



# Combined Project Information Documents / Integrated Safeguards Datasheet (PID/ISDS)

Appraisal Stage | Date Prepared/Updated: 16-Jun-2020 | Report No: PIDISDSA29610



**BASIC INFORMATION**

**A. Basic Project Data**

Country Central Asia	Project ID P174285	Project Name CASA1000 Community Support Project COVID-19 Additional Financing - Kyrgyz Republic	Parent Project ID (if any) P163592
Parent Project Name CASA1000 Community Support Project - Kyrgyz Republic	Region EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA	Estimated Appraisal Date 12-Jun-2020	Estimated Board Date 30-Jul-2020
Practice Area (Lead) Social	Financing Instrument Investment Project Financing	Borrower(s) Ministry of Finance	Implementing Agency Community Development and Investment Agency

Proposed Development Objective(s) Parent

To engage communities in the development of social and economic infrastructure in order to enhance services, livelihoods and inclusion in target villages near the CASA1000 Transmission Line.

Proposed Development Objective(s) Additional Financing

To engage communities in the development of social and economic infrastructure in order to enhance services, livelihoods and inclusion in target oblasts near the CASA1000 Transmission Line.

Components

Support for community-led investments in social and economic infrastructure  
Support for community mobilization, youth engagement and communications  
Project management, and monitoring and evaluation

**PROJECT FINANCING DATA (US\$, Millions)**

**SUMMARY**

<b>Total Project Cost</b>	21.00
<b>Total Financing</b>	21.00
<b>of which IBRD/IDA</b>	21.00
<b>Financing Gap</b>	0.00

**DETAILS**



**World Bank Group Financing**

International Development Association (IDA)	21.00
IDA Credit	10.50
IDA Grant	10.50

Environmental Assessment Category

B-Partial Assessment

Decision

The review did authorize the team to appraise and negotiate

**B. Introduction and Context**

Country, Sector and Institutional Context

1. The Kyrgyz Republic, a landlocked, mountainous country, is one of the poorest countries in the Europe and Central Asia region. The only parliamentary democracy in the Central Asia region, Kyrgyz Republic shares borders with Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, China and Kazakhstan. Since gaining independence from the Soviet Union in 1991, the country has experienced considerable political turbulence, accompanied by economic and social fragility. In the south, the country’s territory and borders are intertwined with Tajik and Uzbek enclaves; throughout the Fergana Valley area, Kyrgyz, Tajik and Uzbek ethnic groups cultures and languages are living side by side, competing for limited livelihood opportunities and deteriorating basic services. Winter energy shortages and year-round water scarcity exacerbate the development challenges in an area that is already fragile and has a history of conflict.

2. As a part of the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic (GoK) effort to improve access to services, and specifically to address the lack of reliable access to electricity for household and productive use, the Kyrgyz Republic joined the Central Asia South Asia Electricity Transmission and Trade Project (CASA1000), which aims to establish the commercial and institutional arrangements and the construction of transmission infrastructure to trade roughly 1,300 megawatts of electricity from the Kyrgyz Republic and Tajikistan, to Afghanistan and Pakistan, during the summer months when there is a surplus of electricity resources. The CASA1000 transmission line starts at Datka in Jalal-Abad in the south of the Kyrgyz Republic, traverses east across the south to Khujand converter station in Tajikistan, travels south into Afghanistan, before crossing into Pakistan near Peshawar. The project impacts on thousands of communities and broader populations in these four countries. As this high-voltage CASA1000 transmission line will not directly provide electricity to the communities it passes, a multi-country Community Support Program (CSP) was included in the CASA1000 project. Community-driven development (CDD) projects were planned in all four participating Central Asia and South Asia countries as benefit-sharing mechanisms for the people potentially affected by the development of an electricity trade and transmission line project.

