bank determines are not critical, and the Bank determines that there are no feasible alternatives to the project and its siting, and comprehensive analysis demonstrates that overall benefits from the project substantially outweigh the environmental costs, the Bank may finance the project provided that it incorporates appropriate mitigation measures. Any project activities that are likely to have negative impacts on forests will not be funded under WaSSIP AF. However, as some of the subprojects may involve reforestation to repair or improve certain sites, the policy is triggered.

OP 4.10 Indigenous Peoples

Indigenous peoples in particular geographical areas are identified by having: a close attachment to ancestral territories and to the natural resources in these areas; self-identification and identification by others as members of a distinct cultural group; an indigenous language, often different from the national language; presence of customary social and political institutions; and primarily subsistence-oriented production.

The Bank's objective is to ensure that indigenous peoples do not suffer adverse effects from Bank financed projects and that they receive culturally compatible social and economic benefits. Effectively the World Bank requires a project to develop a program for addressing issues based on the informed participation of the indigenous people themselves. Any project that affects indigenous peoples is expected to include components or provisions that incorporate an "Indigenous Peoples Plan". Certain sub projects targeted for implementation by the LVNWSB will be located in areas where the Sengwer, a community considered as indigenous is located. This therefore requires the preparation of an Indigenous People Policy Framework (IPPF) and an Indigenous People Plan (IPP).

Op 4.37 Dam Safety

This policy is triggered if the project involves construction of new dam(s), or is dependent on an existing dam, or a dam under construction. In the case of new dams, experienced and

competent professionals to design and supervise construction; borrower adopts and implement dam safety measures for the design, bid tendering, construction, operation and maintenance. In the case of existing dams, any dam that can influence the performance of the project must be identified and its safety assessed. Necessary dam safety measures or remedial work are implemented. Dams over 15 metres in height are classified as large dams. High hazard dams are those under 15 metres but which are in a zone of high seismicity and /or where foundations and other design features are complex.

If deemed necessary, a dam safety assessment may be prepared for the intake of water into the existing Thika Dam, under the proposed Northern Collector subproject.

OP BP 7.50 International Waterways

Ascertain whether riparian agreements are in place, and ensure that riparian states are informed of and do not object to project interventions. (As notifications were made under the original WaSSIP project, and since the scope of work has not changed significantly, there is no need to re-issue notifications to riparian states.)

OP BP 4.11 Physical Cultural Resources

A Bank Operational Policy 4.11-Physical Cultural Resources

The objective of this policy is to assist in preserving physical cultural resources (PCR) and avoiding their destruction or damage. PCR includes archaeological, paleontological, architecturally significant, and religious sites including graveyards, burial sites, and sites of unique natural value. Initial indications are that no observed physical or cultural resources will be affected by the project. Nevertheless, the Contractor is responsible for familiarizing themselves with the following “Chance Finds Procedures”, in case culturally valuable materials are uncovered during excavation, including:

1. Stop work immediately following the discovery of any materials with possible archeological, historical, paleontological, or other cultural value, announce findings to project manager and notify relevant authorities;
2. Protect artifacts as well as possible using plastic covers, and implement measures to stabilize the area, if necessary, to properly protect artifacts
3. Prevent and penalize any unauthorized access to the artifacts
4. Restart construction works only upon the authorization of the relevant authorities.

All contracts should include a Chance Finds Procedure clause.

Table 2: Summary of World Bank Safeguards Policies

Safeguard policy	Description
<p>OP 4.01 Environmental Assessment</p>	<p>The environmental assessment process provides insights to ascertain the applicability of other WB safeguard policies to specific projects. This is especially the case for the policies on natural habitats, pest management, and physical cultural resources that are typically considered within the EA process. The policy describes an environmental assessment (EA) process for the proposed project. The breadth, depth, and type of analysis of the EA process depend on the nature, scale, and potential environmental impact of the proposed project. The policy favors preventive measures over mitigatory or compensatory measures, whenever feasible.</p> <p>The operational principles of the policy require the environmental assessment process to undertake the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Evaluate adequacy of existing legal and institution frameworks, including applicable international environmental agreements. This policy aims to ensure that projects contravening the agreements are not financed. ▪ Stakeholder consultation before and during project implementation. ▪ Engage service of independent experts to undertake the environmental assessment. ▪ Provide measures to link the environmental process

	<p>and findings with studies of economics, financial, institutional, social and technical analysis of the proposed project.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Develop programmes for strengthening of institutional capacity in environmental management. <p>The requirements of the policy are similar to those of REMA, which aim to ensure sustainable project implementation.</p>
<p>OP 4.36 Forests</p>	<p>All projects must avoid significant damage to Critical Forests (= forested Critical Natural Habitats), same as under the Natural Habitats OP 4.04. All projects must minimize and mitigate damage to other (non-critical) natural forests, same as OP 4.04.</p>
<p>OP 4.04 Natural Habitats</p>	<p>This operational policy requires that the study use a precautionary approach to natural resource management, to ensure environmental sustainability. The policy requires conservation of critical habitat during project development. To ensure conservation and project sustainability the policy requires that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Project alternative be sought when working in fragile environment areas; ▪ Key stakeholders are engaged in project design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation including mitigation planning.
<p>OP 4.09 Pest Management</p>	<p>This policy promotes the use of ecological based pest management practices. The policy requires that procured pesticides should meet the WHO recommendations and not be among those on the restricted list of formulated products found in the WHO Classes IA and IB or Class II.</p>

