

Kingdom of Eswatini/Ministry of Health

Eswatini COVID-19 Emergency Response Project (P173883)

ENVIRONMENTAL and SOCIAL COMMITMENT PLAN (ESCP)

April 9, 2020

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL COMMITMENT PLAN

1. The Kingdom of Eswatini (the **Recipient**) will implement the Eswatini COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Project (the **Project**), with the involvement of the Ministry of Health (MoH). The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) has agreed to provide financing for the Project.
2. The Recipient will implement material measures and actions so that the Project is implemented in accordance with the Environmental and Social Standards (**ESSs**). This Environmental and Social Commitment Plan (**ESCP**) sets out material measures and actions, any specific documents or plans, as well as the timing for each of these.
3. The Recipient is responsible for compliance with all requirements of the ESCP even when implementation of specific measures and actions is conducted by the Ministry referenced in 1. above.
4. Implementation of the material measures and actions set out in this ESCP will be monitored and reported to the Association by the Recipient as required by the ESCP and the conditions of the legal agreement, and the Association will monitor and assess progress and completion of the material measures and actions throughout implementation of the Project.
5. As agreed by the Association and the Recipient, this ESCP may be revised from time to time during Project implementation, to reflect adaptive management of Project changes and unforeseen circumstances or in response to assessment of Project performance conducted under the ESCP itself. In such circumstances, the Recipient will agree to the changes with the Association and will update the ESCP to reflect such changes. Agreement on changes to the ESCP will be documented through the exchange of letters signed between the Association and the Recipient. The Recipient will promptly disclose the updated ESCP.
6. Where Project changes, unforeseen circumstances, or Project performance result in changes to the risks and impacts during Project implementation, the Recipient shall provide additional funds, if needed, to implement actions and measures to address such risks and impacts.

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
MONITORING AND REPORTING			
	REGULAR REPORTING: Prepare and submit to The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) regular monitoring reports on the environmental, social, health and safety (ESHS) performance of the Project, including, but not limited to, stakeholder engagement activities and grievances log.	Quarterly throughout the Project implementation period.	Ministry of Health, GOE
ESS 1: ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RISKS AND IMPACTS			
1.1	ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE: The Ministry of Health shall establish and maintain a Core Implementation Team (CIT) with qualified staff and resources to support management of environmental and social risks and impacts of the Project. The CIT shall hire an Environmental Risk Management Specialist and a Social Risk Management Specialist (E&S Specialists). The CIT for the Eswatini COVID-19 Emergency Response Project (P173883) and the PIU for the proposed health sector project under preparation, Health System Strengthening for Human Capital Development in Eswatini (P168564), shall share services provided by the two E&S specialists.	An Environmental Risk Management Specialist and a Social Risk Management Specialist shall be hired or appointed within one month after the Effective Date. CIT maintained throughout Project implementation.	Ministry of Health, GOE

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS	TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
<p>1.2 ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL ASSESSMENT/MANAGEMENT PLANS AND INSTRUMENTS/ CONTRACTORS</p> <p>a. Assess the environmental and social risks and impacts of proposed Project activities, in accordance with the Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) which includes an Infection Control and Waste Management Plan (ICWMP), to be prepared, disclosed and adopted for the Project, to ensure that individuals or groups who, because of their particular circumstances, may be disadvantaged or vulnerable, have access to the development benefits resulting from the Project.</p> <p>b. Prepare, disclose, adopt, and implement any environmental and social management plans or other instruments required for the respective Project activities based on the assessment process, in accordance with the ESSs, the ESMF, the EHSs, and other relevant Good International Industry Practice (GIIP) including relevant WHO Guidelines on COVID-19 response, in a manner acceptable to the Association.</p> <p>c. Incorporate the relevant aspects of this ESCP, including, inter alia, any environmental and social management plans or other instruments, and any other required ESHS measures, into the ESHS specifications of the procurement documents and contracts with contractors and supervising firms. Thereafter ensure that the contractors and supervising firms comply with the ESHS specifications of their respective contracts.</p>	<p>a. ESMF to be prepared within two months after the Effective Date. Site-specific assessments to be conducted before the carrying out of the relevant Project activities.</p> <p>b. Plans or instruments prepared before completion of the procurement process for the relevant activities, and thereafter implemented throughout the carrying out of such activities.</p> <p>c. Before completion of the procurement process for the relevant activities and thereafter ensure that contractors and supervising firms comply with the ESHS specifications in their contracts through their involvement in the respective Project activities.</p>	<p>Ministry of Health, GOE</p>

