



Additional Financing Appraisal Environmental and
Social Review Summary
Appraisal Stage
(AF ESRS Appraisal Stage)

Date Prepared/Updated: 10/12/2022 | Report No: ESRSAFA482



BASIC INFORMATION

A. Basic Project Data

Country	Region	Borrower(s)	Implementing Agency(ies)
Yemen, Republic of	MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA	International Committee of the Red Cross	International Committee of the Red Cross
Project ID	Project Name		
P178439	AF Yemen Food Security Response and Resilience Project		
Parent Project ID (if any)	Parent Project Name		
P176129	Yemen Food Security Response and Resilience Project		
Practice Area (Lead)	Financing Instrument	Estimated Appraisal Date	Estimated Board Date
Agriculture and Food	Investment Project Financing	10/11/2022	11/7/2022

Proposed Development Objective

The Project Development Objective is to improve the availability of and access to food and nutritious diets, both in the short and medium term, for targeted households in the Project Area, and to enhance Yemen's capacity to respond to food insecurity.

Financing (in USD Million)	Amount
Current Financing	127.00
Proposed Additional Financing	150.00
Total Proposed Financing	277.00

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

Yes

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



Given the marked deterioration in food security conditions in Yemen since the approval of the Parent Project, and the substantial funding gap, there is an urgent need to scale up the Parent Project. To escape the vicious cycle of heightened vulnerability and to reduce the humanitarian caseload, livelihoods must be restored and protected – the core focus of the Parent Project. Therefore, the Additional Financing (AF) will scale-up activities focused on (on (i) restoring livelihoods through improving agricultural production infrastructure; (ii) increasing household-level food production and market development by restoring agricultural production as well as food supply chains and value addition; (iii) providing immediate relief to vulnerable rural households by supporting them with production inputs to maintain and/or kick-start household-level food production.

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 parent project and its AF will be implemented in 11 governorates and 59 districts. The primary beneficiaries of the project are poor rural households that are most affected by food insecurity in the targeted governorates. Within the targeted governorates (the targeting will be done on the basis of the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) Acute Food Insecurity, district-level project sites will be selected based on the food insecurity and malnutrition levels – please refer to annex 2 of the Project Paper. Districts with the highest level of food insecurity and malnutrition will be prioritized. The presence of aggravating factors (floods, the impact of COVID19-related restrictions, and desert locusts) will be one of the selection criteria. The other criteria will include agriculture as a major source of livelihood (proportion of the rural population), the poverty level of the household, and whether the household has benefitted from other relevant programs in agriculture and livelihood support/food security. The criteria will be detailed in the Project Operations Manual (POM) which will be prepared by effectiveness.

D. 2. Borrower's Institutional Capacity

FAO, UNDP, WFP, and ICRC Country Representations in Yemen would be directly responsible for implementing the parent project and its AF and coordinating all project activities at the sub-national level. FAO, UNDP, WFP, and ICRC will be the recipient of the IDA, while FAO and UNDP will be the receipt of GAFSP financing under the parent project, as well as the overall managing and implementing institution partners responsible for the parent project and its AF implementation, including environmental, and social aspects, as well as monitoring and reporting. FAO, UNDP, WFP, and ICRC will help ensure financial and technical accountability of the local implementing partners such as the Social Fund for Development (SFD), and Public Works Project (PWP and Small Micro Enterprise Promotion Service (SMEPS) and will ensure appropriate training and capacity building of the staff of the implementing partners.

FAO has a Project Coordination Unit (PCU) based in Sana'a, and technical staff deployed in its Aden sub-office and other decentralized hubs to ensure the day-to-day management of the project, including all fiduciary, environmental, and social aspects, as well as monitoring and reporting. That structure builds on the experience with previous grants implemented by FAO in the country. Currently, FAO has a Social Officer in the PCU Head Office in Sana'a and is in the process of recruiting an Environmental Specialist. Moreover, the FAO team in Sana'a is backstopped by a dedicated team of technical experts at the Regional (Cairo) and Headquarters (Rome) levels in line with the Level 3 fast-track procedures established due to the emergency in Yemen.



UNDP has a dedicated project team based in Sana'a, including Environmental and Safeguard Officer, Gender and Social Officer, Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) Officer who is based in Sana'a, and an International Social and Environmental Safeguard Specialist who is based in Amman. The team is backed up by a sub-office in Aden and other sub-regional offices. The parent project and its AF will have support from the regional hub and from experts in New York. The structure builds on the experience with previous WB grants implemented by UNDP in the country.

