

**REPUBLIC OF RWANDA**



**MINISTRY OF INFRASTRUCTURE (MININFRA)**

**RWANDA ENERGY GROUP (REG)**

**Accelerating Sustainable and Clean Energy Access Transformation in Rwanda  
(ASCENT P180575)**

**Draft Report**

**Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF)**

**Kigali, January 2024**

## Document Information

<b>Name of the Project</b>	Accelerating Sustainable and Clean Energy Access Transformation (ASCENT)
<b>Project Identification as of WB</b>	P180575
<b>Name of Client</b>	Rwanda Energy Group (REG) Energy Development Corporation Limited (EDCL)
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<b>Type of document</b>	Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF)
<b>Document volume</b>	Volume 1
<b>Version</b>	V2
<b>Reference</b>	XXXXXX

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The Government of Rwanda (GoR) through the Ministry of Infrastructure (MININFRA), with the funding from the World Bank/International Development Association (IDA) and Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) is developing a project titled “Accelerating Sustainable and Clean Energy Access Transformation (ASCENT)” financed and led by World Bank and co-financed by Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank. This multi-donor energy sector investment financing project will support the Government of Rwanda’s energy access objectives toward country universal energy access. The ASCENT Project would have a total volume of an estimated US\$ 400 million. The total IDA investment would be US\$300 million, spread across four components of i) Increasing Access to Grid Electricity, ii) Enhancing the Efficiency of Electricity Services, iii) Increasing Access to Off-Grid Electricity and Clean Cooking, and iv) Institutional Capacity Building, Technical Assistance, and Implementation Support for Energy Access Acceleration. The project will also receive funds from AIIB of US\$ 100 million investment financing.

**The Project Development Objective** is to increase access to modern energy for households, enterprises and public institutions; and enhance the efficiency of electricity services in Rwanda.

The project has four main components in detail:

**Component 1: Increasing access to grid electricity** (US\$ 225 million IDA; US\$ 75 million AIIB) which will increase access to Households within 27 administrative districts located in Four provinces of Rwanda namely Western, Southern, Eastern and Northern Province of Rwanda.

**Component 2: Enhancing the efficiency of electricity service** (US\$ 44 million IDA; US\$ 15 million AIIB and 73,000,000 million US\$) which will support investments towards improving grid stability and reliability to enable Rwanda to accelerate the access program with reliability and efficiency. This component shall have 56km, 220kV double circuit transmission line connecting Bwishyura Substation to Kigoma substation, Construction of Muhanga SS 110/30kV, 2x20MVA transformers with a cut-in cut-out (double circuit) 110kV transmission line Kigoma SS- Mt Kigali SS (21km), Upgrade of five (4) 110/30kV and two (2) 110/15 kV power transformers in the existing five (5) HV substations ( Kigoma, Birembo, Rukarara, Kibuye and Rwinkwavu), Construction of four (4) 5MVA, 30/15kV substations and associated MV feeders (lines) connections at Karumuna (Bugesera), Poid Lourd (Rubavu), Shyorongi (Rulindo) and Nyagatovu (Rwamagana), Construction of new three (3) MV Switching Cabins in Rubavu (1) and Kigali (2), Strengthening of MV & LV Distribution network in Kigali City, Southern Province, and Western Province, Construction of 29.8km of MV lines linking of new HV/MV Substations to the distribution network.

**Component 3: Increasing access to off-grid electricity and clean cooking Solutions** (US\$ 16 million IDA; US\$ 5 million AIIB): This component will support off-grid electrification and clean cooking access

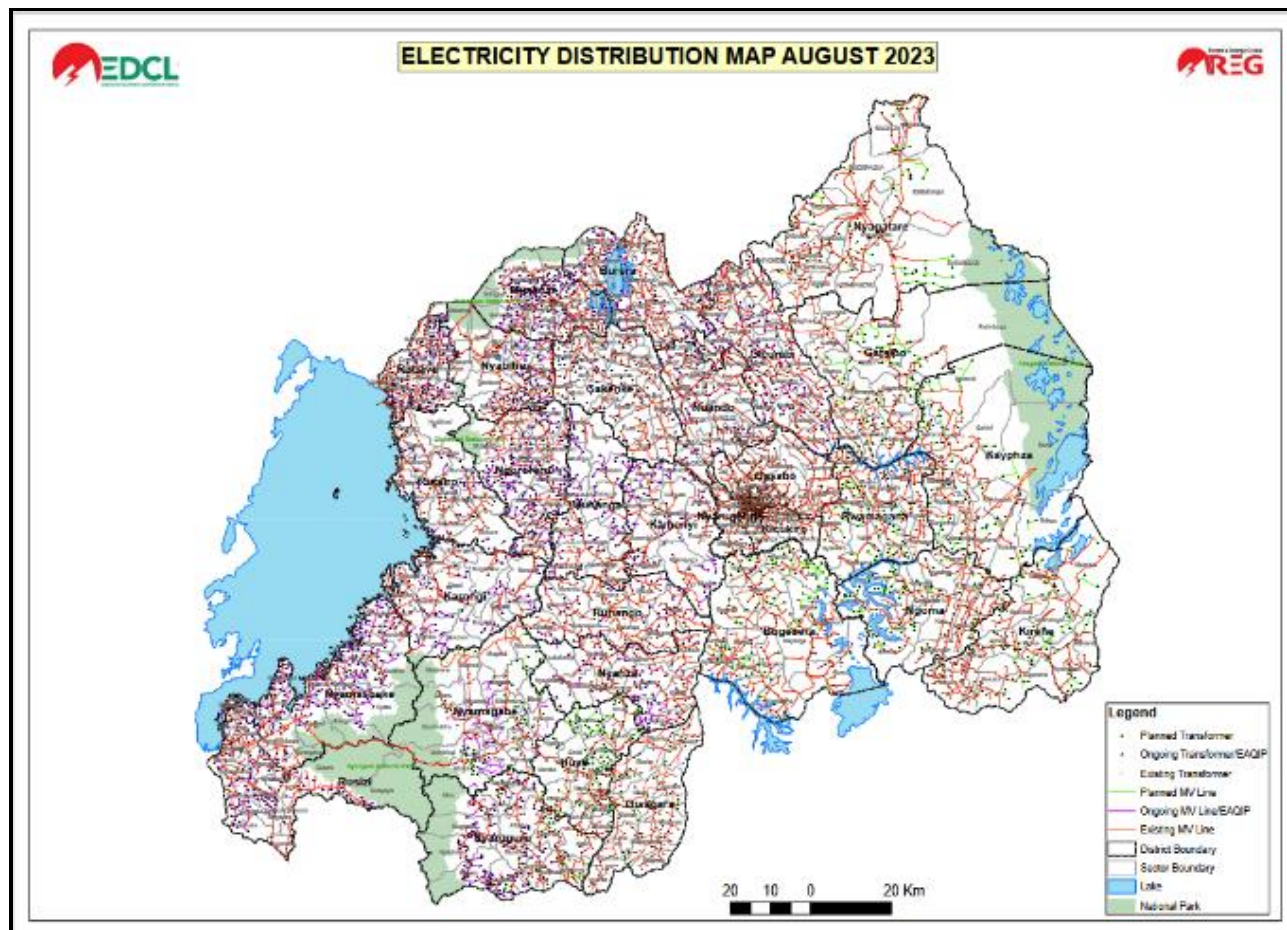
through results-based financing (RBF) facilities established under the BRD (Subcomponent 3a and 3b respectively with allocations within sub-components to be determined at appraisal stage).

**Component 4: Institutional Capacity Building, Technical Assistance, and Implementation Support for energy access acceleration** (US\$15 million IDA; US\$5 million AfDB). The component will provide the necessary funding for technical assistance, feasibility studies, implementation support, and institutional capacity building.

### Proposed interactive project map

The he proposed map is indicating the administrative District allocation for Accelerating Sustainable and Clean Energy Access Transformation in Rwanda (ASCENT Rwanda) as on the below map.

**Figure 1: Proposed Map Indicating the Electricity Distribution Countrywide.**



Source: EDCL, 2023

### Rationale of Resettlement Policy Framework

The energy projects require the civil works activities where the land acquisition is inevitable. Therefore, as per World Bank Environment and Social Framework (ESF) especially Environment and Social Standard 5

(ESS5), the Borrower needs to ensure that resettlement activities are planned and implemented with appropriate disclosure of information, meaningful consultation, and informed participation of the affected people and this framework plan will form the basis for site specific resettlement planning. Relevant Environmental and Social standards to the proposed program include (i) ESS1: Assessment and management of environmental and Social risks and Impacts; (ii) ESS2: Labour and Working Conditions; (iii) ESS3: Resource Efficiency and Pollution Prevention and Management; ESS4: Community health and safety; (iv) ESS5: Land Acquisition, Restriction on Land Use and Involuntary Resettlement; ESS6: Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Management of Living Natural Resources; ESS8: Cultural Heritage; ESS9: Financial intermediaries and ESS10: Stakeholder engagement and information disclosure.

The World Bank ESS5 requires Borrowers to:

- (i) Avoid or minimize involuntary resettlement by exploring project design alternatives,
- (ii) Avoid forced eviction,
- (iii) Mitigate unavoidable adverse impacts from land acquisition or restrictions on land use through timely compensation for loss of assets at replacement cost and assisting displaced persons in their efforts to improve, or at least.

Given that the specific construction sites and details on final projects design are not yet confirmed, a Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF) is appropriate instrument to provide principles, organizational arrangements and funding mechanisms for any displacement and resettlements that may be necessary during implementation of proposed projects. The RPF provides the basis for preparing resettlement instruments for individual sub-projects once their location and scope are known and land requirement is confirmed.

## **Legal and Regulatory Framework**

- Relevant National Policies and Strategies: Vision 2050, National Strategy for Transformation (NST1), National Land Policy, Land Tenure System and Provisions in Rwanda, National Urbanization Policy.
- National Resettlement Regulations: The Rwandan Constitution promulgated in 2023, Land Valuation Law promulgated in 2010, Expropriation Law No. 32/2015 of 11/06/2015, Law N° 27/2021 of 10/06/2021 governing land in Rwanda.
- World Bank ESF especially ESS5: Land Acquisition, Restrictions on Land Use, and Involuntary Resettlement.

The main executing and accountable agency at national level for the implementation of proposed program and associated resettlement instruments is Ministry of Infrastructure through Rwanda Energy Group (REG) under its Projects Coordination Unit. The REG-EDCL-PIU will play a critical role in supervising subproject resettlement and compensation planning, implementation and monitoring in collaboration with the concerned administration Districts. Other stakeholders include Rwanda Development Board (RDB), Ministry of Local Government (MINALOC) through Local Governments, Ministry of Environment (MoE), Rwanda Environmental Management Authority (REMA) and National Land Authority (NLA).

### **Anticipated Resettlement Impacts**

Public consultations carried out in 27 administrative Districts with District Officials including Mayor or Vice Mayor in charge of economic development, Director of One stop Centre, District Electricity Maintenance Engineer, District Environmental Officer and at Sector level the executive Secretaries and Sector Land managers and within the local community where local people residing in non-connected trading centres, revealed that trade centres and households wait electricity impatiently for their economic development. Around the country within 27 administrative districts will be electrified by constructing 2,256 Km of MV and 7793.80Km of LV Lines with 2,051 Transformers for this ASCENT project. The investment in grid connections for households, commercial and industrial consumers, and public institutions is likely to involve compensation requirements for affected assets such as land, crops, and trees where the project will be implemented. During construction of MV and LV Lines, and substations the land, trees and crops will be affected and will need compensation. In all 27 administrative Districts assessed, some of them will require physical displacement where transmission lines shall be constructed. During construction of MV lines and rehabilitation of the sub-stations the project will avoid to the extent possible to land acquisition by exploring alternatives designs whenever possible. However, plants or crops (perennial or seasonal) and trees will be affected given that the EDCL in collaboration with PIU Safeguards will approve all line routes as approach after making sure that all efforts are deployed to avoid any damage to houses or structures specifically for MV lines construction. However, the electrical line routes will use the public land in the right of way where some restrictions will be applied in accordance with Rwanda Utility Regulation Authority (RURA) N°01/GL/EL-EWS/RURA/2015 on right-of-way for power lines. The compensation of the loses will require the preparation of the appropriate site-specific resettlement action plans for all sub-projects where applicable and Baseline Valuation Reports, given that the project will be implemented in 4 provinces of Rwanda, namely East, West, South and North, some key stakeholders have been consulted and their views are incorporated in this policy framework.



The other potential social impacts related to the project may include HIV/AIDS and other communicable diseases escalation, conflict with local communities, Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA), Child labour and gender-based Violence, sexual harassment, violence against children (VAC), etc. All these impacts will be mitigated, and the labour management Procedure (LMP), gender action plan (GAP) have been prepared for this program and will be implemented so that all employee rights are respected. Each subproject will prepare a site specific EHSP (Environmental Health and Safety Plan), ESMP (Environmental and Social Management Plan) to elaborate details of mitigation measures based on the subproject site location after safeguards screening results.

### **Mitigations Measures**

Provisions are made under this RPF to minimize all potential negative impacts including those of socio-economic significance. Provisions are also made in this RPF to accommodate all potential situations, including cases that entail actual livelihood restoration assistance in accordance with the World Bank ESS5. The potential social impacts to be addressed within the context of preparing this Resettlement Policy Framework have been identified. It is expected that site specific socio-economic survey will be carried out within specific sites, as and when required. Further, the site selection and design should consider mitigation hierarchy: avoid, minimise, and compensate.

The framework for the compensation/ resettlement will then be applied incorporating specific (1) institutional arrangements, (2) resettlement/compensation eligibility criteria, (3) implementation procedures, (4) financial responsibilities, and (5) monitoring and evaluation plan.

### **Valuation and Compensation**

As per the national expropriation Law number 32/2015 of 11/06/2015, all peoples affected by expropriation must receive fair and just compensation before the start of any civil works. The calculation of fair and just compensation is to be made by independent certified valuer based on the market price of the property. The RPF provides for methods and valuation templates in line with the Rwandan expropriation law and applicable internationally equivalent to market value plus all costs related to associated transactions so as to reach full replacement cost. To ensure that ESS5 requirements are met for valuation, these valuation methods are to be adopted for all sub-projects requiring expropriation where the project activities will be implemented. This will include a screening process, a socio-economic census including establishing and disseminating the cut-off date and this must be announced before the census starts, asset inventory of the area and identification of Project Affected Persons (PAPs) and a clear entitlement matrix. All resettlement instruments developed under ASCENT project will be shared with World Bank for review and clearance.

## **Sub-projects Screening**

The land requirements assessment shows that resettlement is needed where the MV and other transmission lines will be constructed this might have a social impact on the community. Potential socio-economic impacts that will require mitigation measures, resettlement and compensation will have to be identified. All sub-projects will be screened by the social and environmental safeguards specialist under PIU to know whether involuntary resettlement, land acquisition, or loss, denial or restriction of access to land and other economic resources will be caused by the implementation of the project activities requiring the civil works. Further, the screening process will determine whether the construction will result in the permanent or temporary loss of land, perennial or seasonal crops, fruits, trees and other structures.

## **Preparation of RAPs**

This RPF provides guidance on the preparation of site-specific Resettlement Action Plans when all project details are known, and affected people identified. Some physical relocation is anticipated under this project. The Resettlement Plans will define actions to be taken to properly resettle and compensate affected people and communities when identified.

## **Stakeholders' Consultation and Participation**

Public consultations in relation to the resettlement plans will occur at all stages, starting with inception and planning when the potential lands and alternative sites are being considered. A participatory approach is to be adopted as an on-going strategy throughout the entire program cycle starting with the Resettlement Plan preparation. As part of the preparation of this RPF several stakeholders were consulted from 14<sup>th</sup> to 28 August 2023 to obtain an informed view of the land acquisition and expropriation processes and current expropriation challenges, institutional capacities to hand land acquisition in their respective administrative districts, to solicit their suggestions and recommendations on how to handle land acquisition issues that may arise during the implementation of the project. The program has prepared the Stakeholders Engagement Plan (SEP) that will guide project consultation arrangement throughout the project cycle as per World Bank ESS 10 requirements.

The key outcome or issues raised during the public consultation include:

- The capacity building especially in WB environmental and social standards (ESS),
- The involvement and consultation of districts in selection of electrification area to be covered under the project is seen as key important activity in planning of the project and this will help the administrative districts to be involved in the implementation of the project activities.
- The administrative Districts have requested also to share the information on the project progress



specifically after the project appraisal to mobilize the local people to harvest their crops, to avail required documents for speeding up the expropriation assignment, given that the identified issue behind the delay in compensation of the affected assets is due to the lack of the required supporting documents by the affected persons.

- The consultative meetings with the local government officials and local population informed on the above issues.
- The local government officials promised to support the program by sensitizing and mobilizing the PAPs which will be identified to avoid any delay related to the compensation of all affected properties which also delays other project activities like construction.

### **Grievance Redress Mechanism**

A grievance mechanism has been developed for potential use by all interested stakeholders. The aim of the grievance mechanism is to achieve mutually agreed resolution of grievances raised by such stakeholders. This grievance mechanism ensures that complaints and grievances are addressed in good faith and through a transparent and impartial process, but one which is culturally acceptable. Grievances raised by stakeholders need to be managed through a transparent process, readily acceptable to all segments of affected communities and other stakeholders, at no cost and without retribution or deduction from compensation. The grievance mechanism should be appropriate to the scale of impacts and risks presented by a program and beneficial for both a proponent/operator and stakeholders, especially PAPs.

The types of grievances stakeholders may raise include, but are not limited to:

- i. Negative impacts on communities, which may include, but not be limited to financial loss, physical harm and nuisance from construction or operational activities;
- ii. Health and safety risks;
- iii. Negative impacts on the environment such as pollution of water ways, soil, and air;
- iv. Relocation of public utilities, and
- v. Unacceptable behavior by staff or employees.

It is critical that stakeholders understand that all grievances lodged, regardless of the project phase or activity being implemented, will follow one single mechanism. The mechanism must not impede access to other judicial or administrative remedies.

### **Monitoring and Evaluation Aspects**

The monitoring and evaluation will be the main mechanism of measuring and reporting progress of compliance and to alert the project management of any delays and problems and these activities will help to measure the extent to which the main objectives of proposed project have been achieved. To ensure that the implementation of resettlement is undertaken in line with this RPF, the activities will be monitored and

evaluated internally by a Monitoring and Evaluation Specialists at REG-PIU at the national level and on ground at the district level. The PIU will undertake the routine internal monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of the resettlement issues to ensure that all the responsible units follow the schedule and comply with the principles of the resettlement plan. Several indicators shall be identified and used to monitor the impacts of the asset's loss and resettlement activities and the subproject implementation in general.

### **Institutional Capacity Assessment for RPF Implementation**

The involvement of the different institutions will facilitate the easy implementation of this RPF, therefore EDCL/RUEAP as part of REG will have the overall responsibility of Preparation of E&S documents (SEP, LMP, ESMF, RPF, ESIA/ESMP and Gender Action Plan (GAP)), Supervision of ESMPs and EHSP plans, Implementation, and supervision of the RAP, BVR (Baseline Valuation Report) (where applicable), Contractor management, Stakeholder engagement and GRM. For the Supervising Engineers, the main responsibility will be the supervision of ESMP and EHSP implementation by contractors. The contractor will be involved in preparation and implementation of CESMPs and EHSP Including Occupation Health and Safety. MINECOFIN will be responsible for payment of the compensation to all PAPs who provide ID, bank account, land title and a signed consent form acknowledging their acceptance of the compensation value.

### **RPF Budget**

At this stage, it is not easy to clearly estimate the likely number of people who may be affected. This is because the technical designs and details have not yet been developed and the properties to be affected have not yet been fully identified. However, in consideration of the number of Kilometres of transmission Lines and substations to be constructed across the country, preparation of specific resettlement instrument where applicable and implementation and Monitoring of these instruments as well as training and capacity building the budget for resettlement can be estimated one million three hundred and thirty-five thousand US\$ (1,335,000). The final detailed budget will be calculated during the preparation of resettlement instruments and the Government of Rwanda will fund the budget.

### **Public Disclosure of Resettlement Instruments**

This RPF and Associated resettlement plans, when available and approved by the relevant officials and Development partners, will be disclosed in compliance with relevant Rwandan regulations and the World Bank ESS5 and 10. The documents will be disclosed in-country, a summary of the document in the local language available to any interested persons through the media, at the REG website and at the World Bank external website and the date for RPF public disclosure must precede the date for appraisal of the project and an executive summary will be translated in local language to facilitate the interested people for easy understanding, priori to disclose the RPF and all final RAPs, they will be cleared or approved by the GoR and World Bank. For any revision made to the final disclosed instruments, the same approval disclosure

protocol will be followed. This Resettlement Policy Framework (RFP) will be used for the social screening and assessment of the project components and subcomponents.

The RPF will guide the implementation of project works under the components and sub-components to ensure that displacement issues are resolved. It will also ensure that livelihoods of the affected persons are not negatively impacted on and where it is unavoidable; they are appropriately being compensated and/or resettled. The RPF was prepared based on the review of other project documents, relevant Rwandan laws, review of World Bank Environmental and Social Framework, visit to project sites/Districts, as well as key stakeholders' consultations.

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## DEFINITION OF KEY TERMS

Unless the context dictates otherwise, the following key terms shall have the following meanings:

- ***“Abunzi”*** Mediators an elected dispute resolution body in Rwanda at the cell level with mandatory jurisdiction over disputes involving amounts less than three million (3,000,000) Rwandan francs, which means almost all land disputes in rural area.
- ***“Act of public interest”*** an act of Government, public institution, nongovernmental organization, legally accepted associations operating in the country or of an individual, with an aim of a public interest.
- ***“Census”*** is a complete count of the population affected Project activity including collation of demographic and socioeconomic information. This will identify and determine the number of Project Affected Persons (PAPs) and the nature and levels of impact.
- ***“Compensation”*** means the payment in kind, cash or other assets given in exchange for the taking of land, loss of other types of assets (including fixed assets) or loss of livelihoods resulting from project activities.
- ***“Cut-off date”*** is the date of commencement of the census of PAPs within the project area boundaries (including unidentified owners). Beyond this date, any person not included in the census who lays claim to land or assets affected by the project (which they did not own before the cut-off date) will not be eligible for compensation.
- ***“Distribution of electric power”*** the use of a distribution network meant for delivery of electrical power from supply points of the distribution network to end-use customer and comprising electric lines, stations, transformers and other electric components whose function is the retail distribution of electrical power
- ***“Electricity”***: electric power generated from water, petroleum, biofuel, gas, peat, solar energy, wind energy, geothermal energy, nuclear energy and any other source
- ***“Expropriation”*** the taking of private property in the public interest aimed at development, social welfare, security and the territorial integrity.
- ***“Land”*** refers to agricultural and/or non-agricultural land whether temporary or permanent and which may be required for the Project.
- ***“Land acquisition”*** means the taking of or alienation of land, buildings or other assets thereon for purposes of the Project under eminent domain.
- ***“Just compensation”*** an indemnity equivalent to the value of land and the activities performed thereon given to the expropriated person and calculated in consideration of market prices.
- ***“Involuntary Land Acquisition”*** is the taking of land by government or other government agencies for compensation, for the purposes of a public project. The landowner may be left with the right to negotiate the amount of compensation proposed. This includes land or assets for which the owner

enjoys uncontested customary rights.

- **“Involuntary resettlement”** means the involuntary taking of land resulting in direct or indirect economic and social impacts caused by:
  - (i) Loss of benefits from use of such land;(ii) Relocation or loss of shelter; (iii) Loss of assets or access to assets; or (iv) loss of income sources or means of livelihood, whether or not the PAP has moved to another location.
- **“Project affected persons”** (PAPs) means persons who, for reasons of the involuntary taking of their land and other assets under the project, result in direct economic and or social adverse impacts, regardless of whether or not they said PAPs physically relocate. These people may have their:
  - a) Standard of living adversely affected, whether or not the PAP must move to another location;
  - b) Right, title, investment in any house, land (including premises, agricultural and grazing land) or any other fixed or movable asset temporarily or permanently possessed or adversely affected;
  - c) Access to productive assets temporarily or permanently adversely affected; or
  - d) Business, occupation, work or place of residence or habitat adversely affected.
  - e) The cost of any registration and transfer taxes.
- **“Resettlement Plan”**.it is a resettlement instrument (document) to be prepared when subproject locations are identified. Land acquisition leads to physical displacement of persons, and/or loss of shelter, and /or loss of livelihoods and/or loss, denial or restriction of access to economic resources. Resettlement Plans are prepared by the party impacting on the people and their livelihoods. RAPs contain specific and legally binding requirements to be abided by to resettle and compensate the affected party before implementation of the project activities causing adverse impacts.
- **“Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF)”** is an instrument to be used throughout the implementation of proposed project. It sets out the resettlement and compensation policy, organizational arrangements and design criteria to be applied to all sub-projects during implementation to meet the needs of the people who may be affected by those sub-project activities. The Resettlement Plans for the specific sites will be prepared consistent with the provisions of this RPF.
- **“Stakeholders”**: this refers to individuals or groups who: (a) Are affected or likely to be affected by the project (project-affected parties); and (b) May have an interest in the project (other interested parties) while **“Vulnerable Groups”** refers to: Widows, the disabled, marginalized groups, low-income households and informal sector operators; Households with no labour; Child-headed households and street children.

## **LIST OF ACRONYMS**

<b>AIIB</b>	: Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank
<b>ASCENT</b>	: Accelerating Sustainable and Clean Energy Access Transformation
<b>CBO</b>	: Community Based Organisation
<b>CSO</b>	: Civil Society Organisation
<b>EDCL</b>	: Energy Development Corporation Limited
<b>EICV</b>	: Integrated Household Living Survey
<b>HV</b>	: High Voltage
<b>ESF</b>	: Environmental and Social Framework
<b>ESMF</b>	: Environment and Social Management Framework
<b>ESMP</b>	: Environmental and social management plan
<b>ESS</b>	: Environmental and Social Standards
<b>EUCL</b>	: Energy Utility Corporation Limited
<b>FBO</b>	: Faith-Based Organization
<b>GoR</b>	: Government of Rwanda
<b>GRM</b>	: Grievance Redress Mechanism
<b>ICT</b>	: Information and communication Technology
<b>IDA</b>	: International Development Association
<b>LMP</b>	: Labour Management Procedure
<b>M&amp;E</b>	: Monitoring and Evaluation
<b>MoE</b>	: Ministry of Environment
<b>NGO</b>	: Non-Governmental Organisation
<b>NISR</b>	: National Institute of Statistics of Rwanda
<b>NLA</b>	: National Land Authority
<b>NST1</b>	: National Transformation Strategy One
<b>PDO</b>	: Project Development Objective
<b>PIU</b>	: Project Implementation Unit
<b>PUE</b>	: Productive Users of Energy
<b>RAP</b>	: Resettlement Action Plan
<b>RDB</b>	: Rwanda Development Board
<b>REG</b>	: Rwanda Energy Group
<b>REMA</b>	: Rwanda Environment Management Authority
<b>RPF</b>	: Resettlement Policy Framework
<b>RURA</b>	: Rwanda Utilities Regulatory Agency
<b>WB</b>	: World Bank



## **I. INTRODUCTION AND PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

### **1.1. Project Context**

The Rwandan economy continued to achieve strong growth in 2022, as GDP increased by 8.2 percent in 2022, despite global headwinds and restrictive monetary policies required to control inflation. Rising food prices, as the result of poor agricultural harvest due to unfavorable weather conditions, are affecting the poor disproportionately. Economic growth is expected to decline somewhat to 6.2 percent in 2023 and then to recover above the pre-Covid 10-year average of 7.2 percent from 2024, fueled by the extension of the Government's Manufacture and Build to Recover Program (MBRP) and a continued recovery in tourism activities. Tourism continues to be a major source of Rwanda's foreign exchange earnings and tends to generate a higher proportion of formal sector jobs than other sectors and could make a substantial contribution to growth.

National development strategy is laid out in its latest seven-year plan and access to reliable and affordable electricity is considered a critical factor in achieving its development goals. The National Strategy for Transformation (NST1) for 2017–2024 aims to lay the foundation for achieving upper-middle-income country status by 2035 and high-income status by 2050. It is guided by the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the Africa Union Agenda 2063 and its first 10-year Implementation Plan 2014–2023, and the East African Community Vision 2050. Electricity is a cross-cutting area of focus under both the economic transformation pillar and the social transformation pillar, where targets in generation, electricity quality and reliability, and access are outlined.

While national has made significant strides in improving energy service delivery, substantial efforts are still needed to achieve the UN Sustainable Development Goal (SDG7) of ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy for all, as well as in ensuring that the electricity services are delivered in a financially sustainable and operationally efficient manner.

The Government of Rwanda (GoR) has electrified its population at one of the fastest rates in the world over the past decade, with access to electricity rising from 6 percent in 2009 to an estimated 61 percent in 2022 (47% grid and 14% off-grid), as per the household census of 2022. Electricity access, however, is unevenly distributed. The Bank's Multi-Tier Framework for Energy Access (MTF) survey conducted in 2022 showed that while electricity access in urban areas was about 91.6 percent, only 17.5 percent of rural households had access to electricity. Electricity access is also lower among female-headed households, at a rate of 56.1 percent compared to 66.7 percent among male-headed households. Grid access of public institutions however is remarkably high, reaching, as of March 2019, 100 percent of hospitals, 93 percent of health centers (compared to only a third on average in Sub-Saharan Africa), and 80 percent of primary and secondary schools (compared to a quarter for Sub-Saharan Africa on average), thanks to Rwanda's

prioritization of electrification of critical public facilities, such as schools and health clinics, in electrification planning. Access to clean cooking lags behind electricity with over 93 percent of the population still relying on traditional cooking fuels, such as wood and charcoal.

National electrification progress has been achieved through a strong political commitment to the universal access goal, embracing geospatial least-cost electrification planning, which leverages both grid and distributed renewable energy (DRE) technologies and mobilization of private sector, and coordinated approach across all donors and financiers. As per the household census of 2022, 47 percent Rwandan households are connected to the national grid and 14 percent households through off-grid solar solutions, delivered through the private sector, which have scaled up in the past five years. Rwanda has established a pro-poor financing mechanisms for both grid and off-grid users, which has helped overcome affordability constraints of low-income households and maintain the fast pace of electrification even as efforts are now reaching rural and low-income households.

Based on the updated National Electrification Plan, Rwanda aims at achieving universal electricity access by targeting 70 percent of households with grid connections and 30 percent households with off-grid solar solutions. In addition to household electrification, Rwanda electrification efforts also emphasize access for productive uses, and collaboration between energy and agriculture sectors is in place to expand clean energy access for farmers.

The Rwanda Energy Group (REG) is a commercially operated state-owned enterprise, with a mandate to develop and operate all public sector energy sector infrastructure and be the off taker of all private investments in electricity generation. The organizational restructuring in 2014 separated the electric utility from the water utility, forming the REG and its two independent subsidiaries, Energy Utility Corporation Limited (EUCL) and the Energy Development Corporation Limited (EDCL). The separation allowed for better governance and clear financial accountability between revenue-generating service functions (EUCL) and non-revenue-generating infrastructure development (EDCL). The holding company, REG, as well as its affiliated companies are governed under company law as opposed to public service law, which entails stricter requirements in terms of transparency and management accountability. REG is overseen by Ministry of Infrastructure (MININFRA) and regulated by the Rwanda Utilities Regulatory Agency (RURA), an independent regulator. RURA evaluates the revenue requirements of REG and proposes electricity tariffs accounting for affordability constraints.

The Government of Rwanda (GoR) through the Ministry of Infrastructure (MININFRA), with the funding from the World Bank/International Development Association (IDA) and Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) is developing a project titled “Accelerating Sustainable and Clean Energy Access Transformation (ASCENT)” financed and led by World Bank and co-financed by Asian Infrastructure

Investment Bank. This multi-donor energy sector investment financing project will support the Government of Rwanda's energy access objectives toward country universal energy access. The ASCENT Project would have a total volume of an estimated US\$ 400 million. The total IDA investment would be US\$300 million, spread across four components of i) Increasing Access to Grid Electricity, ii) Enhancing the Efficiency of Electricity Services, iii) Increasing Access to Off-Grid Electricity and Clean Cooking, and iv) Institutional Capacity Building, Technical Assistance and Implementation Support for Energy Access Acceleration. The project will also receive the funds from AIIB of US\$ 100 million investment financing.

## **1.2. Project Development Objective (PDO)**

The Project Development Objective is to increase access to modern energy for households, enterprises and public institutions; and enhance the efficiency of electricity services in Rwanda.

## **1.3. Detailed Project Components and fund allocations**

**Component 1: Increasing access to grid electricity** (US\$ 225 million IDA; US\$ 75 million AIIB) which will increase access to Households within 27 administrative districts located in Four provinces of the Republic of Rwanda namely Western, Southern, Eastern and Northern Province of Rwanda, .

**Component 2: Enhancing the efficiency of electricity service** (US\$ 44 million IDA; US\$ 15 million AIIB and 73,000,000 million US\$) which will support investments towards improving grid stability and reliability to enable Rwanda to accelerate the access program with reliability and efficiency. This component shall have 56km, 220kV double circuit transmission line connecting Bwishyura Substation to Kigoma substation, Construction of Muhanga SS 110/30kV, 2x20MVA transformers with a cut-in cut-out (double circuit) 110kV transmission line Kigoma SS- Mt Kigali SS (21km), Upgrade of five (4) 110/30kV and two (2) 110/15 kV power transformers in the existing five (5) HV substations ( Kigoma, Birembo, Rukarara, Kibuye and Rwinkwavu), Construction of four (4) 5MVA, 30/15kV substations and associated MV feeders (lines) connections at Karumuna (Bugesera), Poid Lourd (Rubavu), Shyorongi (Rulindo) and Nyagatovu (Rwamagana), Construction of new three (3) MV Switching Cabins in Rubavu (1) and Kigali (2), Strengthening of MV & LV Distribution network in Kigali City, Southern Province, and Western Province, Construction of 29.8km of MV lines linking of new HV/MV Substations to the distribution network.

**Component 3: Increasing access to off-grid electricity and clean cooking Solutions** (US\$ 16 million IDA; US\$ 5 million AIIB): This component will support off-grid electrification and clean cooking access through results-based financing (RBF) facilities established under the BRD (Subcomponent 3a and 3b respectively with allocations within sub-components to be determined at appraisal stage).

**Component 4: Institutional Capacity Building, Technical Assistance, and Implementation Support for energy access acceleration** (US\$15 million IDA; US\$5 million AIIB). The component will provide the

necessary funding for technical assistance, feasibility studies, implementation support, and institutional capacity building.

#### **1.4. Rationale for the use of RPF**

The Rwanda Energy Group (REG) has identified 27 administrative Districts countrywide that maybe covered under the proposed project. However, the exact location, final design of proposed structures has not yet been confirmed and will not be known before the project appraisal. Therefore, it is neither possible to determine the demography and livelihoods of neither the PAPs nor the resettlement related impoverishment risks they might face. Consequently, it is not yet possible to prepare detailed Resettlement Action Plans, which specify the detailed mitigation measures and develop strategies for livelihood restoration program.

The RPF is not a resettlement plan for the project, but a framework to upstream socio-economic considerations as per the design and implementation frameworks of the various projects. The RPF provides an overall guidance on how to assess the social impact of for various sub-projects under the project, and how to manage the displacement and resettlement of the project affected persons in line with the anticipated involuntary displacement.

This Resettlement Policy Framework is developed to provide guidance on how to:

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

### **1.5. Approach and Methodology Used During the RPF Preparation.**

The general approach for the assignment consisted of identifying the major project stakeholders and background documents pertinent to the project operations, environment sectors, to interview the major stakeholders, and to visit some of the proposed administrative Districts to assess potential resettlement implications. During the consultation meetings with the different project stakeholders, effective communication, transparency, collaboration, inclusiveness, and integrity were used to attain the intended project objectives. Stakeholders involved in this project range from central and local government, national and international organizations, private entities, project affected communities, civil society organizations and grassroots authority.

#### **1.5.1. Literature Review**

Literature review will focus on existing policies, regulations, strategic plans and institutions related to energy, environment and land acquisition/expropriation as well as the review of World Bank ESF especially the Environmental and Social Standard 5: (Land acquisition, Restrictions on land use and involuntary Resettlement). This review helped in describing the policy and regulatory context (e.g. laws, regulations, and procedures) of the Government of Rwanda on resettlement and displacement. Further the review allowed to make gap analysis between the World Bank's standard on involuntary resettlement (ESS5) and national Regulations.

Key documents consulted include but not limited to:

- Project Concept MEMO for ASCENT.
- Energy related national Policies.
- Law amending Electricity law.
- Rural Electrification strategy.
- REG Strategic plan.
- Land policy, laws and regulations.
- Rwanda Expropriation law in public interest.
- World Bank Environmental and Social Framework (ESF)/World Bank Environment and Social Standards/ESS5 on Land acquisition, Restrictions on Land use and involuntary Resettlement.
- Integrated Household Living Survey 6
- Vision 2050 strategies
- Fifth National Population Census.
- National Transformation Strategy one (NST1)
- Land Use Master Plan.

- 27 Identified administrative Districts/Assessed and consulted administrative Districts countrywide.
- 27 Districts Development Plans

All consulted documents are provided as references and included in this RPF.

### **1.5.2. Public consultation**

In compliance with National regulations and international standards, Stakeholder engagement is the basis for building strong, constructive, and responsive relationships that are essential for the successful management of a project's environmental and social impacts. The consultation was held with key stakeholders involved in project implementation and land management, acquisition and compensation process as well as some of the potential affected people near identified administrative Districts and the people living in the villages and centres without electricity. However, a comprehensive community engagement and consultation will be required when final project design is available and site specific for civil works are known and potential project affected persons identified for preparation of the site-specific resettlement action plans and other environmental related instruments.

The main purpose of the consultation meetings with stakeholders include:

- 1) To introduce new the project (ASCENT) to the engaged stakeholders,
- 2) To discuss and learn about the national and World Bank Environmental and Social safeguards requirements right from the project designs and down to implementation,
- 3) To identify some of the possible social and environmental project related impacts,
- 4) To understand and assess the different roles and responsibilities of different stakeholders during the project implementation,
- 5) To understand the socio-economic baseline indicators of the project intervention areas.
- 6) To understand the purpose of establishing grievance committees and their different role in handling grievances.
- 7) To receive and consider the feedback from participants on project anticipated impacts, benefits and suggested mitigation measures to be adopted during the project implementation.
- 8) To learn more about the completed projects challenges and how to overcome these challenges for smooth ASCENT project activities implementation.

#### **- Structured and Unstructured Interviews**

The combination of both structured and unstructured interviews was used to collect additional information from different actors and stakeholders. Consulted people and institutions include Rwanda Environment Management Authority (REMA), the Ministry of Environment (MoE), Rwanda Development Board (RDB), Ministry of Infrastructure, Ministry of Local Government, Rwanda Energy Group, National Land Authority



(NLA), Rwanda Agriculture Development Board (RAB), Rwanda Water Resource Board (RWB). At decentralized governance level, the public consultation was conducted with Mayor or Vice-Mayor Economic Development, Director of one stop Centre, District Electricity maintenance engineer, District Environmental Officer, Sector executive Secretaries and Sector Land managers and finally, some security organs and different unelectrified trade centres' surrounding people were visited, and their opinions are considered and included in this policy. The EDCL has deployed four (4) teams, one per administrative province to conduct public consultation from 14<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> August 2023 and detailed findings are attached to this policy on annex 5.

### **1.5.3. Field work**

Field visit was concluded in all 27 administrative Districts and consists of data collection and field observations in terms of land requirements and land use, contribution of the electricity in their development specifically in the proposed project area. In additional, the field work was an opportunity to interact with district officials, REG/EUCL branch managers and some members of the community as stakeholders around the 27 administrative Districts where the projects activities will be implemented even if the line routes are not yet known. Site for the construction of MV/HV and LV lines were not visited because as of now the exact location is not yet known. Assessment and discussion focused on data collection especially on availability of land, the growing crops (perennial and seasonal) land ownership status, land acquisition process and schedule as well as roles and responsibilities in project implementation and land acquisition. It's worth to note that the number and details of project affected people will be determined during detailed census during the preparation of resettlement action plans based on the sub-projects and approval of the project line route designs.