	<p>This policy is not triggered by the proposed project as it shall not involve use of pesticides use of pesticides despite the fact that the project will involve bush clearing to pave way for construction of Right of Way. Most of this work will involve manual tree-cutting and bus clearance.</p>
<p>OP/ 4.12 Involuntary Resettlement</p>	<p>Details involuntary resettlement, emphasizing the severe economic, social and environmental risks, if unmitigated. It ensures that the population displaced by a project receives benefits from it and also covers those with usufruct or customary rights to land or other resources taken for the project. The Operational Policy is specifically inclusive, ensuring that all those affected both directly and indirectly by project developments are compensated as part of the project. Affected populations include those with income derived from informal sector and non-farm activities, and from common property resources. The absence of legal title does not limit rights to compensation.</p> <p>The World Bank's Policy objectives urge that involuntary resettlement be avoided whenever possible. If unavoidable, displaced persons need to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Share in project benefits, • Participate in planning and implementation of resettlement programs, and • Be assisted in their efforts to improve their livelihoods or standard of livings or at least to restore them, in real terms, to pre-displacement levels or levels prevailing prior to the beginning of project implementation, whichever is higher.
<p>OP 4.10 Indigenous Peoples</p>	<p>This Policy is not triggered in Rwanda.</p>

OP 4.11 Cultural Property	Cultural property is defined to include both remains left by previous human inhabitants (e.g. graves, shrines) and unique natural environmental features such as canyons and waterfalls. The Bank does not support projects that will significantly damage non-replicable cultural property and assists only those projects that are sited or designed so as to prevent such damage.
Op 4.37 Dam Safety	<p>This policy is triggered if the Project involves construction of new dam(s), or is dependent on an existing dam, or a dam under construction. In the case of new dams, experienced and competent professionals to design and supervise construction; borrower adopts and implement dam safety measures for the design, bid tendering, construction, operation and maintenance. In the case of existing dams, any dam that can influence the performance of the project must be identified and its safety assessed. Necessary dam safety measures or remedial work are implemented.</p> <p>Dams over 15 metres in height are classified as large dams. High hazard dams are those under 15 metres but which are in a zone of high seismicity and /or where foundations and other design features are complex.</p>
OP BP 7.50 International Waterways	Ascertain whether riparian agreements are in place, and ensure that riparian states are informed of and do not object to project interventions.
OP 7.60 Disputed areas	Ensure that claimants to disputed areas have no objection to proposed project.

Safeguard Policies Triggered by the Project	Yes	No
Environmental Assessment (OP/BP 4.01)	X	
Natural Habitats (OP/BP 4.04)		X
Pest Management (OP 4.09)		X
Physical Cultural Resources (OP/BP 4.11)		X
Involuntary Resettlement (OP/BP 4.12)	X	
Indigenous Peoples (OP/BP 4.10)		X
Forests (OP/BP 4.36)		X
Safety of Dams (OP/BP 4.37)		X
Projects in Disputed Areas (OP/BP 7.60)*		X
Projects on International Waterways (OP/BP 7.50)		X

OP 17.50 Disclosures

This Policy details the Banks requirements for making operational information available to the public. The Bank reaffirms its recognition and endorsement of the fundamental importance of transparency and accountability to the development process. In addition, timely dissemination of information to local groups affected by the subprojects and programs supported by the Bank, including nongovernmental organizations, is essential for the effective implementation and sustainability of subprojects.

For the case of EARP project, village, cell, sector and district authorities are involved prior to commencement of implementation and more especially during the counting of lost properties and crops where the authorities assist in identification of PAPs and approval of the losses.

Rwanda has ratified the following international conventions and protocols pertaining to the environment and which are of relevance to the Subproject:

- United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, 1992
- Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal adopted on 22 March 1989

* *By supporting the proposed project, the Bank does not intend to prejudice the final determination of the parties' claims on the disputed areas*

- Bamako Convention on the Ban of the Import Into Africa and the Control of Transboundary Movement and Management of Hazardous Wastes within Africa, adopted 30 January 1991
- Convention on Biological Diversity, 5 June 1992
- Convention on the Protection of World Cultural and Natural Heritage ratified 1997.
- Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Elicit, Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural property ratified 2003.
- Ramsar (wetlands) Convention

IV. PROJECT ALTERNATIVES

This chapter describe and examine the various alternatives available for the Project. Alternatives examined during the study included site and route alternatives, on-grid electrification, and finally a No Project alternative was also assessed to determine the impact of this No Project Scenario.

IV.1. ANALYSIS OF ALTERNATIVES

A. Alternative Routes

An analysis of alternative routes was undertaken through mapping and involvement of all the stakeholders in this selection process. At the end of this process, alternative routes were selected among the possible ones, based on the following general sitting criteria (which are related to economic and environmental values):

1. Proximity of existing lines;
2. Avoidance of restricted zones ;
3. Distance from zones of landscape value;
4. Distance from mountain edges, preference for valley routings;
5. Distance from residential areas;
6. Route with constant slope;
7. Minimisation of infrastructure crossing (e.g. roads, other power lines, etc.).

B. On-Grid Electrification

Provide on-grid electrification. This is the alternative that is proposed by this project. Through this all target beneficiaries will be provided with electricity from the existing grid system. The project is expected to significantly reduce demand for firewood, as this is the primary source of heating and lighting in these communities. This alternative will contribute positively to improving the lives of the target communities through reduced exposure to smoke, improvement of existing electricity infrastructures, improvement in living conditions, increased communication via use of mobiles and opportunities for seeking alternative livelihood options. Local government institutions will also benefit through reduced time and money spent on sourcing firewood from local communities, as well as increase in accessibility to information through

various media sources, internet and improved communication.

C. No project Alternative

A No project alternative would primarily mean that the status quo will be maintained and in a sense the environmental impacts (adverse) will not occur if the new distribution and transmission lines are built. However the positive benefits will be forgone in terms of providing more access to electricity to the populace of the project area which would have in turn spurred and contributed to economic growth.

IV.2. COMPARISON OF ALTERNATIVES

The second alternative “providing improved on-grid electrification for the proposed beneficiaries” is the most feasible in the country, the positive environmental benefits, and most importantly because this is what the local communities prefer. The third alternative of “no-build” is not feasible because electricity is included as a measure of development in a village and therefore is always given high priority in the list of developmental activities for any district Development Plan. While there will be no environmental cost from this alternative, with increasing population it is expected that the demand for fuel wood will increase each year, putting very heavy pressure on the already dwindling forest resource.

V. ANTICIPATED ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

The project being a national development agenda in the energy sector has immense benefits that could save the country losses in terms of power rationing and frequent outages. However poor planning of the project could also affect the environment that supports a significant number of Rwandese through the project potential hazards that the project could pose to the public, pollution of water resources and atmospheric resources.

