

**CIF REI MALI INVESTMENT PLAN**

**Responses to comments/questions from UK and Germany**

**GCAP/SC.4/05/Rev.2 – November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

<b>Comment/Question</b>	<b>From</b>	<b>Response</b>
<p>1. Germany would like to express its gratitude to the Government of Mali, the AfDB as lead MDB as well as the WBG for the work they've done with regards to the revision of the IP. The document now generally appears to be in line with the comments that were provided by GCAP SC members throughout the last few months. We are therefore comfortable approving this revised IP and are looking forward to its implementation. We do, however, have one question which is not tied to our approval - a response can therefore be provided at a later point in time. We want to thank the AfDB for updating Chapter VI concerning the Risk Assessment as well as the MESRAEP Security Risk Assessment that was provided. The AfDB states in that same chapter that it will elaborate a "specific study on the security aspects of the IP projects" which will be included in the annex to the revised IP. The present IP, which to our understanding already is the revised IP, however, contains no such study in the annex. Is there a timeline for this study to be shared with the GCAP SC?</p>	Germany	<p>Thanks for the comment.</p> <p>The revised IP doesn't include the annex on the specific study on the security assessment. The recruitment process for the consultant who will conduct this specific study is underway, and we hope that the report will be available on Q1 2024. The report from this study will be submitted to the CIF Secretariat, as per the commitment made.</p>

Comment/Question	From	Response
<p>2. As regards security arrangements we request further information on appropriate risk assessment and management frameworks which will be put in place and continually monitored to ensure that no funds will find their way to militia or terrorist groups. For example, the UK is deeply concerned by the destabilising role Wagner plays in this region and has sanctions against them. We request information on the mitigations in place to ensure that Wagner, nor any other militia will receive funds directly or indirectly (e.g. provision of security services) from CIF funds and ask that this is reflected in all future funding proposals brought forward in the implementation of the investment plan.</p>	<p>UK</p>	<p>We would like to reiterate that CIF resources allocated to the REI program will support direct investment and technical assistance activities for power utilities and other relevant energy sector agencies. It is essential to emphasize that these resources will not, under any circumstances, be utilized for the provision of security services. The government authorities are responsible for security services, equipment transportation, and site security during project implementation. Moreover, we will onboard security and risk assessment experts during the preparation process of each priority project of the IP, in compliance with our due diligence process when working in country such as Mali. AfDB would appreciate the receive any roster of consultants on which the Bank can build on to fulfil this commitment.</p> <p>The MDBs will provide semi-annual updates to the GCAP committee on the security context, including the implementation of mitigation measures, in areas affected by REI investments.</p>

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<p>3. We request assurances that any infrastructure developed under the IP will ensure that it provides energy where production occurs and ensure that electricity provision is integrated in local and regional development plans as this increases the risk of damage to infrastructures by alienated citizens.</p> <p>4. Page 45 (Safety risks) states the risk of “Poorly negotiated land expropriation process: Such a process can give rise to conflicts of all kinds: firstly, between the local communities themselves (who claim historical ownership of the land on which the work is to be carried out, and therefore the related compensation), and then conflict with the companies in charge of the work. The latter’s staff will no longer feel safe, with the fear of assault, even kidnapping, and so on. In these tense situations, women and people with disabilities are the hardest hit, as they are much more vulnerable than</p>	<p>UK</p> <p>UK</p>	<p>The electrical infrastructure to be developed under the investment plan primarily involves electric transmission lines designed to transport electricity from production sites to consumption areas. Both rural and urban areas along these transmission lines and from the production sites will benefit from these development projects as they become electrified. For instance, the construction project of the power line between Kayes and Yélimané, to be funded by CIF resources, includes the electrification of rural communities along the line. In this context, 20,000 new households will receive electricity. Additionally, within the investment projects of the MDBs, related activities such as electrifying villages, opening gravel roads, and constructing boreholes equipped with electric pumps are often implemented. This allows communities to benefit from development projects while reducing the risks associated with sabotage. All projects in the investment plan are included in national and local planning documents and strategies.</p> <p>The MDB are aware of this reality; hence, in all investment operations, they carry out mandatory environmental and social studies, supervised by dedicated departments. Depending on the project classification, these studies come with accompanying safeguards, like the Resettlement Action Plan (RAP), Stakeholder Engagement Plan, Environmental and Social Management Plan, etc. Furthermore, during the development and validation of a project evaluation report, all affected parties, including vulnerable groups such as women and specific communities, are consulted and informed about potential losses caused by the project. The compensations owed to these</p>

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<p>others". While we are supportive of the stated mitigation, we request further information on how it would take into account pastoralist nomadic and semi-nomadic communities. We also believe there needs to be strong emphasis on engaging with local communities to address any concerns or conflicts regarding land rights and displacement</p>		<p>affected individuals are negotiated and documented in individual agreement sheets signed by all parties.</p> <p>Regarding nomadic and semi-nomadic pastoral communities, it is advisable in development projects to create grazing areas as substitutes for pasture areas for animals. Within communities, interventions can support securing market gardening areas with barriers and building specific water points for livestock to limit the wandering of herds and prevent conflicts between farmers and grazers. Offering multiple relocation sites for displaced populations to choose from helps minimize the risk of dissatisfaction with the amenities at the new resettlement sites.</p> <p>We believe that emphasis should be placed on engaging rural communities to address any concerns. Moreover, for projects undergoing construction, work commences only after all individuals affected by the project in the area impacted by its implementation have been compensated and/or resettled in accordance with the Resettlement Action Plan (RAP) developed for a specific site and/or the agreed-upon construction and compensation schedule.</p>
<p>5. Page 46 (Safety risks) states the risk that "ill-conceived resettlement programs can also lead to insecurity surrounding the works. If communities or groups feel they have been wronged, if they have been resettled on inappropriate land (disputed, unfertile, stony, undeveloped, etc.), they may see their livelihoods and living conditions deteriorate sharply. This can lead to grievances and acts of violence". The mitigation proposed includes the use of transparent communication and the implementation of solid plans to restore</p>	<p>UK</p>	<p>As mentioned earlier, for investment projects by the MDB undergoing construction, work begins only after all the project affected persons (PAPs) have been compensated and/or resettled in accordance with the Resettlement Action Plan (RAP) developed for a specific site and/or the agreed-upon construction and compensation schedule. This action plan, along with all relevant mitigation measures, will be included in each project evaluation report for review and approval by the CIF committee, following the established procedures</p>

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livelihoods. We request further information that provides assurance and commitment that this risk will be actively mitigated.		
<p>6. Zambia would like to thank the Mali government, the World Bank and the AfDB, for their contributions to the IP amendment process. Overall, the paper now reflects the feedback that GCAP SC members provided. As a result, we feel confident in approving this updated IP and are eager for its deployment</p>	Zambia	Thanks for the comment and support