

**Republic of Tajikistan  
Ministry of Agriculture**

**Strengthening Resilience of the Agriculture  
Sector Project (P 175952) and its Additional  
Financing (P179851)**

**Updated for AF Appraisal**

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

**November 2022**

## ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL COMMITMENT PLAN

1. The Republic of Tajikistan (the Recipient) is implementing the Strengthening Resilience of the Agriculture Sector in Tajikistan (the Project) through the Ministry of Agriculture (MOA) with the involvement of the Ministry of Finance and supported by the State Institution Agriculture Entrepreneurship Development Project Management Unit under the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Tajikistan (AED PMU), as set out in the Financing Agreement. The International Development Association (the Association) has agreed to provide financing for the Project, including Additional Financing, as set out in the referred agreement.
2. The Recipient shall ensure that the Project is carried out in accordance with the Environmental and Social Standards (ESSs) and this Environmental and Social Commitment Plan (ESCP), in a manner acceptable to the Association. The ESCP is part of the Financing Agreement. Unless otherwise defined in this ESCP, capitalized terms used in this ESCP have the meanings ascribed to them in the referred agreement.
3. Without limitation to the foregoing, this ESCP sets out material measures and actions that the Recipient shall carry out or cause to be carried out, including, as applicable, the timeframes of the actions and measures, institutional, staffing, training, monitoring, and reporting arrangements, grievance management, and the environmental and social (E&S) instruments to be prepared or updated, consulted, adopted, disclosed, and implemented in accordance with the ESSs. Once adopted, said E&S instruments may be revised from time to time with prior written agreement with the Association.
4. As agreed by the Association and the Recipient, this ESCP will be revised from time to time if necessary, during Project implementation, to reflect adaptive management of Project changes and unforeseen circumstances or in response to Project performance. In such circumstances, the Recipient through the Ministry of Agriculture and the Association agree to update the ESCP to reflect these changes through an exchange of letters signed between the Association and the Recipient's Minister of Agriculture. The Recipient shall promptly disclose the updated ESCP.

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
<b>MONITORING AND REPORTING</b>			
A	<p><b>REGULAR REPORTING</b></p> <p>Prepare and submit to the Association regular monitoring reports on the environmental, social, health and safety (ESHS) performance of the Project, including but not limited to the implementation of the ESCP, status of preparation and implementation of Environment and Social documents required under the ESCP, stakeholder engagement activities, functioning of the grievance mechanism(s).</p>	<p>Semiannually throughout Project life.</p> <p>Submit each report to the Association no later than 15 days after the end of each reporting period.</p>	MOA, AED PMU
B	<p><b>INCIDENTS AND ACCIDENTS</b></p> <p>Promptly notify the Association of any incident or accident related to the Project which has, or is likely to have, a significant adverse effect on the environment, the affected communities, the public or workers, including, inter alia, cases of sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA), sexual harassment (SH), and accidents that result in death, serious or multiple injury. Provide sufficient detail regarding the scope, severity, and possible causes of the incident or accident, indicating immediate measures taken or that are planned to be taken to address it, and any information provided by any contractor and/or supervising firm, as appropriate.</p> <p>Subsequently, at the Association’s request, prepare a report on the incident or accident and propose any measures to address it and prevent its recurrence.</p>	<p>Notify the Association no later than 48 hours after learning of the incident or accident.</p> <p>Provide subsequent report to the Association within a timeframe acceptable to the Association.</p>	MOA, AED PMU
C	<p><b>CONTRACTORS’ MONTHLY REPORTS</b></p> <p>Require civil works contractors and supervising firms to provide monthly monitoring reports on ESHS performance in accordance with the ESHS metrics specified in the respective bidding documents and contracts and submit such reports to the Association.</p>	<p>Submit the monthly reports to the Association upon request, and/or annexes to the reports to be submitted under action A above.</p>	MOA, AED PMU

