







# ACCELERATING IMPACTS OF CGIAR CLIMATE RESEARCH FOR AFRICA (AICCRA) (P173398)

### STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN (SEP)

# FOR SENEGAL CLUSTER ACTIVITIES

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#### **ACRONYMS**

AICCRA Accelerating Impacts of CGIAR Climate Research for Africa

AJAC Association of young farmers

ANACIM National Agency of Civil Aviation and Meteorology
ANCAR National Agency for Agriculture and Rural Advice

ASPRODEP Association for promotion of grassroots development in Senegal

CCAFS Climate Change, Agriculture, and Food Security

CERAAS Regional Study Center for the Improvement of Drought Adaptation

CIAT Center for International Tropical Agriculture

CINSERE-Plus Developing Sustainable Market-based Weather and Climate Information Services in Senegal

CIS Climate Information Service

CORAF West and Central African Council for Agricultural Research and Development

CSA Climate smart agriculture

CVNVAF National Convergence Network for the promotion of women's activities

CVNVAF Convergence Network for the promotion of women's activities

DINFEL National Directory of Women in Breeding
DINFEL National Directory of Women in Breeding

E&S Environmental and Social

ESF Environmental and Social Framework

ESMP Environmental and Social Management Plan

ESS Environmental and Social Standards

FBOs Farmer Based Organizations

GBV Gender Based Violence
GC Grievance Committee
GM Grievance Mechanism

ICRISAT International Institute of Tropical Agriculture

IDA Internatioal Development Assistance

ILRI International Livestock Research I

IRI International Research Institute for Climate and Society

ISC Independent Steering Committee

ISRA Senegalese Institution of Agricultural Research

MMDAs Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assemblies

NARS National Agricultural Research System

NFCS National Frameworks for Climate Services

NGOs Non-Governmental Organizations

PAI Project Area Influence

PMU Project Management Unit

PWDs Persons with Disability

RESOPP Network of Farmers and Pastoral Organization in Senegal

RNFRS National network of rural women in Senegal

SEA/SH Sexual Exploitation and Abuse/Sexual Harassment

SEP Stakeholder Engagement Plan

UPROVAN Niayes Valley Producers Association

#### **GLOSSARY OF KEY TERMS**

**Consultation** - The process of gathering information or advice from stakeholders and taking these views into account when making project decisions and/or setting targets and defining strategies.

**Engagement** - A process in which a company builds and maintains constructive and sustainable relationships with stakeholders impacted over the life of a project. This is part of a broader "stakeholder engagement" strategy, which also encompasses governments, civil society, employees, suppliers, and others with an interest in the Project.

*Grievance Mechanism* - a process for receiving, evaluating, and addressing project-related complaints from citizens, stakeholders, and other affected communities.

**Stakeholders** - Persons or groups who are directly or indirectly affected by a project, as well as those who may have interests in a project and/or the ability to influence its outcome, either positively or negatively; workers, local communities directly affected by the project and other stakeholders not directly affected by the project but that have an interest in it, e.g., local authorities, neighboring projects, and/or nongovernmental organizations, etc.

**Stakeholder Engagement Plan** - A plan which assists investors with effectively engaging with stakeholders throughout the life of the project and specifying activities that will be implemented to manage or enhance engagement.

Complainant- An individual, group, association, or organization that submits a verbal or written complaint

**Grievance/Complaint** - an expression of dissatisfaction that stems from real or perceived issues, typically referring to a specific source of concern and/or seeking a specific solution. For the purpose of this GRM, real and perceived impacts are treated equally and given the same due process. The term grievance and complaint are used interchangeably in this document.

**Sexual exploitation**: any actual or attempted abuse of a position of vulnerability, differential power, or trust for sexual purposes, including, but not limited to, profiting monetarily, socially, or politically from the sexual exploitation of another.

**Sexual abuse** - actual or threatened physical intrusion of a sexual nature, whether by force or under unequal or coercive conditions.

**Sexual harassment**- Any unwelcome sexual advances, request for sexual favors, verbal or physical conduct or gesture of a sexual nature, or any other behavior of a sexual nature that might be reasonably expected or perceived to cause offense or humiliation to another when such conduct interferes with work; is made a condition of employment; or creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive work environment.

Survivor - A survivor is a person who has experienced the SEA/SH incident in the context of this GM

**Vulnerable Groups**- individuals and groups, who by virtue of gender, ethnicity, age, physical or mental disability, economic disadvantage, sexual orientation and gender identity, or social status may be more adversely affected by a Project than others and who may be limited in their ability to claim or take advantage of development benefits.

#### 1.0 INTRODUCTION/PROJECT DESCRIPTION

#### 1.1 Introduction

This Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) has been prepared to identify the key stakeholders of the Accelerating Impact of CGIAR Climate Research for Africa (AICCRA) Senegal Cluster, define information disclosure and stakeholder engagement measures, and design a grievance mechanism (GM). The SEP outlines how, when, and ways in which the project team will inform, communicate and consult with stakeholders including vulnerable groups and a mechanism by which people can raise concerns, provide feedback, or fill out complaints about project and any activities related to the project. The SEP has been prepared according to Environmental and Social Standard 10 (ESS-10) on Stakeholder Engagement and Information Disclosure of the World Bank's Environmental and Social Framework (ESF) and the overall AICCRA SEP prepared by Center for International Tropical Agriculture (CIAT). It will cover the whole life of the Project. This SEP is a living document and might be updated anytime during project implementation to capture issues that could arise due to address changing circumstances and uncertainties.

The overall objectives of the SEP as stated in the ESS-10 are to:

- Identify all stakeholders and ensure their participation in all stages of the project cycle;
- Establish a systematic approach to stakeholder and citizen engagements that will help to identify stakeholders and build and maintain a constructive relationship with them, in particular project-affected parties;
- Assess the level of stakeholder interest and support for the project and to enable stakeholders' views to be considered in project design and environmental and social performance;
- Promote and provide means for effective and inclusive engagement with project-affected parties throughout the project cycle on issues that could potentially affect them;
- Ensure that appropriate project information on environmental and social risks and impacts is
  disclosed to stakeholders, especially to the vulnerable individual and groups, in a timely,
  understandable, accessible, and appropriate manner and format taking special consideration for the
  disadvantaged or vulnerable groups and address their concerns and feedback during subproject
  activities implementation.
- Provide project-affected parties, including vulnerable persons and groups, with accessible and inclusive means to raise issues and grievances and allow the Project Implementing Entity and its Project Implementation Unit to respond to and manage such grievances, especially, those coming the vulnerable persons and groups.

#### 1.2 The Project and its Components

The World Bank-funded project AICCRA supports the Consortium of International Agricultural Research Centers (CGIAR) Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security (CCAFS) programs and activities that are targeted specifically to Africa and aims to help taking to scale the most strategic and impactful CCAFS-Africa programs, promoting resilience to climate change and improved food security in target countries. The Project Development Objective is to strengthen the capacity of participating CCAFS partners and stakeholders, and to enhance access to climate information services and validated climate-smart agriculture technologies in the World Bank's International Development Association (IDA)-eligible countries in Africa. AICCRA will fill a

critical gap by making cutting-edge CGIAR research and innovation available to the National Agricultural Research Systems (NARS) and other key stakeholders in Africa. It will support knowledge creation and capacity building activities to enable regional and national-level stakeholders to take Climate-smart Agriculture (CSA) innovations to scale. It will achieve that by fostering partnerships between CGIAR and local research institutes, universities, civil society organizations, farmer organizations, and private firms. AICCRA will facilitate the development of Climate-Informed Services (CIS) and promote the adoption of CSA solutions across sub-regions within Africa that are extremely vulnerable to climate change. The project will also support on-the-ground activities in selected countries where CGIAR science has the greatest chance of success in delivering catalytic results, which can be adopted by other countries in the region.

The **Project Development Objective** is to strengthen the technical, institutional, and human capacity needed to enhance transfer of climate-relevant information, decision-making tools, and technologies in support of scaling efforts in IDA-eligible countries in Africa. Based on this overall objective the project is structured into four components:

**Component 1. Knowledge generation and sharing:** Supporting generation and sharing of knowledge products and tools designed to address critical gaps in the design and provision of agricultural climate services, enable climate-informed investment planning, and contribute to the design of policies to promote uptake of CSA practices at the regional, sub-regional and national levels.

**Component 2. Strengthen partnership for delivery:** Strengthening the capacities of key regional and national institutions in Sub-Saharan Africa along the research-to-development continuum for anticipating climate effects and accelerating identification, prioritization, and uptake of best-bet adaptive measures.

Component 3. Validating Climate-Smart Agriculture Innovations through Piloting: Supporting testing and validation (including gender and social inclusion) of CSA technologies in research stations and in farmers' fields; linking of validated CSA technology packages to technology transfer systems; and improving access by farmers and other value chain actors to climate-informed agricultural advisory services to inform decision-making about choice of technology and enterprise management.

**Component 4. Project Management:** Supporting day to day implementation, coordination, supervision and overall communication and management (including, procurement, environmental and social risk management, financial management, monitoring, and evaluation, carrying out of audits and reporting) of Project activities and results, all through the provision of goods, consulting services, non-consulting services, Training and Workshops, Operating Costs, and payment of Staff Salaries for the purpose.

#### 1.3 Senegal Cluster Activities

For the Senegal component of the AICCRA Project, the project will focus on strengthening the systemic capacity of the national partners and private sector to promote climate adaptation in agriculture and promote dissemination of the results of CGIAR Climate research. Led by ILRI and with CGIAR partners ICRISAT and CIAT, AICCRA-Senegal builds on existing work funded by USAID (Developing Sustainable Market-based

Weather and Climate Information Services in Senegal (CINSERE-Plus) implemented by CCAFS WA and National Agency of Civil Aviation and Meteorology (ANACIM).

Building on the outcomes and partnerships of CINSERE, AICCRA-Senegal will focus on the semi-arid crop and crop-livestock farming systems to develop climate informed agro-advisories tailored to value chain players (farmers, input and service providers, extension services, etc.) evaluate and promote CSA options for building resilient farming systems. Backstopping this quantum leap in climate informed management will be data hubs drawing data from enhanced weather forecasting and weather recording capabilities of ANACIM and supported through capacity development provided by the International Research Institute (IRI), Columbia University.

