

BHUTAN
Ministry of Health (MOH)
Additional Financing to COVID-19 EMERGENCY
RESPONSE AND HEALTH SYSTEMS
PREPAREDNESS PROJECT

ENVIRONMENTAL and SOCIAL
COMMITMENT PLAN (ESCP)

February , 2022

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL COMMITMENT PLAN

1. The Kingdom of Bhutan (the Recipient) will implement the Bhutan: Additioanal Financing to COVID-19 Emergency Response and Health Systems Preparedness Project (the Project), with the involvement of the Ministry of Health (MOH). The International Development Association (the Association) has agreed to provide financing for the AF Project.
2. The MOH shall carry out the Project in accordance with the Environmental and Social Standards (**ESSs**). To this end, this Environmental and Social Commitment Plan (**ESCP**) sets out material measures and actions to be carried out or caused to be carried out by the MOH, including the timeframes of the actions and measures, institutional, staffing, training, monitoring and reporting arrangements, grievance management and the environmental and social assessments and instruments to be prepared or updated, disclosed, consulted, adopted and implemented under the ESCP and the ESSs, all in a manner acceptable to the Association.
3. Implementation of the material measures and actions set out in this ESCP shall be monitored and reported to the Association by MOH as required by the ESCP and the provisions of the Financing Agreement.
4. As agreed by the Association and the MOH, 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 shall update the ESCP to reflect the agreed-upon changes. Agreement on changes to the ESCP shall be documented through an exchange of letters signed between the Association and the Recipient. The Recipient shall promptly disclose the updated ESCP.
5. Where Project changes, unforeseen circumstances, or Project performance result in changes to the risks and impacts during Project implementation, the MOH shall provide additional funds, if needed, to implement actions and measures to address such risks and impacts.

NAME OF PROJECT:

| MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS | | TIMEFRAME | RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY |
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| MONITORING AND REPORTING | | | |
| A | REGULAR REPORTING: 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, stakeholder engagement activities and grievances log. | Half Yearly (every six months) throughout the Project implementation period. | Ministry of Health (MOH), hereinafter the Implementing Agency (IA) |
| B | INCIDENTS AND ACCIDENTS: 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, any COVID outbreak in the Project area. Provide sufficient detail regarding the incident or accident, indicating immediate measures taken or that are planned to be taken to address it, and any information provided by any contractor and supervising entity, as appropriate. Subsequently, as per the Association's request, prepare a report on the incident or accident and propose any measures to prevent its recurrence. | Notify the Bank within 24 hours after learning of the incident or accident A report would be provided within 72 hours on the incident | IA |
| ESS 1: ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RISKS AND IMPACTS | | | |
| 1.1 | ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE: The MOH shall establish and maintain a PIU with qualified staff and resources to support management of ESHS risks and impacts of the Project <i>including an environmental and social specialist.</i> | MOH already deployed qualified staff, including an E&S specialist, and resources under parent project. These staff will be retained throughout the implementation of the Project. | IA |

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| <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 <i>Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF)</i> to be prepared, disclosed, consulted, and adopted for the Project, the ESSs, the Environmental, Health and Safety Guidelines (EHSGs), and other relevant Good International Industry Practice (GIIP), including relevant WHO guidelines.</p> <p>b. Prepare, disclose, consult, adopt and implement any environmental and social management plans (e.g. health-care waste management plans), instruments or other measures required for the respective Project activities based on the assessment process, in accordance with the ESSs, the ESMF, the EHSGs, and other relevant Good International Industry Practice (GIIP), including relevant WHO guidelines to, inter alia, ensure access to and allocation of Project benefits in a fair, equitable and inclusive manner, taking into account the needs of individuals or groups who, because of their particular circumstances, may be disadvantaged or vulnerable , <i>including, as relevant, with regards to vaccines.</i></p> <p>c. Incorporate the relevant aspects of this ESCP, including, inter alia, the ESMF, any environmental and social management plans or other instruments, ESS2 requirements, 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>d. Adopt procedures, protocols and/or other measures to ensure Project beneficiaries that receive vaccines under the Project do so under a program that does not include forced vaccination and is acceptable to the Bank, as set out in the ESMF.</p> | <p>a. ESMF of the parent project had been updated for the AF and will be adopted before any Bank supported activities under this AF commence . Environmental and social assessment related to vaccine financing shall be conducted before the commencement of the relevant Project activities.</p> <p>b. Plans/instruments shall be prepared, disclosed, consulted and adopted before the commencement of the relevant Project activities, and thereafter implemented throughout the carrying out of such activities.</p> <p>c. The relevant ESHS measures shall be incorporated into the procurement documents before launching the procurement process for the relevant Project activities and shall thereafter complied with in the course of such activities.</p> <p>d. Before the commencement of the relevant Project activities, and thereafter implemented in the course of such activities.</p> | <p>IA</p> |

