

**FEDERAL DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF ETHIOPIA**

**ETHIOPIAN ELECTRIC UTILITY (EEU)**

**ENVIRONMENTAL & SOCIAL SCREENING REPORT  
OF AFAR REGION ZONE TWO AFDERA WOREDA  
KURSEWAD TOWN**

**BY**

**LIGHT TO ALL PROJECTS**

**January, 2020**

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## ACRONYMS

|       |  |
|-------|--|
| ARAP  | Abbreviated Resettlement Action Plan               |
| CIS   | Corrugated Iron Sheets                             |
| EHS&Q | Environment, Health, Safety and Quality            |
| EEP   | Ethiopian Electric Power                           |
| EEU   | Ethiopian Electric Utility                         |
| EMP   | Environmental Monitoring Plan                      |
| ESMP  | Environmental and Social Management Plan           |
| EPE   | Environmental Policy of Ethiopia                   |
| FDRE  | Federal Republic of Ethiop                         |
| MEFCC | Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change |
| LV    | Low Voltage  |
| KV    | Kilo Volt  |
| KW    | Kilo watt  |
| WP    | watt power   |
| MoA   | Ministry of Agriculture                            |
| masl  | Meter Above Sea Level                              |
| OD    | Operational Directive                              |
| OP    | Operational Policy of the World Bank               |
| PAPs  | Project Affected Persons                           |
| PIU   | Project Implementation Unit                        |
| RIC   | Resettlement Implementation Committee              |
| ROW   | Right of Way                                       |
| ESS   | Environmental and Social                           |
| ESS   | Energy storage system                              |
| LTA   | Light To All                                       |

# 1. Introduction

## 1.1. Back ground

Government of Ethiopia has planned and launched a project Light To All to access solar mini-grid energy electrification in all rural area which are out of the main grid. For the time being 12 sites are under process namely in Amhara Benbaho and Wasel, in Oromia Behima, Beltu and Mino, in South Nation & nationality Omo rate and Tum, in Benshangule Albas, in Gambella Ungoge, in Afar Kusrewad , Somali Qorile and in Tigray region Arae.

Afar region, zone Two, Afdera Woreda, Kursewad town is one of these 12 project sites has been visited by the team. In the town solar mini grids Project of LV lines and the place that will be excavated for the installation of solar panels and power house were visited and conduct socio economic survey and made consultation with city administration and Kebeles officials.

The total land area that will be excavated for the installation of solar panels setting of generator, batteries and power house is 7000m<sup>2</sup>. The place is vacant and free from any public or private properties as shown bellow in the figure.



Kursewad is located approximately 687 km east of Addis Ababa, having latitude and longitude of 13.2647°N 30.39°E coordinates respectively with an elevation of 28 meters above sea level with and estimated area of 20km<sup>2</sup>.

According to kebele administration report, a total population of this kebele is 2,000. Among these, 1160 are men and 840 are women. The largest ethnic group in Afdera is the Afar which is 99.5%. Afaringa was spoken as a first language by 99%, while the remaining 1% speaking all other primary languages. The majority of the community is Muslim religion followers.

Kursewad town has an altitude of 112 meter above sea level. The town enjoys Kola type climate with an average temperature ranges from 50c° to 38 c°. Most of the time, the annual mean average temperature of Kursewad is 42c°.

The town has one primary and one high school, all are governmental owned schools.

Kursewad has no electric supply or power service provided by the government of Ethiopia in the town.

### *1.2. The main activities in Kursewad Site*

- ✓ Concrete pole foundation civil works and pole erection;
- ✓ Line stringing;
- ✓ Laying underground 175 kw cable;
- ✓ Power house, control room and staff residence construction;
- ✓ Solar panel and combiner box and battery installation;
- ✓ Construction of guard houses
- ✓ Solar panel field
- ✓ Excavation of site
- ✓ Fencing, road, gate, septic tank and water tank