3. The Kyrgyz Republic portion of CASA1000 is a 450 km transmission line extending from Jalal-Abad oblast, through Osh oblast, to Batken oblast where it crosses the border with Tajikistan. The 3 km-wide “Corridor of Impact” (CoI) surrounding the transmission line follows the Kyrgyz-Uzbek and Kyrgyz-Tajik border in the Fergana Valley, and



includes communities in 87 villages in 42 Aiyl Aimaks (AAs), or subdistricts, through a narrow band of territory in Jalal-Abad, Osh and Batken Oblasts. Under the CASA1000 Community Support Project (CASA1000-CSP) in Kyrgyz Republic, villages, many of which are economically and socially vulnerable, will be supported with improved electricity, improved social facilities (such as first aid points, kindergartens, village roads improvements), and with livelihoods facilities to support youth employment (such as greenhouses or workshops). This investment in community infrastructure under the CASA1000 overall initiative aims to address social risk, and build ownership in the transmission line, by benefitting communities in the corridor directly. The CASA1000-CSP in Kyrgyz Republic was approved by the Board of Executive Directors in April 2018, with financing of IDA US\$10.0 million and US\$2.0 million CASA1000 MDTF.

4. The CDD approach, as envisaged by the CASA1000 CSP, is relatively well established in the Kyrgyz Republic. The GoK has long recognized the need to address the lack of services, socioeconomic exclusion, and disempowerment of communities in rural villages through a series of investments that are responsive to differentiated local needs and opportunities across the country. For nearly a decade, the World Bank and KfW have supported a Village Investment Project (VIP) with the dual objectives of empowering communities and locally-relevant infrastructure investments. An institution for the delivery of CDD projects, the Community Development and Investment Agency (ARIS), was established in 2003 specifically to address this need to invest in rural communities, implementing community-based projects in approximately 455 AAs in rural and peri-urban areas, where almost 70 percent of poor households live.<sup>1</sup> Since 2008, support to local self-governments has led to greater responsibility and accountability towards local populations, and Aiyl Okmotus (AOs), or local administrations, have been supported to work closely with communities on local development initiatives.<sup>2</sup> However, despite efforts to strengthen the AO role in village investment, fiscal transfers to AOs are extremely limited and the capacity for accountable and transparent decision making and financial management is still limited.

5. The COVID-19 pandemic is expected to undermine the livelihoods of the rural poor, especially in the south of the country. Real GDP growth in the Kyrgyz Republic is projected to fall from 4.5 percent to 0.5 percent in 2020. Poor households are expected to suffer from the impact of rising food prices, loss of labor income, and reduced remittances. Early models of the poverty impact of the economic contraction project that poverty could increase by 5.9-22.45 percentage points over the current rate of 22.4 percent, potentially pushing 384,000 to 1.5 million new people into poverty.<sup>3</sup> Most of the rural poor in the Kyrgyz Republic are in the informal sector and thus outside formal social safety nets, increasing the importance of community-driven mechanisms as a means of delivering assistance and mitigating the economic impacts of the pandemic upon the rural poor—and ensuring that assistance matches the priorities of rural communities.

6. It is anticipated that the economic downturn will disproportionately impact young people, women, and marginalized groups most. Youth, 12 percent of whom are already not in employment, education, or training, are likely to be hit hard by unemployment and the loss of livelihoods, deepening existing patterns of apathy and exclusion and running the risk of fostering distrust in government, and increased social risk and unrest. Women are likely to experience greater gaps in endowments, economic opportunity, and agency as they take on more career-roles, and given informal sector and unpaid work, run the risk of being left out of social assistance programs. Asset ownership

<sup>1</sup> National Statistics Office. 2018. Integrated Households Survey, Kyrgyz Republic.

<sup>2</sup> LSG responsibilities include ensuring economic development through adopting development strategies, collecting local taxes, managing local budgets, managing municipal property, ensuring O&M of public facilities and infrastructure and planning and land use administration.

