Environmental Assessment and Review Framework (Draft)

Project Number: 54190-001

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AFG: Emergency Assistance for COVID-19 Pandemic Response for Afghanistan

Prepared by Ministry of Public Health, Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, for the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the Ministry of Finance, Government of Afghanistan.

CURRENCY EQUIVALENTS

(07 April 2020)

Currency Unit = Afghan Afghani (AF) AF 1.00 = $.013183= AF

ABBREVIATIONS

ADB — Asian Development Bank

AFRM — Afghanistan Resident Mission

CoCP – Code of Construction Practice

EA&RF — Environmental Assessment and Review Framework

EIA — Environmental Impact Assessment

EMP — Environmental Management Plan

IEE — Initial Environmental Examination

MOF — Ministry of Finance

MoPH — Ministry of Public Health

NGO — Non-governmental Organization

GCMU — Grant and Services Contract Management Unit

SCO — Sehatmandi Coordination Office

PPP — Projects, Plans, Policies

WHO — World Health Organization

SPS — Safeguard Policy Statement

EA — Executing Agency

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

km (kilometer) — 1000 meters m (meter) — 0.001 kilometer

NOTE

In this report, "$" refers to US dollars.

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. The proposed Emergency Assistance for COVID-19 Pandemic Response responds to the government's formal request to Asian Development Bank (ADB) made on 16 March 2020 for emergency response and resilience building for COVID-19 in Afghanistan. In line with the National Emergency Response Plan for Coronavirus 2020, the Emergency Assistance will support the Government in its response to COVID-19 Pandemic. The grant will have the following three Outputs:

- (a) Output 1 – Hospitals and medical facilities rehabilitation or construction
- (b) Output 2 – Procurement of medicines and medical equipment supplies
- (c) Output 3 – Capacity development and resilience building strengthened

2. The proponent of this project is the Ministry of Public Health (MoPH). The objective of the project is to support MoPH in construction / rehabilitation of hospitals comprising intensive care units (ICU) and isolation wards, procurement of the urgent medical equipment, supplies, medicines, and strengthening of the national health system preparedness and capacity to respond to public health emergencies including COVID-19.

3. To adequately screen, assess, review, and monitor the environmental impacts from Output 1 (Construction / rehabilitation of hospitals), an Environmental Assessment and Review Framework (EARF) has been prepared. It includes assessment of legal framework and institutional capacity, anticipated environmental impacts, consultation, information disclosure, and grievance redress, institutional responsibilities, and monitoring and reporting. Moreover, a framework Code of Construction Practice (CoCP) / detailed environmental management plan is also provided as an appendix.

II. ASSESSMENT OF LEGAL FRAMEWORK AND INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY

4. Any subproject selected for Emergency Assistance for COVID-19 Pandemic Response will be screened, classified, and assessed based on ADB's Safeguard Policy Statement (2009), and environmental legislation of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, and, if necessary, be reviewed and approved by ADB and the National Environmental Protection Agency (NEPA). This also includes complying with international agreements which Afghanistan is party to.

A. Afghanistan's Legislative and Policy Framework

5. The following national environmental acts, laws, regulations, guidelines and policies are relevant to the project:

i. **Environmental Act, 2007.** This act has been promulgated to give effect to Article 15 of the Constitution of Afghanistan and provide for the management of issues relating to rehabilitation

of the environment and the conservation and sustainable use of natural resources, living organisms and non-living organisms.

ii. **Law on Managing Land Affairs, 2008.** The 2008 Law on Managing Land Affairs sets out definitions for various land types and classifications, requirements for land deeds, and principles governing allocations of state land, land leasing, land expropriation, settlement of land rights, and restoration of lands.

iii. **Draft Forest Law, 2009.** The Draft Forest Law reflects the principles of community based natural resource management enshrined in the Cabinet-endorsed National Strategy for Forests and Rangeland. The draft is currently with the Ministry of Justice for processing.

iv. **Interim Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, Draft 2.3.** These regulations govern the process of environmental impact assessment in Afghanistan on an interim basis pending the establishment of the EIA Board of Expert in terms of Article 20 of the Environmental Law and issuing of final regulations. These regulations provide the detailed process of EIA and list the projects into category A and B based on potential impacts.

B. Institutional Framework in Afghanistan

6. The primary Executing Agency (EA) will be MoPH. This and other Central Government institutions potentially linked to the Project and the implementation of the EMP are described below.

i. **Ministry of Public Health (MoPH**): MoPH is responsible for planning, constructing, operating and maintaining regional, national and provincial hospitals, health care in Afghanistan. The MoPH will be responsible for implementation of the project. The procurement activities will be undertaken by the Implementing Unit - Grant and Services Contract Management Unit (GCMU) which was set up for the World Bank Sehatmandi Project, within the Ministry of Public Health. The GCMU's capacity will be augmented with additional staff (consultants) to implement the ADB project. The additional staff will be selected as individual consultants under the proposed grant. The individual consultants for Grant and Services Contract Management Unit (GCMU) will work full time in Kabul. The expertise will include project coordination, financial management, procurement, accountancy as well as monitoring and evaluation.

ii. **National Environmental Protection Agency (NEPA):** NEPA's goal is "to protect the environmental integrity of Afghanistan and support sustainable development of its natural resources through the provision of effective environmental policies, regulatory frameworks and management services that are also in line with the Afghanistan Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)".

iii. **Civil Society Organizations.** Save the Environment Afghanistan (SEA) is Afghanistan's only major grassroots and Afghan-managed conservation organization. SEA (then SAVE) was active in environmental issues during the civil war when there was no active government involvement in environmental issues. SEA's mission is protection of the environment, sustainable resource utilization, conservation of biodiversity and integrated development of natural resources. SEA is

member of IUCN, IUFRO (The Global Network for Forest Science Cooperation) and APAFRI (Asia Pacific Association of Forestry Research Institutions) and works closely with the International Crane Foundation, the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF), the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD), the International Snow Leopard Trust and other environmental organizations (source: Afghanistan's Fourth National Report to the Convention on Biological Diversity (2009).

7. Afghanistan has ratified a number of international agreements and conventions relating to the protection of the environment and biodiversity.

i. The **Ramsar Convention on Wetlands**, signed in Ramsar, Iran in 1971, is an intergovernmental treaty which provides the framework for national action and international cooperation for the conservation and wise use of wetlands and their resources. Afghanistan is currently not a Contracting Party to the Ramsar Convention.

ii. The **World Heritage Convention (WHC)** is an international agreement that was adopted by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in 1972. It is based on the premise that certain places on earth are of outstanding universal value and should therefore form part of the common heritage of mankind. The Convention seeks to identify and safeguard the world's most outstanding natural and cultural heritage. Afghanistan became a Party to the Convention in March 1979.

iII. The United Nations Framework **Convention on Climate Change** (UNFCCC) sets an overall framework for intergovernmental efforts to tackle the challenge posed by climate change. Afghanistan signed the UNFCCC in June 1992. The Transitional Authority ratified the Convention in September 2002 and the Convention entered into force in December 2002. The Kyoto Protocol is an extension to the Convention adopted in 1997 that outlines legally binding commitments to emission cuts. Afghanistan has yet to accede to the Kyoto Protocol.

v. The **Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species** (CITES) is an international agreement between governments which came into force in 1975. Its aim is to ensure that international trade in specimens of wild animals and plants does not threaten their survival. Afghanistan acceded to CITES on 30 October 1986 but has not been actively implementing the Convention.

vi. Afghanistan signed the **Convention on Biological Diversity** (CBD) in 1992 and ratified it in 2002. Afghanistan submitted the Fourth National Report to the CBD Secretariat in 2009.

vii. Afghanistan is not a Party to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, a supplementary agreement to the CBD. Afghanistan does not currently consider biosafety to be a significant issue relative to others challenges facing the country (source: Fourth National Report to the CBD Secretariat, 2009)

C. Government's regulation on environmental impact assessment

8. The Government's regulation on environmental impact assessment is based on the Environmental Act of Islamic Republic of Afghanistan (Gazette No. 912) dated 23 Jadi, 1384 (25 January, 2007). The National Environmental Protection Agency (NEPA), as an independent institutional entity, is responsible for coordinating and monitoring conservation and rehabilitation of the environment, and for implementing this Act. Article 16 and 17 of Chapter 3 of the Environmental Act describes the process of preparing a preliminary assessment, an environmental impact statement and a comprehensive mitigation plan to be conducted by the proponent of each project.

9. Article 21 mentions public consultation is required for all the projects. Article 18 describes the approval procedure of environmental impact assessment. The NEPA will appoint an EIA Board of Experts to review, assess and consider applications and documents submitted by the proponent. Acting on the advice of the EIA Board of Experts, NEPA shall either grant or refuse to a grant permit in respect of the project. A permit granted will lapse in the event that the proponent fails to implement the project within three years of the date of which the permit was granted.

10. Article 19 describes the appeal procedure. Any person may, within thirty (30) days of the granting or refusal of a permit, appeal the decision to the Director-General of the NEPA. The Director-General shall review the appeal application and thereafter make an appropriate decision. Should the appellant wish to appeal the Director-General's final decision, the matter shall be referred to the relevant court.

11. **Administrative Guidelines for the Preparation of Environmental Impact Assessments, Draft 2, March 2007.** These guidelines are in draft form and have been prepared by NEPA in coordination with UNEP. The purpose of guide-lines is to provide guidance to proponents while undertaking a development project that may have a potential impact on the environment. The guidelines also provide guidance on how public should be consulted and defines the roles and responsibilities of various stakeholders in the process.

D. Environmental Impact Assessment Policy – "An Integrated Approach to Environmental Impact Assessment in Afghanistan", November 2007.

12. NEPA with the assistance from UNEP has developed the EIA Policy of Afghanistan. The policy stipulates energy sector guidelines to the project proponents to integrate EIA in the process of development and the procedures to address environmental consequences and involve necessary institutions in the process of project implementation.

13. **National Environment Strategic Documents.** These include (i) The Millennium Development Goals: Vision 2020; (ii) The Afghanistan Compact; (iii) The Afghanistan National Development Strategy (ANDS 2008-2013), and (iv) The National Environment Strategy.