V.1. POSITIVE IMPACTS

Positive impacts of these project are various and diverse in nature. They range from employment opportunities, to wealth creation, industrialization, improvement in service delivery to technology transfer and capacity building.

Socio-economic Benefits

The positive impacts are numerous and wide-ranging. The benefits of the project for domestic supply and use in small-scale businesses and in access to electric power for schools and public services are evident. In the construction phase there will be temporary employment opportunities for local contractors and those who will be employed or supply services and provisions for workers and to contractors. Within the respective project areas there will be opportunities for petty trading and small business service provision along the power line routes.

Significant social benefit will come through employment generation and safer more efficient operation of key services, through provision of electricity access to the villages along the new distribution lines to be served by the project. Potential beneficiary enterprises affected by and contributing to regional socio-economic transformation will be small industries and other agricultural processing businesses which need electricity.

The long-term direct positive impact is therefore in access to reliable new electricity supplies, which will lead to better provision and easier management of goods and services, and enable new facilities for processing and storage. There will be better availability and supply of safe and

clean water (which needs pumping); data management with computers is made possible and communication facilities like internet will be increased, as also charging for mobile phones; also, electric lighting adds to security at night and enables extended opportunities for work and study.

Electricity access increase would support overall investment in education and strengthen the ongoing effort of capacity building to overcome critical constraints in the implementation of development programmes. Essential to this effort would be power supply to health facilities for the installation of cold storage facilities for the safe transportation and storage of vaccinations and other vital medications.

As a consequence the quality of life and extent of economic opportunity will be changed for the better. Social and environmental costs associated with the use of firewood and others means of lighting will be reduced and there may be a more limited requirement for firewood cutting and collection.

On employment the project expects to employ local casual and skilled labor on-site. This is exclusive of indirectly employed people who will provide support and related services including those trading in foodstuff for the workers on site and construction personnel during the site preparation phase of the project. At this point, the number of women workers or those directly affected by the project who could be employed is unknown but EARP will advise that this group of persons be given priority.

Environmental Benefits

Increased distribution of electricity to the project area population will ease the pressure on the use of fuel wood that is rampant in the area and in effect would help to conserve the fragile and diminishing forest cover of the country by providing an alternative source of energy.

V.2. ADVERSE IMPACTS DURING DESIGN/PLANNING AND CONSTRUCTION PHASE

Adverse impacts of the proposed distribution and transmission network are those unintended effects of the project that have negative to sustainable development and the environment. The following adverse impacts are anticipated to occur during the design/planning and construction phase of the project.

Permanent Land Loss/Acquisition

In order to construct the substations, create a new transmission and distribution network land will definitely have to be acquired for the “mini”substations, creating the new routes and Right of Way (ROW). The EWSA team of surveyors have taken great care to ensure that as little land as possible is acquired by routing the new transmission line away from settled areas. The land to be acquired is required for the following purposes;

Construction of Access Roads

The construction of access roads can impact the environment through vegetation clearance and compaction of land and a permanent loss of land. Provided temporary access roads are rehabilitated and existing roads/tracks are used for access to minimise the number of new roads required, the impact is not expected to be significant.

Construction of Right of Way (ROW)

Possible interference with or fragmenting of land uses along the ROW. Opening of remote lands to human activities such as settlement, agriculture and vegetation. These effects can be significant if natural areas such as wetlands are affected. The routes identified are well established corridor for transport of goods and the cumulative effects from the Project will not be significant.

Construction of Transmission Line Towers

Clearing of vegetation, site compaction and land acquisition has the potential to change land use patterns. However, the area required for each tower and the transmission line is not expected to have a major adverse impact on land use patterns.

Land expected to be Acquired

Only small land will be permanently lost to the tower bases. The farming of crops will be allowed to continue once tower construction is completed. Disruption to crop production will therefore be experienced for a period of one year only.

A compensation plan, detailed budget and implementation plan will be undertaken and included in the ARAP Report which addresses both permanent and temporary loss of assets.

Mitigation Measures

Efforts have been made during the identification of the transmission and distribution line routes to ensure that the paths are routed in areas with minimal settlement as possible to avoid land acquisition or displacement. According to the ARAP only 2 structures are along the identified routes and the PAPs will be compensated for the land to be and destroyed structures to pave way for the construction of the sub stations in accordance with the ARAP already prepared. The Government of Rwanda through the Ministry of Infrastructure has taken its commitment to expropriate the people's properties which shall be damaged during the project execution works **(refer to appendix 2)**.

Establishing/Pegging Final Alignment of Transmission Line

The first site activities before mobilisation of equipment will be final survey and soil investigations required for final design of line and tower foundations. After determining tower locations, and before commencement of civil works the Contractor will make a terrain reconnaissance which may include rock drilling tests at each tower location. This provides a final opportunity to make minor realignments to the route to avoid any further environmental and social impacts.

Determination of Final Alignment at Survey and design Stages

- Avoid sitting transmission line through protected areas, other environmentally sensitive areas or through mature forest stands.
- Avoid cultural and heritage sites.
- Site transmission line towers on high points of land such that conductors can be strung over valleys thereby eliminating the need to remove trees.
- Locate transmission lines along the base of mountain slopes, rather than down the centre of valleys where large birds could come into contact with conductors.

- Locate transmission lines to avoid running through villages and instead run lines behind villages.
- Consult villagers regarding location of valued village resources and locate transmission lines to avoid these features.
- Situate transmission lines not far away from roads, but behind roadside forested areas so as to minimise visual intrusion.
- Minimise the need to construct new access tracks wherever possible.
- Use existing access roads and tracks wherever available.
- Ensure minimum clearance distances between conductors and ground, waterways, road crossings, buildings, communication systems etc. are incorporated into design.

