



EDO STATE

FRAMEWORK FOR RESPONSIBLE AND INCLUSIVE LAND INTENSIVE AGRICULTURE

(FRILIA)

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT TOOLKIT

SEPTEMBER 2024

Executive Order Establishment, Adoption and Implementation of Framework for Responsible and Inclusive Land Intensive Agricultural Investments issued on 31st December 2024.

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Acronyms and Abbreviations

1. Introduction

Effective Stakeholder Engagement (SE) is key to implementing a Framework for Responsible and Inclusive Land Intensive Agriculture (FRILIA), and when properly done it:

- Improves communication among stakeholders.
- Minimizes the potential for conflict.
- Promotes investment project acceptance and participation.
- Enhances the likelihood of overall project success.

This Stakeholder Engagement Toolkit outlines the procedures and tools for stakeholder engagement under FRILIA. It incorporates existing communication channels and explores ways that investment project stakeholders can participate in responsible and inclusive land intensive agriculture investments based on their level of interest and influence. It provides guidance for community consultation and engagement throughout the 6 stages for agricultural investment under Edo State Investment Approval Process (ED-IAP), from initial enquiry to aftercare. The toolkit guides investors and implementation agencies to:

- Develop a framework for stakeholder engagement that:
 - Identifies investment project stakeholders.
 - Analyses stakeholder interests, influence, roles, and responsibilities.
 - Understands the relationship between the stakeholders and guides appropriate alignments within the investment process to deliver responsible and inclusive outcomes.
- Develop a strategy and plan that defines pathways for effective communication for enhanced and inclusive participation.

In addition to this toolkit guide, related templates are provided to assist the investor and relevant MDAs in developing and implementing this framework.

It is important to note that this toolkit applies to two broad investment scenarios. The first is where the government has previously acquired land and is considering providing it to the investor. The second is where the investor seeks to acquire land directly from local landowners or land users. While stakeholder engagement is essential in both cases, it is likely to be more challenging and time-consuming under the second scenario as the agreement will be led by the investor and the community with little involvement from the responsible MDA or local government at the initial stage. This reinforces the objective of this Toolkit, which is to provide stakeholders with guidance in navigating the investment project lifecycle.

2. FRILIA Principles Applicable to Stakeholder Engagement

The FRILIA principles most applicable to stakeholder engagement are as follows:

- Investments should occur transparently (Principle 1.2).
- Investments should be subject to consultation and participation, including the disadvantaged and vulnerable, informed of their rights and assisted in their capacity to negotiate (Principle 1.5).
- Communities have the opportunity and responsibility to decide whether or not to make land available based on informed choices (Principle 1.6).
- Investment should be monitored (Principle 1.7).
- Compensation standards are to be disclosed and applied consistently (Principle 3.1).
- Economic and social impacts caused by land acquisition or loss of access to natural resources shall be identified and addressed, including people who may lack full legal rights to assets or resources they use or occupy (Principle 3.2)
- Offer displaced land-based earners replacement land if available (Principle 3.6).

Together, principles 1.5 and 1.6 adopt the international concept of “**Free, Prior and Informed Consent**” (FPIC). This principle states that any investment affecting the land, or resources of indigenous peoples should not proceed without the free, prior, and informed consent of those affected by the proposed investment project.

Under FRILIA, FPIC is not limited to indigenous peoples but applies to all communities whose land may be affected by a proposed investment. Thus, principle 1.6 gives affected communities a veto (the right to say no) to an investment project being implemented in their territory. This power may extend over the lifetime of the investment project if the nature or scope of the investment changes over time.

The four elements of FPIC can be described as follows:

Free: Those deciding whether to consent to a project should do so without coercion, intimidation, or manipulation.

Prior: Consent must be sought well before any authorization or the beginning of project activities. The timetable must allow sufficient time for culturally appropriate consultation and for completion of local decision-making processes.

Informed: People receive all relevant information about the project. The information provided must be objective, accurate and presented in a manner or form that is understandable to those receiving it.

Consent: The people have agreed to the activity that will take place on their land. The right to consent includes the right to say no to the project or to offer to consent only under certain conditions.