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
D	<p><b>NOTIFICATIONS RELATING TO DAAB COMPLIANCE REVIEW OF CONTRACTOR COMPLIANCE WITH SEA/SH PREVENTION AND RESPONSE OBLIGATIONS</b></p> <p>Notify the Association of any referral submitted to the Dispute Avoidance and Adjudication Board (DAAB) to initiate a process of compliance review in relation to a contractor’s obligations to prevent and respond to sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA), and/or sexual harassment (SH) specified in the respective works contract with such contractor; and, in the event of any such referral, notify the Association of: (i) the DAAB’s decision on such referral; (ii) the contractor’s Notice of Dissatisfaction, if any, with such DAAB decision; (iii) any notification received on the commencement of an emergency arbitration proceeding or full arbitration proceeding in relation to the DAAB’s decision; and (iv) the resulting emergency arbitration order and/or full arbitration order, if any.</p>	<p>No later than 7 days after the issuance or receipt, as applicable, of the relevant document (i.e., referral to the DAAB, issuance of DAAB decision, Notice of Dissatisfaction, notice of commencement of emergency/full arbitration, emergency/full arbitration order, as applicable).</p>	<p>MOA, AED PMU</p>
<b>ESS1: ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RISKS AND IMPACTS</b>			
1.1	<p><b>ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE</b></p> <p>The Recipient will maintain the AED PMU with qualified staff and resources to support management of ESHS risks and impacts of the Project, including one environmental specialist and one social specialist and will contract consultants, as necessary, for support in specific areas that may include, but is not limited to, pest management, biodiversity, and stakeholder engagement.</p>	<p>Maintain the AED PMU throughout Project implementation as set out in the Financing Agreement.</p>	<p>MOA, AED PMU</p>

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
1.2	<p><b>ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL INSTRUMENTS</b></p> <p>1. Implement the Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) adopted for the parent Project, consistent with the relevant ESSs.</p> <p>2. Screen any proposed subprojects in accordance with the ESMF adopted for the parent Project and thereafter prepare, consult, adopt, disclose, and thereafter implement site-specific Environmental and Social Impact Assessments (ESIAs), and corresponding Environmental and Social Management Plans (ESMPs) and ESMP Checklists, consistent with the relevant ESSs. The proposed activities described in the exclusion list set out in the ESMF shall be ineligible to receive financing under the Project.</p> <p>3. Implement the updated Social Inclusion Plan, prepared for the parent Project to ensure that poor and disadvantaged sections, especially women, are included in the Project activities.</p>	<p>Throughout Project implementation.</p> <p>Before launching the bidding process for the respective subproject activities. Once adopted, implement the respective ESMP throughout Project implementation. The first two instruments of each type (ESIA/ESMP) will be reviewed and approved by the Association. All subsequent instruments as well as the implementation thereof will be reviewed by the Association during regular implementation review missions.</p> <p>Implement throughout the Project.</p>	MOA AED PMU
1.3	<p><b>MANAGEMENT OF CONTRACTORS</b></p> <p>Incorporate the relevant aspects of the ESCP, including the relevant Environment and Social documents and/or plans, and the Labor Management Procedures, into the ESHS specifications of the procurement documents with any contractors for specific Project activities. Thereafter ensure that the contractors comply with the ESHS specifications of their respective contracts.</p>	Prior to issuing of any Bidding Documents.	MOA AED PMU
1.4	<p><b>TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE</b></p> <p>Ensure that the consultancies, studies (including feasibility studies, if applicable), capacity building, training, and any other technical assistance activities under the Project, including, inter alia, the environmental and social instruments to be supported under the TA are carried out in accordance with terms of reference acceptable to the Association, that are consistent with the ESSs. Thereafter ensure that the outputs of such activities comply with the terms of reference and are consistent with the ESSs.</p>	Throughout Project implementation.	MOA, AED PMU

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
<b>ESS2: LABOR AND WORKING CONDITIONS</b>			
2.1	<p><b>LABOR MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES (LMP)</b>                      Implement the LMP prepared for the parent Project to ensure adequate occupational health and safety measures (including emergency preparedness and response measures), setting out grievance arrangements for Project workers, ensuring that the grievance mechanism (GM) is equipped or adapted to address SEA/SH allegations, and incorporating labor requirements, standard Codes of Conduct to prevent Sexual Exploitation and Abuse and Sexual Harassment (SEA/SH) into the ESHS specifications of the procurement documents and contracts with contractors and supervising firms.</p>	Throughout Project implementation.	MOA, AED PMU
2.2	<p><b>CHILD LABOR MONITORING (CLM)</b>                      Implement the CLM prepared for the parent Project to monitor child labor deployment in the project's agricultural spheres.</p>	Throughout Project implementation.	MOA, AED PMU
2.2	<p><b>GRIEVANCE MECHANISM FOR PROJECT WORKERS</b>                      Maintain, and operate a GM for Project workers, as described in the LMP and consistent with ESS2.</p>	Throughout Project implementation.	MOA, AED PMU
<b>ESS3: RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT</b>			
3.1	<p><b>PEST MANAGEMENT</b>                      The ESMF contains a detailed chapter on pest management, including an assessment of current pest management practice in Tajikistan; recommended actions by the project to help address short-comings (if any) identified in that assessment; lists of pesticides banned by national law or prohibited by the ESF and ESSs; and guidance on resource efficiency and pollution prevention and management measures, as well as specific measures on pesticides and fertilizers management to be incorporated into the site-specific ESAs (subsequent ESAs, ESMPs and ESMP-Checklists) to be developed during project implementation.</p>	Throughout Project implementation	AED PMU
3.2	<p><b>ORGANIC WASTE MANAGEMENT</b>                      The ESMF contains detailed procedures for managing organic waste related to agricultural production, transport, and storage.</p>	Throughout the life of the Project.	AED PMU
<b>ESS4: COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY</b>			