Permanent Minor Loss and Destruction of vegetation cover/crops

The route for the transmission lines are generally agricultural land where the following variety of crops including Avocado trees, Tomato, Orange trees, Mango trees, Grevillea, Pepper, Ficus Trees, Eucalyptus Trees, Euphorbia Trees, Flowers, Cassava, Euphorbia live fences, Maracuja, Cactus tree, Lemon trees, Papaya trees among others are present. These crops and trees will inevitably have to be removed to pave way for the construction of the transmission line which includes the “cabins”, towers and creating the Right of Way. However, the area required for each tower and ROW for the transmission line is not expected to have a major adverse impact on land use patterns.

Mitigation Measures

This impact is unavoidable and the crops destroyed will be compensated at full market value before any construction works commence. The compensation and resettlement process will be prepared and an ARAP will be prepared for approval by the bank and RDB.

- Limit ROW to 40m width, however, the undergrowth in the ROW should be allowed while only leaving a narrow strip to be completely cleared to allow stringing of the line conductors.
- Strictly define ROW clearing activities in the contract specifications and in the Environmental Management Plan (EMP).
- String conductors under tension to minimise potential damage to remaining ground vegetation.

Disruption in Daily Living and Movement Patterns

It is anticipated that the construction activities will result in some intrusions and disruptions in the daily living and movement patterns of the property owners. Such disruptions are anticipated to be of high significance, but of a short-term nature, and could be caused by the movement of construction vehicles and frequent entries to the properties as a result of the construction activities. This would especially occur in the following cases:

- Where private dwellings and farm worker accommodation are situated near to the proposed transmission lines.

Mitigation Measures

The negative social impacts on the living and movement patterns of the property owners during the operation phase of the project are anticipated to be of low significance and of a short duration, as maintenance of the transmission lines would not be undertaken on a daily basis.

Aesthetics and visual related impacts- visual intrusion on the landscape

Construction works especially when construction the 4 cabins and towers are likely to cause visual related impacts mainly by having activities out of touch with the natural environment in some cases. The tower structures are regarded as being the most visually intrusive component of transmission lines. It is anticipated that the construction of the proposed transmission lines will impose a visual impact on the immediate surrounding area. However, it is proposed that the new transmission line be constructed using CRS towers for the majority of the route. These towers are smaller, less steel-intensive, and less visually intrusive.

Mitigation Measures

The frame-like structure of the Transmission line tower presents a low degree of view obstruction as a result of it not being a solid structure, and allows for blending with background colour/patterns of most landscapes. With the use of the CRS towers, the degree of view obstruction will be further reduced as these towers are less steel-intensive. Shortly after erection, once natural weathering of the steel frame has occurred, the towers are typically marginally shiny and reflective.

Water Resources

The construction of towers may interfere with the natural drainage systems and modify flow of surface water, and these changes can contribute to soil erosion, flooding, channel modification, downstream scouring and sedimentation in streams and other drainage channels.

- The contractor should aim to keep to areas of lower elevation as far as possible, in order to minimize the visual impacts associated with the proposed transmission lines.

Disruption of Infrastructure and Services

Without the implementation of appropriate management measures, general services (such as underground pipes, existing distribution lines) could be damaged during the construction period. Any disruption in the services (especially in the local electricity supply should distribution lines be damaged) could potentially have a negative impact on local enterprises (e.g. businesses activities). The nature and extent of the impact will depend on the length of the interruption in general services. The contractor is expected to undertake the rehabilitation works and construction works sometimes in the vicinity of energized lines. This could lead to frequent power interruptions and black outs or even de-energisation of lines.

Mitigation Measures

- The contractor should establish whether there is any infrastructure located near or inside the transmission lines servitude in order to avoid any damage to these during the construction phase.
- Discussions should be held with the relevant parties whose infrastructure could be negatively affected.
- The Local Authorities should be informed of the construction schedules to ensure the minimum disruption of such infrastructure.
- The contractor shall make sure that the Time Schedule provides for adequate advance notice to the Employer as to when shut-downs and/or partial de-energizing of existing equipment are required. The Contractor shall make provisions to be able to shift teams and equipment in order to continue work at other sites if the shut-down cannot be granted for the requested period at the requested dates. He shall be able to resume the works scheduled during shut-downs when they are granted, with a reasonable advance notice. The required interruptions shall be kept to a minimum in terms of length of the shut-down.

- Property owners and nearby communities should be informed well in advance of the construction schedule and any changes to this work schedule.
- Heavy vehicles should make use of the existing access roads on private properties as far as possible. In cases where private roads are to be used, this should be negotiated with the property owner before the construction period commences.
- Construction vehicles should keep to the speed limit and should avoid busy roads, as far as possible.
- Construction activities should not be undertaken after-hours or over weekends.
- Construction should preferably not take place during the harvesting season.
- Property owners should be informed when maintenance of the transmission lines will be undertaken on their properties.

Temporary /Limited Fugitive Dust and Noise

Noise resulting from access road and transmission line construction may disturb neighbouring communities and local fauna. This impact will be of a temporary nature only and can be minimised by adopting appropriate mitigation measures including maintaining equipment and vehicles to manufacturers' standards and limiting operating times to daylight hours.

Dust will be an issue during the construction of access roads and clearing of vegetation along the ROW, especially since it is recommended that construction take place during the dry season. However, as most construction activities will be undertaken remote from residential areas, the impact is not expected to be major.

Fugitive dust will be localised and may be emitted from construction works e.g., excavations and stock piles of materials including machinery as well as from truck traffic during the construction phase including installation of the towers, construction of access roads and "cabins". This could cause health related impacts to the communities around and workers in the project site. Dust impacts will be localised and experienced only in the specific areas where the excavation for tower installation and substation construction will occur.

Vehicular movement on gravel roads could lead to dust pollution in some areas during dry conditions. This impact would be of a short duration during the construction phase. Dust

pollution could also take place during maintenance and inspection of the lines. This impact will be localized and of a short duration, and is anticipated to be of low significance.