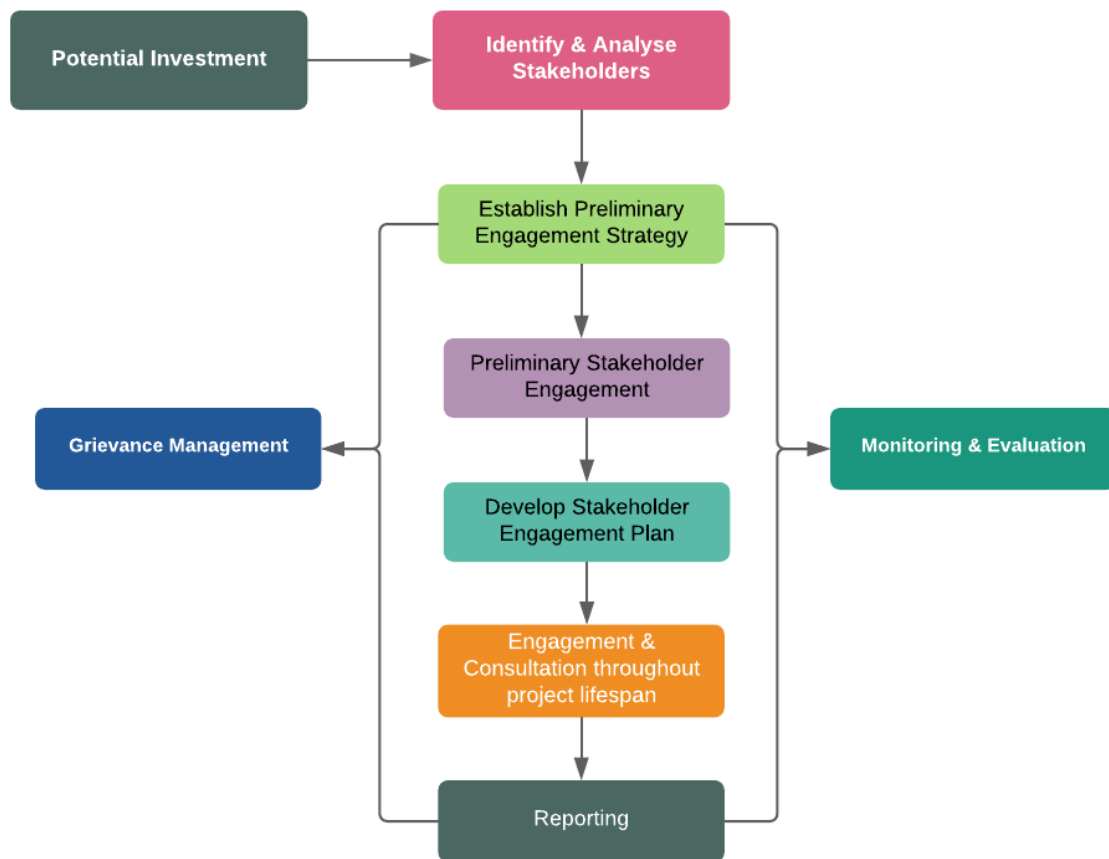
3. Stakeholder Engagement Plan

A Stakeholder Engagement Plan is used to identify the stakeholders of a project and how they will be constructively engaged throughout the project lifecycle. It seeks to ensure that there is a positive relationship between the investor and its stakeholders and helps to manage project risks.

A Stakeholder Engagement Plan is a living document that needs to be reviewed and constantly updated throughout the project lifecycle to reflect any project changes.

Generally, and as explained below, a stakeholder engagement plan should include the steps reflected in this graphic:

Figure 1: Steps for stakeholder engagement Plan



3.1 FRILIA Investment Approval Process (IAP)

The toolkit also provides guidance for community consultation and engagement throughout the 6 stages of Edo State's FRILIA Agricultural Investment Approval Process, from Initial Inquiries and Know your Customer (Due Diligence) to the parties enter into final Agreement.

1. **Stage 1: [INITIAL INQUIRIES & KNOW YOUR CUSTOMER (DUE DILIGENCE)]** – The investor reaches out to ESIPO in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security with the intention to invest in Edo State. Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security communicates the FRILIA toolkits to the investor via channels outlined in the FRILIA Communication Strategy which is also visible in Edo State website for FRILIA.
2. **Stage 2: [Information Exchange and Site Visits]** – [The Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security communicates available FRILIA toolkit, discuss on the best area (within the state) of comparative advantage for the investor's crop enterprise of choice.]
3. **Stage 3: [Potential Investors Proceeds or Withdraw]** – See Edo State FRILIA Flowchart 1
4. **Stage 4: [Investor Enters into a Memorandum of Understanding ("MoU") with Edo State Government and Representatives of the host Community(ies)].**
5. **Stage 5: [Investor Completes and Shares a Feasibility Study, Business Plan and an independent Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA)].**
6. **Stage 6: [The parties enter into final Agreement]** – [The agro-investor signs an MOU with the relevant stakeholders.]

Once the project is in place, the responsible MDA should ensure that a proper monitoring and evaluation process is in place and implemented.

3.2 Stakeholder Identification

Stakeholder identification is an essential process required to identify all the parties whose actions or inactions may affect or be affected by the activities of an investment project. To identify the relevant stakeholders, the following questions must be answered:

1. Who is affected positively by the activities of the investment project?
2. Who is affected negatively by the activities of the investment project?
3. Who can influence the investment project's outcome/deliverable?
4. What regulatory bodies are concerned with the activities of the investment project?

The ESIPO in collaboration with Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security (FRILLIA Implementation Office) should engage with the investor and the local community to

identify stakeholders and facilitate initial stakeholder meetings. Taking into cognizance all interest groups.

List of Potential Stakeholders' mapping

- Affected and potentially affected stakeholders living on the land, including landowners, tenants, and other land users.
- Landowners who do not live on the land.
- Stakeholders who are affected by resources that will be affected by the investment e.g., using the water upstream, dry season farming using drying floodplain landscape.
- Community members, e.g., head of village, school committee, Head farmers, women, youths workers, and others in the community, etc.
- Specific vulnerable groups, e.g., women, migrants, etc.
- Local authorities and government officials
- Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs)
- NGOs and/or CSOs who may work with the community.

3.3 Stakeholder Categorization

List of Potential Stakeholder Categories

- State-level MDAs
- Local government authorities
- Landowners and land users
- Traditional authorities
- Vulnerable groups
- NGOs and CSOs
- Investors
- Farmers
- Actual or potential employees and labour unions

In developing a stakeholder engagement plan, it can be helpful to group the stakeholders into categories as the consultation content and methodology may be the same for those falling into the same category or differ across categories.

In Edo State, the responsible multi-stakeholder committees and MDAs are :

- Edo State FRILIA Steering Committee.
- Edo State FRILIA Technical Committee.