WFP has recently appointed an Environmental and Social Specialist to be based in Sana'a Office for supporting E&S risk management including monitoring and reporting. In addition, WFP has a gender specialist who is currently in place to handle GBV issues. It is mentionable that there is an ongoing World Bank-funded operation, namely: Yemen Restoring Education and Learning Project (P175036) which is implemented by 3 institutions, including WFP. Nonetheless, and as the ongoing operation is still starting, WFP E&S risk management capacity is yet to be developed, and currently still has limited experience with WB financed projects' environmental and social requirements. It should be mentioned that WFP will work with the other institutions i.e UNDP FAO and ICRC on updating the ESF instruments which would also allow WFP to benefit from the adequate expertise as well as arrangements that FAO and UNDP have already in place e.g. Monitoring and reporting OHS and SEA/SH issues.

SFD was established in Yemen by law No. 10/1997, as one of the social safety network components, to alleviate the side effects resulting from the economic reform programs. The SFD is working under a Board of Directors headed by the Prime Minister and comprises members from the government, NGOs, and Private, and Financial sectors. The SFD is fully autonomous in accordance with its establishment Law and its Manual of Operations. The Managing Director leads the SFD's executive body in the Main Office and the SFD's nine branches, which cover all the governorates of Yemen.

Institutionally, SFD's central office in Sana'a will provide overall support in implementing the project's components, and the branch offices in Aden, Amran, and El Mukalla will provide support and coordination for the project activities also in Abyan, Lahj, Saada, and Shabwa; while branch offices in Hajjah, Taiz, and Al-Hodeidah will provide support and coordination in their own governorates. Staff in the branch offices include a branch manager, procurement officer, financial management (FM) officer, technical officer for quality supervision, Monitoring and Evaluation Officer (M&E), and Information Technologies (IT) who are involved in the day-to-day activities. Additional personnel will be recruited to cover areas where there are gaps.

SFD has experience in managing environmental and social aspects as part of implementing the ongoing World Bank-supported operations – the Emergency Crisis Response Project (P159053) and its additional financings as well as the Smallholder Agricultural Production Restoration and Enhancement Project (P162659). Furthermore, SFD is the local implementation partner of the Yemen Desert Locust Response Project (P174170) and the Yemen Emergency Social Protection Enhancement and COVID-19 Response Project (P173582) both of which apply to the World Bank ESF.

While performance on safeguards was initially challenging, SFD has significantly enhanced its safeguards capacities through these projects despite the ongoing conflict. Currently, SFD maintains adequate institutional arrangements for the implementation, monitoring, and reporting of safeguards aspects. The existing environmental and social Risks management system of SFD includes a section for E&S Safeguards and OHS aspects, which is staffed with four OHS Officers. This section reports to the Technical Unit. The Environmental and Social Officer in the Head Office is in charge of supervising SFD's 10 E&S focal points at the regional/governorate level, which are deployed as follows:



three in Aden, two in Taiz, two in Hajjah, and one FP in each of Hodiedah, Amran and Mukalla. Focal points cover E&S aspects as well as OHS. SFD also has Community Officers at each of SFD’s 30 branches who are also responsible for training and awareness on, among others, gender-based violence. SFD developed an ESMF in 2014 as well as an OHS Policy in 2018. Both instruments and policies were updated in 2020. Furthermore, there is a Management Information System (MIS) that is used in subprojects’ screening, classification, and reporting.

Similarly, the Public Works Project (PWP) has developed an adequate environmental and social institutional structure with support from World Bank projects, including Emergency Crisis Response Project (P159053), Integrated Urban Services Emergency Project (P164190), and Emergency Social Protection Enhancement and COVID-19 Response Project (P173582) which applies to the World Bank ESF. PWP structure includes an E&S Safeguards Unit which was formally established in August 2018 with 2 officers covering environmental, social, and gender aspects as well as an OHS sub-unit to provide overall support, monitoring, and coordination on OHS aspects. At the branch level, PWP maintains E&S focal points to ensure compliance with OHS measures. Furthermore, site technicians are deployed at each site to monitor and report on the technical compliance of subprojects including E&S aspects.

