

Public Disclosure Authorized

Republic of Kosovo Kosovo Pandemic Emergency Financing

[Draft/Version for Negotiations]
**ENVIRONMENTAL and SOCIAL
COMMITMENT PLAN (ESCP)**

June 08, 2020

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL COMMITMENT PLAN

1. The Republic of Kosovo (hereinafter the **Borrower**) shall implement the Kosovo Pandemic Emergency Financing Project (the **Project**), with the involvement of the Ministry of Health (MoH) and respective Project Coordination Unit. The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (hereinafter the **Bank**) has agreed to provide financing for the Project.
2. The Borrower shall 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 Borrower 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.
4. Implementation of the material measures and actions set out in this ESCP shall be monitored and reported to the Bank by the Borrower as required by the ESCP and the conditions of the legal agreement, and the Bank shall monitor and assess progress and completion of the material measures and actions throughout implementation of the Project.
5. As agreed by the Bank and the Borrower 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 itself. In such circumstances, the Borrower shall agree to the changes with the Bank and shall update the ESCP to reflect such changes. Agreement on changes to the ESCP shall be documented through the exchange of letters signed between the Bank and the Borrower. The Borrower shall promptly disclose the updated ESCP.
6. Where Project changes, unforeseen circumstances, or Project performance result in changes to the risks and impacts during Project implementation, the Borrower 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	REGULAR REPORTING: 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 implementation of the ESCP, status of preparation and implementation of E&S documents required under the ESCP, stakeholder engagement activities, functioning of the grievance mechanism	Quarterly throughout Project implementation, starting from the Effective Date	Project Coordination Unit (PCU) of MoH
ESS 1: ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RISKS AND IMPACTS			
1.1	ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE: The existing Project Coordination Unit (PCU) of the parent Kosovo Health Project in the MoH will be accountable for the implementation of project. The PCU is staffed with Project coordinator, a Procurement specialist, a Financial Management specialist, a monitoring and evaluation specialist, assistant and the directors of relevant departments of the MoH (such as HR department and the department of health services) will be responsible for the technical implementation of Project activities. The PCU will be strengthened, under the ongoing Kosovo Health Project KHP (P147402) by an additional environment and social standards specialists which will be supported by the Bank team to ensure adequate knowledge of the ESF and compliance with it. The expert will continue to support the Kosovo Pandemic Emergency Financing and Kosovo Emergency Covid -19 project (P173819)	The PCU in MoH shall recruit an environmental & a social specialist under the ongoing health project KHP (P147402) not later than one (1) month after the Effective Date and retain said specialists throughout Project implementation. The E&S specialists of the KHP will maintain the E&S standards and risk mitigated to Kosovo COVID-19 Project and Kosovo Pandemic Emergency Financing. PCU, with composition and resources acceptable to the Association, shall be maintained throughout Project implementation	PCU of MoH

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS	TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
<p>1.2 ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL ASSESSMENT/MANAGEMENT PLANS AND INSTRUMENTS/ CONTRACTORS</p> <p>a. Prepare, disclose and adopt an Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) and assess the environmental and social risks and impacts of Kosovo Pandemic Project activities in accordance with ESS1 and the ESMF, including to ensure that individuals or groups who, because of their particular circumstances, may be disadvantaged or vulnerable, have access to the development benefits resulting from the Project.</p> <p>b. Prepare, disclose, adopt, and implement any E&S instruments required for the respective Project activities based on the assessment process, in accordance with the ESSs, the ESMF, and other relevant Good International Industry Practice (GIIP) including the WHO Country & Technical Guidance - Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) and the WHO Guidelines on Safe Management of Wastes from Health-Care Activities in a manner consistent with the ESSs and acceptable to the Bank.</p> <p>c. Incorporate the relevant aspects of this ESCP, including, inter alia, any E&S 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 shall be prepared, disclosed and adopted not later than one (1) month after the Effective Date. Until the ESMF is approved, the Project will apply the WHO standards on COVID-19 response in a manner consistent with ESS1. Screening shall be conducted before the carrying out of the respective Project activity.</p> <p>b. E&S instruments, in form and substance acceptable to the Bank, shall be prepared, disclosed and adopted 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 ensure that contractors comply with the ESHS specifications in their contracts through their involvement in the respective Project activities.</p>	<p>PCU of MoH</p>