## **II. PRINCIPLES AND OBJECTIVES OF RESETTLEMENT POLICY FRAMEWORK**

### **2.1. Objectives of Resettlement Policy Framework**

According to the World Bank ESS5 on land Acquisition, Restriction on land use and Involuntary Resettlement, objectives of the Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF) are to:

- i. Establish the resettlement and compensation principles and implementation arrangements for the project.
- ii. To avoid involuntary resettlement where feasible, or minimize resettlement impacts where involuntary resettlement is deemed unavoidable after all alternative project designs have been explored.
- iii. Describe the legal and institutional framework underlying Rwandan and World Bank approaches for compensation, resettlement, and rehabilitation.
- iv. Define the eligibility criteria for identification of Project Affected Persons (PAPs) and entitlements.
- v. Describe the consultation procedures and participatory approaches involving PAPs and other key stakeholders.
- vi. Provision of procedures for filing grievances and resolving disputes.
- vii. Ensure that displaced people are meaningfully consulted and given opportunities to participate in the planning and implementation of resettlement program.
- viii. Ensure that displaced people receive significant resettlement assistance under the project, so that their standards of living, income-earning capacity, production levels and overall means of livelihood are improved beyond pre-project levels.

This RPF seeks to ensure that any possible adverse impacts of proposed project activities to people's livelihoods are addressed through appropriate mitigation measures, particularly against potential impoverishment risks.

### **2.2. Purpose of the Resettlement Policy Framework**

The two components (Grid Access and Network Reinforcement) of the proposed project will involve the construction of physical infrastructure (medium and low voltage lines). The construction of the Medium Voltage (MV) and High Voltage (HV) require the land acquisition/expropriation of the assets/properties incorporated on it. For Low Voltage (LV) the cables to be used are insulated, their voltage cannot exceed its insulation and isolator to cause damage, harm or accident to the community, this is the reason why LV lines do not trigger the same process and expropriation will be carried out for the medium voltage (MV/HV

Lines) and where the sub-project related to the construction and rehabilitation of sub-stations, and refurbishment and rehabilitation of selected medium-voltage and low-voltage network therefore, the World Bank Environmental and Social Standard on Land Acquisition, Restrictions on Land Use and Involuntary Resettlement (ESS5) shall be applied.

The World Bank ESS5, requires borrowers to avoid involuntary resettlement or, when unavoidable, minimize involuntary resettlement by exploring project design alternatives; avoid forced eviction and mitigate unavoidable adverse social and economic impacts from land acquisition or restrictions on land use by: (a) providing timely compensation for loss of assets at replacement cost and (b) assisting displaced persons in their efforts to improve, or at least restore, their livelihoods and living standards, in real terms, to pre-displacement levels or to levels prevailing prior to the beginning of project implementation, whichever is higher. It also requires the borrower to improve living conditions of poor or vulnerable persons who are physically displaced, through provision of adequate housing, access to services and facilities, and security of tenure and to conceive and execute resettlement activities as sustainable development programs, providing sufficient investment resources to enable displaced persons to benefit directly from the project, as the nature of the project may warrant. Further, ESS5 and ESS10 requires the borrower to ensure that resettlement activities are planned and implemented with appropriate disclosure of information, meaningful consultation, and the informed participation of those affected.

Therefore, the purpose of this Resettlement Policy Framework is to establish the resettlement and compensation principles, organizational arrangements, and design criteria to be applied to meet the needs of the people who may be affected by construction of the MV/HV Line and associated facilities to be covered under the proposed project. The RPF shall presents the objectives, principles, organizational arrangements and funding mechanisms for any displacement and resettlements that may be necessary during implementation of project whose components must comply with the applicable Rwanda laws and regulations, World Bank ESS5 and other applicable World Bank Standards such as ESS2, ESS4 and ESS10. This RPF will thus serve as the basis and the framework within which Land acquisition/Resettlement instruments will be prepared and implemented during project implementation once all details are available. Resettlement plans for specific sub-projects causing temporally or permanent land acquisition and assets planted on it will be prepared based on this RPF and submitted to the World Bank, depending on the magnitude of the sub-project, the baseline valuation report shall be developed instead of the preparation of the Resettlement Action Plan (RAP).

Therefore, the RPF will be used to screen all sub-projects proposed under the entire project their potential land acquisition impacts and streamline all the necessary procedures to follow in mitigating and minimizing

involuntary resettlement associated with the proposed fund that may be identified during implementation. The screening for sub-project will be conducted by the safeguards including program team, (the sample of screening form is on annex 7 of this RPF), during implementation of project activities, when required, appropriate detailed Resettlement Action Plans will be developed to address specific adverse social impacts and propose mitigation measures to the affected community, the baseline valuation report shall also be part of the site specific documents to be developed based on results from the sub-project screening.

### **2.3. Principles of Resettlement Policy Framework**

The overall objective of this RPF will be to avoid or minimize involuntary resettlement by exploring all viable alternative project designs. Displaced persons will be meaningfully consulted and will have opportunities to participate in planning and implementing resettlement programs. They will also be assisted in their efforts to improve their livelihoods and standards of living or at least to restore them, in real terms, to pre-displacement levels or to levels prevailing prior to the beginning of project implementation, whichever is higher. From the above reasons, this resettlement Policy framework is guided by the following principles:

- Involuntary resettlement and land acquisition will be avoided where feasible, or minimized, where it cannot be eliminated.
- Where involuntary resettlement and land acquisition are unavoidable, resettlement and compensation will be provided to the PAPs which provide sustainable development programs, providing resources to give PAPs equal opportunity to share project benefits.
- PAPs will be meaningfully consulted and will participate in planning and implementing both the resettlement and Project activities.
- PAPs will be assisted to ideally improve their livelihoods and standards of living or at least to restore them, in real terms, before displacement levels or levels prevailing prior to the beginning of the project implementation, whichever is higher. Impacts on the PAPs are measured by the quantity of land and assets to be acquired/lost and residual land/assets and their economic viability. Once the severity of impact has been considered an entitlement option is selected.
- Measures to address resettlement shall ensure that project affected peoples are informed about their options and rights pertaining to resettlement, are included in the consultation process and given the opportunity to participate in the selection of technically and economically feasible alternatives. They will also be provided prompt and effective compensation at full replacement cost for losses of assets and access attributable to the subproject(s).
- Required measures for the RPF shall ensure displaced persons are informed about their options and rights pertaining to resettlement, consulted on, offered choices among, and provided with

technically and economically feasible resettlement alternatives; and provided prompt and effective compensation at full replacement cost for losses of assets. If the impacts include physical relocation, measure shall be provided to assist (such as moving allowances, land transaction costs) during relocation; and affected persons will be provided with residential housing, or housing sites, or, as required, agricultural sites for which a combination of productive potential, location advantages, and other factors is at least equivalent to the advantages of the old site.

- Facilitation to get land titles for those who do not have them by the local leaders, especially land managers.
- The project will offer support the PAPs after destroying their assets based on a reasonable estimate of the time likely to be needed to reuse their land in addition to compensation measures such as free charge of electricity connection, how to work with microfinance, hiring them as casual workers depending on their abilities, capabilities, and skills, etc.

### **III. POLICIES, LEGAL AND REGULATORY FRAMEWORK**

This chapter reviews the existing national policies, strategies, legal and regulatory framework in terms of land acquisition, restriction to land use and involuntary resettlement so as to determine how these regulations comply with the requirements of World Bank Environmental and Social Framework. It provides a gap analysis between both policies and proposes measures to bridge the identified gaps.

#### **3.1. Relevant national policies and strategies**

In addition to the above laws, relevant policies and strategies have been enacted to ensure and effective resettlement, land acquisition, and compensation in the context of electrification project in 27 Administrative Districts of Rwanda. These include the following:

##### **3.1.1. Vision 2050**

The Rwanda vision 2050 was published in December 2020. Rwanda's Vision 2050 articulates the long-term strategic direction for "the Rwanda we want" and the enabling pathways to achieve this ambition. Vision 2050 serves as the critical planning and policy blueprint to guide the efforts of all players in Rwanda's development, including government, private sector, citizens, diaspora, civil society and faith-based organizations, development partners, academia and research institutions, and political parties.

The vision 2050 has overarching objectives of promoting Economic Growth and Prosperity and High Quality of Life for Rwandans, where expected standards for Rwandans are to live in environmentally friendly and climate resilient, with universal access to health services, quality education, water, and sanitation, dignified smart housing surroundings, among others. Thus, the proposed ASCENT shall contribute towards the Vision 2050 spirit and aspirations.

##### **3.1.2. National Social Protection Policy, 2020**

The overall objective of the policy is to strengthen the national social protection system with a view to ensuring that all Rwandan citizens have a dignified standard of living. The project activities will affect all categories of citizens, including vulnerable, thus the RPF, will ensure that the most vulnerable groups are effectively engaged during preparation of the Resettlement Action Plan in line with the social protection policy guidelines.

##### **3.1.3. National Land Policy, 2019**

The policy is premised in the National Strategy for transformation one (NST1). Its main objective is to Strengthen land administration and management to ensure optimal allocation and use of land. This will include rationalization and harmonization of land use master plans at both national and districts level. This will be supported by a fully functioning Land Administration Information System (LAIS).



The policy provides for land tenure systems, guiding principles of land management, an effective & efficient land registry, and land transactions. According to the National Land Policy, all Rwandese enjoy the same rights of access to land, implying no discrimination against women. All land should be registered for security.

The National Land Policy specifies that marshlands are a special category of public land and their use, for those earmarked for it, must be done in the form of concession. All marshlands must be governed by a special legislation which must be vigorously enforced. Marshlands meant for agriculture should not be cultivated except after adequate planning and environmental impact assessment.

### **3.1.4. Land Tenure System and Provisions in Rwanda**

The Land Use Master Plan (Land law N° 27/2021 of 10/06/2021, article 57) states that all types of land tenure must follow the designated land use. The organic land law provides two types of formal land tenure: full ownership/ freehold and long-term leasehold. As a result of the recent privatization of State-owned lands, many land users don't hold either type of land tenure. As a result of this, the Organic Land Law recognizes existing rights, whether written or unwritten, under both civil law and customary practices through new national land tenure arrangements. Article 49 of the law formalizes land ownership, especially those acquired through customary means should be registered. In such cases, populations with customary/indigenous land rights are being encouraged to register their land through decentralized District Land Bureau, Sector Land Committees and Cell Land Committees.

Rwandan Constitution of 2003 revised in 2015 and 2023, the National Land Policy of 2019 and the Organic Land Law of 2005 all incorporated land ownership and gave it a formal legal basis. The Land Tenure Regularization (LTR) programme was established to register and administer land ownership in Rwanda. The titling began officially in 2009. The land registration process successfully completed the recording of 10.4 million parcels of land into the national land registry by 2012. The land titles provide for full equal rights to both wife and husband, through the systematic land registration process. Article 20 of the law governing land in Rwanda which was enacted in June 2013 states that registering land is mandatory for anyone (who owns it).

In any case of Government program or projects, the government is obliged to full expropriation and compensation of the affected land in accordance with the national expropriation law (Article 26 of the Expropriation Law N° 32/2015 of 11/06/2015) and the World Bank requirements under ESS5. In Rwanda there is no customary ownership of land, every landowner has a land title provided by National Land authority (NLA). For this particular project some project affected persons have land titles and others have legal right to enjoy the land where the project shall be implemented, but as of ESS5 all of them will be fully compensated for their affected land and thereon properties.

### **3.1.5. National Gender Policy, 2010 Revised in 2021**

The Vision of the National Gender Policy is to set the Rwandan society free from all forms of gender-based discrimination and see both men and women participate fully and enjoy equitably from the development processes. The main mission of this policy is to contribute to the elimination of gender inequalities in all sectors of national life, in order to achieve the nation's goal for sustainable development. Resettlement activities for the fund will involve and affect both men and women in terms of loss of property and both genders are expected to be treated equally and equitably thus this policy will be pertinent and this will help for accelerating the effectiveness of gender mainstreaming and accountability for National Transformation. The Gender Action Plan (GAP) for ASCENT shall also be developed based on the contents of the revised gender Policy.

### **3.1.6. National Health Policy, 2016**

One of the objectives of Rwanda Health Sector Policy is to improve the quality of life and demand for services in the control of disease. The policy identifies the most common illnesses as a result of unhealthy living or working environment. The project will comply with this policy by ensuring health safety and the good working conditions and implement awareness programme on HIV/AIDS, STD, COVID-19, Malaria, but also connecting some health facilities such as health post to deliver the quality health services to the people.

## **3.2.Important National Resettlement Regulations**

Rwanda has numerous legal and policies framework relating to land and resettlement activities.

### **3.2.1. Constitution of Rwanda of 2003 revised in 2015 as amended in 2023**

The Constitution of Rwanda, Article 16 stipulates that All Rwandans are born and remain equal in rights and freedoms. Any form of or propaganda for discrimination, including on the basis of ethnicity, family or descent, clan, skin colour, sex, region, social status, religion or belief, opinion, wealth, cultural differences, language, economic status, physical or mental disability or any other form of discrimination are prohibited and punishable by law.

Rwandan Constitution recognizes that every person has a right to private property. Everyone has the right to private property, whether individually or collectively owned. Private property, whether owned individually or collectively, is inviolable and the right to property shall not be encroached upon except in public interest and in accordance with the provisions of the law, (Article 34).

Under Article 35, it is stipulated that private ownership of land and other rights related to land are granted by the State. The law specifies the modalities of acquisition, transfer and use of land. Exceptionally, the

right to property may be overruled in the case of public interest. In these cases, circumstances and procedures are determined by the law and subject to fair and prior compensation. Laws on property are also found in various legal texts of Rwanda. Eligibility for compensation is also enshrined under the Rwandan constitution and the Expropriation Law in public interest.

### **3.2.2. Expropriation Law in the Public Interest**

The law No. 32/2015 of 11/06/2015 related to expropriation in the public interests determines the procedures relating to expropriation of land in the interest of the public. Article 3 of the law stipulates that it is only the government that has authority to carry out expropriation. However, the project, at any level, which intends to carry out acts of expropriation in the public interest, shall provide funds for inventory of assets of the person to be expropriated and for just compensation on its budget.

According to the organic law, no person shall hinder the implementation of the program of expropriation on pretext of self-centred justifications and no landowner shall oppose any underground or surface activity carried out on his or her land with an aim of public interest. In case it causes any loss to him or her, he or she shall receive fair and just compensation for it. The law identifies properties to be valued for just and fair compensation including land and activities that were carried out on the land such as different crops, forests, any buildings, or any other activity aimed at efficient use of land or its productivity. However, as per Article 27 of the same law, the owner of land designated for expropriation in the public interest shall provide proof of rights to land and property incorporated thereon like land titles or any other documentary evidence showing he/she has property ownership. This law shall be applied and complied with during the project activities implementation, to this end, WB-ESS5 provisions shall also be applied.

### **3.2.3. Law establishing and Organizing the Real Property Valuation Profession in Rwanda**

Law No.17/2010 of 12/05/2010 Establishing and Organizing the Real Property Valuation Profession provides conditions for registration of land valuers in Rwanda, establishes the Institute for real property Valuers and sets conditions to exercise the profession. The law also allows the Government to conduct valuation when mandated by their government institutions. Articles 27, 29, 30 and 31 of the law deals with valuation methods. These articles stipulate that price for the real property shall be close or equal to the market value. The valuation could also compare land values country wide. Where sufficient comparable prices are not available to determine the value of improved land, the replacement cost approach shall be used to determine the value of improvements to land by taking real property as a reference. The law also allows the use of international methods not covered in the law after approval from the Institute of Valuers council. The certified independent valuer under ASCENT Project shall be hired and is only one who will be in charge of properties valuation and assets inventory.

### **3.3. Grievance Redress Mechanism**

Grievance redress mechanism in Rwanda was catered in the Ministerial Order No. 002/2008 of 2008 Determining Modalities of Land Registration. Annex 3 of the Ministerial order provides for dispute resolutions procedures and some provisions related to the Cell Adjudication Committee (CAC). Articles 17, 20, 22, and 23 provide the process for resolving disputes. Article 17 grants parties with a dispute, the right to take that dispute to the mediation committee. That article also provides that where a dispute arose during demarcation and adjudication but, with the assistance of the CAC, the parties were able to resolve the dispute, the parties are bound by that agreement, and may not later attempt to raise the issue. Article 20 provides procedures for the CAC when hearing disputes, including that the hearing is open to the public and announced eight days in advance, among other requirements. Articles 22 and 23 govern the lodging and processing of objections and corrections during a 60-day period.

The CAC is comprised of all five members of the cell land committee and five members of the particular Umudugudu (Village) where demarcation and adjudication is taking place. The cell Executive Secretary acts as the CAC secretary, although he or she has no voting rights. This order can be used to resolve resettlement conflict in the project area.

The Expropriation Law in public interests Article 26 provides complaints procedures for individuals dissatisfied with the value of their compensation. The Law stipulates that the dissatisfied person has a period of 30 days after the project approval decision has been taken to appeal (Article 19).

The first step of redress is to inform those to be expropriated of their rights during the expropriation process. Articles 17-20 of the Expropriation Law obliges the representative government authority (that which is implementing the project requiring expropriation) to inform affected people of their rights at each stage of the process.

According to Article 26, all the grievances concerning non-compliance with the provisions of the contract, the value or timing of compensation or seizure of land assets without compensation shall be addressed to the Land Commission at the level at which the issue is based. The aggrieved party is provided with a legal expert in the matters of Land Law or any other survey expert with value verification skills, who will proceed to recalculate the value of compensation due. In the event that the new value is rejected by the Land Commission hearing the complaint, the aggrieved party may appeal to the immediate higher Land Commission within 15 working days which must then deliver its verdict within 30 days. If the aggrieved party is still dissatisfied with the decision, their final resort shall be to file the case to the competent Court of Law. According to Article 26, filing a case in courts of law does not stop the expropriation process from being affected.

To ensure that the affected parties are fully aware and to reduce possible backlog of complaints, it should be noted in advance that most members of the rural communities take time to decide to complain when aggrieved and as a result, may miss the 30-day period required to file their complaints. As per international standards, grievances logged outside this timeframe may still be valid and legitimate. Customarily, the government expropriation authorities ensure that all affected people are fully informed and will issue warnings about the consequences of failure to lodge their complaints in time. Within this customary procedure, affected people are informed of the procedures before their assets or properties are taken.

### **3.4. RURA Guidelines for Right of Way in Rwanda**

The construction of medium voltage lines requires a Right of Way (RoW) for both construction and operational phases. During the construction, the right of way is cleared for visibility and construction activities while during operational Phase the RoW is used under restriction conditions. Due to the impacts associated with the acquisition of rights-of-way, the projects will follow procedures in conformance with the Rwanda Utilities Regulatory Agency (RURA) guidelines No 01/GL/EL-EWS/RURA/2015 on the right-of way for Power Lines in Rwanda. In accordance with the guidelines No 01/GL/EL-EWS/RURA/2015 on the right-of way for Power Lines in Rwanda the information given below will govern the use of the right of Way.

- **General requirements on the use of the Right of Way/ Restrictions:**
  - It is forbidden for any person to construct any building or structure or carry out cultivation, farming or any other activity within the Right-of-Way prior to the consent of the Licensee.
  - To drill, mine or excavate or carry on any similar operation within the Right-of-Way.
  - To place any combustible material inside the Right-of-Way.
  - To cause any fire to burn within Sixty (60) meters of the transmission line Right-of-Way.
  - To climb on to, attach to or hang any object on or from any tower/pole or transmission/distribution line;
  - To cause anything to come into contact with the power line.
  - To place, drive, tow, pull or carry any crane, jig, or any object, under, over or near the transmission line except with the prior consent of the Licensee obtained in writing and subject to any condition that the Utility may impose in relation to such consent;
  - To carry out any form of blasting within hundred (100) meters of any power line; and
  - Permanent buildings, including foundations and overhangs, pools, septic tanks, dumps, junkyards, wells, fuelling or fuel storage facilities, garbage, recycling receptacles and other non-compatible uses shall not be permitted on the Right-of-Way.

- **General derogations on the use of the right of way**

As long as minimum clearances from poles and conductors are maintained and with a prior written consent of the licensee, the right-of-way can be used for certain activities such as yards, gardens, pastures and farming, recreational fields, streets, roads, driveways, parking lots, lakes, fences, drainage ditches, grading or any other activity that may not interfere with the line operation. Temporary buildings or structures that are small and easily movable may be acceptable in the right-of-way with prior approval of the Licensee, provided that:

- They are located away from the Licensee's works and access roads and not directly beneath overhead conductors.
- They are not habitable.
- They are not used for the purpose of storing flammable, explosive or toxic materials that could create a fire hazard.
- They do not have electrical or water service.
- They are of non-metallic construction or are grounded to the utilities' satisfaction.
- They do not adversely affect safety of customers, utility personnel and the general public.

- **General Licensee's Obligations**

In constructing and maintaining power lines on the property covered by the easement, the Licensee shall:

- Maintain the Right-of-Way (RoW) as it requires, both within the Wire Zone and the Border Zone;
- Remove vegetation that could pose danger to a power line or pole inside the Right-of-Way and outside the Right-of-Way (RoW) if it could come too close to power lines or poles;
- If excavation is necessary, ensure that the topsoil is stripped, piled and replaced upon completion of the operation;
- Restore to its original condition any strip of land which has been disturbed by the construction or maintenance;
- Clear all debris and remove all stones and rocks resulting from construction activity upon completion of construction;
- Pay for any damage caused by such construction or maintenance or satisfactorily repair any damage caused by such construction or maintenance to its original condition;
- Control vegetation and weeds around its power lines and facilities, and decide the appropriate method to adopt to ensure that the clearance space remains free of vegetation that could pose danger to a power line taking account of the potential risk to the public, conservation and other values;
- Ensure that the pruning or clearing is done responsibly; and determine the regrowth space, hazard space and the pruning and clearing cycle;

- Notify the landowner before carrying out any pruning and clearing. In emergency situations, the Licensee may remove vegetation which poses an immediate risk without notification, but the Licensee should notify the owner or occupiers as soon as practicable after the removal of the vegetation;
- Ensure that pruning or clearing activities near power lines are undertaken safely. This may require the Licensee to de-energize the power lines or install necessary grounding to landowner's fence or equipment to enable the clearance of vegetation safely; and
- Ensure that any of his employees undertaking operations in the vicinity of his power lines, and any contractors he engages to carry out such works are appropriately trained and competent for that task, especially on safe working practices near power lines.

It's worth to note that in addition to the compensation of crops and tree affected during right of way clearing, the implementing agency will pay 5% of disturbance allowances to cover impacts caused by restriction use of land in the RoW as a requirement stated in the nation expropriation law.

- **Right of Way Dimensions**

As per the above said RURA guidelines the horizontal right of way for then 15KV-30KV is 12 meters, for 1120KV is 25m, for 220 KV the right of way is 30m while for 400KV the right of way width becomes 50m. In Rwanda there is no 400Kv transmission line.

### **3.5. Relevant International legal framework and strategies**

This section highlights the international legal framework related to the land acquisition and resettlement activities especially World Bank ESF and applicable ESS under this project.

#### **3.5.1. World Bank Environmental and Social Framework (ESF).**

The construction of MV/HV Lines and their accessories requires the taking of land temporarily and damage some properties or assets as assessed, this has been identified during the consultation meeting with the concerned administrative Districts and local community, given that the project will use the land belong to the people, this will therefore involve land acquisition. Henceforth, the World Bank ESS5 apply, and the project shall meet its requirements including preparation and implementation of resettlement instruments. Other applicable World Bank standards include ESS1, ESS2, ESS3, ESS4, ESS6, ESS8, ESS9, and ESS10. The World Bank ESF especially ESS5 on Land Acquisition, Restrictions on Land Use and Involuntary Resettlement paragraph 11 requires the importance of taking into account resettlement impacts on the poor and vulnerable in project design. The Borrower will consider feasible alternative project designs to avoid or minimize land acquisition or restrictions on land use, especially where this would result in physical or economic displacement, while balancing environmental, social and financial costs and benefits, and paying



particular attention to gender impacts and impacts to the poor and vulnerable. The ESS emphasizes that where avoidance is not possible, the borrower should compensate for lost assets at full replacement cost and assist the displaced persons in improving or at least restoring their livelihoods and standards of living in real terms relative to pre-displacement levels or to levels prevailing prior to the beginning of project implementation, whichever is higher.

### **3.5.2. Objective of ESS5**

The objectives of Environmental and Social Standard 5 on land acquisition, restriction on land use and involuntary resettlement are:

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

Those who may not have formal legal rights to land or other assets at the time of the census/ evaluation but can prove that they have a claim that would be recognized under the customary laws of the country. This category may include people who may not be physically residing at the project site or persons who may not have any assets or direct sources of livelihood derived from the project site, but who have spiritual and/or ancestral ties with the land and are locally recognized by communities as customary inheritors. Depending on the country's customary land use rights, they may also be considered to have a claim if they are sharecroppers, tenant farmers, and seasonal migrants or nomadic families losing user rights. Those who have no recognizable legal right or claim to the land they are occupying in the project area of influence and who do not fall into either of the two categories described above, if they themselves or witnesses can demonstrate that they occupied the project area of influence for at least six months prior to a cut-off date

established by the PIU and acceptable to the Bank. These groups may be entitled to resettlement assistance other than compensation for land to improve their former living standards (compensation for loss of livelihood activities, common property resources, structures and crops, etc.). The Government of Rwanda will cover the compensation of the properties in accordance to the national expropriation law and World Bank requirements.

### **3.5.3 ESS5 Scope of application**

The ESS5 applies to all PAPs regardless of the total number affected, the severity of the impact and whether or not they have legal title to the land. Informal or traditional tenure is to be treated in the same manner as formal, legal titles. Therefore, this RPF covers permanent or temporary physical and economic displacement resulting from the following types of land acquisition or restrictions on land use undertaken or imposed in connection with project implementation:

- i. Land rights or land use rights acquired or restricted through expropriation or other compulsory procedures in accordance with national law;
- ii. Land rights or land use rights acquired or restricted through negotiated settlements with property owners or those with legal rights to the land, if failure to reach settlement would have resulted in expropriation or other compulsory procedures;
- iii. Restrictions on land use and access to natural resources that cause a community or groups within a community to lose access to resource usage where they have traditional or customary tenure, or recognizable usage rights;
- iv. Relocation of people without formal, traditional, or recognizable usage rights, who are occupying or utilizing land prior to a project-specific cut-off date;
- v. Displacement of people as a result of project impacts that render their land unusable or inaccessible;
- vi. Restriction on access to land or use of other resources including communal property and natural resources such as marine and aquatic resources, timber and non-timber forest products, fresh water, medicinal plants, hunting and gathering grounds and grazing and cropping areas;
- vii. Land rights or claims to land, or resources relinquished by individuals or communities without full payment of compensation; and
- viii. Land acquisition or land use restrictions occurring prior to the project, but which were undertaken or initiated in anticipation of, or in preparation for, the project.

### **3.5.4. Key ESS5 requirements**

The Standard requires that resettlement plans are implemented before any project-related impacts on project affected people. Therefore, the land acquisition, displacement or any restriction of access should not occur before necessary measures for resettlement and compensation are in place. For selected sites involving land

acquisition temporarily or expropriation of the affected assets, it is further required that these measures include provision of compensation and/or other assistance to the PAPs, prior to remove their assets where required. In particular, the taking of land and related assets may take place only after compensation has been paid where applicable. All project activities requiring relocation, loss of shelter or other impacts, the policy requires that measures to assist affected persons are implemented in accordance with the project resettlement action plans, the policy aims to have a fair and transparent process. Where there is a conflict between the Laws of Rwanda and the WB ESS5, the latter will take precedence because the Bank is to fund the project activity.

According to ESS5 during the implementation of the Accelerating Sustainable & Clean Energy Access Transformation(ASCENT) the following keys are required:

- a) Eligibility classification:** Affected persons may be classified as persons: **(a)** Who have formal legal rights to land or assets; **(b)** Who do not have formal legal rights to land or assets but have a claim to land or assets that is recognized or recognizable under national law; or **(c)** Who have no recognizable legal right or claim to the land or assets they occupy or use.
- b) Project design:** The Borrower will demonstrate that involuntary land acquisition or restrictions on land use are limited to direct project requirements for clearly specified project purposes within a clearly specified period of time. The Borrower will consider feasible alternative project designs to avoid or minimize land acquisition or restrictions on land use, especially where this would result in physical or economic displacement, while balancing environmental, social, and financial costs and benefits, and paying particular attention to gender impacts and impacts on the poor and vulnerable.
- c) Compensation and benefits for affected persons:** When land acquisition or restrictions on land use (whether permanent or temporary) cannot be avoided, the borrower will offer affected persons compensation at replacement cost, and other assistance as may be necessary to help them improve or at least restore their standards of living or livelihoods.
- d) Community engagement:** The borrower will engage with affected communities, including host communities, through the process of stakeholder engagement described in ESS10.
- e) Grievance mechanism:** The Borrower will ensure that a grievance mechanism for the project is in place, in accordance with ESS10 as early as possible in project development to address specific concerns about compensation, relocation or livelihood restoration measures raised by displaced persons (or others) in a timely fashion. Where possible, such grievance mechanisms will utilize existing formal or informal grievance mechanisms suitable for project purposes, supplemented as needed with project-specific arrangements designed to resolve disputes in an impartial manner.

- f) Planning and implementation:** Where land acquisition or restrictions on land use are unavoidable, the Borrower will, as part of the environmental and social assessment, conduct a census to identify the persons who will be affected by the project, to establish an inventory of land and assets to be affected, to determine who will be eligible for compensation and assistance, and to discourage ineligible persons, such as opportunistic settlers, from claiming benefits.
- g) Physical displacement:** In the case of physical displacement, the Borrower will develop a plan that covers, at a minimum, the applicable requirements of this ESS regardless of the number of people affected.
- h) Economic displacement:** In the case of projects affecting livelihoods or income generation, the Borrower's plan will include measures to allow affected persons to improve, or at least restore, their incomes or livelihoods. The plan will establish the entitlements of affected persons and/or communities, paying particular attention to gender aspects and the needs of vulnerable segments of communities, and will ensure that these are provided in a transparent, consistent, and equitable manner.

### **3.6.Comparative Analysis between Rwanda Legislations, World Bank ESS5**

Although Rwanda has developed and enacted land and expropriation laws that are responsive to land acquisition and property compensation especially in case of expropriation, there are some gaps when compared to ESS5 of the WB. The following table summarizes findings of gap analysis between national regulations and ESS5 as well as proposed measures to bridge identified breaches.

In this project, where the Rwanda law differs with the Bank ESF and ESS5 in particular the latter will apply or take precedence. The promulgation of the 2015 Expropriation Law introduced a legal framework within which expropriation activities must be conducted, and above all, attempts to bring Rwandan legislation more in line with international best practice requirements.

Despite this, there are still some gaps between the national Rwandan legislation and the World Bank ESS5. These relate to the general principles for resettlement, eligibility criteria, the notification period for expropriation and resettlement, and the procedures required throughout the resettlement process, project design, consultation, participation and broad community support, resettlement planning, host community, vulnerable groups, implementation, monitoring and evaluation. The key differences are as follows.

- a) Avoid Resettlement:** While ESS5 stipulates that projects should first avoid involuntary resettlement as much as possible, there are no similar provisions in Rwandan national legislation, which states that 'expropriation of land will be done when deemed necessary for public purposes.' Secondly, the notification period under national legislation requires that property must be handed over 120 days after

financial compensation has been paid, while ESS5 requires that displacement must not occur until all necessary measures for resettlement are in place including assisting the PAPs with relocation.

- b) **Meaningful and participative consultation:** ESS5 requires that persons to be expropriated should be meaningfully consulted and that the PAPs should have the opportunity to participate in planning and design of resettlement programs. Paragraph 17 stipulates that Decision-making processes related to resettlement and livelihood restoration will include options and alternatives from which affected persons may choose. Furthermore, paragraph 18 requires that the consultation process ensures that women's perspectives are obtained, and their interests factored into all aspects of resettlement planning and implementation. The Rwandan Expropriation Law only stipulates that affected peoples be fully informed of expropriation issues and that the public interest will always override any individual interest. Indeed, the law prohibits anyone to hinder the expropriation process based solely on "self-centred" reasons.
- c) **Eligibility determination:** According to ESS5 eligibility determination of the PAPs entitles those who have formal rights, those with claims to land, and those with no recognizable legal right to compensation; paragraph 20 states that as part of the environmental and social assessment, the borrower will conduct a census to identify the persons who will be affected by the project, to establish an inventory of land and assets to be affected to determine who will be eligible for compensation and assistance and to discourage ineligible persons, such as opportunistic settlers, from claiming benefits but under the Rwanda Expropriation law compensation is limited only those with land titles and or recognizable customary or written evidence of land ownership, persons recognized as legal occupants and owners of the expropriated land and property thereon. The WB ESF is much broader and includes both legal and illegal occupants of the land therefore, where discrepancies will be found, it will take precedence.
- d) **Notification period required:** The Rwandan expropriation law of 2015 requires that property must be handed over 120 days after financial compensation has been paid, while ESS5 requires that displacement must not occur before all necessary measures for resettlement (not only compensation) are in place.
- e) **Fair and just compensation:** The Expropriation Law provides for fair and just compensation to expropriated peoples eligible for compensation but the definition of 'fair and just' is not clearly established, and therefore there is a risk that Project Affected People's livelihoods may not be restored or improved after compensation and resettlement. Art. 28: Without prejudice to other laws, the value of land and property incorporated thereon to be expropriated in the public interest shall be calculated on the basis of their size, nature and location and the prevailing market rates. The compensation for disruption caused by expropriation to be paid to the expropriated person shall be equivalent to five percent (5%) of the total value of his/her property expropriated. In this context the term " disruption " is not clearly defined but most of the time it is assumed to cover for transaction costs include

administrative charges, registration or title fees and moving expenses, while ESS5 in paragraph 12 stipulates that when land acquisition or restrictions on land use (whether permanent or temporary) cannot be avoided, the borrower will offer affected persons compensation at replacement cost, and other assistance as may be necessary to help them improve or at least restore their standards of living or livelihoods. The ESS5 provides a wider window to explore all sorts of assistance that may need to be applied depending on site specific context, PAPs and community special circumstances.

- f) **Monitoring:** Whilst monitoring measures are provided for in Rwandan legislation, the focus is to ensure that contracted compensation has been provided in full and before any relocation. It does not require assessment as to whether the compensation provided was appropriate to the context and circumstances and does not establish a follow up mechanism to assess whether the PAPs livelihoods have been restored or improved as stipulated by while the World Bank's ESS5 requires that after relocation monitoring be carried out.
- g) **Project design:** The borrower or client considers feasible alternative project designs, including re-siting and re-routing, to avoid or minimise physical or economic displacement, while balancing environmental, social, and financial costs and benefits. When the resettlement implications of a project would appear to be particularly severe, the borrower considers either downsizing the project to reduce resettlement or finding other alternatives that can reasonably replace the project. For greater transparency and fairness, the borrower or client involves all stakeholder groups as early as possible, at least at the time when the first project plans are drafted; before completion of the project design, including their inputs so that the project design can be properly altered; and continuing throughout implementation, particularly in monitoring and evaluating resettlement and compensation projects and programmes.

**Table 1: Comparative Analysis between World Bank ESS5 and National Legislations**

Principles	World Bank ESS5	Rwanda Regulations	Identified Gaps	Measures to bridge the gaps
<b>Eligibility criteria</b>	<p>ESS5 recognizes affected persons who:</p> <p>Have formal legal rights to land or assets.</p> <p>Do not have formal legal rights to land or assets, but have a claim to land or assets that is recognized or recognizable under national law; or</p> <p>Have no recognizable legal right or claim to the land or assets they occupy or use.</p>	<p>National regulations recognize Affected people who have land titles and documentary evidence that he/she is the owner of property incorporated on land.</p> <p>A person dispossessed of land or unlawfully occupying land or having developed activities on land on which such activities are prohibited after the enactment of relevant laws shall receive no compensation.</p>	<p>The Bank diverges with the Rwanda Law whereas the law in Rwanda refuses to recognize illegal landowners and does not provide any Compensation</p>	<p>The compensation and resettlement measures should be provided to all affected person including those with no land title and tenants. Those who don't have legal right on the land will be compensated for assets and properties established on the land, this will be guided by number 32/2015 of 11/06/2015 relating to expropriation in the public interest for the assets under RoW and the guidelines No 01/GL/EL-EWS/RURA/2015 of RURA shall be applied.</p>
<b>Avoid Resettlement</b>	<p>While ESS5 stipulates that projects should first avoid involuntary resettlement as much as possible, it requires that displacement must not</p>	<p>There are no similar provisions in Rwandan national legislation, which states that 'expropriation of land will be</p>	<p>Divergence between WB ESS5 and National Expropriation law</p>	<p>WB ESS5 will prevail given that it requires that the PAPs must be assisted even after compensation</p>



Principles	World Bank ESS5	Rwanda Regulations	Identified Gaps	Measures to bridge the gaps
	occur until all necessary measures for resettlement are in place including assisting the PAPs with relocation.	done when deemed necessary for public purposes.'		
<b>Fair and just compensation</b>	ESS5 in paragraph 12 stipulates that when land acquisition or restrictions on land use (whether permanent or temporary) cannot be avoided, the borrower will offer affected persons compensation at replacement cost, and other assistance as may be necessary to help them improve or at least restore their standards of living or livelihoods.	<p>The National Expropriation Law provides for fair and just compensation to expropriated peoples eligible for compensation but the definition of 'fair and just' is not clearly established.</p> <p>Art. 28 stipulates that without prejudice to other laws, the value of land and property incorporated thereon to be expropriated in the public interest shall be calculated on the basis of their size, nature and location and the prevailing market rates.</p>	Assumption of the livelihood of PAPs may not be restored improved after compensation and resettlement	WB ESS5 will be used because it provides a wider window to explore all sorts of assistance that may need to be applied depending on site specific context, PAPs and community special circumstances.
<b>Assessment of alternatives</b>	The ESS5 requires borrower to consider feasible alternative project designs to avoid or minimize land acquisition or	The national law on environment and ESIA procedures requires the	While ESS5 requires the borrower to explore alternatives	The proposed project is designed in a way that avoids physical relocation of the

Principles	World Bank ESS5	Rwanda Regulations	Identified Gaps	Measures to bridge the gaps
	restrictions on land use, especially where this would result in physical or economic displacement, while balancing environmental, social, and financial costs and benefits, and paying particular attention to gender impacts and impacts on the poor and vulnerable.	developer to explorer project alternatives but is silent about avoiding, minimizing involuntary resettlement.	that avoid or minimize resettlement impacts, the national regulations only require the provision of compensation	PAPs, therefore the WB ESS5 will be applied for alternative assessment.
<b>Compensation and Benefits for Affected Persons</b>	When land acquisition or restrictions on land use (whether permanent or temporary) cannot be avoided, the ESS5 requires Borrower to offer affected persons compensation at replacement cost, and other assistance as may be necessary to help them improve or at least restore their standards of living or livelihoods.	<p>The national Regulations (expropriation law in public interest, article 27) defines properties subject to valuation for the payment of fair compensation due to expropriation in the public interest are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Land.</li> <li>- Activities carried out on land for its efficient management or rational use.</li> <li>- Compensations for disruption caused by expropriation.</li> </ul>	Loss of income is not covered under national regulations and regulations are silent on livelihood measures or assistance to vulnerable people	<p>-During the preparation of resettlement plan, livelihood restoration measures will be considered for where physical relocation is expected.</p> <p>-Vulnerable people will be identified, and special attention provided to them to ensure that all affected people improve or restore livelihood</p>

Principles	World Bank ESS5	Rwanda Regulations	Identified Gaps	Measures to bridge the gaps
<b>Timeframe for Compensation and provision of resettlement measures</b>	ESS5 requires that the Borrower takes possession of acquired land and related assets only after compensation in accordance with this ESS has been made available and, where applicable, displaced people have been resettled and moving allowances have been provided to the displaced persons in addition to compensation. In addition, livelihood restoration and improvement programs will commence in a timely fashion in order to ensure that affected persons are sufficiently prepared to take advantage of alternative livelihood opportunities as the need to do so arises.	Article 36 of the Expropriation law (2015) state that approved fair compensation shall be paid within a period not exceeding one hundred and twenty (120) days from the day of its approval.  Subsequent to receiving fair compensation, the expropriated person shall have a period not exceeding one hundred and twenty (120) days to relocate.	The ESS5 requires to provide compensation measures before land take while the national Regulations allows the project developer to take the land even before the compensation as long as the compensation is made in 120 days.	Compensation and provision of resettlement measures will be given prior bush clearing and any MV/HV lines construction works.
<b>Community engagement</b>	ESS5 requires the Borrower to engage with affected communities, including host communities, through the process of stakeholder engagement described in ESS10. Decision-making processes related to resettlement and livelihood restoration will include options and	Article 24 of expropriation law requires the District or City of Kigali administration or the relevant Ministry to inform the persons to be expropriated in the public interest of the expected start date of measurement of land and	While the ESS5 requires consultation with affected communities and other stakeholders,	This RPF provides process and guidance for Public consultation and community engagement.

