

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

**MINISTRY OF PUBLIC HEALTH, HYGIENE
AND PREVENTION**

**Democratic Republic of Congo Health Emergency
Preparedness, Response and Resilience Project Using the
Multiphase Programmatic Approach (P504532)**

Draft

**ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL
COMMITMENT PLAN (ESCP)**

March 2024

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL COMMITMENT PLAN

1. The Democratic Republic of Congo (**the Recipient**) will implement the Democratic Republic of Congo Health Emergency Preparedness, Response and Resilience Project using the Multi-phase Programmatic Approach (**the Project**), with the involvement of the Ministry of Public Health, Hygiene and Prevention through the Project Coordination Team (PCT), as set out in the Financing Agreement. The International Development Association (**IDA**) (**the Association**) has agreed to provide financing (P504532) for the Project as set out in the referenced Agreement.
2. The Recipient shall ensure that the Project is carried out in accordance with the Environmental and Social Standards (ESSs) and this Environmental and Social Commitment Plan (ESCP), in a manner acceptable to the Association. The ESCP is a part of the Financing Agreement. Unless otherwise defined in this ESCP, capitalized terms used in this ESCP have the meanings ascribed to them in the referred agreement.
3. Without limitation to the foregoing, this ESCP sets out material measures and actions that the Recipient shall carry out or cause to be carried out, including, as applicable, the timeframes of the actions and measures, institutional arrangement, staffing, training, monitoring, and reporting arrangements, and grievance management. The ESCP also sets out the environmental and social (E&S) instruments that shall be adopted and implemented under the Project, all of which shall be subject to prior consultation and disclosure, consistent with the ESS, and in form and substance, and in a manner acceptable to the Association. Once adopted, said E&S instruments may be revised at any time with prior written agreement by the Association.
4. As agreed by the Association and the Recipient, this ESCP may be revised from time to time, if necessary, during Project implementation, to reflect adaptive management of Project changes and unforeseen circumstances or in response to Project performance. In such circumstances, the Recipient through the PCT and the Association agree to update the ESCP to reflect these changes through an exchange of letters signed between the Association and the PCT Coordinator. The Recipient shall promptly disclose the updated ESCP.

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL COMMITMENT PLAN (ESCP)

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
MONITORING AND REPORTING			
A	<p>REGULAR REPORTING</p> <p>Prepare and submit to the Association regular monitoring reports on the environmental, social, health and safety (ESHS) performance of the Project, including, but not limited to, the implementation of the ESCP, the preparation and implementation status of the E&S instruments required under the ESCP, including site-specific ESMPs, stakeholder engagement activities, safety aspects and the operation of the grievance mechanisms, including the provisions for SEA/SH grievances.</p>	<p>Submit quarterly reports to the Association throughout Project implementation, commencing three (3) months after the Effective Date. Submit each report to the Association no later than 15 days after the end of the quarter.</p>	<p><i>Ministry of Public Health, Hygiene and Prevention/PCT</i></p>
B	<p>INCIDENTS AND ACCIDENTS</p> <p>Promptly notify the Association of any incident or accident related to the Project which has, or is likely to have, a significant adverse effect on the environment, the affected communities, the public or workers, including, inter alia, cases of sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA), sexual harassment (SH), and accidents that result in death, serious or multiple injury.</p> <p>Provide sufficient information regarding the nature, severity and possible causes of the incident or accident, indicating the immediate measures taken or planned to address it, and any information provided by any contractor and/or supervising firm, as appropriate,</p> <p>Subsequently, at the Association's request, prepare a report on the incident or accident and propose any measures to address it and prevent its recurrence.</p>	<p>Notify the Association no later than 24 hours after learning of the incident (SEA/SH incidents or incidents resulting in death) and no later than 48 hours for any other incident or accident after becoming aware of it.</p> <p>Provide subsequent report to the Association within 7 days after learning of the incident or accident.</p>	<p><i>Ministry of Public Health, Hygiene and Prevention/PCT</i></p>
C	<p>CONTRACTORS' MONTHLY REPORTS</p> <p>Require contractors and supervising firms to provide monthly monitoring reports on ESHS performance in accordance with the metrics specified in the respective bidding documents and contracts and submit such reports to the Association.</p>	<p>Submit the monthly reports to the Association as annexes to the reports to be submitted under Action A above.</p>	<p><i>Ministry of Public Health, Hygiene and Prevention/PCT</i></p>
ESS 1: ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RISKS AND IMPACTS			
1.1	<p>ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE</p> <p>Maintain the PCT with qualified personnel and resources to support the management of ESHS risks and impacts of the Project, including an Environmental Specialist, a Social Development Specialist, and a GBV/SEA/SH Specialist at the national level.</p>	<p>Maintain the PCT and specified positions throughout the implementation of the Project.</p>	<p><i>Ministry of Public Health, Hygiene and Prevention/PCT</i></p>

