

**GOVERNMENT OF ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF AFGHANISTAN**  
**Ministry of Agriculture Irrigation and Livestock (MAIL)**

**Emergency Agriculture and Food Supply Project (P174348)**

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

**July 2020**

## ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL COMMITMENT PLAN

1. The Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan (GoIRA) is planning to implement Emergency Agriculture and Food Supply (EATS) Project. The Project will be implemented by Ministry of Agriculture Irrigation and Livestock (MAIL). Under MAIL, the Project Management Unit (PMU) staffed with technical, administrative and environment and social experts will be established. MAIL will be responsible for implementing the food component and associated activities and will establish a PIU with a main office in MAIL compound and regional offices. The Ministry of Finance of Afghanistan has requested the International Development Association (hereinafter **the Association**) to help prepare and fund the above project and the Association has agreed. The proposed project development objectives are to increase agricultural production capacity, support critical food supply chains, and create short-term economic opportunities in response to Covid-19 emergency
2. Ministry of Agriculture Irrigation and Livestock (MAIL) will implement material measures and actions so that the Project is implemented in accordance with the World Bank Environmental and Social Standards (**ESSs**). This Environmental and Social Commitment Plan (**ESCP**) sets out a summary of the material measures and actions.
3. MAIL with the help of the WB will prepare the ESMF, RPF and LMP within 45 days of the project effectiveness. The ESCP which will be referenced in the Project Financing Agreement (FA) ensuring that all the provisions and requirements related to the E&S instruments (i.e. ESMF, RPF, PMP, LMP etc) will be clearly stipulated.
4. The table below summarizes the material measures and actions that are required as well as the timing of the material measures and actions. Implementation of the material measures and actions set out in this ESCP will be monitored and reported to the Association by MAIL 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. MAIL is responsible for compliance with all requirements of the ESCP even when implementation of specific measures and actions is conducted by the agency.
5. As agreed by the Association, this ESCP may be revised from time to time during the implementation, to reflect adaptive management of relevant project changes and unforeseen circumstances or in response to assessment of the project performance conducted under the ESCP itself. In such circumstances, the PIU 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 PIU. The updated ESCP will be disclosed. Depending on the project, the ESCP may also specify the funding necessary for completion of a measure or action.
6. Where Project changes, unforeseen circumstances, or Project performance result in changes to the risks and impacts during Project implementation, MAIL shall provide additional funds, if needed, to implement actions and measures to address such risks and impacts.

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
<b>MONITORING AND REPORTING</b>			
A	<b>REGULAR REPORTING:</b> Prepare and submit to the Bank regular monitoring reports on the environmental, social, health and safety (ESHS) performance of the Project, including but not limited to the status of preparation and implementation of E&S documents required under the ESCP, stakeholder engagement activities, and the operation of the Project’s grievance mechanisms.	Quarterly throughout Project implementation	<i>1- Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock (MAIL)</i>
B	<b>INCIDENTS AND ACCIDENTS NOTIFICATION:</b> Promptly notify any incident or accident related or having an impact on the Project which has, or is likely to have, a significant adverse effect on the environment, the affected communities, the public or workers including without limitation any allegations of gender-based violence, Project-related occupational accidents or fatalities, or labor unrest. Provide sufficient details regarding the incident or accident, indicating immediate measures taken to address it, and include information provided by any contractor and supervising entity, as appropriate.	Report severe incidents to the World Bank within 48 hours after an incident or accident has occurred in line with the World Bank’s Environment and Social Incidence Response Toolkit (ESIRT) to the World Bank, after taking notice of the incident or accident.	<i>1- Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock (MAIL)</i>
<b>ESS 1: ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RISKS AND IMPACTS</b>			

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
1.1	<p><b>ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Appoint a dedicated and qualified full time Environmental Specialist and one Social Specialist in the PMU to review and monitor the ESF instruments, carry out environmental and social assessments of the sub projects at the National, Provincial and local levels and work with State level PIUs including appointment of Community Liaison Officers who will be responsible for ensuring compliance with the ESMP and relevant instruments. Maintain the organizational structure as necessary throughout Project implementation period.</li> <li>• If needed, Hire External Social Development/Standards Specialist to support the social officer to help build capacity of the Project Management Unit (PMU), Provincial Project Implementation Unit (PIUs) to monitor and implement the ESF instruments</li> <li>• If needed, hire external environmental consultant to support the environmental officer to help build capacity of the National Project Management Unit (PMU), Provincial Project Implementation Unit (PPIUs) to monitor and implement the ESF instruments</li> <li>• Mobilize additional staff needed on short-term or long-term assignment in accordance with ESMP/ESMP institutional assessment/needs, including subject matter specialists on GBV/SEA, labor conditions (health &amp; safety) and social inclusion.</li> </ul>	<p>MAIL has already hired one international and one local ES specialist.</p> <p>Through project preparation and implementation as needed.</p>	<p>1- Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock (MAIL)</p>