Collaboration with the West and Central African Council for Agricultural Research and Development (CORAF) Centre of excellence in Dry Cereals hosted by Regional Study Center for the Improvement of Drought Adaptation (CERAAS), part of the Senegalese Institution of Agricultural Research (ISRA) will bring the latest crop-based innovations including germplasm, cropping systems and land and water management. AICCRA-Senegal will also partner with National Agency for Agriculture and Rural Advice (ANCAR) and private sector ag-tech, to build modern extension systems that reach the millions of smallholder crop and livestock farmers in Senegal. Key activities planned include:

- 1.2.1 Development of ag-data hubs and decision support systems;
- 1.2.2 Strengthening digital climate advisory services;
- 2.2.1 Support strengthening of national meteorological real-time services;
- 2.2.3 Build capacity of public and private sectors next users to support implementation of CSA technology packages;
- 2.2.4 Develop existing or strengthening new National Frameworks for Climate Services (NFCS);
- 3.2.1 Identify and prioritize climate-and gender social inclusion-smartness of CSA packages;
- 3.2.2 Create awareness and identify scaling mechanisms for best-bet CSA options;
- 3.2.3 Integrate climate-smart options and tailored CSI advisory systems for specific value chains.

#### 2.0 BRIEF SUMMARY OF PREVIOUS STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

During the project preparation CCAFS held virtual consultative dialogues with Africa wide stakeholders and other stakeholders in West Africa and Senegal. These discussions focused on the broad visioning and goals of AICCRA as well as the specific activities of AICCRA in Senegal. Stakeholders engaged on Senegal Cluster included important national partners such as CERAAS, ISRA and ANCAR as well as private sector players in the delivery of climate services and advisories.

Additionally, as part of the efforts to foster good grounds for the implementation of activities in Senegal Cluster, ILRI and other partners have organized the following consultations summarized in the table below.

Table 1: Summary of Previous Stakeholder Engagements

Implementing Partner	Stakeholder Name	Method of Consultation	Date of Consultation	Purpose of Consultation
ILRI and ICRISAT	Value chain actors	In person workshop.	15-16 June 2021	Prioritization of crop and livestock value chains to build climate resilience under Drylands in Senegal
ICRISAT	NARES, Private Sector	Virtual Workshop	25 February 2021	Technical Design Workshop
ICRISAT	CERAAS, ILRI, ANCAR, ANACIM, IRI, CIAT	Virtual meeting	15 April 2021	Technical meeting to design the AgDataHub
ICRISAT	CERAAS, ILRI, ANCAR, ANACIM, IRI, CIAT	Virtual meeting	22 April 2021	Technical meeting to fine- tune the M&E system
ILRI	CERAAS, ILRI, ANCAR, ANACIM, ICRISAT, CIAT	Virtual meeting	28 April 2021	Technical meeting to discuss the VC prioritization
CIAT	CERAAS, ILRI, ANCAR, ANACIM, ICRISAT	Virtual meeting	14 September 2021	Technical meeting to discuss plan for the gender, scaling and outreach issue
ICRISAT	CERAAS, ILRI, ANCAR, ANACIM, CIAT, IRI	Virtual meeting	15 September 2021	Technical meeting to improve the AgDataHub concept

#### **3.0 STAKEHOLDER IDENTIFICATION AND ANALYSIS**

Project stakeholders are defined as individuals, groups, or other entities who:

- (i) are impacted or likely to be impacted directly or indirectly, positively or adversely, by the Project (also known as 'affected parties'); and
- (ii) may have an interest in the Project ("interested parties"). They include individuals or groups whose interests may be affected by the Project or may benefit from the project implementation, and those who have the potential to influence the Project outcomes in any way.

For the purposes of effective and tailored engagement, stakeholders of the proposed project can be divided into the following core categories: affected parties, interested parties, and disadvantaged/vulnerable individuals or groups.

#### 3.1 Affected Parties

Affected Parties refers to persons, groups, and other entities within the Project Area of Influence (PAI) that are directly influenced (actually or potentially) by the project and/or have been identified as most susceptible to change associated with the project. Affected parties need to be closely engaged to identify impacts and assess their significance, as well as participate in decision-making on mitigation and management measures. Activities under Senegal Cluster will involve pilot of CSA technologies with some selected farmers. These onfarm activities are not expected to have any adverse environmental and social impacts on the environment and any groups because the proposed CSA innovations to be piloted with farmers have no known negative impacts. However, there could be a possible risk of excluding vulnerable or disadvantaged groups or person from accessing and benefiting from the CSA innovations.

All partners and collaborators as well as clients and end users will be positively affected in some way. Partners and collaborators will have opportunities to enhance their knowledge and skills, making them more effective and resilient in their respective roles. Institutional capacities will be strengthened. Private firms will have greater opportunities to benefit either from sales of equipment and inputs or from more and higher quality produce reaching the market. End users (farmers) will potentially have higher and more stable production and incomes, while consumers will have a more reliable food supply. Governments will benefit from more rapid and predictable agricultural growth, fewer people facing hunger and destitution because of crop failures, and lower levels of migration and conflict over resource use.

The stakeholders that are expected to directly benefit from the AICCRA Senegal project include:

- Regional Study Center for the Improvement of Drought Adaptation (CERAAS);
- Senegalese Institution of Agricultural Research (ISRA);
- National Agency for Agriculture and Rural Advice (ANCAR);
- National Agency of Civil Aviation and Meteorology (ANACIM);
- Farmers;
- Pastoralist;
- Farm Organizations i.e., Association for promotion of grassroots development in Senegal (ASPRODEP)
   Network of Farmers and Pastoral Organization in Senegal (RESOPP), GIE Djambar, Consolidation
   Networks, etc.);
- Private Sector.

#### 3.2 Other Interested Parties

Interested Parties include stakeholders who may not experience direct impacts from the project but who may benefit from the project innovative technology, or who consider or perceive their interests as being affected by the project and/or who could affect the project and the process of its implementation in some way.

This category of stakeholders will include the following individuals and groups:

- Academic institutions;
- Policy makers;
- Government Ministries, Department and Agencies;

- Investors in the agricultural sector;
- Local population who can benefit indirectly from improved agriculture and food security in Senegal including the representatives in the local level (administration and municipalities);
- Media, civil society, and other NGOs interested in agricultural productivity, food security and climate adaptations;
- Farmer groups interested in climate adaptions;
- Professionals involved in international development or climate change adaptation initiatives;
- Public institutions (SAED, CNCAS, LBA, CNAAS);
- Interprofessional Organizations;
- Producer Organizations i.e., Niayes Valley Producers Association (UPROVAN); ASPRODEP, RESOPP,
   GIE Djambar, etc.);
- Group of women farmers (National network of rural women in Senegal (RNFRS), National Convergence Network for the promotion of women's activities (CVNVAF), National Directory of Women in Breeding (DINFEL), others;
- Association of young farmers (AJAC).

#### 3.3 Disadvantaged/Vulnerable Individuals or Groups

Disadvantaged or vulnerable individuals or groups refers to those who may experience disproportional adverse impacts or exclusion, who often do not have voice to express their concerns or understand and benefit from this project at the same level as others, thus exacerbating social and economic inequality.

Given the digital divide between rural and urban areas in Senegal, using digital platforms to disseminate climate information services will likely disadvantage women farmers, and illiterate smallholder farmers that are unable to use digital technology including mobile phones. Existing gender inequalities in access to and control over resources could also exclude women, youth, and persons with disability (PWDs) from being consulted and accessing information on CSA. Gender norms, traditional power structure, and division of labor in traditional households could also prevent women farmers and youth from meaningfully participating in stakeholder consultations at the community level. Women and youth are less able than men to participate in decisions that affect their lives and livelihoods because women and youth are brought up to respect and submit to the leadership of men. In many areas in Senegal, although women toil in the land they have no right to own it. Land is the property of men. Even when most of the rural men immigrate, they still control the land cultivated by women who are in charge of the families. These traditional practices can also exclude women from participating in the project in many areas.

Therefore, the disadvantaged/vulnerable groups on Senegal AICCRA cluster will include:

- Women farmers, especially Women-headed households or single mothers with underage children;
- Nomadic Pastoralist:
- Illiterate Smallholder farmers;
- Youth in farming;
- Farmers with physical disabilities;
- Seriously ill or elderly people, especially when they live alone;
- Households with very few resources.

To address these specific constraints faced by disadvantaged and vulnerable groups, the AICCRA project structure includes Gender and Social Inclusion Thematic areas that focuses on collaborating with all implementing partners to develop gender-responsive CSA and promoting women entry and advancement in agriculture. AICCRA Senegal project aims to provide gender responsive rural climate services by using communication channels and working with local community-based organizations that respond to the needs of women farmers, smallholder farmers, pastoralist, PWDs and youth.

AICCRA Senegal will benefit from working with some groups and associations as the Group of women farmers (National network of rural women in Senegal (RNFRS), the National Convergence Network for the promotion of women's activities (CVNVAF), the National Directory of Women in Breeding (DINFEL), Association of young farmers (AJAC) and the others, to strength consultations and dissemination of information on CSA to disadvantaged groups identified. Description of the specific methods of engagement with disability groups is provided in section 4.4.

AICCRA Senegal will collaborate with an organization focused on advancement of vulnerable groups, to convert information on CSA into both written local languages and video documentaries. The video documentaries in particular will be used to highlight CSA innovations in local languages during knowledge sharing and learning events. Senegal also has activities that focuses on working with local community radio stations to disseminate climate-smart information on selected value chains and other project related information. AICCRA Senegal will work or support partners to work with several local radio stations to offer free weather information every morning in various local languages to all citizens including the disadvantage groups identified. During these sessions, a phone-in segment will be opened for farmers to share their feedback on the regular weather updates offered in local languages.