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
1.3	<p>EXCLUSIONS: Exclude the following types of activities as ineligible for financing under the Project:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Activities that may cause long term, permanent and/or irreversible (e.g., loss of major natural habitat) adverse impacts • Activities that have high probability of causing serious adverse effects to human health and/or the environment not related to treatment of COVID19 cases • Activities that may have significant adverse social impacts and may give rise to significant social conflict • Activities that may affect lands or rights of vulnerable minorities, • Activities that may involve permanent resettlement or land acquisition or adverse impacts on cultural heritage • All the other excluded activities set out in the ESMF of the Project. 	These exclusions shall be applied as part of the screening process conducted under action 1.2.a. above.	Ministry of Health, GOE
ESS 2: LABOR AND WORKING CONDITIONS			
2.1	<p>LABOR MANAGEMENT: The Project shall be carried out in accordance with the applicable requirements of ESS2, in a manner acceptable to the Association, including through, inter alia, development of a Labor Management Procedures (LMP) to be included as an Annex to the ESMF; implementing adequate occupational health and safety measures (including emergency preparedness and response measures), setting out grievance redress arrangements for Project workers and incorporating labor requirements into the ESHS specifications of the procurement documents and contracts with contractors and supervising firms.</p>	Throughout Project implementation.	Ministry of Health, GOE
ESS 3: RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT			
3.1	<p>Relevant aspects of this standard shall be considered, as needed, under action 1.2 above, including, inter alia, measures to: manage health care wastes, and other types of hazardous and non-hazardous wastes. Develop, as an Annex to the ESMF, and implement an Infection Control and Waste Management Plan (ICWMP) for health facilities. The ICWMP will follow WHO guidance documents on COVID-19 and other GIIP (Good Industry International Practices).</p>		
ESS 4: COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY			
4.1	<p>Relevant aspects of this standard shall be considered, as needed, under action 1.2 above including, inter alia, measures to: minimize the potential for community exposure to communicable diseases; ensure that individuals or groups who, because of their particular circumstances, may be disadvantaged or vulnerable have access to the development benefits resulting from the Project; assess and manage the risks of the use of security personnel; manage the risks of labor influx; and prevent and respond to sexual exploitation and abuse, and sexual harassment.</p>		

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
4.2	SAFETY OF SERVICES: The Project shall establish and implement appropriate quality management systems (QMS) for any bulk water supply consistent with ESS4 safety of services requirements.	Include QMS requirements in procurement specifications for bulk water supply contracts. Ensure QMS is implemented throughout Project implementation.	Ministry of Health, GOE
ESS 5: LAND ACQUISITION, RESTRICTIONS ON LAND USE AND INVOLUNTARY RESETTLEMENT			
5.1	Not relevant. In the event that any proposed Project activities involve land acquisition, restrictions on land use or involuntary resettlement, relevant aspects of this standard shall be considered under action 1.2 above.		
ESS 6: BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF LIVING NATURAL RESOURCES			
6.1	Not relevant. In the event that any propose Project activities involve impacts to biodiversity or living natural resources, relevant aspects of this standard shall be considered, as needed, under action 1.2 above.		
ESS 7: INDIGENOUS PEOPLES/SUB-SAHARAN AFRICAN HISTORICALLY UNDERSERVED TRADITIONAL LOCAL COMMUNITIES			
7.1	Not relevant.		
ESS 8: CULTURAL HERITAGE			
8.1	Relevant aspects of this standard shall be considered, as needed, under action 1.2 above.		
ESS 9: FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES			
9.1	Not relevant.		
ESS 10: STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION DISCLOSURE			
10.1	STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN: Update, disclose, adopt, and implement a Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) consistent with ESS10, in a manner acceptable to the Association.	An SEP was already prepared and disclosed and shall be updated within two month after the Effective Date. The SEP shall be implemented throughout the Project implementation period.	Ministry of Health, GOE
10.2	GRIEVANCE MECHANISM: Accessible grievance redress arrangements shall be made publicly available to receive and facilitate resolution of concerns and grievances in relation to the Project, consistent with ESS10, in a manner acceptable to the Association.	Throughout Project implementation.	Ministry of Health, GOE

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS	TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
CAPACITY SUPPORT (TRAINING)		
<p>Training topics for personnel involved in Project implementation will among others include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COVID-19 Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations • Laboratory biosafety guidance related to the COVID-19 • Specimen collection and shipment • Standard precautions for COVID-19 patients • Risk communication and community engagement • WHO and Africa CDC guidelines on quarantine including case management • Infection control and healthcare waste management 	Throughout Project implementation.	Ministry of Health, GOE