



# Concept Environmental and Social Review Summary

## Concept Stage

### **(ESRS Concept Stage)**

Date Prepared/Updated: 11/10/2022 | Report No: ESRSC02984



**BASIC INFORMATION**

**A. Basic Project Data**

Country	Region	Project ID	Parent Project ID (if any)
Lao People's Democratic Republic	EAST ASIA AND PACIFIC	P178883	
Project Name	Reducing Rural Poverty and Malnutrition Project II (RRPM II)		
Practice Area (Lead)	Financing Instrument	Estimated Appraisal Date	Estimated Board Date
Social Protection & Jobs	Investment Project Financing	9/4/2023	12/8/2023
Borrower(s)	Implementing Agency(ies)		
Lao's Peoples Democratic Republic	Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry		

Proposed Development Objective

The Project Development Objective is to expand access to the Conditional Cash Transfer Program, to improve selected nutrition behaviors, and to enhance the Government of Lao PDR capacity to deliver integrated multi-sectoral nutrition interventions in priority target areas.

Financing (in USD Million)	Amount
<b>Total Project Cost</b>	<b>25.00</b>

**B. Is the project being prepared in a Situation of Urgent Need of Assistance or Capacity Constraints, as per Bank IPF Policy, para. 12?**

No

**C. Summary Description of Proposed Project [including overview of Country, Sectoral & Institutional Contexts and Relationship to CPF]**

The Project will be implemented in kum bans and districts in Northern and Central provinces in Lao PDR. Selection of project locations will be made during project implementation. The project would have the following four components:

**Component 1. Strengthening Social Protection Building Blocks**

The component is to strengthen the key building blocks of a social protection system. This includes support to managing the social registry and building an adaptive social protection system. To populate the social registry, the



project will continue supporting the data collection from the field as well as from other existing databases and information systems through data interoperability. The social registry will provide a 'gateway' for easier identification of beneficiaries for targeted social programs nationally supporting convergence at the household level (going beyond geographic convergence). Specifically, the social registry, which will rank households by way of a Proxy Means Test (PMT), will be used to determine household eligibility for the CCT program in Component 2 and other targeted interventions such as programs within the nutrition convergence approach, emergency responses including climate shocks, and other government and humanitarian agency programs. This component will also finance the integrated beneficiary registry which will allow for monitoring and coordinating 'who receives what' across programs while also identifying gaps. During project preparation, the team will explore digital convergence approach through data interoperability with existing government systems as those from MoH and later on MoHA for the CRVS.

#### Component 2: Conditional Cash Transfer (CCT)

This component will support the delivery of the CCT program to support pregnant women and/or children under two years old in poor and vulnerable households in selected priority target areas. The CCT program has been implemented since 2021 in 12 districts in the north of Lao PDR with the goal is to incentivize nutrition-promoting behaviors such as improving dietary quality (in terms of diversity and amount), increase utilization of essential health and nutrition services, and contribute to poverty reduction in targeted areas. This component will finance the cash grants, and the activities to enhance key operational aspects of the CCT program (e.g., MIS, enrollment, compliance monitoring, payment, grievance redressal, case management). The project also supports enhancement of delivery system of the CCT so that they can scale-up for responses to natural disasters and other shocks (i.e., building on CCT MIS, design and develop a payment platform to deliver emergency cash transfers). Discussions will continue during project preparation to identify priority target areas.

#### Component 3: Coordination, management, monitoring and evaluation

The objective of this component is to support the MAF in the management and timely implementation of the project, and the overall coordination and M&E of the nutrition convergence approach. The component will finance project coordination, management, policy research, citizen engagement, and capacity-building support to the MAF for project implementation and to other entities (for example, MPI) that will facilitate multisectoral coordination at the province and district levels. The component will also support the M&E of the implementation of the multisectoral nutrition convergence approach in the project areas. Building on lessons learned from phase 1, the project will focus on strengthening the local level (provincial, district) management capacity and incentives mechanism to promote accountability for results. During project preparation the team will be exploring an output-based approach to strengthen implementation of the multisectoral approach to nutrition. Furthermore, coordination across sectoral programs at the village level will be enhanced by empowering district level support through action-oriented joint supervision and monitoring activities.

The project will work in close collaboration with the WB nutrition convergence projects teams to ensure effective design of this new phase (Phase 2) of the program that is envisaged as the phase to strengthen the institutional set up and scale up the approach to selected areas, while continuing to consolidate in phase 1 areas.