Organization of meetings will also be sensitive to local culture. Meetings will not be organized in market and funeral days as most women will not be available to attend meetings in these days. Separate consultation sessions will be held with women, youth, and person with disabilities as a way of creating an assured atmosphere to embolden frank conversations with these vulnerable groups. Relevant pictures and illustrations on climate change and other project activities will be used to facilitate understanding of the illiterate farmers.

Farmer field school approach<sup>1</sup> was also embedded in the design of AICCRA Senegal project activities. Farmer field school approach is the established practice in Senegal for transmitting farming skills and knowledge to rural farmers that are mostly illiterate. In this regard, ILRI is collaborating with a range of farmer-based organizations that works directly with rural farmers including women, youth, and farmers with disability to set up farmer demonstration fields. These fields are expected to provide avenues for disadvantage groups identified to access project benefits and information in their local language, and through engagement practices and locations suitable to their context. Detailed methods of engagement with vulnerable groups are provided in section 4.2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> A participatory learning method where a group of farmers meets regularly in a local field setting to learn under a trained facilitator.

Potential vulnerable groups that may be affected by the project activities are no known at this stage. They will be confirmed through screening and consulted through dedicated means as appropriate.

#### 3.4 Summary of Stakeholder Needs at the Cluster Level

The assessment of stakeholder needs was based on the institutional design and stakeholder chain for the implementation of the AICCRA project Senegal. By this, we distinguished the needs of:

- 1) direct partners, i.e., CGIAR research institutions that will receive funds directly from the project implementing agency (CIAT);
- 2) indirect partners, i.e., those institutions that will receive funds through sub-contracts from ILRI;
- 3) collaborating partners, i.e. those institutions receiving technical support, training opportunities, and workshop invitations but not directly funded by AICCRA;
- 4) clients, i.e., those institutions that will be responsible for making AICCRA solutions and technologies available to;
- 5) end users, i.e., farmers and vulnerable groups. The table below provides the summary of engagement needs for the following categories of operational stakeholders.

The engagement needs of stakeholders are summarized in the table below.

Table 2: Stakeholder Needs

Stakeholder group	Key characteristics	Financing	Language needs	Preferred notification means	Specific Needs
Direct implement Partners including ILRI, Alliance Bioversity-CIAT, ICRISAT	CGIAR research institutions that will receive funds directly from the project implementing agency (CIAT)	Yes	English	Emails, Meetings, phone calls	Financial support to enable engagement with stakeholders
Indirect Partners including CERAAS, ANCAR, ANACIM, etc.	Institutions that will receive funds through sub-contracts from ILRI	Yes	English, French	Email, workshops	Financial support to enable consultations with stakeholders
Clients/interested parties  Policy Makers, Metropolitan, Municipal and District Assemblies (MMDAs), Famer Based organization, Commercial farmers,	institutions that will be responsible for making AICCRA solutions and technologies available to	No	English, French, Iocal Ianguage	Emails, Workshops, reports	Sensitization on AICCRA project and its output products including CSA innovations

Stakeholder group	Key characteristics	Financing	Language needs	Preferred notification means	Specific Needs
agricultural investors, financial institutions,					
Collaborators (private entities) Country level partners AICCRA Senegal will collaborate with to implement project activities	Institutions receiving technical support, training opportunities, and workshop invitations but not directly funded by AICCRA	Some	English, French	Email, workshops	
Farmers (M&F)	Small scale rural farmers farming to feed the family and selling the surplus farm products, including men and women farmers.	No	Local language	Intermediators (extension officers or Farmers organization representation), radios, digital com Phone Calls In-person visitation	Cater for transport expenses to attend meetings, when necessary, Organize meeting in local language Adjusting meeting schedule to local cultural events.
Agro-pastoralists and pastoralists (Male &Female)	Agro-patoralists as well as sedentary and nomadic pastoralists including men and women	No	Local language	Intermediators (Livestock and Agro- Livestock Breeders organization), radios, digital com Phone Calls In-person visitation	Cater for transport expenses to attend meetings, when necessary, Organize meeting in local language Adjusting meeting schedule to local cultural events.
Vulnerable groups	Smallholder women, youth, and PWDs farmers	Yes	Local language	Phone calls  Community radio announcement  In-person visitation	Using female facilitators,  Cater for transport expenses to attend meetings, when necessary,  Organizing meeting in local languages,  Adjusting meeting schedule to local cultural events.

#### 4.0 STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PROGRAM

#### 4.1 Proposed Strategy for Information Disclosure and Consultations

The stakeholder engagement process during the project preparation phase was mainly done through virtual meetings and a few in-person consultations with government and other in-country collaborators because of the COVID-19 pandemic. AICCRA Senegal will use this same strategy for many of the consultations with implementing partners and collaborators. CGIAR centers (CIAT, ICRISAT, ILRI and national partners (ANACIM, ANCAR, CERAAS, etc.) use a wide variety of media to share its results. These include but are not limited to refereed journal articles, books, technical reports, technical and policy briefs, websites, dashboards, mobile applications, electronic newsletters, workshops, and training manuals. The Core-Team of AICCRA has a dedicated website through which all communication materials will be posted. The Coordinator of AICCRA-Senegal and the M&E specialist will make sure any relevant material is posted to the website.

Going forward, it will be important to ensure that the different consultation and information disclosure activities are inclusive and culturally sensitive, thereby ensuring that the disadvantaged and marginalized groups identified at section 3.3 will have the chance to participate and benefit from the project. AICCRA Senegal will have different strategies for reaching out to disadvantaged/vulnerable groups, which will include use of local language, tailored focus groups discussions, use of community radios, and in-person visitations. Subsection 4.2 provides further details on these strategies. Given the risk of COVID-19 transmission during in-person meetings, protocol to minimize such transmission is provided at annex 1.

Table 3: Methods of Stakeholder Engagements and Consultations

Engagement Technique	Ways technique will be used
Correspondence (Phone, Emails)	<ul> <li>Invite stakeholders to meetings and follow up</li> <li>Distribute information to implementing partners, government officials, academic, and national research institutions</li> </ul>
One-on-One meetings	<ul> <li>Seeking views and opinions</li> <li>Enable stakeholders to discuss confidential and tailored conversation on project outputs especially with government and other national institutions</li> <li>Record meeting discussions</li> </ul>
Virtual meetings	<ul> <li>Explore for public meetings in light of COVID-19 related restrictions on public meetings</li> <li>Present project information to larger group of stakeholders</li> <li>Build relationships with stakeholders</li> <li>Allow stakeholders to share their views and provide feedback</li> <li>Record discussions, comments, and questions.</li> </ul>
Periodic reports, blogs, newsletters, flyers, technical briefs	<ul> <li>Present project information and progress updates including results</li> <li>Keep stakeholders informed of climate smart agriculture innovations, models, and technologies</li> </ul>
Project website	<ul> <li>Present project information and progress updates</li> <li>Disclose SEP, grievance mechanism and other relevant project documentation</li> </ul>

Engagement Technique	Ways technique will be used						
	Seeking feedback, information request and complaints						
National Newspaper	"Le Soleil" and "l'Observateur" will be used to disclose key project documents including SEP, Grievance Mechanism (GM) and Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP)						
Focus Group Discussion	Follow this approach to create safe space and hold group focused engagements with women farmers, youth and PWDs						
Community Radio	<ul> <li>Use to host local language discussions on CSA innovations and elicit feedback and questions in local languages</li> <li>Use to disclose key project documents and provide daily updates on climatic weather conditions to farmers</li> <li>Key radio stations considered include Walf FM, Zik FM, Sud FM, RFM and Community radios</li> </ul>						

#### 4.2 Proposed Strategy to incorporate Views of Vulnerable Groups

The principle of inclusiveness will guide stakeholder engagements in Senegal Cluster, particularly with respect to vulnerable groups identified at subsection 3.3. ILRI and other implementing partners of AICCRA Senegal have considered the following measures to ensure equal representation of vulnerable groups in the consultation and decision-making process associated with the project.

- Consultations in local language: Most smallholder farmers in localities targeted for CSA pilot demonstrations do not speak French or English, therefore, the project will hold all meetings with vulnerable groups identified by using the local languages spoken in their communities (Wolof and Pular, mainly). When necessary, an experienced facilitator with a deep knowledge of the local language and context will be engaged to facilitate the consultation process. The project team will explain printed disclosure material in local language for people who are not literate or have problem in reading and understanding French.
- Maintain sensitivity to local culture during consultations: Meetings will not be organized in market and funeral days as most women will not be available to attend meetings in these days. Separate consultation sessions will be held with women, youth, and person with disabilities as a way of creating assured atmosphere to embolden frank conversations with these vulnerable groups. In addition, the team will make sure that the vulnerable groups are informed about the consultations at least one week prior to the schedule date.
- Identify and connect with local agencies working with vulnerable groups: AICCRA Senegal has identified some groups and associations as the Group of women farmers (National network of rural women in Senegal (RNFRS), the National Convergence Network for the promotion of women's activities (CVNVAF), the National Directory of Women in Breeding (DINFEL), Association of young farmers (AJAC) and the others, the cluster will work with the groups and associations cited above to reach-out and organize consultations with women farmers, youth, persons with disabilities, and widow farmers. AICCRA will work with an agency to convert information on CSA into both written local languages and video documentaries.

- Diversify means of communication and rely more on community radio: Community Radio Stations in local languages are highly used by peasant farmers in Senegal and are highly effective in conveying relevant information to vulnerable groups and allowing them to provide their feedback and suggestions. AICCRA Senegal will collaborate with the leaders of the Association of Community Radios in Senegal (URAC) to offer free weather information every morning in various local languages to all citizens including the disadvantage groups identified. During these sessions, a phone in segment will be opened for farmers to share their feedback on the regular weather updates offered in local language.
- Women focused groups: AICCRA Senegal will facilitate formation of focus groups for women during
  consultation and information disclosure, facilitated by a woman. This will particularly ensure that
  women farmers have the opportunities and safe space to participate in and benefit from the project.
  The project team will hire a woman as the facilitator and will keep record of issues discussed and
  ensure that genuine concerns are addressed.
- Focus group discussions with youth and PWDs: AICCRA Senegal will give priority to tailored consultations with youth groups, and PWD to ensure that their concerns are factored into the design and selection of farms to benefit from CSA demonstrations.
- In-person meeting invitation visits to peasant farmers including women, youth and PWDs: Given
  the peculiar challenges of reaching out to this group through formal letters and sometimes through
  phone calls. AICCRA Senegal will consider using a community facilitator to send in-person invitations
  to these groups.
- **Knowledge sharing and learning events:** Such events will be organized to highlight CSA innovations in local languages. During such events relevant pictures and illustrations on climate change and other project activities will be used to facilitate understanding of illiterate farmers.