<sup>3</sup> World Bank. April 16, 2020. Kyrgyz Republic COVID-19 Poverty and Vulnerability Impacts. *Internal presentation*. Poverty and Equity GP.



by women in the Kyrgyz Republic is also low (80 percent of land is registered in men's names) limiting an avenue of resilience. Social disparities in the Kyrgyz Republic are thus likely to widen as a result of the crisis.

7. The oblasts through which the CASA1000 transmission line passes, are likely to experience the most significant effects from the economic downturn. The study mentioned above, highlights that the impact of remittances on poverty will be disproportionately felt in Jalal-Abad, Osh and Batken Oblasts, affecting about 28,000 households. This is likely to exacerbate the existing patterns of social inequity and vulnerability, as well as ongoing unemployment and underemployment in the CASA1000-CSP target oblasts. The parent project was designed to ensure fair and transparent methods for allocating resources. Community mobilization activities will engage multi-ethnic communities and vulnerable community members in decision-making (including youth, migrant returnees, women, and minority groups) and pay attention to social cohesion in these areas with a propensity for conflict. The footprint of the Kyrgyz Republic parent project is limited to villages within the Col, a narrower band when compared with Tajikistan and Afghanistan, which extends the coverage more broadly to address the potential risks of the CASA1000 transmission line.

8. Uniquely, the CASA1000-CSPs in the four CASA countries, together provide an opportunity for cross border coordination in the local level COVID-19 response. The CASA Secretariat, and MDTF donors, have confirmed interest in delivering a visible COVID-19 response through the CASA1000-CSP projects, and the response in Kyrgyz Republic has learned from the adaptations underway in Afghanistan. In addition to the benefits the project will bring to youth engagement and community stability, the AF will also sharpen the focus on climate benefits and energy efficiency. Eighty percent of the facilities and infrastructure will be required to have climate co-benefits, climate change awareness building will be included in the community mobilization process, and climate change focal points will be appointed in each village. The project will share with the other CASA1000-CSPs its efforts to engage communities in climate change tracking. The overall design of the CASA1000-CSP Additional Financing (AF) strengthens the benefit sharing established for the CASA1000 project, and extends the CDD approach envisaged throughout the oblasts where the transmission line is located. The proposed AF will directly improve economic opportunities and enhance access to primary health care and hygiene in villages without services. It will also empower thousands of vulnerable women, youth, migrants, the elderly, and the disabled, to engage actively in project activities that help reestablish their livelihoods and make vital improvements in village infrastructure, within the higher risk context created by the COVID-19 pandemic.

9. The project is aligned with World Bank Group (WBG) strategic priorities, particularly the mission to end extreme poverty and boost shared prosperity. The WBG remains committed to providing a fast and flexible response to the COVID-19 epidemic, utilizing all of its operational and policy instruments and working in close partnership with the GoK and other agencies. The WBG response to COVID-19 has aligned with government priorities, and includes emergency financing, policy advice, and technical assistance. This AF is one of a number which build on existing instruments to help address the health sector, livelihoods, and broader development impacts of COVID-19. The project is also aligned with the WBG's Country Partnership Framework for FY2019-22 with the Kyrgyz Republic, which includes a strong commitment to human capital development and building resilience, particularly among vulnerable women and men, and the development of livelihoods. In line with corporate mandates, the project prioritizes the engagement of citizens in implementation, meets gender targets for analysis, activities, and monitoring; and contributes to global and regional commitments to support and scale up climate action, and increase the climate-related share of development financing.

### **C. Proposed Development Objective(s)**

Original PDO



To engage communities in the development of social and economic infrastructure in order to enhance services, livelihoods and inclusion in target villages near the CASA1000 Transmission Line.

#### Current PDO

To engage communities in the development of social and economic infrastructure in order to enhance services, livelihoods and inclusion in target oblasts near the CASA1000 Transmission Line.