- Edo State FRILIA Project Implementation Unit.
- Edo State Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security (MAFS).
- Edo State Agricultural Development Program.
- Edo State Ministry of Environment and Sustainability.
- Edo State Ministry of Justice
- Edo State Ministry of Water Resources
- Edo State Ministry of Social Development and Gender Affairs
- Edo State Ministry of Youth and Communication
- Edo State Ministry of Budget and Economic Planning
- Edo State Information Geographical System Edo-GIS
- Edo State Ministry of Urban Planning and Development
- Edo State Investment Promotion Agency (Lead Agency in collaboration with MAFS)
- Edo State Internal Revenue Service
- Edo State Ministry of Business, Trade and Cooperatives
- Edo State FADAMA N-CARES project
- Edo State Forestry Commission
- Edo State Civil Society Organization
- Edo State Ministry of Finance
- Office of the Surveyor General
- Farm Settlement and Peasants Farmers
- Agri-Business Officers
- SABER program
- EdoJobs
- Ministry of Communication
- Other MDAs may be included depending on the nature of the agricultural investment project.

The relevant local government authorities are:

- Edo State Ministry of Local Govt. & Chieftaincy Affairs
- Local Government Area of Hosting the Investment in the State.

Other Local Government authorities may be included depending on the nature of the agricultural investment project.

3.4 Stakeholder Analysis

Having identified the stakeholders, it is necessary to analyse them. This includes a clear identification and description of each stakeholder (there often will be many in each category), their interest or stake (both positive and negative), and their specific role or responsibility.

Stakeholders have an interest in an investment project if they are likely to be impacted or affected by a project. The level of interest is determined by the magnitude of the effect they have on the investment project, or the investment project has on them. See Table 1 and Figure 3.

Table 1: Stakeholder Groups in Edo State.

| STAKEHOLDER CATEGORY | STAKEHOLDER | INTEREST | LEVEL OF INTEREST | ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES |
|---|--|---|-------------------------------|--|
| State FRILIA Steering Committee | All members of the Steering Committee established by Executive Order | Provide support to the ESIPO in collaboration with Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security and other line MDAS with the following resources (Strategic Guidance, Promoting Transparency, Budget approvals, and monitoring of impact). | High Interest-High Influence | Responsible for the coordination of the establishment, adoption and implementation of the Edo State FRILIA |
| State FRILIA Technical Committee | All members of the Technical Committee established by Executive Order | Support ESIPO in collaboration with Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security and other line MDAs with the compliance monitoring, integrating sustainable land use practices and conduct risk assessment | High Interest, High Influence | Responsible for preparing land investment strategy and implementation plan, as well as integrating sustainable land use practices, environmental, conservation and social inclusion. |
| State Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) | Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security, Edo-GIS, ESIPO, Ministry of Environment and | Support Agro-investors, communities and farmers by facilitating effective | High Interest, High Influence | In charge of the facilitation of dialogue with key stakeholders including private sectors and Civil societies. Also, conducting risk |

| STAKEHOLDER CATEGORY | STAKEHOLDER | INTEREST | LEVEL OF INTEREST | ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES |
|---|---|---|-------------------------------|---|
| | Sustainability, Edo State Forestry Commission and other line MDAs in Edo State. | stakeholders' engagements, fair and sustainable land use practices, technical and advisory assistance and conflict management. | | assessment and advising on Agricultural business policies. |
| Traditional authorities | Enogies and Odionweres | Provide support in terms of access rights and land allocation, mediation and conflict management, community engagement, guidance on customary laws and customs, social and cultural considerations. | Low interest – High Influence | In charge of facilitating community consent and buy-in. |
| Local businesses | Food Vendors, petty traders, hospitality, etc. | Support with the provision of goods and services, business partnership, market development, logistics | Low interest-Low Influence | In charge of providing essential services and strengthening the local economy of communities |
| Project affected persons (women, men, sub-groups (e.g., pastoralists) | Farmers, Agricultural cooperatives/farm clusters, land users and landowners | Support with community mobilization, engagement and dialogue, feedback and monitoring, economic contributions like provision of services and local markets. | high interest-high influence | In charge of ensuring projects/initiatives are inclusive and equitable for the benefit of the Agricultura |
| Local Government | The Departments of land and Survey, | Support in creating an investment | Low interest-Low Influence | In charge of ensuring that land access is |

| STAKEHOLDER CATEGORY | STAKEHOLDER | INTEREST | LEVEL OF INTEREST | ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES |
|--------------------------|--|---|-----------------------------|---|
| Departments and Agencies | Agriculture, Environment and Sanitation, Economic Planning and Budget, Community Development and Legal Services within the 18 (eighteen) LGAs of Edo State | friendly environment | | conducted lawfully and in a manner that benefits both the investors and local communities. |
| NGOs and CSOs | Solidaridad, PIND | Support with advocacy and policy engagement, community mobilization and awareness, Capacity building and training programs, monitoring and evaluation | Low interest-low influence | In charge of ensuring project conforms to international best practices. |
| Development partners | GIZ, IDH | Support by facilitating funding, policy development and advocacy, capacity development, research and data analysis, environmental sustainability and partnerships | High interest-low influence | In charge of ensuring land access initiatives are sustainable, equitable and responsive. |
| Media | Prints, Social Media Handles (Facebook, Instagram, twitter), Media Houses | Support in knowledge sharing, building strategic relationship with critical stakeholders | Low interest-high influence | In charge of creating awareness, increased visibility and better understanding of FRILIA Principles |