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS	TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
<p>1.2 <b>ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL ASSESSMENT/MANAGEMENT PLANS AND INSTRUMENTS/ CONTRACTORS</b></p> <p>a. Environmental and Social Framework (ESMF) and the Pest Management Plan (PMP) including IPM approach will establish procedures for screening E&amp;S risks and impacts of sub-projects, preparation of site-specific ESMPs, including management and monitoring of mitigation measures and includes Traffic Management Plan, Occupational, Health and Safety Plan, Emergency Preparedness Plan, GBV action plan, Waste Management Plan, Construction ESMPs including OHS concerns especially the COVID-19 Infection mitigation measures, (CESMPs) and Environmental and Social Codes of Practices (ECOPs) etc, satisfactory to the World Bank.</p> <p>b. Prepare, disclose, adopt, and implement any environmental and social management plans or other instruments required for the respective Project activities based on the assessment process, in accordance with the ESSs, the ESMF, the EHSs, and other relevant Good International Industry Practice (GIIP) including WHO Country &amp; Technical Guidance - Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) and the WHO Guidelines.</p> <p>c. Incorporate the relevant aspects of this ESCP, including, inter alia, any environmental and social management plans or other instruments, ESS2 requirements, and any other required ESHS measures, into the ESHS specifications of the procurement documents and contracts with contractors and supervising firms. Thereafter ensure that the contractors and supervising firms comply with the ESHS specifications of their respective contracts.</p>	<p>a. The ESMF and the Pest Management Plan (PMP) will be prepared within 45 days after project effectiveness. Screening under the ESMP shall be conducted before carrying out Project activities that may have environmental and social implications. Until the ESMP is approved, the Project will apply the WHO standards on COVID-19 response in a manner consistent with ESS 1.</p> <p>b. ESMPs or instruments acceptable to the Association, will be prepared before beginning the relevant Project activities, and thereafter implemented throughout the implementation of such activities.</p> <p>c. Before launching the procurement process for the relevant Project activities, and thereafter throughout the carrying out of such activities</p>	<p>1- Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock (MAIL)</p>

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<p>1.3 <b>EXCLUSIONS:</b> Exclude the following type of activities as ineligible for financing under the Project:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Activities that may cause long term, permanent and/or irreversible (e.g. loss of major natural habitat) adverse impacts on the environment</li> <li>• Activities that have high probability of causing serious adverse effects to human health and/or the environment including related exposure to COVID-19 infection</li> <li>• Activities that may have significant adverse social impacts and may give rise to significant social conflict</li> <li>• Activities that may affect lands or rights of minorities</li> <li>• Activities that may involve permanent resettlement or land acquisition or adverse impacts on cultural heritage</li> <li>• All the other excluded activities set out in the ESMF of the Project.</li> </ul>	<p>These exclusions shall be applied as part of the assessment process conducted under action 1.2.a. above.</p>	<p>1- Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock (MAIL)</p>
<b>ESS 2: LABOR AND WORKING CONDITIONS</b>		
<p>2.1 <b>LABOR MANAGEMENT:</b> The Project shall be carried out in accordance with the applicable requirements of ESS2, in a manner acceptable to the Bank, including through, inter alia, implementing adequate occupational health and safety measures (including emergency preparedness and response measures), setting out grievance arrangements for Project workers, and incorporating labor requirements into the ESHS specifications of the procurement documents and contracts with contractors and supervising firms. For this project particular attention will need to be paid to the security and safety of workers in project areas. Measures should include adequate PPE and relevant security measures for staff. The labor management plan will also include a code of conduct regarding GBV and SEA/SH and general conduct with project beneficiaries and communities, which all workers in the project will have to abide by.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Following the labor management procedures (LMP) to be completed within 45 days of effectiveness and adapted,</li> <li>• Prepare the site-specific Labor Management Plan for each sub-project. Sensitization in the code of conduct should be conducted prior to any sub-project activity.</li> </ul>	<p>1- Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock (MAIL)</p>

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS	TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
<b>ESS 3: RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT</b>		
<p>Relevant aspects of this standard shall be considered, as needed, under action 1.2 above, including, inter alia, measures to manage health care wastes and other types of hazardous and non-hazardous wastes via preparation of a situation specific ESMP prior to commencement of the subproject. The water resources efficiency should be promoted through the relevant possible methods used by the communities and the On-Farm Water Management Project if introduced in the area. The Pest Management Plan having IPM approach will be prepared within 45 days of project effectiveness.</p>	<p>The Pest Management Plan (PMP) will be prepared within 45 days after project effectiveness.</p>	<p><i>Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock (MAIL)</i></p>
<b>ESS 4: COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY</b>		
<p>Some project activities may give rise to the risk of Gender-Based Violence (GBV), in particular, Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA) and Sexual Harassment (SH) risks. The IA (MAIL) will put measures in place to prevent or minimize GBV/SEA/SH risks, and the spread of the infectious disease, including COVID-19 to the community. Emergency preparedness measures will also be developed and implemented to manage unlikely cases e.g. a fire response or natural phenomena event.</p> <p>The CDCs/IAs (MAIL) will ensure that the security personnel follow strict codes of conduct in line with ESS4 and avoid any escalation of disputes as well as the potential stress related to it.</p>		
<b>ESS 5: LAND ACQUISITION, RESTRICTIONS ON LAND USE AND INVOLUNTARY RESETTLEMENT</b>		