#### Component 4: Contingency Emergency Response

This component is proposed as a contingency emergency response component that will be activated only if Government declared an emergency. This component will allow rapid reallocation of project proceeds to respond to unanticipated eligible crisis or emergency.



## D. Environmental and Social Overview

D.1. Detailed project location(s) and salient physical characteristics relevant to the E&S assessment [geographic, environmental, social]

The Lao PDR is a mountainous and land-linked country (236,800 km<sup>2</sup>). In the north and central region, especially along the eastern border between Lao and Vietnam, the environmental features can be characterized as mountainous with large areas of forest cover mixed with degraded forests, and sandy soil in general. There are few state forest land areas in these regions, namely, Nam Et Phou Louey and Nakai Nam-Theun Nation Parks bordered by Vietnam are home to unique and globally significant biodiversity. There is limited flat land along the Mekong River part of which is bordered by Thailand. Encroachment into state forest land areas for agricultural and livestock activity remains the main reason for forest degradation. Slash and burn activity also caused for seasonal forest fires in many rural areas across the country. The application of large amounts of chemicals and pesticides for plantations (banana and rubber plants) in the past also caused fish kills and water pollution and expansion of concession licenses for plantations have been prohibited during the past 5 years. Climate change and natural disaster risk has been increasing while flash floods can cause damage to the affected population. UXO risk in the regions, especially in the mountainous area along the Lao-Vietnam border remains high.

Lao PDR is mainly a rural society with a culturally diverse 50 ethnic groups. Cities in Lao PDR are small in population, with only the capital city Vientiane having a population of more than 100,000 people and few high-rise buildings. Poverty remains high among ethnolinguistic minority households and households headed by people with lower levels of education. Nearly 35 percent of those living in households headed by someone with no formal education are poor, compared to just 3 percent in households headed by those with at least a completed upper secondary education. While poverty tends to be higher among minority ethnolinguistic groups, in recent years, the Hmong-lumien group fell further behind due to lagging farm productivity. The incidence of poverty has become highest among Hmong-lumien ethnic groups at 38.4 percent, followed by the Mon-Khmer (32.7 percent) and the Sino-Tibetan (18.1 percent). Hmong-lumien ethnic groups constitute 19 percent of the poor, despite making up less than 10 percent of the population.

A social assessment carried out in 2018 shows some significant issues related to poverty and malnutrition in the country. Childhood stunting is the most prominent nutritional problem in Laos with 43% of children under 5 years old and 30% of children under 2 years old reporting stunting. From the study sample and on average, ethnic minority groups had higher rates of stunting among children under five years old compared with ethnic-Lao children. The rate of childhood stunting amongst Khamou children was 36.62%, amongst Hmong, 47.21%, Akha, 47.30, Phong, 59.27, other ethnic minority groups, 31.48% whereas amongst ethnic Lao children, the prevalence of stunting was 28.65%. Overall, there is a high prevalence of underweight and stunting among children under 5 years. The poorest households, populations from the rural areas, and ethnic minorities consistently have worse economic and human development indicators compared to wealthier, urban and ethnic-Lao populations. It was also found that current knowledge on nutrition and health is relatively low, suggesting that mothers and their children could benefit from greater information and education about health and nutrition issues.

The RRMP II aims to develop targeting, information, and monitoring systems for social protection programs; (ii) improve key nutrition behaviors that are known to reduce childhood stunting through a nutrition-sensitive cash transfer program in selected provinces, and; (iii) enhance coordination of a multisectoral nutrition convergence approach in few selected/targeted provinces in the country.

D. 2. Borrower's Institutional Capacity



The proposed implementation arrangement for the RRPM II will be the same as for the parent (RRPM) project. The Department of Rural Development (DRD) within MAF will be responsible for the implementation of components 1-2. This includes the implementation of the conditional cash transfer program. MPI (DRI and DIC) will be responsible for the implementation of the coordination and M&E activities for nutrition convergence. The existing project management unit (PMU) of the RRPM will be responsible for the preparation and implementation of the RRPM II. The regional/provincial administration will implement the targeted interventions with guidance and support from the PMU. Even though the client has experience and knowledge on safeguards policies and implementation of instruments, they do not have knowledge and skills in preparation and implementation of ESF instruments as required under this project. Assessment of the performance of the ES management shows the implementing entities lack clear understanding and due diligence that are to be followed at the field level in effective ES risk management. The last mission of the parent project (RRPM) observed that significant improvement was made by the client, and safeguards performance was rated satisfactory. Still, some challenges are expected in the implementation of the RRPM II project due to the fact that the PMU is not familiar with the ESF and will require further capacity building. However, there are also requirements for improvement of environmental and social risk management especially as ESF is applied for the proposed RRPMII. It is, therefore, necessary for the DRD of MAF to mobilize qualified ESF consultants to assist the PMU team to prepare and implement ESF instruments and provide ESF-related training. To ensure effective implementation of the ESF activities, it is necessary that ESF focal points be appointed at central, provincial, and district levels to ensure timely and effective implementation of ESF instruments.