In terms of policies and frameworks, PWP is updating its ESMF to be in line with the World Bank Environmental and Social Framework (ESF). New OHS Guidelines/procedures were prepared including screening tools that are required at the site level, e.g. monitoring and reporting checklists and templates. However, same as SFD, PWP does not have prior experience with Bank-financed projects under ESF and is not familiar with the ESF requirements.

Since 2018, SFD and PWP have embarked on a capacity-building program on E&S aspects including OHS. Under these programs, over 4000 individuals including staff, site engineers, consultants, contractors, and site workers have received training on E&S safeguards as relevant to their roles.

SMEPS will use some of the existing staff for supporting the project from Sana’a, as follows: Gender Officer, GM Officer, and Safeguards Officer. Furthermore, SMEPS will also be hiring ES consultants to cover project areas in which SMEPS will be working in under the project.

ICRC will join the project for implementing the AF. Currently, ICRC has a presence in Yemen, nonetheless, this is the first WB-funded project that ICRC will be implementing. ICRC has some ES capacity and duties which are internally performed by a part of different units. For instance, ICRC has a Community Engagement Center (CEC) which affected and interested parties can use to express their concerns via the free hotline. To ensure adequate management of ES aspects under the AF, and considering the type of activities that will be implemented, ICRC will hire an environmental safeguards specialist to support the management of E&S risks and impacts. ICRC will identify resources to be funded by the Project, including staff with environmental and social expertise.

II. SUMMARY OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL (ES) RISKS AND IMPACTS

A. Environmental and Social Risk Classification (ESRC)

Substantial



Environmental Risk Rating

Substantial

The environmental risk of the parent project and this AF is considered Substantial given that these projects will support several interventions that might be associated with environmental risks and impacts and the implementation institutions' ESF capacity remains limited, particularly ICRC which has no previous experience in implementing ESF. Considering the type and scale of interventions to be supported, the environmental risks and impacts are expected to be site-specific, reversible, and generally of low magnitude that can be mitigated following appropriate measures. Nonetheless, based on the implementation experience of ongoing projects, particularly those involving labor-intensive interventions, and the identification of significant Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) gaps, there is a significant risk for fatal incidents or serious injuries to occur under the project, particularly under the interventions of component 1 (Alleviating immediate food security needs by improving household incomes) since the activities under this component will provide temporary work opportunities to a large number of local community members who are un-skilled, largely illiterate, and with little or no knowledge or experience in applying OHS measures. In addition, the implementation of the livestock vaccination campaign under sub-component 2.1 might be associated with OHS risks as well as improper disposal of vaccination kits. Furthermore, there is a risk of injuries due to the potential explosion of a remnant of war (ERW). Component 1 will also support the rehabilitation of small-scale rural land and water infrastructure and access roads to isolated villages/communities, therefore improper management of materials that will be used for the rehabilitation activities might lead to the generation of waste and open dumping in the environment. In addition, the project might support some interventions such as rehabilitation of terraces and construction of hydroponics which might increase the use of pesticides (the project will not finance procurement of pesticides) and fertilizers which should be applied and disposed of adequately and in a controlled manner. The parent project and AF will continue to apply COVID-19 precautions and measures – as needed – to prevent the transmission among community workers. It is mentionable that the project will have several positive impacts including supporting hydroponics and aquaponics which will enhance the economically - environmentally friendly and sustainable development solution for the beneficiaries and will pilot interventions that are of high productivity and save land and water consumption for irrigation. This may encourage other farmers to replicate this intervention on a larger scale and spread scientific knowledge to other farmers countrywide.

Social Risk Rating

Substantial

The proposed parent project and its AF are expected to bring significant social benefits to the targeted communities. It will contribute to the alleviation of food security and improvement of household income through the improvement of agricultural production infrastructure, increasing domestic food production and market development, improving nutritional status and income of vulnerable households, and capacity building for food security management. The parent project and its AF could face possible adverse social impacts and risks. The proposed interventions under component 1 which include civil works will involve the improvement of agricultural lands, irrigation, water harvesting, and rural roads which are of rehabilitation and maintenance nature. They are planned to take place within their existing footprints and are expected to be quite small in scale. Therefore, land acquisition or resettlement needs are not anticipated under both the parent project and its AF. Activities under components 2, 3, and 4 do not entail any impacts, nonetheless, a negative exclusion list will be developed for both the parent project and AF. However, all activities could have the potential for labor-related impacts and risks, such as possible child labor, forced labor, discriminatory practices in recruitment, occupational health and safety issues, GBV/SEA risks, and even possible conflicts within potential beneficiary communities. It should be indicated that the GBV risk screening tool of the parent project was updated by the team against the proposed activities with a risk rating of substantial. The parent project and its AF may face a potential risk of elites or better-connected individuals or groups capturing project