AICCRA Senegal Safeguard Focal Person will closely monitor the consultation process to ensure vulnerable groups access and awareness of the equal access to the consultation process and to guarantee that their voice is taken into account in order to find and implement solutions to some specific situations or issues.

#### 4.3 Proposed Strategy for Information Disclosure

All CSA knowledge products and innovations produced by the Senegal Cluster will be in the public domain. The table below provides the information disclosure plan of AICCRA Senegal.

Timetable: List of Methods Target Percentage information to be Project stage Responsibilities Locations/ stakeholders proposed reached disclosed dates December / Emails, virtual Implementing Project SEP AICCRA Implementing Project and face to partners -IRLI March 2022 Preparation including Partners, Emails, virtual Grievance collaborators, face meetings (and meetings, face to face meetings & Mechanism clients will reach SEA/SH 100% of ILRI website. implementing

Table 4: Information Disclosure Plan

Project stage	List of information to be disclosed	Methods proposed	Timetable: Locations/ dates	Target stakeholders	Percentage reached	Responsibilities
	complaints handling)	Face to face community meetings, focus group discussions and radio announcements		Farmers at the rural areas include women, youth, and persons with	partners, collaborators, and key clients Website will reach other indirect stakeholders - NGOs, CSOs and research institutions Face to face community meetings, focus group discussions and radio announcemen ts are expected to reach 100 of farmers	
_	Biannual and Annual reports	Soft copies of reports through emails  Face to face community meetings, focus group discussions	months	Farmers including vulnerable groups	100% reach through emails to collaborators and indirect partners  Face to face community meetings, focus group discussions will reach 100% of farmers	· .
	Policy briefs, Discussion papers, journal articles	Virtual meetings, one-on-one meetings, soft copies published through website, emails, and newsletter	Throughout implementat ion	clients, and other NGOs		Implementing partners - ICRISAT, ILRI

Project stage	List of information to be disclosed	Methods proposed	Timetable: Locations/ dates	Target stakeholders	Percentage reached	Responsibilities
	CSA innovations and information services		Throughout implementat ion	Partners, collaborators, clients	100% reach through emails and face to face meetings with collaborators and indirect partners	i I
		Face to face community meetings, focus group discussions		Farmers including vulnerable groups	Face to face community meetings, Learning and sharing events, focus group discussions will reach 100% of farmers	
Closure	achievements,	Websites, emails, virtual or in- person meetings	July/August 2023	clients, and other NGOs	100% through meetings and emails to collaborators and clients.	
		Face to face community meetings, focus group discussions		Farmers including vulnerable groups	Face to face community meetings, focus group discussions will reach 100% of farmers	

**4.4 Proposed Strategy for Consultations** 

The design of AICCRA Senegal cluster activities involves considerable number of planned consultations to facilitate implementations. The table below provides a summary of all planned consultations with stakeholders. During face-to-face consultations, a precautionary approach will be taken to mitigate risk of COVID-19. Detail protocol consistent with national requirements is provided at annex I.

Table 5: Stakeholder Consultation Plan

Center leading activity	Stakeholder	Stakeholder	Method of	Date of	Purpose of
center reading detivity	name	type	Consultation	Consultation	Consultation
ILRI	CERAAS	National partners	Emails, virtual and in-person meetings, workshops	Monthly	On-ground activities with farmers and agro- pastoralists for the effective uptake of relevant CIS and
			Periodic reports  Annual meetings	Biannual Annual	CSA practices; support of the agro-advisories production
ILRI	ANCAR	National partners	Emails, virtual and in-person meetings, workshops	Monthly	On-ground activities with farmers and agro- pastoralists for the large-scale adoption of
			Periodic reports	Biannual	relevant CIS and CSA practices
			Annual meetings	Annual	
ICRISAT/IRI	ANACIM	National partners	Emails, virtual and in-person meetings, workshops	Monthly	Production of climate information; contribution to setting the AgDataHub
			Periodic reports	Biannual	
			Annual meetings	Annual	
CERAAS/ANCAR/ANACIM	Farmers' organizations	farmers, agro- pastoralists	Training workshops; Demonstration fields; CIS and agro-advisory dissemination	Regular (as required),	Capacity building for an efficient use of CIS and CSA; assessment of the needs and impact of the technologies

Center leading activity	Stakeholder name	Stakeholder type	Method of Consultation	Date of Consultation	Purpose of Consultation
CERAAS/ANCAR/ANACIM	Farmers (M&F)	Farmers	Training workshops; Demonstration fields; CIS and agro-advisory dissemination	Regular (as required),	Capacity building for an efficient use of CIS and CSA; assessment of the needs and impact of the technologies
CERAAS/ANCAR/ANACIM	Agro- pastoralists (M&F	Agro- pastoralists	Training workshops; CIS and agro- advisory dissemination	Regular (as required),	Capacity building for an efficient use of CIS and CSA; assessment of the needs and impact of the technologies
ILRI	Various private sector companies	collaborator	Sub-grant agreement (SGA) between ILRI and private enterprises	Regular (as required),	Large-scale dissemination of CIS and relevant agro-advisories to farmers and agro- pastoralists

#### 4.5 Timelines

Stakeholder engagements for the Senegal cluster has been a continuous process from the project design and preparatory stage until present. As per table 4, ILRI and other implementing partners will continue to engage all relevant stakeholders throughout the project implementation process until the project closure.

#### 4.6 Review of Comments

ILRI and other implementing partners recognize feedback from stakeholders as important inputs needed for the successful implementation of the overall project. During engagements, all written and oral comments from stakeholders will be gathered, reviewed, and used to improve content of documents, design of key project manuals and climate smart models. A summary of how comments are considered will be shared with stakeholder when reporting back with final products.

#### 4.7 Future Phase of Project

The SEP will be periodically revised and updated as necessary during project implementation to ensure that the information presented herein is consistent and up to date, and that the identified methods of engagement remain appropriate and effective in relation to the project context. Any major changes to the project related activities and to its schedule will be duly reflected in the SEP and communicated to stakeholders.

Project stakeholders and individuals who may be affected by sites identified and screened for pilot of CSA technologies will be informed about the outcome of the screening, key risks identified, and mitigation measures considered to respond to risks identified.

Information on public engagement activities undertaken by the project during a project year will be conveyed to the stakeholders during biannual and annual progress updates sessions with stakeholders. Information

that will be shared include type of engagement opportunities given to project stakeholders, nature of participation in terms of gender and involvement of disadvantage groups, the extent to which stakeholders views were considered, and updates on project grievances.

#### **5.0 RESOURCES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

#### 5.1 Resources

Costs related to implementation of this plan include expenses for in-person meetings, transport, logistics, as well as staff cost related to communication and grievance management. The budget for the SEP is included in the project implementation budget. AICCRA through implementing partners will allocate funds for stakeholder engagement activities.

The table below gives the approximate budget for the SEP activities.

Table 6: Estimated Budget

Stakeholder Engagement Plan – Estimated Budget		
Activities	Total Cost (USD)	
Sensitization	3000	
Design of flyers	1000	
Translation of communication materials into local languages for farmers	8400	
Disclosure of SEP	500	
GM's channels mainstreaming cost, including cost of printing materials	2000	
Contingency (10%)	1490	
Total	16390	

#### 5.2 Management Functions and Responsibilities

The summary of key institutions concerned about the implementation of this SEP and responsibilities cast are as follows.

Table 7: Responsibility Table

Institution /Lead Person	RESPONSIBILITY
Implementation Steering Committee	Oversight responsibility for entire project implementation
AICCRA Project Management Unit	Provide technical support for the preparation implementation of this SEP and resolution of grievances
ILRI	<ul> <li>Overall coordination of Senegal Cluster activities and implementation of this SEP.</li> <li>Ensure effective implementation of GM</li> <li>Document the performance of SEP implementation</li> </ul>
Implementing partners (ICRISAT, IRI, CERAS, ANCAR, ANACIM)	<ul> <li>Initiate and coordinate stakeholder engagement activities</li> <li>Assign staff to keep written records on stakeholder engagement activities and on grievances.</li> <li>Ensure the involvement of other implementing partners in the monitoring of SEP activities.</li> </ul>

#### 5.3 Name and Contact Details of Person Responsible

For any comment, question of feedback on the stakeholder engagement process, the following persons can be contacted. (1) Anthony Whitbread, Email: <u>A.Whitbread@cgiar.org</u> (2) Mamoutou Koita; Email: M.Koita@cgiar.org; Phone number +221 77 870 36 22.

#### **6.0 GRIEVANCE MECHANISM**

ILRI will establish and maintain a functional grievance mechanism (GM) to guide the receipt, and mediation of complaints and questions from project affected persons and stakeholders including cases linked to Sexual Exploitation and Abuse/ Sexual Harassment (SEA/SH).

#### 6.1 Objectives

The GM is intended to:

- Provide avenues for stakeholders to seek information and ask questions on AICCRA project.
- Provide project affected people, including vulnerable and disadvantaged groups and individual, with avenues for lodging concerns, complaints and resolving a dispute arising from project activities.
- Ensure that appropriate and mutually acceptable redress actions are identified and implemented to the satisfaction of complainants.
- Provide avenue for vulnerable groups and victims of SEA/SH to have equal access to grievance redress
  process and support.
- Avoid project-community conflicts and improve community support for the project activities.

Although project affected parties have the right to seek redress in court, the project recognizes that court cases are known to be cumbersome and time consuming. Therefore, the project, through this guide intends

to propose an alternative simple but functional first point procedure for aggrieved project affected persons to amicably seek redress to their complaints. Nonetheless, aggrieved persons would remain free to access the court system without any hindrance or retribution from the project as provided by the laws of Senegal.