## II. SCREENING OF POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL (ES) RISKS AND IMPACTS

### A. Environmental and Social Risk Classification (ESRC)

Moderate

#### Environmental Risk Rating

Moderate

The environmental risk is classified as Moderate. The project will support an ongoing capacity building and development of social protection system (Component 1) involving the management of the social registry (data collection from the fields as well as from other existing databases and information systems) and the ongoing management tools (PMT, the integrated beneficiary registry, etc.) considered necessary for supporting the system for identification of eligibility and the Conditional Cash Transfer (CCT) and other related activities to be implemented under C2. The project will channel block grants to eligible pregnant women and children less than 2 years old in the targeted villages following the RRMP-I approach, and finance minor physical renovation works to expand and provide office space for district and provincial staff. These minor physical renovation works will be confined to existing public buildings and do not envisage any land acquisition or physical/economic displacement. The exact locations and types of renovation works will only be confirmed during project implementation. Similar to the activities supported under the ongoing RRPM-I, the project will mobilize a number of local staff including young graduate students (called village facilitators or VFs) and/or other relevant professionals who can support consultations and coordination of convergence activities to be conducted in some project areas). It is expected that most project staff will be based at the district level with occasional travel to villages. Environmental risk and impact are related to the safety and/or accidents of local project staff who will travel and work in remote villages, especially, the villages located in the mountainous area; road safety risk on local communities who may be involved in a project's activity and/or are living near the project's area due to transportation of project's goods and other materials to the construction sites. Risks



from civil works may include injuries from falling objects or from other construction activities, impacts from noise, vibration, and dust generated from construction activities and management of construction wastes; and community health and safety risks due to improper collection, transportation, and disposal of the construction waste. These risks and impacts are mostly small, temporary, and localized, and can be mitigated through the proper design and implementation of ES management measures. As part of the ESF requirement, there are also opportunities for the project to enhance the understanding of local authorities and communities on the conservation of natural resources and environment, solid waste management, especially those related to plastic wastes, and other environmental management aspects. There is an improvement made by the client to safeguard performance under the RRPMI, however, there are gaps for the project to improve, especially, with the ESF implementation.

**Social Risk Rating**

Moderate

The Social risk is classified as Moderate because the project does not involve any large-scale infrastructure development activities or interventions that trigger economic or physical displacement of people, damages to properties, or envisage additional lands. The project will finance only small physical civil works like nutrition halls/centers at the village level within the premises of existing community centers or lands belonging to the government or community. The main social risks are (a) exclusion of certain prospective beneficiaries from the poorest and vulnerable households, such as women, disadvantaged or vulnerable job seekers, and trainees/graduates. For example, the beneficiary feedback survey conducted ( 2021) reveals that women who do not have legal documents and are not keen on asking the Village Authority for an "identification letter", which will cost money, tend to be excluded from social programs. One of the conditions for receiving monthly cash is the requirement for mothers/pregnant women to attend community consultation sessions and four visits to a nearby health clinic. There is a risk that some women will choose not to travel and forfeit the potential benefits of the program because the cash delivery is not delivered at every village but at neighboring villages and there is a need to travel to get cash every two months ; (b) risks related to labor and working conditions including those of "Village Facilitators", fair incentives, times, travel insurance and potential Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) risks; (c) construction induced impacts to people's mobility and access, and (d) potential Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA) /Sexual Harassment (SH) during the distribution of services and goods to the targeted population. Risks of exclusion for certain ethnic minority/ Indigenous People (IP) communities in benefiting from project support and equal access to the benefits are key concerns. The project would need to adopt tailored measures to ensure that the project benefits will be delivered in a culturally appropriate manner.