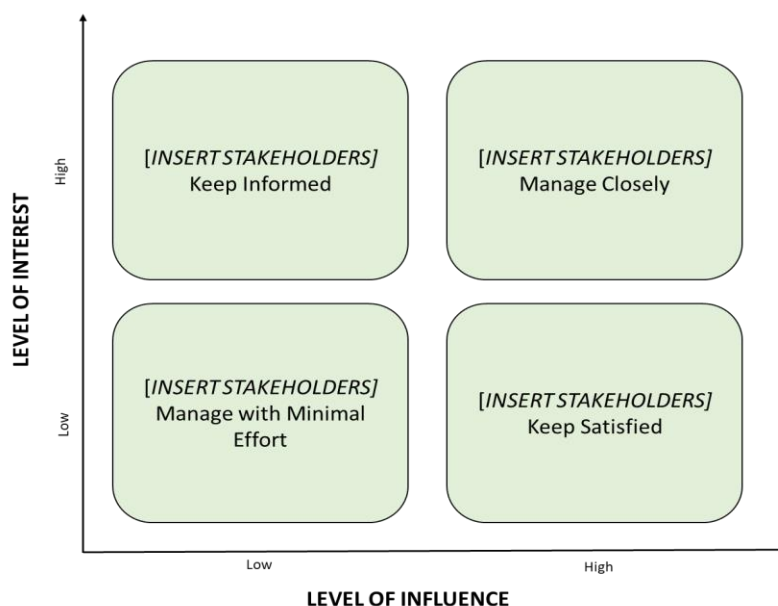
3.5 Stakeholder Mapping

Stakeholder mapping is the process of understanding the relationship between stakeholders and how to manage them. A stakeholder map shows a visual representation of identified stakeholders categorised by their interest and influence in the investment project. A stakeholder map is the first stage to managing stakeholders as it gives a clear understanding of how investment project proponents need to communicate with stakeholders.

A stakeholder matrix (see Figure 3) is one of the tools used in stakeholder mapping. Stakeholders are placed into four quadrants:

1. Low interest – low influence: **Manage with Minimal Effort (Monitor)**. These stakeholders have minimal impact on the investment project, and their level of engagement is usually limited to information disclosure.
2. Low interest- high influence: **Keep Satisfied**. This group of stakeholders require regular updates on the investment project to maintain their interest in the project and to incorporate their feedback into investment project decision making.
3. Low influence- high interest: These stakeholders often require that their needs are met and there is constant communication about investment project decisions.
4. High interest- high influence: **Manage Closely**. These stakeholders have control over the project and make key investment project decisions. They need to be engaged constantly throughout the investment project lifecycle.

Figure 3: Stakeholder matrix



Organizing stakeholders into primary, secondary, and tertiary groups involves prioritizing them based on their level of influence, interest in the project, and the extent to which they are affected by the project. Here is a general guideline to help you categorize stakeholders into these groups:

Primary Stakeholders:

High Influence, High Interest: These stakeholders have a significant impact on the project and are actively involved or invested in its success. They often include direct beneficiaries, key decision-makers, and primary funders.

Secondary Stakeholders:

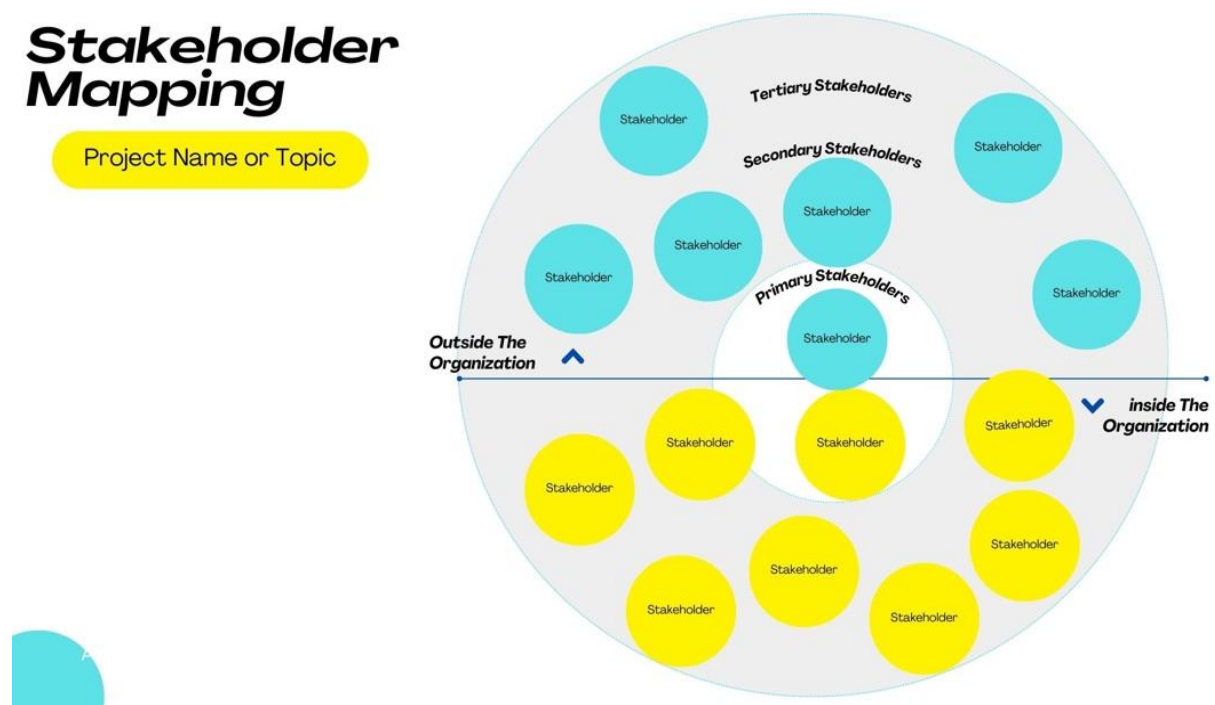
High Influence, Low Interest: These stakeholders have the potential to influence the project but may not be directly affected by it or have a lower level of interest. They could include regulatory bodies, industry associations, or influential community leaders.

Low Influence, High Interest: Stakeholders with a high level of interest but limited influence on the project fall into this category. They are typically concerned citizens, advocacy groups, or local organizations.