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| 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 adverse environmental or social impacts. All the other excluded activities set out in the ESMF of the Project. | During the assessment process conducted under action 1.2.a. above. | IA |
| 1.4. | <p>CONTINGENT EMERGENCY RESPONSE FINANCING</p> <p>a. Ensure that the Contingent Emergency Response Implementation Plan (CERC) includes a description of the ESHS assessment and management arrangements for the implementation of CERC in accordance with the ESSs.</p> <p>b. arrangements for the implementation of CERC Component in accordance with the ESSs</p> <p>c. Prepare, disclose, consult and adopt any environmental and social (E&S) management plans or instruments which may be required for activities under <i>CERC component</i> of the Project, in accordance with the <i>CERC</i> and the ESSs, and thereafter implement the measures and actions required under said E&S management plans or instruments, within the timeframes specified in said E&S management plans or instruments.</p> | <p>a) The adoption of the CERC in form and substance acceptable to the Bank is a withdrawal condition under Section E of Schedule 2 of the Financing Agreement/ Loan Agreement for the Project.</p> <p>b) The E&S management plans or instruments shall be prepared, disclosed, consulted, and thereafter adopted before the commencement of the relevant Project activities under <i>CERC component</i>. The E&S management plans or instruments shall be implemented in accordance with their terms, throughout Project implementation.</p> | IA Responsible for CERC |
| 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 including through, inter alia, implementing adequate occupational health and safety measures (including personal protective equipment, and emergency preparedness and response measures), setting out grievance mechanisms 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. | IA and Contractor(s) |
| 2.2 | <p>Labor Management Procedure (LMP): The LMP prepared for the parent project will to be updated to reflect the AF.</p> | LMP of the parent project had been updated to reflect the AF. | IA |
| ESS 3: RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT | | | |

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| 3.1. | Relevant aspects of this standard shall be considered, as needed, under action 1.2 above, including, inter alia, measures to: carry out the purchase, storage, transportation and handling of vaccines (including, ultra-cold chain management) in a safe manner and in accordance with the EHSGs, and other relevant GIP including relevant WHO guidelines; and adequately manage and dispose of health care wastes (including, vaccines) and other types of hazardous and non-hazardous wastes. | Throughout Project implementation. | IA |
| ESS 4: COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY | | | |
| 4.1 | COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY: 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; establish and implement appropriate quality management systems to manage the risks and the impacts that services provided and activities carried out under the Project may have on community health and safety; manage the risks of the use of security personnel; manage the risks of labor influx; manage the risk of life and fire safety, and prevent and respond to sexual exploitation and abuse, and sexual harassment. | Throughout Project implementation. | IA |

