

**Republic of Tajikistan  
Ministry of Agriculture  
Strengthening Resilience of the Agriculture  
Sector in Tajikistan – P175952**

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

**April 23, 2021**

## ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL COMMITMENT PLAN

1. The Republic of Tajikistan (the Recipient) is planning to implement Project 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 Project Implementation Unit to be established under the MOA (MOA PIU). The International Development Association (the Association) has agreed to provide financing for the Project.
2. The Recipient will implement material measures and actions so that the Project is implemented in accordance with the Environmental and Social Standards (**ESSs**). This Environmental and Social Commitment Plan (**ESCP**) sets out material measures and actions, any specific documents or plans, as well as the timing for each of these.
3. The Recipient will also comply with the provisions of any other Environment and Social documents required under the ESF and referred to in this ESCP, such as Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF); site specific Environmental and Social Impact Assessments/Environmental and Social Management Plans (ESIA/ESMP); Labor Management Procedures (LMP); Pest Management Plans (PMP); Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF); Resettlement Action Plans (RAP); and Stakeholder Engagement Plans (SEP), and the timelines specified in those Environment and Social documents.
4. The Recipient is responsible for compliance with all requirements of the ESCP even when implementation of specific measures and actions is conducted by the MOA and MOA PIU.
5. Implementation of the material measures and actions set out in this ESCP will be monitored and reported to the Association by the Recipient as required by the ESCP and the conditions of the legal agreement, and the Association will monitor and assess progress and completion of the material measures and actions throughout implementation of the Project.
6. As agreed by the Association and the Recipient, his ESCP may be revised from time to time during Project implementation, to reflect adaptive management of Project changes and unforeseen circumstances or in response to assessment of Project performance conducted under the ESCP itself. In such circumstances, Recipient will agree to the changes with the Association and will update the ESCP to reflect such changes. Agreement on changes to the ESCP will be documented through the exchange of letters signed between the Association and the Recipient. The Recipient will promptly disclose the updated ESCP.
7. Where Project changes, unforeseen circumstances, or Project performance result in changes to the risks and impacts during Project implementation, the Recipient shall provide additional funds, if needed, to implement actions and measures to address such environmental and social risks and impacts that might include pest management, environmental health and safety, biodiversity, labor, land use and tenure, and community engagement.

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>	Quarterly throughout project implementation period starting from the effective date.	MOA PIU
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. Provide sufficient detail regarding the incident or accident, indicating immediate measures taken or that are planned to be taken to address it, and any information provided by any contractor and supervising entity, as appropriate. Subsequently, as per the Association’s request, prepare a report on the incident or accident and propose any measures to prevent its recurrence.</p>	Promptly after taking notice of the incident or accident, but no later than two calendar days from learning of its occurrence. Follow-on reporting will be provided within a timeframe acceptable to the Association.	MOA PIU
C	<p><b>CONTRACTOR REPORTING</b></p> <p>Prepare and submit to the Association monthly monitoring reports on the environmental, social, health and safety (ESHS) performance of specific works contracts, including but not limited to the implementation of the ESIA/ESMP and IPMP, stakeholder engagement activities, functioning of the grievance mechanism(s).</p>	Monthly throughout project implementation period starting from the start of specific contracts.	Contractors via MOA PIU
<b>ESS 1: ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RISKS AND IMPACTS</b>			
1.1	<p><b>ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE</b></p> <p>The MOA has established and will maintain the PIU with qualified staff and resources to support management of Environment and Social risks and the delivery of actions agreed in this ESCP. The PIU will include Environmental and Social Specialists on staff 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>Full time Environmental and Social Staff onboard prior to Project Effectiveness.</p> <p>Organizational Structure acceptable to the Association maintained throughout Project Implementation.</p>	MOA

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
1.2	<p><b>ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK (ESMF)</b>                      The ESMF outlines the guiding principles of environmental screening, assessment, review, management, and monitoring procedures for all envisaged activities. The ESMF also includes a PMP for the project as well as a check-list for determining if and when site-specific ESIA/ESMP might be required for proposed activities.</p>	<p>An ESMF, acceptable to the Association, has been prepared, consulted on, and disclosed by the Recipient and the Association. The ESMF will be updated from time to time, when necessary, in agreement with the Association. When updated, the revised ESMF, will be consulted on, and re-disclosed.</p> <p>The ESMF will be implemented throughout the life of the Project.</p>	MOA PIU
1.2.1	<p><b>SOCIAL INCLUSION PLAN (SIP)</b>                      Prepare a plan, as a part of the POM, outlining guiding principles and approach as well as methodology to ensure that poor and disadvantaged sections, especially women, are included in the Project activities.</p>	A SIP acceptable to the Association will be finalized, consulted on, and disclosed prior to Project Effectiveness	MOA PIU
1.2.2	<p><b>MANAGEMENT TOOLS AND INSTRUMENTS</b>                      All proposed project activities will be screened in accordance with the ESMF prepared for the Project. When required, ESIA/ESMP will be drafted, adopted, and implemented in accordance with the ESMF and in a manner acceptable to the Association.</p>	The site specific ESIA/ESMP for activities judged to be of substantial environmental or social risk will be reviewed by the Bank prior to issuing bidding documents for those activities, otherwise, they will be reviewed by the Bank during regular implementation support missions.	MOA PIU
1.3	<p><b>MANAGEMENT OF CONTRACTORS</b>                      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 PIU

