

Republic of Liberia

Recovery of Economic Activity for Liberian Informal Sector Employment (REALISE) (P174417)

Draft

ENVIRONMENTAL and SOCIAL COMMITMENT PLAN (ESCP)

December 17, 2020

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL COMMITMENT PLAN

1. The Republic of Liberia through its Ministry of Finance (hereinafter referred to as Ministry of Finance and Development Planning) will implement the Recovery of Economic Activity for Liberian Informal Sector Employment (REALISE) (the **Project**), with the involvement of the Ministry of Youth and Sports (MYS) and the Liberia Agency for Community Empowerment (LACE) as implementing institutions (IAs). The International Development Association (**Association**) has agreed to provide financing for the Project.
2. The Republic of Liberia through its implementing institutions, 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 Republic of Liberia will also comply with the provisions of any other E&S documents required under the ESF and referred to in this ESCP, such as Environmental and Social Management Plans (ESMP), Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF), Resettlement Action Plans (RAP), Labor Management Procedure (LMP), the GBV Action Plan, and Stakeholder Engagement Plans (SEP), and the timelines specified in those E&S documents.
4. The Republic of Liberia is responsible for compliance with all requirements of the ESCP even when implementation of specific measures and actions are conducted by the Ministry of Youth & Sports and the Liberia Agency for Community Empowerment.
5. Implementation of the material measures and actions set out in this ESCP will be monitored and reported to the Association by the Republic of Liberia 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.
6. As agreed by the Association and the Republic of Liberia, 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 Republic of Liberia 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 Republic of Liberia. The Republic of Liberia will promptly disclose the updated ESCP.
7. Where Project changes, unforeseen circumstances, or Project performance result in changes to the risks and impacts during Project implementation, the Republic of Liberia shall provide additional funds, if needed, to implement actions and measures to address such risks and impacts, which may include *minimal or negligible adverse* risks and impacts on human population and/or the environment.

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
MONITORING AND REPORTING			
A	<p>REGULAR REPORTING</p> <p>Prepare and submit to the Bank regular monitoring reports on the status of implementation of: (i) Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP), (ii) Stakeholders Engagement Plan (SEP), (iii) Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM), and (iv) other E&S documents required under the ESCP.</p>	<p><i>Every six (6) months during the project implementation phase.</i></p>	MYS/LACE
B	<p>INCIDENTS AND ACCIDENTS</p> <p>The project will promptly notify the Bank of any incident or accident related or having an impact on the Project, which has, or is likely to have, a significant adverse effect on the environment, the affected communities, the public or workers. This could include accidents that could result in fatalities, injuries, cases of SEA/SH, serious mismanagement related to the project's activities including handling waste, security breach, etc., and provide sufficient details regarding the incident or accident, indicating immediate measures taken or that are planned to be taken to address it.</p>	<p><i>Notify the Bank within 24 hours after learning of the incident or accident. A subsequent detailed report would be provided within a timeframe acceptable to the Bank, as requested.</i></p>	MYS/LACE
C	<p>CONTRACTORS MONTHLY REPORTS</p> <p>Ensure that contractors are required to provide monthly monitoring reports that cover the environmental, social, and health and safety performance of the project to the Project Management Team (PMT).</p> <p>Ensure that the contractor's monthly reports are submitted to the Bank upon request.</p>	<p><i>Contractor's reports to be submitted to the PIU every month, and to the Bank upon request.</i></p>	MYS/LACE
ESS 1: ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RISKS AND IMPACTS			
1.1	<p>ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE</p> <p>Establish and maintain an organizational structure with qualified staffs and resources to support management of E&S risks and impacts. Recruit qualified Environmental Officer and Social Safeguard Officer with experience in SEA/SH to assist implementation of ESMF, ESMP, RPF, SEP, ESCP, GRM, and SEA/SH Action Plan.</p>	<p><i>After project effectiveness and before the start of implementation of field activities. The environmental and social staff shall remain with the project throughout the project implementation period.</i></p>	MYS/LACE