Public Disclosure



benefits, affecting poor and vulnerable groups receiving their due share of project benefits. These could include the elderly, poor farmers, women, and individuals displaced by the ongoing conflict. The overall country security situation poses another challenge for the project and is a key risk for the parent project and its AF implementation. In addition to the general conflict and security situation the country faces, the parent project and its AF may face possible conflicts among local communities, interested groups, and factions over project benefits distribution. Given the above, the project's social risks are considered Substantial.

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:

ESS1 is relevant as there are potential environmental and social risks and impacts associated with the parent project and the AF interventions. Key environmental and social risks include exposing project workers and communities to health and safety risks during the implementation of works if project activities are not adequately managed. It is anticipated that activities that might cause potential negative impacts will be financed under component 1, particularly the labor-intensive community subprojects which will finance community infrastructure works. The AF will not intend an introduction of alien or non-native, species in the areas of implementation. No adverse or irreversible impacts are expected on cultural heritage. However, minor, localized, and mitigate negative impacts might be caused under the parent project and AF including noise, generation of dust and solid wastes, water use increase, and energy demand increase. These impacts might be caused during rehabilitation works under the community program which will support the rehabilitation and maintenance of terraces, on-farm water harvesting facilities (underground cisterns and open wadi pits), watershed management/rainwater harvesting structures in mountainous areas (check dikes and gabions/retaining walls in wadi beds), spate irrigation works in lower mountains and foot-hills, irrigation canals and farm-level conveyance systems, rehabilitation of small rural access roads to isolated villages/communities. Interventions to be supported under component 4 might also cause minor, localized, and mitigate impacts such as noise, generation of dust, solid wastes, and OHS impacts which might occur during the construction phase of hydroponics and aquaponics. Some of these impacts are also expected during the operation phase as well. In addition, the implementation of the livestock vaccination campaign under sub-component 2.1 might be associated with OHS risks as well as improper disposal of vaccination kits. Furthermore, supporting commercial agri-food activities under comp. 2.1 might These could include increase in use of resources (energy and water usage), increased generation of solid and liquid waste and wastewater from food processing and manufacturing operations. Adequate mitigation measures for above mentioned risks will be detailed in site-specific ESMPs which will be prepared by the implementing agency and cleared by the Bank before the implementation of the activities. Based on the implementation experience of previous World Bank-supported operations, Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) gaps might exist if no adequate measures are implemented, resulting in serious injuries or fatalities that may occur under AF, particularly under the labor-intensive community interventions of component 1 of the AF which will provide temporary work opportunities to a large number of local community members. Apart from the labor-related risks mentioned above, the key social challenge is how to ensure that project and its AF services and benefits can reach all segments of the targeted beneficiary population in a transparent, equitable, and inclusive manner, particularly for disadvantaged and vulnerable individuals and groups. Besides, apart from the general conflict and security situation the country faces, the investment benefits may give rise to possible conflict



among local communities, interested groups, and factions over the sharing and distribution of project benefits. To address this, FAO UNDP WFP and ICRC will take these into consideration in selecting and designing subcomponents for investment activities and conducting stakeholder engagement. They will jointly update the security management plan (SMP) and will work closely with its implementing partners, such as SFD, PWP, and Small Micro Enterprise Promotion Service (SMEPS), to define key selection criteria for target areas and provide a participatory, inclusive and transparent mechanism to identify and target beneficiaries based on clear eligibility criteria.

At the same time, the ESMF will be updated to help screen, plan, and mitigate potential adverse environmental and social impacts stemming from the selection and implementation of sub-projects. A TPMA will be hired for inter alia E&S verification and reporting. No TPMA reporting provided under parent project so far.

The conflict in Yemen has negative impact on women and their ability to perform their daily activities, including farming and raising animals. The AF will support women farmers under Cash for Work activities to restore their agricultural land and livelihood activities, and provide training in target areas, such as community health, nutrition, and cultivation of plants in home gardens. The AF will also support promoting women's rural entrepreneurship and distribute special foods for malnutrition children, and pregnant and lactating women by WFP. Moreover, the AF will enhance women's involvement and participation in agricultural extension services, various elements of the value chain, and agriculture-related services. The AF components 2 and 3 have designed dedicated subcomponents to target women beneficiaries.