#### **6.2** Principles of the GM

The operationalization of this GM shall be guided by the following principles.

- An accessible, inclusive, transparent, fair, and free grievance mechanism (GM), broadly disclosed, which facilitates the resolution of concerns and grievances in a safe, confidential, and timely manner.
- A grievance mechanism that allows stakeholders to file complaints by various means (face-to-face, mail, email, phone, text, website, and in person) and when necessary, in an anonymous manner.
- A grievance mechanism that provides a clear, impartial, and objective procedures for handling and responding to complaints, including timelines for acknowledgement, decisions, and appeals.
- A grievance process free of retaliation, abuse, or discrimination.
- A grievance mechanism that provides an avenue for lodging SEA/SH cases in a safe, confidential, and non-stigmatizing manner and with a referral pathway for such cases.

#### 6.3 Types of Information Request and Grievances Anticipated

Drawing from past related projects, the grievances anticipated on this project could fall into the following categories.

- Request for information on how to.
  - access project grant,
  - o access climate smart information and innovations;
  - o collaborate with implementing agencies, and;
  - o participate in project activities and meetings.
- Community health and safety related risks and impacts;
- Selection of farmers for participation in project activities;
- Exclusion of vulnerable groups;
- Sitting of project demonstration farms;
- Sexual Exploitation and Abuse/ Sexual Harassment (SEA/SH).

#### 6.4 Internal Management of the GM

The overall management of the GM will reside with the Safeguard Focal Person and Country Cluster Lead with support of the AICCRA Environmental and Social (E&S) Safeguard Specialists. The Safeguard Focal Person will specifically be responsible for:

- The disclosure of the GM to project stakeholders;
- Sensitization of implementing partners and staff on the GM;
- Keeping records of all complaints received, updating, and closing complaints;
- Pre-empting and facilitating activities of Grievance Committees (GC);
- Checking if all grievances have been addressed and follow-up actions have been taken;
- Escalating cases to AICCRA PMU;
- Referring survivors of SEA/SH cases to Gender Based Violence (GBV) service providers;

• Monitoring and producing biannual performance report on the GM.

#### 6.5 Points for Lodging Grievances and Information Request

Complaints and information requests can be made via multiple communication channels. The following complaint lodging points would be provided at the overall project level, in-country, and when applicable at the project host community level.

#### AICCRA Project Level

- Via a web submission form (Annex II) accessible via the AICCRA website, when it is fully developed;
- Via email to the AICCRA project (<u>aiccra@cgiar.org</u>), or AICCRA Safeguard Specialist (Serigne Omar SENE, <u>S.Sene@cgiar.org</u>);
- Via the following phone number (Serigne Omar SENE, AICCRA Safeguard Specialist +221774410498).

#### **Country Level**

- Phone calls to (Mamoutou Koita, Phone number +221 77 870 32 22);
- **Emails to** AICCRA Country Leader (Anthony Whitbread, <u>A.Whitbread@cgiar.org</u>) Or AICCRA Senegal Country GM Focal point (Mamoutou Koita, M.Koita@cgiar.org);
- Letters and Walk-in to ILRI office to register complaint at ICRISAT/ILRI-Dakar, BP 24265, Ouakam, Dakar, Senegal.

#### **Community Level**

For project activities that will occur at the community level, two community members/farmers (One man and one woman) involved in the project activities will be designated as a focal person for receiving complaints. When designated, the contact details of such persons shall be disclosed and made available to community members. The community focal persons will be trained in how to receive and promptly lodge complaints with the Safeguard Focal Person. Community members will also be allowed to lodge complaints directly during project meetings and consultation sessions with community members.

#### **6.6 Grievance Redress Structures**

Complaints received on AICCRA Senegal cluster activities will be managed through the existing project implementation structures. In so doing, three tier bottoms up grievance redress levels will be followed. This will involve an in-country grievance committee, Project Management grievance committee, and Independent Steering Committee.

Figure 1: Grievance Redress Structure



#### **AICCRA Senegal Grievance Committee**

The AICCRA Senegal Grievance Committee will comprise of a four-member committee made up of AICCRA Senegal Country Lead, Safeguard Focal Person, Gender and Social Inclusion Expert, a representative from project implementing partners. For cases involving technicalities and/or conflict of interest with a GC member, the committee may also choose to include one or more project staff or reputable and independent third parties on the committee deliberations. The country level grievance committee (GC) is expected to handle all grievance on AICCRA Senegal activities.

The GC through the Safeguard Focal Person will notify the AICCRA E&S Safeguard Specialists on all cases relating to major incidents and accidents within 48 hours, and SEA/SH cases within 24 hours. Such cases would require the active involvement of AICCRA Safeguard Specialist in the resolution process and reporting to the World Bank. In addition, the country level GC will escalate project related grievances that remain unresolved at the Country level within the stipulated period to the Project Management GC for redress.

#### **Project Management Grievance Committee**

The Project Management GC will be hosted by AICCRA PMU and will comprise of the Project Director, AICCRA E&S Safeguard Specialists, Regional Project Leads and Project Gender and Social Inclusion Specialist. This committee shall mediate all unresolved complaints from the country level as well as complaints from activities of regional partners and other complaints that may be received directly at the PMU level through CIAT complaint lodging points. For cases involving technicalities and/or conflict of interest with a GC member, the committee may choose to include one or more project staff or reputable and independent third parties on the Panel. Where the Project Management GC determines a complaint to be highly significant, such cases shall be referred to the Independent Steering committee for advice.

#### **Independent Steering Committee**

Another high-level grievance redress panel that will assist in the resolution of complaints on AICCRA would be the Independent Steering Committee (ISC). The ISC is the key governance body for the project. It consists of seven members who are all independent of the project. It is responsible for oversight of AICCRA program of work, budget, and evaluations. The ISC takes all grievances seriously and will investigate all cases referred

to it. All grievances referred will be recorded and discussed in ISC meetings, bearing in mind requests for confidentiality. The ISC will require the AICCRA project management to prepare a proposed response to each grievance, which after discussion and approval, will be implemented. At subsequent ISC meetings, AICCRA management will report on the progress of implementation. Where ISC deems the grievance as highly significant, the Alliance CIAT Director General and Alliance-CIAT Board of Trustees will also be informed about their discussion and actions.

#### 6.7 The Grievance Redress Process

The general steps of the grievance process comprise:

- Registration/receipt of complaints;
- Acknowledging the complaints;
- Investigate and determine solution to the complaint;
- Implement the Redress Action;
- Verifying the Redress Action;
- Recourse or alternatives.

#### Registration/Receipts/Acknowledging of complaints

AICCRA Senegal will establish a register of all grievances received through the lodging points at section 6.5 to aid monitoring of complaint resolution status and reporting on GM performance. A grievance log template provided at Annex VII will be used to maintain an electronic and manual database of all grievances received. Complaints can be submitted in any language applicable to the project locations either verbally or in writing to all designated lodging points.

The complainant may ask for confidentiality in the handling of the request, in which case the project shall preserve confidentiality on aspects of the complaint where confidentiality is required. However, there could be situations where it will not be possible to resolve the complaint without revealing identity (for example, when evidence needs to be presented in court). In this case, the Project will discuss with the complainant whether and how best to proceed.

Complaints can also be raised anonymously and in such cases, complainants may be required to provide sufficient facts and data to enable the GC to investigate the matter without assistance. The GC will make every effort to evaluate anonymous complaints; however, anonymity may make it more difficult to investigate, protect the position of the complainant, offer, and implement resolution, and give feedback. All complainants who raise complaints outside the grievance lodging points to project implementing staff would be directed and advised to use the lodging points to officially register their complaint to the project.

The Safeguard Focal Persons shall officially register all complaints received using the proposed complaint registration form at Annex II, and further inform the GC at the country level within 24 hours of any complaint lodged. The grievance submission should be dated and signed by the complainant or the representative, except when the complaint was made verbally through phone calls from a distant location or required to be anonymous. At the project management level, the AICCRA Safeguard Specialist shall also inform the Project Management GC within 24 hours after lodging any unresolved complaint escalated from the Senegal cluster.

The project will acknowledge receipt of the complaint by letter within 3 workings days of receipt. Sample acknowledgement letter is provided at Annex IV. The acknowledgement letter will specify a contact person within the project and a description of what complainant can expect next including a timeline. All SEA/SH cases shall be received with the guideline provided at section 6.9.

For each submission, the complainant is expected to at least include the following:

- Detail explanation of the complaint or information requested relating to AICCRA;
- Location related to the submission;
- Whether the complainant lives in the project area;
- Whether a similar submission has been previously filed to AICCRA;
- If known, the operational procedures that have been violated by AICCRA;
- Whether the submission concerns an individual submission or on behalf of a community;
- Whether the submission is requested to be kept confidential;
- Contact details of the complainant;
- A signature of the complainant.

#### Determining and implementing the redress action

When a grievance is recorded as per the above-mentioned registration procedures, the Grievance Committee will be called into action to investigate the case and further hold mediation meetings with interested parties to resolve the issue. Minutes of meetings will be recorded.

The GC will first investigate the foundation of the grievance and then determine the redress action in consultation with the complainant and concerned parties if necessary. This is expected to be completed within 7 working days after receipt/registration of the grievance. Any redress action considered after the mediation process will also be implemented within 10 working days of receipt of complaints. The Project will implement the resolution either directly or through a third party, which will be done in consultation with the complainant. The complainant will be informed of decisions taken and notified by the committee members.

#### Verifying the redress action

The Project will review complaints regularly to ensure progress is being made towards resolution. The AICCRA Senegal GC will contact the complainant or visit the affected sit to confirm that the redress action is carried out. If the complainant is satisfied with the resolution implemented, the Safeguard Focal Person will close the case and require the complainant to sign a statement to acknowledge satisfaction using the form provided at Annex VI. However, signing the statement does not preclude the complainant from raising the issue again, or seeking other avenues for redress should the resolution not result in a permanent fix, or the issue recurs. The Project may re-open the complaint if the complainant provides new information and may also contact the complainant after closure to ensure no other problems have arisen.