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
<b>ESS 2: LABOR AND WORKING CONDITIONS</b>			
2.1	<p><b>LABOR MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES (LMP)</b></p> <p>An LMP has been prepared for the Project that includes, implementing 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>	<p>An LMP, acceptable to the Association, has been prepared, consulted on, and disclosed by the Recipient and the Association.</p> <p>The LMP will be implemented throughout the life of the Project.</p>	MOA PIU
2.2	<p><b>CHILD LABOR MONITORING (CLM)</b></p> <p>Draft an approach and methodology, as a part of the POM, to monitor child labor deployment in the project’s agricultural spheres.</p>	<p>A CLM, acceptable to the Association, will be prepared, consulted on, and disclosed prior to Project Effectiveness.</p>	MOA PIU
2.3	<p><b>GRIEVANCE MECHANISM FOR PROJECT WORKERS</b></p> <p>Establish, maintain, and operate a GM for Project workers, as described in the LMP and consistent with ESS2.</p>	<p>The GM for Project Workers will be established within 30 days of Project Effectiveness and implemented throughout the life of the Project.</p>	MOA PIU
<b>ESS 3: RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT</b>			
3.1	<p><b>PEST MANAGEMENT</b></p> <p>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 a Pest Management Plans (PMP) for the project.</p>	<p>An ESMF including required Pest Management sections, acceptable to the Association, has been prepared, consulted on, and disclosed by the Recipient and the Association.</p> <p>The ESMF will be implemented throughout the life of the Project.</p>	MOA PIU
3.2	<p><b>ORGANIC WASTE MANAGEMENT</b></p> <p>The ESMF contains detailed procedures for managing organic waste related to agricultural production, transport, and storage.</p>	<p>An ESMF including procedures on organic waste management acceptable to the Association, has been prepared, consulted on, and disclosed by the Recipient and the Association.</p> <p>The ESMF will be implemented throughout the life of the Project.</p>	MOA PIU

<b>ESS 4: COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY</b>			
4.1	<b>COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY</b> 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.	An ESMF including required community health and safety provisions, acceptable to the Association, has been prepared, consulted on, and disclosed by the Recipient and the Association.  The ESMF will be implemented throughout the life of the Project.	MOA PIU
<b>ESS 5: LAND ACQUISITION, RESTRICTIONS ON LAND USE AND INVOLUNTARY RESETTLEMENT</b>			
5.1	<b>RESETTLEMENT POLICY FRAMEWORK (RPF)</b> An RPF has been prepared for the project that clarifies how land use will be managed during Project implementation and the criteria for preparing site specific RAPs.	An RPF, acceptable to the Association, has been prepared, consulted on, and disclosed by the Recipient and the Association.  The RPF will be implemented throughout the life of the Project.	MOA PIU
5.2	<b>RESETTLEMENT PLANS</b> The Project will Prepare, adopt, and implement RAPs in accordance with ESS 5 and consistent with the requirements of RPF that has been prepared for the Project, and thereafter adopt and implement the respective RAPs before carrying out the any associated activities requiring an RAP in a manner acceptable to the Association.	A RAP will be prepared and implemented prior to commencing any Project activities requiring a RAP throughout the life of the Project.	MOA PIU
<b>ESS 6: BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF LIVING NATURAL RESOURCES</b>			
6.1	<b>BIODIVERSITY RISKS AND IMPACTS</b> Using the screening form in the ESMF, 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.	An ESMF including ESS 6 requirements, acceptable to the Association, has been prepared, consulted on, and disclosed by the Recipient and the Association.  The ESMF will be implemented throughout the life of the Project	MOA PIU
<b>ESS 7: INDIGENOUS PEOPLES/SUB-SAHARAN AFRICAN HISTORICALLY UNDERSERVED TRADITIONAL LOCAL COMMUNITIES</b> ESS 7 is not relevant to the Project.			
<b>ESS 8: CULTURAL HERITAGE</b> ESS 8 is not relevant to the Project; however, the ESMF will contain “chance find procedures” to be applied to Project activities.			

<b>ESS 9: FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES</b>			
ESS 9 is not relevant to the Project.			
<b>ESS 10: STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION DISCLOSURE</b>			
10.1	<p><b>STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN (SEP) PREPARATION AND IMPLEMENTATION</b></p> <p>An SEP acceptable to the Association, has been prepared for the Project.</p> <p>The 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>	The SEP will be implemented throughout the preparation and life of the Project.	MOA PIU
10.2	<p><b>PROJECT GRIEVANCE MECHANISM (GM)</b></p> <p>Prepare, adopt, maintain, and operate a Project GM, as described in the SEP.</p>	The Project GM will be implemented throughout the life of the Project.	MOA PIU
<b>CAPACITY SUPPORT (TRAINING)</b>			
CS1	<p>MOA PIU 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;</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; and</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 PIU