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MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
1.2	<p>ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL INSTRUMENTS</p> <p>1. Adopt, and implement an Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF), including an annexed SEA/SH Mitigation and Response Action Plan (SEA/SH AP) in a manner consistent with the relevant ESS for the Project.</p> <p>2. Adopt and implement Environmental and Social Management Plans (ESMPs) for activities, as set out in the ESMF.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prepare, adopt and disclose the ESMF, including the SEA/SH Action Plan by the Effective Date and shall thereafter be implemented throughout Project implementation. 2. Adopt the ESMPs prior to launching the bidding process for the respective activity and thereafter implement the respective ESMP throughout Project implementation. 	<p><i>Ministry of Public Health, Hygiene and Prevention/PCT</i></p>
1.3	<p>MANAGEMENT OF CONTRACTORS</p> <p>Incorporate into ESHS specifications of the procurement documents and contracts with suppliers/contractors and supervising firms (where applicable) relevant aspects of the ESCP, including, inter alia, relevant E&S instruments, Labor Management Procedures, Code of Conduct prohibiting SEA/SH behavior and sanctions for non-compliance and regular training for workers on GBV, including SEA/HS risks and consequences, and any other mitigation measures established on the SEA/HS Action Plan. Subsequently ensure that contractors and supervising firms comply with and ensure that subcontractors comply with the ESHS specifications of their respective contracts.</p> <p>In addition, Contractor ESMPs shall include provisions for managing SEA/SH risks in line with those developed by the SEA/SH Action plan of the Project. Thereafter ensure that the contractors and supervising firms comply and cause subcontractors to comply with the ESHS specifications of their respective contracts.</p>	<p>As part of the preparation of the respective procurement documents and contracts, and before any request for quotations.</p> <p>Supervise contractors throughout Project implementation.</p>	<p><i>Ministry of Public Health, Hygiene and Prevention/PCT</i></p> <p><i>Ministry of Public Health, Hygiene and Prevention/PCT</i></p>
1.4	<p>TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE</p> <p>Ensure that the consultancies, studies (including feasibility studies, if any), capacity building activities, training, and any other technical assistance activities under the Project, including technical support, are carried out in accordance with terms of reference that are acceptable to the Association and consistent with the ESSs. Thereafter ensure that the outputs of such activities comply with the terms of reference.</p>	<p>Throughout the implementation of the Project.</p>	<p><i>Ministry of Public Health, Hygiene and Prevention/PCT</i></p>

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MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
1.5	<p>CONTINGENT EMERGENCY RESPONSE FINANCING (CERC)</p> <p>a) Ensure that the Contingency Emergency Response Manual (CERC Manual) as referred to in the Financing Agreement includes a description of the ESHS assessment and management arrangements including, if applicable, an ESMF Addendum that will be referred to in the CERC Manual for the implementation of CERC Part, in accordance with the ESSs.</p> <p>b) Adopt any E&S instruments which may be required for activities under CERC component of the Project, in accordance with the CERC Manual and, if applicable, a CERC Addendum to the existing ESMF consistent with the ESSs, including a description of the ESHS assessment and management arrangements, and thereafter implement the measures and actions required under said E&S instruments, within the timeframes specified in these instruments.</p>	<p>a) Adopt the CERC Manual and, if applicable, other instruments, as relevant in form and substance acceptable to the Association, prior to disbursement under Category [2] in accordance with Section [III.B.1(b)] of Schedule 2 to the Financing Agreement.</p> <p>b) Adopt any required E&S instruments and include them in the respective bidding procedures, when appropriate, and in any case prior to the implementation of the relevant Project activities for which the E&S instrument is required.</p> <p>Implement the E&S instruments in accordance with the conditions stipulated therein, throughout the implementation of the Project.</p>	<p><i>Ministry of Public Health, Hygiene and Prevention/PCT</i></p>
1.6	<p>ACTIVITIES SUBJECT TO RETROACTIVE FINANCING</p> <p>Identify these activities and conducted due diligence to identify any required actions to ensure that such activities meet the requirements of the ESSs. Those might include the preparation of an E&S audit may, which normally would be completed during project preparation and amendment to existing work contracts, or a corrective action plan.</p>	<p>These activities will be identified during Project preparation, specifically during negotiations, and any required E&S instruments or processes adopted and implemented prior to the implementation of the relevant Project activities.</p>	<p><i>Ministry of Public Health, Hygiene and Prevention/PCT</i></p>
ESS 2 : LABOR AND WORKING CONDITIONS			
2.1	<p>LABOR MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES</p> <p>Adopt and implement the Labor Management Procedures (LMP) for the Project, including, among others, provisions on working conditions, management of workers relationships, occupational health and safety (including personal protective equipment, and emergency preparedness and response), code of conduct (including relating to SEA and SH), forced labor, child labor, grievance arrangements for Project workers, and applicable requirements for contractors, subcontractors, and supervising firms.</p>	<p>The LMP shall be adopted no later than 60 days after the Effective Date and thereafter implemented throughout Project implementation.</p>	<p><i>Ministry of Public Health, Hygiene and Prevention/PCT</i></p>

