

FishCoRe Disclosure Material

I. About the Project

The Philippine agriculture, fisheries, and forestry (AFF) sector is the source of employment for about one-third of the country's labor force. It also provides raw materials for the manufacturing and service sectors, resulting in forward linkages and creating better opportunities for higher paying and more stable jobs. Thus, intensive efforts to revitalize the sector and harness its growth potentials are needed to promote more inclusive development. The **overall goal** of the Fisheries and Coastal Resiliency (FishCoRe) Project is to "enhance ecosystem and community resilience in selected FMAs (FMA 6 and 9)¹." Its **project development objective (PDO)** is "improved management of fishery resources and enhanced value of fisheries production in coastal communities in selected FMAs."

FishCoRe consists of three components, namely: (i) Fisheries and Coastal-Resilient Resource Planning and Management (FishCRRM); (ii) Modern and Resilient Livelihood Investments (MARLIN); and (iii) Support to Project Implementation and Management (SuPrIM).

FishCRRM will aim to create the enabling environment for the fisheries resources to flourish and depleted stocks to recover in FMA 6 and FMA 9 via the adoption of a three-pronged strategy. *First*, the governance mechanism must elicit the full participation of stakeholders, such as fisherfolk and the private sector, in the decision-making process. *Second*, FMPs must be prepared for priority fish stocks based on scientific assessments and monitored through performance indicators such as target reference points and HCR. *Third*, a broad, cross-sectoral coastal management resiliency framework must be developed to minimize conflicts of resource use in coastal and marine waters. This component will result in the establishment of functional and efficient FMA governance structure and systems that are science-based, results-oriented, inclusive, and equitable for two pilot FMAs. Its key outputs will include: (i) FMA framework plans; (ii) aquaculture development and management plans; and (iii) fisheries management plans (FMPs) for FMA 6 and FMA 9, with monitoring and evaluation (M&E) system that sets the strategic directions for science and knowledge-based policies, investment programs, and climate-resilient measures and technologies for adoption in both FMAs. Component 1 will consist of three subcomponents (SCs), namely: (i) SC 1.1: Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management Planning and Institutions; (ii) SC 1.2: Aquaculture Development and Management; and (iii) SC 1.3: Strengthening Management of Coastal Resources in Municipal Waters.

MARLIN will enhance the value of fisheries production, thereby increasing fisheries income, through modern and resilient catalytic investments in livelihood enterprises, technologies, facilities, and support services in FMAs 6 and 9. This component will focus on: (i) strengthening key fishery commodity value chains to attract private sector investment; and (ii) reducing post-harvest losses to increase the volume of fish and fish products for sale or value addition. The component will consist of three interrelated subcomponents: (i) SC 2.1: Fishers' Livelihood Diversification and Development; (ii) SC 2.2: Aquaculture and Fisheries Enterprise Development; and (iii) SC 2.3: Aquaculture and Fisheries Infrastructure. **The key outputs of this component**

¹ Coverage: In FMA 6, the regional coverage includes Regions 1, 3, 4A, NCR, CAR (Lead is Region 3) involving the provinces of Ilocos Norte, Ilocos Sur, La Union, Pangasinan, Bataan, Bulacan, Pampanga, Zambales, Batangas, Cavite, Occidental Mindoro, Metro Manila, and Abra. In FMA 9, the regional coverage includes Regions 7, 8, 9, 10, 13 (Lead: Region 10) involving the provinces of Agusan del Norte, Bohol, Camiguin, Lanao del Norte, Misamis Occidental, Misamis Oriental, Siquijor, Southern Leyte, Surigao del Norte, Zamboanga del Norte, and Zamboanga del Sur.

include the following: (i) increase in sustainable employment from diversified sources, including fisheries and aquaculture value chains, by 3% annually starting 2025; (ii) establishment of eight operational aqua-industrial business corridors (ABCs), four each in FMA 6 and FMA 9; (iii) operationalization of aqua-business technology incubators (ABTIs) as platforms for fisheries extension services delivery in 50% of the participating provinces in FMAs 6 and 9; (iv) delivery and operationalization of market development support services, including an online trading/digital marketing platform (one pilot province per FMA), web-based market information system (in five pilot provinces per FMA), and market promotion targeting fisherfolks and fisherfolk groups in the project provinces; and (v) establishment of 16 public-private-community-partnerships (PPCPs) (2 for each ABC or 8 per FMA) supporting value-adding enterprises and/or the scaling up of enterprises. Research, development, and extension (RDE), access to financing, information and communication technology (ICT)-enabled tools, and market development support services will be provided across the three subcomponents. Modern and catalytic investments for aquaculture and fisheries infrastructure are integral to the establishment of ABCs and ABTIs in FMA 6 and FMA 9.

