

MOLDOVA
Water Security and Sanitation Project
(P173076)

ENVIRONMENTAL and SOCIAL
COMMITMENT PLAN (ESCP)

February 2021

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL COMMITMENT PLAN

1. The Government of Moldova will implement the Water Security and Sanitation Project (the **Project**), with the involvement of the Ministry of Agriculture, Regional Development and Environment MARDE). The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (hereinafter the Bank) has agreed to provide financing for the Project.
2. The Government of Moldova shall carry out the Project 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 Government of Moldova will also comply with the provisions of any other E&S documents required under the ESF and referred to in this ESCP, such as Environmental and Social Management Plans (ESMP), Resettlement Action Plans (RAP), and Stakeholder Engagement Plans (SEP), at the timelines specified in those E&S documents.
4. The Government of Moldova is responsible for compliance with all requirements of the ESCP even when implementation of specific measures and actions is conducted by the Ministry referenced in 1 above.
5. Implementation of the material measures and actions set out in this ESCP will be monitored and reported to the *Bank* by the Government of Moldova as required by the ESCP and the conditions of the legal agreement, and the *Bank* will monitor and assess progress and completion of the material measures and actions throughout implementation of the Project.
6. As agreed by the *Bank* and the Government of Moldova, this 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. In such circumstances, the Government of Moldova will agree to the changes with the *Bank* 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 *Bank* and the Government of Moldova. The Government of Moldova 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 Government of Moldova 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
MONITORING AND REPORTING			
A	<p>REGULAR REPORTING</p> <p>Prepare and submit to the Bank regular monitoring reports on environmental, social, health and safety (ESHS) performance of the Project, including but not limited to the implementation of ESCP, status of preparation and implementation of E&S documents required under the ESCP, stakeholder engagement activities, functioning of the grievance mechanism(s).</p>	Bi-annual, throughout Project implementation.	MARDE PIU
B	<p>INCIDENTS AND ACCIDENTS</p> <p>Promptly notify the Bank 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, grant recipients 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 Bank's request, prepare a report on the incident or accident and propose any measures to prevent its recurrence.</p>	<p>Notify the Bank within 48 hours after learning of the incident or accident.</p> <p>A report would be provided within a timeframe acceptable to the Bank, as requested</p>	MARDE PIU
C	<p>CONTRACTORS MONTHLY REPORTS</p> <p>As per contracts' specifications to be signed by PIU or other parties with selected Contractors, all Contractors will be required to provide reports on ESMPs' implementation and on Occupational Health and Safety issues to their employers. Furthermore, such reports would be submitted to the Bank by PIU upon request, for Component 1 activities with potentially substantial social and environmental risks.</p> <p>The employers of civil works activities under both Components will be required to provide reports on ESMPs' implementation and on LMP and Occupational Health and Safety issues to PIU on a quarterly basis. Information from these reports will be included in biannual reports to the Bank.</p>	Providing monthly ESMPs implementation and OHS issues reports.	MARDE PIU
ESS 1: ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RISKS AND IMPACTS			

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
1.1	<p>ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE</p> <p>Ministry of Agriculture, Regional Development and Environment (MARDE) shall maintain the existing PIU with qualified staff, including one environmental specialist, one social specialist and one communication and gender specialist, and resources to ensure the day-to-day implementation of the project and support the management of E&S risks, including Health & Safety risks and impacts. Project implementation will be supported at the regional level through MARDE's subordinate Regional Development Agencies (RDAs), which will complement their capacity with environmental and social consultants funded by the Project.</p>	<p>The PIU has established and includes one environmental, one social and one communication /gender specialists for E&S due diligence. RDA's environmental and social consultants hired before commencement of any works activities. This organizational structure, including specified specialists, will be maintained throughout Project implementation.</p>	MARDE PIU
1.2	<p>ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL ASSESSMENT</p> <p>a. Prepare an ESMF to identify and assess the environmental and social risks and impacts of the Project and appropriate mitigation measures and for preparing adequate Environmental and Social Management Plans (ESMPs)/ESIAs/ESMP Checklists including its disclosure and public consultations.</p> <p>b. Incorporate the relevant aspects of this ESCP, 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. ESMF prepared and publicly consulted by appraisal.</p> <p>b. Before launching the procurement process for the relevant activities and thereafter ensure that contractors and supervising firms comply with the ESHS specifications in their contracts through their involvement in the respective Project activities.</p>	MARDE PIU