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| <p>4.2</p> | <p>USE OF MILITARY OR SECURITY PERSONNEL: While use of military or security personnel is not anticipated, in the event that they do need to be engaged for Project activities, the following measures shall be adopted to ensure that the engagement of Security Personnel in the implementation of Project activities is carried out in accordance with the ESSs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Assess the risks and impacts of engagement of the Security Personnel, as part of the assessment referred to in action 1.2 a) above, and implement measures to manage such risks and impacts, 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 Security Personnel; b. Adopt and enforce standards, protocols and codes of conduct for the selection and use of security personnel, and screen such personnel to verify that they have not engaged in past unlawful or abusive behavior, including sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA), sexual harassment (SH) or excessive use of force; c. Ensure that PIU enters into a memorandum of understanding (MoU), with the home ministry and relevant Security Unit, setting out the arrangements for the engagement of the security personnel under the Project, including compliance with the relevant requirements of this ESCP; d. Ensure that such personnel is adequately instructed and trained, prior to deployment and on a regular basis, on the use of force and appropriate conduct (including in relation to civilian-military engagement, SEA and SH, and other relevant areas), as set out in the ESMF. e. Ensure that the stakeholder engagement activities under the Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) include a communication strategy on the involvement of security personnel under the Project; f. Ensure that any concerns or grievances regarding the conduct of security personnel are received, monitored, documented (taking into account the need to protect confidentiality), resolved through the Project’s grievance mechanism (see action 10.2 below) and reported to the Association no later than 30 days after being received. | <p>a) Assessment carried out in the same timeframe than action 1.2 a) above and <i>any required measures shall be adopted before deploying security personnel under the Project and thereafter implemented throughout Project implementation.</i></p> <p>b), c) and d) before deploying <i>security</i> personnel under the Project and thereafter throughout Project implementation.</p> <p>e) and f) as set out under actions 10.1 and 10.2 respectively.</p> <p><i>[g) within the timeframes requested by the Association.</i></p> | <p>IA</p> |
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| ESS 5: LAND ACQUISITION, RESTRICTIONS ON LAND USE AND INVOLUNTARY RESETTLEMENT | | | |
| | Not relevant | NA | NA |
| ESS 6: BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF LIVING NATURAL RESOURCES | | | |
| | Not relevant | NA | NA |
| ESS 7: INDIGENOUS PEOPLES/SUB-SAHARAN AFRICAN HISTORICALLY UNDERSERVED TRADITIONAL LOCAL COMMUNITIES | | | |
| 7.1 | MEASURES FOR INDIGENOUS PEOPLES: The Project shall be carried out in accordance with the applicable requirements of ESS7, including, inter alia: (i) ensuring that the Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) includes meaningful consultations with indigenous peoples throughout Project implementation; (ii) implementing procedures, protocols and/or other measures to ensure that indigenous peoples have access to Project benefits in an fair, equitable, inclusive and culturally appropriate manner, <i>including, as relevant, with regards to vaccines, as set out in the ESMF and the SEP</i> ; and (iii) implementing measures to ensure that indigenous peoples are able to access the Project's grievance mechanism in a culturally appropriate manner. | Throughout project implementation and before the commencement of any Project activities affecting IPs. If screening confirms IPP is required, IPP to be prepared prior to the commencement of any Project activities affecting IPs. | IA |
| ESS 8: CULTURAL HERITAGE | | | |
| | Not relevant | NA | NA |
| ESS 9: FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES | | | |
| | Not relevant | NA | NA |
| ESS 10: STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION DISCLOSURE | | | |
| 10.1 | STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN: Prepare or revise, disclose, consult, adopt and implement a Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) consistent with ESS10, which shall include measures to, inter alia, provide stakeholders with timely, relevant, understandable and accessible information, and consult with them in a culturally appropriate manner, which is free of manipulation, interference, coercion, discrimination and intimidation. | A SEP was already prepared and disclosed for the parent project. The original SEP has been updated for the purpose of this AF . The SEP shall be implemented throughout Project implementation and updated as and when necessary. | IA |

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| 10.1 | <p>STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT INFORMATION AND DISCLOSURE: Adopt measures as set out in <i>ESMF</i> to ensure that the carrying out of Project activities includes stakeholder engagement and information disclosure consistent with ESS10, including measures to, inter alia, provide stakeholders with timely, relevant, understandable and accessible information, and consult with them in a culturally appropriate manner, which is free of manipulation, interference, coercion, discrimination and intimidation.</p> | | |
| 10.2 | <p>GRIEVANCE MECHANISM: An accessible grievance mechanism shall be established, publicized, maintained and operated to receive and facilitate resolution of concerns and grievances in relation to the Project, promptly and effectively, in a transparent manner that is culturally appropriate and readily accessible to all Project-affected parties, at no cost and without retribution, including concerns and grievances filed anonymously, in a manner consistent with ESS10.</p> <p>The grievance mechanism shall also receive, register and address concerns and grievances related to the, sexual exploitation and abuse, sexual harassment in a safe and confidential manner, including through the referral of survivors to gender-based violence service providers.</p> <p>The grievance mechanism shall also receive, register and address concerns arising from unintended health consequences after vaccination especially those resulting in serious adverse effects, and, as appropriate, requests for compensation.</p> | GRM will be maintained and used throughout Project implementation | IA |
| CAPACITY SUPPORT (TRAINING) | | | |
| CS1 | <p>Project Management Unit and other relevant implementing support staff responsible for the Project to receive training on the Project's ESHS plans and instruments, fair, equitable and inclusive access and allocation of Project benefits <i>including with regards to vaccines</i>, and the roles and responsibilities of different key agencies in the ESF implementation.</p> | PMU with ES staff were formed. Few trainings were provided under the parent project. However, these staff will be retained throughout the implementation of the Project and with the addition of new Project team members training will be arranged periodically. | IA |