Principles	World Bank ESS5	Rwanda Regulations	Identified Gaps	Measures to bridge the gaps
	alternatives from which affected persons may choose.	inventory of property incorporated thereon.		
	Disclosure of relevant information and meaningful participation of affected communities and persons will take place during the consideration of alternative project designs and thereafter throughout the planning, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of the compensation process, livelihood restoration activities, and relocation process.	Such a communication shall be made through an announcement posted on the office of the Cell of the place designated for the implementation of the project. The communication shall also be made through at least one radio station with a wide audience in Rwanda and at least one of Rwanda-based newspapers with a wide readership.	The national regulations require only communication to the affected people.	Public consultation and information disclosure will be part of preparation and implementation of resettlement instruments, and where necessary the ESS5 and OS2 will take precedence
<b>Grievance Mechanism</b>	ESS5 requires borrowers to ensure that a grievance mechanism for the project is in place, in accordance with ESS10 as early as possible in project development to address specific concerns about compensation, relocation or livelihood restoration measures raised by displaced	Article 33 of expropriation law state that Within seven (7) days after the approval of the valuation report by the expropriator, any person to be expropriated who is not satisfied with the assessed	While ESS5 requires the establishment of Grievance Redress mechanism for the proposed project, National regulations provides only steps	Grievance redress mechanism will be established at project level, district with a representative of concerned Sectors and at Cells level, different mechanisms shall be

Principles	World Bank ESS5	Rwanda Regulations	Identified Gaps	Measures to bridge the gaps
	<p>persons (or others) in a timely fashion. Where possible, such grievance mechanisms will utilize existing formal or informal grievance mechanisms suitable for project purposes, supplemented as needed with project-specific arrangements designed to resolve disputes in an impartial manner.</p>	<p>value of his/her land and property incorporated thereon shall indicate in writing grounds for his/her dissatisfaction with the valuation report.</p> <p>Any person contesting the assessed value shall, at his/her own expense, engage the services of a valuer or a valuation firm recognized by the Institute of Real Property Valuers in Rwanda to carry out a counter-assessment of the value. When the person to be expropriated is not satisfied with that decision, he/she can refer the matter to the competent court within fifteen (15) days from the day he/she appends his/her signature to the minutes indicating points of disagreement.</p>	<p>and timeframe for contesting valuation report</p>	<p>used to solve the affected parties' complaints</p>

Principles	World Bank ESS5	Rwanda Regulations	Identified Gaps	Measures to bridge the gaps
<b>Planning, Implementation and Monitoring</b>	Where land acquisition or restrictions on land use are unavoidable, the Borrower will, as part of the environmental and social assessment, conduct a census to identify the persons who will be affected by the project, to establish an inventory of land and assets to be affected, to determine who will be eligible for compensation and assistance, and to discourage ineligible persons, such as opportunistic settlers, from claiming benefits.	<p>Article 10 of expropriation law requires the project developer to prepare application that shall indicate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The nature of the project.</li> <li>- The indication that the project aims at the public interest.</li> <li>- The master plan of land where the project will be carried out.</li> <li>- The document indicating that the project has no detrimental effect on the environment.</li> <li>- The document confirming the availability of funds for fair compensation.</li> <li>- The explanatory note detailing that such land</li> </ul>	The measures gap in terms of planning and implementation is the absence of socio-economic assessment of project affected and inventory of affected assists in the application report. during decision making about a	The socio-economic assessment of project affected people and inventory of affected assets will be part of Resettlement Action Plans, the monitoring will be applied along the project lifecycle.

Principles	World Bank ESS5	Rwanda Regulations	Identified Gaps	Measures to bridge the gaps
		<p>or place suits the project.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The minutes indicating that the concerned population was sensitized about the project and its importance.</li> </ul>		
<b>Social assessment</b>	The social assessment will also address the claims of communities or groups who, for valid reasons, may not be present in the project area during the time of the census, such as seasonal resource users.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The social assessment is part of Environmental Impact assessment.</li> </ul>	Regulations on land acquisition does not require social assessment.	Social assessment will be part of Resettlement Action Plans as the project may affect the community socially especially since relocation occur.
<b>Cut-off date</b>	The Borrower will establish a cut-off date for eligibility. Information regarding the cut-off date will be well documented and will be disseminated throughout the project area at regular intervals in written and (as appropriate) non-written forms and in relevant local languages. This will include posted warnings that persons settling in the	The District or City of Kigali administration or the relevant Ministry must inform the persons to be expropriated in the public interest of the expected start date of measurement of land and inventory of property incorporated thereon.	The only gap identified is that the national regulations does not include warnings to the persons settling in the project area after the cut-off date may be subject to removal.	The cut-off date will be established and communicated to all affected people before starting the assets inventory.



Principles	World Bank ESS5	Rwanda Regulations	Identified Gaps	Measures to bridge the gaps
	project area after the cutoff date may be subject to removal.	Such a communication shall be made through an announcement posted on the office of the Cell of the place designated for the implementation of the project. The communication shall also be made through at least one radio station with a wide audience in Rwanda and at least one of Rwanda-based newspapers with a wide readership for the relevant parties to be informed thereof.		
<b>Economic Displacement</b>	In the case of projects affecting livelihoods or income generation, the Borrower's plan will include measures to allow affected persons to improve, or at least restore, their incomes or livelihoods. The plan will establish the entitlements of affected persons and/or communities, paying particular attention to gender aspects and the needs of	National Regulation are silent about economic displacement and does not provide any livelihood restoration program	Livelihood restoration and economic displacement are not considered under national regulations	Both physical and economic displacement will be considered and WB ESS5 5 provisions shall be applied.

Principles	World Bank ESS5	Rwanda Regulations	Identified Gaps	Measures to bridge the gaps
	vulnerable segments of communities, and will ensure that these are provided in a transparent, consistent, and equitable manner. The plan will incorporate arrangements to monitor the effectiveness of livelihood measures during implementation, as well as evaluation once implementation is completed.			
<b>Collaboration with Other Responsible Agencies or Subnational Jurisdictions</b>	The Borrower will establish means of collaboration between the agency or entity responsible for project implementation and any other Governmental agencies, subnational jurisdictions or entities that are responsible for any aspects of land acquisition, resettlement planning, or provision of necessary assistance.	Section one of the expropriation law provide the implementation arrangement for land acquisition from approving, implementation, and implementation of decisions. Further, the land law of 2019 defines roles and responsibility of various stakeholders involved in land administration and expropriation.	No major gap identified apart from technical capacity of local entities that needs to be enhanced	This RPF has provided implementation arrangement from national to local level and the Resettlement Action plan will include a section on implementation arrangement to collaborate with different stakeholders and their engagement shall be conducted.
<b>Project design</b>	The borrower or client considers feasible alternative project designs, including re-	The District or City of Kigali administration or the relevant	Effective participation of the	The PAPs will be informed on the project before starting the

Principles	World Bank ESS5	Rwanda Regulations	Identified Gaps	Measures to bridge the gaps
	siting and re-routing, to avoid or minimize physical or economic displacement, while balancing environmental, social, and financial costs and benefits. When the resettlement implications of a project would appear to be particularly severe, the borrower considers either downsizing the project to reduce resettlement or finding other alternatives that can reasonably replace the project.	<p>Ministry must inform the persons to be expropriated in the public interest of the expected start date of measurement of land and inventory of property incorporated thereon.</p> <p>Such a communication shall be made through an announcement posted on the office of the Cell of the place designated for the implementation of the project. The communication shall also be made through at least one radio station with a wide audience in Rwanda and at least one of Rwanda-based newspapers with a wide readership for the relevant parties to be informed thereof.</p>	persons to be affected by the project.	implementation; this means that the design of the project will consider all alternatives to avoid or minimize physical or economic displacement, while balancing environmental, social, and financial costs and benefits
<b>Consultation, participation</b>	Specific consultation, participation and broad community support guidelines are	The consultation and participation are organized to	Community support is not conducted	The consultation and participation will be

Principles	World Bank ESS5	Rwanda Regulations	Identified Gaps	Measures to bridge the gaps
<b>and broad community support</b>	incorporated which are part of the ISS. Open, inclusive, and effective consultation with local communities	involve the community. The cell adjudication committees are involved in resettlement process, these are the community representative, but the community support is related to the disruption fees provided to the PAPs article 28 of expropriation law in public interest stipulates that the compensation for disruption caused by expropriation to be paid to the expropriated person shall be equivalent to five percent (5%) of the total value of his/her property expropriated		organized for every sub-project for involvement of the PAPs and community support will be only focus on vulnerable groups through national Social Protection scheme.
<b>Resettlement planning</b>	The borrower or client carries out a comprehensive socio-economic survey in line with international standards for social and economic baseline studies as agreed to in the environmental and social assessment process including a population census and an inventory of	The article 7: of expropriation law in public interest determines the organs determining projects of expropriation in the public interest; these organs are involved in resettlement	The inventory of the assets is not including the socio-economic aspects	The RAP preparation will consider socio-economic survey in line with international standards and the assets inventory will be part of the RAP for each sub-project under the program.

<b>Principles</b>	<b>World Bank ESS5</b>	<b>Rwanda Regulations</b>	<b>Identified Gaps</b>	<b>Measures to bridge the gaps</b>
	assets (including natural assets upon which the affected people may depend for a portion of their livelihoods). This survey identifies the people who will be displaced by the project; all the relevant characteristics of those people, including conditions of vulnerability; and the magnitude of the expected physical and economic displacement.	planning given that some of them are the representatives of the persons to be affected.		

### **3.7. Institutional Framework for land administration and acquisition in Rwanda**

The main Institutions responsible for development of policy, framing regulation, developing projects, monitoring and approval of issues related to Resettlement and Compensation are:

- Ministry of Environment (MoE).
- Rwanda Environmental Management Authority (REMA).
- National Land Authority (NLA).
- Ministry of Infrastructure (MININFRA).
- Rwanda Development Board (RDB).
- Districts Administration through District Land Bureaus.

The Ministry of Environment is responsible for developing the policies, laws, and regulations as well as coordination of all activities related to efficient land, water resources and environmental management as well as their follow up and evaluation.

**The Ministry of Infrastructure through Rwanda Energy Group** is the main executing Ministry for the Accelerating Sustainable and Clean Energy Access Transformation in Rwanda (ASCENT Rwanda). The project will be coordinated under the RUEAP Projects Implementation Unit (PIU) of EDCL as subsidiary under REG holding. The EDCL will oversee the compensation exercise done by an independent valuer hired for this purpose and will ensure that PAPs are fully compensated. EDCL being the implementing agency for Energy Development, this will work with the Ministry, districts administration and other stakeholders to ensure that project objectives are achieved.

**Rwanda Environmental Management Authority (REMA) and Rwanda Development Board (RDB)** are the agency responsible of national environmental protection, conservation, promotion and overall management, including advisory to the Government on all matters pertinent to the environment and climate change. During the ESIA process REMA and RDB assess whether land acquisition issues are considered in the ESIA report and mitigation measures are proposed.

**National Land Authority (NLA)** is an authority that is responsible for putting in place and operationalizing an efficient system of land administration, use and land management that secures land ownership in the country.

**Districts Land bureaus** will be responsible for management of the sub-projects of expropriation in the public interest by assisting the PAPs in sign off and approve the PAPs assets at District administration level; the administrative Districts also initiate the expropriation and implements/ supervises the expropriation after considering the decision of the Committee in charge of monitoring projects for expropriation in the public interest according to the expropriation law in public interest of 2015.

## **IV. POTENTIAL IMPACTS AND PROJECT AFFECTED PERSONS**

Preparation and implementation of the Rwanda Universal Energy Access Program first components have made it possible to realize a better understanding of project activities and indicate the minor impacts of the various sub-components that may trigger expropriation of the assets of project affected people. It is very unlikely that physical relocation will occur during the implementation of the sub-projects. However, temporary land acquisition will occur with respect to sub-projects that will be developed under component one of grid access, this is due to the fact that the construction of MV/HV lines requires temporary or permanent land acquisition and restrictions of land use under RoW, this will be commensurate with the RURA guidelines N°01/GL/EL-EWS/RURA/2015 on right-of-way for power lines. Given that the sub-projects and feasibility studies will be identified and carried during the implementation of the subprojects, this RPF has been prepared for the purpose of establishing the principles and procedures to be applied in the event that involuntary resettlement, temporary loss of land or other assets, or natural resource limitations leading to nonphysical displacement would arise as a result of the project implementation. Therefore, this section describes potential resettlement impacts and potential project affected person (PAP) associated with the Implementation of Rwanda Universal Energy Access Program.

### **4.1. Definition of Project Affected People (PAP)**

The ESS5 defines three categories of affected persons who are eligible for compensation and resettlement benefits. While people in all three categories are entitled to assistance of some sort under ESS5, the nature of that assistance may vary, as subsequent paragraphs of ESS5 make clear.

**Category (a):** Affected persons who have formal legal rights to land or assets are those who have formal documentation under national law to prove their rights or are specifically recognized in national law as not requiring documentation. In the simplest case, an area is registered in the name of individuals or communities. In other cases, persons may have a lease on the land and therefore have legal rights.

**Category (b):** Affected persons who do not have formal rights to land or assets, but who have a recognized or recognizable claim under national law can fall into a number of groups. They may have been using the land for generations without formal documentation under customary or traditional tenure arrangements that are accepted by the community and recognized by national law. In other cases, they may have never been provided formal title or their documents may be incomplete or lost. They may have a claim for adverse possession if they have occupied land for a certain period of time as defined by national law, without the formal owner contesting the occupation. In such cases, national law often has legal procedures by which such claims can become recognized.



**Category (c):** Affected persons who have no recognizable legal right or claim to the land or assets they occupy, or use are eligible for assistance under ESS5. These can be seasonal resource users, such as herders, grazers, fishers, or hunters (although if the rights of such users are recognized by national law, they may fall into category (a) or (b)). They can also be persons occupying land in violation of applicable laws. Affected persons in these groups are ineligible for compensation for land but are eligible for resettlement and livelihood assistance and compensation for assets.

Based on the above classification and the national land law, this Resettlement Policy Framework considers project affected people as those who stand to lose as a results of the project, all or part of their physical and non-physical assets, including homes, communities, productive lands, resources such as forests, fishing areas or important cultural sites, commercial properties, tenancy, income-earning opportunities as well as social and cultural networks and activities. Such impacts may be permanent or temporary. This might occur through assets expropriation.

The Policy Framework applies to all economically and/or physically displaced persons regardless of the total number affected, the severity of impact and whether or not they have legal title to the land. Particular attention will be paid to the needs of vulnerable groups among those economically and/or physically displaced especially those below the poverty line, the landless, the elderly, women and children, indigenous groups, ethnic minorities, and other historically disadvantaged groups or other economically and/or physically displaced persons who may not be protected through Rwanda's land compensation legislation.

## **4.2. Anticipated Project Impacts**

### **4.2.1. Project Activities Requiring Land Acquisition**

Among the four components included in the project design, two components related to Expanding Grid Electrification through investments in grid network expansion and reinforcement (Increasing Access to Grid Electricity and Enhancing the Efficiency of Electricity Services shall require temporary and or permanent land acquisition and other restrictions related to the use of Right of way as stipulated in the RURA guidelines N°01/GL/EL-EWS/RURA/2015 on right-of-way for power lines.

### **4.2.2. Project Impacts**

Key anticipated impacts include temporary and permanent land acquisition under the Right of Way of the power line to clear the area from tall trees and crops during construction works which are mainly transport of equipment, excavation for substation construction, pole erection, stringing, creation of access road, and these activities will involve property destruction, crop loss and vegetation loss will occur. Land use

restrictions referenced to RURA Guidelines for procedure of the land acquisition and the use of right of way by the landowner will also be applied for the Right of Way.

The following table summarizes the project land requirements and potential Impacts.

**Table 2: Potential Negative Impacts**

Adverse Impact	Mitigation	Responsible party to ensure mitigation
<b>Component A&amp;B. Increasing access to grid electricity and Enhancing the Efficiency of Electricity Services.</b>		
<b>Land acquisition:</b> Location of infrastructure, RoW and access roads which will facilitate the transport of construction materials will lead to some land temporary or permanent acquisition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Site specific RAPs entailing equitable compensation, resettlement and grievance management should be prepared to ensure that PAPs are equitably and fairly compensated</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- MINECOFIN</li> <li>- EDCL.</li> <li>- Local government officials.</li> </ul>
<b>Asset damages:</b> Site preparation and installation for construction works, RoW clearing, improving or upgrading of access road may lead to loss of assets such as houses, crops and trees.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Provide due compensation or resettlement to affected entities, as guiding from this RPF.</li> <li>- Ensure all grievances are conclusively addressed as per this policy.</li> <li>- Compensate for any economic displacement occasioned by program development.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- MINECOFIN</li> <li>- EDCL</li> <li>- Local government officials.</li> </ul>
Establishment and operation of equipment yard and workers' camps workers could lead to crop and vegetation loss, property loss etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Contractors to secure lease consent from landowners.</li> <li>- Compensate the rightful owners of the land that might be required for expansion of irrigation scheme since they may become for the general community benefit.</li> <li>- Where necessary, prepare a RAP in order to identify the rightful</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- EDCL.</li> <li>- Local government officials.</li> <li>- Contractors and sub-contractors</li> </ul>

Adverse Impact	Mitigation	Responsible party to ensure mitigation
	owners and promptly compensate them.	

Based on the above table, the project will affect the properties of the people, this will require the expropriation in public interest after being approved by the concerned Ministry given that the project will be implemented countrywide, the request for expropriation will be initiated by the project developer (EDCL) and will be approved by the Ministry as stipulated in the expropriation law in public interest, the administrative Districts will be involved in the assets inventory of the assets to be affected based on the decision from the central government and RAP will be developed as guidance during expropriation and compensation process.

### 4.3. Socio-economic Baseline Information

This section covers the socio-economic data in the project intervention area, focusing on the size of the population sex desegregated, overall size of the household, employment status, access to basic infrastructures, and health status across the 27 administrative districts to be covered by Accelerating Sustainable and Clean Energy Access Transformation (ASCENT) project.

#### 4.3.1. Demographic Data in the Project Area

The ASCENT will be implemented in the 4 Provinces of the Republic of Rwanda. This project shall expand electricity and clean cooking access which will help to address the disparities between rural and urban households and will have positive impacts on education, lifestyle, health, and connectivity. Similarly, grid expansion alone without necessary investments in grid strengthening could compromise the reliability and quality of network. Therefore, it is imperative that additional infrastructure investments in grid strengthening be undertaken in tandem with rolling out access, subsequently this sub-section presents the size of the population, number of households, household head by sex and the mean size of the household from the 27 administrative districts referred from the August 2022, Fifth population and housing census 2022.

#### 4.3.2. Population in the Project Area

The table below shows the number of population sex disaggregated per administrative district. Eastern Province has the highest number of populations of 3,563,145, among them 1,828,751 are female and

1,734,394 are male, followed by Southern Province with total population of 3,002,699, and no significance proportion of female and male population either 105,789 population.

**Table 3: Population in the four (4) Administrative Districts**

Province/ Districts	Counts			Population Density
	Both sexes	Male	Female	
<b>Southern Province</b>	<b>3,002,699</b>	<b>1,448,455</b>	<b>1,554,244</b>	<b>547</b>
Nyanza	365,718	178,645	187,073	545
Gisagara	397,051	188,965	208,086	584
Nyaruguru	318,126	151,980	166,146	409
Huye	381,900	188,859	193,041	657
Nyamagabe	371,501	176,725	194,776	441
Ruhango	359,121	172,096	187,025	573
Muhanga	358,433	173,615	184,818	555
Kamonyi	450,849	217,570	233,279	683
<b>Western Province</b>	<b>2,896,484</b>	<b>1,384,635</b>	<b>1,511,849</b>	<b>693</b>
Karongi	373,869	178,417	195,452	482
Rutsiro	369,180	176,498	192,682	565
Rubavu	546,683	267,299	279,384	1,614
Nyabihu	319,047	150,072	168,975	642
Ngororero	367,955	171,065	196,890	551
Rusizi	485,529	236,426	249,103	871
Nyamasheke	434,221	204,858	229,363	632
<b>Northern Province</b>	<b>2,038,511</b>	<b>972,960</b>	<b>1,065,551</b>	<b>663</b>
Rulindo	360,144	171,849	188,295	635
Gakenke	365,292	172,600	192,692	520
Musanze	476,522	227,340	249,182	1,157
Burera	387,729	184,782	202,947	682
Gicumbi	448,824	216,389	232,435	544
<b>Eastern Province</b>	<b>3,563,145</b>	<b>1,734,394</b>	<b>1,828,751</b>	<b>433</b>
Rwamagana	484,953	243,794	241,159	740
Nyagatare	653,861	318,740	335,121	373
Gatsibo	551,164	264,461	286,703	435

Province/ Districts	Counts			Population Density
	Both sexes	Male	Female	
Kayonza	457,156	221,448	235,708	338
Kirehe	460,860	221,763	239,097	398
Ngoma	404,048	192,720	211,328	498
Bugesera	551,103	271,468	279,635	450

**Source:** Fifth Rwanda Population and Housing Census, 2022 (NISR)

#### 4.3.3. Children Under the age of 17 per Sex and Residence

Below table indicates the number of children per sex, rural and urban location, the area with many children is rural rather than the urban for both sex, this means that the rural area needs electricity to ensure health and wellbeing of the children as current and future development national actors.

**Table 4: Children under the age of 17 per Sex and Residence**

Province/	Total			Urban			Rural		
	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female
<b>Southern</b>	<b>1,333,748</b>	<b>671,501</b>	<b>662,247</b>	<b>176,467</b>	<b>87,068</b>	<b>89,399</b>	<b>1,157,281</b>	<b>584,433</b>	<b>572,848</b>
Nyanza	165,295	83,666	81,629	14,173	7,034	7,139	151,122	76,632	74,490
Gisagara	187,561	94,851	92,710	5,874	2,936	2,938	181,687	91,915	89,772
Nyaruguru	150,845	75,559	75,286	3,392	1,716	1,676	147,453	73,843	73,610
Huye	163,147	81,978	81,169	26,448	12,954	13,494	136,699	69,024	67,675
Nyamagabe	162,306	81,352	80,954	16,951	8,491	8,460	145,355	72,861	72,494
Ruhango	159,596	81,102	78,494	16,397	8,196	8,201	143,199	72,906	70,293
Muhanga	148,152	74,180	73,972	32,711	15,841	16,870	115,441	58,339	57,102
Kamonyi	196,846	98,813	98,033	60,521	29,900	30,621	136,325	68,913	67,412
<b>Western</b>	<b>1,355,679</b>	<b>678,057</b>	<b>677,622</b>	<b>293,594</b>	<b>146,504</b>	<b>147,090</b>	<b>1,062,085</b>	<b>531,553</b>	<b>530,532</b>
Karongi	169,836	85,673	84,163	14,189	7,181	7,008	155,647	78,492	77,155
Rutsiro	170,346	85,298	85,048	9,284	4,606	4,678	161,062	80,692	80,370
Rubavu	259,556	128,906	130,650	137,012	67,878	69,134	122,544	61,028	61,516
Nyabihu	148,253	73,992	74,261	35,767	17,910	17,857	112,486	56,082	56,404
Ngororero	172,567	85,715	86,852	7,688	3,838	3,850	164,879	81,877	83,002
Rusizi	229,264	115,440	113,824	74,425	37,452	36,973	154,839	77,988	76,851

Province/	Total			Urban			Rural		
	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female
Nyamasheke	205,857	103,033	102,824	15,229	7,639	7,590	190,628	95,394	95,234
<b>Northern</b>	<b>888,804</b>	<b>442,443</b>	<b>446,361</b>	<b>148,180</b>	<b>73,125</b>	<b>75,055</b>	<b>740,624</b>	<b>369,318</b>	<b>371,306</b>
Rulindo	156,254	78,031	78,223	17,068	8,459	8,609	139,186	69,572	69,614
Gakenke	155,697	77,817	77,880	5,654	2,732	2,922	150,043	75,085	74,958
Musanze	206,471	102,243	104,228	97,427	48,101	49,326	109,044	54,142	54,902
Burera	175,346	87,118	88,228	16,492	8,118	8,374	158,854	79,000	79,854
Gicumbi	195,036	97,234	97,802	11,539	5,715	5,824	183,497	91,519	91,978
<b>Eastern</b>	<b>1,656,727</b>	<b>831,258</b>	<b>825,469</b>	<b>320,674</b>	<b>158,828</b>	<b>161,846</b>	<b>1,336,053</b>	<b>672,430</b>	<b>663,623</b>
Rwamagana	210,913	105,321	105,592	70,126	34,505	35,621	140,787	70,816	69,971
Nyagatare	311,749	156,864	154,885	73,305	36,452	36,853	238,444	120,412	118,032
Gatsibo	258,449	129,078	129,371	24,669	12,294	12,375	233,780	116,784	116,996
Kayonza	214,599	108,080	106,519	28,562	14,321	14,241	186,037	93,759	92,278
Kirehe	215,326	107,990	107,336	12,559	6,119	6,440	202,767	101,871	100,896
Ngoma	188,051	94,808	93,243	15,454	7,681	7,773	172,597	87,127	85,470
Bugesera	257,640	129,117	128,523	95,999	47,456	48,543	161,641	81,661	79,980

**Source:** Fifth Rwanda Population and Housing Census, 2022 (NISR)

#### 4.3.4. Distribution of Youth (16-30 years) by District, Sex, and Residence

The below table shows the number of youths in rural and urban settings and the big number of them are those living in rural area where the electricity is still questionable this is reason behind the rural electrification to boost, diversify and stimulate the economic activities that can be benefic to the youth to move from the agriculture based-economy to the other economic activities such as industry due to the availability of the energy, this shall also help in reducing the migration of youth to the cities due to the different activities that can be economically beneficial to them.

**Table 5: Number of Youth (16-30 years) by District, Sex, and Residence**

Province/District	Total			Urban			Rural		
	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female
<b>Southern</b>	<b>746,908</b>	<b>370,748</b>	<b>376,160</b>	<b>128,358</b>	<b>63,563</b>	<b>64,795</b>	<b>618,550</b>	<b>307,185</b>	<b>311,365</b>
Nyanza	87,247	43,603	43,644	9,570	4,506	5,064	77,677	39,097	38,580
Gisagara	96,997	48,165	48,832	3,651	1,847	1,804	93,346	46,318	47,028
Nyaruguru	80,401	40,128	40,273	2,259	1,138	1,121	78,142	38,990	39,152
Huye	94,211	48,390	45,821	23,808	13,290	10,518	70,403	35,100	35,303
Nyamagabe	99,691	49,141	50,550	12,051	5,721	6,330	87,640	43,420	44,220
Ruhango	85,663	42,138	43,525	10,668	4,933	5,735	74,995	37,205	37,790
Muhanga	90,816	44,843	45,973	26,678	13,431	13,247	64,138	31,412	32,726
Kamonyi	111,882	54,340	57,542	39,673	18,697	20,976	72,209	35,643	36,566
<b>Western</b>	<b>757,749</b>	<b>368,921</b>	<b>388,828</b>	<b>182,053</b>	<b>87,991</b>	<b>94,062</b>	<b>575,696</b>	<b>280,930</b>	<b>294,766</b>
Karongi	94,832	46,491	48,341	9,779	4,694	5,085	85,053	41,797	43,256
Rutsiro	99,652	49,078	50,574	5,637	2,672	2,965	94,015	46,406	47,609
Rubavu	153,630	75,745	77,885	85,668	40,638	45,030	67,962	35,107	32,855
Nyabihu	89,609	42,913	46,696	22,695	10,687	12,008	66,914	32,226	34,688
Ngororero	92,595	43,679	48,916	5,444	2,618	2,826	87,151	41,061	46,090
Rusizi	122,794	60,957	61,837	44,322	22,680	21,642	78,472	38,277	40,195
Nyamasheke	104,637	50,058	54,579	8,508	4,002	4,506	96,129	46,056	50,073
<b>Northern</b>	<b>564,353</b>	<b>274,197</b>	<b>290,156</b>	<b>107,855</b>	<b>51,351</b>	<b>56,504</b>	<b>456,498</b>	<b>222,846</b>	<b>233,652</b>
Rulindo	92,714	45,113	47,601	9,991	4,519	5,472	82,723	40,594	42,129
Gakenke	95,141	45,791	49,350	4,309	2,032	2,277	90,832	43,759	47,073
Musanze	139,508	67,241	72,267	73,423	35,101	38,322	66,085	32,140	33,945
Burera	112,731	54,951	57,780	11,586	5,654	5,932	101,145	49,297	51,848
Gicumbi	124,259	61,101	63,158	8,546	4,045	4,501	115,713	57,056	58,657
<b>Eastern</b>	<b>942,370</b>	<b>464,664</b>	<b>477,706</b>	<b>219,318</b>	<b>110,204</b>	<b>109,114</b>	<b>723,052</b>	<b>354,460</b>	<b>368,592</b>
Rwamagana	130,746	67,206	63,540	55,345	30,130	25,215	75,401	37,076	38,325
Nyagatare	177,981	87,827	90,154	44,845	22,147	22,698	133,136	65,680	67,456
Gatsibo	145,378	71,160	74,218	16,080	7,860	8,220	129,298	63,300	65,998
Kayonza	120,691	59,127	61,564	19,423	9,219	10,204	101,268	49,908	51,360
Kirehe	123,154	59,826	63,328	8,510	4,074	4,436	114,644	55,752	58,892



Province/District	Total			Urban			Rural		
	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female
Ngoma	99,607	47,908	51,699	10,233	4,739	5,494	89,374	43,169	46,205
Bugesera	144,813	71,610	73,203	64,882	32,035	32,847	79,931	39,575	40,356

**Source:** Fifth Rwanda Population and Housing Census, 2022 (NISR)

#### 4.3.5. Household Headship Rate Among Females and Males (12+ years) by District

This indicator is socially important to know the severity and burden for the head of household especially women, where among the resident female population aged 12 and above, 20% are household heads. Female household headship rate is far smaller than that of males 55% the below table illustrates the situation.

**Table 6: Headship Rate among Females and Males**

Province/District	Total		Urban		Rural	
	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male
<b>Southern Province</b>	<b>21.9</b>	<b>53.4</b>	<b>20.6</b>	<b>54.9</b>	<b>22.1</b>	<b>53.2</b>
Nyanza	23.9	52.7	24.1	53.3	23.9	52.6
Gisagara	24.5	52.4	25.4	49.7	24.5	52.5
Nyaruguru	19.7	50.3	23.1	51.7	19.6	50.3
Huye	24.4	52.8	22	55.1	24.9	52.3
Nyamagabe	20.1	52.3	23.7	43.4	19.6	53.3
Ruhango	22.9	53.6	22.4	56	23	53.4
Muhanga	20.2	56.7	19.5	57.4	20.3	56.5
Kamonyi	19.6	55.6	17.6	57.2	20.4	54.9
<b>Western Province</b>	<b>18.9</b>	<b>52.6</b>	<b>18.9</b>	<b>52.3</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>52.7</b>
Karongi	21	51.7	22.4	55	20.8	51.3
Rutsiro	18.5	53.7	18.5	54.1	18.4	53.7
Rubavu	18.5	53.2	18.8	53.1	18.2	53.3
Nyabihu	19.7	52.6	21.5	50.1	19.1	53.4
Ngororero	21.5	55.5	19.4	53.8	21.6	55.6
Rusizi	17	51.3	17.5	50.9	16.8	51.5
Nyamasheke	17.4	50.9	16.2	51.5	17.5	50.9
<b>Northern Province</b>	<b>17.8</b>	<b>55.9</b>	<b>18.4</b>	<b>56.7</b>	<b>17.7</b>	<b>55.8</b>

Province/District	Total		Urban		Rural	
	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male
Rulindo	18.7	56.8	17.1	61.8	18.9	56.2
Gakenke	18.2	56.2	16.8	59.5	18.2	56.1
Musanze	18.6	56.7	19	56.6	18.1	56.8
Burera	16.2	54.8	16.5	52.9	16.2	55
Gicumbi	17.4	55.2	18.7	54.5	17.3	55.3
<b>Eastern Province</b>	<b>20.8</b>	<b>55.1</b>	<b>20.8</b>	<b>57.6</b>	<b>20.8</b>	<b>54.4</b>
Rwamagana	21.8	56.5	21.1	58.8	22.2	55.3
Nyagatare	19.6	55.4	20.9	57	19.2	54.9
Gatsibo	20	54.4	22.2	55.5	19.8	54.3
Kayonza	21	54	21.5	57.3	20.9	53.5
Kirehe	21.1	53.3	19.4	57.7	21.2	53
Ngoma	21.8	54.7	20.6	55	21.9	54.6
Bugesera	21	56.8	20.2	58.2	21.6	55.9

**Source:** Fifth Rwanda Population and Housing Census, 2022 (NISR)

#### 4.3.6. Prevalence of Disability Among the Elderly by District, Sex, and Residence

This social indicator shows the level of disability in the project implementation area where an overall, 12.6% of the elderly people live with disability as compared to 3% of disability prevalence among the total resident population aged 5 and above. There is a small difference by sex in the prevalence of disability among the elderly (11% for males and 13.5% females). The percentage of elderly people with disabilities is higher in urban areas (13%) than in rural areas (12.5%). The prevalence of disability among the elderly population varies from 10% in Gisagara to 15% in Nyamasheke District. The prevalence of disability among the elderly population in urban areas varies from 7% in Gakenke to 19% in Gicumbi District. Below table shows the disability prevalence gender segregated by rural and urban area.

**Table 7: Disability Among the Elderly by Administrative District**

Province/District	Total			Urban			Rural		
	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female
<b>Southern</b>	<b>12.2</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>13.1</b>	<b>12.4</b>	<b>11.8</b>	<b>12.9</b>	<b>12.2</b>	<b>10.9</b>	<b>13.1</b>
Nyanza	12.4	10.6	13.7	11.2	9.3	12.3	12.5	10.7	13.8

Province/District	Total			Urban			Rural		
	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female	Both sexes	Male	Female
Gisagara	10.1	9.2	10.7	11.5	9.9	12.4	10.1	9.2	10.6
Nyaruguru	11	9.6	11.9	11.4	14.3	9.3	10.9	9.5	11.9
Huye	12.5	11.9	13	14.3	14.1	14.7	12.1	10.9	12.8
Nyamagabe	12.8	11.9	13.4	12	11.2	12.6	12.9	12	13.5
Ruhango	15.5	13.1	17	12.3	10.8	13.3	15.8	13.3	17.3
Muhanga	12.3	11.1	13.2	15	13.5	16.2	11.9	10.6	12.7
Kamonyi	11.2	9.9	12.1	9.7	8.2	10.7	11.6	10.4	12.5
<b>Western</b>	<b>13.2</b>	<b>12.1</b>	<b>13.9</b>	<b>12.8</b>	<b>11.9</b>	<b>13.5</b>	<b>13.3</b>	<b>12.1</b>	<b>14</b>
Karongi	14.1	12.7	15.1	10	10.3	9.8	14.3	12.8	15.4
Rutsiro	11.9	10.9	12.6	10	11.2	9.2	12	10.9	12.7
Rubavu	12.8	11.1	14	12.4	10.6	13.6	13.1	11.4	14.3
Nyabihu	13.4	11.8	14.2	13.8	12.3	14.7	13.2	11.7	14.1
Ngororero	11.6	10.7	12.1	11.4	8.9	13	11.6	10.7	12.1
Rusizi	12.7	12.2	13.2	13.5	13.5	13.6	12.5	11.7	13.1
Nyamasheke	15.3	14.2	16	14.6	13.1	15.7	15.3	14.3	16
<b>Northern</b>	<b>12.1</b>	<b>10.8</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>13.2</b>	<b>11.2</b>	<b>14.4</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>10.8</b>	<b>12.9</b>
Rulindo	11.7	10.4	12.7	11.7	9.8	13.1	11.7	10.4	12.7
Gakenke	10.7	9.6	11.6	7.3	6.8	7.6	10.8	9.7	11.7
Musanze	13	11.5	13.9	13.1	11.2	14.2	12.9	11.7	13.6
Burera	12.5	11.4	13.2	13.2	12.1	13.9	12.5	11.4	13.2
Gicumbi	12.7	11.3	13.8	19	13.7	22.6	12.5	11.2	13.4
<b>Eastern</b>	<b>12.6</b>	<b>11.6</b>	<b>13.4</b>	<b>13.8</b>	<b>12.5</b>	<b>14.9</b>	<b>12.4</b>	<b>11.5</b>	<b>13.1</b>
Rwamagana	11.6	10.8	12.2	11.4	10.9	12	11.7	10.7	12.3
Nyagatare	14.2	12.6	15.4	15.5	13.1	17.3	13.8	12.5	14.9
Gatsibo	11.6	10.6	12.2	13.3	12.5	13.9	11.4	10.4	12.1
Kayonza	13	12.6	13.2	12.1	11	12.8	13.1	12.8	13.3
Kirehe	11.6	10.6	12.3	15.8	13.7	17.5	11.4	10.4	12.1
Ngoma	12.3	10.9	13.2	14	11.3	15.8	12.1	10.9	12.9
Bugesera	14.1	13.2	14.8	14.7	13.9	15.4	13.8	12.8	14.5

**Source:** Fifth Rwanda Population and Housing Census, 2022 (NISR)

#### 4.3.7. Households that have Access to Electricity by Sex of the Household Head and Residence.

The access to electricity is a socio-economic indicator due to its importance to stimulate the economic development, this has been used to determine how the electricity is balanced in the rural and urban area the type of energy used by households is equally an indication of the quality of their housing conditions.

This includes the energy use by the households for lighting. Urban area has more access to electricity (85%) than rural households (51%). Male headed households are 10% higher in terms of access to electricity compared to female-headed households. Based on 4 provinces, the percentage of the households that use electricity for lighting is higher in Western Province (46%), and lowest in Southern province (35%). The percentage of households using flashlight/phone flashlight for lighting is higher in Northern Province (35% for each) than other provinces. The Percentage of the households using solar power for lighting is higher in the Southern Province (20%), especially in the administrative District of Nyaruguru (34%). The below table demonstrates the Proportion of households that have access to electricity by sex of the household head and residence.