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
1.2	<p>ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL ASSESSMENT</p> <p>The IAs will update the Environmental and Social Management (ESMF) for the Youth Opportunity Project (YOP) to incorporate activities of this project, detailing policy, procedure and guidance for assessment and management of environmental and social risks and impacts of the project. ESMF to address CERC component as well.</p> <p>Once the selection of specific sites for project activities are finalized, the project will prepare and implement site-specific plans (ESMPs) prior to the commencement of implementation of sub-project activities in the field.</p>	<p><i>Draft ESMF to be updated and disclosed before Project Appraisal Date.</i></p> <p><i>ESMPs will be prepared before the start of project implementation and implemented through project implementation.</i></p>	MYS/LACE
1.3	<p>MANAGEMENT TOOLS AND INSTRUMENTS</p> <p>Screen any proposed sub-projects in accordance with ESMF prepared for the Project, and thereafter, draft, adopt, and implement the sub-project Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP), as required, in a manner acceptable to the Bank.</p> <p>Implement the “negative list” (which will be part of the POM) that will be used as a guiding tool for funding interventions which will not adversely impact the environment and the people.</p>	<p><i>Prior to the commencement of work and throughout the project implementation.</i></p>	MYS/LACE
1.4	<p>MANAGEMENT OF CONTRACTORS</p> <p>Incorporate the relevant aspects of the ESCP, including the relevant E&S documents and/or plans, and the Labor Management Procedures, into the ESHS specifications of the procurement documents with contractors. Thereafter ensure that the contractors comply with the ESHS specifications of their respective contracts.</p>	<p><i>Before the start of the project implementation.</i></p>	MYS/LACE
ESS 2: LABOR AND WORKING CONDITIONS			

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
2.1	<p>LABOR MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES</p> <p>Implement the Project in a manner acceptable to the Bank, including through, inter alia, implementing adequate occupational health and safety measures (including emergency preparedness and response measures), ensuring appropriate working condition amidst a public health emergency (including measures against outbreak of COVID-19); provision of training/apprenticeship on handling emergency situation especially health related issues; and setting up grievance arrangements for Project workers, and incorporating labor requirements in the procurement documents and contracts with contractors and supervising firms as appropriate.</p> <p>Prepare and implement the Labor Management Procedures (LMP) that will be incorporated in the project ESMF. The procedures will include terms and condition of employment including hours of works, wages overtime, compensation and benefits, holidays, leaves, etc. The procedures will set up measures to prevent and address harassment, intimidation or sexual exploitation, child labor, and forced labor.</p>	<p><i>Draft LMP will be incorporated in the project ESMF to be disclosed before Project appraisal Date and measures will be implemented throughout Project implementation.</i></p>	MYS/LACE
2.2	<p>GRIEVANCE MECHANISM FOR PROJECT WORKERS</p> <p>Establish, maintain, and operate a grievance mechanism for Project workers, as described in the LMP and consistent with ESS2.</p>	<p><i>GRM for the workers will be established before commencement of Project activities and it will remain operational throughout Project implementation.</i></p>	MYS/LACE
2.3	<p>OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY (OHS) MEASURES</p> <p>Incorporate and implement project relevant OHS measures in the project ESMP, including measures related to mitigating COVID-19 risks.</p>	<p><i>Before start of project implementation and to be implemented throughout implementation</i></p>	MYS/LACE
ESS 3: RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT			
3.1	<p>WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN</p> <p>Incorporate Waste Management Plan in the project ESMP to manage waste generated</p>	<p><i>Project ESMP incorporating a Waste Management Plan to be prepared before start of project implementation and implemented throughout implementation</i></p>	MYS/LACE

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
3.2	<p>RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT</p> <p>Resource efficiency and pollution prevention and management measures will be covered under the ESMP to be prepared. The Project Implementation Manual to include “negative list” to prohibit funding for pollution generating activities.</p>	<p><i>Both ESMP and PIM to be prepared before start of project implementation and implemented throughout implementation.</i></p>	MYS/LACE
ESS 4: COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY			
4.1	<p>TRAFFIC AND ROAD SAFETY</p> <p>Incorporate and implement measures and actions to assess and manage traffic and road safety risks as required in the ESMPs to be developed under action ESS1 above.</p>	<p><i>Prior to the start of project implementation.</i></p>	MYS/LACE
4.2	<p>COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY</p> <p>Put measures in place to prevent or minimize the spread of the infectious diseases/COVID-19 to the community and among workers/beneficiaries by following national and WHO guidelines of social distancing and other measures. These measures to be included in project ESMP.</p> <p>Prepare SEP and adopt and implement a Project Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) under SEP as well as a labor related GRM under LMP. Project GRM will also manage the risks of GBV and SEA.</p>	<p><i>Project ESMP to be developed before implementation of project activities to incorporate measure to minimize the spread of the infectious diseases/COVID-19 to the community and among workers/beneficiaries and implemented throughout project implementation.</i></p> <p><i>Draft SEP to be disclosed before project appraisal, updated and redisclosed before project effectiveness and throughout project implementation.</i></p>	MYS/LACE
4.3	<p>SEA/SH RISKS</p> <p>Prepare, adopt, and implement a stand-alone Action Plan to assess and manage SEA/SH) risks and hire a GBV specialist to implement the GBV Action Plan</p>	<p><i>Prepare SEA/SH action plan before project effectiveness and implement the plan throughout the project life.</i></p>	MYS/LACE
4.4	<p>SEA/SH RISKS DURING PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION</p> <p>Implement the SEA/SH Action Plan prepared under the project. See Sections 4.2 and 4.3</p>	<p><i>Implement GBV Action Plan throughout project implementation.</i></p>	MYS/LACE