#### Key Results

- Target communities with improved access to social infrastructure and/or livelihoods facilities as a result of project support (percentage)
- Beneficiaries reporting that investments in social infrastructure supported post-COVID-19 needs (percentage).
- Beneficiaries reporting that village investments in livelihoods facilities supported the reestablishment of livelihoods (percentage)
- Beneficiaries in target communities reporting that their engagement in decision making over village investments was effective (percentage)
- Young women and men beneficiaries reporting that their role/voice in local decision making has been enhanced (percentage)
- Beneficiaries in target communities reporting that youth engagement activities were effective in supporting the community (percentage)
- Percentage of subproject investments which were prioritized in women's groups
- Number of women able to earn additional income as a result of project investments
- Subprojects that support climate change adaptation or mitigation (percentage)
- AAs in which the livelihoods support program is implemented (percentage)

#### D. Project Description

10. **The COVID-19 AF of the CASA1000 CSP will expand the coverage area of project activities** from the villages in the CASA1000 Col<sup>4</sup>, to support vulnerable communities in rural AAs throughout the southern oblasts of Jalal-Abad, Osh and Batken.

11. **Under component 1, an additional US\$14.70 million (parent project US\$8.75 million) will be allocated from the AF to support up to 145 additional AAs with investments in health-related and livelihoods-related investments.** Subgrants to each AA in the AF target areas will average approximately US\$100,000 (range approximately \$20,000 to \$130,000). The overall Component 1 allocation to villages in the CASA1000 CSP corridor of impact will not be changed, to maintain the support envisaged near the transmission line.

12. **The activities covered by the AF under Component 1 are as follows:**

- **Subcomponent 1B will be expanded to support the refurbishment, reconstruction or construction of social infrastructure and services in the expanded target area.** In the AF-financed AAs, it is anticipated that these investments would support health-related needs including the rehabilitation and reconstruction of first aid points (FAPs), family medical centers, and WASH-related needs.<sup>5</sup> Communities may prioritize enabling social facilities

<sup>4</sup> The Corridor of Impact (Col) is defined as a 3 km-wide corridor centered on the final route of the CASA1000 Transmission Line.

<sup>5</sup> WASH investments will be coordinated with the Sustainable Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Development Project (SRWSSDP).



such as child-care facilities (that enable women to work). The participatory decision-making process for this subproject is included Subcomponent 2A.

- **Subcomponent 1C will be significantly expanded to address the loss of livelihoods caused by the COVID-19 crisis and economic downturn, especially for vulnerable women and men.** To support the development of productive infrastructure, Subcomponent 1C will finance the reestablishment/establishment of economically-viable value chains. While the exact types of livelihoods subprojects will vary to suit local opportunities, value chains that might require investment in the construction and rehabilitation of livelihood facilities include refrigerated storage facilities, fruit and vegetable greenhouses and warehouses, honey processing factories, machinery workshops, craft workshops and multi-purpose work centers. Community Livelihoods Business Partners (CLBPs) will apply to partner with Community Village Investment Associations (CVIAs) and AOs for the development and operationalization of these livelihoods facilities.

13. **Under Component 2 an additional US\$4.80 million (parent project \$1.30 million) will finance Community Mobilization, Youth Engagement, Communications and a Livelihoods Support Program.**