**Table 8: Proportion of households that have access to electricity by sex of the household head and residence.**

Province/District	Sex of the household head			Area of residence		
	All	Male Head	Female Head	Total	Urban	Rural
<b>Southern</b>	<b>55.1</b>	<b>57.8</b>	<b>49.2</b>	<b>55.1</b>	<b>78.5</b>	<b>51.1</b>
Nyanza	51.7	54	47.2	51.7	81	48.5
Gisagara	52.6	55.9	46.6	52.6	58.9	52.4
Nyaruguru	65.8	66.5	64.3	65.8	66	65.8
Huye	56.4	59.3	51	56.4	86.4	49.8
Nyamagabe	46.7	48.8	41.9	46.7	72.5	43.9
Ruhango	58.6	61.3	53	58.6	80.3	55.9
Muhanga	57.2	60.4	49.3	57.2	88.6	48
Kamonyi	54	57.8	44.2	54	71.7	45.9
<b>Western</b>	<b>56.7</b>	<b>60.4</b>	<b>47.9</b>	<b>56.7</b>	<b>79.9</b>	<b>50.1</b>
Karongi	50.3	54.1	42.1	50.3	79.9	47.2
Rutsiro	50.2	54.4	39.7	50.2	64.2	49.3
Rubavu	71.4	74.5	63.6	71.4	84.5	54.7
Nyabihu	47	49.3	42.1	47	71.1	39.4

Province/District	Sex of the household head			Area of residence		
	All	Male Head	Female Head	Total	Urban	Rural
Ngororero	40.5	43.3	34.4	40.5	75.5	38.6
Rusizi	67.3	70.7	58.1	67.3	79.4	61.2
Nyamasheke	61.5	65.9	50.6	61.5	72.7	60.6
<b>Northern</b>	<b>54.1</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>46.3</b>	<b>54.1</b>	<b>76.1</b>	<b>49.4</b>
Rulindo	54.7	58.7	44.1	54.7	75.5	52.1
Gakenke	49.7	53.1	40.6	49.7	78.4	48.4
Musanze	62.9	65.2	56.8	62.9	77.8	48.6
Burera	52.7	55.3	45	52.7	69	50.9
Gicumbi	49.1	51.6	42.2	49.1	70.9	47.6
<b>Eastern</b>	<b>57.6</b>	<b>59.8</b>	<b>52.5</b>	<b>57.6</b>	<b>74.9</b>	<b>53</b>
Rwamagana	67.6	70	62.3	67.6	81.9	60.1
Nyagatare	54.5	56.1	50.5	54.5	66.7	50.5
Gatsibo	48.8	50.5	44.8	48.8	68.7	46.5
Kayonza	57.9	59.7	53.6	57.9	79.2	54.1
Kirehe	57.1	59.8	51	57.1	75.3	55.8
Ngoma	58.3	60.8	52.7	58.3	79	56.2
Bugesera	60.8	63.8	53.4	60.8	75.2	51.1

**Source:** Fifth Rwanda Population and Housing Census, 2022 (NISR)

#### 4.3.8. Households Practicing Different Types of Agricultural Activities by Administrative District.

This indicator will help to determine the level of the crops which shall be affected by the project activities during the implementation whereby at national level, 63% of households are engaged in crop farming which refers to the cultivation and management of plants, grown for food or animal feed or other commercial uses. Northern and Southern Provinces have more than 75% of private crop farming households. 50% of households are engaged in livestock rearing (husbandry) defined as the rearing and management of livestock for the purpose of producing meat, milk and other products that can be used for profits or subsistence. Northern and Southern provinces have more than 60% of households that raise at least one livestock. A small proportion of households (about 0.5%) engage in apiculture which is also known as beekeeping for honey production. 51% of total private households practice horticulture defined as the cultivation of fruits, vegetables, or ornamental plants in designated area. The below table shows the Percentage of private households practicing different types of agricultural activities by district.

**Table 9: Percentage of households practicing different types of agricultural activities by district.**

Province /District	Total number of households	Agricultural activity			
		Crop farming	Livestock husbandry	Horticulture	Apiculture
<b>Southern</b>	<b>760,173</b>	<b>75.6</b>	<b>63.6</b>	<b>60.2</b>	<b>0.7</b>
Nyanza	93,007	74.5	60.8	57.9	0.6
Gisagara	101,145	82	63.1	67.6	0.7
Nyaruguru	73,805	84.5	73.6	70	0.6
Huye	96,037	72.4	59.3	60.7	0.4
Nyamagabe	92,052	81.9	72.2	56.3	0.9
Ruhango	94,508	71	60	54.5	0.5
Muhanga	93,241	74	67.1	62.6	0.8
Kamonyi	116,378	68.1	56.5	54.6	0.6
<b>Western</b>	<b>671,506</b>	<b>67.3</b>	<b>55.6</b>	<b>50.1</b>	<b>0.4</b>
Karongi	91,444	76.8	66.2	60.5	0.8
Rutsiro	86,802	77.2	63	47.7	0.4
Rubavu	124,080	34	29.9	29.8	0.1
Nyabihu	76,391	64.3	51.9	39.1	0.3
Ngororero	92,623	82.1	73	55	0.6
Rusizi	104,937	68.8	50.4	55.6	0.3
Nyamasheke	95,229	78.5	64.2	67	0.5
<b>Northern</b>	<b>506,064</b>	<b>76.9</b>	<b>64.8</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>0.5</b>
Rulindo	91,909	79.3	66.3	67.4	0.5
Gakenke	93,609	89	80.7	68.8	1
Musanze	119,387	59.4	44.4	43.6	0.2
Burera	91,786	78.3	64.5	55.3	0.3
Gicumbi	109,373	82.6	72.3	67.9	0.4
<b>Eastern</b>	<b>886,132</b>	<b>65.7</b>	<b>47.2</b>	<b>54.7</b>	<b>0.7</b>
Rwamagana	121,051	58.9	43.5	56.8	0.6
Nyagatare	160,435	59.3	39.2	42.5	0.6
Gatsibo	136,208	72	53.7	58.8	0.8

Province /District	Total number of households	Agricultural activity			
		Crop farming	Livestock husbandry	Horticulture	Apiculture
Kayonza	114,186	68.4	45.7	53.9	0.7
Kirehe	113,886	68.8	51.5	57.5	0.6
Ngoma	102,589	77.4	57.9	68.4	1.1
Bugesera	137,777	59.4	42.8	51	0.8

**Source:** Fifth Rwanda Population and Housing Census, 2022 (NISR)

#### 4.3.9. Categories of PAPs

Land acquisition for implementation of the components related to increase access to grid electricity and Enhancing the Efficiency of Electricity may result in negative impacts to different categories of PAPs. Until the exact locations of construction of MV/HV, LV Lines and other infrastructures are determined it is not possible to have the likely number of people who may be affected. However, the likely affected persons can be categorized into four groups namely:

- **Affected individuals.**

These are individuals who risks losing assets, investments, temporarily land, property and/or access to natural and/or economic resources as a result of project implementation. The field work revealed people living near existing MV/HV line, expected rural area and trade centres to be connected may lose temporarily land and crops seasonal or perennials during the construction of MV/HV Line. In some cases, like in Eastern Province, many farms are exploited by the tenants, the crops mainly seasonal are not the belonging of the landowners where the tenants use the land for only the agriculture purpose for a given period, differently, the owners of the land may change its use, several of them are fenced by the (imiyenzi) Euphorbia tirucalli trees. People who have assets (crops or structures) developed on the same lands will be compensated. These communities are considered as project affected person and proper land acquisition or expropriation need to be done and documented as per ESS5 and national law on expropriation in public interest and other national land requirements.

- **Affected households.**

A household is affected if one or more of its members are affected by construction of electrical line or other structures. This includes:

- i. Any member in the households, men, women, children, dependent relatives and friends, tenants.
- ii. Vulnerable individuals who may be too old or ill to farm along with the others.

- iii. Members of households who cannot reside together because of cultural rules, but who depend on one another for their daily existence.
- iv. Members of households who may not eat together but provide housekeeping or other activities critical to the family's maintenance; and
- v. Other vulnerable people who cannot participate, due to being physically challenged or for cultural reasons, in production, consumption, or co-residence.

**- Vulnerable group or households**

Vulnerable Households this may have different land needs from most households or needs unrelated to the amount of land available to them, the RAP will be prepared for each of sub-project in compliance of this RPF and will provide more details on livelihood restoration programme for the vulnerable groups or households. Vulnerable households include disabled, elderly persons (above 65 years old), HIV/AIDS affected persons, Orphans, Widow-Female-headed households, child-headed households.

Special consideration should be paid to these groups outlined above by identifying their needs from the socio-economic and baseline studies undertaken as part of the Resettlement Action Plan process once project sites are identified and PAPs identified. In addition to that, these groups should be individually consulted and given opportunities to participate in the resettlement decision-making process, as well as project activities, including the identification of mitigation measures that are commensurate with the impacts they experience and appropriate to their circumstances. Consultation with these groups should ensure that resulting resettlement and compensation restores and or improves their pre-project livelihood.

**- Organizations**

The safeguards team undertook the field work to conduct consultation meetings with local government officials, community, some members from commercial Centres without electricity. The meeting were held in different business centers, District offices where the sectors executive Secretaries, security organs, REG branches representative and others. The discussions were led by the administrative district representative and the safeguards from EDCL. It was noted that some of the properties or assets belong to the faith -based organizations (churches), government institutions and farmers organizations (cooperatives and water user associations) therefore the compensation will be given to the damaged properties for all institutions but for the government properties, the authorization will be provided by the relevant officials for instance Rwanda Forests Authority (RFA) during cut down of the forests.

#### **4.4. Approximate Number of PAPs**

Detailed project descriptions do not exist for any of the sub-projects to allow estimation of PAPs. For each sub-project that will be considered during screening, the number of PAPs will be established through a RAP



or Baseline Valuation Report which will be elaborated after the sub-project line routes are identified and approved.

It is not possible at this stage to determine the number of Project Affected People in the project area given that the exact location of new project is not yet determined. Due to this, the location, nature and magnitude of these sub-projects cannot be determined before implementation.

#### **4.5. Preparation of Resettlement Instruments**

Given the number of project that requires temporarily and permanent land acquisition and expropriation countrywide it's recommended to prepare a resettlement action plan per province depending on its magnitude instead of having a resettlement action plan per administrative District given than one sub-project could be implemented in more than one District. Therefore a resettlement Action Plan or Baseline Valuation Reports (BVR) will be prepared and implemented before the implementation of project civil works activities.

#### **4.6. Environmental and Social Project Impacts.**

Potential environmental impacts such as: (a) increased environmental pollution with waste, noise, dust; (b) health and safety hazards and other problems resulting from construction activities; increased contamination of surface water as a result of inadequate avoidance and mitigation measures; (c) pollution; and (d) threats to human health as a result of improper handling of heavy machinery during construction activities can as well negatively impacts the wellbeing of the society by affecting their production capacity hence damaging livelihoods, the site specific environmental safeguards shall be developed in the same time with the resettlement plans, the main social impacts under this project shall be the relocation of the affected persons, economic displacement, loss of cultural kinship for the relocated people, etc. For the environmental effects, since are not well mitigated, it directly or indirectly affects the community and become social for other side.

#### **4.7. Anticipated Project Challenges**

The resettlement impacts present different challenges which should be handled fully so that the project be implemented smoothly. With respect to previous project implementation the main challenges included relocation issues, compensation payment delays, RoW encroachment, disclosures meeting participation, contractors delaying starting which affect the relevancy of the RAP, certified valuers using outdated asset prices and contractors using inexperienced safeguards staffs. All challenges were addressed in the previous project, but also, they served as a lesson learnt for this project to mitigate such potential challenges. The table below illustrate the challenges anticipated and mitigation measures for timely project implementation.

**Table 10: Anticipated Challenges**

Anticipated challenges	Reason	Proposed mitigations measures
Relocation issues for the component 1&2 of Increasing Access to Grid Electricity and Enhancing the Efficiency of Electricity Services	<p>PAPs with family conflicts will pose a serious issue to the project involving physical relocation.</p> <p>Some other social issues like assets which were given like a collateral also may delay the relocation process.</p> <p>PAPs which are not on board due to different reason especially when they are not in the country and refuse to give the power of attorney to family members.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Engage fully local authorities and community court known as ABUNZI to handle family and social issues involving litigation to be resolved in advance.</li> <li>- To use escrow account as stipulated in the expropriation law 32/2015 of 11/6/20015.</li> <li>- Involvement of the affected persons in all phases of the project activities.</li> <li>- Effective collaboration with other interested parties to assist in relocation such as Rwanda Housing Authority.</li> <li>- Implement as prescribed bylaw the expropriation law 32/2015 of 11/6/20015 in public interest.</li> </ul>
Compensation payment delays	<p>PAPs with family conflicts pose a serious issue to the project involving physical relocation.</p> <p>Some other social issues like asset which were given like a collateral also may delay the relocation process.</p> <p>PAPs which are not on board due to different reason especially when they are not in the country and deny giving the power of attorney.</p> <p>PAPs who do not have the land titles.</p> <p>PAPs without the Bank account.</p> <p>PAPs without National ID.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Engage fully local authorities and community court known as ABUNZI to handle family and social issues involving litigation to be resolved in advance.</li> <li>- To use escrow account as stipulated in the expropriation law 32/2015 of 11/6/20015.</li> <li>- Work closely with Central and Local Government Officials to deliver the required document for compensation on time and the District One Stop Center role will be crucial.</li> </ul>

Anticipated challenges	Reason	Proposed mitigations measures
RoW Encroachment	PAPs who can build houses in the Right of Way with intention to be compensated for their houses after the cut-off date is proclaimed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To work closely with local Government Officials for timely information dissemination or disclosure.</li> <li>- Contractor staffs on board should regular check the irregular activities in the line routes.</li> <li>- To establish Grievance Redress Committees at all cell levels and make sure that they are trained for timely reporting.</li> <li>- To announce the cut-off date to all concerned PAPs using UMUGANDA (Community works) and community assemblies' meetings on weekly basis.</li> </ul>
Disclosures meeting participation	PAPs who are not available during the public disclosure and hence do not raise their issues on time due to different reason such as people who are not in localities during the disclosure time, people who were not informed of the disclosure activity, People who neglected the attending due to their mindset.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Work closely with Local Government Officials and GRC for mobilization to attend, and the relevancy of the meeting.</li> <li>- Prepare in advance the disclosure and be communicated publicly in different meetings assembling public.</li> </ul>
Contractors delaying starting which affect the relevancy of the RAP	Some contractors may delay starting the works or may even fail to deliver and quit without any single activity as the case experienced by RESSP for Overseas Infrastructure Alliance (India) Private Limited which completely failed to deliver and this resulted in the contract termination after two years of delay.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Procurement should consider the past performance of the contractor within the country for the same duties where possible.</li> </ul>

Anticipated challenges	Reason	Proposed mitigations measures
Certified valuers outdated asset prices	Valuers who use the prices which are not up to date and result in over valuation or under valuation of assets because the prices that are set by IRPV are updated annually and based on real market value.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Regular inspection of valuers during asset inventory exercises and be ready to notice any inconsistency in the valuation on time.</li> <li>- To work closely with IRPV to handle the insolvent valuers.</li> </ul>
Contractors using not enough skilled safeguards staffs	Contractors who make internal recruitment and recruit inexperienced staff due to different reason including the reason that experienced worker are expensive, hence they fail to perform the safeguards duties properly.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- EDCL should make sure that every safeguard staff's CV is approved by the project safeguards team for competitiveness and better delivery.</li> </ul>

## **V. PROCESS FOR SCREENING, PREPARING AND APPROVING RESETTLEMENT PLANS**

According to the World Bank ESS5, the resettlement action plans are prepared for any project that results in economic or physical displacement. The scope and level of detail of the plan varies with the magnitude of displacement and complexity of the measures required to mitigate adverse impacts. The resettlement plan may take a number of different forms, depending on the project's impacts. For ASCENT Project, component one and two the temporally and permanent land acquisition through expropriation will be documented in the Resettlement Action plan in compliance national regulations and World Bank Environmental and Social Framework especially the ESS5 as described in section 5.6 of the same standards.

Therefore, this section of Resettlement Policy Framework provides principles and guidelines for Screening, preparation and, approval and implementation of resettlement plan once all project details are available. Key principals and process provided in this section include screening and approval process, census of the population to be affected, a survey of livelihoods and sources of income known as the social economic survey, an inventory of assets that affected persons are likely to lose. These steps help to calculate the magnitude of expected compensation and the overall cost of resettlement operation. Further, the resettlement policy framework provides mechanism for meaningful inclusive consultation for community engagement, Grievance redress mechanism, and implementation and Monitoring arrangement.

### **5.1. Process for Preparing and Approving Resettlement Plans**

This section provides guidelines that shall guide the preparation and implementation of Resettlement Action Plan during the implementation of ASCENT Project.

#### **5.1.1. Screening Mechanism for Resettlement Plans**

When the construction of the Medium, High Voltage lines and aligned accessories including sub-station's locations are confirmed, Resettlement Action Plans will be prepared and shall include measures to ensure compliance with Rwanda laws and WB Environmental and Social Framework. The implementation of these Resettlement Action Plan will be done before any individual or affected households are impacted by project, and before the start of any activities on site. Sub-project screening is used to identify the types and nature of potential impacts related to the activities proposed under the project and to provide adequate measures to address the impacts. Screening for resettlement issues shall be part of the environmental and social screening. Measures to address resettlement shall ensure that PAPs are:

- Informed about their options and rights pertaining to resettlement.
- Included in the consultation process and given the opportunity to participate in the selection of technically and economically feasible alternatives.
- Provided prompt and effective compensation at full replacement cost for; and

- Losses of assets and access attributable to the subprojects.
- Enabled to restore and preferably improve their living standards compared to pre-project ones.

Therefore, the first stage in the process of preparing the individual site-specific resettlement plans is the screening process to identify the land acquisition and land use needs that will cause resettlement. The required information shall include a description of the nature, scope and location of the proposed project impacts, accompanied by location maps and any other details as may be required. If the screening indicates that a subproject requires in its present layout the physical or economic resettlement, advice to consider feasible alternative designs to avoid or at least minimize physical or economic displacement, while balancing environmental, social and financial costs and benefits will be sought. If the screening indicates that the project has potential for land acquisition, impact on assets, loss of livelihood or restriction of resource use, the RURA Guidelines under RoW No 01/GL/EL-EWS/RURA/2015 will be used if an assessment reveal such restrictions on the use of resource, then this Resettlement Policy Framework is applying and a resettlement action plan for that subproject needs to be prepared in its compliance.

#### **5.1.2. Scope of Resettlement Action Plans**

Overall responsibility for preparing a resettlement Action Plan will be of REG-EDCL through Project Implementation Unit (PIU) and in accordance with this framework policy. The resettlement action plan should outline the following among others: General description of the project and identification of the project area, Potential impacts, main objectives of the resettlement program, survey and baseline socio-economic studies, Legal framework and institutional arrangement, community engagement and participation, Valuation of and compensation for losses, implementation schedule, grievance redress mechanism Including GBV/SH, cost and budget, Monitoring and evaluation, and arrangements for adaptive management.

#### **5.1.3. Preliminary Assessments**

The initial preliminary assessments and surveys should include (i) potential social impacts, (ii) direct consultations with individuals and groups who are expected to be directly affected by project activities; and (iii) identification of the major population groups that may be affected by the proposed project.

#### **5.1.4. Baseline and Socio-economic Data**

An important aspect of preparing a resettlement plan is to establish appropriate socio-economic baseline census including establishing and disseminating the cut-off date to identify the persons who will be affected by the individual subproject, to determine who will be eligible for compensation and assistance, and to discourage inflow of people who are ineligible for these benefits. This shall be carried out to provide baseline data on various factors including the following:

- Identification of current occupants and users of the affected area, to establish the basis for the design

of the resettlement plan and to exclude subsequent inflows of people from eligibility for compensation and resettlement assistance. It's worth to note that multiple users may be identified on the same land such as owners and tenants.

- Standard characteristics of affected households, including a description of production systems, labour, and household organization; and baseline information on livelihoods (including, as relevant, production levels and income derived from both formal and informal economic activities) and standards of living (including health status) of the PAPs.
- The magnitude of the expected loss of assets, total or partial, and the extent of impact; Baseline data for Resettlement Action Plan will include number of persons; number, type of the properties to be affected; number, category and area of residential plots and agricultural land and crops to be affected; and productive assets to be affected as a percentage of total productive assets.
- Information on vulnerable groups or persons for whom special provisions may have to be made; Identification of the potentially affected people on the individual and household levels, vulnerable groups (persons with disabilities, women, children, the elderly, female headed households, affected internally displaced people, affected internally displaced households, etc.);
- Land tenure and transfer systems, including an inventory of common property natural resources from which people derive their livelihoods and sustenance and any issues raised by different tenure systems in the project area.
  - o Those who have formal legal rights to the land they occupy.
  - o Those who do not have formal legal rights to land, but have a claim to land that is recognized or recognizable under the national laws including those measures put in place by the draft land policy; or
  - o Those who have no recognizable legal right or claim to the land they have occupied before the cut-off date.
- The patterns of social interaction in the affected communities, including social networks and social support systems, and how they will be affected by the project.
- Public infrastructure and social services that will be affected; and
- Social and cultural characteristics of affected communities, including a description of formal and informal institutions (e.g., community organizations, ritual groups; and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs)) that may be relevant to the consultation strategy and to designing and implementing the resettlement activities.

The preliminary assessments, information and the socio-economic baseline data will assist in determining the cut-off date which will be established and announced before the census starts, period of registration of claims and valuation of land and immovable assets. In summary, the census consolidates information that:

- a) Provides initial information on the scale of resettlement to be undertaken.
- b) Gives an indication of further socio-economic research needed to quantify losses to be compensated and, if required, to design appropriate development interventions; and
- c) Establishes indicators that can be measured at a later date during monitoring and evaluation.

The purpose of the socio-economic study is also to collect baseline data within the chosen/targeted sites/areas/homesteads/villages thereby enabling the social assessment of potentially affected populations/communities/homesteads/villages. Detailed calculation of individual and household economies and identification of all impacts will be undertaken as part of the socio-economic study and be the determinant in the potential compensation process.

The site-specific socio-economic studies and baseline census will be carried out by an independent consultant or firm which will be hired by REG-EDCL PIU based on skills and experience to conduct the same studies on the development program. An independent consultant or firm hired on the above purpose will prepare the completion report of the socio-economic study and the baseline census in line with this RPF guidelines, the same independent consultant/firm will prepare a Resettlement Action Plan. In addition, site specific RAPs, where required will be prepared per province depending on the project magnitude and level of an impact on the project Affected Persons (PAPs).

## **5.2. Preparation of Resettlement Action Plans and Approval Process**

Resettlement Plans shall be prepared by an independent consultant or firm or PIU Safeguards, in consultation with the local authorities and community leaders for construction of the MV/HV Lines that have been determined to result in involuntary resettlement and/or temporal or permanent land acquisition. The resettlement and compensation plans would be reviewed by the project implementation unit and it would then be forwarded for review, approval to the World Bank and the Bank will provide a clearance or non-objection and compensation fully done before land is temporarily or permanently acquired or access to resources is lost, denied, or restricted. This is to ensure that individual resettlement and compensation plans are consistent with World Bank ESS5 and national regulations.

### **5.2.1. Process for Identifying need for Resettlement Plan**

To establish whether the Resettlement Plan is indeed needed, screening will be undertaken at the sub project design stage. After screening is indicate that land acquisition is required, the RAP preparation process will



proceed. The Resettlement Action Plan will entail identification of PAPs, socio-economic survey of the PAPs, census and land asset inventory of the area. Throughout the Resettlement Action Plan process, transparent consultation and public disclosure will take place with all the stakeholders including the PAPs for ensuring that the affected persons are informed about the process and their rights. However, the Baseline Valuation Report shall be also produced for the sub-projects that will not induce the land acquisition, the later shall be produced by a certified land valuer after assets inventory.

#### **5.2.2. Sub-project screening**

Screening will take place as early as possible, and it will identify land that will be required for resettlement. This process will be carried out in consultation with the PAPs to ensure that it takes all considerations into account, and that all potential impacts are identified. The screening form will then be submitted to the REG-EDCL PIU for review. Should the screening process show that resettlement will be required, the next step will be to conduct a socio-economic survey, census, and land asset inventory to determine the extent of resettlement required. This will be followed by the preparation of a Resettlement Action Plan and site specific RAPs, including a Livelihood Restoration Plan (LRP) covering both economic and physical displacement as a result of provision of RoW for MV/HV Lines constructions.

#### **5.2.3. Socio-economic Survey**

To enable identifying the level of socio-economic impact of PAPs, a socio-economic survey has to be organized and conducted. This should include quantitative household survey of the project affected persons or households. The objective of the quantitative household survey will be to generate a baseline description of pertinent demographic and social characteristics of the affected households. The target population for the quantitative household survey will be those affected persons within the project vicinity. The PIU will contract a part time consultant for socio-economic survey and assets inventory, the consultant will use the sample of socio-economic survey on annex 6 of this RPF during the process of Resettlement Action Plan Preparation.

#### **5.2.4. Project Affected Person's (PAPs) Census**

To determine the number of affected persons, PAPs census will be undertaken for the affected persons. The methodology will encompass all people adversely affected by the project, regardless of their legal status – landowner, holder of land rights, tenant, and illegal squatter. The lack of land title does not disqualify people from resettlement assistance. Private landowners and holders of rights to land as well as any person currently occupying public or private land for shelter, business purposes or other sources of livelihood (caretakers, squatters) should be included in the census. The census will serve five important and interrelated functions:

- Establishing a list of legitimate beneficiaries before the subproject's onset that counters spurious claims from those moving into the project area solely in anticipation of benefits,
- Provide indicators for monitoring and evaluation.
- Provide initial information on the scale of resettlement to be undertaken.
- Laying a framework for subsequent socio-economic research needed to establish fair compensation rates and to design, monitor and evaluate sustainable income restoration or development interventions,

It's advisable that an independent consultant will need to be contracted to undertake the socio-economic survey including inventory of affected properties in collaboration with sub-project Resettlement and Compensation Committees under guidance of the project social safeguards.

#### **5.2.5. Preparation of Assets Inventory**

To prepare inventory of the land and development made on it, a field team should visit the affected area to carry out an asset valuation survey. The team should include village resettlement committee representative, local administration, and a representative of the PAPs among others. During the survey, each asset should be enumerated and inscribed on an inventory and a valuation of the asset carried out using the approach described above. The values of each asset should then be recorded in a register and shown to the affected person for agreement. The register will be signed, and a copy given on the spot to the affected person. Where the affected is illiterate, he/she will have identified a trusted person to assist him/her in the process of knowing the affected assets and associated value.

The document will say when the affected person will be notified, and that the inventory will not be official until a second signed copy, verified by project supervisory staff, is returned to the affected person. Information on Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) should be provided to the affected person during community mobilisation stage so that PAPs understand the process, means and places of GRM. A copy of the grievance procedure will also be given to the affected person as stated in the grievance redress mechanism and should be displayed in public institutions notice board of the concerned Sector/Cell Offices. A standard Compensation Assessment Form/evaluation sheet has been developed by the Institute of Real Property valuers in Rwanda to be used country wide. Since the asset inventory and valuation exercise cannot be done by a person other than a certified real property valuer, the standardized sheet will be used as a way to avoid speculation or other unfairness practices that may bring conflicts related to asset inventory and valuation in the area.

### **5.3. Public Consultations, Participation and Stakeholder Engagement**

Public consultation and participation by the affected communities and individuals is an essential element of the land acquisition, compensation, and resettlement process. Throughout the process, and particularly during screening, all stakeholders must be adequately consulted and involved. The need for stakeholder's consultation is to secure the informed participation and consent of all people affected consultation should be particularly in the following areas:

- Alternative project design.
- Assessment of project impacts.
- Resettlement strategy.
- Compensation rates and eligibility for entitlements.
- Development of opportunities and initiatives.
- Development of procedures for redressing grievances and resolving disputes.
- Mechanisms for monitoring and evaluation and for implementing corrective actions.

### 5.3.1. Indicative Timing for the Public Consultation Processes

**Table 11: Timeframe for Consultation and Involved Stakeholders**

Timeline	Phase	Stakeholders to be consulted	Description of the undertaken activities
Pre- project appraisal	Consultation at inception	Local Government Officials; concerned Ministries, Opinion Leaders, National Women Council (NWC), interested NGOs, FBOs, Private Sector Federation (PSF), Academician and researchers, interested or concerned public institutions with or without Projects, etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Raising Awareness on the project</li> <li>- Engagement of the stakeholders.</li> <li>- The resettlement and compensation plan.</li> <li>- During the drafting of the RPF,</li> <li>- Assess the participation and involvement of the concerned institution,</li> <li>- WB ESF and National Expropriation Law explanations</li> </ul>
During all project lifecycle	Consultation during socio economic data collection and resettlement Preparation	Local Government Officials. Opinion Leaders; GRC National Women Council (NWC), interested NGOs (Local and Int'l), Institute of Real Property Valuation (IRPV), Rwanda Association of Professional Environment Practitioners (RAPEP) Vulnerable groups representatives; Private Sector Federation (PSF), FBOs, Contractors, Supervising Firm, etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- PAPs will be consulted through meetings to share with them the information about the project, discuss social impacts of project operations and the mitigation measures suggested.</li> <li>- When all the data about the PAPs will be collected and valuation undertaken.</li> <li>- Provision of all endorsements which will be detailed during the preparation of sub-project specific resettlement plans</li> </ul>
During full project cycle	Consultation at implementation, monitoring and evaluation	Local Government Officials. Opinion Leaders; GRC National Women Council (NWC), interested NGOs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Displaying the information to all PAPs about their rights and options.</li> <li>- The PAPs representatives will</li> </ul>

Timeline	Phase	Stakeholders to be consulted	Description of the undertaken activities
		(Local and Int'l), Vulnerable groups representatives; Private Sector Federation (PSF), FBOs, Contractors, sub-contractors, Supervising Firm, etc.	<p>participate in the project completion workshops.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- PAPs will be consulted during GRM implementation.</li> <li>- The PAPs will be consulted in a household survey to be undertaken as a monitoring and evaluation</li> </ul>

### 5.3.2. Consultation at Inception Phase

Public consultation will take place at the inception of the planning stage when the potential land areas are being considered. The participation strategy would evolve around the provision of a full opportunity for involvement. Therefore, as a matter of strategy, public consultation would be an on-going activity taking place throughout the entire project cycle. For example, public consultation would also occur during the preparation of the (i) the socio-economic study, (ii) the resettlement and compensation plan (iii) the environmental impact assessment and (iv) during the drafting and signing of the compensation agreement. Public participation and consultation will take place through meetings, focused group discussion, open meetings, radio programs, request for written proposals/comments, using survey questionnaires, publishing project documents and requesting for public feedback, local and homestead levels at suitable locations like the official residences/offices of local elders. These measures would take into account the low literacy levels prevalent in these rural communities by allowing enough time for responses and feedback.

Monitoring of this process would be through the village leaders as part of the individual resettlement and compensation plans and overall, the monitoring and evaluation mechanism of the entire project. This requirement is line with the Bank policy on disclosure. The target group for this phase will consist of Local Government Officials; Opinion Leaders, National Women Council (NWC), interested NGOs, FBO, Vulnerable groups representatives; Private Sector Federation (PSF), Academician and researchers, interested or concerned public institutions, the PIU representatives will be involved as lead of the consultation in all stage of the ASCENT Project Implementation.

### 5.3.3. Consultation at Data Collection and Resettlement Preparation Phase

The PAPs will be consulted through meetings to share information about the project, discuss social impacts of project operations and the mitigation measures suggested. The contribution of PAPs will be integrated

into the resettlement action plan and subproject implementation process, from planning to evaluation. Furthermore, data about socio-economic impacts of the subprojects and the mitigation measures suggested will be provided to the media. This data will serve as instruments for the monitoring of the social mitigation measures. Once all the data about the PAPs have been collected and valuation undertaken, cash compensation amount and size of land offered for compensation will be presented to each eligible PAP for consideration and endorsement before cash payment. The endorsements will be detailed during the preparation of sub-project specific resettlement plans. At this stage, the stakeholders are Local Government Officials; Opinion Leaders; GRC, National Women Council (NWC), interested NGOs (Local and International), IRPV, RAPEP, Vulnerable groups representatives; Private Sector Federation (PSF), FBOs, Contractors, sub-contractors, Supervising Firm, etc.

#### **5.3.4. Consultation at Implementation, Monitoring and Evaluation Phases**

Before implementation of the resettlement action plan, the PAPs will be informed about their rights and options, at which point they will provide their inputs. The PAPs representatives will participate in the project completion workshops, to give their evaluation of the impacts of the project. They will also suggest corrective measures, which may be used to improve implementation of other subprojects. After completion of all expropriation/compensation operations, the PAPs will be consulted in a household survey to be undertaken as a monitoring and evaluation exercise, the stakeholders of this step are Local Government Officials; Opinion Leaders; GRC, National Women Council (NWC), interested NGOs (Local and Int'l), Vulnerable groups representatives, Private Sector Federation (PSF), Faith -Based Organizations (FBOs), Contractors and sub-contractors, Supervising Firm.

#### **5.4. Eligibility Criteria for Various Categories of PAPs**

This section sets out eligibility criteria, which are necessary to determine who will be eligible for resettlement and benefits, and to discourage inflow of ineligible people to encroach the project area.

The eligibility criteria for compensation and resettlement that will be followed for the different categories of Project affected persons will follow the Bank ESF as they were found to be provide better package for the PAPs compared to the local policies and legislation. However, the valuation and payment of compensation will follow the Rwanda Expropriation laws, GoR policies and the ESS5 guidelines. The replacement value will be determined based on current market of the assets, plus necessary transaction costs associated with asset replacement and the independent real estate valuation from IRPV, plus transaction costs, it will also be determined as calculation of output value for land or productive assets, or the undepreciated value of replacement material and labor for construction of structures or other fixed assets, plus transaction costs. In all instances where physical displacement results in loss of shelter, replacement

cost must at least be sufficient to enable purchase or construction of housing that meets acceptable minimum community standards of quality and safety, with security of tenure. Transaction costs include administrative charges, registration or title fees, reasonable moving expenses, and any similar costs imposed on affected persons. The salvage material value will also be considered because it will be offered to the property owner.

#### **5.4.1. Principles of Resettlement**

The involuntary taking of land resulting in relocation or loss of shelter; and loss of assets or access to assets or loss of source of income or means of livelihood, whether the PAPs must move to another location or not must involve the compensation for the loss. Meaningful consultations with the affected persons, local authorities and community leaders will therefore allow for establishment of criteria by which displaced persons will be deemed eligible for compensation and another resettlement assistance. The WB ESS5 categorizes those eligible for compensation and resettlement in three groups as shown below.

- a) Those who have formal rights to land including customary/communal land, traditional and religious rights recognized under Rwandan Law.
- b) Those who do not have formal legal rights to land at the time the census begins but have a claim to such land or assets provided that such claims are recognized under the laws of Rwanda or become recognized through a process identified in the resettlement plan.
- c) Those who have no recognizable legal right or claim to the land they are occupying, using or getting their livelihood from before the cut of date, but are recognized under World Bank ESS5.

Those covered under (a) and (b) above are to be provided with compensation for the land, structures, trees and crops lost, and other assistance in accordance with this RPF. Persons covered under (c) above are to be provided with compensation for assets such as structures, crops and trees other assistance, as necessary, to achieve the objectives set out in this RPF, if they occupy the project area prior to a cut-off date which is the date when the census starts. Persons who encroach on the area after the cut-off date are not entitled to compensation or any other form of resettlement assistance. All persons included in (a), (b) or (c) above are to be provided with compensation for loss of assets other than land.

It is therefore clear that all PAPs irrespective of their status or whether he/she has formal titles, legal rights or not, squatters or otherwise encroaching illegally on land, are eligible for some kind of assistance if they occupied the land before the cut-off date. Persons who occupy the area after cut-off date are not eligible for compensation or any form of resettlement assistance, but they may be entitled to resettlement assistance other than compensation for land to improve their former living standards.

#### **5.4.2. Eligibility Criteria for Compensation**

Determination of the eligibility of PAPs to be compensated shall be done through a transparent and legal process, taking into consideration all the existing laws of Rwanda and the World Bank ESF guidance requirement under ESS 5. Compensation will be paid only to those persons:

- The process will involve review of land tenure documents owned by occupants, interviews with households and groups in the affected area. Local Authorities and the Ministry in charge of lands will also help in this assignment that will be undertaken by REG-EDCL PIU Senior Environmental and Social Safeguards Specialist and consultants if needed.
- PAPs covered in (a) and (b) will be compensated for the land they lose, and other assistance ensuring that they are (i) informed about their options and rights pertaining to resettlement, (ii) consulted and provided with technically and economically feasible resettlement and (iii) provided prompt and effective compensation at full replacement cost for losses of assets attributable directly to the project.

The safeguard retains the requirement to provide compensation at full replacement cost; reiterates the importance of a resettlement that improves standards of living, income earning capacity, and overall means of livelihood; and emphasizes the need to ensure that social considerations, such as gender, age, and stakes in the project outcome, do not disenfranchise particular project-affected people, the eligibilities and entitlements have been shown in 5.4.1 on principles of resettlement.

Persons who encroach on the area after the socio-economic study (census and valuation) are not eligible for compensation or any form of resettlement assistance. There will therefore be a package of compensation and other resettlement measures to assist each category of eligible PAPs to achieve the objectives of the policy. Eligibility criteria will also be determined by loss of property, loss of wages and cut-off date. Anticipated Impact for the proposed project includes loss of crops, trees, and restriction to the use of land and a proposed entitlement matrix is given in Table 13.



**Table 12: Entitlement Matrix for Different Categories of PAPs**

Category of Loss	Type of Impact	Entitled Person	Compensation/Entitlement/ benefits
<b>Temporary or Permanent land Acquisition</b>	Temporary or Permanent acquisition	PAP (whether owner, tenant, or squatter) due to the construction and rehabilitation of sub-stations, and refurbishment and rehabilitation of selected medium-voltage and low-voltage network	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Cash compensation at replacement cost for any assets affected (e. g. fences, houses and land acquired for transmission lines as well as sub-station construction and where the pylons shall be erected);</li> <li>- Livelihood restoration program shall be included in RAP for the impact related to the restrictions on land use</li> <li>- Compensation for land acquired or affected permanently.</li> <li>- In kind compensation for the fruits trees.</li> <li>- Free of charges for land transfer for the acquired land as results of the project activities implementation.</li> <li>- 5% of the total amount will be given as disturbance allowance,</li> <li>- After land acquisition, EDCL shall facilitate the PAPs for getting new land titles based on acquired and remaining land in collaboration with the National Land Authority.</li> </ul>
<b>Standing crops</b>	Crops affected by land acquisition or temporary acquisition or easement	PAP (whether owner, tenant, or squatter) due to the construction or rehabilitation of MV/HV Lines and substation construction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Where possible and does not delay to much the project implementation, affected person will be given time to harvest their crops,</li> <li>- Where this cannot be done, cash compensation equivalent to market value for the mature and harvested crops.</li> <li>- 5% of the total amount will be given as disturbance allowance.</li> </ul>

*Resettlement Policy Framework for Accelerating Sustainable and Clean Energy Access Transformation ASCENT Project*

Category of Loss	Type of Impact	Entitled Person	Compensation/Entitlement/ benefits
<b>Trees</b>	Trees lost	Both title holder and no holder	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Cash compensation based on type, age and productive value of affected trees plus 5% premium, no title holders based on valuer of the trees to be lost.</li> </ul>
<b>Social</b>	Social cohesion loss	Vulnerable groups/Person	<p>Options for vulnerable people will vary depending on their specific circumstances and their socio-economic situation and this may include but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Training for income generation activities.</li> <li>- Free of charge during land transfer.</li> <li>- Free of charge Connection to electricity.</li> <li>- Priority in employment.</li> <li>- Entrepreneurship training.</li> <li>- Training on cash management.</li> <li>- Inclusion of affected people in other ongoing national social protection scheme such as VUP Umurenge, one cow per poor family, etc.</li> <li>- Assist in integration of the PAPs in new or receiving communities</li> </ul>

*Resettlement Policy Framework for Accelerating Sustainable and Clean Energy Access Transformation ASCENT Project*

Category of Loss	Type of Impact	Entitled Person	Compensation/Entitlement/ benefits
<b>Loss of income and livelihood</b>	Loss of business opportunity loss of rented lands	People that using or renting the land targeted for construction and rehabilitation of sub-stations, and refurbishment and rehabilitation of selected medium-voltage and low-voltage network.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Priority in employment in the project while waiting for employment.</li> <li>- In difficult cases, local administration and village leaders shall be used to judge eligibility for inclusion of affected people in other ongoing community development program such as VUP or one cow per poor family depending on magnitude of the business opportunity lost.</li> <li>- Additional support for re-establishment of livelihoods, such as identification of substitute rental plots and of alternative business location especially for the vulnerable PAPs and this shall be done in close collaboration with the local government.</li> </ul>
<b>Loss of properties belong to the Community</b>	Loss of standing crops and structures	Churches, farmer's organizations, Community organisations and private company	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Where possible and does not delay to much the project implementation, affected institution will be given enough time to harvest their crops,</li> <li>- Where this cannot be done, cash compensation equivalent to market value for the mature and harvested crop.</li> <li>- Cash compensation based on type, age and productive value of affected trees plus 5% premium.</li> </ul>

### **5.4.3. Cut-off date**

Compensation eligibility will be limited by a cut-off date which should be date of commencement of the census survey of PAPs. The precise cut-off date will be publicly announced by the local leaders in advance and the census of PAPs and assets inventory will commence immediately following this announcement.