**Table 1: Consolidated accessories for solar energy project in the Town.**

| <b>ITEM OF THE ACCESSORIES</b>  | <b>UNIT</b> | <b>QUANTITY</b> |
|---|-------------|-----------------|
| Lithium iron phosphate (LiPo <sub>4</sub> ) and energy density battery greater than 110Wh/kg            | kwh         | 200             |
| <b>Monocrystalline photovoltaic panels, power output from single photovoltaic panel less than 250Wp</b> | kwat        | 240             |
| <b>Solar photovoltaic array mounting with a capacity of 100kwp</b>                                      | kwat        | 240             |
| <b>Maximum power point tracking (MPPT) solar charge controller</b>                                      | set         | 3               |
| <b>System enclosure / container</b>   | set         | <b>1</b>        |

|   |  |    |
|---|--|----|
| <b>Remote monitoring system including communication battery ,estate of charge and revenue grade metering at output of power generation system</b> | set  | 1  |
| <b>Cable and bus bares for PV &amp; ESS system</b>  | set  | 1  |
| <b>Lighting protection and earthing system for power plan</b>   | set  | 1  |
| <b>Diesel generator 380/220 VAC complete with earthing system, protection system, metering system, volt meter, ammeter and frequency meter</b>    | set  | 1  |
| <b>Mandatory spare parts no exceeding 2% of equipment value example 1 set consumable, 6400liter diesel oil and 120 G 3G/LTE</b>                   | set  | 1  |
| <b>Other items for installation and commissioning of solar power generation plant on turn-key basis. Example AC combiner box</b>                  | set  | 1  |
|   |  |    |
| <b>Guard house</b>  | set  | 1  |
| <b>Staff duplex house</b>   | set  | 1  |
| <b>Service quarter</b>  | set  | 1  |
| <b>Road, fence and gate</b>   | set  | 1  |
| <b>Water tank</b>   | set  | 1  |
| <b>Septic tank</b>  | set  | 1  |
| <b>Solar panel field</b>  | set  | 22 |
| <b>Installation</b>   | set  | 1  |
| <b>Commissioning</b>  | set  | 1  |
|   |  |    |
| <b>PV inverter</b>  | set  | 1  |
|   | <b>Source: - Contract agreement document lot 5 December 2019</b> |    |

### *1.3. The Objective of the Project*

- ✓ Provide new and renewable power supply,
- ✓ Increase electrification coverage
- ✓ Supply of electricity to deep rural areas
- ✓ Increasing economic activities social development and simplify the life of rural women and children
- ✓ Decrease deforestation due to fire wood
- ✓ Reducing environmental burden by using sustainable and renewable energy sources.

## 2. ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL SCREENING REPORT

The result of the screening report whether an ESIA, ESMP, CRMP, RAP or ARAP is required and will be included in the project application form.

**Name of the Project:** Light to All

**Name of the Proponent:** Under Univesal Electric Access Program, Light To All

**Address:** Addis Ababa Arada sub city, woreda 08 at Erri Bekentu Bridge

**Location of the site (including maps/sketch):** Afar Region, ZoneTwo, Afdera woreda, Kursewad Town

**Types of activities at the project site** (new construction, excavation, periodic maintenance maintains, operation, installation).

### **New Construction of Solar Mini Grid**

Total area of the construction site: **7,000m<sup>2</sup>**

This report is to be kept short and concise.

*Table 2: Site selection*

| No | physical data   | Yes/No answer and bullet lists preferred except where descriptive detail is essential |
|----|---|---|
| 1  | Extension of or changes to the existing alignment/aesthetic values? | No  |
| 2  | Any existing property transfer to project?                          | No  |
| 3  | Any plans for new construction?                                     | yes   |
| 4  | Any property relocates from the project site to somewhere else?     | No  |

### *2.1. Environmental and social impact identification and classification (ESIAIC)*

By considering the location of **Light to All Solar Energy construction project** at Afar Region, Zone Two, Afdera woreda, Kursewad Town, we rate the sensitivity of the proposed site in the following table according to the given criteria. According to the criteria higher ratings do not necessarily mean that a site is unsuitable. The rate does indicate a real risk of causing undesirable adverse ES impact or effects and that more substantial environmental and/or social planning may be required to adequately avoid, mitigate or manage potential effects if any. The following table should be used as a reference.