Tertiary Stakeholders:

Low Influence, Low Interest: These stakeholders have minimal influence on the project and low interest in its outcomes. They could be the general public, distant communities, or individuals with indirect connections to the project.

Figure 4: Stakeholder map



4. Stakeholder Engagement

Stakeholder engagement begins early in the investment process and should continue for the entire life of the investment project. It is one of the essential elements of a responsible and successful investment in agriculture. The principles of FPIC (as described above and pursuant to FRILIA principle 1.5) should be always followed.

Stakeholder engagement should be guided by a Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP). The following elements should be included in every SEP in Edo State:

1. Initial stakeholder engagement
2. Key message document
3. Engagement with the LGA
4. Description of the methods to be used to engage with each stakeholder group.
5. The specific stakeholder activities to be utilized throughout the project lifecycle.

4.1.1 Initial Stakeholder Engagement

Initial community engagement by the investor and ESIPO in collaboration with Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security, and other line MDAs may occur during the stakeholder mapping process

Once an agro investment is identified by the lead agency, a multistakeholder platform is formed to engage with the proposed project host community and before initial engagement stakeholder mapping must be carried out. If not then, initial engagement should begin soon after stakeholder mapping has been completed. Note that all stakeholder engagement conducted throughout the project lifecycle must be recorded in the form of meeting minutes and/or pictures, videos, audio recordings, etc. Records of the initial stakeholder engagements will be required for the development of a Stakeholder Engagement Plan.

4.1.2 Key Message Document

The investor may wish to draft a short document containing the key information about the investment project to be disseminated to affected persons, government officials/agencies, and other stakeholders. This “key message” document should be written in simple English (translation to the local language may be required for some communities) and should ideally not exceed one page (see **Annex 1**). It should include the following:

- A concise but clear description of the investment project, including project background and components, including timeframe.
- A clear description of the investment project proponents or consultancy undertaking the consultations.

- Description of the intended activities to be carried out and highlights of possible impact (positive and negative – in the case of the latter, mitigation/adaptation mechanisms to be considered should be mentioned).
- Description of the anticipated mode of stakeholder engagement.
- A statement of assurance of adherence to good practices, professionalism, and protection of community rights.

4.1.3 Engagement with LGA (where applicable)

In most cases, the Local Government Authorities (LGA) will have some involvement in assessing, overseeing or monitoring the proposed investment. Communities have a close relationship with the LGAs in Edo State, so it is important to engage and consult them in addition to engaging directly with the community members. Thus, it is important that ESIPO in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security, other line MDAs and the investor have a plan to engage with the LGAs. Doing so can help the investor to:

- Properly introduce the investment project to the LGA.
- Effectively Communicate objectives, goals and impacts of the investment project to the LGA.
- Understand local government regulations specific to the investment project.
- Garner the support of the local government in the development of the investment project.

The investor can use the content of the key message document (see Annex 1) in drafting a letter to the applicable LGA. This should lead to follow-up meetings and other communications with LGA officials.

4.1.4 Initial Engagement with the Community

Engaging with the affected community throughout the investment approval and implementation process is essential to a successful investment. Thus, from the earliest stages, the investor should utilize a robust process of consultation and participation with the community aimed at obtaining their free, prior and informed consent (FPIC).

Because no two (2) communities are exactly alike, the initial approach by ESIPO in collaboration with Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security and/or the investor can vary. In most cases, it is important to identify key community stakeholders such as community leaders/traditional authorities, interest groups and other people who have current information about the community and may be seen as leaders. At times individual engagement with the aforementioned stakeholders could be carried out. Communication with these leaders often should be done through a face-to-face meeting to introduce the investment project and the project proponents or representatives. The community leaders can then assist in the identification of stakeholders and arrange other initial meetings with the broader community. It should be noted that some communities have customs and

traditions that need to be respected during community engagements to elicit support from community leaders and prevent hostility and grievances.

4.1.5 Methods to be used in Engaging with Each Stakeholder Group

There are many stakeholder communication methods, not all of which are appropriate for each stakeholder group.

The following table details various communication methods which may be considered:

Table 2: Stakeholder communication methods

| METHOD | DESCRIPTION |
|------------------------------|--|
| Townhall Meetings | These are large meetings that are convened in the community to inform the community members, mainly for information disclosure. It is used to inform the community about the investment project status and progress. |
| Focus Group Discussions | These are engagements conducted with different stakeholder groups to discuss topics of similar interests. At the community level, this can be gender-segregated (male and female groups), age-segregated (youth and adults), limited to those engaging in certain livelihoods, etc. Discussions usually follow themes that are discussed, with multiple participants sharing their views and opinions. |
| Key Informant Interviews | This is a method of engagement that involves consultation with persons that have authorial knowledge about issues to gain an in-depth understanding and collect information. |
| Workshops | These are meetings designed for stakeholders to work together to share views and opinions. They are often participatory with the aim of either sensitising stakeholders, finding solutions to problems or consultation for decision making. |
| Media Broadcast | This is the use of print media, radio or television to convey information about the project to a wider audience. |
| Notice Boards | These are information boards set up at vantage points to disseminate information to the general community. |
| Letters and Emails | This is a written and typed mode of communication which can be used to introduce the investment project to Government stakeholders, traditional leadership and others. A sample letter of intent is provided in Annex 2. |
| Surveys | This is the use of structured and semi-structured questionnaires to collect data from a defined group of people. |
| Project Information Document | A high-level project brief provided to MDAs, traditional leaders and others during project inception. |
| Infographics | Visual representation of project details presented in a simple, clear and linguistically appropriate manner. |