Mitigation Measures

- The dirt roads and exposed construction areas should be moisturised during the dry season to prevent or minimise the fugitive dust emissions.
- Proper location of material stockpiles, especially sand and soil downwind from the commercial, residential and other establishments will be required; Frequent wetting of the stockpile and working area; screening of or providing wind breaks for stockpiles;
- Workers in the project site must be equipped with the necessary and required Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) prescribed by the construction industry to mitigate dust impacts
- Routing of the lines should preferably not be in close proximity to residential dwellings.
- The construction schedule should be communicated with potentially affected parties.
- Construction timeframes should be discussed with property owners.
- Dust-suppression techniques should be used along gravel roads, when required.

Wildlife

There are no protected wildlife conservation areas along the alignment so there is likely to be only minor impacts on wildlife during the construction phase as a result of disturbance from movement of people and machinery and loss of habitat from the establishment of the 40m ROW along the length of the route. The proposed route passes mainly through a landscape that has already been greatly disturbed by mixed subsistence farming. Wildlife populations have already been severely impacted both in numbers and diversity.

Soil Erosion

During the construction phase, activities involving preparation, stripping, grading, soil removal, backfilling, compacting, disposal of surplus and excavation of the earth surface to pave way for the installation of the “substations” and erection of the towers will lead to localized soil erosion and run off when rains are experienced.

The building of foundations for transmission line towers can potentially exacerbate soil erosion. In addition to the loss of productive land due to soil erosion and land acquisition for tower construction, soils can be impacted as a result of disposal of waste materials, and compaction

with heavy machinery used for the establishment of towers and the transmission line. This impact is only expected to occur in the areas where excavation works will be carried out either to construct a substation or erect a tower. These impacts can be managed by restricting the use of heavy machinery and vehicles to designated work areas and installing soil protection works in areas sensitive to erosion prior to construction.

Mitigation Measures

- To prevent soil erosion during site preparation, disturbed soils should be compacted immediately.
- Windblown erosion is to be prevented by soil compaction and wetting the ground to prevent rising of soil particles.
- The final site grade in the cabins should include an adequate drainage channel that should facilitate drainage and avoid flooding and pooling. A site drainage plan should be developed to protect against erosion. Protecting stockpiles through the use of silt fencing and reduced slope angles should be used to minimize soil erosion during construction.
- Design and construct transmission line towers with staggered legs so as to eliminate the need to excavate a level pad into slopes on which to construct towers.
- Clear only a narrow path to facilitate pulling the nylon rope between towers to string conductors.

Accidents/Hazards

As a result of the operation of equipment and machinery during construction, there is a likelihood of accidents occurring especially to the workers.

Mitigation Measures

- All workers need to be provided with the recognised and appropriate Personal Protective Equipment while at the construction site including gloves, dust masks, boots, goggles, and overalls among others.
- ONLY competent workers and staff should be allowed to operate any machinery and equipment to reduce the incidents of accidents.

- During the construction the project site should be completely sealed off and warning signs erected informing the general public to keep off the construction site when construction is in progress.
- Personal protection gear must be provided and its use made compulsory to all.

Storage and Management of solid waste

Solid waste materials during the construction include paper wrapping, scrap metal, excavated soils, polythene, plastic and metal will cause pollution and littering of the immediate and localized environment.

Mitigation Measures

- The contractor should engage a refuse handling company to remove the wastes from the site to the recommended dumping site.
- Warning signs against littering and dumping within the construction site should be erected by the contractor.
- Excavated top soil should be used as backfill by the contractor

V.3. ADVERSE IMPACTS DURING OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE PHASE

The following adverse impacts are anticipated to occur during the operation and maintenance phase of the project.

Two universal concerns about transmission line projects are (1) disposal of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) once used in electrical equipment, and (2) possible health impacts of electromagnetic fields (EMF) associated with power transmission lines.

Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) Impacts

PCBs used to be widely used as insulators in electrical equipment, including transformers, capacitors, switches, voltage regulators etc. They are of concern because they are powerful toxins, even at low concentrations, and they persist and bio-accumulate in the environment creating adverse health impacts and adverse ecological changes. Intentional PCB production was ended in most countries by 1980 and most transformers and capacitors built after 1980 do

not contain PCBs. The major exception to this is transformers and other PCB applications produced since 1980 in the former Soviet Union.

The Basel Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants lists PCBs as one of 12 target persistent organic pollutants requiring particular attention. This is also reflected in the WB EA Sourcebook update dealing with “Privatisation and Environmental Assessment: Issues and Approaches” (March 1994). This states that the WB considers the use of PCB containing transformers a “red flag”.

Refurbishment of any substations for this Project will need to check whether any such old transformers/equipment will be replaced and appropriate safeguards taken. This is not an issue with new transformers, as they will not contain PCBs.

Health Effects of Electromagnetic Fields (EMF) Impacts

Electric and magnetic fields (EMF) are invisible lines of force that surround any electrical device. Power transmission lines, electrical wiring, and electrical equipment all produce EMF. There are many other sources of EMF as well. Electric fields are produced by voltage and increase in strength as the voltage increases. The electric field strength is measured in units of volts per metre (V/m). Magnetic fields result from the flow of current through wires or electrical devices and increase in strength as the current increases. Magnetic fields are measured in units of gauss (G) or tesla (T). Most electrical equipment has to be turned on, i.e., current must be flowing, for a magnetic field to be produced. Electric fields are often present even when the equipment is switched off, as long as it remains connected to the source of electric power. In summary, voltage produces an electric field and current produces a magnetic field. The US National Institute of Environmental Health Services and the National Institutes of Health has prepared a comprehensive report on electric and magnetic fields associated with the use of electric power which is available on the World Wide Web at: <http://www.niehs.nih.gov/emfrapid>.

Electric fields are shielded or weakened by materials that conduct electricity—even materials that conduct poorly, including trees, buildings, and human skin. Magnetic fields, however, pass through most materials and are therefore more difficult to shield. However, both electric fields and magnetic fields decrease rapidly as the distance from the source increases. As a precautionary measure, EWSA has adopted internationally accepted standard ROW width of 40m along their high voltage transmission lines. All habitation and structures are excluded from

the ROW to ensure safety of people and animals from EMFs as well as from direct electric shocks and “flashover”.