*Table 3: ES impact identification and classification (using ✓)*

| Environmental/social issues                                 | site sensitivity |        |      |
|---|------------------|--------|------|
|   | low              | medium | high |
| Natural habitats  | ✓                |        |      |
| Water quality and water resource availability and use       | ✓                |        |      |
| Natural hazard vulnerability, flood, soil stability/erosion | ✓                |        |      |
| Cultural property   | ✓                |        |      |
| involuntary resettlement                                    | ✓                |        |      |
| indigenous people   | ✓                |        |      |

*Table 4: checklist of impacts*

| Excavation (construction): transportation, operation, site clearance etc... | potentials for ES adverse impact site sensitivity |     |        |      |         |
|---|---|-----|--------|------|---------|
|   | none  | low | medium | high | unknown |
| disturbance of economic activities that leads to loss of property or income | ✓   |     |        |      |         |
| number of stream crossing or disturbances                                   | ✓   |     |        |      |         |
| wet season excavation   | ✓   |     |        |      |         |
| creation of quarry sites or borrow pits                                     |   | ✓   |        |      |         |
| significant vegetation removal  |   | ✓   |        |      |         |
| wildlife habitats or population disturbed                                   |   | ✓   |        |      |         |
| environmentally sensitive areas or sites disturbed                          | ✓   |     |        |      |         |
| cultural or religious site disturbed  | ✓   |     |        |      |         |
| economic or physical resettlement required                                  | ✓   |     |        |      |         |
| new settlement pressure created   | ✓   |     |        |      |         |
| others(specify)   |   |     |        |      |         |

## 2.2. Detailed questions

**Preliminary environmental information:** like that of the previous, **YES/NO** answers and bullet lists preferred except where descriptive detail is essential.

State the source of information available at this stage (EPC report, ESIA or other **environmental study**)

Has there been litigation or complaints of any environmental nature directed against the proponent or ELEAP solar power project? **No**

**Refer relevant environmental authority for this information**

**identify types of activities and likely environmental impact: similarly, YES/NO answer and bullet lists preferred except where descriptive detail is essential**

| Questions | Risks | Impacts | Opportunities |
|-----------|-------|---------|---------------|
|-----------|-------|---------|---------------|



|   |       |                          |   |
|---|-------|--------------------------|---|
| What are the likely environmental impacts, opportunities, risks and liabilities associated with the proposed project? | flood | sound and dust formation | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ job opportunities</li> <li>✓ increase food security</li> <li>✓ strong social ties</li> <li>✓ relation and cohesion of people</li> <li>✓ improved social health</li> <li>✓ decrease women burden</li> </ul> |
|---|-------|--------------------------|---|

**Determine environmental screening category: YES/NO answer and bullet lists preferred except where descriptive detail is essential.**

Mitigation of pollution: YES/NO answer and bullet lists preferred except where descriptive detail is essential.

| Question   | “yes or no” |
|--|-------------|
| Does the LTA solar energy project have the potential to pollute the environment or contravene any environmental laws and regulations?                                      | No          |
| Will the project require or use any pesticide/rodenticide/ insecticide or any other else?  | No          |
| If so, then the proposal must detail the methodology and equipment incorporated in the design to constrain pollution within the laws and regulations to address the effect |             |
| Does the design adequately detail mitigation measures?   | Yes         |

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| Environmental and social assessment report: or Environmental study required: YES/NO answer and bullet lists<br>Preferred except where descriptive detail is essential.  |     |
| if screening identifies environmental issues that require an ESIA or IEE study, does the proposal include the ESIA or IEE study   | No  |
| indicate the scope and time frame of any outstanding environmental study  | No  |
| Does it require environmental monitoring plan?  | Yes |
| If the screening identifies environmental issues that require long term or intermittent monitoring (effluent, gaseous discharge, water quality and soil deterioration, air quality and noise) does the proposal detail adequate monitoring requirement? | Yes |

### 2.3. Action

|   |                                       |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| List outstanding actions to be cleared before Norinco International Cooperation Limited project appraisal. Approval/rejection YES/NO answers and bullet lists Preferred except where descriptive detail is essential. | No, it is free from public properties |
|---|---------------------------------------|

|   |  |
|---|--|
| Approval/rejection YES/NO answers and bullet lists Preferred except where descriptive detail is essential   |  |
| If proposal is rejected for ES reason, should the solar power project be considered and what additional data would be required for reconsideration. | The project is not rejected for environmental reason |