14. MoPH (EA) will submit an application to National Environmental Protection Agency (NEPA) to seek guidance on the necessary environmental assessment to be carried out for this project. Based on the application and other details, NEPA will decide if any environmental assessment (ESIA / IEE) study is required or not for the project.

World Bank / IFC EHS Guidelines for Health Care Facilities

15. The WB /IFC Environmental Health and Safety (EHS) Guidelines for Health Care Facilities include information relevant to the management of EHS issues associated with health care facilities (HCF) which includes a diverse range of facilities and activities involving general hospitals and small inpatient primary care hospitals, as well as outpatient, assisted living, and hospice facilities. Ancillary facilities may include medical laboratories and research facilities, mortuary centers, and blood banks and collection services. A description of activities in this sector are also provided in these guidelines.

16. Applicable environmental standards: The applicable national standards and WHO for air quality is given in Table 1 lists and for noise are given in Table 2. SPS 2009 provides that during construction, the government will apply pollution prevention and practices that are in line with international good practice as given by international standards such as the IFC-WB EHS General Guidelines 2007. In addition, should the regulations of the Government differ from the levels and measures set by the IFC-WB EHS General Guidelines 2007, the Government will achieve whichever is more stringent.

Table 1. Afghanistan and WHO Air Quality Standards

	Averaging period	**WHO Guideline value in µg/^{m3}**	**Afghanistan maximum allowable concentration value in µg/^{m3}**
TSP	24 hours	-	300
Carbon monoxide (CO)	8 hours	-	10
	1 hour		30
	30 minutes		60
Lead (Pb)	1 year	-	0.5
Sulfur Dioxide SO_2	24 hours	125 (Interim target-1)	50
		50 (Interim target-2)	
		20 (guideline)	
	10 minutes	5000 (guideline)	-
Nitrogen dioxide NO_2	1 year	49 (guideline)	40
	1 hour	200 (guideline)	80

Particulate Matter PM_{10}	1 year	70 (Interim target-1) 50 (Interim target-2) 30 (Interim target-3) 20 (guideline)	70
	24 hours	150 (Interim target-1) 100 (Interim target-2) 74 (Interim target-3) 50 (guideline)	150
Particulate Matter $PM_{2,5}$	1 year	35 (Interim target-1) 23 (Interim target-2) 15 (Interim target-3) 10 (guideline)	35
	24 hours	75 (Interim target-1) 50 (Interim target-2) 37.5 (Interim target-3) 25 (guideline)	75
Ozone	8-hour daily maximum	160 (Interim target-1) 100 (guideline)	100

Source: Afghanistan National Air Quality Standards and WHO Air Quality Standards 2005

Table 2. Afghanistan and IFC EHS Noise Management Standards

	Afghanistan		**IFC EHS**	
Receptor	**Day-time 7:00 – 22:00**	**Night-time 22:00 – 7:00**	**Day-time 7:00 – 22:00**	**Night-time 22:00 – 7:00**
Residential, institutional, educational	55	45	55	45
Industrial, commercial	55	45	70	70
Roads	70	57		

Source: (i) Guidance Note for Noise Action Planning, Environmental Noise Regulations 2006, Environmental Protection Agency; (ii) IFC. 2018. Environmental, Health, and Safety Guidelines.

E. ADB Safeguard Policy Statement (2009) Requirement

17. The SPS 2009 consists of three operational policies on environment, indigenous peoples, and involuntary resettlement. This policy provides the scope, triggers, and principles to avoid,

minimize, or mitigate adverse environmental and social impacts, including protecting the rights of those likely to be affected marginalized by the development process.

18. The environmental requirements of SPS 2009 aim to ensure project environmental soundness and sustainability, integrate environmental considerations into the project decisionmaking process. The principal objective is to conduct an environmental assessment for each proposed project to identify potential impacts, and then mitigate the negative impacts. The proposed mitigation measures, monitoring and reporting requirements, institutional arrangements, schedules, cost estimates, and performance indicators are documented in the environmental assessment report. The ADB requires environmental assessment of all project loans, program loans, sector loans, sector development program loans, financial intermediation loans, and private sector investment operations. Environmental assessment is a process rather than a one-time report, and includes necessary environmental analyses and environmental management planning that take place throughout the project cycle.

19. Each subproject is first categorized through ADB's Rapid Environmental Assessment (REA) Checklists (Appendix 1[1]) that enable to identify potential risk/impacts of the subprojects and determine the appropriate extent and type of environmental assessment an early stage of project cycle. According to the findings of the REA checklist, the project will be categorized as A, B, or C. The definitions and reporting requirements of the environmental categories are summarized below.

Table 3: ADB Environmental Categories

Category	Project Impact	Reporting Requirement
A	A proposed project is classified as category A if it is likely to have significant adverse environmental impacts that are irreversible, diverse, or unprecedented. These impacts may affect an area larger than the sites or facilities subject to physical works.	environmental impact assessment (EIA)
B	A proposed project is classified as category B if its potential adverse environmental impacts are less adverse than those of category A projects. These impacts are site-specific, few if any of them are irreversible, and in most cases mitigation measures can be designed more readily than for category A projects.	initial environmental examination (IEE)
C	A proposed project is classified as category C if it is likely to have minimal or no adverse environmental impacts.	No environmental assessment is required although environmental implications need to be reviewed.

[1] Appendix 1 includes REAs for Buildings

20. Any subproject categorized as 'A' will be excluded. Any construction works to be carried out within the existing hospital facility will not require preparation of an IEE study. However, the subcontractor will be required to prepare a detailed environmental management plan (EMP) / Code of Construction Practice. Moreover, the same needs to be approved by the EA before commencement of construction works. Moreover, subproject requiring construction works at a new location would require preparation of an IEE study.

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21. **Public consultations**. The requirement of the SPS is to carry out meaningful consultation with affected people and facilitating their informed participation. It is necessary to ensure women's participation in consultation, and involve stakeholders, including affected people and concerned nongovernment organizations, early in the project preparation process and ensure that their views and concerns are made known to and understood and taken into account. It is also required to establish a grievance redress mechanism to receive and facilitate resolution of the affected people's concerns and grievances regarding the project's environmental performance.

22. Methodology and Approach: Identification of Stakeholders is important part in public consultation. Stakeholders are considered to be primary if they will be directly affected or likely to be affected directly or indirectly (i.e., beneficial or adversely) by the project. Secondary stakeholders are individuals or groups whose interests may be affected by the project, and who may have the potential to influence project outcomes, if any.

23. EA will adopt the following principles of consultation based on SPS 2009;
    (i) holistic and project cycle approach (atmosphere free of intimidation or coercion, conducted from project preparation to completion),
    (ii) informed participation and feedback (provides opportunities for suggestions/comments, adequate and understandable information), and
    (iii) gender sensitive and inclusive (equal access to information, tailored to the needs of disadvantaged and vulnerable groups).

24. To be more effective and fruitful consultations, EA will divide the stakeholders into three main groups (affected parties, interested parties and vulnerable/disadvantage groups). However, the three main groups may be changed during project implementation.

25.

26. However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, some restrictions maybe in place during project implementation for direct communication and on the number of people in a meeting or public gathering in a confined place etc. In this case, EA may carry out consultations in smaller group (in case smaller group meetings are allowed) to observe social distancing required by the WHO (at least 1 meter apart) during the pandemic, emphasizing that participants are free to use mask or face shield and different means of communication:

27. EA may use of various channel of communication and under taking the following steps;

- coordinate with local radio stations (AM/FM) to disseminate information about the project,
- use local newspaper to post information such as project brief or FAQ,
- designate a 24/7 hotline to respond to people's concern or issues about the project (the 24/7 hotline number will be also posted on the websites of EA); and
- coordinate with religious leaders to allocate some time to broadcast about the project.

28. EA will document the consultation by listing the participants of the consultation process, including a summary of the concerns/issues they raised and suggestions on project design, mitigation measures and monitoring, and other relevant issues on implementation. Participation of women will be highlighted as well as the date and location of consultations.

29. ADB is drafting guidance with regards to consultation in emergency situations These will also be used while carrying out consultations.

30. Additional ADB guidelines are relevant for the subprojects:

- Operations Manual (OM) with relevant Bank Policies (BP), March 2010;
- Access to Information Policy:, 2019.
- Guidance note on management of medical waste;

31. The proposed grant is categorized as 'B' for environmental safeguards. Hence, in accordance with SPS-2009, an EARF has been prepared for this emergency grant. Moreover, as the construction works will be carried out within the existing hospital facilities on land owned by MoPH, with limited impacts envisaged. Hence, no Initial Environmental Examination (IEE) study will need to be prepared for such developments. However, the prospective subcontractor will be required to prepare and submit a Code of Construction Practice (CoCP) / detailed Environmental Management Plan (EMP) to effectively manage these impacts.. Furthermore, in case of any construction is carried out outside the hospital then an IEE will be required, however in the existing plan there is no construction planned outside the existing hospital facility, therefore the CoCP will be prepared based on the one provided in **Appendix 4**. Lastly, any projects with significant environmental impacts (Category A for environment) will be excluded.

III. DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT

32. The project will have the following outcome: COVID-19 surveillance and treatment improved.

33. **Output 1: Hospitals and medical facilities rehabilitation or constructed.** This output will support construction of hospitals comprising intensive care units (ICU) and isolation wards within existing hospitals on land owned by MoPH. It will also include rehabilitation of existing hospitals and facilities in accordance with build back better principle. In coordination with the UN agencies, the government has formulated a list of the high priority provinces and areas to be targeted. The list consists of 19 locations for Phase 1 (very urgent) and 12 locations for Phase II (urgent). Construction of these structures will add around 50,000 square meters of additional hospital capacity to the national network. The medical facilities will include utilities such as power

generators, plumbing and waste management systems. The new facilities will be constructed such that there will be a continued use even after the COVID-19 crisis is resolved. The management of the new medical facilities will be integrated into the existing hospital facilities currently being managed by MoPH.