## **5.5. Assets inventory and valuation methods**

This section describes the methods to be used in valuing assets that will be eligible for compensation consistent with either Rwandan laws or policies or World Bank ESS5. Law No.17/2010 of 2010 establishes and organizes the Real Property Valuation Profession in Rwanda. It provides the registration of land valuers in Rwanda and conditions for registration. The law also allows the Government to conduct valuation when mandated by their government institutions. Articles 27, 29, 30 and 31 of the law deals with valuation methods and stipulate that the price for the real property shall be close or equal to the market value. Land values could also be compared country wide. Where comparable prices are not available to determine the value of improved land, the replacement cost approach shall be used to determine the value of improvements to land by taking real property as a reference. The law also allows the use of international methods not covered by the law after approval of the counsel of the Institute of Valuers.

### **5.5.1. Valuation Methods**

Valuation methods recognized under valuation law in Rwanda include:

- **Use of Standard Valuation Tables**

The implementation of the proposed project will be done in all 27 administrative districts, and it is anticipated that a relatively large number of small-scale asset valuations will need to be carried out during the course of the project. It would therefore be cumbersome and inefficient to deploy an individual valuation expert in each and every case. Therefore, it is recommended that the independent valuer is hired to provide the list of properties value and this list will be used by administrative district to calculate the compensation package for affected people when the need arises.

The compensation rates / valuation tables would be developed using legally acceptable valuation procedures accepted by the Government of Rwanda and World Bank for purposes of fairness and consistency. The approach will consider replacement costs and types and levels of compensation under the Rwanda expropriation law in public interest. Valuation of lost assets will be made at their replacement cost.

- **Comparison of Land/Property Values Countrywide**

In case there are no compensation rates, the Valuer shall compare prices by referring to the prices recently assigned to a real property that is similar or comparable to the real property subject to valuation. Where comparable prices are not available for land in a particular area, the Valuer may use comparable prices of similarly classified land from other areas of the country.

- **Replacement Cost Approach**

The replacement cost approach is based on the premise that the costs of replacing productive assets is based on damages caused by project operations. These costs are taken as a minimum estimate of the value of measures that will reduce the damage or improve on on-site management practices and thereby prevent damage. The approach involves direct replacement of expropriated assets and covers an amount that is sufficient for asset replacement and other transaction costs.

- **Gross Current Replacement Cost**

Gross Current Replacement Cost (GCRC) is defined as the estimated cost of erecting a new building having the same gross external area as that of the existing one, with the same site works and services and on a similar piece of land.

- **Other methods**

***Rates from Contractors:*** When rate schedules do not exist or are out of date, recent quotations by contractors for similar types of construction in the vicinity of the project can be used for calculating replacement costs. In projects offering the options of cash compensation or alternative accommodation, the construction cost estimates for alternative accommodation could be used for calculating cash compensation payable.

It is recommended that the replacement Cost is used as valuation methods and results can be used to prepare standardised valuation tables. This is because the replacement cost valuation methods is recommended by ESS5 and recognised by valuation law in Rwanda. Standardized table will easy the valuation process given that small scare valuation sites are scattered in different places.

### **5.5.2. Calculation of Compensation by Assets**

The following methods of calculation should be adopted for the preparation of the standardized asset valuation tables and/or the application of specific case by case valuations in the case of projects that have significant impacts.

- **Compensation for land**

Compensation for land is aimed at providing a farmer whose land is acquired and used for project purposes, with compensation for land labour and crop, trees loss. For this reason, and for transparency, land is defined as an area or homestead (i) in cultivation, (ii) being prepared for cultivation, or (iii)

cultivated during the last agricultural season. This definition recognizes the farmer's labour as the biggest investment he/she makes in producing a crop which is higher than all other inputs such as seed and fertilizers. As a result, compensation relating to land will cover the market price of labour invested as well as the market price of the crops lost, in this project there will be land compensation for the pylons erection location for transmission lines, but also temporally land acquisition might happen, and the assets planted (Crops and trees) on it will be compensated.

**- Land measurement**

For purposes of measuring land, the unit of measurement would be that which is used and understood by the affected farmers and if a traditional unit of measure exists in the rural areas, that unit should be used. If a traditional unit of measurement does not exist in a particular area, then it is recommended that land should be measured in square meters or any other internationally accepted unit of measurement.

However, in such an event, the unit that is being used must be explained to the affected farmers/users and must somehow be related to easily recognizable land features that the communities are familiar with, such as using location of trees, stumps, etc. as immovable pegs.

The most important concern of this exercise is to ensure that the affected person is able to verify using his/her own standards/units of measurement, the size of land that is being lost. This will ensure transparency in the system and will thus avoid subsequent accusations of wrong measurements or miscalculation of areas. A farmer should know how much land he/she is losing, in terms of size and the replacement cost for land must be at least of that same size and comparable value as land lost.

The land replacement isn't an option for compensation measures under this project; this is due to the fact that the land prices differ from its location and given that the compensation fund shall be provided by the Government of Rwanda, first because there is no reserved land for the project affected persons (PAPs) and second because from consultations with PAPs it came out that the preferred compensation method is cash compensation. Hence no such option for this project was proposed, only land value shall be given to the PAPs.

**- Calculation of crops compensation rate**

The current prices for cash crops will be determined and all crops will be valued using a single rate considering the crop at mature age in accordance to Institute of Real Property Valuers in Rwanda. This rate incorporates the value of crops and the value of the labour invested in preparing new land. Determining compensation using a single rate creates transparency because anyone can measure the area of land for which compensation is due and multiply that by a single rate known to all. This approach also allows assignment of values to previous year's land (land in which a farmer has already invested labour)

and land that have been planted but crops have not germinated. Further, it avoids contention over crop density and quality of intercropping.

The value of the labour invested in preparing agricultural land will be compensated at the average wage in the community for the same period of time and this will be calculated based on the payment of different casual workers during the seasonal period and several casual workers' payment in the same period of time will provide the average wage within the community where the project will be implemented. The rate used for land compensation should be updated to reflect values at the time compensation is paid. Table 14 below, derives a total value for a one-hectare land from the value of the crops on the land and the value of labour invested in preparing a cultivating land.

**Table 13: Example of method to be used to determine a monetary compensation rate for crops.**

<b>Item Compensated</b>	<b>Basis of Value</b>	<b>Rwandan Francs /ha</b>
	Average of the highest annually updated price of crops from Institute of Real Property Valuers in Rwanda (IRPV) official and market survey land prices per ha of staple food crops (maize, rice etc.), plus cash crops (e.g. sugar cane, corn, coffee, tea, macadamia, etc).	
	Labour costs of preparing a cultivating land.	
<b>Total</b>	Replacement value of crops plus labour.	

(Rwandan Francs payments will be revised by the Institute of Real Property Valuers in Rwanda to reflect crop values and labour rates in effect at the time of compensation). This example assumes a one-hectare land.

Crop values will be determined on:

- A combination of staple foods and cash crops. The 80/20 ratio of land that a farmer typically has in food crops and cash crops is used to determine the chances s/he would lose food crop rather than a cash crop income.
- The value of stable crops to be taken as the highest market price (over 3 years) reached during the year,
- Although most farmers grow staple crops mainly for home consumption, they always have the option of selling these crops to take advantage of the market.

- Farmers most often purchase cereals when they have run out, during drought when prices are high. Compensating at a lower value might put the individual or household at risk.
- On average, the highest price of staple food yields a high per hectare value reimburses for the vegetables and other foods that are commonly inter-cropped with staples but are almost impossible to measure for compensation.
- The labour cost for preparing cultivating land is calculated on what it would cost a farmer to create a sowing land. This value is found by adding together the average costs of clearing, ploughing, sowing, weeding twice, and harvesting the crop.

The labour costs will be paid in Rwandan Francs (Rwf) at the prevailing market rates. All agricultural labour activities are included for two reasons. First, because of the need for transparency, all land labour will be compensated for at the same rate. Secondly, it is difficult to forecast when during the growing season, a farmer might need to give his/her land. In certain cases, assistance may be provided to land users in addition to compensation payments e.g. if the farmer is notified that his/her land is needed after the agriculturally critical date when he/she will not have enough time to prepare another land without assistance. In such a case, assistance will be provided referenced to the invested effort during land preparation so that cultivating land will be ready by the sowing dates.

The following table presents an example of a compensation schedule for a one-hectare land. The cost is based on arbitrary labour rates, which will need to be validated at the time payments are made.

**Table 14: Example of land compensation schedule of payments**

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Month Paid (generic, may be different depending on climate zones)</b>	<b>Labour in Rwandan Francs/ha Rate Cost/day x no. of days</b>
Clear	March	
Plough	May	
Sow	May	
Weed	May	
Harvest	November	
<b>Total</b>		

#### **- Compensation for Sacred Sites**

This policy does not permit the use of land that is defined to be cultural property by the Bank's Environmental and Social Framework. Sacred war memorial sites include but not restricted only to;



museums, altars, initiation centres, ritual sites, tombs, genocide memorial sites and cemeteries. It includes other such sites or places/features that are accepted by local laws (including customary), practice, tradition and culture as sacred. To avoid any possible conflicts between individuals and/or communities/homesteads/chiefdoms the use of sacred sites for any project activity, is not permitted under this project.

**- Compensation for vegetable gardens**

Until a replacement garden starts to bear, the family displaced (economically or physically), will have to purchase vegetables in the market for daily use. The replacement costs, therefore, will be calculated based on the average amount that an average town dweller spends on buying these items for one year from the local market.

**- Compensation for horticultural, floricultural and fruit trees**

Banana and Mango trees are featured here below as two examples of the set of primary fruit trees that are likely to be found in project targeted area and are estimated to account for a significant amount of all fruit bearing trees. They are primarily important as a source of:

- Subsistence food for families;
- Cash produce that contribute to the export economy;
- Petty market income in some areas, and
- Shade (in the case of mango trees).

For banana plantation, they have a relatively much shorter productive life, normally, than mango trees. For species, banana plantation will not bear fruit more than once. Therefore, compensation for banana plantation would be compensated at the full market rates for bananas harvested in that year and for another year. The second-year payment is for the replacement cost of planting a new tree, looking after it and harvesting it which could all be done in one year. Therefore, the farmer should have restored his pre-project position by the end of the second year. This example of bananas is an example for plants that have a relatively short life.

Given their significance to the local subsistence economy, which this project intends to positively impact, mango trees will be compensated on a combined replacement/market value. Mango trees used for commercial purposes will be compensated based on the updated annual price from the Institute of Real Properties Valuers in Rwanda, the annually updated prices are available at [https://irpv.rw/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/Special\\_of\\_01.12.2021\\_Ibicio\\_fatizo\\_by\\_ubutaka.pdf](https://irpv.rw/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/Special_of_01.12.2021_Ibicio_fatizo_by_ubutaka.pdf) and <https://irpv.rw/downloads/CROPS%20AND%20CONSTRUCTION%20REFERENCE%20PRICES.pdf>

If households chose to resettle, they will be compensated for the labor invested in the trees they leave behind, because they will continue to own the trees left behind under customary rights. It is not uncommon for individuals to own trees in other villages in which they formally lived and, in some cases, to continue to harvest fruit from those trees for subsistence purposes and/or sale to traders. If a household chooses to transfer ownership of the trees, transfer costs will be paid in addition to labor costs. The compensation rate will be based on information obtained from the socio-economic study. From this study, a compensation schedule for mango trees can be developed incorporating the following objectives:

- Replace subsistence mango production yields as quickly as possible.
- Provide subsistence farmers with trees to extend the number of months of the year during which mangoes are produced and can be harvested as a supplemental source of food for their families during their “hungry season”;
- Provide farmers with the opportunity to derive additional production income from trees bearing more valuable fruits at offseason periods.
- Provide cash payments to farmers to replace pre-project income derived from the sale of excess mango production until replacement trees produce the equivalent (or more) in projected cash income.

The compensation schedule is based on providing a combination of new grafted and local trees to farmers, as well as cash payments to offset lost yearly income. The schedule could assume the following (the figures in Rwandan Francs (X no.) to be determined in the socio-economic survey):

**Table 15: Fruits Compensation**

<b>Local Mangoes</b>	
Estimated Avg. Fruit Yield (kg) of Mature tree	1000 to 1,600 kg/year
Estimated Yield used	Ten sacks (3,000kg)/tree/year
Market Price,	Rwandese Franc/kg
Height of harvest season (March/April)	Rwandese Franc/kg
End of season (late May)	
Price used as basis of this estimate	80% height of season; 20% end of season
Years to Production	Six to seven
Years to Maximum Production	Twenty
Costs of Sapling	Rwandan Francs, locally available
<b>Grafted Mangoes</b>	
Estimated Avg. Fruit Yield (kg) of Mature tree	1000 to 1,600 kg/year

Estimated Yield used	Almost entire yield due to market value
Market Price, (varies according to variety) Height of harvest season (June/September)	Rwandan Franc /kg
Price used as basis of this estimate	Price per fruit or sac (100kg) as quoted by growers
Years to Production	four to five
Years to Maximum Production	Eight
Costs of Sapling	Rwandan Franc, not locally available.

**Table 16: Proposed schedule for mango trees cut down.**

Type/Age of Tree	Est. Years	In-kind replacement for Local Mangoes	Credits/Financial Support
Sapling Trees planted after project cut-off date in area will not be eligible for compensation	0-1	Deliver to Farmer: Choice of two mango trees (local and/or improved grafted) Supplies: fencing to protect Tree, a bucket for watering, and a spade.	Rwandan Franc
Sapling/Young Tree First minor production 12-50 fruits occur about age 4-5	1-6	Deliver to farmer: Choice of two mango trees (local and/or improved grafted) Supplies: fencing to protect Tree, a bucket for watering, and a Spade	Equivalent of X no. Rwandan Franc in credits or other financial support for labour invested in planting, fencing, and watering, made in one payment.
Mango Trees Fruit Producing	6-30+	Deliver to farmer: Choice of two mango trees (local and/or improved grafted) Supplies: fencing to protect Tree, a bucket for watering.	Equivalent of X no. Rwandan Franc in credits or other financial support for labour invested in planting, fencing, and watering, made in one payment.  Equivalent of X no. Rwandan Franc in credits or other financial support, representing eight years, (8 years' x 10 sacks x Rwandan

Type/Age of Tree	Est. Years	In-kind replacement for Local Mangoes	Credits/Financial Support
			<p>Franc /sack) lost income/subsistence until replacement trees begin production.</p> <p>This rate to be agreed by farmers.</p> <p>Total: Equivalent of X no. Rwandan Franc in cash or equivalent financial support to be paid in one instalment.</p>
Mature Trees – Low or Non-Fruit Producing	30+	Same as for mature trees above	Same as above

### Other domestic fruit and shade trees

As defined in this policy, individuals will be compensated for wild trees which are in their land. Wild productive trees belong to the community when they occur in the bush as opposed to fallow land. These trees will be compensated for under the umbrella of the community compensation.

**Table 17: Individual Compensation**

Sub-Category	Unit	Compensation Value (X no. of Rwandan Francs)
foodstuffs & others (e.g. cocoa)	To be determined	
Rubber, wood, timber	To be determined	
<b>Domestic Fruit Trees</b>		
Avocado	Non-productive Productive	
Plantain	Non-productive Productive	
Lemon	Non-productive Productive	
Grapefruit	Non-productive	

Sub-Category	Unit	Compensation Value (X no. of Rwandan Francs)
	Productive	
Papaya	Non-productive	
	Productive	
<b>Shade Trees</b>		
	Young	
	Adult	
<b>Individual owned wild productive trees</b>		
Palm Kernel	Non- productive	
	Productive	
Coconut	Non- productive	
	Productive	
<b>Mango Trees</b>		
2 saplings & equipment	0-1 year	
	1-6 years	
2 saplings & equipment	6+ years	
Catch	Demonstrable loss	according to case
Kitchen Garden		
Beehive		

No compensation will be paid for minor pruning of trees. Compensation for removal of limbs will be prorated based on the number of square meters of surface area removed. The total surface area of the tree will be calculated using the following formula: ( $\frac{1}{2}$  diameter of canopy)  $2 \times 3.14$ .

### 5.5.3. Legal Framework for the Institute of the Real Property Valuers in Rwanda (IRPV) and Land Surveyors

The assets inventory and PAPs identification will be done by the established Institute of the Real Property Valuers in Rwanda (IRPV), this was established by Law N° 17/2010 of 12/05/2010 establishing and organizing the real property valuation profession in Rwanda as published in Official Gazette n° 20 of 17/05/2010. IRPV has set Valuation fees as following: Properties have been classified in different categories for ease of reference while estimating charges and fees for valuation services. Categories are set up by considering the following factors: type (land or building), use (residential, commercial or industrial), and location (town, suburb and rural area).

The land surveyors are working under instructions of the National Land Authority (NLA), an authority established by the Law N°05/2017 of 03/02/2017 Establishing National Land Authority and determining its mission, organisation, and functioning. The same authority has in its mandate to establish the instructions to the land surveyor's professional in Rwanda as stipulated in the article 5 section 10 (b, c and d) of the above law; the current instructions are No 02/2020 of 17/02/2020.

#### **5.5.4. Preparation of Asset Inventory and PAPs identification**

To prepare for compensation and other resettlement benefits, it is imperative that a comprehensive asset and affected persons inventory in the designated areas for the different project components is done. The inventory will specify the different assets, properties affected in each plot of land and their owners. The Institute of the Real Property Valuers in Rwanda (IRPV) which is the entity responsible for undertaking valuation of assets will be responsible for the valuation exercise and will therefore provide independent valuation experts. The valuation document will indicate when the affected person will be notified, and that the inventory will not be official until a second signed copy, verified by project supervisory staff, is returned to the affected person. As part of asset inventory and PAPs identification, mobilisation meeting should be held where potential PAPs will be given information on, PAPs rights and obligations, assets inventory, PAPs identification Procedures, Valuation methods as well as information on Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM). The RAP consultant will work hand in hand with the local leaders of the area to provide enough information to PAPs.

##### **- Assets inventory Procedure**

At each affected land/plot, an independent property valuer will take careful count of all crops and trees. In addition, the Valuer will count and measure all the affected land in the presence of the affected person and a local leader. If the household does not have a person who can read the assets inventory form, they will be requested to identify trusted member of the community to assist them and the cost required will be provided by the project. A compensation assessment form will be filled to record all the properties affected. The licensees or sharecroppers' crops will also be noted and recorded on a separate Compensation Form bearing the names of the licensee or sharecropper. The property of the sharecropper/licensee will be recorded in the presence of the landowner, the licensee/sharecropper and the area leader. All the participating parties will verify the contents of the compensation assessment form and will thereafter append their signatures to this form. The affected persons will take a copy of the compensation assessment while the original will be retained by the Valuer.

**- Land Survey**

A Land Surveyor will demarcate the line route of the project land required for acquisition. He will then demarcate individual affected property so as to determine the different land areas/sizes acquired from each Project Affected Person.

The surveyor will work hand in hand with the affected persons, other community members and the Local Authorities Cell Executive Secretary and village leader). This is mainly for purposes of transparency and confirming line route and ownership of the affected property. In cases where the landowners will be absent, family members, caretakers or spouses will be encouraged to be present and represent the household. The land inventory will specify the different customary tenures under which the different affected plots of land fall (e.g. customary, leasehold, freehold etc.).

**- Socio-economic Profile of each PAP**

The socio-economic survey will reveal a substantial amount of information on the economy and social organization of the affected community. The resettlement expert is expected to review this data so as to identify appropriate and sustainable interventions. Special attention will be paid to the needs of vulnerable people among the PAPs especially households with incomes below the national poverty line, including the landless, elderly, disabled, women, children, and other disadvantaged groups. Given the little number of affected people, a simplified questionnaire will be prepared and used to collect information on affected people. For these reasons, the project funder should bear in mind that resettlement may provide opportunities to an affected community to improve households' conditions, public infrastructure and services and to engage in land use planning that contributes to the long-term development objectives.

#### **5.5.5. Forms of Compensation**

Individual and household compensation will be made in cash, in kind for the fruits trees, and/or through assistance. The type of compensation will be an individual choice although every effort will be made to instil the importance and preference of accepting in kind compensation if the loss amounts to more than 20% of the total loss of subsistence assets. Compensation payments raises issues regarding inflation, security and timing that must be considered. One purpose of providing in-kind compensation is to reduce inflationary pressure on the cost of goods and services. Local inflation may still occur and thus market prices will be monitored within the time period that compensation is being made to allow for adjustments in compensation values. The issue of security, especially for people who will be receiving cash compensation payments should to be addressed by the local administration officials. The RPF has provided an entitlement matrix that shows type of compensation for each category.

In addition to the above, compensation will be done in the following forms;

- Cash payment - compensation will be calculated at new replacement (i.e. un-depreciated and including transaction costs) value and paid in Rwandan Francs. Rates will be adjusted for inflation.
- In-kind compensation - Compensation may include items such as land, houses other buildings, of equal or better value. If building materials are provided transport and labor costs must also be provided.
- Additional assistance - Resettlement assistance will comprise of disturbance allowance valued at 5% of the value of the land and property thereon.
- Economic Rehabilitation Assistance may include training, capacity building as well as provision of assistance to facilitate reestablishment of livelihood assets and description of activities as annexed on 8 number of this framework policy.

The Government of Rwanda will oversee providing and covering the compensation budget.

#### **5.5.6. Consultation and Participatory Approaches**

For all stages of the resettlement plan all relevant stakeholders' groups as mentioned table 5 of this RPF including the PAPs will be consulted and sensitized. This will be done through a series of individual and public meetings. All types of compensation and valuation principles to be followed will clearly be explained to the individuals or households involved. A participatory approach will be adopted for all meetings. Stakeholders and PAPs will be given a chance to freely participate in the meetings and to raise any queries, concerns or questions. All concerns raised will be taken into consideration when preparing the Resettlement Action Plans for each sub-project.

#### **5.5.7. Information Disclosure and Notification**

All eligible PAPs and stakeholders will be informed about the project and the resettlement process. Disclosure and notification of entitlements will be carried out by the compensation teams responsible for implementing the respective Resettlement Plans to enable the dissemination of the results of the land and property compensation assessment process. The individual household database will be updated after individual consultation disclosure. A cut-off date is established as part of determining PAPs eligibility. In special cases where there are no clearly identifiable owners or users of the land or asset, the Resettlement team must notify the respective local authorities and leaders. A "triangulation" of information – affected persons; local leaders and representatives – may help to identify eligible PAPs.

#### **5.5.8. Documentation and verification of land and other assets**

The inventory of all assets and persons shall be compiled in a Valuation Report and a strip map which shall be submitted to the REG-EDCL PIU. The Resettlement Plans Report shall also be prepared and



submitted to the World Bank, as financier of the project for approval. The Resettlement Plan report will contain all the necessary personal information on the PAPs and their household members; their total land holdings; inventory of assets affected; and demographic and socio-economic information for monitoring of impacts. The list of PAPs will also identify individuals/households that are vulnerable to adverse impacts. The verification of ownership of land and other assets shall be done with the help of local authorities, neighbours, clan members, family members and documents like land titles and land sale agreements. At this stage GRM committees should be in place and involved in resolution of complaints that may arise from RAP preparation process including those related to assets inventory and PAPs identification.

A form (Consent Form) detailing the quantities of the affected properties and the total compensation shall be signed by each PAP and witnessed by a spouse, or child above 18 years or any other person as chosen by the PAPs. In addition, the property valuer, the respective village leaders, the implementing agency's representative and representatives of the Sector and Cell will also append their signatures to the consent form.

The implementing agency will keep all copies of the documentation of the whole process. The documents will be referred to during monitoring and evaluation of the resettlement activities. The RAP implementing team shall consider several aspects for proof of eligibility and these will include among others the following: Identity Card or passport or the replacement document provided by local government officials. Consultations with and witnesses like local authorities (Sector/Cell Land Committees and Community leaders, neighbours, family members, elders and the general community will also be undertaken and a copy of Identity Card and a copy of bank cheque or book to prove the right beneficiaries. Identity Card and the Account number of the eligible PAPs will be attached to each PAPs file. This will ensure that the right beneficiaries of the project are compensated.

#### **5.5.9. Individual / Household Compensation**

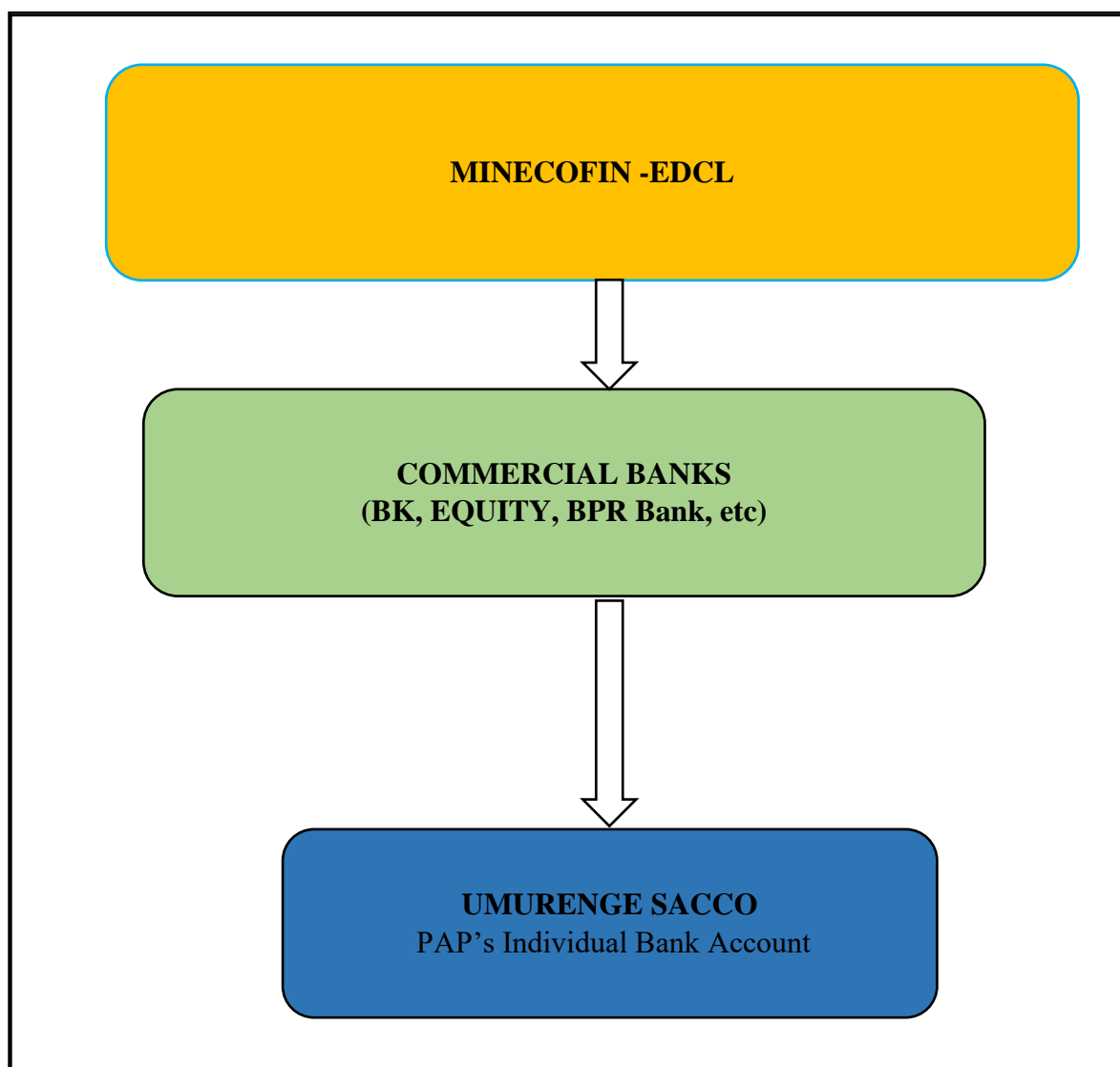
Individual and household compensation will be made in cash, in kind for fruits trees, and/or through assistance. The type of compensation will be an individual choice. However, PAPs will be advised on the importance of accepting in-kind compensation especially when more than 20% of the land has been affected as stated in ESS5. All in kind compensation will be handed over to the PAP in the presence of the local leaders (Sector, Cell and village), district representatives and representatives of the PIU.

#### **5.5.10. Procedures for Delivery of Compensation**

It is recommended that compensation be made through reputable local banks (Umurenge SACCO). This will ensure security of the PAPs money especially for those receiving large amount. Forms acknowledging receipt of the compensation packages shall be signed by each PAP and SACCO will

provide the financial report for the fund transferred from MINECOFIN-EDCL through commercial Bank working the host SACCOs where the PAPs opened account. Below is the proposed cash flow from central government to the individual PAPs' account.

**Figure 2: Proposed funds flow for the Compensation to the PAPs' Account**



**Source:** Autor own Construct, 2024

## **5.6. Resettlement Action Plan and Grievance Redress Mechanism**

Impacts on property by Project activities could be inevitable and may give rise to grievances among affected people. This could vary from rates of valuation, compensation eligibility criteria and actual compensation payments. Timely redress or resolution of such grievances is vital to ensure successful implementation of the project. Grievance mechanisms provide a way to reduce risk for projects, provide an effective avenue for expressing concerns and achieving remedies for communities, and promote a mutually constructive relationship and enhance the achievement of project development objectives. Grievance mechanisms are increasingly important for project where ongoing risks or adverse impacts are anticipated. They serve as a way to meet requirements, prevent and address community concerns, reduce risk, and assist larger processes that create positive social change.

### **5.6.1. Community expectations when grievances arise**

When local people present a grievance, they generally expect to receive one or more of the following:

- Acknowledgment of their problem.
- An honest response to questions about project activities.
- An apology.
- Compensation.
- Modification of the conduct that caused the grievance.
- Some other fair remedy.

In voicing their concerns, they also expect to be heard and taken seriously. Therefore, the PIU must convince people that they can voice grievances and the project will work to resolve them.

### **5.6.2. Anticipated Grievances During the Implementation of Proposed Project**

Potential grievances and disputes that arise during the course of implementation of the resettlement and compensation program for proposed project may be related to the following issues:

- Inventory mistakes made during census survey as well as inadequate valuation of properties;
- Mistakes related to identification and disagreements on boundaries between affected individual(s) and specifying their land parcels and associated development;
- Disagreements on plot/asset valuation;
- Divorces, successor and family issues resulting into ownership dispute or disputes shared between heirs or family;
- Disputed ownership of a given assets (two or more affected individual(s) claim the same); and

- Where affected individual(s) opt for are settlement-based option, disagreement on their settlement package (the location of the resettlement site does not suit them);
- PAPs without identity or inactive Bank accounts.

Despite best efforts regarding the public consultation and community relations, there will be times when the developer and PAPs disagree. Affected persons will be informed of their rights to raise grievances via Resettlement information sharing initiatives. Mechanisms will be put in place to ensure that grievances are recorded and considered fairly and appropriately.

### **5.6.3. Procedures and Timeframe**

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

- Receive and register a complaint;
- Screen and validate the complaint;
- Carry out the investigation on complaint;
- Formulate a response;
- Select a resolution approach, based on consultation with affected person/group;
- Implement the approach;
- Settle the issues;
- Track and evaluate results;
- Learn from the experience and communicate back to all parties involved.

### **5.6.4. Grievance Prevention**

There are ways to proactively solve issues before they even become grievances. PIU should be aware and accept that grievances do occur, that dealing with them is part of the work, and that they should be considered in a work plan. Implementers should do the following:

- **Provide sufficient and timely information to the affected communities.**

Many grievances arise because of misunderstandings; lack of information; or delayed, inconsistent or insufficient information. Accurate and adequate information about a project and its activities, plus an approximate implementation schedule, should be communicated to the communities, especially PAPs, regularly. Appropriate communication channels and means of communication should be used.

**- Conduct meaningful community consultations.**

REG-EDCL PIU will continue the process of consultation and dialogue throughout the implementation of the sub-project. Sharing information, reporting on project progress, providing community members with an opportunity to express their concerns, clarifying and responding to their issues, eliciting community's views, and receiving feedback on interventions will benefit the communities and the project management.

**- Build capacity for project staff, particularly Energy Project Liaison officers and GRC.**

The REG-EDCL PIU staff should be provided with adequate information on the project such as project design, activities, implementing schedules, and institutional arrangements as well as enhanced skills in effective communication, understanding community dynamics and processes, negotiation and conflict resolution, and empathizing with communities and their needs. Building trust and maintaining good rapport with the communities by providing relevant information on the project and responding effectively to the needs and concerns of the community members will help solve issues before they even become grievances. It is also important that local leaders and field-level staff provide regular feedback on their interactions with the communities to the higher levels of the implementing agencies.

## **5.7. GRIEVANCE REDRESS MECHANISM**

### **5.7.1. Introduction**

A grievance mechanism has been developed for potential use by all interested stakeholders. The aim of the grievance mechanism is to achieve mutually agreed resolution of grievances raised by such stakeholders. This grievance mechanism ensures that complaints and grievances are addressed in good faith and through a transparent and impartial process, but one which is culturally acceptable.

Grievances raised by stakeholders need to be managed through a transparent process, readily acceptable to all segments of affected communities and other stakeholders, at no cost and without retribution. The grievance mechanism should be appropriate to the scale of impacts and risks presented by a project and beneficial for both a proponent/operator and stakeholders, especially PAPs.

The types of grievances stakeholders may raise include, but are not limited to:

- i. Negative impacts on communities, which may include, but not be limited to financial loss, physical harm and nuisance from construction or operational activities.
- ii. Community Health and safety risks.
- iii. Negative impacts on the environment such as pollution of water ways, soil, and air; dust emission, water run off of the PAPs farms
- iv. Relocation of public utilities (water pipes, internet, existing electrical line), and

- v. Unacceptable behavior by staff or employees from the contractors or sub-contractors.

It is critical that stakeholders understand that all grievances lodged, regardless of the project phase or activity being implemented, will follow one single mechanism. The mechanism must not impede access to other judicial or administrative remedies.

### **5.7.2. Objectives of Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM)**

The GRM works within existing legal and cultural frameworks, providing an additional opportunity to resolve grievances at the local, project level. The key objectives of the GRM are:

- i. Record, categorize and prioritize the grievances.
- ii. Settle the grievances via consultation with all stakeholders (and inform those stakeholders of the solutions).
- iii. Provide feedback to the aggrieved party.
- iv. Forward any unresolved cases to the relevant authorities.

It is vital that appropriate signage is erected at the sites of all works providing the public with updated project information and summarising the GRM process, including contact details of the relevant Project Contact Person within the project implementation unit. Anyone shall be able to lodge a complaint and the methods (forms, in different community meetings, in person, telephone, forms written in Kinyarwanda) should not inhibit the lodgement of any complaint.

### **5.7.3. Grievance Redress Process**

#### **5.7.3.1. Project Level Grievance Redress Mechanism: Grievance Redress Committee (GRC)**

As the GRM works within existing legal and cultural frameworks, it is organized in such a way that the Grievance Redress Committee (GRC) will comprise of local community representative, PAPs representative, local authority representative at village and cell levels, Contractor and Supervising firm representative. Members of GRC are presented below with their roles and responsibilities.

Many projects related grievances are site-specific. Often, they are related to impacts generated during construction such as noise, dust, vibration, contamination, workers dispute etc. Most of the time, they can be resolved easily on site with the contractor commitment to implement the ESMP and proper supervision by the implementing agencies and administrative District officials. Other grievances are more sensitive especially when they are about land boundaries, or misunderstandings between affected households and the Contractor regarding access arrangements, properties accidentally damaged by construction activities, accidents on sites among others. All these grievances and claims must be resolved as soon as they are received.

The grievance procedure at project level will be simple and administered at the extent possible at the local levels to facilitate access, flexibility and ensure transparency. All the grievances will be channelled via the Grievance Resolution Committees specifically established for the project at Cell, Sector and District level. Stakeholders will be allowed to use any means easily accessible to them to voice their concerns and complaints such as filling a grievance form, sending an email, using phone etc. Complaints will be filled in a Grievance Register that will be distributed to GRC free of charge, this register will be available to the hierarchical level for verification of the complaint and an investigation will be carried out by the hierarchical committee members to verify its authenticity. Thereafter a resolution approach will be selected based on the findings. The decisions of the action to be taken will be communicated to all involved parties mainly in written form.

All measures will be undertaken to ensure that the grievance is solved amicably between the concerned parties. If the grievance is not solved at Cell level, Sector or District level, the courts of law will be the last resort at the borrower level. The complainants can also submit the grievance to the World Bank Grievance Redress Services as indicated in below section. Efficiency in solving of the grievances will be of paramount importance. The selection of members for the sub-project grievance committee will be at the discretion of the PAPs to decide basing on information provided by the PIU.

In practice, some complaints are expected to appear. This is on the assumption that all proposed works are within the public land where the farmer have many types of crops and trees, this will be specifically on the component one of Increasing access to grid electricity during grid connections for households, commercial and industrial consumers, and public institutions.

However, some complaints are likely to be associated with construction of medium voltage lines impacts. Most are received directly on site by the Contractor's Site Manager/Engineer who will mandatory be responsible to resolve these issues on site. The Contractor will inform and Grievance Committee (GRC) of these complaints and their outcomes, and of others not satisfactorily resolved that the Grievance Committee should take over. The GRC will log these in the Complaints Register and inform the Project Implementation Unit.

At each level of the project GRC, complaints will be solved within a period of 24-48 hours or otherwise handed to the next level, this will also involve women PAPs and the GRM will be open for all PAPs as indicated in the RGM member table 13 of this RPF where the women will be represented in Grievance Redress Mechanism. Once at judiciary level, due process as mandated by the law will be followed depending on what the courts will require.

Through citizen engagement meetings the PAPs will be informed of the different grievance mechanisms in place for them to lodge their complaints and dissatisfactions.

### **5.7.3.2. World Bank Grievance Redress Service**

The Grievance Redress Service (GRS) is an avenue for individuals and communities to submit complaints directly to the World Bank if they believe that a World Bank-supported project has or is likely to have adverse effects on them, their community, or their environment. The GRS enhances the World Bank's responsiveness and accountability to project-affected communities by ensuring that grievances are promptly reviewed and addressed. The procedures can be accessed from <https://www.worldbank.org/en/projects-operations/products-and-services/grievance-redress-service>

### **5.7.3.3. Labor Related Grievance Mechanism.**

In order to create a working environment that provides safety and security to all workers, contractors will be required to present a worker's grievance redress mechanism that responds to the requirements of ESS2. For direct workers, the mechanism should involve an appropriate level of management and address concerns promptly, using an understandable and transparent process that provides feedback to those concerned, without any retribution. The contractor will inform the workers of the grievance mechanism at the time of hiring and make it easily accessible to them. Under this step, the contractor shall develop the labor management procedures consistent with the developed LMP for ASCENT Project.

#### **For workers and labor contracting issues.**

**(i) Individual labor disputes: Article 102 of law n° 66/2018 of 30/08/2018 regulating labor in Rwanda**

Workers will elect representatives who will form a committee that will act as the Workers Grievance Redress Committee. As mandated by article 102 of the law regulating labor in Rwanda, the employees' representatives amicably settle individual labor disputes between employers and employees. If employees' representatives fail to settle the disputes amicably, the concerned party refers the matter to the labor inspector of the area where the enterprise is located. In the case of this program, it will be the District where activities are being carried out. If the Labor Inspector of the District fails to settle the dispute due to the nature of the case or conflict of interests, he/she refers the dispute to the Labor Inspector at the national level stating grounds to refer such a dispute. If amicable settlement fails at the national level, the case is referred to the competent court.

In any case, the PIU will be informed from the beginning of any workers grievances and provide insight and mediation if possible. The matter will be referred to the labor inspector only if the PIU fails to do the mediation.



**(ii) Collective labor disputes: LAW N° 66/2018 OF 30/08/2018 regulating labor in Rwanda**

The law requires that collective labour disputes be directly notified to the labor inspector of the area by the workers representatives. Within this framework, any collective labor disputes that will arise under the program, will be addressed to labor inspector at District level for assessment and settlement. In case of escalation, the matter will be referred to the national level.

Before escalating the collective labor dispute, the PIU through the Environmental and Social Specialists will be alerted. Necessary investigations will be conducted, and the contractor will be duly approached. The matter will be referred to the labor inspector only if the PIU and workers representatives fail at amicable settlement.

**For workers safety issues**

All grievances related to workers health and safety will be addressed through the Occupational Health and Safety committee as required by Article 78 of the labor law (see section 10).