## 2.4. SOCIAL SCREENING

|   |                               |
|---|-------------------------------|
| 1.1.1. Public participation/information requirement: Yes/No answers and bullet lists preferred except where descriptive detail is essential.  |                               |
| Does the proposal require, under national or local laws, the public to be informed, consulted or involved?  | Yes                           |
| Has consultation been completed?  | Yes                           |
| Indicate the timeframe of any outstanding consultation process  | September_ October , 2019     |
| Refer to relevant legislative acts in Ethiopia  |                               |
| 1.1.2. Land and resettlement: Yes/No answers and bullet lists preferred except where descriptive detail is essential.   |                               |
| Social Safeguard Screening Checklist  | Yes/no answer                 |
| Will the sub project activities reduce other people's access to their economic resources, like land, pasture, water, public services or other resources that they depend on?                  | No                            |
| Will the project result in resettlement of individuals or families or require the acquisition of land (public or private, temporarily or permanently) for its development?                    | No                            |
| Will the project result in the temporary or permanent loss of crops, fruit trees and household infra-structure (such as granaries, outside toilets and kitchens, etc.)?                       | No                            |
| Will the project require excavation near any historical, archaeological or cultural heritage site?  | No                            |
| Might the project adversely affect vulnerable people (e.g., elderly poor pensioners, physically challenged, women, particularly head of Households or widows etc.) living in the area?        | No                            |
| Reroute Map prepared for the specific project site is required (for the new sites).   | No                            |
| Was the project assigned a team of experts to follow up resettlement issues?  | Yes, but there is no PAP      |
| Stakeholders/Public Consultation  |                               |
| How sufficient were the previous consultations?   | Very satisfactory             |
| Are previous PAPs informed and consulted for the process and outcomes?  | Yes                           |
| Are there committees established at Woreda levels for Resettlement implementation and Property Valuation? Are PAPs aware of them? How efficient and effective are they? If yes, what is done? | No because no affected people |

|   |  |
|---|--|
| Was there a plan for livelihood restoration?  | No, there is no displaced people                       |
| Were the people identified for special assistance, during the first assessment? What is done for these people?  | No   |
| Are there any health and safety problems existed in the project site? Include-transmission of communicable disease like STDs and HIV/AIDS in the work sites, dust, noise or any other impacts (through labor influx) brought about by the project activities. | Yes  |
| Grievance Redress Mechanism(GRM)  |  |
| Are there mechanisms available for PAPs to register their grievances and complaints?  | Yes  |
| PAP's awareness of the GRM  |  |
| Records of the GRM; registered cases and responses/actions taken.   | No   |
| What number of project level grievances were reported and addressed, to date?   | No   |
| Were there vulnerable groups identified previously?   | No   |
| Will people need to be displaced, and therefore require compensation and resettlement assistance?   | No   |
| Are the relevant authorities aware of the need for a resettlement process, involving a census, valuation, consultation, compensation, evaluation and monitoring?  | Yes, but there is no PAPs to proceed the next process. |
| What level or type of compensation is planned?  | None   |

### 3. CATEGORIZATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

#### 3.1. Categorization

|                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
|                 | <b>Schedule1</b> project to be fed in to the standard process determined by EPA   |
| <b><u>B</u></b> | <b>Schedule2</b> project will require an EIA and necessitate process the inclusion of environmental and social mitigation enhancement measure in the design and implementation of the project through the use of standard construction contract clauses and an environment management plan. |
|                 | <b>Schedule3</b> project is not subjected to environmental assessment as no potential impacts are anticipated.  |

Therefore, the category of the proposed project is laid under **category B (schedule 2)**.

#### 4. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the conducted checklists the identified environmental and social impacts is not significant and easy to control and manage. Since the category of the proposed project is laid under **category B (schedule 2)**, project will require an EIA and necessitate process the inclusion of environmental and social mitigation enhancement measure in the design and implementation of the project through the use of standard construction contract clauses and an environment management plan. The project contractor shall prepare ESMP to manage the activities of the impact during the whole construction phases (it is one of the requirements set in the contract).

LV lines works generally will follow free road corridor and according to EEA directive to electric lines, LV (a class of nominal system voltages less than 1000V) line does not require right of way clearance.

Based on the above data the following recommendations are forwarded:

- Care must be taken during pole transportation, pole erection and line stringing because in this line bushes can be affected.
- Waste and dust must be controlled during construction; dispose the waste properly especially lubricants and use water for dust formation if necessary during construction.
- As far as the distribution network is LV and it ABC (Aerial Bundled Conductor), cutting or trimming of trees are not necessary.
- Follow up must be conducted to check whether the contractor is implementing all the activities based on the agreement and ESMP.
- Used batteries and other accessories must be disposed based on the National policy of the country because the waste from these spare parts is very hazardous.