34. The construction of hospital will be on prefabricated structure. The technical specifications for these structures will be reviewed by WHO. The prefabricated structure will be designed to standard with a minimum life of at least 30 years, which will allow the medical facilities to be repurposed after COVID-19 is over. The pre-fabrication technology is extensively used around the World.

35. **Output 2: Medicines and medical equipment supplied.** This output will support procurement of the urgent medical equipment, supplies and medicines to ensure that the new medical facilities created under Output 1 are fully operational, and to provide broader support for the Government response to COVID19 outbreak. The items will be procured in accordance with a list prepared by the MoPH and is based on the WHO recommended list for COVID-19 response. The list of medicines and equipment has been discussed with other development partners including the World Bank and UN agencies to avoid duplication and overlaps.

36. **Output 3: Capacity development and resilience building strengthened**. This output will support strengthening of the national health system preparedness and capacity to respond to public health emergencies including COVID-19. It will have 3 subcomponents. First, it will support implementation of the MoPH capacity building plan for health care workers to respond to the COVID-19. The MoPH plan aims to strengthen the capacity of: (i) health workforce on COVID-19 suspected and confirmed cases management; (ii) health workers and support staff on infection prevention and control measures at the health facilities; (iii) rapid response teams both at rural and urban settings to timely investigate and respond to COVID-19 outbreaks; and (iv) public by raising awareness and promoting healthy behaviors in regard to COVID-19. Second, the output will support development of the necessary skills and capacity to ensure that new medical facilities covered under Output 1 will have staff with the necessary medical expertise related to infection, prevention, testing, risk management and control and have knowledge on how to properly use and distribute the equipment funded by ADB. Third, the output will also support strengthening of the existing Project Management Unit within the MPH (established under the ongoing World Bank grant assistance) by providing additional consultant support to ensure effective implementation of the proposed emergency assistance grant. Finally, the output will include monitoring of the implementation of medical facilities created under Output 1, through a third party monitoring firm.

IV. ANTICIPATED ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

37. It is anticipated that the project will have environmental impacts characteristic of smallscale considering construction and rehabilitation works will be carried out within existing hospitals on land owned by MoPH. Hence, a Code of Construction Practice (CoCP) would be sufficient to manage these impacts. However, any construction works at a new location would require preparation of an IEE study.

38. The potential environmental impacts include:

39. *Physical Environment*. The main potential impacts during construction or rehabilitation are air quality due to fugitive dust generation in and around construction activities. Impacts during operation are expected from the storage and disposal of medical waste. Fuel and lubricants can contaminate groundwater and surface water if they are not properly stored and disposed. Potential impacts are generation of solid waste, sewage waste, medical waste and occupational and community health risks. Potential noise and vibration impacts during the construction activities of the project are also envisaged.

40. *Biological Resources*. Potential impacts related to biological resources include a risk of habitat loss (small mammal breeding place, damage burrows, removal of trees in or along the hospitals etc.

41. *Socio-Economic and cultural/historical Environment*. It is anticipated that potential impacts to the socioeconomic environment will be mostly positive and on income and unemployment trends. However, potential impacts in term of spreading and transmitting of COVID19 in employee of MoPH and workers during construct and operation is anticipated. Also, on socio-economic in case of COVID 19 positive. Mitigation measure like social distancing, use of PPE (face mast, hand cloves, etc.) wash of hands with soap and hot water, and use of sanitizer regular interval, reduce movement and avoid visiting crowded area and public places, participating in and gathering etc. Potential impacts on archaeological, historical and cultural assets are not anticipated.

V. ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR SUBPROJECTS

42. The following general criteria will be adopted for selection of the subprojects:

(i) The subprojects should only be selected from the MoPH's priority list prepared in coordination with ADB and UN agencies;

(ii) The subprojects will not include those with significant impacts to the environment (ADB's Environmental Category A);

(iii) The subprojects will not include those with involuntary resettlement;

(iv) The subprojects should only involve activities that follow all the government regulations;

(v) Types of projects listed in ADB SPS's Appendix 5 (ADB Prohibited Investment Activities List) do not qualify for ADB's financing.

43. A final check on conformity with the selection criteria will be the submission of selected subprojects for ADB's clearance. Any subproject, which does not meet the general criteria listed above may be rejected.

44. All selected subprojects will be further screened and categorized for likely environmental impacts using ADB's REA Checklist (Provided in Appendix-1). In general, the subprojects should:

- not disturb any cultural heritage areas designated by the government or international agencies, such as UNESCO, and shall avoid any monuments of cultural or historical importance;
- not be located within or near the biodiversity core zone of any protected areas such as national parks, nature reserves, or wildlife sanctuaries;
- avoid clearing of any existing forest resources, and if unavoidable, clearing will be minimized and compensatory planting included in the environmental management plan and budget for each subproject;
- only involve activities that follow the government's laws and regulations, and will not involve ADB's list of prohibited activities;
- not use Polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB)-based oils in any activity, or otherwise, appropriate disposal plans will be made following national legal requirements; and

45. Subprojects with Environmental Category 'A' will not be considered. Subprojects with construction works to be carried out within an existing hospital with limited site specific impacts will not require preparation of an IEE study. Instead a Code of Construction Practice will be prepared. The same needs to be approved by MoPH before commencement of construction works. A framework CoCP is provided in **Appendix 4** of this document.

46. Any construction activities outside the existing hospital facilities or for which impacts are unknown are subject to detailed assessment. Impacts of those activities will be assessed through an IEE and a well-developed EMP will be required for impact minimization (Appendix 3 provides an IEE template).

39. The IEE shall include (i) the environmental management plan (EMP), describing the mitigation measures for each environmental impact identified; (ii) monitoring required, location and frequency of monitoring; (iii) responsibility for implementation and monitoring; and (iv) resources required for implementation.

40. Public consultation of persons that will be affected by the activity will be required during the preparation of the IEE. The results of public consultations will be thoroughly documented (i.e.,

concerns, attendance, location, date of consultation, response to concerns raised) and incorporated in the IEE (further details provided in Section VI).

47. The IEEs including EMPs, and sample Environmental Screening Reports will be reviewed by the EA and, if considered satisfactory based on the requirements of SPS 2009, the latter will submit them to ADB for final review and clearance. Once cleared by ADB, the IEEs will be publicly disclosed on the ADB and government websites.

VI. CONSULTATION, INFORMATION DISCLOSURE, AND GRIEVANCE REDRESS MECHANISM

A. Public Consultation

48. The EA will develop a list of priority subprojects based on public consultation with local communities and other stakeholders. For each of these subprojects the EA will organize consultations with project affected people (beneficial or adversely), individuals or groups whose interests may be affected by the project, and who may have the potential to influence project outcomes. Consultation will be based on the following principles:
(i) Early start in the project preparation stage and continuation throughout the project cycle;
(ii) Timely disclosure of relevant information in a comprehensible and readily accessible to affected people format;
(iii) Ensuring the absence of intimidation or coercion during public consultation; (iv) Gender inclusive and responsive with focus on disadvantaged and vulnerable groups, and
(v) Enabling the integration of all relevant views of affected people and stakeholders into decision-making.

49. EA will adopt the following principles of consultation based on SPS 2009;
(iv) holistic and project cycle approach (atmosphere free of intimidation or coercion, conducted from project preparation to completion),
(v) informed participation and feedback (provides opportunities for suggestions/comments, adequate and understandable information), and
(vi) gender sensitive and inclusive (equal access to information, tailored to the needs of disadvantaged and vulnerable groups).

50. To be more effective and fruitful consultations, EA will divide the stakeholders into three main groups (affected parties, interested parties and vulnerable/disadvantage groups). However, the three main groups may be changed during project implementation.

51. However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, some restrictions maybe in place during project implementation for direct communication and on the number of people in a meeting or public gathering in a confined place etc. In this case, EA may carry out consultations in smaller group (in case smaller group meetings are allowed) to observe social distancing required by the WHO (at least 1 meter apart) during the pandemic, emphasizing that participants are free to use mask or face shield and different means of communication:

52. EA may use of various channel of communication and under taking the following steps;
- coordinate with local radio stations (AM/FM) to disseminate information about the project,
- use local newspaper to post information such as project brief or FAQ,
- designate a 24/7 hotline to respond to people's concern or issues about the project (the 24/7 hotline number will be also posted on the websites of EA); and
- coordinate with religious leaders to allocate some time to broadcast about the project.

53. EA will document the consultation by listing the participants of the consultation process, including a summary of the concerns/issues they raised and suggestions on project design, mitigation measures and monitoring, and other relevant issues on implementation. Participation of women will be highlighted as well as the date and location of consultations.

B. Information Disclosure

54. EA and ADB agree that in disclosing environmental information for each of the subproject to the public:

    (i) EA is responsible for ensuring that all environmental assessment documentation, including the environmental screening reports are properly and systematically kept as part of an EA project-specific record;
    (ii) All environmental documents are subject to public disclosure, and therefore be made available to public;
    (iii) All REA's (Appendix-1) Code of Construction Practice (Appendix-4) will be reviewed by ADB before these are disclosed to the public; and,
    (iv) EA will ensure that meaningful public consultations are undertaken during the assessment process for the subprojects.

C. Grievance Redress Mechanism

55. In order to receive and facilitate the resolution of affected peoples' concerns, complaints, and grievances about the project's environmental performance an Environmental Grievance Redress Mechanism will be established for each of subprojects. The grievance mechanism should be scaled to the risks and adverse impacts of the project. It should address affected people's concerns and complaints promptly, using an understandable and transparent process that is gender responsive, culturally appropriate, and readily accessible to all segments of the affected people at no costs and without retribution. The mechanism should not impede access to the Afghanistan's judicial or administrative remedies. EA will appropriately inform the affected people about the mechanism.

D. Grievance Focal Points, Complaints Reporting, Recording and Monitoring

56. Environment complaints can be received through Grievance Focal Points (GFPs), these will be designated personnel at various levels who would be responsible for receiving the Environmental complaint, resolving it or ensuring that it reaches the right quarters where it may be resolved. These designated GFPs may be village level local leaders, or village elders. Affected people may lodge their complaint for registration through a personal visit, call or letter to any of the GFPs.
57. Each focal Point will maintain a record of the complaints received and will follow up on their rapid resolution. The EA will enter and maintain a complete record of all Environmental complaints received alongside the record-book that serves as the social complaints register. The EA will also keep track of their status and will ensure that they are resolved.