An important aspect of planning for stakeholder engagement is determining which communication method will work best for each stakeholder. That can be done using a table such as the one in Table 3:

Table 3: Communication methods applicable to each stakeholder group

| STAKEHOLDER GROUP | COMMUNICATION METHOD | DESCRIPTION |
|---|---|---|
| Federal Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) | Letters | To communicate through a formal letter of subject matter to critical Stakeholders. |
| State Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) | Direct meetings, workshops, key informant interviews | To organize crucial meetings of engagement with lined MDAs. |
| Traditional authorities | Direct meetings; townhall meetings, key informant interviews, infographics | To organize meetings of all critical Stakeholders |
| Local businesses | Letters, townhall meetings, media broadcast | To communicate the subject matter to local businesses |
| Project affected persons (women, men, sub-groups (e.g., pastoralists) | Townhall meetings; focus group discussions, infographics, noticeboard, media broadcast etc. (Note the possible need for women-only meetings.) | To communicate the benefit of the subject matter to affected persons |
| Local Government Departments and Agencies | Letters, meetings, key informant interviews | To organize crucial meetings of engagement with stakeholders |
| NGOs and CSOs | Letters, townhall meetings | To organize crucial meetings of engagement with stakeholders |
| Development partners | Letters, townhall meetings, media broadcast | To seek collaboration with developing partners. |
| Media | Townhall meetings, Media broadcast | To disseminate communication and information by creating awareness to the general public. |

4.1.6 Special Considerations for Gender and Vulnerable Groups

In every community, there are people who are disadvantaged or vulnerable and need special consideration or attention to ensure their participation in investment project decision making and outcomes.

Thus, one section of the SEP should identify and describe vulnerable groups and the special measures that should be taken to ensure they are engaged, their concerns and opinions entrenched in investment project decision making. For example, it may be necessary to have separate meetings with women to ensure their voices are heard. The section will also describe the steps the investment project will take to ensure project representatives who work in the community do not trigger any Gender-Based Violence or Sexual Exploitation Abuse, or Harassment (GBV/SEAH).

4.1.7 Engagement Activities in each Phase of Investment Project Development and Implementation

The SEP should describe the engagement activities to be undertaken in each phase of investment project development and implementation and be aligned with the steps in Edo state's IAP as set forth in Table 4.

Table 4: Stakeholder engagement activities in investment project phases

| INVESTMENT PROJECT PHASE (PER IAP) | STAKEHOLDER | ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITY | IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE |
|---|--|---|---|
| Initial Inquiries & Know Your Customer (Due Diligence) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ESIPO, • Ministry of Agriculture & Food Security, • EDOGIS, • Ministry of Local Government, Chieftaincy & Community Affairs | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting invitation (online or onsite) via correspondence • Relationship building • Risk identification • Information gathering | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inception stage(14 days) |
| Information Exchange & Site Visits | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ESIPO, • Ministry of Agriculture & Food Security, EDOGIS, • the Local Government council (the Local Government Investment Desk Officer) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stakeholder Mapping: identify land owners. families or community. • Identification of local communities • Review of existing land records • Past or current dispute over the identified land | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conception stage (14 days) |
| Potential Investor Proceeds or Withdraws | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ESIPO, • Ministry of Justice, | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of due diligence findings • Legal and regulatory assessment | 14 days |

| INVESTMENT PROJECT PHASE (PER IAP) | STAKEHOLDER | ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITY | IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE |
|---|---|---|----------------------------|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the Local Government council (Investment Desk) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Social risk confirmation Financial and Commercial evaluation Validation of FPIC | |
| Investor Enters into a Memorandum of Understanding (“MoU”) with Edo State Government and Representatives of the Affected Communities. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ESIPO, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Environment & Sustainability, Ministry of Agriculture & Food Security | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identification of MOU parties Verification of legitimate community representation | 6 months |
| Investor Completes and Shares a Feasibility Study, Business Plan and an independent Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA). | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ministry of Environment and sustainability ESIPO | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Environmental and social impact assessment | 21 days |
| The parties enter into Final Agreements. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ESIPO, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Environment & Sustainability, Ministry of Agriculture & Food Security, the Host Community. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community engagement plan Land lease agreement Out grower contract Monitoring plan | 4 days |

6. Stakeholder Engagement Budget

This section emphasises the need for a budget to fund the implementation of any Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP). It is important that the budgets of both the investor

and ESIPO in collaboration with Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security provide sufficient funding to sustain stakeholder engagement activities throughout the lifecycle of the investment project. Depending on the existing resources, the budget will ideally cover items such as:

- Breakdown of stakeholder engagement activities as per plan and their estimated costs.
- Source of funding for implementing activities in the stakeholder engagement plan.

The budget is designed to ensure adequate funding for sustaining stakeholder engagement activities throughout the project's lifecycle.

Summary Budget Outline

A. Stakeholder Engagement Activities and Estimated Costs:

1. Workshops and Training Sessions:

- Estimated Cost: ~~N~~ 500,000 - for venue rental, materials, and facilitation.

2. Community Meetings and Consultations:

- Estimated Cost: ~~N~~ 450,000 - for logistics, refreshments, and facilitation.

3. Surveys and Feedback Collection:

- Estimated Cost: ~~N~~ 350,000 - for survey tools, data analysis, and reporting.

4. Communication Materials Development:

- Estimated Cost: ~~N~~ 500,000 - for designing and printing brochures, flyers, and information packets.

5. Technology Infrastructure:

- Estimated Cost: ~~N~~ 650,000 - for online platforms, software, and tools for virtual engagement.

B. Source of Funding for the Stakeholder Engagement Plan:

1. Government Allocation:

- Allocation of ~~NA~~ from the state budget to support stakeholder engagement initiatives.