4.1	<p><b>COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY</b></p> <p>The ESMF includes measures and actions to assess and manage specific risks and impacts to the community arising from Project activities including COVID-19 risks and precautions; traffic management and safety; pollution and waste management; pest management; and the prevention of and response to sexual exploitation and abuse, and sexual harassment.</p>	Throughout Project implementation	AED PMU  AED PMU
<b>ESS5: LAND ACQUISITION, RESTRICTIONS ON LAND USE AND INVOLUNTARY RESETTLEMENT</b>			
5.1	<p><b>RESETTLEMENT POLICY FRAMEWORK (RPF)</b></p> <p>Implement the RPF prepared and adopted for the parent Project to address involuntary resettlement.</p>	Throughout Project implementation	MOA, AED PMU
5.2	<p><b>RESETTLEMENT PLANS</b></p> <p>Prepare, adopt, and implement site specific Resettlement Action Plans (RAPs) in accordance with ESS5 and consistent with the requirements of RPF that has been prepared for the parent Project, and thereafter adopt and implement the respective RAPs before carrying out any associated activities requiring an RAP in a manner acceptable to the Association.</p>	Prior to commencing any Project activities requiring a RAP throughout the life of the Project.	MOA, AED PMU
<b>ESS6: BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF LIVING NATURAL RESOURCES</b>			
6.1	<p><b>BIODIVERSITY RISKS AND IMPACTS</b></p> <p>Using the screening form in the ESMF prepared for the parent Project, conduct a preliminary screening, and assess each of proposed activity/subproject for financing in terms of its risks and impacts on biodiversity and living natural resources. Ensure all activities/subprojects with significant impacts are excluded from the project financing.</p>	Throughout the life of the Project	MOA, AED PMU
<b>ESS7: INDIGENOUS PEOPLES/SUB-SAHARAN AFRICAN HISTORICALLY UNDERSERVED TRADITIONAL LOCAL COMMUNITIES</b> ESS7 is not relevant to the Project.			
<b>ESS8: CULTURAL HERITAGE</b> ESS8 is not relevant to the Project; however, the ESMF contains “chance find procedures” to be applied to Project activities.			
<b>ESS9: FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES</b> ESS9 is not relevant to the Project.			
<b>ESS10: STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION DISCLOSURE</b>			

10.1	<p><b>STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN (SEP) IMPLEMENTATION</b></p> <p>The updated SEP will be implemented, consistent with ESS10 and in a manner acceptable to the Association. The SEP will also be updated, as necessary during project implementation.</p>	Throughout Project implementation	MOA, AED PMU
10.2	<p><b>PROJECT GRIEVANCE MECHANISM (GM)</b></p> <p>Maintain, and operate a Project GM, as described in the updated SEP.</p>	Throughout Project implementation	MOA, AED PMU
<b>CAPACITY SUPPORT (TRAINING)</b>			
CS1	<p>MOA/AED PMU and contractors will receive training on relevant environmental and social issues including, but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The implementation of the ESF instruments;</li> <li>• The ESMF prepared for the project;</li> <li>• Pest management issues and best practices;</li> <li>• Relevant occupational health and safety, issues including COVID-19 precautions;</li> <li>• Social Inclusion Plan, SEP, and GM implementation;</li> <li>• Labor Management Procedures, including child labor monitoring;</li> <li>• Prevention of and response to sexual exploitation and abuse, and sexual harassment.</li> </ul>	Throughout the life of the Project.	MOA, AED PMU