VII. INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENT AND RESPONSIBILITIES

58. To prepare the subprojects and to comply with ADB's Safeguard Policy Statement (2009) and the Environmental Act of Islamic Republic of Afghanistan (2006), EA and ADB agreed on the following:

(i) MoPH, as the executing agency, will be responsible for:

a) Prepare environmental screening checklists and classify potential subprojects;
b) Submit the environmental screening checklist to ADB for approval and clearance.
c) Based on the environmental classification of the subprojects, prepare the terms of reference to conduct an IEE study (if required for any of the subprojects). It needs to be mentioned which of the subprojects would require preparation of an IEE study and which ones require preparation of a CoCP/ detailed EMP only;
d) Ensure that all regulatory clearances are obtained before starting civil works for the sub-project.
e) Submit to ADB all the required clearances/certificates obtained from the relevant Government authorities
f) Require the contractor to prepare Code of Construction Practice (CoCP) / detailed EMP. The same needs to be approved by MoPH before commencement of construction works.

(ii) ADB will take the following responsibilities:
a) Review the IEE reports (if required for any of the subproject);
b) Review the CoCP / detailed EMP;
c) Disclose the IEE EARF, before project appraisal, a new or updated IEE and corrective action plan prepared during project implementation, if any, as well as environmental monitoring reports on the ADB website
d) Monitor the implementation of the EMP and due diligence as part of overall project review mission
e) Assist EA, if required, in carrying out its responsibilities and safeguard capacity building

(iii) The construction contractor will take the following responsibilities:
a) Prepare the CoCP / detailed EMP and have it approved by MoPH before commencement of construction activities
b) Monitor implementation of mitigation measures as provide in the CoCP / detailed EMP and provide the details in the monthly monitoring reports submitted to MoPH

Staffing Requirements and Budget

59. EA will appoint or recruit environmental specialists as part of engineering design team to provide guidance on preparation IEE study and CoCP. The environment specialist will also be responsible to oversee and monitor the implementation of the CoCP / detailed EMP. Moreover environmental consultants will need to be hired to conduct IEE study (if required). ToR's are provided in Appendix-5.

60. The subprojects' environmental costs need to incorporate a budget and resources to (i) implement the environmental review and screening procedure, (ii) undertake the IEE studies for the follow-up subprojects, (iii) conduct stakeholder's consultations, (iv) monitor the implementation of EMPs, and (v) undertake environmental mitigation measures as required.

61. The costs of conducting training, undertaking monitoring, procuring laboratory equipment for instrumental monitoring, hiring environmental consultants, and implementing the EMP also needs to be incorporated in the subprojects' budgets.

VIII. MONITORING AND REPORTING

62. The extent of monitoring activities, including their scope and periodicity, will be commensurate with the project's risks and impacts. EA is required to implement safeguard measures and relevant safeguard plans, as provided in the legal agreements, and to submit periodic monitoring reports on their implementation performance. ADB will require EA to:

    (i) establish and maintain procedures to monitor the progress of implementation of CoCP / EMPs;

    (ii) verify the compliance with environmental measures and their progress toward intended outcomes;

    (iii) document and disclose monitoring results and identify necessary corrective and preventive actions in the periodic monitoring reports;

    (iv) follow up on these actions to ensure progress toward the desired outcomes,

    (v) retain qualified and experienced external experts or qualified NGOs to verify monitoring information for projects with significant impacts and risks; (vi) Submit periodic monitoring reports on safeguard measures as agreed with ADB.

63. ADB will carry out the following monitoring actions to supervise subprojects implementation:

    (i) Conduct supervision missions with detailed review by EA's safeguard specialists/officers or consultants for sub-projects with significant adverse social or environmental impacts;

    (ii) Review the periodic monitoring reports submitted by EA to ensure that adverse impacts and risks are mitigated as planned and as agreed with ADB; (iii) Work with EA to rectify to the extent possible any failures to comply with their safeguard commitments, as covenanted in the legal agreements, and exercise remedies to reestablish compliance as appropriate; and

    (iv) Prepare project completion reports that assesses whether the objective and desired outcomes of the EMPs have been achieved, considering the baseline conditions and the results of monitoring.

Appendix 1: Rapid Environmental Assessment (REA) Checklist for Building Projects

Appendix 1: Abbreviated Environmental Assessment Procedure Stage 1- Desk Top Review of Existing Information

Action	**Comments**
1). Define Study Area	
2). Gather Available Information Feasibility report Geology and Soils Topography Flora and Fauna records Surface water Mapping & imagery	
3). Initiate consultation with affected persons, Govt Agencies and NGOs	

Stage 2 – Site Assessment

Ground truthing & recording conditions of study area; Preliminary consultation with affected landowners (if any)

Topography - Slopes - Gradients - Existing erosion patterns	
Geology - Soil -Subsoil - Outcropping units	
Surface water Surface water features Location of water courses Permanent or ephemeral Swamps & wetlands Downstream ecosystems and users	
Groundwater Springs Wells Swamps and Wetlands Recharge areas	
Agriculture & Land use Forest Rangelands Agriculture Pasture/cropping patterns Rain fed/irrigated Stocking levels	
Flora Vegetation cover Vegetation types	

Fauna Habitat types Forests/Woodland Scrub Grassland/Rangeland Wetlands & open water	

Cultural Heritage Archaeological sites Burial grounds Religious monuments Places of worship	
Social Settlement patterns Numbers of houses farms etc. Affected households Severance issues Community structure Community interactions Prevalence of diseases Waste management sanitation	

Stage 3 – REA checklist

Screening Questions	**No**	**Yes**	**If Yes, assessment of significance and recommended mitigation measures**
WILL THE CONSTRUCTION CARRIED OUT WITHIN EXISTING HOSPITAL			
A. PROJECT SITING IS THE PROJECT AREA ADJACENT TO OR WITHIN ANY OF THE FOLLOWING AREAS:			
✦ UNDERGROUND UTILITIES			
✦ CULTURAL HERITAGE SITE			
✦ PROTECTED AREA			
✦ WETLAND			

✦ MANGROVE			
✦ ESTUARINE			
✦ BUFFER ZONE OF PROTECTED AREA			

✦ SPECIAL AREA FOR PROTECTING BIODIVERSITY			
✦ BAY			
B. POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS WILL THE PROJECT CAUSE…			
✦ Encroachment on historical/cultural areas?			
✦ Encroachment on precious ecology (e.g. sensitive or protected areas)?			
✦ Impacts on the sustainability of associated sanitation and solid waste disposal systems?			
✦ Dislocation or involuntary resettlement of people?			
✦ Disproportionate impacts on the poor, women and children, Indigenous Peoples, or other vulnerable groups?			
✦ Accident risks associated with increased vehicular traffic, leading to loss of life?			
✦ Increased noise and air pollution resulting from increased traffic volume?			
✦ Occupational and community health and safety risks?			
✦ Generation of dust in sensitive areas during construction?			

✦ Requirements for disposal of fill, excavation, and/or spoil materials?			
✦ Noise and vibration due to blasting and other civil works?			
✦ Long-term impacts on groundwater flows as result of needing to drain the project site prior to construction?			
✦ Long-term impacts on local hydrology as a result of building hard surfaces in or near the building?			
✦ Large population influx during project construction and operation that causes increased burden on social infrastructure and services (such as water supply and sanitation systems)?			
✦ Social conflicts if workers from other regions or countries are hired?			
✦ Risks to community safety caused by fire, electric shock, or failure of the buildings safety features during operation?			
✦ Risks to community health and safety caused by management and disposal of waste?			
✦ Community safety risks due to both accidental and natural hazards, especially where the structural elements or components of the project are accessible to members of the affected community or where their failure could result in injury to the community throughout project construction, operation and decommissioning?			

Appendix-2 Filled Rapid Environmental Assessment (REA) Checklist for the proposed Grant

BUILDINGS

Instructions:

(i) The project team completes this checklist to support the environmental classification of a project. It is to be attached to the environmental categorization form and submitted to the Environment and Safeguards Division (RSES), for endorsement by Director, RSES and for approval by the Chief Compliance Officer.

(ii) This checklist focuses on environmental issues and concerns. To ensure that social dimensions are adequately considered, refer also to ADB's (a) checklists on involuntary resettlement and Indigenous Peoples; (b) poverty reduction handbook; (c) staff guide to consultation and participation; and (d) gender checklists.

(iii) Answer the questions assuming the "without mitigation" case. The purpose is to identify potential impacts. Use the "remarks" section to discuss any anticipated mitigation measures.

Country/Project Title:	Afghanistan: Emergency Assistance for COVID-19 Pandemic Response
Sector Division:	

Screening Questions	**Yes**	No	Remarks
A. Project Siting Is the project area adjacent to oR within any of the following areas:			
✦ Underground utilities	**Yes**		Underground utilities may be present within the construction sites. However, information on these will be gathered beforehand to minimize any damage to such facilities during the construction phase.
✦ Cultural heritage site		No	

✦ Protected Area		No	The construction works will be carried out on government owned land within existing hospitals. These are located within an urban setting and away from any protected area or area of high ecological value.
✦ Wetland		No	
✦ Mangrove		No	
✦ Estuarine		No	
✦ Buffer zone of protected area		No	
✦ Special area for protecting biodiversity		No	
✦ Bay		No	
B. Potential Environmental Impacts Will the Project cause…			
✦ Encroachment on historical/cultural areas?		No	No cultural heritage site is present at or near the project site.
✦ Encroachment on precious ecology (e.g. sensitive or protected areas)?		No	

✦ Impacts on the sustainability of associated sanitation and solid waste disposal systems?		No	Solid waste generated during the construction activities will be managed daily by contractor and handover to municipality for final disposal. Also, minimum number of workers will be involved and they will use the existing govt. facility for sanitation. Any waste generated during operation phase will be handled and disposed as per the existing waste management plan of the hospital.
✦ Dislocation or involuntary resettlement of people?		No	No such impacts are anticipated as the construction will be carried out on government owned land within existing hospitals
✦ Disproportionate impacts on the poor, women and children, Indigenous Peoples, or other vulnerable groups?		No	No such impacts are anticipated as the construction will be carried out on government owned land within existing hospitals
✦ Accident risks associated with increased vehicular traffic, leading to loss of life?	**Yes**		This impact will be minimized by implementation of a traffic management plan during construction phase.
✦ Increased noise and air pollution resulting from increased traffic volume?	**Yes**		Increased noise levels and air pollution are expected during the construction phase. However, these impacts can be controlled by using noise barriers around generator and regular water sprinkling on exposed surfaces, covering stock piles etc.