4.4	SECURITY PERSONNEL Not Relevant	<i>Not Relevant</i>	Not Relevant
ESS 5: LAND ACQUISITION, RESTRICTIONS ON LAND USE AND INVOLUNTARY RESETTLEMENT			
5.1	RESETTLEMENT PLANS Update RPF for YOP and prepare, adopt, and implement resettlement plans (RAPs), if required, in accordance with ESS 5 and consistent with the requirements of the Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF) t.	<i>Update RPF for YOP and disclose before project effectiveness, and prepare and implemented RAPs prior commencement of activities requiring a RAP.</i>	MYS/LACE
5.2	GRIEVANCE MECHANISM Implement the GM prepared under the project. See Section 10.2	<i>Implement the GM throughout project implementation.</i>	MYS/LACE
ESS 6: BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF LIVING NATURAL RESOURCES			
6.1	BIODIVERSITY RISKS AND IMPACTS The project activities are not likely to generate biodiversity related risks and impact. A stand-alone Biodiversity Management Plan is not required. The project ESMP will incorporate measures and provisions that promote sustainable management of natural resources and to mitigate any indirect risks and impacts arising from project activities. Activities that may adversely impact biodiversity and ecosystem services will be included in the negative list of the project.	<i>Project ESMP to be prepared, adopted prior to the commencement of implementing project activities, and implement throughout the project implementation.</i>	MYS/LACE
ESS 7: INDIGENOUS PEOPLES/SUB-SAHARAN AFRICAN HISTORICALLY UNDERSERVED TRADITIONAL LOCAL COMMUNITIES			
There are no groups meeting ESS7 criteria in project area, therefore there are no mitigation measures to be undertaken under ESS7 for the project.			
ESS 8: CULTURAL HERITAGE			
8.1	CHANCE FINDS The project ESMP will include a Chance Finds Procedures which will be prepared and adopted prior to the commencement of project implementation and implemented throughout during project implementation.	<i>Chance Finds Procedure to be incorporated in the project ESMP to be prepared before commencement of project activities and implemented throughout project implementation.</i>	MYS/LACE
ESS 9: FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES			

There are no actions under the Project related to Financial Intermediaries, therefore there are no mitigation measures to be undertaken under ESS9.		
ESS 10: STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION DISCLOSURE		
10.1	<p>STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN PREPARATION AND IMPLEMENTATION</p> <p>Prepare, update, adopt, and implement Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP). The SEP will define the process and mechanism to inclusively and effectively engage all related stakeholders during the project implementation period and include information on the project Grievance Redress Mechanism. The draft SEP will be disclosed at www.yopliberia.com; mys.gov.lr; laceonline.org; or the executive mansion website and in English.</p>	<p><i>Draft SEP prepared and disclosed prior to Project appraisal and adopted, updated and implemented throughout the Project preparation and implementation cycles.</i></p>
10.2	<p>PROJECT GRIEVANCE MECHANISM</p> <p>Prepare, adopt, maintain and operate a grievance mechanism, as described in the SEP.</p>	<p><i>The project GM will be described in the SEP to be prepared and disclosed prior to Project appraisal and adopted, updated and implemented throughout the Project implementation period.</i></p>
CAPACITY SUPPORT (TRAINING)		
	Training to be provided	Targeted groups and timing
CS1	Training on ESF and the 10 ESSs—including preparation of ESMP and RAP, Modules on GRM preparation and implementation, and Stakeholder Engagement	Staff of MYS/LACE units as well as targeted staff of the Project Management Team
CS2	<p>Issues Related to COVID-19</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use and disposal of PPE (for all) • Working/training in COVID-19 environment (All workers and beneficiaries) • COVID-19 Infection Prevention and Control mechanism • Standard precautions for COVID-19 (social distancing etc) • Risk communication, prevention and community engagement (Administrative and operational personnel) • WHO and CDC guidelines on quarantine 	<p>PIU staff, targeted staff of project implementing institutions, contractors, and targeted beneficiaries</p> <p>Will be implemented immediately after project effectiveness and throughout project implementation</p>

CS3	SEA/SH Raising awareness on SEA/SH risks	PIU staff, targeted staff and officials project implementing institutions, contractors, and beneficiaries Will be implemented immediately after project effectiveness and throughout project implementation
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