***Grievance process for non-labor related issues involving project workers.***

In the project area there might be other conflicts related to relationships between the workers and the local community. Depending on who is the aggrieved party, the following mechanism will be used:

- (iii) **A worker- against another worker:** These grievances will be handled through the Workers Grievance Committee/representatives.
- (iv) **Community member – against a worker:** If there are any grievances from a community member against a worker, they will be handled through the Workers Grievance Committees/representatives.
- (v) **Worker- against a community member:** The project will establish a project grievance committee at various levels of the local administration scheme in Rwanda from the Cell, Sector up to the District Level as a local Government. This grievance mechanism as described in the Labor Management Procedure, Stakeholder Engagement Plan, RPF and Environmental and Social Management Framework, will have the mandate of solving all complaints and grievances related to project activities and impacting local communities. Any grievance from a worker against a community member will be handled through this committee.

**5.7.4. Grievance channel for Gender-Based Violence**

As Gender -Based Violence, Sexual Exploitation and Abuse or Sexual Harassment requires timely access to quality, multi-sectoral services and involves confidentiality and informed consent of the GBV victim. To this end, RUEAP will develop a GBV Action plan that will include an Accountability and Response

Framework, and this will form part of project C-ESMP. The GBV Action Plan will identify service providers in the project areas with minimum package of services (health, psychosocial, legal/security, safe house/shelter, and livelihood). The GBV Action Plan will also provide enough details to allow for the development of a localized referral pathways, will establish procedures of handling cases as part of the service providers mapping. The bidding documents will clearly define GBV requirements. During implementation phase, separate facilities for women and men will be recommended to all contractors with indication signage. Gender Action Plan (GAP) which shall be developed under this project will provide more detail.

#### **5.7.5. Judiciary Level Grievance Redress Mechanism**

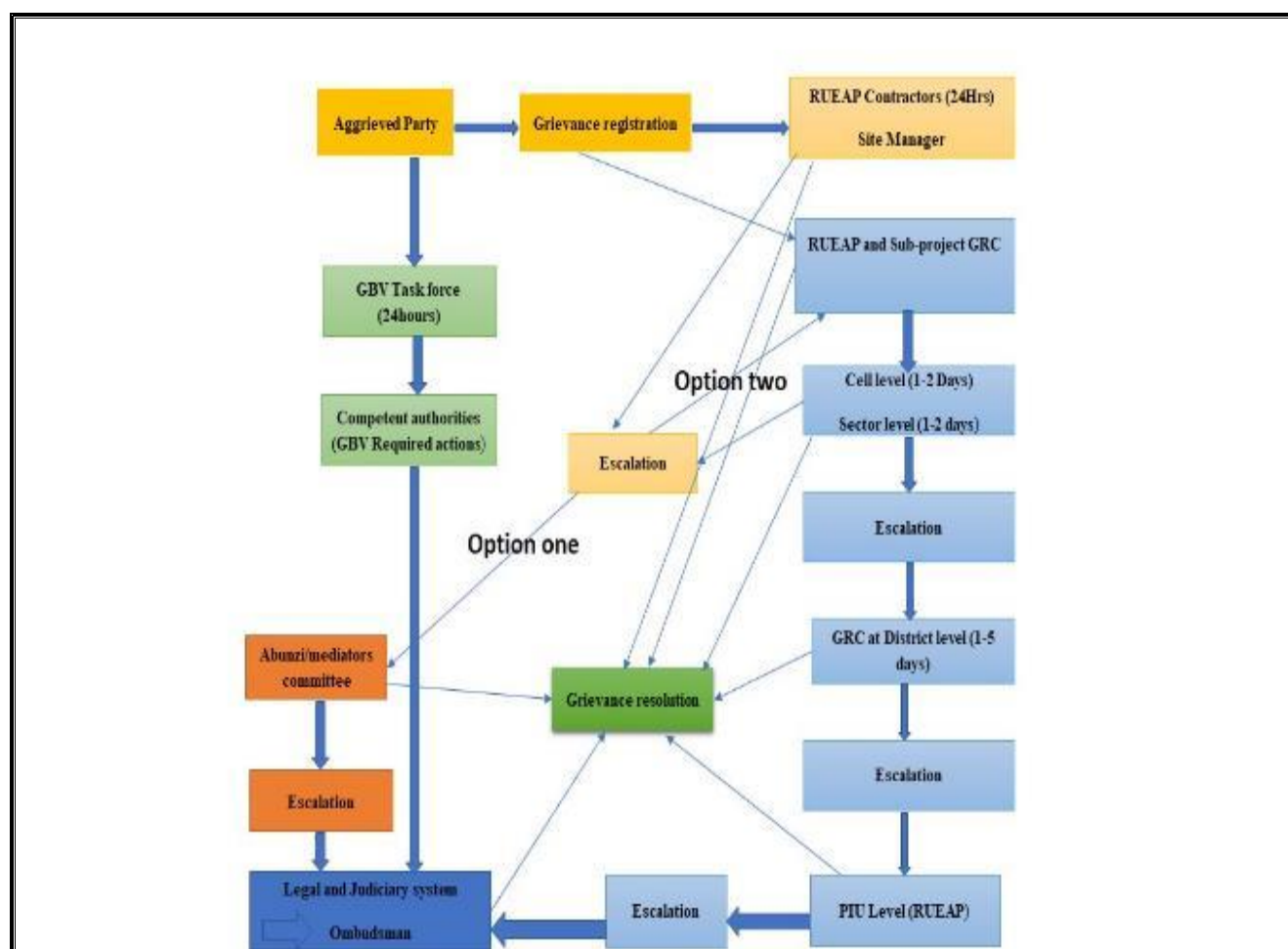
The project level process will not impede PAPs access to the legal system. Local communities have existing traditional and cultural grievance redress mechanisms (Abunzi committees) established and regulated by law no 37/2016 of 08/09/2016 determining organization, jurisdiction, and competence and functioning of Abunzi committee. These are established at cell and Sector level to solve community-based conflicts and grievances their regulatory body being the Ministry of Justice. This mechanism cannot be overlooked by the project. The population can choose to use this channel instead of the project GRC. The escalation at this level leads to the court process. At any time, the complainant may take the matter to the appropriate legal or judicial authority as per Rwanda National Legal procedure.

- It is encouraged to resolve the issues at Cell and Sector levels, as they are so close to the affected communities, aware of and involved in the whole process. The unsolved grievance at the cell level can be referred to the sector and the district good governance department.
- Mediators commonly known as “Abunzi”, for negotiation and mediation.
- The relevant local administration at the sector or district, will then attempt to resolve the problem (through dialogue, negotiation, and mediation) within 7 calendar days of the complaint being lodged.
- The complaint will be escalated to the implementing agency for amicable settlement of the dispute.
- If the grievance is not resolved in this way, the dissatisfied party can refer the matter to the competent court. Local courts should be used. If not resolved, then the high court or court of appeal of Rwanda remains an avenue for voicing and resolving these complaints. In this process, the aggrieved party is encouraged to seek for MAJ services to facilitate in mediation of the complaint. MAJ is Access to Justice Bureau, where at the district they are 3 lawyers that sent by MINIJUST, who provide advisory services on conflicts but do not take a resolution. They perform mediation and do arbitration for those with conflicts. They also explain to people their entitlements

as per law of whatever conflict raised. It is a level that tries to reduce court cases. The MAJ service is free of charge.

- In case the aggrieved party is not satisfied with the proceedings, the grievance can be taken to the office of Ombudsman.
- Implementing Agencies and the District will follow up the aggrieved PAP at each level to ensure that the grievances are resolved.
- The channels of receiving complaints include presentation of complaints via face-to-face meetings, written complaints, telephones, email communication, third party (e.g., farmers' organizations, Church, private sector, NGOs advocating for the citizens, etc).

**Figure 3: Grievance Redress Process for the Implementation of ASCENT Project**



**Source:** Autor own Construct, 2024

**Table 18: Process, stage, and timeframe for grievance resolution**

Stage	Process	Duration
1a	<p>Since most of complaints during the execution of works involves directly the contractor, at first the Aggrieved Party (AP) will take his/her grievance to the contractor representative site Manager (CSM) of the relevant subproject who will endeavour to resolve it immediately. The contractor representative or site Manager will inform the District Electricity and Maintenance officer or the appointed focal project at the district level. Where AP is not satisfied, the complaint will be transferred to the Sub-project Grievance Redress Committee (GRC) at cell level. For complaints that were satisfactorily resolved by the Contractor, he/she will inform the GRC and the GRC will log the grievance and the actions that were taken.</p> <p>There is also a possibility that the AP directly takes his/her complainants directly to the GRC without going to the Contractor or Site Manager first. In this case, the GRC will solve it working with the Contractor or Site Manager.</p>	24hours
1b	The AP may choose to escalate the grievance to the Abunzi Mediation Committee <sup>1</sup> especially if she/he is not directly linked to the sub-project.	Not fixed
2	On receipt of the complaint, the GRC at cell level will endeavour to resolve it immediately. In case the GRC at cell level fail to solve the complaint, it will be escalated to the GRC at Sector level. If unsuccessful, the GRC or the complainant then notifies District Officials.	1-2 days at Cell level 1-2days at Sector level
3	The District Officials where the project activities are being implemented, he/she will endeavour to address and resolve the complaint and inform the aggrieved party. The District Authority will refer the complaint to the Project Implementation Unit (RUEAP) with other unresolved grievances for their consideration.	1 – 5 days
4	If it remains unresolved or the complainant is dissatisfied with the outcome proposed by the PIU, he/she is free to refer the matter to the court of law.	1 – 7 days
5	If the issue remains unresolved through the courts, then the ultimate step will be for the ombudsman. The decisions at this level are final.	Not fixed

<sup>1</sup> The word Abunzi can be translated from Kinyarwanda as ‘those who reconcile’ or ‘those who bring together’ (from verb kunga). In the traditional Rwanda, Abunzi were men known within their communities for personal integrity and were asked to intervene in the event of conflict. Each conflicting party would choose a person considered trustworthy, known as a problem-solver, and who was unlikely to alienate either party, the result is a set of Home-Grown Solutions - culturally owned practices translated into sustainable development programs.

Stage	Process	Duration
6	The dimension represented in purple is strictly for GBV related matters. The AP will approach directly the GBV task force to ensure her/his anonymity and safety. However, in case the complaint was addressed first to the contractor's Site Manager, the latter is required to immediately refer it to the task force. The GBV task force will work with competent authorities to ensure the proposed official structure for GBV has respected to guarantee the victim the real justice and required medical care.	Not fixed

**Table 19: Proposed Members of GRC and their roles under ASCENT Project.**

No	Member of GRC	Roles and responsibilities
1	President (from the PAPs representative)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Chairing meetings;</li> <li>- Give direction on how received grievances will be processed;</li> <li>- Assign organizational responsibility for proposing a response;</li> <li>- Referring cases to next level;</li> <li>- Speaks on behalf of GRC and s/he is the one to report to the cell or the sector administration level;</li> <li>- Represents the interests of aggrieved parties.</li> <li>- Give feedback on the efficiency of GRM.</li> </ul>
3	Village leader	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Represents local government at village level;</li> <li>- Resolves and lead community level grievance redress</li> <li>- Sends out notices for meetings;</li> <li>- Records all grievance received and report them to next local level</li> </ul>
4	Cell executive secretary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Proposes responses to grievances and lead in resolving community grievance unsolved from village level;</li> <li>- Records and reports all grievances received from village leaders;</li> <li>- Chairs sensitization meeting at the cell level during public consultations meetings;</li> <li>- Assists and guides in identifying vulnerable and disadvantaged groups within the cell.</li> <li>- Signs the valuations sheets for compensation facilitate a proper Resettlement Plan</li> </ul>

No	Member of GRC	Roles and responsibilities
5	Women and youth representatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Represent the interests of women and youth;</li> <li>- Advocate for equity and equal opportunities;</li> <li>- Help in prevention of sexual harassment and promote wellbeing of the women and youth</li> <li>- Take part in resolution of any grievance related to sexual harassment and any gender domestic violence that may arise;</li> <li>- Mobilize women and youth to be active in income generating activities specifically for opportunities in the project's intervention areas.</li> </ul>
6	Contractor representative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Receive and log complaints/grievances, note date and time, contact details, nature of complaint and inform complainant of when to expect response;</li> <li>- Handle complaints revolved around nuisance resulted from construction and endeavor to handle them satisfactory;</li> <li>- Inform engineer (supervisor) and GRC of received complaints/grievances and outcomes and forward unresolved complaints/grievance to GRC</li> <li>- Attend community meetings, respond and react to PAPs complaints raised concerning the contractor.</li> </ul>
7	Supervising firm representative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Represent client (EDCL);</li> <li>- Ensure that all grievances raised have been responded to, and that the contractor responds to the complaints raised concerning them,</li> <li>- Attend community meetings and respond to all concerns related to ASCENT from community</li> <li>- Report on monthly basis the progress of GRM process.</li> </ul>

**Table 20: Proposed Members of the GBV Taskforce under ASCENT Project.**

Institution	Staff position
PIU National level (RUEAP)	Gender Specialist
PIU (District level, where the project will be implemented)	Gender Monitoring Officer, Environmental and Social Safeguards Officer
Contractor	Human Resources Officer, Social Safeguards Specialist

Institution	Staff position
Supervising firm	Social Safeguards Specialist and or Gender Specialist
NGOs Intervening in GBV issues	Designated representative from the JADF Districts

As mandated by the law on gender equality, women representation will make up at least 30% of the GRC. All PAPs representatives will be directly elected by their peers and the number of members may vary depending on the context and particularities of each sub-project site characteristics.

The project will plan to facilitate any other person external to the project to communicate with the project, to provide or request for information or file a complaint. These arrangements are provided in the table below.

#### 5.7.6. Other Methods of Communication with the Stakeholders

To communicate with the project stakeholders by sending their recommendations, claims, and observations are summarized in the following table.

**Table 21: Methods to be used during Communication with the Stakeholders**

Methods	Description
<b>Project webpage</b>	The ESF documents will be disclosed in the implementing agencies of the project – a specific webpage will be prepared for ASCENT Project containing project description, implementing arrangements and ESF documents including to communicate with the team, and the email, phone of contact of the concerned PIU Senior Environmental and Social safeguards Specialist or Social Safeguards Specialist.
<b>Community project Displaying board</b>	In a community selection point or the Administrative District, a Displaying board with project information, timeline, and information of the works, contractor, announcements will be placed and box for comments/suggestions will be placed with a lock so only the environmental or social safeguards can open and respond to any messages. Any complaint from a third party can be filed using this method.
<b>E-mail, Telephone, instant message, or other social media</b>	All contacts of the environmental and social safeguards of PIU at National or District Energy Project liaison officers will be made public to be used by any stakeholder or third party willing to ask for information, provide suggestion or file a complaint. The telephone number of the concerned safeguards shall be



Methods	Description
	made available on the disclosed safeguards documents to facilitate the public and stakeholders in general to express their concern for effective engagement.
<b>Attending and participating in the community meeting on regular basis</b>	The safeguards and genders specialists shall closely work with the intervening local government officials to organize and attend the meeting with the stakeholders, mainly the safeguards shall participate in the stakeholders' concerns address and resolution as well as document the raised issues and provide adequate feedback during the engagement process. These shall include but not limited to Inteko z'Abaturage (community assemblies) and Umuganda (Community Works)

### 57.7. Grievance Log Book

The GRM Committees will ensure that each complaint has an individual reference number and is appropriately tracked, and recorded actions are completed.

The log will contain record of the person responsible for an individual complaint, and records dates for the following events:

- i. Date the complaint was reported.
- ii. Date the Grievance Log was added onto the project database;
- iii. Date information on proposed corrective action sent to complainant (if appropriate);
- iv. The date the complaint was closed out; and
- v. Date response was sent to complainant.

### 5.7.8. Monitoring of Complaints

The monitoring of complaints will be done by administrative districts and PIU at REG/EDCL on regular basis. The monitoring team will be responsible for:

- i. Providing the sub-project Resettlement and Compensation Committee with a Monthly report detailing the number and status of complaints;
- ii. Any outstanding issues to be addressed; and
- iii. Quarterly reports, including analysis of the type of complaints, levels of complaints, actions to reduce complaints and initiator of such action.

## 5.8. Approval of Resettlement Action Plans

In Rwanda involuntary resettlement is governed by expropriation law and valuation law. Both laws do not have provisions on Resettling Plan preparation and approval. Instead, the expropriation defines the



process of expropriation and valuation while the resettlement impacts are assessed together with the ESIA report. The chapter III of the law n° 32/2015 of 11/06/2015 relating to expropriation in the public interest expropriation law defines steps to be undertaken for expropriation as follows:

#### **5.8.1. Organs determining projects of expropriation in the public interest**

Organs which determine projects of expropriation in the public interest are the following:

- 1) The executive committee at the district level, in case such activities concern one district;
- 2) The executive committee at the level of the City of Kigali, in case such activities concern more than one district in the boundaries of the City;
- 3) The relevant ministry, in case planned activities concern more than one district or if it is an activity at the national level, subject to provisions of item 2° of this Article, therefore the latter will intervene under the ASCENT Project.

#### **5.8.2. Organs Supervising Projects of Expropriation in the Public Interest**

Organs in charge of supervising projects of expropriation in the public interest are hereby established as follows:

- 1) The committee in charge of supervision of projects of expropriation in the public interest at the district level where the project concerns one district.
- 2) The committee in charge of supervision of projects of expropriation in the public interest at the City of Kigali level where the project concerns more than one district within the boundaries of the City.
- 3) The committee in charge of supervision of projects of expropriation due to public interest at the national level where the project concerns more than one district or it is a project at the national level, subject to the provisions of item 2° of this article.

#### **5.8.3. Organs Approving Expropriation in the Public Interest**

The organs approving expropriation in the public interest are the following:

- At the district level, it is the district council after considering the recommendation of the committee in charge of supervision of projects of expropriation in the public;
- At the level of the City of Kigali, where the project concerns more than one district within the boundaries of the City of Kigali, it is the council of the City of Kigali after considering the recommendation of the committee in charge of supervision of projects of expropriation in the public interest at the level of the City of Kigali;
- At the level of more than one district, the ministry in charge of land, upon proposal by the committee in charge of supervision of projects of expropriation in the public interest at national level subject to provisions of item 2 of this Article. A ministerial order shall be used;

- At the national level and in case of activities related to security and national sovereignty, the Prime Minister's Office upon proposal by the committee in charge of supervision of projects of expropriation in the public interest at the national level by way of a Prime Minister's order.

#### **5.8.4. Procedure for Expropriation in the Public Interest**

Procedures for expropriation are as follows:

- Request for expropriation in the public interest by project proponent/ developer;
- Consideration of the relevance of the project proposal for expropriation in the public interest by relevant committee;
- Decision on the relevance of a project of expropriation in the public interest;
- Approval of expropriation in the public interest;
- Publication of the decision on a project for expropriation in the public interest;
- Valuation of assets and agreement on compensation measures;
- Compensation.

For the proposed project the preparation, approval and implementation of resettlement Plan shall be done in accordance to the organic law on expropriation for public interests but also in compliance with World Bank ESS5. Resettlement Action Plan prepared under this project will be reviewed and cleared by the Bank. Once the Resettlement Action Plan has been finalized and cleared it will be publicly disclosed by REG and the World Bank shall also make the Resettlement Action Plan available to the public through its external website (Info-Shop).

#### **5.8.5. Resettlement Action Plan Implementing Agencies**

As per national laws, only Government of Rwanda is authorized to expropriate landowners for public interest and the valuation of assets should be done by an independent valuer. To this end, REG-EDCL PIU will work with local administration in the entire process of Resettlement preparation and Implementation specifically for signing off, consultation with the PAPs and other stakeholders, the GRC which will be established at Cell level in the project area. REG-EDCL PIU will have overall responsibility of monitoring and evaluating the resettlement and compensation activities while the World Bank shall periodically supervise the resettlement and compensation action plan activities to ensure compliance with the prepared RPF and RAP requirements.

## **VI. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

Community engagement is a vital component of the resettlement process. The consultation and engagement process focuses on providing information on the proposed project in a manner that can be understood and interpreted by the relevant audience, seeking comment on key issues and concerns, sourcing accurate information, identifying potential impacts and offering the opportunity for alternatives or objections to be raised by the potentially affected parties; non-governmental organizations, members of the public and other stakeholders. Consultation has also been found to develop a sense of stakeholder ownership of the project and the realization that their concerns are taken seriously, and that the issues they raise, if relevant, are addressed in the RPF and resettlement Plan process and will be considered during project design.

Given that the project affected people and affected community are not well identified, this Resettlement Framework provides a description of mechanisms for consultations with, and participation of, displaced persons in planning, implementation, and monitoring. It provides also feedback on initial consultation held with key stakeholders and the list of people consulted and to be consulted during its implementation, the list of the consulted people shall be enclosed within the Resettlement Action Plan (RAP) for each sub-project.

### **6.1. Public Consultation**

#### **6.1.1. Overview**

Public consultation and stakeholder engagement are the basis for building strong, constructive, and responsive relationships that are essential for the successful management of a project's environmental and social impacts. Stakeholder engagement is an on-going process that involves the following elements: stakeholder analysis and planning, disclosure and dissemination of information, consultation and participation, grievance mechanism and on-going reporting to affected communities.

#### **6.1.2. Purpose of Public Consultation**

The purpose of the public consultation meeting and stakeholder's engagement will be as follows:

- To prepare communities on potential emergency scenarios that could be caused by the project and can affect the community.
- To build a trusting relationship with the affected communities and other interested stakeholders based on a transparent and timely supply of information and open dialogue.
- To ensure effective engagement with local communities and other key stakeholders throughout all phases of the project.
- To actively build and maintain productive working relationships, based on principles of transparency, accountability, accuracy, trust, respect and mutual interests with affected

communities and other stakeholders.

- To get input on impacts and mitigation design.

## **6.2. Public Consultations and Participation**

Public participation and community consultation has been taken up and should continue to be an integral part of social and environmental assessment process of the project. Consultation is used as a tool to inform project affected people, beneficiaries and stakeholders about the proposed activities both before and after the development decisions are made. It assisted in identification of the problems associated with the project as well as the needs of the population likely to be impacted. This participatory process helps in reducing the public resistance to change and enabled the participation of the local people in the decision making process. Initial Public consultation has been carried out with key institutions involved in project implementation and land acquisition. Further consultation are planned during the preparation and implementation of Resettlement Action Plans. The objectives of those consultations is to minimize probable adverse impacts of the project and to achieve speedy implementation of the project through bringing in awareness among the community on the benefits of the project. Under this project, the public consultation took place from 14<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> August 2023 from local to central administrative level.

## **6.3. Stakeholders Consultations**

Key stakeholders have been identified and initial discussions held with decision making bodies, key stakeholders, sector institutions and specialist experts were made on the very concepts and nature of the proposed project, giving emphasis on levels of public participation, role of key stakeholders and joint contributions of these actors to the success of the project. In addition, the scope of the proposed project and possible means of maximizing local communities' social, economic and environmental benefits from the project implementation were underlined. Key stakeholders identified for consultation during preparation and implementation of Resettlement Action Plans include but not limited to the following:

### **At national level:**

- Ministry of Environment (MoE).
- Ministry of Infrastructure (MININFRA).
- Rwanda Environment Management Authority (REMA).
- Rwanda Standards Board (RSB).
- Rwanda Development Board (RDB).
- National Land Authority (NLA).

### **At local level:**

- Local Government Officials (Districts and Sectors).

- REG District Branch managers and
- Potential Project Affected Persons (PAPs).
- Community benefiting from the project activities.
- Community opinion leaders.
- Local NGOs interested in resettlement activities.

List of consulted people and those to be consulted during Resettlement process is provide as annex 3 of this RPF.

#### **6.4. Public Participation – Methods and Process**

During the Public consultation, the study team applied different participatory methods, namely; interviews, face-to-face discussions, focused group discussions (FGD) and official meetings with stakeholders. Stakeholders consulted were informed on the proposed project and by using the key guiding questionnaires, the study was able to guide discussions and obtain relevant information on the likely impacts of the project activities. The detail on the engaged stakeholders will be provided in developed stakeholders Engagement Plan (SEP) for ASCENT Project.

#### **6.5. Disclosure of Resettlement Instruments**

The WB ESF disclosure policy requires that RPF as well as Resettlement Action Plans are disclosed in country and at World Bank external website, prior to disclosure, the RPF and all final RAPs will be cleared/approved by the Government of Rwanda and development partner for specific subproject. For any revisions made to the final disclosed instruments the same approval disclosure protocols will be followed. These reports should be made available to project affected groups, local NGOs, and the public at large extend. Public disclosure of safeguards instruments such ESIA and resettlement decisions, is also a requirement of the Rwanda's environmental procedures.

REG will disclose this Resettlement Policy Framework, by making copies available at its head office and at concerned administrative Districts office. Copies will be made for easy consultations every time it is needed. Further, this RPF and associated Resettlement Action Plans will be disclosed at REG and concerned administrative Districts websites and when PAPs are known, the project will communicate to them where the Resettlement Action Plan and this RPF can be accessed and consulted. Given that most of PAPs may not understand the RAP language, the project will provide a summary translated in local language (Kinyarwanda) and copies of this summary should be available at concerned Sectors offices where the project will be implemented. The RAP consultant will be responsible to arrange this summary in local and understandable language during the process of RAP or Baseline Valuation Report preparation.

Furthermore, the Government of Rwanda will authorize the World Bank to disclose electronically this RPF through its external website. Likewise, all Resettlement Action Plans to be prepared under the

project, will be disclosed by REG at national level, at administrative Districts level the same way as RPF.

#### 6.6. Feedback from initial consultation from stakeholders

Initial one-to-one consultation and meeting were held with government institutions, concerned administrative districts officials, Administrative Sectors level, REG District Branches, few numbers of members of local communities and others.

#### Summary of Attendance of the Engaged Stakeholders per Province

**Table 22: Timeframe for RPF Stakeholder's Consultation**

##### 1. Northern Province

Dates of consultation	Administrative District name	Participants category	Participants by gender		Total
			Male	Female	
16/08/2023 21/08/2023	GICUMBI	District leaders, Executive secretaries of sectors, Land Managers, leaders of security organs, and business operators in different business centres	73	21	94
17/08/2023 18/08/2023	BURERA	District leaders (Mayor, V/M Assoc, and DES) Executive secretaries of sectors, Land Managers, School, and Health centre leaders, leaders of security organs, and business operators in different business centres.	45	11	56
24/8/2023	MUSANZE	District leaders (Ag. Mayor, Advisor to the	21	7	28

Dates of consultation	Administrative District name	Participants category	Participants by gender		Total
			Male	Female	
		Mayor, DES), Land Managers, and some members of security organs,			
25/08/2023	RULINDO	District officials such as Division Manager, Director of One Stop Centre, Sector Land Managers	14	4	18
28/08/2023	GAKENKE	District officials (V/Mayor, OSC Director, and executive secretaries of sectors	24	2	26
<b>Total Stakeholders consulted</b>			<b>177</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>222</b>

## 2. Eastern Province

Dates of consultation	Administrative District name	Participants category	Participants by gender		Total
			Male	Female	
16/08/2023	Rwamagana	Dir./OSC, EME, District environment officer, EUCL-Rwamagana Branch, SLM, public servants and local community	7	7	14
17-18/08/2023	Kayonza	District authority, Dir./OSC, EME, District environment officer, EUCL-Kayonza Branch, ES/Sector, SLM, Public servants, Faith Based	28	12	40

Dates of consultation	Administrative District name	Participants category	Participants by gender		Total
			Male	Female	
		Organizations (i.e Bethsaida Holly Church), Business operators, schools (GS Ndego II, HOPE Nursery & Primary School) and local community.			
18/08/2023, 21/08/2023 & 22/08/2023	Ngoma	District authorities, Dir./OSC, EME, EUCL- Ngoma Branch, ES/Sector, SLMs, public servants and local community	129	133	262
23/08/2023	Kirehe	District authorities, Dir./OSC, EME, EUCL- Kirehe Branch, ES/Sector, SLMs, public servants and local community	49	41	90
24-25/08/2023	Gatsibo	District authorities, EME, EUCL-Gatsibo Branch, ESs/Sector, SLMs, public servants, business operators and local community	72	16	88
24-25/08/2023	Nyagatare	District authorities, Dir./OSC, EME, EUCL- Nyagatare Branch,	27	7	34



Dates of consultation	Administrative District name	Participants category	Participants by gender		Total
			Male	Female	
		ESs/Sectors, SLMs, public servants, business operators and local community			
28/08/2023	Bugesera	District authorities, EME, EUCL-Bugesera Branch, ESs/Sectors, SLMs, public servants, business operators and local community	22	39	61
<b>Total Stakeholders consulted</b>			<b>334</b>	<b>255</b>	<b>589</b>

### 3. Sothorn Province

Dates of consultation	Administrative District name	Participants category	Participants by gender		Total
			Male	Female	
16/08/2023	Nyamagabe	District authorities, EME, EUCL Branch, ESs/Sector, SLMs, public servants, business operators and local community	20	11	31
17/08/2023	Nyaruguru	District authorities, EME, EUCL Branch, ESs/Sector, SLMs, public servants, business operators and local community	9	8	17
18/08/2023	Huye	District authorities, EME, EUCL Branch, ESs/Sector, SLMs, public servants,	25	7	32

Dates of consultation	Administrative District name	Participants category	Participants by gender		Total
			Male	Female	
		business operators and local community			
21/08/2023	Gisagara	District authorities, EME, EUCL Branch, ESs/Sector, SLMs, public servants, business operators and local community	37	8	45
22/08/2023	Nyanza	District authorities, EME, EUCL Branch, ESs/Sector, SLMs, public servants, business operators and local community	22	12	34
23/08/2023	Ruhango	District authorities, EME, EUCL Branch, ESs/Sector, SLMs, business operators and local community	16	5	21
24/08/2023	Muhanga	District authorities, EME, EUCL Branch, ESs/Sector, SLMs, public servants, business operators and local community	5	4	9
25/08/2023	Kamonyi	District authorities, EME, EUCL Branch, ESs/Sector, SLMs, public servants, business operators and local community	15	9	24
<b>Total Stakeholders consulted</b>			<b>149</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>213</b>

#### 4. Western Province

Dates of consultation	Administrative District name	Participants category	Participants by gender		Total
			Male	Female	
17/08/2023	Rubavu	District authorities, EME, REG Branch, ESs/Sector, SLMs, business operators and local community	10	18	28
18/08/2023	Nyabihu	District authorities, EME, REG Branch, ESs/Sector, SLMs, business operators and local community	15	4	19
21/08/2023	Ngororero	District authorities, EME, REG Branch, ESs/Sector, SLMs, business operators and local community	28	4	32
22/08/2023	Rutsiro	District authorities, EME, REG Branch, ESs/Sector, SLMs, business operators and local community	35	49	84
23/08/2023	Karongi	District authorities, EME, REG Branch, ESs/Sector, SLMs, business operators and local community	43	17	60
23/08/2023	Nyamasheke	District authorities, EME, REG Branch, ESs/Sector, SLMs, business operators and local community	13	4	17

Dates of consultation	Administrative District name	Participants category	Participants by gender		Total
			Male	Female	
25/08/2023	Rusizi	District authorities, EME, REG Branch, ESs/Sector, SLMs, business operators and local community	8	3	11
<b>Total Stakeholders consulted</b>			152	99	251

### Public and Private Institutions Consulted

Date of consultation	Institution	Full Names	Position
24/08/2023	REMA	Mr. Jean Luc RUKWAYA	Biodiversity Sector Specialist
24/08/2023	MININFRA	Mme Peace KALISA	Donor Coordinator
24/08/2023	NLA	Mrs. NISHIMWE M. Grace	Head of Land Administration Department
25/08/2023	RDB	Mr. NTUYE Simeon	EIA Specialist
		Mr. KARARA Jean de Dieu	EIA Specialist
25/08/2023	Rwanda Water Resource Board (RWB)	Mr. Evariste NSABIMANA	Deputy Director General
25/08/2023	Rwanda Forest Authority	Mr. Lambert UWIZEYIMANA	Director of Tree Seed Unit
25/08/2023	Enviroserve Rwanda Green Park/Rwanda E-waste recycling Facility	Mr. NDUWAYEZU Venuste	Technical Supervisor
25/08/2023	RURA	Mr. MUTWARE Alexis	Director of electricity and Renewable Energy

<b>Date of consultation</b>	<b>Institution</b>	<b>Full Names</b>	<b>Position</b>
25/08/2023	IRPV	Mr. MUNYABUGINGO Bonaventure	Member of Committee on research and reference prices
25/08/2023	Energy Private Developers	Mr. NDAYISABA Eduard	Vice Chairman & Director of Operations and Development
28/08/2023	University of Rwanda-UR	Mr. NSENGUMUREMYI Damien	Academician
28/08/2023	Albertine Rift Conservation Society (ARCOS)	Mr. Philbert TUYISABE	Landscape Manager
28/08/2023	Sustainable Agricultural Intensification and Food security Project (SAIP)/ Rwanda Agriculture Board (RAB)	Mme Angelique MUKAMUGENGA	District Project Coordinator

A stakeholder's consultation meeting is planned to validate the draft report. The following table summarizes key feedback from initial consultation.

**Table 23: Summary of the feedback from stakeholders' Consultation**

No	Stakeholder	Issues raised	Response provided
1	Rwanda Environment management Authority (REMA)	Has the Ministry of Infrastructure budgeted for Resettlement Impacts	Once the project designs are completed and required land and other assets known, the Ministry will request for the compensation from Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning to secure the compensation fees.
		What is the mechanism put in place to ensure that People are compensated on time	The Ministry has agreed with WB that construction works will start after compensation of affected People.
		During bush clearing, did you plan for endangered species and other sensitive ecosystems protection?	The project has developed an Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) where all environmental concerns have been considered to cope with the environmental laws and policies enacted by the GoR and meeting the development partners E&S requirements.
2	National Land Authority	How is the ministry planning to work with administrative districts especially land Bureau?	All administrative districts are fully engaged in project preparation and implementation and the administrative districts will be in charge of Resettlement process from the preparation of RAP as well as its implementation by dealing with the PAPs issues especially documents to be provided to support the payment but also participating in conflicts resolution.
		How land under ROW will be used after implementation of the project?	The land use under RoW will be used referencing on the RURA Guidelines No 01/GL/EL-EWS/RURA/2015

No	Stakeholder	Issues raised	Response provided
		Did you plan for the land transaction to be acquired for this new project?	EDCL has the unit in charge of land transaction under logistic and since the land is acquired, and after payment of all affected people, the land transaction commences, the same process shall be applied to all land which shall be acquired.
4	District Land Bureaus (District One stop Centres)	All project components will be implemented at the same time?	Project components will be implemented at the same time because it has different components and different scopes in the limited time to achieve NST1 target.
		How could we mitigate or avoid above negative Impacts?	To mitigate these issues, the RAP for each sub-project will be prepared in accordance with Nation Expropriation law in public interest of 2015 and WB ESF requirements detailing all mitigation and your roles is enshrined in the same law
		We have many centres without electricity, when do you expect to start the project implementation?	We are still in preparation of the framework documents which shall be the guidance to develop the site-specific instruments, and as of now, the detailed scope is not yet known but we expect to commence the tender process since the cabinet approval has guaranteed.
4	Sector Level officials (SLM and Executive Secretaries)	What do you think on expropriation and compensation for this project?	This project will make difference to other project as the consultation was started at early stage and your views will be incorporated in the preparation of this project and you will be informed on the further process of the project.
		We have different claims of the PAPs for the current implementing project, what mechanisms do you plan to deal with such claims?	Different claims are mainly due to the lack of supporting documents for PAPs payment, we will work closely with the EDCL projects liaison officers at District level to mobilize all Affected people to avail on time the required documents supporting their payment.

No	Stakeholder	Issues raised	Response provided
		How should this project support vulnerable people?	For vulnerable people who might be affected by the project, they suggest that these people must be compensated and suggested that a family member or relative to vulnerable people must be prioritized during job recruitment, and this will be detailed in Resettlement Action Plan which will be prepared.
5	Local Community including farmers organizations Representative	We have heard even experienced some projects that do not compensate affected assets or delays in providing compensation.	The REG-EDCL PIU will work closely with the administrative districts and ensure that all compensations are made before engineering works start.
		Some other projects affect the community assets like wells or pipes of water, playgrounds, and other public utilities. What do you plan to avoid such concern?	The energy projects cannot affect the community assets and if this happen, we will plan for avoidance mechanisms by deviating the assets but if accidentally occurred, we will work with the concerned institutions to solve the issues, and this shall be planned during the preparation of site-specific instruments since the scope is identified for each sub-project location.
		Some of us will be affected by the project. Which compensation mode do you prefer? (Compensation in cash or compensation in kind).	The consultation meeting will be organized during RAP preparation and all concerned PAPs will choose the compensation methods to be applied.
		What are our cooperatives will benefit from this project	Your organizations/cooperative will be able to increase their productivity due to the availability of the electricity and the service delivery to your customers will be improved because you will work many hours as you want for achieving your organizational goals.



No	Stakeholder	Issues raised	Response provided
		What will be happen if the project affects the cooperative's farm or religious organization without legal personality?	The EDCL expropriation unit shall work with the cooperative and Rwanda Cooperative Agency (RCA) to assist the cooperative to get legal personality such that the compensation shall be provided. The same process of institutional collaboration shall be used for the faith-based organization without legal personality specifically Rwanda Governance Board (RGB) shall be the main avenue to handle the case.

## **VII. RPF IMPLEMENTATION, MONITORING, BUDGET, AND FUNDING ARRANGEMENTS**

### **7.1. Introduction**

The implementation of the RPF for ASCENT will involve different stakeholders and will be done at different level from national level to Districts Administration and Sector levels. The overall coordination of the project will be provided by the REG-PIU. Stakeholders that will be involved in the implementation of this RPF are described in below detail. The implementation arrangement builds on responsibilities already in place to ensure that the requirements of this RPF are met for every project. The costs associated with the implementation of RAPs. Article 3 (2) of the Rwandan law N°32/2015 of 11/06/2015 governing expropriation stipulates that he or she should receive just compensation for the loss of land, crops, buildings, and other assets as a result of expropriation.

Article 35 of the Expropriation Law provides that through an agreement between the person to expropriate and the one to be expropriated, just compensation may either be monetary, alternative land or a building equivalent as long as either option equates to fair and just monetary compensation.

### **7.2. Institutional Implementation Arrangement**

The following table summarizes roles and responsibilities of various institutions involved in the resettlement process for the proposed Project.