Public Disclosure

**B. Environment and Social Standards (ESSs) that Apply to the Activities Being Considered**

**B.1. General Assessment**

**ESS1 Assessment and Management of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts**

**Overview of the relevance of the Standard for the Project:**

The proposed project will mainly consolidate and strengthen interventions financed under the original RRPM project (P162565) to expand access to the Conditional Cash Transfer Program, improve selected nutrition behaviors, and enhance the Government of Lao PDR's capacity to deliver integrated multi-sectoral nutrition interventions in priority target areas. The project will expand its coverage to a few new districts and provinces where small renovation civil works (such as renovation of provincial and district offices) will be financed to provide office spaces for project staff. The expected environmental risk and impacts are safety and/or accidents of local project staff while traveling and



working in villages area; safety of local communities from the operation of project vehicles and direct involvement in civil work; risk from civil works including injuries from falling objects and other construction activities, affected from noise, vibration, and dust generated from construction activities and improper management of construction wastes. The client is experienced with environmental risk management under the current project (P162565), however, their capacity will need further improvement, especially, in gaining familiarity and experience with ESF implementation.

Potential environmental and social risks of proposed interventions include occupational Health and Safety (OHS) risks and working conditions for the project's staff including community workers and communicable (air, water, and waste borne) diseases especially COVID-19; risks of social exclusion or risk that project impacts may fall disproportionately on individuals, particularly those disadvantaged or vulnerable groups including ethnic minorities, and risks of sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA) Sexual Harassment (SH), or other forms of Gender-Based Violence (GBV) during benefit distribution. Hence, ESS1, ESS2, ESS3, ESS4, ESS 7, and ESS 10 are relevant to this project. To mitigate the expected risks, an overarching Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) will be prepared by the Borrower. The ESMF will include an ES screening procedure to guide and inform eligibility of the proposed activities, capacity needs assessment and capacity-building measures, Environmental and Social Code of Practice (ESCAP) for the renovation of small civil works, a list of Do and Don't to manage staff, prevent staff from consuming/trading of wildlife and other Non-Timber Forest Product (NTFP), and generation and management of solid waste (plastic), prevent staff from exposure to and transmission of COVID-19 and Unexploded Ordinance (UXO), Operational arrangements for project E&S risk management (budget, staffing, training), and a CERC-section to the ESMF or an addendum to the main ESMF. The Borrower will also prepare Labor Management Procedures (LMP) for the project (as part of the ESMF), and a Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP). The ESMF and SEP will address relevant aspects of ESS7 by including measures to culturally appropriate strategies and consultations addressing the needs and concerns of ethnic minority and IP groups.

#### **Areas where "Use of Borrower Framework" is being considered:**

The client's E&S Framework is not proposed to be relied on for this project, in whole or in part. The Framework will not likely address the risks and impacts of the project in a manner to achieve objectives materially consistent with the ESF/ESSs.

#### **ESS10 Stakeholder Engagement and Information Disclosure**

Stakeholder engagement is the key to ensuring that the project is designed and implemented catering to the needs and requirements of the targeted population, especially ethnic minority communities who will be a key target group owing to their much higher rates of stunting and malnutrition. The social assessments carried out indicate that activities aimed at social behavioral change, and communication activities, will need to be adapted in order to be accessible to all ethnic groups. The criteria for eligible households will be explained during the consultation process and specified in SEP. The SEP will be prepared by focusing on specific cultural prohibitions and sensitivities around specific practices and using appropriate language and medium of communication in order to maximize the project outcome. The SEP will be prepared prior to project Appraisal to guide the Borrower in identifying key stakeholders, building and maintaining a constructive relationship with them, and meeting communication and disclosure



requirements with a particular focus on project-affected parties. The SEP will also describe the project’s Grievance Mechanism (GM). The beneficiary feedback survey conducted for the parent project found that the GM had some limitations and some of the most vulnerable and marginalized households were unable to reach out to project staff and volunteers. Hence, the GM that is to be developed for this project will describe an effective local-level mechanism to ensure the poorest and vulnerable households will have the opportunity to engage with project staff and voice any concerns or resolve specific complaints. The SEP will include a dedicated section describing measures the project will put in place to ensure inclusion and engagement strategies for ethnic minorities/ indigenous peoples. The SEP will be updated, and re-disclosed as needed throughout the different phases and will be implemented during the project life cycle. The client will develop the SEP early in the project preparation process to inform the engagement during the project preparation and to inform the development of communication and engagement strategies and materials that can effectively reach out to all potentially affected and interested parties, and ensure accessibility, and cultural appropriateness.