2. Public-Private Partnerships (PPP):

- Contribution of ~~NB~~ from private investors or partners for stakeholder engagement activities.

3. Grant Funding:

- Securing a grant of ~~NC~~ from external donors or funding agencies to supplement stakeholder engagement efforts.

4. Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Contributions:

- Utilizing ~~ND~~ from corporate entities through CSR initiatives for community engagement and outreach.

5. In-kind Contributions:

- Leveraging in-kind support, such as volunteer services or donated resources, valued at \$E to enhance stakeholder engagement activities.

Total Estimated Budget: ~~NX~~ + ~~NY~~ + ~~NZ~~ + ~~NW~~ + ~~NV~~ + ~~NA~~ + ~~NB~~ + ~~NC~~ + ~~ND~~ + ~~NE~~

Note: A more detailed budget will be required as this is only high-level to aid understanding.

This budget plan outlines the necessary funding required to sustain stakeholder engagement activities, ensuring effective communication and participation throughout the project's lifecycle. By diversifying funding sources and allocating resources appropriately, the Stakeholder Engagement Plan can be successfully implemented to foster meaningful stakeholder relationships and support project objectives.

6. Grievance Redress Mechanism for Stakeholder Engagement

The Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) is vital for effective stakeholder engagement, providing a structured process for stakeholders to address concerns, provide feedback, and seek resolution of project-related issues. The GRM aims to enhance transparency, trust, and accountability throughout the project lifecycle.

The GRM will be proportionate to the potential risks and impacts of the project and will be accessible and inclusive. Where feasible and suitable, the investment project will adopt and utilise the existing GRM established for FRILIA projects in the State; adapting as needed with project-specific arrangements (see Edo State **FRILIA GRM Toolkit**). Nonetheless, the following should be considered in developing the GRM:

- The GRM is expected to address concerns promptly and effectively in a transparent manner that is readily accessible to all project-affected parties, at no cost and without retribution.
- Handling of grievances needs to be done in a culturally appropriate manner and be discreet, objective, sensitive and responsive to the needs and concerns of the project-affected parties.
- The mechanism must allow for anonymous complaints to be raised and addressed.
- The project proponent(s) must inform the project-affected parties about the GRM process in the course of community engagements.
- The entire GRM process must be well documented to enable easy tracking and resolution of grievances.

6.1. Implementation of the Grievance Redress Mechanism

6.1.1. Establishment of Grievance Redress Channels:

- Set up multiple channels for stakeholders to submit grievances, such as dedicated hotlines, email addresses, suggestion boxes, and in-person meetings with a GRM officer(s)/body/committee/unit/department (as may be applicable).

6.1.2. Creation of Grievance Handling Guidelines:

- Develop clear guidelines outlining the steps for submitting, processing, and resolving grievances within the defined timelines.

6.1.3. Appointment of Grievance Redress Officers:

- Designate trained focal persons as Grievance Redress Officers responsible for receiving, reviewing, and resolving grievances in a timely and professional manner.

6.1.4. Regular Reporting and Monitoring:

- Implement a system to document and report grievances, responses, and resolution outcomes to track trends and identify areas for improvement.

6.1.5. Feedback Mechanism Loop:

- Establish a feedback loop to communicate resolution outcomes to stakeholders and provide updates on actions taken because of grievances to enhance transparency and accountability.

7. Monitoring and Reporting

7.1 Monitoring

This section describes how stakeholder engagement will be monitored and incorporated into the whole project monitoring or management system and how stakeholders will participate in the monitoring process. For effective cooperation, it is important to involve the stakeholders in monitoring the project's anticipated and actual impacts and obtain regular feedback on the progress made in achieving the stakeholder engagement goals, objectives and plans. The following will be described under this section:

- Monitoring indicators
- Frequency of monitoring
- Persons responsible for monitoring
- Strategy for collection of data and reporting

Monitoring elements

- **Indicators:** Specific measures used to assess the effectiveness and impact of stakeholder engagement efforts.
- **Frequency:** How often will monitoring activities occur to evaluate stakeholder engagement activities and outcomes.

- **Responsible Party:** Designated individuals or teams accountable for overseeing monitoring processes and ensuring alignment with engagement strategies.
- **Strategies for Data Collection:** Methods and approaches for collecting relevant data on stakeholder interactions, feedback, and participation.
- **Reporting Strategy:** How data insights and findings from monitoring activities will be documented, analysed, and shared to inform decision-making and enhance engagement strategies.

Table 5: Examples of Monitoring Elements related to Stakeholder Engagement

| S/N | Monitoring Dimension | Example |
|-----|--------------------------------|--|
| 1 | Indicators | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Number of stakeholder engagements conducted• Level of stakeholder satisfaction with engagement activities• Diversity of stakeholders engaged• Stakeholder feedback integration into project decisions |
| 2 | Frequency | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Monthly stakeholder engagement reviews• Quarterly assessment of stakeholder feedback• Bi-annual stakeholder perception surveys |
| 3 | Responsible Party | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Stakeholder Engagement Team Leader• Project Manager• Monitoring and Evaluation Officer |
| 4 | Strategies for Data Collection | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Surveys and feedback forms distributed after engagement activities• Stakeholder engagement logs documenting interactions and feedback• Focus group discussions and interviews with key stakeholders |
| 5 | Reporting Strategy | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Quarterly stakeholder engagement reports highlighting key insights and trends• Annual stakeholder engagement impact assessments• Real-time dashboards displaying stakeholder feedback and engagement metrics |

7.2 Reporting

All stakeholder engagement activities must be documented and recorded. This includes not only engagements carried out but enquiries and grievances as well.