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
1.3	<p>MANAGEMENT TOOLS AND INSTRUMENTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Prepare site-specific ESIA/ESMPs/ESMP Checklists according to the ESMF, disclose, discuss with stakeholders, finalize to the World Bank’s satisfaction and prior to tendering of works, and cause implementation of site-specific ESMPs. b. Develop and implement procedures for managing service providers (Labor Management Procedures (LMP). c. Develop and implement Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Preparation of each ESIA/ESMP/Checklist will be mandated by the outcome of the Environmental and Social Screening, as set forth in the ESMF. As indicated by the ESMF, the ESMP will need to be completed, including disclosure, public consultations and World Bank approval prior to the launching of the works contacting. b. LMP prepared by appraisal and maintain procedures throughout Project implementation c. SEP prepared by appraisal and maintain throughout Project implementation. 	MARDE PIU
1.4	<p>MANAGEMENT OF CONTRACTORS</p> <p>Based on the ESMPs prepared, incorporate the relevant E&S requirements, along with the Labor Management Procedures, into the ESHS specifications of the procurement/bidding documents. Ensure that these requirements are incorporated in Civil works and installation of equipment contracts and that the contractors comply with the ESHS specifications of their respective contracts.</p>	<p>Prior to the preparation of procurement documents. Supervise contractors throughout Project implementation.</p>	MARDE PIU
ESS 2: LABOR AND WORKING CONDITIONS			
2.1	<p>LABOR MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES</p> <p>Implement the Labor Management Procedures (LMP) that have been developed for the Project. Develop Contractor’s Code of Conduct for each works contract.</p>	Throughout Project implementation.	MARDE PIU

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
2.2	<p>GRIEVANCE MECHANISM FOR PROJECT WORKERS</p> <p>Establish, maintain, and operate grievance mechanisms for relevant types of Project workers (direct and contracted), as described in the LMP and consistent with ESS2.</p> <p>PIU shall monitor number of received complaints.</p>	<p>Grievance mechanism operational prior to engaging Project workers and maintained throughout Project implementation.</p> <p>Ongoing throughout project implementation</p>	MARDE PIU
2.3	<p>OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY (OHS) MEASURES</p> <p>Ensure that all Contractors adopt and implement occupational health and safety (OHS) measures as detailed in ESMF/ESMPs.</p>	Ongoing throughout project implementation	MARDE PIU
ESS 3: RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT			

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
3.1	<p>RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT:</p> <p>Develop and implement measures and actions to manage water use, air pollution and dust suppression, noise, waste and hazardous materials, obsolete equipment, as well as to strengthen the O&M practice and energy efficiency, which shall be set out in the ESMF/site-specific ESMPs/ESMPs Checklists</p> <p>Ensure that all potential replacement of asbestos-cement pipes or structures is based on health and safety measures as detailed in the ESMF/ESMPs and compliant with the WB Good Practice Note on Asbestos.</p> <p>Ensure resource efficiency is considered when preparing Terms of Reference for technical assistance and strategic or planning documents.</p> <p>Ensure environmentally sound environmental results by considering cost-effective and innovative technology selection for the management of sludge generated from the wastewater treatment plants (WWTPs). Prepare and implement a sludge management plan, including handling and final disposal of the sludge generated from the operation of the WWTPs.</p>	Throughout Project implementation	MARDE PIU
ESS 4: COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY			
4.1	<p>COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY: Develop and implement measures and actions to assess and manage specific risks and impacts to the community arising from Project activities, which shall be set out in the ESMF and site-specific ESMPs including in relation to Project workers and any risks of labor influx.</p>	Throughout Project implementation	MARDE PIU