To mitigate potential risks and impacts, the AF will need to update the ESMF by the four implementing institutions including provisions on OHS and GBV action plan. The final updated ESMF will include provisions and planning requirements to (i) screen and assess potential environmental and social impacts of the project activities, (ii) outline the objective and principles to be followed in addressing environmental and social impacts, (iii) propose mitigation measures to address identified environmental and social impacts under all components of the project and its AF and (iv) implementation arrangements, including organizational setups, staffing, and responsibilities, as well as monitoring mechanisms and relevant guidelines, procedures, and protocols including WBG EHSs. Furthermore, subproject activities will be screened against environmental and social criteria that will be included in the updated ESMF, and subsequent site-specific environmental social assessment and planning instruments and mitigation plans will be prepared -if needed- during the implementation phase and will be implemented before the commencement of any physical activities. The updated ESMF will be completed and disclosed by AF Effectiveness Date. No disbursement will be undertaken under comp 1, 2, and 3 until the updated ESMF and site-specific ESMPs – if deemed needed – are in place. The three partners of the project (FAO, WFP, and UNDP) have broadly prioritized 81 districts in 11 Governorates in Yemen as potential target areas for FSRRP through iterative discussions. As per the progress reports shared by FAO and UNDP, there are only minor activities and interventions started which include setting up developing common understanding of the project vision and objectives amongst the stakeholders and project team before commencing with implementation of the project across the country. FAO and UNDP have facilitated the selection of the project target areas, the first and crucial step of the project implementation. FAO and UNDP have agreed on criteria and process for selecting villages/communities in a given district to ensure complementarities between Components 1 and 2. The engagement of the community will be vital in the selection and validation process of villages/communities for program activities. As for WFP, no project implementation had begun because WFP program units are at different stages of preparation. Since no major/actual activities have started on ground, no labor risk, SEAH, exclusion of vulnerable groups, or environmental issues related to water harvesting are highlighted in the progress reports.

Furthermore, the rehabilitation of terraces under component 1 and the operation of hydroponics and aquaponics under component 4 might lead to an increase in using pesticides and fertilizers. If pesticides will be used, they will



adhere to principles as defined in the Pest Management Plan (PMP) a stand-alone plan which will be updated for this AF following the Environmental and Social Standard 3 on 'Resource Efficiency and Pollution Prevention and Management.

As part of the ongoing operations FAO, UNDP, SFD, and PWP have established an environmental and social management system with adequate policies, procedures, capacity, and resources, focusing on OHS aspects and mainly by implementing OHS measures provided in ESMPs without the need for OHS Frameworks. Under the proposed operations, the institutions will continue to implement capacity building programs targeting different groups and identified areas, including capacity building of senior managers and officials of implementation, and monitoring institutions on ESMF and PMP as well as capacity building program for project managers, supervisors, consultants and contractors on OHS tools and their application in the field. The project's implementing institutions will follow the COVID-19 guidelines and technical advisories issued by WHO in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The international best practice is outlined in the WHO "Operational Planning Guidelines to Support Country Preparedness and Response", annexed to the WHO "COVID-19 Strategic Preparedness and Response Plan" (February 12, 2020). Further guidance is included in the WHO "Key considerations for repatriation and quarantine of travelers in relation to the outbreak of novel coronavirus 2019-nCoV" (February 11, 2020). All these policies and advisors are available on the WHO website. Considering the high-security risk in which the project will be implemented, FAO, UNDP, WFP and ICRC will use their security management. It is mentionable that the ESMF, LMP, RF, PMP, GBV AP and SMP of the parent project will be updated by project's effectiveness date due to the short timeline for preparing this AF as an emergency operation.