✦ Occupational and community health and safety risks?	**Yes**		Health-related impacts may be expected from the temporary camp sites of workers if not properly mitigated. A health and safety plan will be prepared as part Environmental Management Plan (EMP) to be prepared by the construction contractor.
✦ Generation of dust in sensitive areas during construction?	**Yes**		During the construction period dust will be generated, especially during the preparing of concrete pouring, and earthworks. However, this impact will be minimized by regular water sprinkling on exposed surfaces, covering stockpiles, etc.
✦ Requirements for disposal of fill, excavation, and/or spoil materials?	**Yes**		Minimal quantities of spoil will be generated. The same will be disposed as per best industrial practices.
✦ Noise and vibration due to blasting and other civil works?	**Yes**		Increased noise levels are expected during the construction phase due to use of construction equipment and machinery. However, this impact can be controlled by using noise barriers around construction machinery, equipment and vehicles maintenance after regular intervals etc.
✦ Long-term impacts on groundwater flows as result of needing to drain the project site prior to construction?		No	No such impacts are anticipated as the building will be constructed in the existing govt. own land within existing hospitals.

✦ Long-term impacts on local hydrology as a result of building hard surfaces in or near the building?		No	No such impacts are anticipated as the building will be constructed in the existing govt. own land within existing hospitals.
✦ Large population influx during project construction and operation that causes increased burden on social infrastructure and services (such as water supply and sanitation systems)?		No	Small number of workers will be involved in the construction activities. Most of them will be hired locally, therefore increased burden on existing social infrastructure and services is not expected
✦ Social conflicts if workers from other regions or countries are hired?		No	The project sites are located in an urban settings where mostly all communities are living together. Therefore, social conflicts are not expected. Moreover, staff from other regions (if any) will be sensitized with local cultural norms.
✦ Risks to community safety caused by fire, electric shock, or failure of the buildings safety features during operation?	**Yes**		Any such impact will be avoided by using fire safety alarm system as well as building design as per safety and other applicable standards.
✦ Risks to community health and safety caused by management and disposal of waste?		No	Any waste generated from the new buildings will be handled and disposed as per the existing waste management plan of the hospital.
✦ Community safety risks due to both accidental and natural hazards, especially where the structural elements or components of the project are accessible to members of the affected community or where their failure could result in injury to the community throughout project construction, operation and decommissioning?	**Yes**		This impact will be avoided through implementation of health and safety plan, proper fencing of construction site and designing the building in accordance with the latest safety and other applicable standards

A Checklist for Preliminary Climate Risk Screening

Country/Project Title: Emergency Assistance for COVID-19 Pandemic Response

Sector: CWRD/AFRM **Subsector:**

Division/Department:

Screening Questions		Score	Remarks[2]
Location and Design of project	Is siting and/or routing of the project (or its components) likely to be affected by climate conditions including extreme weather related events such as floods, droughts, storms, landslides?	**0**	
	Would the project design (e.g. the clearance for bridges) need to consider any hydro-meteorological parameters (e.g., sea-level, peak river flow, reliable water level, peak wind speed etc)?	**0**	
Materials and Maintenance	Would weather, current and likely future climate conditions (e.g. prevailing humidity level, temperature contrast between hot summer days and cold winter days, exposure to wind and humidity hydrometeorological parameters likely affect the selection of project inputs over the life of project outputs (e.g. construction material)?	**0**	
	Would weather, current and likely future climate conditions, and related extreme events likely affect the maintenance (scheduling and cost) of project output(s) ?	**0**	
Performance of project outputs	Would weather/climate conditions and related extreme events likely affect the performance (e.g. annual power production) of project output(s) (e.g. hydro-power generation facilities) throughout their design life time?	**0**	

Options for answers and corresponding score are provided below:

Response	Score
Not Likely	0
Likely	1
Very Likely	2

Responses when added that provide a score of 0 will be considered low risk project. If adding all responses will result to a score of 1-4 and that no score of 2 was given to any single response, the project will be assigned a medium risk

[2] If possible, provide details on the sensitivity of project components to climate conditions, such as how climate parameters are considered in design standards for infrastructure components, how changes in key climate parameters and sea level might affect the siting/routing of project, the selection of construction material and/or scheduling, performances and/or the maintenance cost/scheduling of project outputs.

category. A total score of 5 or more (which include providing a score of 1 in all responses) or a 2 in any single response will be categorized as high risk project.

Result of Initial Screening (Low, Medium, High):

Other Comments: _____

_____

Appendix 3. Outline of an Environmental Assessment Report

This outline is part of the Safeguard Requirements 1. An environmental assessment report is required for all environment category A and B projects. Its level of detail and comprehensiveness is commensurate with the significance of potential environmental impacts and risks. A typical EIA report contains the following major elements, and an IEE may have a narrower scope depending on the nature of the project. The substantive aspects of this outline will guide the preparation of environmental impact assessment reports, although not necessarily in the order shown.

A. **Executive Summary**

This section describes concisely the critical facts, significant findings, and recommended actions.

B. **Policy, Legal, and Administrative Framework**

This section discusses the national and local legal and institutional framework within which the environmental assessment is carried out. It also identifies project-relevant international environmental agreements to which the country is a party.

C. **Description of the Project**

This section describes the proposed project; its major components; and its geographic, ecological, social, and temporal context, including any associated facility required by and for the project (for example, access roads, power plants, water supply, quarries and borrow pits, and spoil disposal). It normally includes drawings and maps showing the project’s layout and components, the project site, and the project's area of influence.

D. **Description of the Environment (Baseline Data)**

This section describes relevant physical, biological, and socioeconomic conditions within the study area. It also looks at current and proposed development activities within the project's area of influence, including those not directly connected to the project. It indicates the accuracy, reliability, and sources of the data.

E. **Anticipated Environmental Impacts and Mitigation Measures**

This section predicts and assesses the project's likely positive and negative direct and indirect impacts to physical, biological, socioeconomic (including occupational health and safety, community health and safety, vulnerable groups and gender issues, and impacts on livelihoods through environmental media), and physical cultural resources in the project's area of influence, in quantitative

terms to the extent possible; identifies mitigation measures and any residual negative impacts that cannot be mitigated; explores opportunities for enhancement; identifies and estimates the extent and quality of available data, key data gaps, and uncertainties associated with predictions and specifies topics that do not require further attention; and examines global, transboundary, and cumulative impacts as appropriate.

F. **Analysis of Alternatives**

This section examines alternatives to the proposed project site, technology, design, and operation - including the no project alternative - in terms of their potential environmental impacts; the feasibility of mitigating these impacts; their capital and recurrent costs; their suitability under local conditions; and their institutional, training, and monitoring requirements. It also states the basis for selecting the particular project design proposed and, justifies recommended emission levels and approaches to pollution prevention and abatement.

G. **Information Disclosure, Consultation, and Participation**

This section:

(i) describes the process undertaken during project design and preparation for engaging stakeholders, including information disclosure and consultation with affected people and other stakeholders;

(ii) summarizes comments and concerns received from affected people and other stakeholders and how these comments have been addressed in project design and mitigation measures, with special attention paid to the needs and concerns of vulnerable groups, including women, the poor, and Indigenous Peoples; and (iii) describes the planned information disclosure measures (including the type of information to be disseminated and the method of dissemination) and the process for carrying out consultation with affected people and facilitating their participation during project implementation.

H**. Grievance Redress Mechanism**

This section describes the grievance redress framework (both informal and formal channels), setting out the time frame and mechanisms for resolving complaints about environmental performance.

I. **Environmental Management Plan**

This section deals with the set of mitigation and management measures to be taken during project implementation to avoid, reduce, mitigate, or compensate for adverse environmental impacts (in that

order of priority). It may include multiple management plans and actions. It includes the following key components (with the level of detail commensurate with the project's impacts and risks):

(i) Mitigation:

(a) identifies and summarizes anticipated significant adverse environmental impacts and risks;

(b) describes each mitigation measure with technical details, including the type of impact to which it relates and the conditions under which it is required (for instance, continuously or in the event of contingencies), together with designs, equipment descriptions, and operating procedures, as appropriate; and

(c) provides links to any other mitigation plans (for example, for involuntary resettlement, Indigenous Peoples, or emergency response) required for the project.

(ii) Monitoring:

(a) describes monitoring measures with technical details, including parameters to be measured, methods to be used, sampling locations, frequency of measurements, detection limits and definition of thresholds that will signal the need for corrective actions; and

(b) describes monitoring and reporting procedures to ensure early detection of conditions that necessitate particular mitigation measures and document the progress and results of mitigation. (iii) Implementation arrangements:

(a) specifies the implementation schedule showing phasing and coordination with overall project implementation;

(b) describes institutional or organizational arrangements, namely, who is responsible for carrying out the mitigation and monitoring measures, which may include one or more of the following additional topics to strengthen environmental management capability: technical assistance programs, training programs, procurement of equipment and supplies related to environmental management and monitoring, and organizational changes; and

(c) estimates capital and recurrent costs and describes sources of funds for implementing the environmental management plan.

(iv) Performance indicators: describes the desired outcomes as measurable events to the extent possible, such as performance indicators, targets, or acceptance criteria that can be tracked over defined time periods.

J. **Conclusion and Recommendation**

This section provides the conclusions drawn from the assessment and provides recommendations.