4.2	<p>GBV AND SEA/SH RISKS: Ensure preventing and mitigating risks of sexual exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment as specified in the ESMF/ESIA/ESMP and Code of Conduct attached to the civil works contracts.</p> <p>Ensure that site-specific ESMPs/ESMP Checklists include actions to prevent and mitigate risks of sexual exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment (SEA/SH) in line with ESMF and enforce their implementation. This includes but is not limited to development and adherence to Code of Conduct for all employees, GBV-sensitized grievance mechanism, carry out GBV service providers mapping, awareness raising of all employees and community members on GBV risks and mitigation measures.</p>	<p>Prior to commencement of works. Enforcement throughout Project implementation.</p>	MARDE PIU
4.2	<p>EMERGENCY RESPONSE MEASURES: Adopt, implement, and monitor emergency response measures prepared in ESMP.</p>	<p>Prior to initiating construction works and maintained throughout the Project implementation</p>	MARDE PIU

ESS 5: LAND ACQUISITION, RESTRICTIONS ON LAND USE AND INVOLUNTARY RESETTLEMENT

5.1	<p>RESETTLEMENT PLANS: Prepare, adopt, and implement resettlement plans (RAPs) in accordance with ESS 5 and consistent with the requirements of the Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF) that has been prepared for the Project, and thereafter adopt and implement the respective RAPs before carrying out the associated activities, in a manner acceptable to the Bank</p>	<p>RPF prepared by appraisal. RAPs to be prepared immediately once the sub-project designs are ready. To be implemented and completed before the commencement of the sub-project works.</p> <p>Throughout Project Implementation</p>	MARDE PIU
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ESS 6: BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF LIVING NATURAL RESOURCES

6.1	<p>IMPACT ON CRITICAL AND NATURAL HABITATS: If subprojects will take place in protected areas, including water protection zones with natural habitats and biodiversity value, opinion / advice will be sought from Environmental Authorities whether the subprojects will impact critical habitats. In addition, all respective ESMPs will include appropriate mitigation and management measures to avoid risks and negative impacts.</p>	<p>During the subproject selection and preparation of ESMP.</p> <p>Throughout Project Implementation</p>	MARDE PIU
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ESS 7: INDIGENOUS PEOPLES/SUB-SAHARAN AFRICAN HISTORICALLY UNDERSERVED TRADITIONAL LOCAL COMMUNITIES

	<p>Currently not relevant to the project</p>		
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ESS 8: CULTURAL HERITAGE

	Currently not relevant to the project. However, Chance Finds procedures will be part of all contracts involving any excavation works under the project.	Prior any commencement of works and maintained throughout construction. Throughout Project Implementation	MARDE PIU
ESS 9: FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES			
	Currently not relevant to the project		
ESS 10: STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION DISCLOSURE			
10.1	SEP PREPARATION: Prepare and disclose the Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP).	SEP prepared and publicly consulted by appraisal.	MARDE PIU
10.2	SEP IMPLEMENTATION: Implement the SEP. The SEP may be amended and updated (and redisclosed) as needed during Project implementation.	Throughout Project Implementation	MARDE PIU
10.3	PROJECT GRIEVANCE MECHANISM: Develop and implement a grievance mechanism for the entire Project. The SEP includes a commitment to communicate to stakeholders the establishment of the grievance mechanism to ensure that affected stakeholders are aware of its existence and familiar with the process for submitting grievances to such grievance mechanism.	GRM in place before the Project effectiveness. Maintenance throughout Project implementation. Maintenance of grievance database. Report the summary of grievances annually.	MARDE PIU
10.4	COMMUNITY AWARENESS: Conduct community capacity building to heighten awareness of risks and to mitigate impacts as outlined in the SEP, training section of the (Project Operational Manual) POM, and the Project's annual Training Plan.	Throughout Project implementation	MARDE PIU
CAPACITY SUPPORT (TRAINING)			
CS1	Training will be required for MARDE PIU staff and stakeholders on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • stakeholder mapping and engagement • specific aspects of environmental and social assessment • ESMF, ESMPs/ESMPs Checklists • RPF and RAP administration and implementation • LMP oversight • OHS measures • Any other topics as relevant 	Three months after World Bank Board approval followed by a minimum one annual refresher training.	MARDE PIU