ESS10 Stakeholder Engagement and Information Disclosure

Stakeholder engagement has been ongoing in these areas to a varying extent as part of the parent project. Based on these early experiences, a large number of stakeholders are anticipated to be engaged in the parent project and AF. These include public institutions, such as government institutions at the national and local level, FAO, UNDP, WFP, ICRC and its project implementing partners, civil society organizations, farmer organizations, such as water user associations, and different groups of targeted project beneficiaries communities. The targeted beneficiaries could include farmers, pastoralists, agro-pastoralists, and fishing communities; agro-enterprise producers, processors, and traders; internally displaced people, field agricultural extension officers, and animal health workers. Based on early sector experiences, vulnerable or disadvantaged groups may include but are not limited to, historically underserved and disadvantaged communities in certain parts of the country, households facing food insecurity and food shortages, female-headed and elderly-headed households, internally displaced persons, people with disabilities, extremely poor and illiterate persons.

The SEP was updated twice for the parent project since the start of the project and the third update was done for the AF by all implementing partners FAO, UNDP, and ICRC. Jointly FAO and UNDP organized a workshop on June 15, 2022, for the AF attended by 53 participants involving community beneficiaries, partners (SFD, PWP, SMEPS, contractors), and government institutions offices to explain the activities and the target areas focused on each implementing institution interventions/components. The respondents from FAO said there is an environmental impact from interventions in support of the development of veterinary clinics and immunization campaigns. Moreover, they said the best way inequitably is to select beneficiaries to support value-added and sales activities by following the appropriate criteria. The respondents said their assessment about the important role of women in women's



vegetable production and food production groups, they have a major and important role in terms of production and work in the field, and they thought that the mechanism for receiving complaints in the project, was excellent. The respondents from UNDP said that the community members advised on the regular maintenance of agricultural canals and raise community awareness and train them to know how to maintain projects operation.

The male community members have further inquiries to have interventions needed and support the community initiatives and projects, look into women's needs in the rural areas and focus on training to provide more skills to women and look into other projects that will improve the area like building schools, hospitals, roads, etc. The female community members have raised the importance of rural women's roles and participation within the community committees as they are highly needed to be engaged in raising community awareness. Also, they highlighted the importance of applying specific measures to facilitate women's participation and ensure their protection such as identifying female-friendly activities and flexible working hours for women, ensuring to have bathrooms for women on the project working site, having women recruited as nurses at the work site to help provide needed medical treatment for women workers at the site, and train the community on project operation and maintenance to ensure sustainability.

ICRC conducted consultations for its activities (subcomponent 2.1) in July and August 2022 held with relevant Ministries in the North and South on geographic scope, priorities, and implementation modalities of the vaccination program. Consultations were also held in August with bee-keeping associations on the expanded project activities foreseen under the AF in 2023. The consultation focused on their respective findings on stakeholders' needs, preferred methods of communication, and key obstacles based on their ongoing works within the potential project areas.

To address complaints or concerns related to the project and its AF activities, the implementing institutions will adopt the existing GM systems of FAO UNDP WFP and ICRC Community Engagement Center (CEC) in addition to the SFD and PWP GMs. The FAO WFP and ICRC will take overall responsibility for managing complaints received through SFD and SMEPS, under components 2 – 4, and UNDP will take overall responsibility for managing complaints received through SFD and PWP under comp 1. The FAO will disseminate the hotline number at regional and local levels to increase accountability at those levels to citizens' inquiries. This GM system will include multiple uptake mechanisms (telephone, complaints box, website, email, and text messaging). UNDP will be managing complaints received under component 1. It will be critical to have good communication on the processes of the GM system, both in terms of beneficiaries' rights and the boundaries of the system. Complaints received by the GM system will be registered, tracked, investigated, and promptly resolved. This GM is summarized in the Stakeholder Engagement Plan and will be further elaborated and updated.

According to the progress reports for the ongoing Projects, each institution has shown good performance in terms of handling and resolution of the grievances received through its system. If a grievance is received by an institution that relates to another implementing agency, the details of the complainant and the nature of the grievance will be forwarded to the concerned institution, with the complainant's permission. In addition, the institution that received the original grievance also gives the contact details of the concerned organization to the complainant. The specific set of grievances will be treated separately because of their sensitiveness and additional requirements on confidentiality such as grievances related to Sexual Exploitation and Abuse, Sexual Harassment (SEA/SH), and grievances revolving around the Labor and Working Conditions of Project workers. The implementing institutions will monitor and evaluate their stakeholder engagement processes in two distinct but related manners: i) short-term monitoring while conducting the engagement activities, to allow for adjustments and improvements; and ii) a review of results following the completion of engagement activities, to evaluate their effectiveness. It should be indicated that the first



progress reports submitted by FAO and WFP do not show any grievances received because activities are still at the initial stage.