With respect to substations, in general, the strongest EMF around the outside of a substation comes from the power lines entering and leaving the substation. The strength of the EMF from equipment within the substations, such as transformers, reactors, and capacitor banks, decreases rapidly with increasing distance. Beyond the substation fence or wall, the EMF produced by the substation equipment is typically indistinguishable from background levels (<http://www.niehs.nih.gov/emfrapid>).

Based on a recent in-depth review of extensive scientific literature (World Health Organisation’s International EMF Project), the WHO has concluded that “despite extensive research, to date there is no evidence to conclude that exposure to low level electromagnetic fields is harmful to human health” (<http://www.who.int/peh-emf/WhatisEMF/en.html>). The low levels referred to by the WHO are levels expected to be found outside the 40m ROW proposed for the Project. It is concluded therefore that provided the proposed 40m ROW is enforced along the proposed transmission line route, there will not be any adverse health effects to people along the route.

Accidents at the work place from operating of machineries and equipment by workers

The potential for accidents and hazards occurring in the “substation” during the operation of the equipment is a likely adverse impact that could lead to loss of life or injury to the workers.

Public Safety

Placement of low slung lines or lines near human activity (e.g. highways, buildings) increases the risk for electrocutions. Also, towers and transmission lines can disrupt [t airplane flight paths in and near airports and endanger low-flying aircraft.

Mitigation Measures

- All workers entering the construction site must be equipped with PPE including goggles, factory boots, overalls, gloves, dust masks, among others. The PPE should be those that meeting the international standards of PPE.
- Personal protection gear will be provided and its use made compulsory to all. The entire workforce of the plant should be trained in the use of protective gear, handling of chemical products and acid storage cells, electric safety equipment, procedures for

entering enclosed areas, fire protection and prevention, emergency response and care procedures.

- Training given to the employees should be backed by regular on- site training
- Involvement in safety measures.
- Machines and Equipments must be operated only by qualified staff and a site supervisor should be on site at all times to ensure adherence.
- The contractor must develop a workers' Health and Safety Manual for which all the workers should be conversant with for response in case of accidents.
- At tower positions where occasional flooding may cause damage to towers or foundations, protective embankments shall be erected or alternative measures shall be proposed by the Contractor.

Maintaining Access Roads

The maintenance of access roads can impact the environment through vegetation clearance and compaction of land and a permanent loss of land. Provided temporary access roads are rehabilitated and existing roads/tracks are used for access to minimise the number of new roads required, the impact is not expected to be significant.

Mitigation Measures

- Use existing access roads and tracks wherever available.
- Decommission and rehabilitate excess temporary access tracks as soon as they are no longer required.
- Where access is required across agricultural lands use temporary access paths during the dry season involving placement of geo-textile over aggregates where necessary.
- Minimise the need for access tracks whenever possible.
- Construction to proceed in the dry season if possible to minimise soil erosion and mass wasting and to limit loss of crops (which are not grown in the dry season); where construction is required in the rainy season, potentially unstable slopes to be avoided.

Fire risk

The risk of fire outbreaks during bad weather e.g. storms, winds etc cannot be overruled especially when the towers crash or if electrical faults occur in the "mini" substations. Also failure to maintain the ROW could cause the

overgrowth of nearby trees that could end up crashing on the lines during poor weather and hence cause fire outbreaks of black outs.

Mitigation Measures

- A robust fire prevention program and fire suppression system should be developed by the contactor for use in each cabin.
- All of the cabins site must contain fire fighting equipments of recommended standards and in key strategic points. This should include at least, Carbon dioxide systems, Detection/alarm systems and portable fire extinguishers among others.
- A fire evacuation plan must be posted in various points of the cabins including procedures to take when a fire is reported.
- EWSA should continuously ensure that the ROW is kept clear by regular trimming of trees and maintenance.

Bird Strikes/Collusions

Transmission and distribution networks are known to be a potential source of bird strikes that get entangled to the lines causing their injury or even instant death. This is especially more significant when large flock of birds migrate from one point to another and usually get struck by these transmission or distribution lines.

Mitigation Measure

Once established, the transmission line may cause increased risk of collision of birds in flight, however this risk is expected to be minimal since the route does not pass through any known migratory bird routes.

Aesthetics and visual related impacts- visual intrusion on the landscape

Construction works especially when construction the mini substations are likely to cause visual related impacts mainly by having activities out of touch with the natural environment in some cases. The tower structures are regarded as being the most visually intrusive component of transmission lines. It is anticipated that the construction of the proposed transmission line will impose a visual impact on the immediate surrounding area.

Mitigation Measures

However, it is proposed that the new transmission line be constructed using CRS towers for the majority of the route. These towers are smaller, less steel-intensive, and less visually intrusive.

V.4. PROJECT DECOMMISSIONING

Decommissioning of the project will involve dismantling and removing all the structures from mini substation sites, dismantling the supporting infrastructure (towers) and all those structures that were associated with this project implementation. Some of the impacts of this project phase are similar to those that have been discussed during construction and operational phase.

Some of the impacts of this project phase are similar to those that have been discussed during construction and operational phase.

But there are those impacts that are specific to project decommissioning after the project life is over. After the project decommissioning, the proponent will be required to rehabilitate the site to its former status or near what it was before the project was commissioned. EWSA will be responsible for preparing the decommissioning plan because it is the proponent and as specified by the Organic Law, the project proponent remains responsible for this. As per the regulations of REMA the proponent will bear the costs for decommissioning and site rehabilitation.

VI. ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PLAN (EMP)

An Environmental Management Plan (EMP) has been developed for this project and will be implemented by the contractor, EWSA and the relevant implementing agencies namely Ministry of Infrastructure (MININFRA), Rwanda Environmental Management Authority (REMA) and RURA.

This EMP defines the measures needed to prevent, minimize, mitigate, or compensate for adverse impacts, and to improve environmental performance while ensuring compliance with applicable environmental standards during the planning and design phase, construction and operation and eventual decommissioning of the project.

In order to develop institutional capacity in implementing and enforcing the EMP, training should be provided with adequate budgets to ensure satisfactory achievement of sound environmental performance. The training proposed here should include capacity building and training in environmental assessment, environmental mitigation plans, and environmental monitoring. In some cases, it may be appropriate to include the staff from the environmental implementation agencies, such as REMA, and other relevant ministries involved in the implementation of the EARP.