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS	TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
<p>The project activities are expected to involve minor land acquisition for irrigation schemes, rehabilitation / construction of irrigation canals, small reservoirs, watershed management and etc. A stand-alone Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF) will be prepared during project implementation phase. The RPF will also include the procedures and approaches for land acquisition/land donation, community contribution and related impacts under various phases of the project and will provide guidance for preparation of Resettlement Action Plans (RAP), if required. In cases of land donation, the project will ensure that: a) no land donation is done under coercion and pressure; b) donated land is not more than 10% of total asset of the donor and; c) the donor legally transfer the land for investment under the Project. The RPF will cover the potential temporary and permanent impact on such land and assets and propose appropriate mitigation measures. The client will also conduct meaningful and participatory stakeholder consultations in the project areas in accordance with COVID-19 permitted measures. The RPF will be reviewed/cleared by the Bank and publicly disclosed in English and local languages on MAIL and WB websites.</p>	<p>The RPF will be completed within 45 days of effectiveness and adapted.</p>	<p>1- Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock (MAIL)</p>
<b>ESS 6: BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF LIVING NATURAL RESOURCES</b>		
<p>ESMF will include guidelines and checklists to be used by PIU E&amp;S Focal Officers during preparation and Implementation of ESMPs or assessing the sites. The ESMF will have screening criteria for conserving sensitive areas and making them ineligible for project interventions</p>		
<b>ESS 7: INDIGENOUS PEOPLES/SUB-SAHARAN AFRICAN HISTORICALLY UNDERSERVED TRADITIONAL LOCAL COMMUNITIES</b>		
<p>[Not relevant.] ESS7 is not relevant to the project as there are no IP/SSAHUTLCs in Afghanistan as per standard definition of ESS7.</p>		
<b>ESS 8: CULTURAL HERITAGE</b>		
<p>Currently there is no indication of potential impacts on cultural heritage. However, this will be thoroughly assessed as part of the ESMF development process for all specific investments, covering both “man-made” cultural or archaeological resources as well as any natural features (such as water bodies) which may hold intangible cultural or religious value to local communities. If potential impacts on cultural heritage near or on any project sites are identified, cultural heritage plan(s) will be developed in accordance with this standard and national law, including chance find procedures. The ESMF will include guidelines for Chance Find Procedures according to national law, which will be followed. The ESMF will also include TOR for Cultural Heritage Management Plan (CHMP) which will be used in case any site is determined to involve cultural heritage impacts.</p>		
<b>ESS 9: FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES</b>		



MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS	TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
[Not relevant.]		
<b>ESS 10: STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION DISCLOSURE</b>		
10.1 <b>STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN:</b> Update, disclose, adopt, and implement a Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) consistent with ESS10, in a manner acceptable to the Bank.	A draft SEP has been completed. It will be further updated and disclosed and adopted not later than 30 days after the Effective Date. The SEP will be implemented and updated and redisclosed as needed throughout the Project implementation period.	1- Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock (MAIL)
10.2 <b>GRIEVANCE MECHANISM:</b> establish the functional and accessible grievance mechanisms as defined in the SEP and make it publicly available to receive and facilitate resolution of concerns and grievances in relation to the Project, consistent with ESS10, in a manner acceptable to the Bank.	Throughout Project implementation.  Recruitment of Grievance handling Specialist	1- Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock (MAIL)
<b>CAPACITY SUPPORT (TRAINING)</b>		
C1 Training topics for personnel involved in Project implementation will include, among other things: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Training topics as per the WHO Guidelines on Safe Management of Wastes from Health-Care Activities <a href="https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/85349/9789241548564_eng.pdf;jsessionid=EE45FF4B510A5297A7DFF6030A3BED25?sequence=1">https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/85349/9789241548564_eng.pdf;jsessionid=EE45FF4B510A5297A7DFF6030A3BED25?sequence=1</a></li> <li>• Training on World Bank interim guidelines on Health and Safety in projects;</li> <li>• ILO Standards for COVID-19</li> <li>• <a href="https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed_norm/---normes/documents/publication/wcms_739937.pdf">https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed_norm/---normes/documents/publication/wcms_739937.pdf</a></li> </ul>	Throughout Project implementation.	1- Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock (MAIL)

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
CS2	Virtual and online trainings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ESF training (on relevant E&amp;S Standards)</li> <li>• PMP/IPM training on IPM approach to be developed by PMP</li> <li>• stakeholder mapping and engagement</li> <li>• emergency preparedness and response</li> <li>• GRM and citizen engagement</li> <li>• GBV training (WSH, SEA/SH,, GBV action plan)</li> </ul>	Throughout Project implementation.	<i>1- Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock (MAIL)</i>