Appendix 4: Framework Code of Construction Practice

The prospective construction contractor will be required to prepare a Code of Construction Practice (CoCP) in case the construction works are to be carried out within existing hospital facilities on government owned land. The outline of this CoCP is provided below. The prospective subcontractor will be required to expand this to include any site-specific information and submit to EA for approval before the commencement of construction activities**.**

Code of Construction Practice

Project Number: 54190-001

April 2020

Islamic Republic of Afghanistan:
Emergency Assistance for COVID-19 Pandemic Response for Afghanistan

Prepared by Ministry of Public Health, Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, for the Asian Development Bank .

ABBREVIATIONS

ADB	-	Asian Development Bank
AFRM		Afghanistan Resident Mission
CoCP	-	Code of Construction Practice
COVID-19	-	Coronavirus disease
MoPH	-	Ministry of Public Health
ECA	-	Environmentally critical area
ECC	-	Environmental Compliance Certificate
ECP	-	Environmentally critical project
EIA	-	Environmental impact assessment
EIS	-	Environmental impact statement
EPRMP	-	Environmental performance report and management plan
FDA	-	Food and Drug Administration
GRM	-	Grievance redress mechanism
ILO	-	International Labor Organization
OSH	-	Occupation, safety and Health
PMU	-	Project management unit
PPE	-	Personal protective equipment
SPS	-	Safeguard Policy Statement (2009)
WHO	-	World Health Organization

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Afghan: Emergency Assistance for COVID-19 Pandemic Response for Afghanistan Loan will support the Ministry of Public Health(MoPH) of Afghanistan – the executing agency of the project - to strengthen the country's capacity to respond to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic. The project will support the construction of hospitals comprising intensive care units (ICU) and isolation wards, procurement of medical equipment and medicines, capacity development and resilience building strengthening. The project includes 3 outputs, as follows:

2. **Output 1: Hospitals and medical facilities rehabilitation or constructed.** This output will support construction of hospitals comprising intensive care units (ICU) and isolation wards. It will include rehabilitation of existing hospitals and facilities in accordance with build back better principle. In coordination with the UN agencies, the government has formulated a list of the high priority provinces and areas to be targeted. The list consists of 19 locations for Phase 1 (very urgent) and 12 locations for Phase II (urgent). Based on the initial estimates, proposed grant will be utilized for about 17 hospitals and medical facilities from the list. Construction of these structures will add around 50,000 square meters of additional hospital capacity to the national network. The medical facilities will include utilities such as power generators, plumbing and waste management systems. The construction of hospital will be on prefabricated structure. The technical specifications for these structures will be reviewed by WHO. The prefabricated structure will be designed to standard with a minimum life of at least 30 years, which will allow the medical facilities to be repurposed after COVID-19 is over. The pre-fabrication technology is extensively used around the World

3. **Output 2: Medicines and medical equipment supplied.** This output will support procurement of the urgent medical equipment, supplies and medicines to ensure that the new medical facilities created under Output 1 are fully operational, and to provide broader support for the Government response to COVID19 outbreak. The items will be procured in accordance with a list prepared by the MoPH and is based on the WHO recommended list for COVID-19 response. The list of medicines and equipment has been discussed with other development partners including the World Bank and UN agencies to avoid duplication and overlaps.

4. **Output 3: Capacity development and resilience building strengthened**. This output will support strengthening of the national health system preparedness and capacity to respond to public health emergencies including COVID-19. It will have 3 subcomponents. First, it will support implementation of the MoPH capacity building plan for health care workers to respond to the COVID-19. The MoPH plan aims to strengthen the capacity of: (i) health workforce on COVID-19 suspected and confirmed cases management; (ii) health workers and support staff on infection prevention and control measures at the health facilities; (iii) rapid response teams both at rural and urban settings to timely investigate and respond to COVID-19 outbreaks; and (iv) public by raising awareness and promoting healthy behaviors in regard to COVID-19. Second, the output will support development of the necessary skills and capacity to ensure that new medical facilities covered under Output 1 will have staff with the necessary medical expertise related to infection, prevention, testing, risk management and control and have knowledge on how to properly use and distribute the equipment funded by ADB. Third, the output will also support strengthening of the existing Project Management Unit within the MPH (established under the ongoing World Bank grant assistance) by providing additional consultant support to ensure effective implementation of the proposed emergency assistance grant. Finally, the output will include monitoring of the implementation of medical facilities created under Output 1, through a third party monitoring firm.

5. The project has been screened and categorized as B for environment per the ADB Safeguard Policy Statement (SPS 2009) as the proposed civil works are minor and will all take place within existing hospital

compounds so are anticipated to have only minimal impacts in relation to temporary disturbances, construction safety and waste management.

6. The buildings will be located on land that is construction-ready, i.e. with connections to basic municipal services. No site clearance, land acquisition or resettlement is required. Adverse impacts will be minimal, highly site-specific, limited to the construction period, and can be addressed through sound construction practices.

7. This code of construction practice (CoCP) sets out the standards and procedures to which the Design-Build (DB) contractors must adhere in order to manage the potential environmental impacts of construction works. The CoCP identifies necessary procedural requirements during facility design and mitigation measures in respect of anticipated impacts during construction. It also sets out rules, responsibilities and good environmental management practices. It sets out requirements in relation to: noise and dust control; ecology and land protection; temporary traffic management; waste management; construction safety, core labor standards, consultation/communication and grievance redress. The CoCP will be referred to in the bidding document of all works packages.

II. LEGAL AND REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

8. The environmental management of the proposed project is governed by the ADB SPS 2009 and relevant laws, regulations and Policy framework, orders of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan. SPS 2009 mandates that for category C projects, environmental implications are reviewed.

9. The following national environmental acts, laws, regulations, guidelines and policies are relevant to the project:

i. **Environmental Act, 2007.** This act has been promulgated to give effect to Article 15 of the Constitution of Afghanistan and provide for the management of issues relating to rehabilitation of the environment and the conservation and sustainable use of natural resources, living organisms and non-living organisms.

ii. **Minerals Law, 2010.** The Minerals Law of 2010 governs the ownership, control, prospecting, exploration, exploitation, extraction, marketing, sale, and export of minerals in the territory of Afghanistan. The law provides that all deposits of minerals on or under Afghanistan or in its water courses are the exclusive property of the state. A surface land interest does not include right to minerals. The Ministry of Mines is authorized to grant mineral rights in accordance with the provisions of the law.

iii. **Water Law, 2009.** Afghanistan's new Water Law became effective in April 2009 and is one component of the country's strategy to integrate its water systems and institutions. The Water Law adopted a river basin approach under which natural river basin boundaries (versus administrative boundaries) govern all aspects of natural resources management and planning. Customary law tends to govern the use of water
on private land and in private systems, the resolution of conflicts over water, and water resource conservation. Customary law generally governs allocation of water through the kaerez system, which is constructed and maintained on a community basis.

iv. **Law on Managing Land Affairs, 2008.** The 2008 Law on Managing Land Affairs sets out definitions for various land types and classifications, requirements for land deeds, and principles governing allocations of state land, land leasing, land expropriation, settlement of land rights, and restoration of lands.

v. **Draft Rangeland Management Law, 2009.** The Rangeland Law is currently under development. Its purpose is to create a framework for community custodianship and management of rangeland resources to provide for sustainable use and management of the rangeland resources, to maximize productivity of rangeland resources and to maintain ecological functions and evolutionary processes of Afghan rangelands, conserve soil and water resources, maintain biological diversity, and combat desertification.

vi. **Draft Forest Law, 2009.** The Draft Forest Law reflects the principles of community based natural resource management enshrined in the Cabinet-endorsed National Strategy for Forests and Rangeland. The draft is currently with the Ministry of Justice for processing.

vii. **Interim Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, Draft 2.3.** These regulations govern the process of environmental impact assessment in Afghanistan on an interim basis pending the establishment of the EIA Board of Expert in terms of Article 20 of the Environmental Law and issuing of final regulations. These regulations provide the detailed process of EIA and list the projects into category A and B based on potential impacts.

10. The following Institutional Framework in Afghanistan to the project

The primary Executing Agency (EA) will be MoPH. This and other Central Government institutions potentially linked to the Project and the implementation of the EMP are described below.

i.**Ministry of Public Health (MoPH**): MoPH is responsible for planning, constructing, operating and maintaining regional, national and provincial hospitals, health care in Afghanistan. The MoPH will be responsible for implementation of the project. The procurement activities will be undertaken by the Implementing Unit - Grant and Services Contract Management Unit (GCMU) which was set up for the World Bank Sehatmandi Project, within the Ministry of Public Health. The GCMU's capacity will be augmented with additional staff (consultants) to implement the ADB project. The additional staff will be selected as individual consultants under the proposed grant. The individual consultants for Grant and Services Contract Management Unit (GCMU) will work full time in Kabul. The expertise will include project coordination, financial management, procurement, accountancy as well as monitoring and evaluation.

ii. **National Environmental Protection Agency (NEPA):** NEPA's goal is "to protect the environmental integrity of Afghanistan and support sustainable development of its natural resources through the provision of effective environmental policies, regulatory frameworks and management services that are also in line with the Afghanistan Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)".

iii. **Civil Society Organizations.** Save the Environment Afghanistan (SEA) is Afghanistan's only major grassroots and Afghan-managed conservation organization. SEA (then SAVE) was active in environmental issues during the civil war when there was no active government involvement in environmental issues.
SEA's mission is protection of the environment, sustainable resource utilization, conservation of biodiversity and integrated development of natural resources. SEA is member of IUCN, IUFRO (The Global Network for Forest Science Cooperation) and APAFRI (Asia Pacific Association of Forestry Research Institutions) and works closely with the International Crane Foundation, the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF), the

International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD), the International Snow Leopard Trust and other environmental organizations (source: Afghanistan's Fourth National Report to the Convention on Biological Diversity (2009).