Training and capacity building will be vital in implementing the EMP especially EWSA staff who will be responsible for primarily ensuring that mitigation and monitoring of the key activities are followed. The proposed training will target relevant EARP, EWSA, REMA, RURA and MININFRA staff and will entail training in monitoring and evaluation, impact mitigation and internal self environmental audit.

All the potential adverse impacts of the sub-project have been identified and discussed in the previous chapter. The EMP table below outlines potential environmental impacts and mitigation measures proposed to reduce these impacts to acceptable levels. It also identifies the agency responsible for planning and implementation as well as supervision and monitoring, for each phase of the project.

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PLAN TABLE

Project Activity	Potential Environmental issues	Management/Mitigation Measures	Responsibility	
			Planning and Implementation	Supervision and Monitoring
Pre-construction Stage				
Design and location of Distribution lines	Impact due to location of target sectors close to sensitive ecosystems	1.Route selection in close consultation with MINIFOM, EWSA field staff to avoid sensitive areas; 2.Route selection approved by RDB and District Authorities 3.Align routes alongside farm roads and footpaths where possible, alongside forest edges where habitats are already degraded to an extent, and will involve minimum tree felling to minimize design	RDB, District authorities EWSA	a. Requires 'No Objection' Clearance from MINELA, MINIFOM, b. District Environmental Officer c. RDB d. District Administrative Approval e. Public Consensus from local residents

Construction Stage				
Clearing of RoW along distribution line	Removal of forest cover in biological corridor	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.Ensure that only those trees marked by the forestry staff are felled 2.Follow standard EWSA procedures and practices in clearing RoW 3.Explore possibility of planting low growing vegetation in RoW 4.Reforestation or afforestation to make up for forest cover loss 	Contractor, RDB, EWSA	Environmental Officer of EWSA District Environmental officer. Officer RDB
	Workers could damage species & Habitats outside RoW	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.Mark RoW boundary & prohibit cutting outside; 2.Only fell trees that have been marked by Forestry staff; 3.Prohibit hunting or fishing by workers and enforce strictly; 4.Train workers in importance of wildlife and habitats; 5.Locate labor camps where no forest clearance is needed; 	Contractor	Environmental Officer, EWSA
	Impact on private land holdings	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.Route the distribution lines along edge of settlements 2.Where routes cross private land, avoid alignments too close to houses or cutting through the center of fields 	Contractor	Environmental Officer, EWSA
	Risk of forest fires if cut vegetation is burnt	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.Leave cut material to rot down in situ and do not burn; 2.Leave a covering of grass & other low vegetation in RoW; 3.Dispose of trees as required by Department of Forestry 	Contractor	Environmental Officer, EWSA
Delivery of RE materials to drop off points	Air pollution from vehicular movement	Minimize number of deliveries through timely scheduling	Contractor	Environmental Officer, EWSA
	Carriage of materials to site	Consult farmers when transporting material	Contractor	Environmental Officer, EWSA

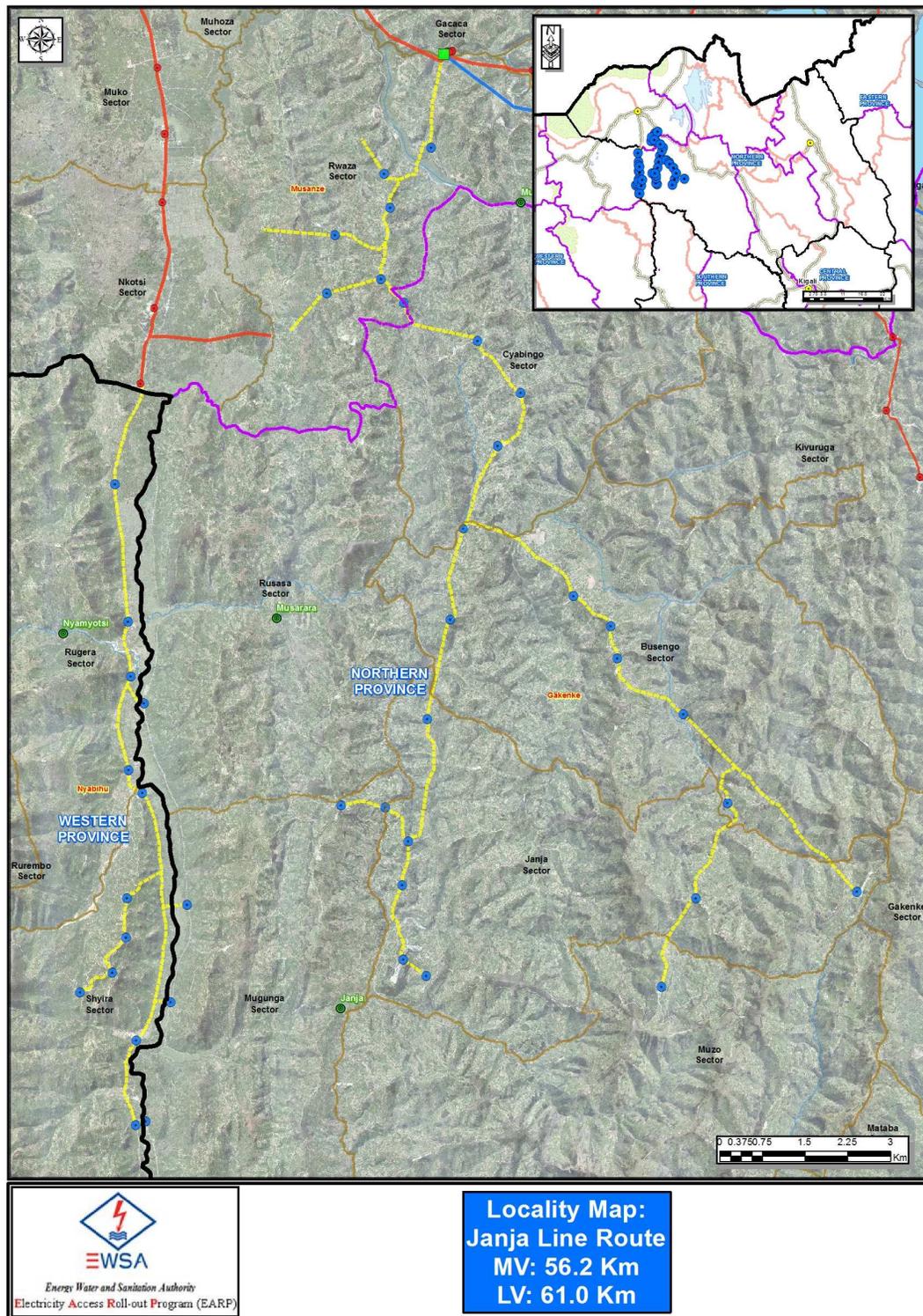
	could block access			
Excavation at pole sites	Dust may blow from cleared areas	Avoid using large machinery, Manual excavated at pole sites and minimize disturbance at excavated sites,		
	Effect on local drainage and soil erosion	Located poles at a minimum distance of 30 m from rivers, and construct these on stable ground	Contractor	Environmental Officer
	Excavation for poles could damage water pipes in village	1.Consult community to identify and avoid infrastructure	Contractor	Environmental Officer
	Work in villages may create noise, dust & impede access	1.Inform communities of work in advance; 2.Identify sites of local significance; locate no poles nearby; 3.Consult custodians of facilities (monasteries, nunneries, schools, clinics, etc) and avoid working at sensitive and religious times;	Contractor	Environmental Officer, EWSA
Social and cultural impacts	Economic benefits if local people are employed	Employ as many local residents as possible in workforce	Contractor	Environmental Officer, EWSA
	Importing foreign workers can cause environmental and social problems at labour camps and in host community	1.Ensure imported workers are provided with housing that has ample toilets, proper drainage and treatment for sewage. 2.Collect solid waste weekly and bury offsite. 3. Instruct workers on required behaviour in host community and prohibit them from hunting and fishing. 4.Camps must be cleaned up and restored after project is completed	Contractor	Environmental Officer