Verification would be completed within 7 days of execution of the redress action. If the complainant is dissatisfied with the outcome of the redress proposal or action, additional steps may be taken to resolve the issues or the AICCRA Senegal GC may decide to escalate the complaint to Project Management GC. The committee may decide to refuse an appeal if they feel the complaint has not been presented in good faith. The decision to refuse an appeal must be reviewed and signed off by the AICCRA E&S Specialist.

Alternatively, if the complainant is not satisfied with the resolution offered, the complainant may choose to appeal the decision through the Safeguard Focal Person or seek other recourse.

#### **Recourse or Alternatives**

Two alternative or recourse actions are considered, amicable mediation and settlement or appeal to court.

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> Tier Amicable Mediation and Settlement

If the complainant is not satisfied with the decision of the AICCRA-Senegal GC, he/she can bring it to the attention of the Safeguard Focal Person. The AICCRA Senegal GC may remediate on the case or forward it to the Project Management GC for further action. In case of conflicts of interest, the AICCRA Senegal GC may decide to appoint an individual mediator or Independent Appeals Panel that is neutral and independent of the Project. The selection of the mediator or individuals comprising the Independent Appeals Panel will be conducted in consultation with the complainant and other key stakeholders to ensure trustworthiness of the process.

For cases escalated to the Project Management GC, the GC may also decide to resolve the complaint or set up an appropriate mediation team to resolve the issue in consultation with the Country Lead Person and the complainant. The Project Management GC will be required to resolve the issue within 2 weeks of the date of receipt of such a deferred case. If such a timeline is not possible, the AICCRA E&S Safeguard Specialist would inform the complainant through the in-country Safeguard Focal Person by giving reasons and possible new date. When new resolution measures are considered, the implementation and verification process outlined above shall be followed to close the case or determine the next line of action.

#### Appeal to Court

If the complainant remains dissatisfied with the mediation effort of the project grievance committee, the complainant has the option to pursue appropriate recourse via judicial process of choice. The AICCRA project will allow any aggrieved person the right of access to Court of law. Courts of law will be a "last resort" option, in view of the above mechanism.

Receipt of Grievance
Grievance received through uptake points and documented in grievance logbook

Acknowledgment
Acknowledgment letter issued to complainant including outline of how the complaint will be resolved – within 3 days

Grievance Committee convened
Investigate complaint and consider resolution options – within 7 days

Follow up and close out action
Respond to complainant, outline findings, proposed solution and implement actions – within 10 days

Complainant
Satisfied

Complainant signed statement of satisfaction, Case closed

Figure 2: AICCRA Senegal Grievance Procedure

#### **6.8 Protocol for Handling SEA/SH Cases**

The AICCRA Senegal Cluster led by ILRI will follow the following procedure in handling SEA/SH related complaints.

**Uptake of SEA/SH cases:** All grievance lodging points outlined at section 6.5 will be opened for uptake of SEA/SH complaints. When a survivor comes forward to report a case of SEA/SH, the recipient will record the survivors' account of the incident. This is expected to be conducted in a private setting and ensure that any specific vulnerabilities are taken into consideration. To maintain confidentiality and minimize stigmatization, below is the list of elements that will be recorded on complaint forms of SEA/SH survivors. Sample SEA/SH intake form is provided at Annex III.

- Age and Sex of survivor;
- Type of alleged incident (as reported);
- Location/place where the incident occurred;
- The date and time when the incident occurred:
- Whether the alleged perpetrator relates to the project, as indicated by the survivor;
- Whether the survivor was referred to a service provider;
- The need of the survivor/what that the survivor wants to be/ regarding the case.

Where the complainant is not the survivor, the Safeguard Focal person will encourage the complainant to reach out to the survivor and explain the potential benefit of coming forward alone or with the person reporting the case. All SEA/SH cases will be reported to the World Bank within 24hours through the AICCRA E&S Safeguard Specialist and recorded in the SEA/SH grievance logbook at Annex VIII.

**Referral of SEA/SH Survivors:** The Safeguard focal person will examine the case and seek the consent of the survivor to refer the case to AICCRA Senegal GC or depending on the case, refer to any of the external GBV service providers specified in table 6 below. In the case of children and people with intellectual disability, this will be done with full consent of the survivor's guardian. Depending on the case reported, the support services may include one or two of the following services.

- Health examination or treatment, collection of forensic evidence, provision of post-exposure prophylaxis/ abortion services;
- Legal/Justice Legal advice/support to survivors and witnesses to understand benefits/barriers of taking care through legal process; support to ensure that prosecution and case closure happens with few or no delays;
- Psychosocial Support Emotional support/crisis counseling; Social/community reintegration;
- Safety/Security protection of survivors and witnesses, investigation of the case, arrest of alleged perpetrator.

The list of GBV service providers identified for referred cases are presented in the table below.

Table 8: SEA/SH Service Providers

Health Care Service Providers		
Senegalese Association for Family Welfare (ASBEF) Family Health Clinic	2. Marie Stopes Senegal (MSS)	
Type of Organization: NGO	Type of Organization: NGO	
Primary Service: Health Care	Primary Service: Health Care	
Geographical coverage: Senegal	Geographical coverage: 02 centers in Dakar and	
Services provided:	Ziguinchor; mobile teams present in 12 regions in Senegal	
- Promote the emergence of civic awareness with a view to active participation in the management of SRH needs	Contact Number: 800 00 84 84 (toll-free) Working hours: 24 hours	

Promote the elimination of harmful SRH practices

- Help young people and women to better understand their sexuality and provide them with the services they need with a focus on STIs / AIDS
- Offer quality SRH services by focusing on vulnerable groups taking into account the gender dimension
- - Promote the participation of young people and women in decision-making bodies.

Other Services: Monitoring (follow ups)

#### **Psychosocial Service Providers**

#### 3. Ministry of Health and Social Action

**General Directorate of Social Action** 

Type of Organization: Government Agency

**Primary Service:** prepare and implement the national social action policy

Contact Person: Dr. Arame TOP SENE

Phone: 00 221 33 825 39 73

**Email**: dgactionsociale@sante.gouv.sn Website: http://www.sante.gouv.sn

Geographical Scope: All Regions of Senegal

#### Services provided:

- to promote the socio-health and economic integration of disadvantaged social groups;
- to ensure the promotion and protection of the rights of persons with disabilities;
- to ensure the promotion and protection of the elderly;
- to stimulate and coordinate research programs in the field of social action;
- to prepare legislative and regulatory texts relating to social action and to ensure their application;
- to ensure the follow-up and psycho-social support of the socially maladjusted.

#### **Legal/Justice Service Providers**

## 5. Committee to fight violence against women (CLVF)

Type of Organization: NGO

Primary Service: Legal/Justice

**Geographic Scope:** With eighteen human rights organizations and associations of women as well as individuals CLVF is present in 12 Regions in Senegal

Contact person: Mme Fatou DIOUF

#### 6. Senegalese Association of Jurists (AJS)

Type of Organization: network of women right

organization

Contact Person: Pastor John Segoe

Toll free: 800 805 805

Phone: 338673439/ 338673445

Geographical Scope: All Regions of Senegal

Working Hours: 24 hours

Website: <a href="mailto:clvsenegal@yahoo.fr">clvsenegal@yahoo.fr</a>

ndewdiouf@yahoo.fr

**Services provided:** Gender equality and equity The promotion of a protective environment that respects the defense of the rights of women and girls victims of violence The fight against impunity The development of a lasting partnership The social construction of a society free from violence Promoting community involvement.

#### Missions:

The Association's mission, to the exclusion of any political or religious concerns, is to:

- Promote, popularize and contribute to the protection of human rights and more particularly those of women and children;
- Provide aid, assistance, advice and training to populations
- Combat all forms of discrimination and work to establish egalitarian gender relations;
- Sensitize the public authorities and international institutions to work for the advancement of women and the strengthening of their power;
- Foster and maintain the spirit of mutual aid and partnership with any national, regional and international organization pursuing the same objective at the national, regional and international levels;
- Establish relationships and exchanges between women from all countries exercising legal careers or having exercised legal careers, holding a law degree or having an equivalent degree in the country in question;
- Gather all information on the legal, economic and social conditions of women in the world; their status and professional life; and make it widely available.

#### 7. Security: Senegal Police Services

Type of Organization: Government Agency

Primary Service: Security

Geographical Coverage: National, with offices across the country

Helpline: 17 or 18

Toll free: 800 00 20 20
Working hours: 24 hours

Other Services: Legal, and referral support system.

#### These service providers will be:

Provided with financial support, from the project, to cater for expenses in the mediation process and
essential services provided to the survivors. The GBV service providers will not be paid any basic fee
for their services. Payment will be based on case by case, where the Project will seek the World Bank

advice and approval on the maximum expense cost that can be absorbed by the project for the survivor of each case;

- Required to use their respective GBV case management procedures;
- Required to maintain confidentiality, safety, and security of survivors in accordance with best practices, in particular ensuring survivor centeredness through the processes and seeking the consent of the survivor when personal data must be shared;
- Required to inform the Safeguard Focal person when a case is resolved so it is recorded in the grievance logbook.

**Acknowledgment and Follow-up:** After registering the case, the Safeguard Focal Person will inform the AICCRA Senegal GC and the AICCRA E&S Safeguard Specialist within 24 hours of receipt and send an acknowledgment letter to the complainant or survivor within 3 workings days of receipt. A sample acknowledgement letter is provided at Annex IV.

**Fact Analysis:** After receiving the case, the Accra Senegal GC will analyze the facts of the allegation by determining whether (i) the allegation falls within the definition of SEA/SH; and (ii) the alleged perpetrator is an individual associated with the AICCRA project. If the GC confirms these two elements, it shall proceed to handle the case or otherwise discontinue the case and write to inform the survivor or complainant. Only SEA/SH complaints allegedly committed by any individual associated with the AICCRA project may be considered by the project after referring to GBV service providers.