SuPRIM will support the efficient management and implementation of the project in the two FMAs. It will support BFAR central and regional offices, through the National Project Management Office (NPMO), as well as the Regional Project Implementation Units (RPIUs) in lead FMA regions and Regional FMA Coordinating Units (RFCUs) in the other participating regions. The objective of this component is to organize and operationalize an effective multi-level, interdisciplinary, and results-oriented project management system (PMS), that can be institutionalized into the existing systems in functions and operations of key project partners. The key outputs of this component are: (i) a fully operational vertically and horizontally integrated PMS including Environmental and Social Safeguards (ESS); (ii) an M&E and knowledge management system (KMS) supported by a digital, multi-level management information system (MIS); and (iii) fully operational and publicly accessible web-based digital platforms linked to existing systems. The SuPRIM Component will consist of two subcomponents: (i) SC 3.1: Establishment of an Efficient, Multi-Level Project Management; and (ii) SC 3.2: Development, Establishment, and Operationalization of an IT-Enabled M&E and KMS.

Research, Development, and Extension (RDE) will be provided as a cross-cutting strategy underscoring the scientific and evidence-based approach towards improved fisheries management. RDE will help build knowledge and strengthen processes to protect the ecosystem, while at the same time generating economic benefits for the fishers, fishing communities, and the other members of the value chain. RDE will be conducted in collaboration with several agencies, such as the Department of Agriculture - Agricultural Training Institute (DA-ATI), DA- Bureau of Agricultural Research (BAR), DOST, Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center – Aquaculture Department (SEAFDEC/AQD), Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) and the academe. **RDE** will be steered by NFRDI in close coordination with the National Technology Centers (NTCs) and BFAR – Technology Outreach Stations (TOSs) as well as the RPIU and in collaboration with state universities and colleges (SUCs), non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and the LGU provincial-led agriculture and fishery extension system (PAFES).

The FishCoRe will be implemented over a period of seven-years beginning the last quarter of 2021 and ending the third quarter of 2028 with a funding support of USD 237.00 million (WB Loan – 200 million USD; GOP counterpart – 37 million USD).

II. Project Development Objective Indicators

By the end of the seven-year project implementation period (2021-2028), the PDO would have been achieved as measured by the following indicators:

- two ecosystem-based FMP formulated in FMA 6 and 9 by 2022, implemented starting 2023 and evaluated by 2025;
- increase in household income by 3% annually in real terms starting in 2025;
- reduction in postharvest losses by 5% by 2028;
- 50% of major fish stocks covered by fisheries management plans (FMPs) moving towards target reference points by 2028; and
- increase in value-added in fishery commodities in targeted areas by 3% annually in real terms.

III. Project's Environmental and Social Framework (ESF)

The FishCoRe Project aims to enhance the ecosystem and community resilience in selected Fishery Management Areas (FMAs) through the application of ecosystem-based management approach. The project will involve the whole spectrum of interventions, from planning to implementation, to effective monitoring and evaluation of impacts. The specific types, designs, operational plans, and locations of these interventions will have to be identified and developed with their proponents and stakeholders during the project implementation. By this nature, the project is not covered under the Philippine EIS System and hence is not required to undergo an EIA although during program implementation individual subprojects may be covered by the country EIA requirement. The project, however, must comply with the requirements of the World Bank's Environmental and Social Framework (ESF) which requires the preparation of an Environmental and Social Management Framework based on the assessment of the types of project interventions and the environmental and social profile of the project region. In particular, the project's design and implementation plans must consider the requirements under the following Environmental and Social Standards (ESS) of the World Bank:

- ESS1: Assessment and Management of ES Risks and Impacts;
- ESS2: Labor and Working Conditions;
- ESS3: Resource Efficiency and Pollution Prevention and Management;
- ESS4: Community Health and Safety;
- ESS5: Land Acquisition, Restrictions on Land Use and Involuntary Resettlement;
- ESS6: Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Management of Living Natural Resources;
- ESS7: Indigenous Peoples/ Sub-Saharan African Historically Underserved Traditional Local Communities (referred to as Indigenous Peoples in this document)
- ESS8: Cultural Heritage;
- ESS9: Financial Intermediaries (Not applicable for this project, yet); and
- ESS10: Stakeholder Engagement and Information Disclosure.

The Project's ESF documents that had been prepared include the Environmental and Social Assessment (ESA), integrated in the Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) together with accompanying documents identified in Item 4 Resources below. The objective of the ESA is to identify the potential environmental and social risks and impacts of the project relating to the World Bank ESS under the new ESF, based on the types of interventions and the general environmental and social profile of the project area, and identify management and

mitigation options proportionate to the nature and potential significance of the Environmental and Social risks and impacts. The results and recommendations of the ESA serve as input to the formulation of the ESMF, which lays out the processes, procedures, and requirements for assessing and managing the environmental and social impacts and risks of individual subprojects and other project interventions during the program implementation.