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

Similar to the parent project, the AF is also expected to recruit and deploy direct workers, contracted workers, possibly community workers, and primary supply workers. Direct workers will be required for all project implementation offices, including FAO, UNDP, WFP, ICRC, and the local implementing partner organizations (SFD, PWP, and SMEPS). Contractors will recruit and mobilize workers for their contracts for their respective works. Community workers may also be organized and mobilized under the Cash for Work component and NGOs and volunteers under WFP's components. All these could bring their associated labor impacts. These impacts and risks could include the possible use of child labor and forced labor, discriminatory practices in recruitment, occupational health, and safety issues and GBV/SEA risks, and even possible conflicts with local communities. The labor-management procedure (LMP) will be updated jointly by the implementing institutions in coordination with the local implementing partners and will take responsibility for the implementation and monitoring of the project in line with relevant domestic laws and ESF ESS2. This updated LMP will guide FAO, UNDP, WFP, ICRC, and IPs in the management of labor-related issues under the project and its AF, in which working conditions will be included with a clear emphasis on the recruitment process. The updated LMP will also describe work conditions and the prevention of forced and child labor, OHS risks, and non-discrimination measures. The updated LMP will provide details on enforcing all workers to sign a Code of Conduct (CoC) with clear guidance and responsibilities.

A specific Grievance Mechanism (GM) for the parent project was put in place to enable workers to complain or provide feedback on their working conditions. ICRC will also adopt its GM system for handling grievances received by workers which will be reflected in the updated LMP.

Occupational health and safety will be considered during implementation. Implementing institutions should ensure the OHS plan that was developed for the parent project is reflected in the updated LMP which should include procedures on incident investigation and reporting, recording and reporting of non-conformances, emergency preparedness and response procedures, and continuous training and awareness to workers, and specific measures to prevent COVID-19 from spread amongst workers if necessary.

ESS3 Resource Efficiency and Pollution Prevention and Management

ESS3 is relevant. The parent project and AF will support the rehabilitation of terraces and the construction of hydroponics which might lead to increasing the use of pesticides and fertilizers, yet the project will not support the purchase of such chemicals. Pesticide toxicity and misuse could potentially lead to pollution of soil, water, air, and cause harm to non-target organisms, as well as negative impacts on health and safety, particularly of farmers or those who apply pesticides. To mitigate such risks, FAO will update the stand-alone Pest Management Plan of the parent project which includes a screening procedure to determine if site-specific PMPs will be prepared. The PMP will



include, inter alia, measures for (i) adequate transportation, storage, handling, and management of pesticides; (ii) management of stocks in an effective, efficient, and transparent way, (iii) a suggested capacity-building program that will be conducted to farmers for adequate storage, transportation, and management of pesticides (iv) disposal of unwanted or surplus pesticides and waste resulting from applying pesticides and for any COVID-related material. In addition, the implementation of the livestock vaccination campaign under sub-component 2.1 might be associated with OHS risks as well as improper disposal of vaccination kits. Furthermore, supporting commercial agri-food activities under comp. 2.1 might These could include increase in use of resources (energy and water usage), increased generation of solid and liquid waste and wastewater from food processing and manufacturing operations. Adequate mitigation measures for above mentioned risks will be detailed in site-specific ESMPs which will be prepared by the implementing agency and cleared by the Bank before the implementation of the activities. In addition, relevant WBG EHS Guidelines will apply, including the guidelines related to Environment, Community Health and Safety, Occupational Health and Safety, and Agribusiness/Food Production.

Given the nature and scale of the physical interventions foreseen under the project and AF, it is not expected to make significant use of resources such as water, energy, and raw materials. In addition, it is not expected that activities supported under the project will significantly generate pollution. However, the updated ESMF will propose guidelines that will be used for the assessment of the potential cumulative impacts of water use upon communities, other users, and the environment. The Smart agriculture principles will propose the relevant mitigation measures. Regarding As the promotion of hydroponics, the implementing institution will adopt measures specified in the EHSGs to optimize energy usage.