- **Subcomponent 2A will be expanded to support community mobilization activities in all communities in target areas.** These activities will ensure Component 1 investments are decided by communities, are responsive to the needs of all community members, and that they reach the poor and vulnerable. Young men and women will be trained and supported to take up active roles of the community (e.g. youth climate change ambassadors) and to lead participatory planning processes. Activities will include the same social accountability activities planned under the CASA1000-CSP and Community Engagement and Social Accountability grant, with intensified mobilization, capacity building and youth engagement near the border and enclave areas. Emphasis will be placed on the inclusion of vulnerable groups. Subcomponent 2A will also support the adaptation of communication and outreach processes and materials necessary in a post-COVID-19 context. This will include development of distance learning products to build the skills of facilitators and other local stakeholders, the blending of online and traditional approaches to mobilization, and a digital mobile-friendly platform through which all beneficiaries can access information and provide feedback.
- **To address the lack of access to economic opportunities, a livelihoods support program will be added under Subcomponent 2C to help vulnerable community members to reestablish livelihoods.** Similar to the approach developed for the parent project, the AF will finance the markets/needs assessments and local value chain action plans in target areas to provide a framework for decision-making. The AF will also support the skills development through a coaching and mentoring program, tailored for vulnerable beneficiary groups in selected traditional and information technology-driven sectors to incubate and sustain “learning-by-doing” microenterprises. This integrated approach to livelihoods support, will be based on global best practice alongside similar experience in the Kyrgyz Republic. The livelihoods support program<sup>6</sup> will target vulnerable members of the community defined as: (i) extreme poor, (ii) disabled, (iii) unemployed elderly (of working age), (iv) unemployed women, (v) members of large HHs, (vi) single female-headed HHs, and (vii) youth-at-risk. At least 50 percent of the beneficiaries will be women.

14. **Under Component 3, the AF will help strengthen Project Management and Monitoring and Evaluation to implement the expanded scope under Components 1 and 2.** Accordingly, Component 3 will be increased by US\$1.50 million. Additional funds for increased operating costs will also be provided for project management and monitoring

<sup>6</sup> In the parent project the livelihoods support program is being supported by a parallel technical assistance grant.



and evaluation, and ensure that the AF is executing the COVID response to reach as many communities as quickly as possible.

15. **A Contingent Emergency Response Component will be added** (~US\$0). In light of the COVID-19 outbreak, this provisional zero component is designed as a mechanism that will allow for rapid access to project funds for Kyrgyz Republic response and recovery to crisis, based on the provisions laid out in the Project Operational Manual (POM).

16. The AF project **closing date** will extend project support to December 31, 2024.

**E. Implementation**

Institutional and Implementation Arrangements

17. The implementation arrangements remain the same as for the parent project, CSP. For the AF, ARIS will expand and staff the project team to support all community mobilization, social accountability and livelihoods support activities.

**F. Project location and Salient physical characteristics relevant to the safeguard analysis (if known)**

Rural areas/villages in Osh oblast, Jalal-Abad oblast, and Batken oblast

**G. Environmental and Social Safeguards Specialists on the Team**

John Bryant Collier, Environmental Specialist  
Mohamed Ghani Razaak, Social Specialist  
Aimonchok Tashieva, Social Specialist

**SAFEGUARD POLICIES THAT MIGHT APPLY**

Safeguard Policies	Triggered?	Explanation (Optional)
Environmental Assessment OP/BP 4.01	Yes	The parent project became effective in February 2020 and is currently under implementation with no issues reported. The potential environmental and social issues are associated with the small-scale investments for local communities. These investments will include support for local livelihood facilities and improved access to health and social





infrastructure. The expected impacts are small scale, limited to the project sites and can be managed with good construction practices. At the same time the economic downturn associated with COVID-19 is expected to increase the human impact on the environment and reduce the effectiveness of traditional safeguard instruments. The Counterpart is updating the previously developed Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) that guides the process of the site specific environmental screening and risk assessment, public consultations, and the development of site specific Environmental Management Plan (EMP)/Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMPs). Under the Additional Financing, Environmental Category A activities and activities using coal for power or heat generation will be excluded.