	Diseases can be introduced into host communities from social and sexual contact with imported workers	<p>1.Initial screening of workers for HIV/AIDS, TB, malaria, swine flu, etc.;</p> <p>2.Facilitate access to the nearest Health facility for check up;</p> <p>3.Raise worker/community awareness of risks of socially & sexually transmitted diseases;</p> <p>4.Practical measures, e.g. free condoms for workers;</p>	Contractor	Environmental Officer
	Workers and communities are at risk from accidents on site	<p>Prepare and implement a site Health and safety plan that includes measures to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Exclude the public from all constructions sites; -Ensure that workers use personal protection equipment; -Provide Health & Safety training for all personnel; -Follow documented procedures for all site activities; -Keep accident reports and records; -Inform local communities about the work and dangers 	Contractor	Environmental Officer
	Impact on private land and infrastructure	<p>Conduct awareness programs/meetings</p> <p>Grievance redress mechanism in place</p>	EWSA	Environmental Officer

Project Activity	Potential Environmental issues	Management/Mitigation Measures	Responsibility	
Operation and Maintenance				
Provision, Operation and maintenance of new RE system	People cannot use new electrical machines during power cuts so income may suffer	Field personnel should report power outages to the ESD and repair faults quickly and effectively	EWSA	EWSA
	Consumers are at risk of electrocution if they do not understand the dangers of electricity	1. Train and supervise EWSA operatives to ensure that they check house wiring carefully and reject if deficient; 2. Public education to raise villagers' awareness of dangers of electricity and how to utilize the system safely.	EARP, EWSA	EWSA
	EWSA workers are at risk if they do not follow EWSA procedures when clearing RoW or repairing faults	1. Follow EWSA O&M and H&S manuals and revise these manuals if necessary to increase safety of workers; 2. Regular training of EWSA workers to raise awareness of dangers and working procedures to be followed; 3. Improve supervision of field workers; 4. Regular management reviews of safety record, with remedial action where necessary.	EARP and EWSA	EWSA
	People will not be very tolerant of power cuts once they become used to the benefits of electricity	1. As above: repair faults quickly and affectively; 2. Conduct system maintenance regularly and diligently	EARP and EWSA	EWSA

VII. APPENDIX

VII.1. Details of areas to be electrified



VII. 2. Commitment for expropriation

REPUBLIC OF RWANDA



MINISTRY OF INFRASTRUCTURE

P.O. BOX 24 KIGALI

Kigali, 24 JAN 2011
N° 283/ED.WISA/011

ALL DISTRICTS' MAYORS

Dear Sir/Madam,

RE: FUNDING OF EXPROPRIATION COSTS ON ELECTRICITY ACCESS ROLL OUT PROGRAM

The Government of Rwanda is leading a nationwide initiative to extend access to electricity. This initiative involves coordinated efforts across all power sector participants to connect new customers, commission new generation facilities to supply new and existing customers, reduce the cost of generation by switching to more efficient supply sources and develop domestic industries to supply materials for electricity sector expansion. The Electricity Access Rollout Program (EARP) started with a five-year investment plan designed to achieve the Government's stated targets set out in the Economic Development and Poverty Reduction Strategy (EDPRS).

It is in this context that the Government of Rwanda took its commitment to expropriate the people's properties which will be damaged during the project execution works. We therefore request you to provide support and facilitate in people sensitization in your Districts during its implementation. The team from MININFRA/RECO will estimate the damaged properties for compensation.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink over a circular official seal of the Ministry of Infrastructure of Rwanda. The seal contains the text 'MINISTÈRE DES INFRASTRUCTURES' and 'RÉPUBLIQUE RWANDA'.

Marie Claire MUKASINE
Permanent Secretary

CC:

- Hon. Minister of Infrastructure
- Hon. Minister of State in charge of Energy & Water/MININFRA
- EARP Coordinator/RECO-RWASCO

KIGALI

- All funding Agencies