The updated ESMF and subsequent site-specific ESMPs will identify any measures which will be required to ensure efficient use of water and energy, as well as proper disposal of wastes associated with activities such as debris and other residues from rehabilitation, works under component 1, and construction works of hydroponics and aquaponics under component 3, Waste generated by these activities will be disposed of at approved sites according to with the national laws and regulations. The site-specific ESMP outlined in the updated ESMF will include mitigation measures to minimize and manage the noise levels by applying standard restrictions to hours of site work. It is also mentionable that component 1 will support cash-for-work interventions which will support farmers for the rehabilitation of water resources which will improve resource management i.e. water in targeted areas which will involve positive outcomes in line with the objectives of ESS3.

ESS4 Community Health and Safety

Each institution shall update the GBV action plan by AF effectiveness to reflect potential SEA/SH risks. This will include requirements and planning steps for risk assessment and mitigation measures. The plan may include, but is not limited to, site-specific ESMPs' actions to prevent and mitigate risks of sexual exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment (SEA/SH) in line with the updated ESMF and enforce their implementation; development, and adherence to Code of Conduct for all employees; GBV-sensitized grievance mechanism; awareness-raising of employees and community members on GBV risks and mitigation measures. The updated ESMF will include details of the action plans. Additionally, the GBV risk screening tool of the parent project was updated by the team against the proposed activities with a risk rating of substantial. Female community workers, including female consultants employed by implementing agencies, could face GBV/SEA risks, and sexual harassment. FAO, UNDP, WFP, and ICRC will recruit an



NGO experienced in GBV assessment and provide assistance to survivors to monitor and report on potential cases as per the result of the updated screening tool which was as rated substantial.

Besides, the project and its AF will have security risks under the current conflict and security situation in the country. To mitigate these social risks, FAO, UNDP, WFP, and ICRC will jointly update the security management plan (SMP) and will work closely with SFD, PWP, and SMEPs to define key selection criteria for target areas; these criteria will form part of the stakeholder engagement process, including the disclosure of public information and outreach related to the project. It is not anticipated to deploy security forces by the implementing institutions under the AF. Nonetheless, WFP is planning to rely on its security personnel for several sites. WFP had an adequate security management plan which will adopt in a manner acceptable to the requirements stipulated under ESS4.

ESS5 Land Acquisition, Restrictions on Land Use and Involuntary Resettlement

ESS5 is relevant for the parent project and its AF. The proposed interventions in farmland and irrigation work under Component One area of rehabilitation and maintenance nature. They will all be planned to take place within their existing footprints and are expected to be quite small in scale. A negative exclusion list will be developed for the project to avoid land acquisition or resettlement. Large-scale land acquisition or resettlement needs are not anticipated under the project and its AF at this stage. For possible unanticipated needs of a small amount of land taking, a resettlement framework proportional to expected risks and impacts will be prepared to guide planning in such eventualities.

ESS6 Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Management of Living Natural Resources

The project's physical interventions will be limited to the existing rural centers. The proposed project activities are not anticipating any significant threats against biodiversity and habitats. The project will not introduce an alien or non-native species in the project areas of implementation. However, the updated ESMF will propose relevant measures that may improve the landscape where cash-for-work activities will be undertaken. An exclusion list will also be proposed to avoid any threats against natural habitats.

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

There are no communities falling under the ESS7 definition of indigenous people/sub-Saharan African Historically Underserved Traditional Local Communities. This standard is not considered relevant.

ESS8 Cultural Heritage

This standard is not considered relevant. No cultural heritage impacts are expected under the project.

ESS9 Financial Intermediaries

This standard is not relevant because there is no involvement of financial intermediaries.



C. Legal Operational Policies that Apply

OP 7.50 Projects on International Waterways No

OP 7.60 Projects in Disputed Areas No

B.3. Reliance on Borrower’s policy, legal and institutional framework, relevant to the Project risks and impacts

Is this project being prepared for use of Borrower Framework? No

Areas where “Use of Borrower Framework” is being considered:

N/A

IV. CONTACT POINTS

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Borrower/Client/Recipient

Borrower: International Committee of the Red Cross

Implementing Agency(ies)

Implementing Agency: International Committee of the Red Cross

V. FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

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VI. APPROVAL

Task Team Leader(s):	Eva Hasiner, Artavazd Hakobyan
Practice Manager (ENR/Social)	Senait Nigiru Assefa Cleared on 11-Oct-2022 at 10:34:36 GMT-04:00
Safeguards Advisor ESSA	Gael Gregoire (SAESSA) Concurred on 12-Oct-2022 at 12:04:37 GMT-04:00