**Table 24: Institutional Arrangement Under ASCENT Project**

<b>Organization</b>	<b>Roles and Responsibility</b>
Ministry of infrastructure- REG-EDCL PIU	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Screening of sub-projects to identify resettlement and compensation requirements.</li><li>- Overall monitoring and evaluation of resettlement implementation (i.e., annual audits and review of sub-project level monitoring by affected districts).</li><li>- Enforcement of the procedures and requirements of the Rwandan laws and that of the WB ESF along the project implementation.</li><li>- Review all RAPs or Baseline Valuation Reports prepared by the contractor and other resettlement-related documentations to ensure that all procedures have been adhered to and that there is consistency in approach between sub-projects and developed RPF.</li><li>- Undertake the main monitoring and evaluation role of resettlement activities during and post implementation.</li><li>- Ensure the ESF and National laws and regulations related to resettlement are implemented as per this policy stipulation.</li></ul>

Organization	Roles and Responsibility
Ministry of Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Providing guidelines on the implementation and application of law 48/2018 on Environment and the Land Use Master Plan through Districts' land bureaus.</li> <li>- Providing clarifications on land tenancy schemes (freehold or leasehold), resettlement arrangements,</li> <li>- Mobilizing the public to participate in the management and protection of natural resources;</li> </ul>
National Land Authority	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- NLA through its department of land administration and mapping is the organ responsible for overall management and coordination of all activities related to land administration, land use planning and management in Rwanda.</li> <li>- In RAP process, advise on matters related to land ownership and expropriation. District land bureau in close collaboration with project staff will check the inventory carried out during valuation exercise.</li> <li>- Assist and advise in land transaction matters for PAPs and REG since the land has been acquired or during the expropriation process.</li> <li>- Provide land use master plan during the assets inventory to ensure that the land to be used is only for agriculture purpose such we can deviate the residential area.</li> </ul>
District administrative officials.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Participate in all resettlement process as bylaws stipulates.</li> <li>- Review and sign off all documentation related to resettlement.</li> <li>- Participation in the different consultation meetings that will be held.</li> <li>- Participate in the census activities for the PAPs affected assets.</li> <li>- Sign and approve the individual PAPs file that indicates their affected assets and value for payment.</li> <li>- Following up and participate in resolving issues raised within the elected Grievance committees.</li> <li>- Monitor proper and effective implementation of RAP.</li> </ul>

Organization	Roles and Responsibility
Institute of Real Property Valuers (IRPV)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Proposes regulations, guidelines, and standards for valuation while the function of approval lies with the Council.</li> <li>- Play a revision role for any PAP likely to be dissatisfied with a real property valuation.</li> <li>- Assist the valuers to understand the law, valuation methods and valuation report format.</li> <li>- Selection of other certified Valuers who shall decide other valuation methods to be used in case of misunderstanding on the used valuation methodology.</li> </ul>
District Land Bureaus,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Public Awareness, including extensive consultation with the affected people.</li> <li>- The administrative District land bureau will be engaged in the preparation of all the RAPs.</li> <li>- Provision of information on current land use, land tenure.</li> <li>- Ensuring grievance mechanisms meet legislative requirements.</li> <li>- Interface with administrative District Land Bureau as mandated by revised Land Law.</li> <li>- Approving land use changes at administrative District/ Sector/ Cell level and ensuring alignment with the Land Use Master Plan.</li> <li>- Approving land expropriation in conformity with the relevant laws, regulations, and policies.</li> </ul>

Organization	Roles and Responsibility
Resettlement Committees at Cell level	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The administrative District Resettlement Committee will facilitate the RAP implementation along with compensation, land valuation, and grievance redress;</li> <li>- The Resettlement Committee will plan for, coordinate and monitor resettlement, compensation and relocation activities and supervise compensation payments to the project affected parties (PAPs) from Village, Cell, Sector to District levels;</li> <li>- Participate in Public Awareness;</li> <li>- Development and implementation of RAP, including assistance during resettlement, effective consultation with PAPs;</li> <li>- Facilitate coordination of information collation activities (such as surveys, sign-off) for monitoring purposes, in accordance with procedures put in place by the district authorities;</li> <li>- Elect representative of the Committee to act as Project Liaison Officer who has regular contact with PAPs and can lead consultation, public participation and grievance mechanisms;</li> <li>- To participate receiving and complains resolution;</li> <li>- Complete the Grievance log.</li> </ul>

**Note:** the PIU will be at central level whereby the decentralized level will have the representatives at District REG Branch as described in labour management procedures prepared for the project. There will be the E&S safeguards specialists at PIU level while at the decentralized level there will be energy project liaison officers one at each administrative District.

### **7.3.RPF Monitoring and Evaluation Framework**

In order to assess whether the goals of the resettlement and compensation plan are being met, a monitoring plan should be developed. The monitoring plan defines and identifies monitoring activities that will take place, when and by whom and identifies the indicators and data collection methods, and training and capacity building needs of the institutions and persons to implement the plan.

#### **7.3.1. Monitoring Indicators**

Verifiable indicators for measuring the impact of physical or economic relocation on the health and welfare of affected population and the effectiveness of impact mitigation measures, including livelihood restoration and development initiatives. These verifiable indicators shall be used to monitor the impacts of the compensation and resettlement activities. These indicators will be targeted at measuring the

physical and socio-economic status of the PAPs, to determine and guide improvement in their social wellbeing. Monitoring indicators to be used for the Resettlement Action Plan will have to be developed to respond to specific site conditions.

**- Indicators to Determine status of Affected People**

A number of indicators would be used in order to determine the status of affected people (land being used compared to before, standard of house compared to before, level of participation in project activities compared to before, how many new created works compared to before electrification, health service delivery due to the electrification of the health facilities, service delivery improvement of public servants due to the electrification of the public offices, health standards, etc). Therefore, the resettlement and compensation plans will set two major socio-economic goals by which to evaluate its success: Affected individuals, households, and communities are able to maintain their pre-project standard of living, and even improve on it; and the local communities remain supportive of the project.

**- Indicators to Measure Resettlement**

In order to access whether these goals are met, the resettlement and compensation plans will indicate parameters to be monitored, institute monitoring milestones and provide resources necessary to carry out the monitoring activities. The following provides a list of potential indicators for monitoring, which assess the change in the following for those who have been resettled. In terms of the resettlement process, the following indicators could be used to understand the success of the measures identified and the working of the relevant parties in implementation the Resettlement Action Plan:

- Percentage of individuals selecting cash or a combination of cash and in-kind compensation;
- Number of contentious cases as a percentage of the total cases;
- Number of people raising grievances in relation to each sub-project;
- Number of grievances and time and quality of resolution through the GRC;
- The ability of individuals and families to re-establish their pre-displacement activities, crops or other alternative incomes;
- Number of impacted locals employed by the civil works;
- Length of time from sub-project identification to payment of compensation to PAPs
- General relations between the project and the local communities;
- Number of the victim of GBV or Sexual Harassment received by GRC;
- Number of the case of GBV transferred to the specialized healthcare;
- Number of the case of GBV under investigation or in competent court.

The GBV cases shall be monitored in collaboration with the Rwanda Investigation Bureau (RIB) and healthcare where the victim has been treated especially at District Hospital.

These will be determined through the following activities:

- Questionnaire data collection will be entered into a database;
- Everyone will have a compensation dossier recording his or her initial situation, all subsequent project use of assets/improvements, and compensation agreed upon and received.

The PIU Management will maintain a complete database on every individual impacted by the project land use requirements including relocation/resettlement and compensation, land impacts or damages; and should prepare Resettlement Completion Reports for each Resettlement Action Plan, in addition to other regular monitoring reports.

The subproject Resettlement and Compensation Committee will facilitate coordination of information collation activities (such as surveys, supervising documentation) in accordance with procedures put in place. In order to assess whether these goals are met, the resettlement and compensation plans will indicate parameters to be monitored, institute monitoring milestones to be achieved and will provide resources necessary to carry out the monitoring activities.

### **7.3.2. Internal Monitoring Indicators**

The following indicators can be used for internal monitoring of implementation of the resettlement plans.

**Table 25: Internal monitoring indicators**

<b>S/N</b>	<b>Monitoring (of Issues)</b>	<b>Evaluation (of Impacts)</b>
1	Number of compensation (and valuation) not completed	Changes (+/-) in PAPs conditions during transition process
2	Number of sub-projects unable to settle compensation after two years	Changes (+/-) in PAPs conditions during transition process
3	Number of grievances filed	Nature of grievances or disputes resolved
4	Pre-project production versus present production levels (crops for crops, land for land)	Changes (+/-) in affected households income levels
5	Pre-project production versus present production levels (crops for crops, land for land)	Equal or improved production per affected household/homestead

### **7.3.3. External Monitoring indicators**

External monitoring will be undertaken by an independent agency or Consultant. These will have extensive experience in social surveys and resettlement monitoring. External monitoring will be done at least 2 years after completion of the construction phase. Journalists and Civil Society Organizations may be involved in this exercise. External monitoring will include an independent impact evaluation that will determine the following:

- If compensation payments have been completed in a satisfactory manner; and
- If there are improvements in livelihoods and well-being of PAPs.
- Processes followed in the dissemination of information on the project and eligible entitlements.
- The quality of consultations
- The provision on livelihood support measures, training towards rehabilitation
- Grievances received and redressed.

### **7.3.4. Monitoring of RPF Implementation**

REG-EDCL PIU will compile basic information on all physical or economic displacement arising from the project, and convey this information to MININFRA, on a quarterly basis. They will compile the following statistics:

- Number of households and individuals physically or economically displaced by each sub-project;
- Length of time from identification to payment of compensation to PAPs;
- Timing of compensation in relation to commencement of physical works;
- Amount of compensation paid to each PAP household in cash;
- Nature of compensation in regard to Project Affected Households-PAHs;
- Number of people raising grievances in relation to each sub-project;
- Number of unresolved grievances;
- Number of grievances transferred and level where they are pending;
- Number of sub-projects requiring preparation of a RAP.

REG-EDCL PIU will scrutinize these statistics in order to determine whether the resettlement planning arrangements as set out in this RPF are being adhered to. REG-EDCL PIU will monitor compensation and loss of wages. Financial records will be maintained by REG-EDCL PIU and MININFRA, to permit calculation of the final cost of resettlement and compensation per individual or household.

The indicators which will be used to monitor implementation of the RPF will include:



- Outstanding compensation not completed;
- Public works activities unable to settle compensation after one year;
- Grievances recognized as legitimate out of all complaints lodged;

Financial records will be maintained by REG-PIU to allow calculation of the final cost of resettlement action plan and compensation per individual or household.

#### **7.3.5. Storage of PAPs Details**

Each PAP household will be provided with a signed report recording his or her initial situation, all subsequent project use of assets and compensation agreed upon and received. At the same time, before compensation all household heads representing the PAPs will be required to provide Identity Card (ID) or passport or other document to facilitate identification. The Local Government officials and PIU will maintain a complete database on every individual impacted by the project land use requirements including relocation, resettlement and compensation, land impacts or damages.

Each recipient of compensation will have a record containing individual bio-data, number of household dependents and amount of land available to the individual or household when the report is opened. Additional information to be acquired for individuals eligible for resettlement and/or compensation include the level of income and of production, inventory of material assets and improvements in land and debts.

#### **7.3.6. Annual Audit**

The annual audit of RPF implementation will include (i) a summary of the performance of each sub-project vis-à-vis its Resettlement Action Plan, (ii) a summary of compliance and progress in implementation of the process and (iii) a presentation of compliance and progress in the implementation of the RPF.

The audit should verify payment of compensation, provision of entitlements, and implementation of livelihood restoration measures. The audit will also assess the resettlement efficiency, effectiveness, impact and sustainability, drawing lessons for future resettlement activities and recommending corrections in the implementation. Finally, the audit will ascertain whether the resettlement entitlements were appropriate to meeting the objectives and whether the objectives were suited to PAPs conditions. Annual audit reports will be submitted for scrutiny to the World Bank.

#### **7.3.7. Socio-economic Monitoring**

The purpose of socio-economic monitoring is to ensure that PAPs are compensated and recovering on time. During implementation of each sub-project Resettlement Action Plan, an assessment will be

undertaken on payment of compensation, restoration of income delivery of resettlement objectives. Monitoring of living standards will continue following resettlement.

Several indicators will be used to determine the status of affected people and appropriate parameters and verifiable indicators will be used to measure the resettlement and compensation plans performance. For each sub-project with adverse social impacts, a monitoring and evaluation plan of the mitigation measures will be established. As part of the preparation of each Resettlement Action Plan, a household survey will be conducted of all PAPs, prior to physical or economic displacement, and this will provide baseline data against which to monitor the performance of the Resettlement Action Plan.

#### **7.4. Capacity Assessment and Capacity building**

The principal institutions that will provide overall coordination including administration of the project PIU under EDCL. Therefore, the PIU have seven Social and environmental Safeguards Specialists and two gender specialists led by senior Environmental and Social Safeguards Specialist and are sufficient for effective implementation of the plans which will be developed in compliance with this RPF. During preparation of this Resettlement Policy Framework the safeguards conduct a quick gap analysis and key findings are presented below paragraph.

##### **7.4.1. Training Capacity**

The intervening administrative districts have staff that deal with land acquisition issues most of them have not received any training about land acquisition. But when conducting the consultation most of them confirmed that they have worked on World Bank funded projects or by other international development partners (AfDB, GIZ, BADEA, Enabel) Such as quality basic education for human capital development project under Ministry of Education, Rwanda Electricity Sector Strengthening Project, Rwanda Urban Development Project I and II, Scaling up Electricity Access Project, Rural Sector Support Project, Land Husbandry Water harvesting and Hillside irrigation project, Landscape Approach to Forest Restoration and Conservation Project, Sustainable Agricultural Intensification and Food security Project (SAIP) under Rwanda Agriculture and Animal Development Board (RAB), etc but they did not yet receive any training on Environmental Safeguards Framework because most of them are new in the implementation of the projects.

##### **7.4.2 Training and capacity building requirements**

The effectiveness of environmental and social issues consideration in the implementation of activities goes particularly through training of program of key actors on validation, monitoring, implementation

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of identified mitigation measures. The training activities should target REG-EDCL PIU working on this project, District officials and Grievance redress committees at grassroots level of the community.

Thematic focus of trainings could be put on:

- Survey Methodologies (Census and Inventory of Losses).
- Livelihood Analysis to recognize PAPs perspectives and vulnerability context.
- Institutional setup and process for Land Acquisition and Compensation Payments.
- Grievance Redress Mechanism and Grievance Redress Committees.
- Gender mainstreaming in the project intervention area.
- Resettlement process and setup of Resettlement Committees.
- Legal support and PAPs difficulties to have access to legal support.
- Opportunities and Implementation of specific Livelihood Restoration.
- Measures as a compensation and local development option.
- Internal and External Monitoring / Audit.

At the local level, all issues related to land acquisition are managed through district one stop centre and the current staff in the centre are sufficient to manage resettlement issue if well trained. However, the REG-EDCL PIU will have to provide them with trainings but also involve them from the beginning of the project implementation. The team to be involved in project implementation and to be provided a training include the district land administration and valuation officers and Sector land managers at sector level.

Before the effectiveness of the project, REG-EDCL PIU existing Safeguards will also organize training for those from concerned administrative Districts, on social and environmental safeguards implementation according to national requirements and World Bank ESF. Capacity building will also be conducted for compensation committees after their set up for each sub-project. This capacity building will be done periodically throughout the project lifetime.

#### **7.4.3. Methods for Measuring Impacts**

Impact monitoring will gauge the effectiveness of the RAP and its implementation in meeting the needs of the affected people against the baseline. The purpose of impact monitoring is: (i) to provide the agencies responsible for RAP implementation (i.e., MININFRA, REG-EDCL) with an assessment of the effects of resettlement on the affected communities; (ii) to verify internal performance monitoring; and (iii) to identify adjustments in the implementation of the RAP as required.

The following methods will be used for measuring impacts:

- i. Questionnaires with data stored in a database for comparative analysis (before, after and with-without).

- ii. Documentation and recording of PAPs situation, including subsequent uses of assets/improvements.
- iii. Relocation/resettlement and Compensation Reports.
- iv. Consultations.

The PIU will review these statistics to determine whether the RAP implementation arrangements, as defined in this RPF, are effective in addressing RAP related issues. Financial records will be maintained by the sub-projects and the PIU, to determine the final cost of RAP implementation. This RPF proposes a set of indicators for each level of the results chain.

### **7.5. Budget Components for RAP Implementation**

The RAP budget covers all types of properties to be affected by the project including cost related to measures of RAP implementation and monitoring and evaluation costs. The RAP budget shall mainly comprise of the following:

- Compensation of land, houses, structures, perennial and seasonal crops, trees,
- Disturbance allowances (transition costs, moving allowances)
- Measures for vulnerable PAPs
- Livelihood restoration Plan
- Implementation costs
- M&E costs

### **7.6. Estimated Budget for RPF Implementation**

The cost of implementing the Resettlement Policy Framework has been kept to a minimal through using of already existing institutions and structures, plans and programs to estimate the total expenses. The estimated total cost of the resettlement plans requiring land acquisition, is estimated at US\$ 1,335,000. The cost breakdown is presented table 18 of the present RPF. Because the exact unit prices, the number of people to be affected, and the scope of land acquisition are estimates, the exact figures will not be known until the resettlement Action Plans are prepared. For each sub-project, REG-EDCL PIU will provide funds for Resettlement Action Plans preparation and compensation using Government budget.

The costs outlined include those relating to preparation and implementation of each individual Resettlement Action Plan per concerned Province, capacity building and technical assistance required to ensure that implementers of each Resettlement Action Plan are fully able to do so. It should be noted that, it is not possible at this stage to estimate the exact number of people who may be affected since the activities to be implemented will be determined on the RAP basis, It is therefore not possible to provide

an exact budget for the total cost of resettlement that may be associated with implementation of Proposed project.

**Table 26: Estimated cost for RPF implementation**

Activity	Unit Cost per Lot (US\$)	Total Cost (US\$)	Basis of Estimates
Preparation of detailed Resettlement Plan covering 4 provinces by independent consultant	40,000	160,000	This estimation includes cost for Census, public consultations and RAP report preparation all done by a hired independent consultant in accordance with ESS5, ESS510.
RAPs implementation and Monitoring for all provinces	30,000	120,000	This was estimated based on average of the project within the administrative province.
Capacity building for Resettlement and GRM committees	40,000	960,000	This is the cost of training of administrative Districts, sectors officials and established Resettlement and GRC
Capacity building for REG EDCL PIU Staff	FF	95,000	This amount includes fees for training and monitoring of capacity building of the PIU Personnel.
<b>Total</b>		<b>1,335,000 US\$</b>	

**Table 27: Indicative Outline of a RAP Budget**

S/No	Impact Description	Unit	Quantity	Frequency	Rate	Total (RWF)
<b>A. Compensation for Loss</b>						
A1	Land	Sqm				
A2	Trees and perennial Crops	Pces/Sq m				
A3	Loss of Houses and other structures	Number				

S/No	Impact Description	Unit	Quantity	Frequency	Rate	Total (RWF)
A4	Community infrastructure					
	<b>Sub-total A</b>					
<b>Disturbance allowances</b>				<b>Once</b>	<b>5%</b>	
<b>Sub-total A</b>						
<b>B. Assistance to vulnerable groups</b>						
B1	Measures for vulnerable PAPs	HH				
B2	Livelihood restoration for PAPs and displaced	Households				
<b>SUB-TOTAL C.</b>						
<b>C.</b>	<b>Implementation Cost</b>					
C1	Operationalization studies/ Verification/ Validation of RAP					
C2	Complementary census					
C3	Compensation committees					
C4	Transport & Communication GRC members	Meeting	-			
C5	GRC Capacity building	Training	-			
<b>SUB-TOTAL D.</b>						
C.	RAP Monitoring and Evaluation			Continuous	LS	
<b>SUB-TOTAL D.</b>						

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S/No	Impact Description	Unit	Quantity	Frequency	Rate	Total (RWF)
<b>Total A+B+C+D</b>						
<b>Contingencies (20%)</b>						
<b>Grand Total</b>						

### 7.7. Source of Funding

The resettlement budget will be provided by the Government of Rwanda through its original budget and will be secured by EDCL annual budget cycle via MINECOFIN.

## **REFERENCES**

### ***National Laws***

1. Constitution of the Republic of Rwanda of 2003, revised in 2015 and amended in 2023.
2. Law N° 27/2021 of 10/06/2021 Law governing land in Rwanda.
3. Expropriation law N° 32/2015 of 11/06/2015.
4. Law No.17/2010 of 12/05/2010 Establishing and Organizing the Real Property Valuation Profession in Rwanda:

### ***Policies and Strategies***

1. Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning, Vision 2050, December 2020.
2. Ministry of Family and Gender promotion, Revised National gender Policy, February 2021
3. Ministry of Local government, National Social protection Policy, June 2020
4. Ministry of Environment, National Land Policy, June 2019
5. Government of Rwanda, National Strategy for Transformation, 2017
6. Ministry of Public Service, National Occupational Safety and Health Strategy, 2019
7. Ministry of Health, National Health Policy, 2016
8. RURA, guidelines for Right of Way in Rwanda, 2015
9. MININFRA, Rwanda Energy Policy, 2015
10. MININFRA, Law amending Electricity law, 2018.
11. MININFRA, Rural Electrification strategy, 2016
12. MININFRA, Energy sector strategic plan, 2018
13. REG, REG Strategic plan, 2019

### ***WB documents***

1. Concept MEMO for ASCENT Project, 2023
2. The world Bank: The world Bank Environmental and Social ((ESSs) Framework, 2017
3. World Bank Grievance Redress Services

### ***Other documents***

4. NISR: National Census, 2022
5. 27 Administrative District Development Strategies (2018-2024)
6. Resettlement Policy Framework for Rwanda Universal Energy Access Program, 2020



## **LIST OF ANNEXES**

### **Appendix 1: Resettlement Instruments**

In addition to this Resettlement Policy Framework, other expected resettlement instruments to be prepared under the ASCENT are Resettlement Action Plan Baseline Valuation Report. Therefore, this annex describes the elements of a Resettlement Action Plan will have the following Minimum elements:

- 1. Description of the project.** General description of the project and identification of the project area.
- 2. Potential impacts.** Identification of:
  - (a) the project components or activities that give rise to displacement, explaining why the selected land must be acquired for use within the timeframe of the project;
  - (b) the zone of impact of such components or activities;
  - (c) the scope and scale of land acquisition and impacts on structures and other fixed assets;
  - (d) any project-imposed restrictions on use of, or access to, land or natural resources;
  - (e) alternatives considered to avoid or minimize displacement and why those were rejected; and
  - (f) the mechanisms established to minimize displacement, to the extent possible, during project implementation.
- 3. Objectives.** The main objectives of the resettlement program
- 4. Census survey and baseline socio-economic studies.** The findings of a household-level census identifying and enumerating affected persons, and, with the involvement of affected persons, surveying land, structures and other fixed assets to be affected by the project. The census survey also serves other essential functions:
  - a) identifying characteristics of displaced households, including a description of production systems, labor, and household organization; and baseline information on livelihoods (including, as relevant, production levels and income derived from both formal and informal economic activities) and standards of living (including health status) of the displaced population;
  - b) information on vulnerable groups or persons for whom special provisions may have to be made;
  - c) identifying public or community infrastructure, property or services that may be affected;
  - d) providing a basis for the design of, and budgeting for, the resettlement program;
  - e) in conjunction with establishment of a cut-off date, providing a basis for excluding ineligible people from compensation and resettlement assistance; and

- f) establishing baseline conditions for monitoring and evaluation purposes.
- g) As the Bank may deem relevant, additional studies on the following subjects may be required to supplement or inform the census survey:
- h) land tenure and transfer systems, including an inventory of common property natural resources from which people derive their livelihoods and sustenance, non-title-based usufruct systems (including fishing, grazing, or use of forest areas) governed by local recognized land allocation mechanisms, and any issues raised by different tenure systems in the project area;
- i) the patterns of social interaction in the affected communities, including social networks and social support systems, and how they will be affected by the project; and
- j) social and cultural characteristics of displaced communities, including a description of formal and informal institutions (e.g., community organizations, ritual groups, nongovernmental organizations (NGOs)) that may be relevant to the consultation strategy and to designing and implementing the resettlement activities.

5. **Legal framework.** The findings of an analysis of the legal framework, covering:

- a. the scope of the power of compulsory acquisition and imposition of land use restriction and the nature of compensation associated with it, in terms of both the valuation methodology and the timing of payment;
- b. (b) the applicable legal and administrative procedures, including a description of the remedies available to displaced persons in the judicial process and the normal timeframe for such procedures, and any available grievance redress mechanisms that may be relevant to the project;
- c. (c) laws and regulations relating to the agencies responsible for implementing resettlement activities; and
- d. (d) gaps, if any, between local laws and practices covering compulsory acquisition, imposition of land use restrictions and provision of resettlement measures and ESS 5, and the mechanisms to bridge such gaps.

6. **Institutional Framework.** The findings of an analysis of the institutional framework covering:

- a. the identification of agencies responsible for resettlement activities and NGOs/CSOs that may have a role in project implementation, including providing support for displaced persons;
- b. (b) an assessment of the institutional capacity of such agencies and NGOs/CSOs; and
- c. (c) any steps that are proposed to enhance the institutional capacity of agencies and NGOs/CSOs responsible for resettlement implementation.

7. **Eligibility.** Definition of displaced persons and criteria for determining their eligibility for compensation and other resettlement assistance, including relevant cut-off dates.
8. **Valuation of and compensation for losses.** The methodology to be used in valuing losses to determine their replacement cost; and a description of the proposed types and levels of compensation for land, natural resources and other assets under local law and such supplementary measures as are necessary to achieve replacement cost for them.
9. **Community participation.** Involvement of displaced persons (including host communities, where relevant);
  - (a) a description of the strategy for consultation with, and participation of, displaced persons in the design and implementation of the resettlement activities;
  - (b) a summary of the views expressed and how these views were taken into account in preparing the resettlement plan;
  - (c) a review of the resettlement alternatives presented, and the choices made by displaced persons regarding options available to them; and
  - (d) institutionalized arrangements by which displaced people can communicate their concerns to project authorities throughout planning and implementation, and measures to ensure that such vulnerable groups as indigenous people, ethnic minorities, the landless, and women are adequately represented.
10. **Implementation schedule.** An implementation schedule providing anticipated dates for displacement, and estimated initiation and completion dates for all resettlement plan activities. The schedule should indicate how the resettlement activities are linked to the implementation of the overall project.
11. **Costs and budget.** Tables showing categorized cost estimates for all resettlement activities, including allowances for inflation, population growth, and other contingencies; timetables for expenditures; sources of funds; and arrangements for timely flow of funds, and funding for resettlement, if any, in areas outside the jurisdiction of the implementing agencies.
12. **Grievance redress mechanism.** The plan describes affordable and accessible procedures

for third-party settlement of disputes arising from displacement or resettlement; such grievance mechanisms should take into account the availability of judicial recourse and community and traditional dispute settlement mechanisms.

**13. Monitoring and evaluation.** Arrangements for monitoring of displacement and resettlement activities by the implementing agency, supplemented by third-party monitors as considered appropriate by the Bank, to ensure complete and objective information; performance monitoring indicators to measure inputs, outputs, and outcomes for resettlement activities; involvement of the displaced persons in the monitoring process; evaluation of results for a reasonable period after all resettlement activities have been completed; using the results of resettlement monitoring to guide subsequent implementation.

**14. Arrangements for adaptive management.** The plan should include provisions for adapting resettlement implementation in response to unanticipated changes in project conditions, or unanticipated obstacles to achieving satisfactory resettlement outcomes.

## **Appendix 2: Sample Grievance Redress Form**

<b>Grievance Form</b>		
Grievance Number		<b>Copies to forward to:</b>
Name of the recorder		(Original) Receiver Party
District/ Sector/Cell		(Copy)- Responsible Party
Date		
<b>INFORMATION ABOUT GRIEVANCE</b>		
Define the Grievance		
<b>INFORMATION ABOUT THE COMPLAINANT</b>		<b>Forms of Receive</b>
Name-Surname		Phone line
Address		Community/Information meetings
Village/ Cell		Mail
Sector/ District		Informal
Signature of Complainant		Other
<b>DETAILS OF GRIEVANCE</b>		

<b>1.Access to land and Resources</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lands</li> <li>• Pasture lands</li> <li>• House</li> <li>• Water</li> <li>• Latrines</li> <li>• Commercial site</li> <li>• Other</li> </ul>	<b>2.Damage to</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• House</li> <li>• Land</li> <li>• Latrines</li> <li>• Livestock</li> <li>• Means of livelihood</li> <li>• Water</li> <li>• Road access</li> <li>• Other</li> </ul>	<b>3.Damage to Infrastructure or Community Assets</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Road</li> <li>• Bridge/ Passageways</li> <li>• Power</li> <li>• Water sources, canals and water infrastructure for irrigation and animals</li> <li>• Drinking water</li> <li>• Other</li> </ul>	<b>4.Decrease or Loss of Livelihood</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agriculture</li> <li>• Animal husbandry</li> <li>• Beekeeping</li> <li>• Small scale trade</li> <li>• Other</li> </ul>	<b>5.Traffic accident</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Injury</li> <li>• Damage to property</li> <li>• Damage to livestock</li> <li>• Other</li> </ul>
<b>6.Incidents Regarding Expropriation and Compensation (Specify)</b>	<b>7.Resettlement Process (specify)</b>	<b>8.Employment and recruitment (Specify)</b>	<b>9.Construction Camp and Community Relations</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nuisance from dust</li> <li>• Nuisance from noise</li> <li>• Vibrations due to expressions</li> <li>• Misconduct of the project personal/worker</li> <li>• Complaint follow up</li> <li>• Other</li> </ul>	<b>10.Other (specify)</b>

### Grievances Close Out Form

Grievance Number:.....

Define immediate action required:.....

Define long term action required (if necessary).....

### Verification of corrective action and sign off

Corrective action taken	Due date

--	--

**Responsible Party**

<p><b>Notes:</b> This part will be filled in and signed by the complainant when he/she receives the compensation or file is closed out</p>
--

Complainant:.....

Name and Signature.....

Date

Representative of Responsible Party

Title, Name and Signature.....

Date:.....

## Appendix 3: Signed attendance list for 4 Provinces of Rwanda

### 1. Eastern Province



Attendance  
list-ASCENT Stakeholders (Double click to open)

### 2. Western Province



Signed Attendance  
List\_West.pdf

### 3. Southern Province



Signed Attendance  
List South.pdf

### 4. Northern Province



Signed\_Attendance  
North ASCENT 29 Aug

#### Appendix 4: Expected Project Location in Administrative District Under ASCENT Project

ID	Province	District	DP
1	East	Bugesera	WB&AIIB
2	East	Gatsibo	WB&AIIB
3	East	Kayonza	WB&AIIB
4	East	Kirehe	WB&AIIB
5	East	Ngoma	WB&AIIB
6	East	Nyagatare	WB&AIIB
7	East	Rwamagana	WB&AIIB
8	North	Burera	WB&AIIB
9	North	Gakenke	WB&AIIB
10	North	Gicumbi	WB&AIIB
11	North	Musanze	WB&AIIB
12	North	Rulindo	WB&AIIB
13	South	Gisagara	WB&AIIB
14	South	Huye	WB&AIIB
15	South	Kamonyi	WB&AIIB
16	South	Muhanga	WB&AIIB
17	South	Nyamagabe	WB&AIIB
18	South	Nyanza	WB&AIIB
19	South	Nyaruguru	WB&AIIB
20	South	Ruhango	WB&AIIB
21	West	Karongi	WB&AIIB
22	West	Ngororero	WB&AIIB
23	West	Nyabihu	WB&AIIB
24	West	Nyamasheke	WB&AIIB
25	West	Rubavu	WB&AIIB
26	West	Rusizi	WB&AIIB
27	West	Rutsiro	WB&AIIB





## Appendix 5: Detailed findings from the public consultative meeting in different administrative Districts per Province

### 1. Northern Province

Dates	District	Sector	Cell	Stakeholder group or Consulted person and Position	Key characteristics	Observation or Points raised by stakeholders	Suggestions from stakeholders and how they are considered by the project (proposed action)
17/08/2023 18/08/2023	BURER A	Rusarabuye, Nemba,Kag ogo	Ruhanga	District Officials and local community in the village without electricity of Bisayu I	56 stakeholders (11women and 45men)	<p>✚ Residents of in this village were claiming that they were left out by the previous electrification projects.</p> <p>✚ Delay in compensation payment for expropriation</p> <p>✚ Lack land</p>	<p>✚ Need of electricity line and connection in their village to boost their socio-economic activities.</p> <p>✚ The payment for expropriation should be made prior to the project implementation as per the law</p>

Dates	District	Sector	Cell	Stakeholder group or Consulted person and Position	Key characteristics	Observation or Points raised by stakeholders	Suggestions from stakeholders and how they are considered by the project (proposed action)
						<p>titles which are required for compensation payment.</p> <p>✚ Need of employment opportunities during the project implementation.</p>	<p>governing expropriation.</p> <p>✚ Facilitation to get land titles for those who do not have them by the local leaders, especially land managers.</p> <p>✚ Urging the contractors to give priority to local residents during the recruitment of project employees.</p> <p>✚</p>

Dates	District	Sector	Cell	Stakeholder group or Consulted person and Position	Key characteristics	Observation or Points raised by stakeholders	Suggestions from stakeholders and how they are considered by the project (proposed action)
16/08/2023 21/08/2023	GICUM BI	Byumba,Bw isige, Rukomo		District leaders, Executive secretaries of sectors, Land Managers, leaders of security organs, and business operators in different business centres	94 stakeholders (21 women and 73 men	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The need to have a substation in the district to reduce the long distance from both Gabiro and Rulindo substations. Preferably, the new substation would be constructed in Rwamiko</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Construction of a new substation in Gicumbi District, preferably in Rwamiko Sector.</li> <li>Efficient and sustainable energy supply.</li> </ul>

Dates	District	Sector	Cell	Stakeholder group or Consulted person and Position	Key characteristics	Observation or Points raised by stakeholders	Suggestions from stakeholders and how they are considered by the project (proposed action)
						sector. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Special consideration of productive Users (commercial centers without electricity)</li> </ul>	
24/8/2023	MUSANZE	MUHOZA		Musanze District officials	28 district leaders and staff from the sector level to the district, 21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduction of low voltage and sustainable energy supply as a secondary city and a hub</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Upgrading the old electricity lines and installing additional transformers to cope with the voltage drop in the</li> </ul>

Dates	District	Sector	Cell	Stakeholder group or Consulted person and Position	Key characteristics	Observation or Points raised by stakeholders	Suggestions from stakeholders and how they are considered by the project (proposed action)
					men and 7 women	<p>of tourism.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Special consideration of the villages which were left out by the previous electrification projects and review of NEP, especially concerning the villages under off grid and on grid.</li> <li>• Anticipate the</li> </ul>	<p>district.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• With full collaboration with Land managers, the villages without electricity will be identified, and put into the new project (ASCENT) scope.</li> <li>• Conducting expropriation process in full compliance with the law, and total involvement of the concerned</li> </ul>

Dates	District	Sector	Cell	Stakeholder group or Consulted person and Position	Key characteristics	Observation or Points raised by stakeholders	Suggestions from stakeholders and how they are considered by the project (proposed action)
						challenges related to expropriation to harmonize the expropriation process from the beginning of the project	parties( PAPs, local leaders, contractors, consultants and EDCL team) to avoid and minimize the expropriation related challenges.
25/08/2023	RULINDO	BUSHOKI		District Officials and staff	District officials such as Division Manager, Director of One Stop	🚧 The need of electricity line and household connections to boost people's socio-economic	🚧 Need of electricity line and connection in their village to boost their socio-economic activities.

Dates	District	Sector	Cell	Stakeholder group or Consulted person and Position	Key characteristics	Observation or Points raised by stakeholders	Suggestions from stakeholders and how they are considered by the project (proposed action)
					Centre, Sector Land Managers	<p>development.</p> <p>+ Delays in the payment of compensation packages.</p> <p>+ Possible conflict between the National electrification plan (NEP) and district masterplan.</p>	<p>+ The payment for expropriation should be made prior to the project implementation as per the law governing expropriation.</p> <p>+ National Electrification Plan (NEP) is a dynamic document, that can be amended and accommodates the views and</p>



Dates	District	Sector	Cell	Stakeholder group or Consulted person and Position	Key characteristics	Observation or Points raised by stakeholders	Suggestions from stakeholders and how they are considered by the project (proposed action)
							needs of the stakeholders, and this the ultimate purpose of these consultation sessions.
28/08/2023	GAKEN KE			District Officials and staff	District officials (V/Mayor, OSC Director, and executive secretaries of sectors.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Special consideration of the villages which were left out by the previous electrification projects and review of NEP,</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>With full collaboration with Land managers, the villages without electricity will be identified, and put into the new project (ASCENT) scope.</li> </ul>

Dates	District	Sector	Cell	Stakeholder group or Consulted person and Position	Key characteristics	Observation or Points raised by stakeholders	Suggestions from stakeholders and how they are considered by the project (proposed action)
					24 men and 2 women	<p>especially concerning the villages under off grid and on grid.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Delays in the payment of compensation packages.</li> </ul>	Conducting expropriation process in full compliance with the law, and total involvement of the concerned parties (PAPs, local leaders, contractors, consultants and EDCL team) to avoid and minimize the expropriation related challenges.

## Eastern Province

Dates	District	Sector	Cell	Stakeholder group or Consulted person and Position	Key characteristics	Observation or Points raised by stakeholders	Suggestions from stakeholders and how they are considered by the project (proposed action)	Preferred notification means (e-mail, phone, radio, letter)	Specific needs by stakeholders
16/08/2023	Rwamagana	Kigabiro	Cyanya	Dir./OSC, EME, District environment officer, EUCL-Rwamagana	Among 14 consulted stakeholders, 7 are females and other 7 are males	Issues of electricity shortage mainly due to the old MV line being overloaded by a high number of connections.	Timely fair compensation for PAPs damaged properties and assets.  Unemployment issues among local residents, the local authority proposes to provide	e-mail, letter, phone, face-to-face	Need for electricity in different areas (e.g: Cyaruka
		Munyiginya	Cyimba zi	Branch, SLM,					

Dates	District	Sector	Cell	Stakeholder group or Consulted person and Position	Key characteristics	Observation or Points raised by stakeholders	Suggestions from stakeholders and how they are considered by the project (proposed action)	Preferred notification means (e-mail, phone, radio, letter)	Specific needs by stakeholders
		Gishari	Bwinsanga	public servants and local community			<p>job opportunities to local population during project implementation.</p> <p>The district suggests that EDCL should think about full expropriation of the land for the Right of Way (RoW) for power lines and own the land title instead of only compensating the assets/crops on the land as a means of stopping landowners who after getting compensation for their properties damaged</p>	discussions	mba Cell in Munyiginya Sector,...)
		Muhazi	Karitu						

Dates	District	Sector	Cell	Stakeholder group or Consulted person and Position	Key characteristics	Observation or Points raised by stakeholders	Suggestions from stakeholders and how they are considered by the project (proposed action)	Preferred notification means (e-mail, phone, radio, letter)	Specific needs by stakeholders
							above the land, carry out forbidden activities like house construction under the power lines.		
17-18/08/2023	Kayonz a	Mukaranga	Mburabuturo	District authority,	In total, 14 Stakeholders have been consulted,	Facilitating people who do not have their land titles to get them because	Fair compensation for properties that ASCENT Rwanda activities damage should be paid on time.	e-mail, letter, phone,	Urgent need for electricity to public
		Kabaron do	Cyabajwa	Dir./OSC, EME, District					

Dates	District	Sector	Cell	Stakeholder group or Consulted person and Position	Key characteristics	Observation or Points raised by stakeholders	Suggestions from stakeholders and how they are considered by the project (proposed action)	Preferred notification means (e-mail, phone, radio, letter)	Specific needs by stakeholders
		Rwinkwavu	Nkondo	environment officer, EUCL-Kayonza Branch, ES/Sector, SLM, Public servants, Faith Based Organizations (i.e Bethesda Holly Church), Business operators, schools (GS	among which 12 are females and 28 are males.	they are needed for payment of compensation and for connecting new customers.  The lack of electricity at Kibare market and other business centers causes loss to business operators as there are activities they can't	Once the scope and time to start ASCENT Rwanda activities in Kayonza District are known, inform the district as earlier as possible to mobilize residents specifically women to apply for jobs.	face-to-face discussions, meeting	infrastructures not yet electrified (e.g: Health care facilities, schools, markets, business centers).