11. Afghanistan has ratified a number of international agreements and conventions relating to the protection of the environment and biodiversity.

i. The **Ramsar Convention on Wetlands**, signed in Ramsar, Iran in 1971, is an intergovernmental treaty which provides the framework for national action and international cooperation for the conservation and wise use of wetlands and their resources. Afghanistan is currently not a Contracting Party to the Ramsar Convention.

ii. The **World Heritage Convention (WHC)** is an international agreement that was adopted by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in 1972. It is based on the premise that certain places on earth are of outstanding universal value and should therefore form part of the common heritage of mankind. The Convention seeks to identify and safeguard the world's most outstanding natural and cultural heritage. Afghanistan became a Party to the Convention in March 1979.

iii. The objective of the **Convention to Combat Desertification** (UNCCD, Paris, 1994) is to combat desertification and mitigate the effects of drought in countries experiencing serious drought and/ or desertification. Afghanistan signed the UNCCD in 1995 and the Convention entered into force in December 1996.

iv. The United Nations Framework **Convention on Climate Change** (UNFCCC) sets an overall framework for intergovernmental efforts to tackle the challenge posed by climate change. Afghanistan signed the UNFCCC in June 1992. The Transitional Authority ratified the Convention in September 2002 and the Convention entered into force in December 2002. The Kyoto Protocol is an extension to the Convention adopted in 1997 that outlines legally binding commitments to emission cuts. Afghanistan has yet to accede to the Kyoto Protocol.

v. The **Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species** (CITES) is an international agreement between governments which came into force in 1975. Its aim is to ensure that international trade in specimens of wild animals and plants does not threaten their survival. Afghanistan acceded to CITES on 30 October 1986 but has not been actively implementing the Convention.

vi. Afghanistan signed the **Convention on Biological Diversity** (CBD) in 1992 and ratified it in 2002. Afghanistan submitted the Fourth National Report to the CBD Secretariat in 2009.

vii. Afghanistan is not a Party to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, a supplementary agreement to the CBD. Afghanistan does not currently consider biosafety to be a significant issue relative to others challenges facing the country (source: Fourth National Report to the CBD Secretariat, 2009)

12. The following Government's regulation on environmental impact assessment are relevant to the project

Government's regulation on environmental impact assessment

The Government's regulation on environmental impact assessment is based on the Environmental Act of Islamic Republic of Afghanistan (Gazette No. 912) dated 23 Jadi, 1384 (25 January, 2007). The National Environmental Protection Agency (NEPA), as an independent institutional entity, is responsible for coordinating and monitoring conservation and rehabilitation of the environment, and for implementing this Act. Article 16 and 17 of Chapter 3 of the Environmental Act describes the process of preparing a preliminary assessment, an environmental impact statement and a comprehensive mitigation plan to be conducted by the proponent of each project.

Article 21 mentions public consultation is required for all the projects. Article 18 describes the approval procedure of environmental impact assessment. The NEPA will appoint an EIA Board of Experts to review, assess and consider applications and documents submitted by the proponent. Acting on the advice of the EIA Board of Experts, NEPA shall either grant or refuse to a grant permit in respect of the project. A permit granted will lapse in the event that the proponent fails to implement the project within three years of the date of which the permit was granted.

Article 19 describes the appeal procedure. Any person may, within thirty (30) days of the granting or refusal of a permit, appeal the decision to the Director-General of the NEPA. The Director-General shall review the appeal application and thereafter make an appropriate decision. Should the appellant wish to appeal the Director-General's final decision, the matter shall be referred to the relevant court.

Administrative Guidelines for the Preparation of Environmental Impact Assessments, Draft 2, March 2007. These guidelines are in draft form and have been prepared by NEPA in coordination with UNEP. The purpose of guide-lines is to provide guidance to proponents while undertaking a development project that may have a potential impact on the environment. The guidelines also provide guidance on how public should be consulted and defines the roles and responsibilities of various stakeholders in the process.

13. The following policy relevant to the project

Environmental Impact Assessment Policy – "An Integrated Approach to Environmental Impact Assessment in Afghanistan", November 2007.

NEPA with the assistance from UNEP has developed the EIA Policy of Afghanistan. The policy stipulates energy sector guidelines to the project proponents to integrate EIA in the process of development and the procedures to address environmental consequences and involve necessary institutions in the process of project implementation.

National Environment Strategic Documents. These include (i) The Millennium Development Goals: Vision 2020; (ii) The Afghanistan Compact; (iii) The Afghanistan National Development Strategy (ANDS 2008-2013), and (iv) The National Environment Strategy.

14. ADB Safeguard Policy Statement (2009) Requirement

The SPS 2009 consists of three operational policies on environment, indigenous peoples, and involuntary resettlement. This policy provides the scope, triggers, and principles to avoid, minimize, or mitigate adverse environmental and social impacts, including protecting the rights of those likely to be affected marginalized by the development process.

The environmental requirements of SPS 2009 aim to ensure project environmental soundness and sustainability, integrate environmental considerations into the project decision-making process. The principal objective is to conduct an environmental assessment for each proposed project to identify potential impacts, and then mitigate the negative impacts. The proposed mitigation measures, monitoring and reporting requirements, institutional arrangements, schedules, cost estimates, and performance indicators are documented in the environmental assessment report. The ADB requires environmental assessment of all project loans, program loans, sector loans, sector development program loans, financial intermediation loans, and private sector investment operations. Environmental assessment is a process rather than a one-time report, and includes necessary environmental analyses and environmental management planning that take place throughout the project cycle.

III. ANTICIPATED ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS AND RISKS

15. The anticipated impacts of proposed civil works include:

a) Air pollution from dust emissions from on-site excavation and emission from heavy equipment and construction vehicles used for construction and construction activities.
b) Water pollution from run-off or soil erosion from stockpiled construction materials, wastewater from domestic sewage of construction workers, and accidental spillage of oil and other lubricants from washing of construction equipment.
c) Noise pollution and vibration from construction activities that may disturb nearby communities.
d) Generation of solid wastes from construction workers and construction and demolition
e) Generation sewage waste during construction and operation phase
f) Generation of medical waste during operation phase
g) (
h) Occupational health and safety risks to construction workers.
i) Community health and safety impacts, primarily as a result of exposure to noise, smell of paints and solvents and dangerous excavated work areas.

IV. CONTRACTOR OBLIGATIONS

16. Each Contractor is required to take the following measures to address potential impacts and risks to environment, health and safety of workers and communities:

(i) Appointment of a qualified environment, health and safety specialist to supervise construction works in compliance with the CoCP.

(ii) The execution of the works and all associated operations on the work sites or off-site are carried out in conformity with statutory and regulatory environmental requirements of the Government of Islamic Republic of Afghanistan and the ADB SPS 2009. This includes the provisions embodied in the documents listed under Section II of the CoCP.

(iii) All measures and precautions are taken to avoid any nuisance or disturbance arising from the execution of construction works and their related activities. This will, wherever possible, be achieved by suppression of the nuisance (or unwanted effects to the physical environment and people) at source rather than abatement of the nuisance once generated.

(iv) Compensation is paid for any damage, loss, spoilage, or disturbance of the properties and health of affected people during execution of the construction works as specified in the Bid Documents.

(v) Local skilled and unskilled labour is recruited to increase the direct benefits in the subproject area(s) and to minimize potential environmental issues related to construction camps, disease transmission and socio-cultural disputes.

(vi) Ensure that the International Labor Organization (ILO) Core Labor Standards and the applicable laws and regulations of the of Islamic Republic of Afghanistan are applied to the contractor's personnel, including laws related to their employment, health, safety, and welfare during the construction of the isolation facilities. More specifically, each contractor shall: (a) comply with the Borrower's applicable labor law and regulations and incorporate applicable workplace occupational safety norms; (b) do not use child labor; (c) do not discriminate workers in respect of employment and occupation; (d) do not use forced labor; (e) allow freedom of association and effectively recognize the right to collective bargaining.

(vii) Establish a simple system to receive, register, and address community concerns and complaints. Contact number of the contactor including name, position and telephone number will be shared with local authorities and the MOPHMoPH.

(viii) Demonstrate how the impacts associated with the construction works as defined in Table 1 below are complied with. For that purpose, conduct weekly monitoring of compliance with the CoCP, and include section in the monthly report to the EA. The report format defined in Appendix 1 shall be used for monthly reporting to the EA.

17. The following activities are strictly prohibited on or near the project site:

a. Cutting of trees for any reason outside the approved construction area;
b. Hunting, fishing, wildlife capture, or plant collection;
c. Use of unapproved toxic materials, including lead-based paints, asbestos-containing materials;
d. Deposition of chemicals, sanitary wastewater, spoil, waste oil, and concrete agitator washings in water courses;
e. Disturbance to anything with architectural or historical value;
f. Employment of workers under the age of 16;
g. Discrimination regarding recruitment, wages and compensation.

Table 1: Mitigation/Management Measures for Pre-Construction and Construction Phase by Contractor

Potential impacts and issues	Nature of impacts/Issues	Environmental Action /Prevention by Contractor
Design and pre-construction phase		
Facility design	Failure to comply with Afghanistan procedures, codes and administrative orders for hospital facility design	• Ensure compliance with relevant design standards for hospitals based on the requirements of MOPH administrative orders, circulars, and guidelines.
Permits	Failure to secure necessary permits and clearances prior to construction	• Secure the PTC from the HFSRB of the MOPH in behalf of the concerned hospitals. • Secure the Building Permit, Sanitary Permit, Electrical Permit, and other clearances from the local government prior to start of construction works • Secure the Fire Safety Evaluation Clearance from the city/municipal Fire Marshal

Construction phase		
Environmental and Social Issues	Complaints, Concerns	• Establish and disseminate effective grievance redress mechanism (GRM) • Share contractor contact details with local authority leaders and MOPH