As part of the information disclosure arrangement, the preliminary ESMF including the LMP, SEP, and ESCP will be disclosed publicly on the websites of the Borrower and consulted prior to project Appraisal. Consultation meetings will be conducted in a manner consistent with applicable government guidance on COVID-19 measures for public meetings. Meaningful consultation with relevant stakeholders will be conducted before Appraisal, and its results adequately recorded and disclosed.

## **B.2. Specific Risks and Impacts**

**A brief description of the potential environmental and social risks and impacts relevant to the Project.**

### **ESS2 Labor and Working Conditions**

ESS2 is relevant. The project will involve civil servants (government staff appointed from the implementing and concerned agencies at all levels), direct workers (consultants hired directly by the PMU), and contracted workers. The parent project has employed community workers ) (mobilizers at the district level and village facilitators at the human level to support the project and will follow the same approach. Community workers are part of the salaried project staff (salary around 200-300/month) who are appointed at the District level and work over a number of villages, and Village Facilitators who receive stipends for actual work performed and monitoring activities performed at their villages. The project will not use volunteers or employ primary suppliers.

The key occupational health and safety (OHS) risk for project workers includes field-level staff and workers hired by contractors for minor civil works and operational-related activities. There are also risks related to COVID-19 transmission to all project workers, as well as beneficiaries. The project will not engage in forced or child labor, per the requirements of ESS2 and national laws, and will put in place mechanisms to screen for and prevent the occurrence of or use of child or forced labor.

Labor-related risks include the risks of (i) workers' health and safety resulting from unsafe working conditions and road travel to remote locations, (ii) employment discrimination, (iii) labor-related disputes, and (iv) Sexual Exploitation and Abuse and Sexual Harassment (SEA/SH).





The Client will prepare and implement Labor Management Procedures (LMP) applicable to the project. The LMP will set out how all categories of project workers including community workers will be managed and treated in line with the national Labor Law and ESS2. A labor grievance mechanism will be part of LMP, for all groups of workers, which will have to be able to collect and address potential grievances coming from these workers. Since the project does not expect to deploy a large number of contracted workers, with no major risks related to labor and working conditions. The LMP will be integrated into the project ESMF.

### **ESS3 Resource Efficiency and Pollution Prevention and Management**

The proposed project will support small civil works for renovation and expansion offices and village center where resources use and pollution prevention including wastes management should be considered. A measure will be prepared and provided as part of ESMF to manage all type of wastes potentially be generated from the civil works to ensure that construction wastes are properly managed.

When appropriate, measure on materials sourcing, energy saving, and water use will also be developed and applied for relevant subprojects. Pollution prevention during operations of the project supported infrastructure including waste and wastewater management will be integrated in the subproject design to inform and educate local communities and related local leaders. Management efforts will be addressed as part of ESS1 where a generic ESCOP will be developed and applied addressing ESS3 requirement.

### **ESS4 Community Health and Safety**

Contracted labor and community workers are likely to be recruited locally to support implementation of subproject including minor civil works in project target districts and villages. Community, Health and Safety must be well considered where subprojects are involved. There may be some risks related to infectious diseases, vector-borne diseases, soil, water, and waste-related diseases, impacts on privacy, mental well-being, and road safety etc. Health and safety measures proportionate to subproject's activities will be developed before project appraisal as part of ESMF and implement throughout project period to ensure Community Health and Safety issue are well managed in accordance with ESS4 requirement.

Risks associated with Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA) exist but considered to be low. The project's ESMF will pay specific attention to SEA/SH and recommend measures to be incorporated into project design. Guidance and Codes of Conduct (CoC) on interaction with communities will be incorporated into labor procedures, and grievance redress mechanism.

### **ESS5 Land Acquisition, Restrictions on Land Use and Involuntary Resettlement**

The Project will not support large-scale civil works or any activities that lead to any impacts covered under this ESS such as land acquisition, resettlement, or restriction of access to natural/livelihood resources. Minor rehabilitations and renovations proposed for some of the existing health infrastructures will not pose major risks and construction-induced social impacts will be covered through the ESMF and site-specific ESMPs to be developed during the implementation.



**ESS6 Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Management of Living Natural Resources**

ESS6 is not currently relevant. The project will not involve any activities related to biodiversity and/or sustainable use of natural resources. As the project will be implemented in the village’s areas, any risks related to this aspect will be assessed during the ES screening, mitigation measures will be developed as part of ESMF and implemented where appropriated.

