

## **Initial Project Summary**

Project Location: Marsabit District, northern Kenya

Name of Applicant: Lake Turkana Wind Power Consortium (LTWP)

Name of Project: Lake Turkana Wind Farm

Project Description: The proposed Project involves the construction and operation of a 310 MW wind farm, ancillary facilities including a 33/200kV substation and internal road network, and the rehabilitation of 200 km of existing rural road in northern Kenya. The Project which is located near Loiyangalani in the Marsabit District, approximately 8 km east of Lake Turkana, will involve the installation of 365 wind turbines each with a capacity of .850 MW and hub height of 44 m. A concession area of 150,000 acres has been leased from the Government of Kenya for the Project although the actual wind farm comprises only a portion of that land (40,000 acres or about 162km<sup>2</sup>). The Project requires the resettlement of approximately 150 persons along the proposed road and the relocation of Sirima Village (approximately 580 people) who live on the wind farm site

Power will be transmitted via a proposed 400kV transmission line running from the wind farm site to a new switchyard at Suswa, a distance of approximately 428km. The transmission line is being developed separately by the Kenyan transmission company, KETRACO and is considered an associated facility. Therefore, while it is not funded as part of the project, its construction is necessary for the viability of the wind farm. The transmission also enable future development of geothermal resources along its path.

Environmental and Social Categorization and Rationale: The Project has been reviewed against OPIC's categorical prohibitions and determined to be categorically eligible. The Project is screened as Category A because the Project represents a large-scale greenfield wind and road rehabilitation project in a migratory flyway which could have significant adverse environmental and social impacts that are diverse and irreversible. The major environmental and social concerns related to the Project include its potential impacts on resident and migrating birds and bats, potential for significant habitat alteration, visual and noise impacts, and issues related to the relocation of structures and families due to road and wind farm construction.

Environmental and Social Standards: International Finance Corporation's (IFC) Performance Standards (January 2012) 1 (Assessment and Management of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts), 2 (Labor and Working Conditions), 3 (Resource Efficiency and Pollution Prevention), 4 (Community Health, Safety and Security), 5 (Land Acquisition and Involuntary Resettlement), 6 (Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Resource Management), and Performance Standard 8 (Cultural Heritage) are applicable to the Project. Performance Standard 7 is not triggered by the Project at this time; however, an Indigenous Peoples Policy Framework has been developed in the event Indigenous Peoples are affected by the Project. Applicable provisions of the IFC General Environmental, Health and Safety (EH&S) Guidelines and the EH&S Guidelines for Wind Energy also apply to the Project.

Location of Local Access to Project Information: Public disclosure of the wind farm ESIA took place in Loiyangalani for a three week period beginning March 31, 2008. Disclosure of the documents has been followed up by continued stakeholder engagement meetings with project affected people and which are

still ongoing. Additionally, high level overviews of the Project have been provided to the affected communities for the wind farm, road and transmission line. These were translated into English and the local dialects of Turkana and Samburu and were posted at chiefs' offices in the affected communities and are available from the offices of LTWP in Nairobi.