EHS capacity	Inadequate EHS management capacity	• Assign qualified EHS staff at each construction site to supervise and monitor COCP implementation and report to MoPH
Monitoring and Reporting	Failure to comply with MOPH requirements; Failure to adequately implement the CoCP	• Submit progress reports/status of construction and COCP implementation every month to MoPH on behalf of the concerned hospitals
Water and soil pollution	Leakage of spills of fuel and lubricants that may contaminate soil, surface water and groundwater	• Prevent pollution of soil, surface water/ groundwater by ensuring the following: • Location of storage facilities for fuel/oil/cement/ chemicals are located 200m away from the river, stream and waterways • Soil surfaces shall be made impermeable and provided with bunds • Vehicles/heavy equipment maintenance and re-fuelling area will prevent spillage of fuel, oil and hazardous materials to seep into soil • Oil traps shall be provided in the maintenance and service areas; • Fuel storage and refilling areas located > 50 m from water sources and protected by temporary bunds to contain spills.
Air quality	Concentration of machinery working in one area plus haulage vehicle traffic may result in local areas of poor air quality	• Equipment will be maintained to a high standard to ensure efficient running and fuel-burning. High-horsepower equipment will be provided with tail gas purifiers. • All vehicle emissions will be in compliance with relevant emission standards of Afghanistan
Dust	Caused by earthmoving and construction haulage traffic can cause poor air quality and nuisance to householders and farmers.	• Material stockpiles and concrete mixing equipment will be equipped with dust shrouds • Regular water spraying when dust observed on construction sites, construction roads, and stockpiled material • Maintenance of driving surfaces will be standard site management practice • Vehicles carrying soil, sand, or other fine materials to and from the construction sites will be covered
Noise impacts on sensitive receptor	Noise caused by the concentration of machinery working in one area, plus haulage vehicles, can cause a range of impacts from nuisance to health problems. Noise could disrupt ongoing medical services.	• • Construction after 10pm shall be strictly prohibited. During daytime construction, the contractor will ensure that temporary anti-noise barriers will be installed to shield sensitive receptors.
Water Quality	Pollution of local water courses through sediment	• Construction site drainage will ensure any rainfall will be diverted to a holding pond or suitable land to prevent localised flooding and sedimentation of surface water • In stream works will take place in dry season

Construction waste and spoil	Unauthorized or careless storage and disposal of waste can damage property, vegetation, agricultural land, and block natural drainage.	• Temporary storage of spoil waste shall be located away from the rivers, streams and waterway • Construction waste will be stored securely to prevent escape in containers • Final disposal site of waste and spoil will be in a site approved by the district and provincial authorities.
Waste from workers	The construction workforce will generate domestic wastewater & garbage (food wastes, paper, and other solid waste including foodladen wash water) which causes impacts if poorly disposed	• Provide sufficient waste bins at strategic locations and ensure that they are • • Protected from birds and vermin Emptied regularly to prevent overflow • Disposed of in local disposal site as approved by local authorities
Potential impacts and issues	**Nature of impacts/Issues**	**Environmental Action /Prevention by Contractor**
Erosion impacts	Facility construction may require earthworks which will leave surfaces liable to erosion, especially in heavy rain periods.	Erosion control includes: • Limiting construction and material handling during periods of rains and high winds • Stabilizing all cut slopes, embankments and other erosion-prone working areas while works are going on • All earthwork disturbance areas shall be stabilized within 30 days after earthworks have been completed.
Community health and safety	Construction work poses safety hazards and threats to nearby residents and passers-by, including staff, patients and guests of adjacent hospitals. Excavations, loss of access and movements of large machinery and vehicles all potentially impact on existing utilities, community safety and dayto-day operation of existing/adjacent hospitals.	• Community health and safety will be safeguarded by: • Planning construction activities so as to minimize disturbances to residents, passers-by, and utilities • Temporary land occupation will be planned well ahead of construction to minimize its impact and after consultation with the affected community • Land reinstated to its original condition after construction. Implementing safety measures around the construction sites to protect the public, including warning signs to alert the public to potential safety hazards, barriers to prevent public access to construction sites, and a watch person, where necessary.
Road safety (through movement of vehicle and equipment for construction)	Increased motorised vehicle movement including heavy goods vehicles to and from the site during construction may increase road safety risks for local residents and passers-by.	• Ensure that drivers of all vehicles strictly follow road rules and maintain good road safety standards Deliveries of construction materials to the site by heavy good vehicles will be properly supervised by use of banksmen / traffic marshals
Occupational health and Safety	Workers are subject to safety hazards while operating and/or moving around machinery, as well as dust and noise impacts from extended exposures at the work site.	• • Contractors shall ensure that: All reasonable steps are taken to protect any person on the site from health and safety risks • Construction sites are safe and healthy workplaces Only certified and tested machineries and equipment is used • Adequate training or instruction for occupational health and safety is provided • Adequate supervision of safe work systems is implemented Means of access to and exit from the site are without risk to health and safety • A first aid kit will be available on each construction site • All member of staff is responsible for first aid and is aware of local health care facilities

Human health and environmental pollution – Site Hand Over	Hazardous waste materials, unprotected latrines and organic waste remaining after construction will pose a risk to human health and safety.	• All unused or discarded construction materials will be removed from the site before hand-over • Surroundings will be landscaped to reinstate original site conditions • All temporary dwellings, cook houses and latrines will be removed upon completion of the construction and the site cleaned.
Construction completion	Facility does not conform to approved plans and specifications; Improper site clean-up and restoration	• Secure a Fire Safety Inspection Certificate from the city/municipal Fire Marshal • Secure an Occupancy Permit from the local government • Submit a completion report together with as-built drawings to the MOPH hospital during turn-over • Ensure proper restoration of disturbed areas and clean-up of site.

Appendix 1: Contractor's EHS Progress Monitoring Report

Contract (*Insert Contract ref/number*)

Completed by *(Insert name of Contractor's Environmental Health and Safety Officer*)

Company name *(Insert name of Company)*

Reporting Frequency: Quarterly

Date of this report	DD-MM-YY	**Reporting Period**	MM/YY – MM/YY
Permits and licenses secured (construction permits, licenses)	• Xxx • Xxx • Xxx • xxx		
Key construction activities since last report			
Planned construction activities in next reporting period			

Progress with EHS Activities this month

Recruitment of construction workers **Compliance with labor laws and regulations**	• Total number of construction workers as of DD-MM-YY: Xxx women, xxx men; xxx% unskilled labor • Number of new recruitments in reporting period: xxx women, xxx men • We confirm the following: ☐ Adherence to the International Labor Organization (ILO) Core Labor Standards ☐ Compliance with Labor Code of the of Islamic Republic of Afghanistan ☐
Trainings Undertaken *– all training related to EHS*	EHS Training Provided: Participants: Who provided the training:
Personal Protective Equipment	New construction PPE issued this month: Number of incidents of workers not wearing adequate construction PPE:
Emergency Response	
Use of site accident Book	Accidents reported: Description and Actions taken: Outcome:
Spillages	Number of spills: Description and Actions taken: Impact of spill:
Other incidents	Number of incidents: Description and Actions taken: Impact of incident:
Concerns and Complaints	
	Number of complaints: Action taken for each complaint: Outstanding complaints:
Describe COCP Compliance Issues, Problems or Other issues PMU should be aware of	

Prepared by: _____ **(Contractor)**	**Verified by: _____** **(authorized MoPH Hospital Staff)**

Appendix 5. Outline Terms of Reference for Consulting Services for Environmental Assessment

A. Objectives

The objective of the consulting services is to ensure the environmental soundness and sustainability of the project and to support the integration of environmental considerations into the project-making process. This will be achieved by conducting an initial environmental examination (IEE) of the proposed subproject to identify potential environmental impacts on physical, ecological, socioeconomic, and physical cultural resources, and preparing IEE report with environmental management plan in accordance with the ADB's Safeguard Policy Statement (2009). The indicative duration of an IEE study – 1.5 – 3 months.

B. Scope of Work

The consultant's scope of work will include the following tasks:

- Analysis of the background materials. Background materials of the earlier studies including ecological, geotechnical, hydrogeologic, and other relevant studies for each sub-project will be collected from the relevant organizations and analyzed;
- Assessment of Environmental Impacts and Development of Mitigation Measures. An IEE study to assess potential direct, indirect, cumulative, induced, as well as transboundary and global impacts of the project to physical, biological, socioeconomic, and physical cultural resources during design, construction and operation stages will be conducted. Adverse environmental impacts will be avoided, or where it is not possible
- Examination of Alternatives. Alternatives to the project's location, design, technology, as well as "no project" alternative will be assessed;
- Public consultations. Meaningful public consultations with affected people (at least one round of consultation for IEE) ensuring participation of all stakeholders including non-governmental organizations, women will be conducted. The list of people attended the consultation, time and locations, subjects discussed during consultation will be recorded in systematic manner and attached in the EIA/IEE report as an appendix;
- Grievance Redress Mechanism will be established;
- Preparation of IEE report. An IEE report including executive summary, policy, legal, and environmental framework, description of the project, baseline data, expected environmental impacts and mitigation measures, analysis of alternatives, information disclosure, consultation and participation, grievance redress mechanism, in accordance with ADB's Safeguard Policy Statement

(2009);

- Preparation of EMP. Site-specific environmental management plan will be prepared within the framework of this activity.

C. Team Composition and Organization

In general, it will be based on the following requirements:

- Both international and domestic specialists will be involved in environmental assessment process;
- in case of an IEE, the team will by composed of, in most cases, environmental specialists;
- the Team Leader (International Environmental Specialist) will have 10-15 years of experience in environmental assessment, environmental management and monitoring, construction supervision of projects including transmission line/substation construction, team management skills, experience working in teams of multi-discipline experts and leading a national team of consultants, understanding of administrative, procedural, and technical requirements of environmental assessment;
- Domestic Specialists will be graduates in environmental science, environmental engineering, geological science, engineering hydrology, biology or related discipline with significant experience in environmental management and monitoring of projects, environmental assessment and/or design and implementation of environmental mitigation measures.

D. Budget

The estimated costs for preparation of IEE study is provided below. A team of International and national specialists are recommended for these study..

Estimate of the Preparation of the IEE report for a subproject

	Months	per month	Amount
Remuneration, accomodation, per diem			
Environmental Specialist, International	2	25000	$50,000
Environmental Specialist, Domestic	2	4000	$8,000
		Sub-total	$58,000
Out of pocket expenses			
Land transport			$5,000

Report preparation, transmission			$2,000
Public consultations			$2,000
Administrative and support cost			$3,000
		Sub-total	$12,000
Contingency (10%)			$7,000
		Total:	77,000