Dates	District	Sector	Cell	Stakeholder group or Consulted person and Position	Key characteristics	Observation or Points raised by stakeholders	Suggestions from stakeholders and how they are considered by the project (proposed action)	Preferred notification means (e-mail, phone, radio, letter)	Specific needs by stakeholders
				Ndego II, HOPE Nursery & Primary School) and local community.		do, but also the Government loses money because sometimes business operators can't declare taxes in EBM due to lack of electricity.  At GS Ndego, the security officer said that apart from other constraints caused by the lack			

Dates	District	Sector	Cell	Stakeholder group or Consulted person and Position	Key characteristics	Observation or Points raised by stakeholders	Suggestions from stakeholders and how they are considered by the project (proposed action)	Preferred notification means (e-mail, phone, radio, letter)	Specific needs by stakeholders
						of electricity, it is difficult to keep the security of the school during the night given that it is not fenced. He added that at the beginning of this year (2023), they faced a case of school beans that had been stolen.			
18/08/2023,	Ngoma	Kibungo	Cyasem akamba	District authority,	262 stakeholders	Consulted stakeholders	Communication of assets/properties valuation		



Dates	District	Sector	Cell	Stakeholder group or Consulted person and Position	Key characteristics	Observation or Points raised by stakeholders	Suggestions from stakeholders and how they are considered by the project (proposed action)	Preferred notification means (e-mail, phone, radio, letter)	Specific needs by stakeholders
21/08/2023 & 22/08/2023		Rukumburi	Rubona	Dir./OSC, EME, EUCL-Ngoma Branch, ES/Sector, SLMs, public servants and local community	have been consulted: 133 are females and 129 are males	appreciated this interaction of introducing ASCENT project prior to the start of civil works.  People prefer on-grid electricity over off-grid because the latter has some limitations when it comes to business activities like	activity should be efficient to enable local authorities to solve land titles issues and mobilize all PAPs for full participation in this activity.  Consulted stakeholders recommend that this consultation for future energy development projects should be done earlier to agree on the same prioritization which in turn will help to prevent gaps experienced in past projects.	e-mail, letter, phone, face-to-face discussions, meeting	Referring to the guidance from the Government Authority, areas located at borders with neighbour countries should be
		Sake	Rukoma						
		Jarama	Jarama						
		Gashanda	Giseri						
		Kazo	Karama						
		Rukira	Buliba						
		Murama	Gitaraga						

Dates	District	Sector	Cell	Stakeholder group or Consulted person and Position	Key characteristics	Observation or Points raised by stakeholders	Suggestions from stakeholders and how they are considered by the project (proposed action)	Preferred notification means (e-mail, phone, radio, letter)	Specific needs by stakeholders
						<p>welding, haircut, use of electric sawing machines, ...</p> <p>People who have croplands along the road with streetlight raise a challenge of lack of production due to street lighting which impedes the growth of crops.</p>	<p>EDCL should solve the issue of the delays for payment of compensation experienced for past energy development projects.</p> <p>EDCL should provide training to stakeholders like District Electricity Maintenance Engineer and Sector Land Managers to feed them with project information to share with residents.</p>		<p>given priority during electrification.</p> <p>In general, there is higher need for electricity to household</p>

Dates	District	Sector	Cell	Stakeholder group or Consulted person and Position	Key characteristics	Observation or Points raised by stakeholders	Suggestions from stakeholders and how they are considered by the project (proposed action)	Preferred notification means (e-mail, phone, radio, letter)	Specific needs by stakeholders
							PAPs of past projects recommend that the assets/properties valuation and compensation activity should be improved because they witness some cases of victims of negative impacts like constructing a power line over their houses without compensating them and nowadays, they are not allowed to rehabilitate those houses.		ds and productive users like business centers, schools, health care facilities, etc.

Dates	District	Sector	Cell	Stakeholder group or Consulted person and Position	Key characteristics	Observation or Points raised by stakeholders	Suggestions from stakeholders and how they are considered by the project (proposed action)	Preferred notification means (e-mail, phone, radio, letter)	Specific needs by stakeholders
23/08/2023	Kirehe	Kirehe	Nyabikokora	District authority,	In a total of 90 stakeholders consulted; 41 are females and 49 are males	Issues in expropriation left by past energy development projects (e.g: some PAPs who still claim their compensation. There is a PAP whose part of his residential plot has been used for the earthing of a	Institutions like REG, WASAC, RTDA should work hand in hand while planning for public infrastructures by referring to the National Land Use Master Plan to avoid the destruction of existing infrastructures by new infrastructure development projects. EDCL should involve the local authority during the entire project lifecycle as a measure to avoid the issues experienced	e-mail, letter, phone, face-to-face discussions, meeting	Kirehe District raised a big issue of productive users with insufficient electricity to maximize
		Kigarama	Nyankurazo	Dir./OSC, EME, EUCL-					
		Kigina	Ruhanga	Kirehe Branch, ES/Sector, SLMs, public servants and local community					

Dates	District	Sector	Cell	Stakeholder group or Consulted person and Position	Key characteristics	Observation or Points raised by stakeholders	Suggestions from stakeholders and how they are considered by the project (proposed action)	Preferred notification means (e-mail, phone, radio, letter)	Specific needs by stakeholders
						transformer without compensation).	from past energy development projects.		their economic contribution to the community (e.g: Nasho, Mpanga & Mahama Export Targeting Irrigation

Dates	District	Sector	Cell	Stakeholder group or Consulted person and Position	Key characteristics	Observation or Points raised by stakeholders	Suggestions from stakeholders and how they are considered by the project (proposed action)	Preferred notification means (e-mail, phone, radio, letter)	Specific needs by stakeholders
									<p>Projects, etc.).</p> <p>In Kirehe District, there are productive users without electricity (E.g: GS Nyankura zo TSS is a technical</p>

Dates	District	Sector	Cell	Stakeholder group or Consulted person and Position	Key characteristics	Observation or Points raised by stakeholders	Suggestions from stakeholders and how they are considered by the project (proposed action)	Preferred notification means (e-mail, phone, radio, letter)	Specific needs by stakeholders
									school without electricity while it teaches welding and electricity trades)
24-25/08/2023	Gatsibo	Kabarore	Karengwe	District authority,	88 stakeholders have been consulted: 16 are females	Gatsibo District Authority raised an issue of low status of electrification (48%) and	EDCL should establish and operationalize Grievance Redress Committees (GRCs) because they help to solve community problems at	e-mail, letter, phone, face-to-	Gatsibo District still has productiv
			Simbwa	EME, EUCL-Gatsibo					
		Kageyo	Gituza	Branch,					

Dates	District	Sector	Cell	Stakeholder group or Consulted person and Position	Key characteristics	Observation or Points raised by stakeholders	Suggestions from stakeholders and how they are considered by the project (proposed action)	Preferred notification means (e-mail, phone, radio, letter)	Specific needs by stakeholders
				ESs/Sector, SLMs, public servants, business operators and local community	and 72 are males	requested for special attention to increase this percentage. Gatsibo District raised an issue of PAPs with account numbers in Umurenge SACCOs who delay to get their compensation money because EDCL does not	grassroot levels as experienced from past world bank funded projects. EDCL should advocate for provision of the compensation for the land under the Right of Way (RoW) or make a written agreement with the PAPs on the allowed use of the RoW. The District authority appreciated this consultation of introducing ASCENT project and recommended a such kind of engagement during the site	face discussions, meeting	e users without electricity (e.g: business centers, farms, milk collection centers, health posts, local authority



<b>Dates</b>	<b>District</b>	<b>Sector</b>	<b>Cell</b>	<b>Stakeholder group or Consulted person and Position</b>	<b>Key characteristics</b>	<b>Observation or Points raised by stakeholders</b>	<b>Suggestions from stakeholders and how they are considered by the project (proposed action)</b>	<b>Preferred notification means (e-mail, phone, radio, letter)</b>	<b>Specific needs by stakeholders</b>
						<p>share the proof of payment to the management of Umurenge SACCOs.</p> <p>To ensure the security of the electrical materials, the local authority requested that the list of workers allowed to operate in a given area should be shared to</p>	selection, expropriation and other upcoming project activities.		offices, schools... )

Dates	District	Sector	Cell	Stakeholder group or Consulted person and Position	Key characteristics	Observation or Points raised by stakeholders	Suggestions from stakeholders and how they are considered by the project (proposed action)	Preferred notification means (e-mail, phone, radio, letter)	Specific needs by stakeholders
						prevent persisting thefts.			
24-25/08/2023	Nyagatare	Nyagatare	Nyagatare	District authority,	In a total of 34 stakeholders consulted; 7 are females and 27 are males	Shortage of electricity in some areas connected to single phases.  Many complaints in expropriation are left out by past energy development projects.	EDCL should advocate for compensation to PAPs whose properties are damaged by the construction of LV lines.  EDCL should involve the District during the design of energy development projects.	e-mail, letter, phone, face-to-face discussions, meeting	To speed up the process of starting the civil works of Rwanda Transmission System
		Tabagwe	Gitungu	Dir./OSC, EME, EUCL-Nyagatare Branch, ESs/Sectors, SLMs, public servants, business operators and					

Dates	District	Sector	Cell	Stakeholder group or Consulted person and Position	Key characteristics	Observation or Points raised by stakeholders	Suggestions from stakeholders and how they are considered by the project (proposed action)	Preferred notification means (e-mail, phone, radio, letter)	Specific needs by stakeholders
				local community		<p>There are productive users (e.g: Health posts, schools, etc.) with off-grid electricity which experience shortages.</p> <p>Nyagatare District still has residential areas (e.g: Nshuri Village,...) and productive users</p>			Reinforcement and Last Mile Connectivity Project. As guidance of the Government of Rwanda, areas around

Dates	District	Sector	Cell	Stakeholder group or Consulted person and Position	Key characteristics	Observation or Points raised by stakeholders	Suggestions from stakeholders and how they are considered by the project (proposed action)	Preferred notification means (e-mail, phone, radio, letter)	Specific needs by stakeholders
						(e.g: Nshuri business center, Gitengure Primary School,...) without electricity.			the border of Rwanda with neighboring countries should be given a priority in electrification projects as well.

Dates	District	Sector	Cell	Stakeholder group or Consulted person and Position	Key characteristics	Observation or Points raised by stakeholders	Suggestions from stakeholders and how they are considered by the project (proposed action)	Preferred notification means (e-mail, phone, radio, letter)	Specific needs by stakeholders
28/08/2023	Bugesera	Nyamatya	Nyamatya Ville	District authority,	In a total of 61 stakeholders consulted; 39 are females and 22 are males	In Bugesera District, there are households and productive users (e.g: schools, business centers, etc.) that are not yet connected to electricity.  The challenge of theft of off-grid equipment had been raised.	This project should connect households in electrified villages who had been left without electricity.  This project should contribute to the rehabilitation of old poles and other electricity infrastructures in general.	e-mail, letter, phone, face-to-face discussions, meeting	Bugesera District prioritizes electrification for some Cells (e.g: Juru Cell, Mugorore Cell) without electricity on their
		Juru	Mugorore	Dir./OSC, EME, EUCL-					
			Kabukuba	Bugesera Branch, ESs/Sectors, SLMs, public servants, business operators and local community					

<b>Dates</b>	<b>District</b>	<b>Sector</b>	<b>Cell</b>	<b>Stakeholder group or Consulted person and Position</b>	<b>Key characteristics</b>	<b>Observation or Points raised by stakeholders</b>	<b>Suggestions from stakeholders and how they are considered by the project (proposed action)</b>	<b>Preferred notification means (e-mail, phone, radio, letter)</b>	<b>Specific needs by stakeholders</b>
						Electrical materials remained after the completion of energy development activities which are stored at some public offices in Bugesera District (e.g: electrical materials at Kanzenze Cell			entire territory.

<b>Dates</b>	<b>District</b>	<b>Sector</b>	<b>Cell</b>	<b>Stakeholder group or Consulted person and Position</b>	<b>Key characteristics</b>	<b>Observation or Points raised by stakeholders</b>	<b>Suggestions from stakeholders and how they are considered by the project (proposed action)</b>	<b>Preferred notification means (e-mail, phone, radio, letter)</b>	<b>Specific needs by stakeholders</b>
						Office/Ntarama Sector).			

**Southern Province**

Dates	District	Sector	Cell	Stakeholder group or Consulted person and Position	Key characteristics	Observation or Points raised by stakeholders	Suggestions from stakeholders and how they are considered by the project (proposed action)	Preferr ed notification means (e-mail, phone, radio, letter)	Specific needs by stakeholders
16/08/2023	Nyamagabe	Kibirizi	Uwindekezi	Community members	Among the 9 persons from which 3 were females	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Delay in expropriation</li> <li>- lack of information</li> <li>- need of electricity</li> <li>- voltage drops</li> <li>- requested jobs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Speed up expropriation.</li> <li>- Full engagement of community members</li> <li>- Job offers</li> <li>- Strengthening existing electrical lines</li> </ul>	Letters, telephones and public meetings	Need of Electricity for public office and trading centers
		Musebeya	Gatovu	Community members	11 persons from which 6 are women and 5 men	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Delay in expropriation</li> <li>- lack of information</li> <li>- need of electricity</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Speed up expropriation.</li> <li>- Full engagement of community members</li> </ul>	Letters, telephones and public	Need of Electricity for public



Dates	District	Sector	Cell	Stakeholder group or Consulted person and Position	Key characteristics	Observation or Points raised by stakeholders	Suggestions from stakeholders and how they are considered by the project (proposed action)	PREFERRED notification means (e-mail, phone, radio, letter)	Specific needs by stakeholders
						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- voltage drops</li> <li>- requested jobs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Job offers.</li> <li>- Strengthening existing electrical lines</li> </ul>	meeting	office and trading centers
		Gasaka	Nyamugari	District authorities and staffs, business operators	From 11 person consulted person 2 were all females	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The project was much appreciated by stakeholders and committed their full participation.</li> <li>- Areas not connected should be covered.</li> <li>- Considering master</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Maximizing grid extension where possible to enable the district reach full connection.</li> <li>- Strengthening existing electrical lines</li> </ul>	Letters, telephones and public meetings	Need of Electricity for public office and trading centers

<b>Dates</b>	<b>District</b>	<b>Sector</b>	<b>Cell</b>	<b>Stakeholder group or Consulted person and Position</b>	<b>Key characteristics</b>	<b>Observation or Points raised by stakeholders</b>	<b>Suggestions from stakeholders and how they are considered by the project (proposed action)</b>	<b>Preferr ed notification means (e-mail, phone, radio, letter)</b>	<b>Specific needs by stakeholders</b>
						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>plan</li> <li>- Underground cables</li> </ul>	- Overhead lines		
17/08/2023	Nyaruguru	Kibeho	Mubuga	District staffs, community	22 persons from which 8 were females	<p>Stakeholders appreciated the project and raised the following issues to be considered in this new project.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Voltage drops: 70 % of existing electrical lines are single phase</li> <li>- Wooden poles with poor standards</li> </ul>	<p>Strengthening/upgrade the existing electricity from single to three phase.</p> <p>Expand electricity to areas not connected</p>	Letters, telephones and public meetings	Need of electricity in differed local centers

Dates	District	Sector	Cell	Stakeholder group or Consulted person and Position	Key characteristics	Observation or Points raised by stakeholders	Suggestions from stakeholders and how they are considered by the project (proposed action)	PREFERRED notification means (e-mail, phone, radio, letter)	Specific needs by stakeholders
						- Maximizing electricity coverage to the possible extent			
18/08/2023	Huye	Ngoma	Butare	District authorities and staffs	25 persons from which 7 were females	The district authorities appreciated this new project and promised full engagement in project implementation. However, as secondary city, they requested the project to address the following issues:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Maximize electricity coverage.</li> <li>- Electricity strengthening</li> <li>- Productive users to be connected.</li> <li>- Underground cables to be replaced by overhead.</li> </ul>	Letters, telephones and public meetings	Need of Electricity for public office and trading centers

Dates	District	Sector	Cell	Stakeholder group or Consulted person and Position	Key characteristics	Observation or Points raised by stakeholders	Suggestions from stakeholders and how they are considered by the project (proposed action)	PREFERRED notification means (e-mail, phone, radio, letter)	Specific needs by stakeholders
						<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Underground cables</li> <li>- Wooden poles with poor quality</li> <li>- Areas not connected.</li> <li>- Upgrade of single phase</li> <li>- Productive use areas</li> <li>- Master plan consideration</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Consider master plan especially the newly villages which changed from agriculture to residential areas.</li> </ul>		
21/08/2023	Gisagara	Ndora	Cyamukuza	District authorities and staffs	All the 21 persons	The district authorities had much appreciated the project and promised their	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Speed up expropriation.</li> <li>- Full engagement of</li> </ul>	Letters, telephones and	Need of Electricity for

Dates	District	Sector	Cell	Stakeholder group or Consulted person and Position	Key characteristics	Observation or Points raised by stakeholders	Suggestions from stakeholders and how they are considered by the project (proposed action)	Preferr ed notification means (e-mail, phone, radio, letter)	Specific needs by stakeholders
					consulted were females	support during the project implementation. They requested to address the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- voltage drops</li> <li>- areas not connected</li> <li>- delay of compensation</li> <li>- to be involved in all project phases</li> </ul>	local leaders and community members <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Upgrade MV and LV lines</li> <li>- Areas without electricity to be considered.</li> </ul>	public meetings	public office and trading centres

Dates	District	Sector	Cell	Stakeholder group or Consulted person and Position	Key characteristics	Observation or Points raised by stakeholders	Suggestions from stakeholders and how they are considered by the project (proposed action)	Preferr ed notification means (e-mail, phone, radio, letter)	Specific needs by stakeholders
		Mamb a	Mam ba	Community members	24 persons from which 8 are females	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Expropriation issues</li> <li>- Full electricity coverage</li> <li>- Requested jobs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Speed up expropriation.</li> <li>- Full engagement of community members</li> <li>- Job offers</li> </ul>		Need of Electricity for public office and trading centres
22/08/2023	Nyanza	Busasama	Rwesero	District authorities and staffs	Among 23 persons consulted 4 of	The district had appreciated the new project and committed to provide support in project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Consideration of cells not connected.</li> <li>- Full involvement in the project</li> </ul>	Letters, telephones, and public	Need of Electricity for public

Dates	District	Sector	Cell	Stakeholder group or Consulted person and Position	Key characteristics	Observation or Points raised by stakeholders	Suggestions from stakeholders and how they are considered by the project (proposed action)	PREFERRED notification means (e-mail, phone, radio, letter)	Specific needs by stakeholders
					them are females	implementation. The wished the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Increase electricity coverage to the possible extent.</li> <li>- Expropriation delays</li> <li>- Lack of information about project</li> </ul>	implementation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Speed up expropriation</li> </ul>	meeting	office and trading centres
		Rwabusoro		Community members	11 persons from which 8 are females	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Expropriation issues</li> <li>- Requested job offer</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Speed up expropriation.</li> <li>- Job offers during</li> </ul>	Letters, telephones, and	To electrify all

Dates	District	Sector	Cell	Stakeholder group or Consulted person and Position	Key characteristics	Observation or Points raised by stakeholders	Suggestions from stakeholders and how they are considered by the project (proposed action)	PREFERRED notification means (e-mail, phone, radio, letter)	Specific needs by stakeholders
							project implementation. - Engagement in project implementation	public meetings	citizens and trading centres
23/08/2023	Ruhango	Ruhango		District authorities and staffs	21 persons from which 5 are females	The district had appreciated the project and committed to provide all support needed to ease implementation of the project.	- Expedite project implementation to fast track the electricity coverage. - To always be communicated for their engagement	Letters, telephones and public meetings	To electrify all citizens and trading centres



Dates	District	Sector	Cell	Stakeholder group or Consulted person and Position	Key characteristics	Observation or Points raised by stakeholders	Suggestions from stakeholders and how they are considered by the project (proposed action)	PREFERRED notification means (e-mail, phone, radio, letter)	Specific needs by stakeholders
						To handle expropriation issues and related claims	- Speed up expropriation		
24/08/2023	Muhanga	Mushi shiro		District authorities and community members	The team consulted 9 persons from which 4 are females	The district Vice mayor in charge of economic affairs appreciated the project and committed to support where needed. He raised concerns to be addressed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Voltage drops.</li> <li>- Coverage of all HHs</li> <li>- Improved clean</li> </ul>		Letters, telephones and public meetings	To electrify all citizens and trading centres

Dates	District	Sector	Cell	Stakeholder group or Consulted person and Position	Key characteristics	Observation or Points raised by stakeholders	Suggestions from stakeholders and how they are considered by the project (proposed action)	Preferred notification means (e-mail, phone, radio, letter)	Specific needs by stakeholders
						<p>cooking.</p> <p>- Establishment of GRC and provision of money for its function.</p>			
25/08/2023	Kamonyi	Gacurabwenge		District authorities and staffs	The team consulted 25 District authorities and staffs from which 9 are females	The project was much welcomed as it will help district to increase the electricity rate. The district authorities appreciated the project and promised to be	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Handle Expropriation issues on time</li> <li>- Expedite the project implementation to enable district reach 100 % connection rate as soon as possible</li> </ul>	Letters, telephones, and public meetings	To electrify all citizens and trading centres

<b>Dates</b>	<b>District</b>	<b>Sector</b>	<b>Cell</b>	<b>Stakeholder group or Consulted person and Position</b>	<b>Key characteristics</b>	<b>Observation or Points raised by stakeholders</b>	<b>Suggestions from stakeholders and how they are considered by the project (proposed action)</b>	<b>Preferred notification means (e-mail, phone, radio, letter)</b>	<b>Specific needs by stakeholders</b>
						engaged and provide support during project implementation.			

## **Appendix 6: Sample of socio-economic survey during RAP preparation**

**SOCIAL-ECONOMIC BASELINE SURVEY (PAPs HOUSEHOLD)**

**INSTITUTION:** .....

**PROJECT:** .....

**1. Data collection information**

---

1.1 <i>Surveyor</i>	Name : ..... Code :.....																														
1.2 <i>Location of PAPs</i>	District :..... Sector : :..... Cell :..... Village : :.....																														
1.3 <i>Questionnaire number</i>	(day/month/initials/interview of the day) :.....																														
1.4 <i>Respondent</i>	<p>Is the person interviewing the head of household? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If no, what's his/her name? _____</p> <p>And what is his/her status?</p> <table> <tr> <td></td><td>1. Spouse of HofH</td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td></tr> <tr> <td></td><td>2. Son/daughter of HofH</td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td></tr> <tr> <td></td><td>3. Brother/sister of HofH</td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td></tr> <tr> <td></td><td>4. Grandchild</td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td></tr> <tr> <td></td><td>5. Son-in-law/daughter-in-law</td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td></tr> <tr> <td></td><td>6. Parents of HofH</td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td></tr> <tr> <td></td><td>7. Parent-in-law</td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td></tr> <tr> <td></td><td>8. Neighbor</td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td></tr> <tr> <td></td><td>9. House keeper</td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td></tr> <tr> <td></td><td>10. Other (specify : _____)</td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td></tr> </table>		1. Spouse of HofH	<input type="checkbox"/>		2. Son/daughter of HofH	<input type="checkbox"/>		3. Brother/sister of HofH	<input type="checkbox"/>		4. Grandchild	<input type="checkbox"/>		5. Son-in-law/daughter-in-law	<input type="checkbox"/>		6. Parents of HofH	<input type="checkbox"/>		7. Parent-in-law	<input type="checkbox"/>		8. Neighbor	<input type="checkbox"/>		9. House keeper	<input type="checkbox"/>		10. Other (specify : _____)	<input type="checkbox"/>
	1. Spouse of HofH	<input type="checkbox"/>																													
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	7. Parent-in-law	<input type="checkbox"/>																													
	8. Neighbor	<input type="checkbox"/>																													
	9. House keeper	<input type="checkbox"/>																													
	10. Other (specify : _____)	<input type="checkbox"/>																													

HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD	
Head of Household Name:	ID:
Spouse Name:	ID:
Orphans representative:	ID:
<i>Telephone Number</i>	
<i>Marital status</i>	1. Single <input type="checkbox"/> 2. Married/ Cohabiting <input type="checkbox"/> 3. Divorced/ Separated <input type="checkbox"/> 4. Widow/ Widower <input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Religious belonging</i>	1. Christian <input type="checkbox"/> 2. Islam <input type="checkbox"/> 3. Traditional <input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Main Employment</i>	1. Agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> 2. Grazing <input type="checkbox"/> 3. Government salaried <input type="checkbox"/> 4. Private sector salaried <input type="checkbox"/> 5. Trading (shops, market, etc.) <input type="checkbox"/> 6. Transport (taxi driver, moto-taxi, etc.) <input type="checkbox"/> 7. Skilled handcraft (Carpentry, Masonry, Weaver, Electrician, etc.) <input type="checkbox"/> 8. Self-employed professional (advisors, consultant, etc.) <input type="checkbox"/> 9. Unemployed <input type="checkbox"/> 10. Other (please, specify: _____ ) <input type="checkbox"/>

<i>Household productivity</i>	Number of dependent members.....
	Number of dependent members .....

<i>Category of the PAPs</i>	Owner <input type="checkbox"/>
	Tenants <input type="checkbox"/>
	Business activities (To Be specified) <input type="checkbox"/> .....

**2. Homestead demographic information**

*Complete the following table for all household members:*



Number of Members			Education Level				Age				
Total HH number	Number of Male	Number of Female	Number persons attended at highest Primary school	Number persons attended at highest Secondary school & TVET	Number persons attended at highest University & higher educational Institutions	Number of persons never went to school	Not concern (below 3 years)	No between (4-17) years	No between (18- 35) years	No between (36-64) years	No of elderly (over 65 years)

### 3. Vulnerability

#### 3.1 *Number of vulnerable in Household*

Item	Number (If no, write 0)
1. Disabled (handicap)	
2. Orphan (Both parents)	
3. Elderly (Over 65 years)	
4. Child Head of Household	
5. Woman Head of Household	
6. Widow	

7. Extreme poverty	
8. Permanent illness (ex: HIV, etc.)	

#### 4. Energy and water conditions in affected households

---

##### 4.1 *Please indicate the energy source used for lighting (please choose only one main source):*

1. Electricity ☐ 2. Candle ☐ 3. Kerosene Lamps ☐ 4. Battery ☐ 5. Solar energy ☐ 6. Chargeable torch ☐  
 7. Other ☐ *Specify:* \_\_\_\_\_

##### 4.2 *Please indicate the energy source used for cooking (please choose only one main source):*

1. Electricity ☐ 2. Kerosene ☐ 3. Gas ☐ 4. Firewood ☐ 5. Charcoal ☐ 6. Biomass residue ☐ 7. Other ☐

##### 4.3 *What is your main source of water? (please choose only one source)*

1. Piped into dwelling ☐ 2. Piped to yard/plot ☐ 3. Public tap/standpipe ☐ Distance to public tap .....Km 4. Tube well /borehole ☐  
 5. Covered well ☐  
 6. Protected well ☐ 7. Unprotected well ☐ 8. Protected spring ☐ 9. Unprotected spring ☐ 10. Rainwater ☐ 11. Tanker truck ☐ 12. Surface water (river/lake/pond/stream/ irrigation channel) ☐ 13. Other ☐ *Specify:* \_\_\_\_\_

## 5. Health

---

5.1 Did any members of your household suffer from the following disease/maladies in the past six months?

Yes ☐ No ☐

If yes, please specify which diseases/maladies have affected household members during the past six months?

Disease/ Malady	
1. Tuberculosis	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Malaria	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Blood pressure	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Diabetes	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Diarrhea	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. RUTI/Respiratory Infections	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Skin diseases	<input type="checkbox"/>
Others <i>Please specify:</i> _____	<input type="checkbox"/>

## 6. Assets Inventory Form (to be filled in situ)

### 6.1 Trees and crops (perennial or seasonal)

No	ASSETS TO BE AFFECTED	UNIT	QUANTITY	UNIT COST	TOTAL

### 6.2. Houses and structures

Type of use	Year	Construction types	Number of rooms/stores	Utility connection	Total area (sqm)	Impacted area (sqm)	Impact	
							P	F

Types of use 1. Residential 2. *Commercial*, 3. *Residential cum Commercial*, 4. *wall* 5. *Other (Specify)*

*Cons.Type:1. Mud, 2. Brick/ RCC,*

3.Semi-RCC Utility Connection:

1.Electricity; 2. Water; 3. Phone P Partially

F-Fully

**7. RESETTLEMENT AND REHABILITATION**

7.1. In case you are displaced (residentially where and how far you prefer to be located?

- Within the area - 1 Outside the area - 2 Place name:.....Distance (in km.)

7.2. Replacement Option Land for land lost -1 Cash Assistance -2 House in Resettlement Site -3 Shop in Resettlement Site -4 Other (Specify)

7.3. Factors to be considered in providing alternate place: Access to family/friends -1 Income from household activity -2 Income from Business activity -3 Daily Job -4 lose to Market - 5 Other (Specify) -6

Thank you for your information

## Appendix 7: Sample of Environmental and Social Screening form

**Name of the Program:** Accelerating Sustainable & Clean Energy Access Transformation (ASCENT Project)

### Environmental and Social Screening Checklist (ESSC)

**Note:** The Environmental and Social Screening Checklist (ESSC) is designed to avail information to the decision makers during project implementation. It identifies impacts and mitigation measures and recommends further environmental analysis if required. This form will be filled for each sub-project and will also be used to apply to RDB (in addition of the project brief) to obtain EIA certificate of authorization or EIA clearance and other safeguards instruments (RAP, ESMP, EHSP). It will also be used to screen all sub-project under the above program.

**Sub-project Activity:** .....

**District:** .....

**Sector:** .....

**Cell:** .....

**Villages:** .....

**Date of Screening:** .....

## Environmental and Social screening guiding questions

### 1. Resource use and socio-economic impacts (Yes or No)

a) Does local communities rely on the use of natural resources? .....

If yes, explain how will the sub-project affect people's use of natural resources (e.g., drinking and washing water, land cultivated for food, wood fuel, traditional medicines plant, and extraction of building materials, etc.)?

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

b) Will be there additional demands on natural resources as a result of the sub-project?

.....

If yes, explain.....

- c) Will the sub-project restrict people's access to natural resources at any time before, during, or after construction? .....
- If yes, what plans are available to provide additional resources to meet increased permanent and-temporary needs of local populations? .....
- .....
- d) Will the sub-project affect downstream users of resources, especially water resources? .....
- .....
- If yes, how will those resources be protected? .....
- e) Are future natural resource use opportunities being cut off? .....
- If yes, what measures will be undertaken? .....
- f) Will the sub-project affect land or water use, or require leases, or changes in tenure? .....
- .....
- If yes, what measures will be undertaken? .....
- g) Will the sub-project require resettlement of any residents? .....
- If yes, what measures will be undertaken? .....
- h) Will the sub-project result in construction workers or other people moving into or having access to the area? .....
- .....
- If yes, how many people and how will this affect the availability of local resources? .....
- .....
- i) Will the sub-project create jobs locally? .....
- If yes, will this include what percentage (%) of work for local women and the youth? .....
- .....
- j) Will the sub-project provide a safe working environment? .....
- k) Will the sub-project outputs be targeted to meet the needs of vulnerable groups in the community (e.g., women, youths, elderly, or PWDs)? .....
- If yes, provide more details per group.....
- l) Is the sub-project site culturally or archaeologically sensitive? .....
- m) Are rock shelters present in the sub-project site? .....
- .....
- n) Are caves present in the sub-project site? .....
- .....
- o) Is the sub-project site a place of worship? .....
- p) Does the sub-project site have any cultural value for the community? .....
- If yes, provide more details.....

q) Is it a sub-project site located in or nearby a cemetery or memorial area? .....  
If yes, how far it is from the project site (m/km)? .....

r) Will the sub-project result in destruction of assets (structures and crops, etc.)?  
If yes, what measures will be undertaken? .....

s) Will the sub-project result in the loss of primary residential structures and consequently  
involuntary resettlement? .....  
If yes, what measures will be undertaken? .....

t) Is the available land for the additional classroom construction in the first year of the project,  
government, private or church land?.....  
Is this land enough for additional classroom construction in year one of the project implementation  
or more land will be acquired .....?

Is the land available land for additional classroom construction or new schools under any formal use  
such as agriculture (specify the crops) or settlement for instance houses or shops?.....

u) Is the identified land for the construction of new schools' part of government, private or church  
land? Please specify.....

## **2. Biophysical/ landscape impacts (Yes or No)**

a) Is the local vegetation at sub-project site mainly forest, swamp vegetation, or farmland?  
.....

If yes, provide more details.....

b) Will the immediate or downstream effects of the sub-project change the vegetation cover?  
.....

If yes, provide more details.....

c) Will the sub-project affect important species, habitats, or ecosystems in the area?

If yes, provide more details.....

d) Is the sub-project site environmentally classified as sensitive area? Check the list of  
environmentally sensitive environments for Rwanda.

If yes, provide more details.....

e) Is the sub-project site located on a steep slope or very-gently-sloping land?

If yes, provide more details.....

f) Are there areas of limestone karst or wetlands? .....



If yes, have special consideration been given to their management? .....

g) Will vegetation be removed or any surface left bare? .....

If yes, what will be the impact of clearance? .....

h) Will sediments or sand be prevented from entering streams? .....

i) Will slope or soil stability be affected by the sub-project (e.g., by using heavy machinery)?  
.....

If yes, what measures will be undertaken? .....

j) Will a large land area or a high proportion of a community's land be affected? .....

If yes, what measures will be undertaken? .....

k) Will quarries or borrow pits be developed or operated under the sub-project? .....

If yes, provide details on the location of the selected site and proof of necessary authorization?  
.....

l) Will the present landscape be altered (e.g., by rock or soil removal, spoil dumping, or timber removal)? .....

If yes, what measures will be undertaken? .....

### **3. For projects affecting vegetated areas (Yes or No)**

m) Is the local vegetation at sub-project site mainly savannah, savannah woodland, planted trees, tropical forest? .....

If yes, provide details.....

n) Are there important species, habitats, or ecosystems in the sub-project site (in the immediate area or off site) or is the area environmentally sensitive or fragile? For e.g.: birds, bats, bees, etc.....

If yes, provide details.....

o) Will vegetation be removed or any surface left bare?

If yes, provide details.....

### **4. Impacts on water and air quality (Yes or No)**

p) Will the sub-project generate waste products (including increased sewage or solid wastes)?  
.....

If yes, provide details and what measures will be undertaken? .....

.....

q) Are there any identified dumping sites for solid and liquid wastes? .....  
If yes, where will be the dumping sites? .....

r) Is there are any site-specific-erosion plans and sediment-control plans for the sub-project site?  
.....

If yes, provide more details.....

s) Will the sub-project or its waste disposal affect the quality of local streams or the groundwater? .....

If yes, what steps are planned to minimize sedimentation and siltation in streams and contamination of groundwater? .....

t) Will toxic chemicals (e.g., herbicides, tar, oils spills, paints, and other hazardous chemicals) be used or disposed of along the route of sub-project? .....

If yes, what the measures will be undertaken.....  
.....

u) Will hazardous substances (e.g., large quantities of fuels) be used or stored in the sub-project area? .....

If yes, what plans are there to contain these substances? How will fuel, oil, or other hazardous chemicals be delivered, transferred, and stored to prevent leaks from contaminating the soil, streams or beaches?.....  
.....

v) Will the sub-project create dust or noise problems? .....

w) Will the sub-project reduce safety for pedestrians, including children and old people?

If yes, what plans are there to minimize these impacts? .....

.....  
.....

x) Will the batching areas (for concrete or bitumen) produce some waste and spillage?

.....

y) Will these and other construction sites be contained while in use and cleaned and rehabilitated after use?

If yes, what plans are there to minimize these impacts? .....

.....  
.....

z) Will there be serious dust problems in settled areas during sub-project operation? .....

If yes, what measures will be taken to reduce this impact? .....

**5. Environmental health, natural hazards, and construction hazards (Yes or No)**

a) Will there be a water logging problem at the sub-project site? .....

If yes, what steps will be taken to control disease vectors, especially mosquitoes? .....

.....

b) Is the environment at the sub-project site naturally unstable (i.e., in an area prone to erosion, in an area of known earthquake or landslip activity, in an area prone to severe storms, floods, or droughts, thunderstorms)? .....

If yes, what plans are there to protect the development against these natural hazards?

.....

c) Are safety measures in place to protect the workforce and will all workers have the necessary Person Protective Equipment and be trained to use of safety equipment? .....

d) Is there a contingency plan to deal with spills of hazardous chemicals (including oil products) in the sub-project area? .....

If yes , .....

e) Are fire-fighting and spill-clean-up materials / chemicals available for use at the sub-project site (e.g., water, sand, detergent, acid, or alkali)? .....

f) Are measures being taken to ensure safety to road users after project completion (e.g., speed bumps and adequate road furniture)? .....

**Is the sub-project found in the list of project that require EIA or partial EIA as per the Ministerial Order N°001/2019 of 15/04/2019 establishing the lists of projects that must undergo environmental impact assessment, instructions, requirements and procedures to conduct environmental impact assessment ? .....**

***If the answer to any of the questions is “yes”, Environmental Management Plan (EMP) is required***

*If the answer to any of the questions related to land acquisition is “yes”, please consult the RPF and prepare the Resettlement Action Plan (RAP)*

## **DECISION MAKING:**

### **Refer to Annex E.2**

- Sub-project categorization: .....

### **Refer to Ministerial Order N°001/2019 of 15/04/2019**

- EIA required :.....( ✓Yes)..... (✓No)
- EMP required: ..... (✓Yes)..... (✓No)

## **CERTIFICATION**

We certify that we have thoroughly examined all the potential adverse impacts of this sub-project as described in the sub-project brief. To the best of our knowledge, the associated safeguard instruments (EIA, ESMPs, RAP) if any, will be adequate to avoid or minimize all adverse environmental and social impacts.

### **Cell Authority**

Name:

Position:

Telephone:

Signature:

### **Sector Authority**

Name:

Position:

Telephone:

Signature:

### **District Environmental Officer (DEO) RUEAP Environment & Social Safeguards Specialists**

Name:

Telephone

Signature:

Name:


Telephone:

Signature:

## Appendix 8: Livelihood Assets

Livelihood Asset	Description	Ranking
Natural	Agricultural and grazing land, water resources, food, timber, fish	X
Physical	Houses and Trees	X
Human	Labor force within a household, vocational training	X
Financial	Wages and savings	X
Social	Kinship structures, religious groups, neighborhoods	X

## Appendix 9: Sample Letters used to conduct public consultation.



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Kigali, Ku wa 16 Kanama 2023  
N° 11.07.023/1159/23/EDCL-MD/FG/EM/ab

KARONGI DISTRICT  
FOR RECEPTION  
Date: 22/08/2023  
Signature:

**Madamu Umuyobozi w'Akarere ka Karongi  
INTARA Y'IBURENGERAZUBA**


**IMPAMVU:** Gutanga amakuru no kungurana ibitekerezo ku mushinga mushya

Madamu Muyobozi,

Tunejwe no kubamenyesha ko hari abakozi bakora mu kigo gishinzwe gukwirakwiza ibikorwaremezo by'amashanyarazi Energy Development Corporation Limited (EDCL) bazaza mu Karere ka Karongi mu rwego rwo kubaha amakuru no kungurana ibitekerezo ku mushinga mushya wo gukwirakwiza amashanyarazi uzaterwa inkunga na Banki y'Ist. Uwo mushinga ukaba uteganya gukwirakwiza amashanyarazi muri santere z'ubucuruzi ndetse no mu ngo z'abaturage.

Abo bakozi bakaba bazakenera umuyobozi w'Akarere cyangwa umuhagarariye, umuyobozi wa "Infrastructure One Stop Center", abayobozi b'imirenge, umukozi ushinze amashanyarazi, ushinze ibidukikije, abakozi bashinzwe ubutaka ku rwego rw'Umurenge. Abo bakozi ba EDCL bakaba bazagera mu Karere ka Karongi ku itariki ya **23/08/2023**.

Mugire Amahoro,



**Felix GAKUBA**  
Umuyobozi Mukuru

**Bimenyeshajwe:**

- Umuyobozi w'Intara y'Iburengerazuba
- Umuyobozi mukuru wa REG
- Umuyobozi wa REG/ishami rya Karongi

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10<sup>th</sup> Floor KCT, KN 2 ST, Nyarugenge District, P.O. Box 3855 Kigali, Rwanda  
Tel.: + (250) (0) 787172265, email: info@edclreg.rw, website: www.reg.rw



16 AUG 2023

Kigali, .....

N° 11.07.023/.1159... /23/EDCL-MD/FG/EM/ab



**Bwana Umuyobozi w'Akarere ka Rutsiro**  
**INTARA Y'IBURENGERAZUBA**

**IMPAMVU:** Gutanga amakuru no kungurana ibitekerezo ku mushinga mushya

Bwana Umuyobozi,

Tunajwe no kubamenyesha ko hari abakozi bakora mu kigo gishinzwe gukwirakwiza ibikorwaremezo by'amashanyarazi Energy Development Corporation Limited (EDCL) bazaza mu Karere ka Rutsiro mu rwego rwo kubaha amakuru no kungurana ibitekerezo ku mushinga mushya wo gukwirakwiza amashanyarazi uzaterwa inkunga na Banki y'isi. Uwo mushinga ukaba uteganya gukwirakwiza amashanyarazi muri santere z'ubucuruzi ndetse no mu ngo z'abaturage.

Abo bakozi bakaba bazakenera umuyobozi w'Akarere cyangwa umuhagarariye, umuyobozi wa "Infrastructure One Stop Center", abayobozi b'imirenge, umukozi ushinze amashanyarazi, ushinze ibidukikije, abakozi bashinze ubutaka ku rwego rw'Umurenge. Abo bakozi ba EDCL bakaba bazagera mu Karere ka Rutsiro ku itariki ya 22/08/2023.

Mugire Amahoro



Felix GAKUBA

Umuyobozi Mukuru

**Bitangazwe:**

- Umuyobozi w'Intara y'Iburengerazuba
- Umuyobozi mukuru wa REG
- Umuyobozi wa REG/ishami rya Rutsiro



## Appendix 10: Sample Photo log during Consultation Meeting