Performance Standards for Private Sector Activities OP/BP 4.03	No	NA
Natural Habitats OP/BP 4.04	No	No natural habitats will be impacted.
Forests OP/BP 4.36	No	No forests will be impacted.
Pest Management OP 4.09	Yes	The Additional Financing includes agricultural investments for fruit production and processing which may involve the use of pesticides. The updated ESMF will include a section on what pesticides are allowed and when a site-specific Integrated Pest Management (IPM) is required as part of the site-specific EMPs/ESMPs.
Physical Cultural Resources OP/BP 4.11	No	No physical cultural resources will be impacted.
Indigenous Peoples OP/BP 4.10	No	NA
Involuntary Resettlement OP/BP 4.12	Yes	The project will finance community-level sub-projects (SPs) such as construction of first aid points, kindergartens, workshops and rehabilitation of village infrastructure that may require land acquisition. The impacts are not known until communities propose and select project interventions. It is expected that community projects will be easily mitigated, benefit communities, and, as much as possible, utilize unused, government land and right-of-ways. A Resettlement Policy Framework has been prepared in the unlikely event that community projects require involuntary land acquisition, impact on assets, or cause negative impact on economic resources. The small scale SPs



supported by the parent project do not involve any resettlement or land acquisitions.

Safety of Dams OP/BP 4.37	No	NA
Projects on International Waterways OP/BP 7.50	No	NA
Projects in Disputed Areas OP/BP 7.60	No	NA

## KEY SAFEGUARD POLICY ISSUES AND THEIR MANAGEMENT

### A. Summary of Key Safeguard Issues

1. Describe any safeguard issues and impacts associated with the proposed project. Identify and describe any potential large scale, significant and/or irreversible impacts:

The Additional Financing (AF) project will engage communities in the development of social and economic infrastructure in order to enhance services, livelihoods and inclusion in target Aiyl Aimaks (AAs) in selected southern oblasts. Sub-projects (SPs) to be supported under the project are expected to be small scale activities which are planned and implemented based on local needs, and the priorities and choices voiced by local communities. The AF project will target the most vulnerable and poor households to help them cope up with the economic hardships created by COVID-19. No large scale, significant, or irreversible impacts are expected. Any SP which would cause large scale resettlement or significant adverse social or environmental impacts would not be funded under the project.

The AF project will include small activities associated with supporting first aid points (FAP) - as is the case for the parent project. The AF will neither include treatment of COVID-19 patients nor the adaption of existing facilities for quarantine. The AF will not involve the purchase of medical supplies. Even though the AF does not aim to provide any health emergency equipment or facilities for health agencies, it may provide personal protective equipment (PPE) on request or support proper medical waste management (MWM) in FAPs. There will be a screening process for identifying the need and type of PPE and MWM plans, if needed. Overall, there are no activities that are expected to result in risks related to spread of COVID-19 among health care workers or the community at large; however, site-specific EMPs/ESMPs will consider the set of preventive measures.

Most of the small civil works (retrofitting or new construction) are expected to have moderate environmental risks associated with dust and noise, waste generation, as well as operational health and safety. Improper restoration of construction sites after the works completion also impose a risk and needs to be handled throughout the project. Any renovation or new construction of heating systems will use an alternative to coal-based boilers.

The project may include agricultural investments for fruit production and processing, which need measures to prevent using harmful and restricted pesticides and chemicals while growing and processing fruits. The project Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) will be updated in this respect and contain the chapter, which describes the process of the preparation of the IPM sections in relevant site-specific environmental management plan (EMP)/ESMPs.

The original project was assigned environmental category “B” based on the OP 4.01 Environmental Assessment. The assigned category remains unchanged for AF. The environmental risks are expected to be site-specific, moderate and



short-lived with low to moderate probability and severity of harm, and could be easily mitigated. The site-specific environmental management and safety measures to be prepared following the project ESMF should be included in the bidding documents and draft contracts. The original project only became effective in February 2020 so there is little history of safeguards implementation to date; however ARIS is successfully implementing several other World Bank Projects and has a positive record for safeguards implementation and compliance.

2. Describe any potential indirect and/or long term impacts due to anticipated future activities in the project area: Project activities will not have long term negative impacts.

3. Describe any project alternatives (if relevant) considered to help avoid or minimize adverse impacts.  
N/A

4. Describe measures taken by the borrower to address safeguard policy issues. Provide an assessment of borrower capacity to plan and implement the measures described.