At the time of preparation of this ESMF, the details of sub projects and corresponding nature; type and extent of environmental and social impacts are not known fully. Accordingly, this Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) has been developed to serve as an instrument to guide BFAR on undertaking necessary E&S screening, undertake detailed ESIA and other studies. The ESMF sets out the environmental and social management measures to be adopted in the program, particularly the adjustments in the design and implementation strategies, as well as the internal processes, procedures and institutional arrangements, and other requirements to address the ES risks and impacts of the program activities and subprojects. The ESMF was based on the results of the ESA conducted for the FishCoRe Project, which identified the key E&S impacts and risks that will require more detailed and focused assessment and mitigation planning during the project implementation stage. The implementation of safeguards activities and processes, as well as the stakeholder consultations, under this ESMF is anchored on the Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) prepared for the project.

The ESF documents will be updated based on comments and inputs that will be further received, and during the course of the project implementation in response to changes, unforeseen circumstances, and project performance assessments. The development of the materials took into consideration inputs from consultations during the project preparation following the schedule below:

Date	Stakeholder Group	Agenda/Objective of the Consultation
17 -21 November 2020	BFAR, WB	WB Mission
14 to 15 January 2021	BFAR, BFAR RFOs, DA, PFDA, WB, DENR-BMB, NFRDI	Participatory Planning Workshop
22 January 2021	FMA Lead Regions Alternate FMA Focal	Governance Framework/ Project Management
27 January 2021	Women, fisherfolk/association in Region 7	Presentation of initial overall project design, identification of issues and needs, and recommendations on specific projects/interventions/support
27 January 2021	Municipal & Commercial fisherfolk/ fisherfolk associations/cooperatives in Region 1	Presentation of initial overall project design, identification of issues and needs, and recommendations on specific projects/interventions/support
28 January 2021	Stakeholders (Regional, FMA 6 or 9)	Stakeholders Consultation: FishCoRe Project Presentation and Logframe
29 January 2021	Post-Harvest Subsector	Presentation of initial overall project design, identification of issues and needs, and recommendations on specific projects/interventions/support
29 January 2021	Stakeholders (Regional, FMAs 6 or 9)	Stakeholders Consultation: FishCoRe Project Presentation and Logframe
3 February 2021	Aquaculture subsector, fisherfolk association/cooperative in Region 10	Presentation of initial overall project design, identification of issues and needs, and recommendations on specific projects/interventions/support
3 February 2021	Commercial subsector, fisherfolk association/ cooperative in Region 13 (Caraga)	Presentation of initial overall project design, identification of issues and needs, and recommendations on specific projects/interventions/support

Date	Stakeholder Group	Agenda/Objective of the Consultation
4 February 2021	IP Fisherfolk/associations in Region 3	Presentation of initial overall project design, identification of issues and needs, and recommendations on specific projects/interventions/support
15 February 2021	BFAR Focal	Marlin Meeting: Prioritization of Subprojects Short Discussion on the Scoring Matrix Table
22 February 2021	WB BFAR	Coordination Meeting; and Discussion on preparation of subprojects
02 – 12 March 2021	BFAR, WB, FCT	WB Second Preparation Mission
April 2021	BFAR, WB, FCT	Technical Discussions; ESS Documents Discussions with BFAR Central and Regional ESS Focals and World Bank; Meeting with BFAR GAD/IP Focal
07 May 2021	BFAR CO and NCIP	Project Overview and BFAR-NCIP collaboration
09-10 August 2021	DA, DENR, NCIP, NEDA, CSO, NGOs, LGU, SUCs	Stakeholders Consultation on Environmental and Social Management Framework

IV. Available Resources

Available documents for review and comments include the following:

- Environmental and Social Assessment
- Environmental and Social Management Framework consisting of the following documents:
 - Environmental and Social Rapid Impact Screening Checklist Templates
 - Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) Framework
 - Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP)
 - Environment Codes of Practice (ECOP)
 - Labor Management Procedure (LMP)
 - Gender Action Plan
 - Gender Based Violence/Sexual Exploitation and Abuse/Sexual Harassment (GBV/SEA/SH) Prevention Plan
 - Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP)
 - Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF)
 - Indigenous Peoples Planning Framework (IPPF)
 - Cultural Heritage Protection Plan
 - Consultation Guidelines Amidst COVID-19 Public Health Crisis

V. For inquiries or recommendations, the following can be contacted:

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About the Environmental and Social Framework

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