



## **Report of Stakeholder and Community Consultation on the Framework for Responsible and Inclusive Land-Intensive Agricultural Investments (FRILIA)**

**Venue:** Banquet Hall, Lagos House, Ikeja, Lagos State

**Date:** 7th - 9th December, 2023

**Time:** 8:00 am prompt

### **1. Attendance**

The meeting was well attended by over **30 participants** representing Government Ministries, Departments, Agencies (MDAs), local government councils, civil society, private sector actors, community leaders, and Project Affected Persons (PAPs).

#### **Key institutions represented:**

- **Government Agencies:**
  - Lagos State Ministry of Agriculture & Food Systems
  - Lagos State Land Bureau
  - Ministry of Environment & Water Resources
  - Ministry of Commerce, Cooperatives, Trade & Investment
  - Ministry of Women Affairs & Poverty Alleviation
  - Ministry of Budget & Planning
  - Ministry of Finance
  - Ministry of Works & Infrastructure
  - Ministry of Transport
  - Lagos State Environmental Protection Agency (LASEPA)
- **Local Authorities:** Representatives from selected Local Government Councils
- **Community and Farmers' Associations:**
  - Women Farmers Association
  - Youth Farmers Cooperative Society
  - Agro-Processors and Marketers Union
  - Community Development Associations
- **Civil Society and NGOs:**
  - Social Safeguards Advocacy Group

- Lagos Agricultural Watch
- NGOs focusing on gender equality and land rights
- **Development Partners & Technical Experts:**
  - SPCU representatives
  - Safeguard consultants and legal experts

*(The full attendance list with signatures and photos is attached in **Appendix 5 of FRILIA.**)*

## **2. Objectives of the Meeting**

- To present the draft FRILIA Toolkit to stakeholders.
- To deliberate on land acquisition, resettlement, compensation, and livelihood restoration measures.
- To validate the proposed Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM).
- To gather feedback for strengthening stakeholder engagement, disclosure, and inclusivity, in compliance with SABER DLI 1.2.

## **3. Agenda**

1. Opening remarks by the Honourable Commissioner for Agriculture.
2. Presentation on FRILIA objectives, principles, and scope by the Safeguards Specialist.
3. Technical session on Resettlement Policy Framework and compensation mechanisms.
4. Group discussions with PAPs, community leaders, and NGOs.
5. Presentation of feedback and recommendations.
6. Agreement on next steps.

## **4. Key Discussions**

### **4.1 Presentation of FRILIA**

- The FRILIA framework was introduced as a toolkit to guide responsible land-based agricultural investments in Lagos State, in alignment with global standards (RAI, VGGT, ESS5).

- Emphasis was placed on avoiding involuntary resettlement, and where unavoidable, ensuring fair compensation, livelihood restoration, and stakeholder participation.

#### 4.2 Concerns Raised by Communities

- **Land tenure security:** Communities requested clarity on compensation for customary landholders and informal occupants.
- **Livelihood disruptions:** Women and youth groups highlighted risks of job loss, market access disruption, and food insecurity if land is acquired without alternatives.
- **Transparency:** CSOs stressed the need for disclosure in local languages and simple formats to ensure PAPs fully understand their rights.

#### 4.3 Grievance Redress Mechanism

- The proposed GRM was presented, with provisions for Community Level, LGA Level, and State Level Committees.
- PAPs requested inclusion of community representatives and women leaders in GRC membership.
- Stakeholders emphasized the importance of time-bound complaint handling (within 21 days at community level).

#### 4.4 Gender and Vulnerable Groups

- Women's associations called for equal representation in consultation and decision-making.
- Safeguards consultant confirmed that FRILIA requires special assistance for vulnerable PAPs (women-headed households, elderly, PWDs, poorest of the poor), including livelihood support, training, and relocation assistance.

#### 4.5 Community Needs & Development

- Local leaders recommended that FRILIA projects integrate **community infrastructure (schools, boreholes, markets, health centres)** to offset resettlement impacts.
- Farmers suggested the promotion of **out-grower schemes and food security toolkits** to strengthen market linkages.

### 5. Agreements / Resolutions

- Adoption of FRILIA principles by stakeholders as guiding framework for agricultural investments in Lagos State.

- Consensus that Resettlement Action Plans (RAPs/ARAPs) must be prepared and disclosed before any project involving land acquisition.
- Agreement to institutionalize GRM at state and community levels with proper representation of PAPs, women, and youth.
- Commitment to continuous consultation throughout implementation, not just during preparation.
- Development partners expressed willingness to provide technical support for monitoring, evaluation, and safeguard implementation.

## **6. Next Steps**

1. Incorporate stakeholder feedback into the final FRILIA Toolkit.
2. Public disclosure of FRILIA in accessible formats (English, Yoruba, Pidgin).
3. Formation of multi-level Grievance Redress Committees.
4. Training of MDAs, local councils, and community representatives on safeguard compliance and RAP preparation.
5. Submission of consultation report (with attendance list and photos – Appendix 5) as evidence for SABER DLI 1.2 compliance.

## **7. Closing Remarks**

The Honourable Commissioner for Agriculture commended stakeholders for their active participation and reaffirmed the government's commitment to inclusive, transparent, and sustainable agricultural investment practices.

**Meeting Closed:** 5:30 pm

### **Reviewed by:**

Olawale Ojikutu,

Director - Acquisition, Revocation and Compensation (ARC)

### **Endorsed by:**

Onimole Mobolaji,

Director - Development Partnership