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MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
2.2	<p>GRIEVANCE REDRESS MECHANISM FOR PROJECT WORKERS</p> <p>Establish and operate a grievance mechanism for Project workers as described in the LMP and consistent with ESS2, including procedures for reporting SEA/SH incidents in an ethical and confidential manner, following a survivor-centered approach.</p>	Establish and operationalize the Grievance Mechanism (GM) for workers prior to engaging Project workers and thereafter maintain and operate it throughout Project implementation.	<i>Ministry of Public Health, Hygiene and Prevention/PCT</i>
ESS 3 : RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT			
3.1	<p>WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN</p> <p>Prepare, adopt and implement the Healthcare Waste Management Plan (HWMP) to manage hazardous and non-hazardous wastes consistent with ESS3. In the case of the renovation of buildings containing asbestos, the Recipient shall ensure that the removal of asbestos is carried out by specialized firms or institutions.</p>	The HWMP shall be prepared as an annex to the ESMF and shall be adopted and implemented within the same timeframe as for the ESMF in action 1.2 above	<i>Ministry of Public Health, Hygiene and Prevention/PCT</i>
3.2	<p>RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT</p> <p>Incorporate resource efficiency and pollution prevention and management measures into the ESMPs to be prepared under action 1.2</p>	Same timeframe as for the adoption and implementation of the ESMPs in action 1.2 above.	<i>Ministry of Public Health, Hygiene and Prevention/PCT</i>
ESS 4 : COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY			
4.1	<p>TRAFFIC AND ROAD SAFETY</p> <p>Incorporate measures to manage traffic and road safety in the ESMF to be developed under Action 1.2 above.</p>	Same timeframe as for the adoption and implementation of the ESMF in action 1.2 above.	<i>Ministry of Public Health, Hygiene and Prevention/PCT</i>
4.2	<p>COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY</p> <p>Assess and manage specific risks and impacts to the community arising from Project activities, including, inter alia, exposure to transmissible diseases (including HIV/AIDS), noise, pollution and other public health issues, safety risks, the behavior Project workers, risks of labor influx, response to emergency situations, and include mitigation measures in the ESMPs to be prepared in accordance with the ESMF.</p>	Same timeframe as for the adoption and implementation of the ESMPs in action 1.2 above.	
4.3	<p>RISKS OF SEXUAL EXPLOITATION AND ABUSE AND SEXUAL HARASSMENT (SEA/SH)</p> <p>The Recipient shall adopt and implement an action plan for measures to manage the risks of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA)/Sexual Harassment (HS) consistent with the ESS4 .</p> <p>The SEA/SH action plan shall include a number of measures, including but not limited to continuous SEA/SH risks identification, awareness raising activities, community consultations, project workers training, signature of a code of conduct prohibiting and</p>	The SEA/SH Action Plan is an appendix to the ESMF and shall be adopted and implemented within the same timeframe as for the ESMF in action 1.2 above.	<i>Ministry of Public Health, Hygiene and Prevention/PCT</i>