ARIS, the implementing agency for the parent project, will continue to be responsible for the day-to-day management of the project. The project team at ARIS has been adequately staffed including with environment and social safeguards specialists to conduct due diligence and prepare and implement mitigation plans in a timely manner. To manage potential project environment and social risks an ESMF has been developed under the original project. It includes templates for social and environment screening and preparation of site specific EMPs/ESMPs for the small infrastructure and livelihood activities. The scope of this ESMF is country-wide, covering most of the regions and with the proposed AF scale-up there is no change due to the expanding geographic coverage. The implementing agency is updating the ESMF and RPF with consideration of the AF. Specific issues to be addressed in the updated ESMF will include 1) a section on Pest Management that details what pesticides are allowed and when a site-specific Integrated Pest Management (IPM) is required as part of the site-specific ESAs/ESMPs; 2) a section on Medical Waste Management (MWM) and hygiene requirements for sub-projects related to the COVID-19 response; and 3) a labor management procedures (LMP) the project and subproject (SP) levels.

If relevant, the project will hire a MWM consultant on a temporary basis to assist the environment and social safeguards specialists in specific cases. Although the SPs are expected to utilize unused government land or right of ways, it is unlikely that there will be land acquisition. A Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF) has been prepared for the parent project but as of today there was no RAP prepared. Nevertheless, in the unlikely event that of any SP activities trigger OP 4.12 (Involuntary Resettlement) related impacts, RAPs will be developed. As the AF is being prepared as an emergency project, OP 10 Paragraph 12 applies meaning that the revised ESMF and RPF, acceptable to the Bank, will be finalized, consulted on, and disclosed prior to commencement of any activities.

The updated ESMF will be compliant with the World Bank Group Environmental Health and Safety Guidelines and World Health Organization COVID-19 Occupational Health and Safety Guidelines. The updated ESMF will also describe the process of the environmental and social screening of the individual SPs, specific requirements for construction contractors and involvement of the community in the consultation process. As with the original ESMF, screening under the revised ESMF will exclude Environment Category A Sub-projects. SPs that use coal for power or heat generation will also now be excluded.

The updated ESMF and safeguards instruments will address all relevant environmental and social risks and include mitigation measures also related to: sexual exploitation, abuse and harassment (SEAH)/gender-based violence (GBV), labor, occupational safety and health (including as tailored to the COVID-19 context), social inclusion and stakeholder engagement.



The ESMF is an integral part of the project operations manual (POM). The POM prepared under the original project will be also applied to the AF, and is being revised by the implementing agency with consideration of the AF. Site-specific ESMPs based on the overall ESMF should become an integral part of the bidding documentation for construction contractors and should be referred to in the draft contracts, including contractual measures in case of non-compliance with safeguards requirements.

A project wide Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) including safeguards is part of the institutional Beneficiary Feedback Mechanism (BFM), which the client introduced in 2017. The use of the GRM for safeguards purposes is explained in the RPF.

In addition to the updated ESMF and RPF, a Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) will be prepared. Once these instruments have been consulted on and are acceptable to the Bank, they will be disclosed by the client on the ARIS website and on the World Bank website before any AF Activities are started. Efforts will be made to ensure meaningful consultation despite the challenges resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic, will be based on appropriate information, and consider the specific challenges associated with public meetings in the COVID-19 context. The GRM for the parent project is also being updated to track and respond to specific feedback, complaints and concerns related to COVID-19, SEA/SH/GBV and construction-related issues.

As this emergency Additional Financing is responding to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Bank has granted a waiver for it to be prepared and implemented, like the Parent Project, under the World Bank's Safeguard Policies rather than the World Bank's Environment and Social Framework.

5. Identify the key stakeholders and describe the mechanisms for consultation and disclosure on safeguard policies, with an emphasis on potentially affected people.