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
1.3	<p>EXCLUSIONS: The following types of activities shall not be eligible for financing under the Project:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Activities that may have significant adverse social impacts and may give rise to significant social conflict • Activities that may cause long term, permanent and/or irreversible (e.g. loss of natural habitat) adverse impacts on the environment • Activities that may affect lands or rights of minorities, • Activities that may involve resettlement or land acquisition (not limited to permanent) /use restriction or adverse impacts on cultural heritage • All the other excluded activities set out in the ESMF of the Project. 	These exclusions shall be applied as part of the assessment process conducted under action 1.2.a. above.	PCU of MoH
1.4	The Borrower shall provide services and supplies to all people, regardless of their social status, based on the urgency of the need, in line with the latest data related to the prevalence of the cases, and the implementation of WHO guidance tools for COVID-19 risk communication and engagement. This shall be reflected in the Project Operation Manual.	Throughout Project Implementation	MoH
ESS 2: LABOR AND WORKING CONDITIONS			
2.1	<p>LABOR MANAGEMENT:</p> <p>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.</p> <p>The Borrower shall prepare and include in the ESMF Labor Management Procedures addressing labor and OHS issues related to exposure to COVID19 and beyond, before the carrying out the relevant Project activities.</p>	<p>The LMP as part of the ESMF shall be adopted not later than one (1) month after the Effective Date and before the carrying out the relevant Project activities.</p> <p>The LMP and all measures specified in this action 2.1 shall be implemented throughout the Project implementation period.</p>	PCU of MoH
ESS 3: RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT			
	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.		
ESS 4: COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY			

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
	Relevant aspects of this standard shall be considered, as needed, under action 1.2 above including, inter alia, measures to: minimize the potential for community exposure to communicable diseases; ensure that individuals or groups who, because of their particular circumstances, may be disadvantaged or vulnerable have access to the development benefits resulting from the Project; manage the risks of labor influx; and prevent and respond to sexual exploitation and abuse, and sexual harassment.		
ESS 5: LAND ACQUISITION, RESTRICTIONS ON LAND USE AND INVOLUNTARY RESETTLEMENT			
	Not relevant.		
ESS 6: BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF LIVING NATURAL RESOURCES			
	Not relevant.		
ESS 7: INDIGENOUS PEOPLES/SUB-SAHARAN AFRICAN HISTORICALLY UNDERSERVED TRADITIONAL LOCAL COMMUNITIES			
	Not relevant.		
ESS 8: CULTURAL HERITAGE			
	Not relevant.		
ESS 9: FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES			
	Not relevant.		
ESS 10: STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION DISCLOSURE			
10.1	STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN: Update, disclose, adopt, and implement a Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) consistent with ESS10, and in a manner acceptable to the Bank.	A draft SEP has been prepared and disclosed and shall be updated and re-disclosed not later than one (1) month after Effective Date. The SEP will then be continuously updated and implemented during Project implementation	PCU of MoH
10.2	GRIEVANCE MECHANISM: Accessible grievance arrangements shall be made publicly available to receive and facilitate resolution of concerns and grievances in relation to the Project, consistent with ESS10, and in a manner acceptable to the Bank. The GRM established in the ongoing Kosovo Health Project (P147402) shall be adapted to handle grievances related to the Kosovo Pandemic Emergency Financing operation.	GRM established under ongoing Kosovo Health Project (P147402) will be operational throughout this Project implementation.	PCU of MoH
CAPACITY SUPPORT (TRAINING)			

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS	TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
<p><u>Training topics for personnel involved in Project implementation will among others include:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training topics as per the WHO Country & Technical Guidance - Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) 2 including but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - COVID-19 Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations - Laboratory biosafety guidance related to the COVID-19 - Specimen collection and shipment - Standard precautions for COVID-19 patients - Risk communication and community engagement - Establishment of quarantine • Training topics as per the WHO Guidelines on Safe Management of Wastes from Health-Care Activities https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/85349/9789241548564_eng.pdf;jsessionid=EE45FF4B510A5297A7DFF6030A3BED25?sequence=1 • Training on the prevention of GBV and SEA/SH and awareness of child protection protocols, on Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs) and other communicable diseases, including for security personnel. • Country Sanitary Regulations and Norms 	<p>Throughout Project implementation.</p>	<p>PCU of the MoH in cooperation with Kosovo University Clinical and Hospital Services of Kosovo (KUCHS), and the National Institute for Public Health (NIPH) experienced in the relevant topics following WHO's guidance.</p>