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	sanctioning SEA/SH acts by all project actors (project workers and other actors, including officials working on the Project but whose employment is not legally transferred to the Project). The SEA/HS risk mitigation and response action plan should be properly budgeted.		
4.4	<p>SECURITY MANAGEMENT</p> <p>Assess through a Security Risk Assessment and implement measures to manage the security risks of the Project, including the risks of engaging security personnel to safeguard project workers, sites, assets, and activities, as to be set out in eventual Security Management Plans, guided by the principles of proportionality and GIIP, and by applicable law, in relation to hiring, rules of conduct, training, equipping, and monitoring of such personnel.</p>	Prior to carrying out of any activity that requires the preparation of such Security Management Plans and thereafter implemented throughout the Project.	<i>Ministry of Public Health, Hygiene and Prevention/PCT</i>
ESS 5 : LAND ACQUISITION, LAND USE RESTRICTIONS AND INVOLUNTARY RELOCATION (Not currently relevant)			
ESS 6 : BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF LIVING NATURAL RESOURCES (Not currently relevant)			
ESS 7 : INDIGENOUS PEOPLES/SUB-SAHARAN AFRICAN HISTORICALLY UNDERSERVED TRADITIONAL LOCAL COMMUNITIES			
7.1	<p>INDIGENOUS PEOPLES PLANNING FRAMEWORK</p> <p>Adopt and implement an Indigenous Peoples Planning Framework (IPPF) for the Project, consistent with ESS7.</p>	The IPPF shall be adopted no later than 60 days after the Effective Date and thereafter implemented throughout the Project.	<i>Ministry of Public Health, Hygiene and Prevention/PCT</i>
7.2	<p>INDIGENOUS PEOPLES PLAN (IPP)</p> <p>Adopt and implement an Indigenous Peoples Plan (IPP) for each activity under the Project for which the IPPF requires such IPP, as set out in the IPPF, and consistent with ESS7.</p>	Adopt the IPP prior to the carrying out of any activity that requires the preparation of such IPP. Once adopted, implement the IPP throughout Project implementation.	<i>Ministry of Public Health, Hygiene and Prevention/PCT</i>
ESS 8 : CULTURAL HERITAGE			
8.1	<p>CHANCE FINDS</p> <p>Describe and implement the chance finds procedures as part of the ESMF.</p>	Same timeframe as for the adoption and implementation of the ESMF in action 1.2 above.	<i>Ministry of Public Health, Hygiene and Prevention/PCT</i>
ESS 10 : STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION DISCLOSURE			
10.1	<p>STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN PREPARATION AND IMPLEMENTATION</p>	An SEP has been prepared, adopted and disclosed on March 12,2024. . It shall be applied and updated or	<i>Ministry of Public Health, Hygiene and Prevention/PCT</i>

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MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
	Adopt and implement a Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) for the Project in accordance with the provisions of ESS10, which includes measures to, among other things, provide stakeholders with up-to-date, relevant, understandable, and accessible information, and to consult with them in a culturally sensitive manner, free from manipulation, interference, coercion, discrimination, and intimidation.	improved during Project implementation.	
10.2	<p>PROJECT GRIEVANCE MECHANISM</p> <p>Establish, publicize, maintain and operate an accessible grievance mechanism to receive and facilitate the timely and effective resolution of Project related concerns and complaints in a transparent, culturally appropriate and easily accessible manner to all Project-affected parties, free of charge and without retribution, including anonymously filed concerns and complaints, in a manner consistent with the ESS10.</p> <p>The grievance mechanism shall be equipped with several entry points to receive, record and facilitate the resolution of complaints, including those related to SEA/SH, with the possibility of referring survivors to specialized GBV service providers in a safe, confidential and survivor centered manner.</p>	The Grievance Redress Mechanism, including SEA/HS procedures shall be established before the beginning of Project activities and then implemented throughout the implementation of the Project.	<i>Ministry of Public Health, Hygiene and Prevention/PCT</i>
CAPACITY SUPPORT (TRAINING)			
CS1	<p>The PIU, stakeholders, members of affected communities as well as Project workers shall benefit from capacity support on the following topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stakeholder Identification and Engagement ; • specific aspects of environmental and social assessment • emergency preparedness and response ; • Occupational health and safety ; • Population Health And Safety ; • Trainers training on veterinary care and veterinary laboratory activities waste management; • Train staff and cleaners on biowaste management; • Develop good practice guides and train staff involved in the use of waste management (for selective sorting, use of bins, equipment, etc.) and display internal waste management procedures; • Train laboratory technicians, but also agents in charge of BW disposal, operation and maintenance of incinerators before their installation (broad outlines of the treatment and operation process; health and safety related to operations ; emergency and rescue procedures; technical procedures; maintenance; control and monitoring of the process and residues, etc.); 	Prepare a training plan within 90 days of the Effective Date and implement it throughout the Project implementation. To increase efficiency, the members of the Grievance Redress Committee shall be trained on the work site for 10 days after the start of the activities.	Ministry of Public Health, Hygiene and Prevention/PCT

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training on the health monitoring of fauna and flora; • Prevention and response to the risks of SEA/ SH and GBV associated with the Project • GRM 		
CS2	Training for Project workers on occupational health and safety including on emergency prevention and preparedness ; response arrangements to emergency situations; health emergencies related to climate change; application of labor management procedures; including code of conduct; reporting on incidents; sexual exploitation; and abuse as well as sexual harassment; mitigating the effects of epidemics.	Prepare a training plan within 90 days of the Effective Date and throughout the duration of the Project.	<i>Ministry of Public Health, Hygiene and Prevention/PCT</i>