**ESS7 Indigenous Peoples/Sub-Saharan African Historically Underserved Traditional Local Communities**

Most of the Project interventions are expected to be in areas in which indigenous people represent the majority of the population. Hence, the main social risk relates to the need to ensure that the project benefits will be delivered in a culturally appropriate manner. Because project activities are mostly in the poor and rural areas where a large number of ethnic minority and IP communities live the main risk relates to language barriers, exclusion of ethnic minorities in marginalized remote areas, as well as poor consultation on community health and safety or other issues of concern to the local communities. The stakeholder engagement process will pay special attention to having inclusive consultations and requirements of ESS7 on meaningfully involving ethnic groups in project activities will be included in the SEP. All relevant aspects of the indigenous people/ethnic minority (IPP/EM) including meaningful consultations in a culturally appropriate manner will be integrated into the SEP and the ESMF.

**ESS8 Cultural Heritage**

ESS8 is not currently relevant. The Project will not finance any activities that will affect known cultural heritage sites as well as intangible cultural heritage. However, risks to cultural heritage will be assessed in the ES screening form to ensure subproject activities do not adversely impact either tangible or intangible cultural heritage. Chance Finds Procedure will be incorporated into ESCOP which will be developed as part of ESMF prior project appraisal and implemented throughout project period. In addition, guidance will be provided in the ESMF to prevent trafficking in local cultural objects (such as prohibited Buddha sculptures and religious items) or entry to prohibited cultural areas (spiritual or cultural sites, graves) respected by the local community.

**ESS9 Financial Intermediaries**

ESS9 is not currently relevant. The project will not provide funding to FIs.

**B.3 Other Relevant Project Risks**

No other financing partners at this stage.

**C. Legal Operational Policies that Apply**

**OP 7.50 Projects on International Waterways**

No

Public Disclosure



**OP 7.60 Projects in Disputed Areas**

No

**III. WORLD BANK ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL DUE DILIGENCE**

**A. Is a common approach being considered?**

No

**Financing Partners**

No other financing partners at this stage.

**B. Proposed Measures, Actions and Timing (Borrower’s commitments)**

**Actions to be completed prior to Bank Board Approval:**

To be undertaken, prepared, disclosed, and consulted prior to appraisal:

1. An Environmental and Social Commitment Plan (ESCP)
2. A Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP), including Stakeholder Analysis and a Grievance Redress Mechanism covering the requirements under ESS7; and
3. A Project level Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF), including:
  - An ES screening procedure to guide and inform site-specific assessments and management plans based on the degree of significance of anticipated impacts and associated risks for all proposed activities,
  - Labor Management Procedures (LMP),
  - Capacity needs assessment,
  - Environmental and Social Code of Practice (ESCOP) for the renovation of small civil works,
  - Operational arrangements for project E&S risk management (budget, staffing, training), and

**Possible issues to be addressed in the Borrower Environmental and Social Commitment Plan (ESCP):**

- Institutional arrangements include those for ESF implementation,
- Effective implementation of the project’s E&S instruments including the list of Do and Don’t and/or ESCOP
- Effective operationalization and effective implementation of GRMs,
- Meaningful engagement (SEP) throughout project implementation,
- Effective operationalization of Incident Management System,
- Implementation of risks management measures and their monitoring,
- ESF capacity building for the implementing agencies at all levels, including volunteers,
- Allocation of adequate resources (human, including consultants and financial resources) for the implementation of risk management measures and monitoring,
- Terms of References (TORs) for the hiring of ESF consultants to assist PMU and the implementing agencies to plan, implement, supervising, and monitoring ESF requirements,
- Preparation of CERC-ESMF or Addendum to the main ESMF.

**C. Timing**

Public Disclosure



**Tentative target date for preparing the Appraisal Stage ESRS**

15-Nov-2022

**IV. CONTACT POINTS**

**World Bank**

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**Borrower/Client/Recipient**

Borrower: Lao's Peoples Democratic Republic

**Implementing Agency(ies)**

Implementing Agency: Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry

**V. FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT**

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**VI. APPROVAL**

Task Team Leader(s):	Kenichi Victor Nishikawa Chavez
Practice Manager (ENR/Social)	Ingo Wiederhofer Recommended on 17-Oct-2022 at 06:30:29 GMT-04:00
Safeguards Advisor ESSA	Nina Chee (SAESSA) Cleared on 10-Nov-2022 at 17:49:16 GMT-05:00

Public Disclosure