In the event that the survivor does not wish to pursue disciplinary action against the alleged perpetrator the case may be closed after providing referral assistance. The Safeguard Focal person shall record the survivor's preference and indicate that in the acknowledgement letter as well. However, irrespective of the survivor's choice, if the alleged perpetrator is a staff of AICCRA implementing partner, the AICCRA GC will address the case according to the implementing partner's code of conduct, sanction regime, and national legislations.

**Determine recourse action:** The AICCRA Senegal GC will review all cases referred to it to determine and agree upon course of action for handling and resolving the case. The appropriate institution that employs the perpetrator takes the agreed disciplinary action in accordance with the employer's code of conduct and national legislation. Disciplinary actions may include informal warning; formal warning; additional training, loss of salary, suspension, or termination of employment. A survivor may continue to receive support from the appropriate GBV service providers while the case is being handled by the AICCRA Senegal GC.

As and when necessary, a representative of the survivor or an independent reputable third party may be invited to serve on the resolution panel. To avoid conflict of interest, the composition of the GC may also change depending on the nature and source of the allegation. The Safeguard Focal Person shall write to inform the survivor about the course of action and disciplinary action taken against the perpetrator.

Instances where the case is being handled by a service provider, the Service Provider will work with the survivor or guardian to develop a comprehensive plan that identifies what the survivor needs and how these needs may be met. The survivor may be referred to connect with a range of service providers which correspond to their needs. The Safeguard Focal Person shall continue to track, monitor, and collaborate with service providers on all such cases until they are resolved.

Closing SEA/SH cases: Closing of SEA/SH cases will occur at these instances

- If the survivor does not wish to place an official complain with employer;
- If after investigation, the GRC determines that the allegation does not fall within the definition of SEA/SH and the alleged perpetrator is not associated with the project;
- If when the case is pursued, and the GC confirms that the disciplinary action taken is appropriate and has been implemented conclusively;
- If a Service Provider follows its internal procedure to meet the needs of the survivor on the case.

In all these instances, the Safeguard Focal Person may require the survivor or its representative to sign a statement to acknowledge satisfaction using the form provided at Annex VII.

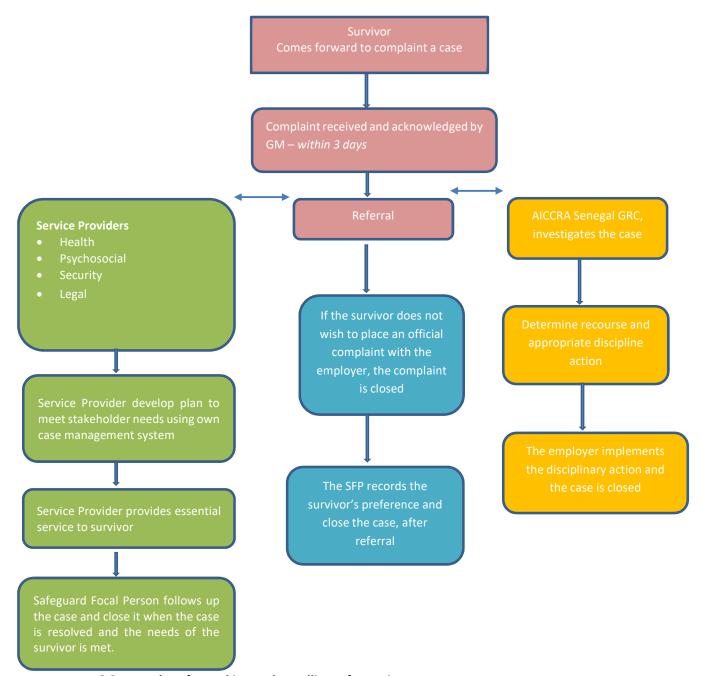


Figure 3: Case Management Procedure for SEA/SH cases

## **6.9 Procedure for Making and Handling Information Request**

This section set out the procedure AICCRA Senegal will follow to receive and handle information request from stakeholders on the AICCRA project. The basic steps are as follows:

**Filling an information access request:** All stakeholders willing to request information on AICCRA project can do so through information request points outlined at section 6.5. Requests can be made in written or verbally, and in any language applicable to the project locations. The Safeguard Focal Person will open a file to keep

records of all information requested. Stakeholders who request information directly from staff of project implementing agencies should be advised and assisted to officially make their request through the information request points at section 6.5.

**Acknowledgement of receipt:** Upon receipt, an acknowledge letter will be sent to the requester, whilst the request is being referred to the appropriate project lead. All information requests shall be referred to the Country Lead.

**Determination of response:** The Country Leads or the Project Director will review the request to determine it applicability to the project, the appropriate response needed, and the right person to be consulted whilst considering the appropriate response to the request made. Where applicable, such requests may be escalated from country level to PMU level for advice and determination of response.

**Preparation and release of information requested:** After the Project Director or the Country Lead reviews the request and determines the appropriate response, the Safeguard Focal Person will prepare and transmit the approved response to the requester. The transmission will be done in a language and in a manner (verbally, written, in-person, email, phone etc.) suitable to the context of the requester. Irrespective of the medium of transmission, a written record shall be kept on all information released. Where applicable, the response may indicate why the information requested or aspects of it cannot be provided or released.

**Deadlines and extension:** After receipt of information request, the Safeguard Focal Person will relay the information to the appropriate project lead within a maximum of 24 hours. The Country Lead or the Project Director will be required to decide whether to disclose information within 30 consecutive days. The 30-day period begins to run on the date the Country Lead or the Director receives the written information request. The Director or the Country Lead may in appropriate circumstances extend the 30-day deadline and shall notify the requester in writing of such extension through the Safeguard Focal Person and by stating the reasons for extension and the new deadline.

#### Other considerations

- Information requests will be free, and no fees will be charged with the processing of information to be provided to the requester.
- The Country Lead may deny access to requests which in the Leads view may constitute frivolous
  or vexatious. In such cases, the requester shall be given a written notification on the reason for
  which the information requested is considered frivolous or vexatious.
- The Project Director or the Country Lead may ask for clarification on the identity of the third party requesting for information if not clear.
- If the scope of information requested is not sufficiently clear or is so broad in scope that it makes
  it difficult to generate, the Project Director or the Country Lead may write to the requester
  seeking clarification before taking further steps. The requester shall have 30 consecutive days
  from the date of such letter to clarify the request made. If there is no response, the request will
  be considered abandoned, and the case closed.

### 6.10 Disclosure and Sensitization on the GM

The Senegal Safeguard Focal Person will proactively work with in-country project partners to introduce and create the awareness of project stakeholders about the GM. The information that will be shared will include the procedure to make a complain (where, when, and how), the investigation process, the time framework for responding to complaints, the principle of confidentiality, right to make anonymous complaints and the right to seek further redress at the Court. The awareness creation will also focus on protocol for reporting and managing SEA/SH cases. An electronic brochure with the above salient information will be designed to aid the dissemination effort.

Given the diversity of the project locations, the project will use varieties of medium to convey messages to project communities. This may include social media, newspapers, radio announcement, face to face meetings, and through community information centres.

Prior to the initiation of the grievance redress process, all key project staff that will be involved in grievance management will be trained in all aspects of this GM. New staff will receive training during the on-boarding process. The training will include all aspects of the GM set out in this document. The orientation will strongly emphasis on the principle of accountability to the complainant and the shift from informal complaint resolution to formal resolution and documentation.

## **6.11** Reporting on the GM Performance

The Safeguard Focal Persons shall be responsible for reporting on project-related grievance and complaints to the grievance committee. Biannual grievance report will be generated and shared with the PMU. At the minimum, the report will include the following indicators:

- i. Number of open cases at the beginning of the reporting period;
- ii. Number of new cases during the period;
- iii. Number of resolved cases by the end of the reporting period;
- iv. Open cases by the end of the reporting period;
- v. Grievances by category/causes of complaints;
- vi. Average response time from the lodging of complaint to the agreement on solutions with complainant;
- vii. Average response time from the lodging of complaint to the implementation of the agreed solution
- viii. % Of true and false claims;
- ix. Number of grievances resolved;
- x. Number of grievances referred to formal court system.

#### 7.0 MONITORING AND REPORTING

#### 7.1 Involvement of Stakeholders

ILRI will facilitate the involvement of Stakeholders on AICCRA Senegal Cluster in the monitoring of project activities and impacts associated with the project. Stakeholder in Senegal will have the opportunity to monitor project performance and provide feedback through three project performance indicators on stakeholder feedback. They are:

- IPI 1.3: Satisfaction with the quality and usefulness of climate—relevant knowledge products, decision-making tools and services received under AICCRA expressed by surveyed partners and stakeholders (Percentage);
- IPI 2.4: Satisfaction with the effectiveness of the partnerships under AICCRA expressed by surveyed partners and stakeholders (Percentage);
- IPI 3.3: Use or adaptation of AICCRA-funded climate-relevant knowledge products, decision-making tools and services stated and confirmed by surveyed partners and stakeholders (Percentage).

In addition, ILRI will conduct biannual feedback survey for local farmers including vulnerable groups on demonstration farms to be set up to pilot CSA innovations. Such surveys will be conducted in local languages and in a manner that allows the farmers to share their learning progress on the CSA innovations being piloted.

### 7.2 Reporting back to Stakeholders

Information on public engagement activities undertaken by the project during a project year will be conveyed to the stakeholders during biannual progress updates sessions with stakeholders. These reports will rely on the same sources of communication that were used earlier to notify stakeholders. Stakeholders will also always be reminded of the availability of the grievance mechanism. Any necessary changes made in this SEP in course of implementation will be communicated to stakeholders. Biannual summaries and internal reports on public grievances, and enquiries together with the status of implementation will be collated and reported to AICCRA Program Management Unit and included in regular reporting summaries.

#### ANNEX

#### Annex I: COVID-19 Response Protocols for In-person Consultations

Consistent with the requirements of Senegal's COVID-19 protocol for public events, ILRI has considered the following precautionary protocols to mitigate the risk of COVID-19 transmission during face-to-face consultations for the Senegal AICCRA Cluster.