Also, as part of the monitoring process and depending on the project stages, monthly or quarterly stakeholder engagement reports should be prepared by the responsible persons to track the progress of implementing the stakeholder engagement plan and make changes where necessary.

Means of reporting include meeting minutes (**see Annex 3**) or notes, pictures, video and audio recording and report writing. Good reporting will help update the SEP current scope/content and provide the project with valuable information about its stakeholders.

8. Conclusion

Meaningful participation by all affected stakeholders is key to a successful investment. Investors who take the time and invest the resources necessary to do so and thus obtain the FPIC of these stakeholders are more likely to see their investment result in a long-term positive return. This toolkit can help investors achieve this result.

Annex 1: Sample Key Message Document

Title:

Key Message Document for [Investment Project Name]

Introduction:

We are excited to share information about the [Investment Project Name], a transformative initiative aimed at [briefly describe the project's main objectives and benefits]. This key message document provides an overview of the project and our commitment to meaningful stakeholder engagement.

Project Background:

The [Investment Project Name] aims to [summarize the project's background and key components briefly]. The project is scheduled to commence in [start date] and expected to be completed by [end date].

Project Proponents:

The [Investment Project Name] is being spearheaded by [Investor/Consultancy Name], a reputable organization with a proven track record of successful investments in [industry sector]. Our team is dedicated to ensuring the project's success and creating lasting positive impacts in the community.

Intended Activities:

Throughout the project lifecycle, we plan to [describe the main activities or phases of the project briefly]. These activities are designed to [briefly explain the intended outcomes and benefits for stakeholders].

Mode of Stakeholder Engagements:

We are committed to fostering open and transparent communication with all stakeholders involved in the project. Our engagement approach will include [describe the planned methods of stakeholder engagement, such as community meetings, consultations, and feedback mechanisms].

Assurance of Good Practices:

We pledge to adhere to the highest standards of professionalism, ethical conduct, and respect for community rights. The [Investment Project Name] will prioritize sustainability, social responsibility, and the protection of community interests throughout the project implementation.

Investment Project Impacts:

The investment project will bring about the following positive impact to your immediate community:

[xxx e.g. employment, access roads, access to xxx mgw of electricity, xxx e.g. access to xxx water plants for portable clean water],[xxx e.g. xx% increase in land/property value]. While we envisage an initial discomfort such as xxxxx, xxx, xxx, we are committed to mutually agreeable mitigation and/adaptation investment/activities in ensuring minimal impact on your livelihood.

Annex 2: Sample Letter of Intent

[Date]

[Recipient Name]

[Government Stakeholder/Traditional Leader]/ [Government Agency/Community Name]

[Address]

[City, State]

Subject: Introduction of [Investment Project Name] and Stakeholder Engagement

Dear [Recipient Name],

I am writing on behalf of [Company/Organization] to introduce our upcoming investment project, [Investment Project Name], and to express our commitment to meaningful stakeholder engagement with Government stakeholders, traditional leadership and the residents of [Community/Area].

The [Investment Project Name] is a transformative initiative that aims to [briefly describe project objectives and benefits]. As we value the input and collaboration of key stakeholders, we are reaching out to Government agencies and traditional leaders to seek your valuable insights and support in the successful implementation of this project.

Our team is dedicated to fostering positive relationships with Government stakeholders and traditional leadership to ensure that the [Investment Project Name] aligns with community priorities and contributes to sustainable development in the region. We recognize the importance of engaging with local authorities, community leaders and others to address concerns, explore opportunities for collaboration, and achieve mutual goals.

We would like to invite you to participate in upcoming stakeholder engagement activities, including [briefly describe planned engagement activities]. Your input and feedback are vital to the success of the project, and we are committed to transparent communication, mutual respect, and collaboration throughout the project lifecycle.

Please feel free to contact me at [Your Phone Number/ Email Address] to discuss how we can work together to maximize the positive impacts of the [Investment Project Name] on our shared community.

Thank you for considering our request for partnership and collaboration. We look forward to the opportunity to engage with you and build a fruitful relationship for the benefit of all stakeholders involved.

Sincerely,

[Your Name]

[Your Title]
[Your Company/Organization]

Annex 3: Sample Meeting Minutes

SAMPLE MEETING MINUTES

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| Meeting: | <i>E.g. Meeting between project representatives and community leaders</i> |
| Date: | <i>E.g. 20th September 2024</i> |
| Time and Duration: | <i>E.g. 10.00 am to 11.30 am</i> |
| Venue: | <i>E.g. Chief's Palace</i> |

Agenda

Example

- *Introduction of participants*
- *Welcome Address by Community head or representative*
- *Project presentation*
- *Question and answers*

Meeting Objectives

Example

- *To formally introduce the project and its representatives to the community*
- *To provide community leaders with a clear understanding of the project components and impacts*
- *To garner the support of the community leaders for the project*
- *To brief community leaders on the project activities and subsequent engagement*

Key Highlights

This section gives a detailed summary of what transpired and was discussed during the meeting.

Questions and Responses

This section summarizes the questions asked during the meeting and the responses provided. It is necessary to mention who asked the question and who provided the response.

| Stakeholder | Question/ Comment | Response |
|-------------|-------------------|----------|
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

Conclusion and Next Steps

Describe how the meeting was concluded and the next steps discussed or agreed upon and the responsible persons.

Attendance/ Meeting Register

| Name | Institution | Designation/ Position | Contact |
|------|-------------|-----------------------|---------|
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |

**** For Community Meetings***

| Name | Position/ Occupation | Community | Contact |
|------|----------------------|-----------|---------|
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |

Annex 4: Sample Implementation Schedule

Sample Implementation Schedule 1

[illegible]

Sample Implementation Schedule 2

[illegible]