The village communities in AAs in the southern oblasts of Batken, Osh and Jalal-Abad, which this project targets, are the key stakeholders and beneficiaries of the project. In addition, public/private health care workers (doctors, nurses, public health Inspectors, Midwives, laboratory technicians/staff) local businessmen and women, and other staff; local government administrative staff will be consulted and involved as the secondary stakeholders/interested parties. ARIS has carried out preliminary stakeholder analysis identifying stakeholders other than village communities, and included a section on citizen/stakeholder engagement process/plan during the project implementation.

## **B. Disclosure Requirements (N.B. The sections below appear only if corresponding safeguard policy is triggered)**

### **Environmental Assessment/Audit/Management Plan/Other**

The review of this Safeguards has been Deferred.

#### Comments

As the AF is being prepared as an emergency project, OP 10 Paragraph 12 applies, meaning that the updated ESMF, acceptable to the Bank, will be finalized, consulted on, and disclosed prior to commencement of any activities. This process is on-going and is expected to be complete shortly after Appraisal.



### Resettlement Action Plan/Framework/Policy Process

The review of this Safeguards has been Deferred.

#### Comments

As the AF is being prepared as an emergency project, OP 10 Paragraph 12 applies, meaning that the updated RPF, acceptable to the Bank, will be finalized, consulted on, and disclosed prior to commencement of any activities. This process is on-going and is expected to be complete shortly after Appraisal.

### Pest Management Plan

**If the project triggers the Pest Management and/or Physical Cultural Resources policies, the respective issues are to be addressed and disclosed as part of the Environmental Assessment/Audit/or EMP.**

If in-country disclosure of any of the above documents is not expected, please explain why:

Pest Management issues will be included in the updated ESMF rather than a separate Pest Management Plan.

The review of this Safeguards has been Deferred.

#### Comments

As the AF is being prepared as an emergency project, OP 10 Paragraph 12 applies, meaning that the updated ESMF, which will include a Pest Management Section, acceptable to the Bank, will be finalized, consulted on, and disclosed prior to commencement of any activities. This process is on-going and is expected to be complete shortly after Appraisal.

### **C. Compliance Monitoring Indicators at the Corporate Level (to be filled in when the ISDS is finalized by the project decision meeting) (N.B. The sections below appear only if corresponding safeguard policy is triggered)**

#### **OP/BP/GP 4.01 - Environment Assessment**

Does the project require a stand-alone EA (including EMP) report?

Yes

If yes, then did the Regional Environment Unit or Practice Manager (PM) review and approve the EA report?

No

Are the cost and the accountabilities for the EMP incorporated in the credit/loan?

Yes

#### **OP 4.09 - Pest Management**

Does the EA adequately address the pest management issues?

Yes



Is a separate PMP required?

No

If yes, has the PMP been reviewed and approved by a safeguards specialist or PM? Are PMP requirements included in project design? If yes, does the project team include a Pest Management Specialist?

NA

#### **OP/BP 4.12 - Involuntary Resettlement**

Has a resettlement plan/abbreviated plan/policy framework/process framework (as appropriate) been prepared?

Yes

If yes, then did the Regional unit responsible for safeguards or Practice Manager review the plan?

No

Is physical displacement/relocation expected?

No

Is economic displacement expected? (loss of assets or access to assets that leads to loss of income sources or other means of livelihoods)

No

#### **The World Bank Policy on Disclosure of Information**

Have relevant safeguard policies documents been sent to the World Bank for disclosure?

No

Have relevant documents been disclosed in-country in a public place in a form and language that are understandable and accessible to project-affected groups and local NGOs?

No

#### **All Safeguard Policies**

Have satisfactory calendar, budget and clear institutional responsibilities been prepared for the implementation of measures related to safeguard policies?

Yes

Have costs related to safeguard policy measures been included in the project cost?

Yes

Does the Monitoring and Evaluation system of the project include the monitoring of safeguard impacts and measures related to safeguard policies?

Yes

Have satisfactory implementation arrangements been agreed with the borrower and the same been adequately reflected in the project legal documents?

Yes



**CONTACT POINT**

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