- Ensure that good measures are put in place during event planning stage to deal with COVID-19 transmissions at in-person meetings.
- Establish direct communication links with local and national public health authorities and maintained throughout the planning period to share information on risk assessment and plans. This would include the Prefect and Governor of the region concerned.
- Participants would be kept to a minimum where possible, and use distancing measures to reduce close contact between people during the gathering.
- Contact details including phone numbers will be kept for all participants.
- Microphones would be sanitized immediately after each use.
- Thermometer guns or thermal scanners would be provided for checking the temperature of participants at entry points of all venues, as necessary.
- All participants including those vaccinated would be required to wear face mask.
- Mandatory wearing of face masks would be enforced throughout the meeting.
- Free face masks would be made available at the entrance for participants that come without face masks.
- Hand washing facilities with running water and soap and/or Food and Drug Authority approved alcohol-based hand sanitizer would be provided at the entrance to the meeting venue.
- Participants would be required to wash their hands with soap under running water or rub with alcohol-based hand sanitizer before entry.
- Adequate waste management facilities would be provided (bins, cans, bin-liners, and single use tissues).
- Adequate and separate male and female toilet facilities would be provided for participants use.
- Ensure regular cleaning and disinfection of frequently used communal places (like bathroom and toilet surfaces) and frequently touched surfaces such as doorknobs/handles, preferably every 1-2 hours depending on rate of utilization.
- People who feel sick (that is, have a fever and cough) would be encouraged to stay at home and avoid participating in meeting until their symptoms subside. This applies to both participants and staff.
- After the meeting, if public health officials suspect there has been transmission of the COVID-19 virus, ILRI will support the authorities' response.
- ILRI will consider establishing isolation zones at clinics or on-site medical treatment facilities, where such people can be assessed and triage first.
- The isolation area would be equipped with the necessary supplies to facilitate hygiene hands and respiratory etiquette.

## Actions to be undertaken when dealing with a sick person:

- 1. People who fall ill during the event would be isolated.
- 2. Inform the person that they will be separated / isolated due to symptoms.
- 3. Isolate the symptomatic person in a dedicated and ventilated room by immediately applying barrier gestures, keep a reasonable distance from them (at least one meter) while wearing a surgical mask.
- 4. People who are sick may be fitted with a mask to help contain respiratory droplets generated by coughing and sneezing.
- 5. Minimize contact between sick person and all other persons and direct to pre-designate holding
- 6. In addition, medical personnel caring for sick people should wear a mask, remove it immediately after coming into contact with a sick person, and wash their hands thoroughly afterwards.
- 7. Organizers must call 800 00 50 50 toll free or SAMU at 15 15 or link up with local district health authorities for immediate evacuation or medical help.
- 8. Contact the COVID 19 alert cell at 78 172 10 81, 76 765 97 31, 70 717 14 92.
- 9. If the COVID-19 case is confirmed, the identification and handling of contacts will be organized by the actors.

## Annex II: Sample Complaint Form for Non-SEA/SH

# **AICCRA GRIEVANCE/COMPLAINT FORM Section 1: Complaint** 1. What harm do you believe AICCRA caused or is likely to cause to you or your community? Please describe in as much detail as possible. 2. What location is concerned with your submission? (Please include country/county name) 3. Do you live in the project area? 4. Have you previously reported your concerns to AICCRA management? If yes, please provide the details about those communications and explain why you are not satisfied with the action in response. 5. If known, please list the operational procedures you believe have been violated by AICCRA. 6. Do you expect any form of retaliation or threats for filing this complaint to the AICCRA? Section 2: contact information

7. Are you filing an individual submission or representing a community?  Individual: □ Representing a community: □
8. Would you like your name and contact details to be kept confidential? (AICCRA will not disclose your identities to anyone without your prior consent.) Yes   No
9. Submitter's Name & contact information:
Name:
Address:
Email:
Phone:
Preferred Method of Contact:
10. I, the undersigned, request the AICCRA Independent Steering Committee to investigate the issue described above.
11. Signature/Thumbprint
Name: Date
NOTES:
Please attach supporting documents, if available.
Section 3: Office Use Only
Grievance ID Number
Recorded by: Date
Place/Method grievance was received

# **Annex III SEA/SH Cases Intake Form**

1- Administrative Information								
Case ID No:	Survivor Code:							
Date of Interview: Date of Incident								
Reported by the survivor or by surviv	vor's escort and survivor is pr	esent at reporting						
Reported by someone other than the	e survivor and survivor is not	present at reporting						
2- Survivor's Details								
Date of Birth (approximate if necessary	Sex Female	Location						
	<b>□</b> Male							
Current civil/marital status								
Single	☐ Divorced/Separated							
☐ Married/Cohabitating	Widowed							
Is the survivor a Person with Disability?								
□ No □ Widowed	☐ Mental Dis	ahilitu						
- No Widowed	iviental bis	ability						
Is the survivor a Child?								
□ Yes □ No								
3 –Details of the Incident								
Account of the incident/description of own words)	the incident (Summarize the	details of the incident in client's						
,								

Type of Incident
Defilement: sexual intercourse with children (as defined by the country laws), whether with or without consent.
Rape: Sexual penetration against a person without their consent.
Physical Assault (includes hitting, slapping, kicking, shoving, etc. that are not sexual in nature)
Denial of Resources, Opportunities or Services
Psychological/Emotional Abuse
Non-GBV (specify)
Were project benefits, goods, money and/or services exchanged in relation to this incident?  Yes  No
Has the Survivor reported this incident anywhere else? (If yes, select the type of service provider and write the name of the provider where the client reported; select all that apply
□ NO
Health/Medical Services
Psychosocial/Counselling Services
Police/Other Security Actor
Legal Assistance Service
Other (specify)

# Annex IV: Sample Complaint Acknowledgement Letter (Non-SEA/SH)

[Your contact information here]
[Date] [Complainant's name or the name of the organization submitting the complaint if the complainant wishes to remain anonymous]
[Complainant's address or "No physical address"]
Submitted [in person or by mail/e-mail/telephone]
Dear Mr./Mrs./Ms. [family name of complainant]:
Re: Complaint regarding [describe briefly]
The AICCRA Project acknowledges that we received your complaint dated [date]. The Project takes stakeholders' concerns seriously, and we thank you for submitting your complaint. We will make every effort to ensure that your complaint is considered quickly and fairly.
The Project has a grievance mechanism process that we follow to consider and resolve complaints. Attached is a description of the process, so you can learn more about it. In accordance with our grievance mechanism procedures, we will determine whether your complaint is eligible for our grievance resolution process and consider the next steps, as relevant. We will contact you during this period should we need more information.
You can expect to hear from us within [xx] business days from the date of this letter.
Please refer to the attached grievance mechanism procedures for more information on what you can expect as we address your complaint, including timeframes, responsibilities, and your rights throughout the process.
Sincerely,
[Name of Safeguard Focal Person] [Research Institution]
Enclosure: (The relevant procedures for submitting grievances)

# Annex V: Complaint Acknowledgement Letter for SEA/SH

[Your contact information here]
[Date]
Submitted [in person or by mail/e-mail/telephone]
Re: Complaint regarding [describe briefly]
The AICCRA Project acknowledges that we received your complaint dated [date]. The Project takes stakeholders' concerns seriously, and we thank you for submitting your complaint. We will make every effort to ensure that your complaint is considered quickly and fairly.
The information provided to us will be handled confidentially, it will only be revealed to immediate staff involved in the handling of your case. Care will be taken to ensure that unauthorized individuals do not overhear any discussion of your case, and access documents containing confidential information on your case.
Regarding the referrals made, you have every right to refuse or access the support or services recommended. Refusal to access them will not in any way affect your right to request or access that services at some time in the future. We also acknowledge your consent to (pursue/ not pursue) disciplinary action against the alleged perpetrator. This will be taken into consideration as we review and purse the case further.
The Project has a grievance mechanism process that we follow to consider and resolve complaints. Attached is a description of the process, so you can learn more about it. In accordance with our grievance mechanism procedures, we will determine whether your complaint is eligible for our grievance resolution process and consider the next steps, as relevant. We will contact you during this period should we need more information. Please refer to the attached grievance mechanism procedures for more information on what you can expect as we address your complaint, including timeframes, responsibilities, and your rights throughout the process.
You can expect to hear from us within [xx] business days from the date of this letter.
Sincerely,
[Name of Safeguard Focal Person] [Research Institution]

# **Annex VI: Complainant Satisfaction Form**

Grievance ID Number:	Date Received:						
Recorded by:	Place/Method Grievance was Received						
Proposed Action (s)							
The claimant has ACCEPTED/SATISFIED the proposed ac	ction? YES/NO						
Further Action Required? YES/NO							
Complainant Acknowledgement							
I, the undersigned, hereby confirm my satisfaction/acceptance of resolution actions implemented to address my complaint.							
Signature/Thumbprint							
Name:	Date						

# Annex VII: Grievance Log (for non-SEA/SH complaints)

Case no.	Date Claim Received	Name of Person Receiving Complaint	Where/how the complaint was received	Name & contact details of complainant (if known)	Add content of the claim (include all grievances, suggestions, inquiries)	Was Receipt of Complaint Acknowledge d to the Complainant ?  (Y/N - if yes, include date, method of communicati on & by	Expected Decision Date	Decision Outcome (include names of participants and date of decision)	Was Decision communicat ed to complainant? Y/N  If yes, state when, by whom and via what method of communicati	Was the complainant satisfied with the decision? Y/N  State the decision.  If no, explain why and if	Any follow up action (and by whom, by what date)?

# Annex VIII: Grievance log for SEA/SH cases

Case N°.	Date Claim Received	Name of Person Receiving Complaint	Where/ho w the complaint was received	Ref number of the complaina nt	Type of Incident	Was Receipt of Complaint Acknowledge d to the Complainant? (Y/N - if yes, include date, method of communicati on & by whom)	Referr al(s) provid ed	Did the survival give consent to share their non-identifiable information?	Expected Decision Date	Decision Outcome (by GBV services providers and relevant services)	Was Decision communic ated to complaina nt? Y/N If yes, state when, by whom and via what method of communic	Was the complaina nt satisfied with the decision? Y/N  State the decision. If no, explain why and if	Any follow up action (and by whom, by what date)?
					51								