

# ISLAMIC Republic of Mauritania

## Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development

### Decentralization and Productive Intermediate Cities Support Project

Financed with the contribution of an Original  
(P169332) and Additional (P181311) Financing  
from the International Development Association

### Negotiated

## ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL COMMITMENT PLAN (ESCP)

October 25, 2023

## ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL COMMITMENT PLAN

1. The Islamic Republic of Mauritania (the **Recipient**) implements the Decentralization and Productive Intermediate Cities Support Project (the **Project**), with the involvement of the following Ministries/agencies/units: Ministry in charge of Economy and Sustainable Development, Ministry in charge of Urban Planning, Ministry in charge of Decentralization, Ministry in charge of Environment, Ministry of Oil, Energy and Mines; the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development; SOMELEC and the Beneficiary Municipalities, as set out in two Financing Agreements entered into with the International Development Association (the **Association**), respectively on April 10, 2020 for the provision of the original financing of the Project, and to be entered into for the provision of an additional financing for the scaling up of the Project. This ESCP supersedes previous versions of the ESCP for the Project and shall apply both to the original and the additional financing for Project referred to above.
2. The Recipient shall ensure that the Project is carried out in accordance with the Environmental and Social Standards (ESSs) and this Environmental and Social Commitment Plan (ESCP), in a manner acceptable to the Association. The ESCP is a part of the Financing Agreements. Unless otherwise defined in this ESCP, capitalized terms used in this ESCP have the meanings ascribed to them in the referred agreement(s).
3. Without limitation to the foregoing, this ESCP sets out material measures and actions that the Recipient shall carry out or cause to be carried out, including, as applicable, the timeframes of the actions and measures, institutional, staffing, training, monitoring and reporting arrangements, and grievance management. The ESCP also sets out the environmental and social (E&S) instruments that have or shall be adopted and implemented under the Project, all of which have been consulted and disclosed or shall be subject to prior consultation and disclosure, as the case may be, consistent with the ESS, and in form and substance, and in a manner acceptable to the Association. Once adopted, said E&S instruments may be revised from time to time with prior written agreement by the Association.
4. As agreed by the Association and the Recipient, this ESCP will be revised from time to time if necessary, during Project implementation, to reflect adaptive management of Project changes and unforeseen circumstances or in response to Project performance. In such circumstances, Recipient through the Project Coordination Unit (PCU) and the Association agree to update the ESCP to reflect these changes through an exchange of letters signed between the Association and the Recipient through the Ministry in charge of Economy and Industry. The Recipient shall promptly disclose the updated ESCP.

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS .		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
<b>MONITORING AND REPORTING</b>			
A	<p><b>REGULAR REPORTING</b></p> <p>Prepare and submit to the Association regular monitoring reports on the environmental, social, health and safety (ESHS) performance of the Project, including but not limited to the implementation of the ESCP, status of preparation and implementation of E&amp;S instruments required under the ESCP, stakeholder engagement activities, and functioning of the grievance mechanism(s).</p>	<p>Submit Quarterly monitoring reports to the Association throughout Project implementation, starting from the Effective Date of the Financing Agreement for the original financing. Submit each report to the Association no later than 15 days after the end of each reporting period.</p>	<p>PCU with inputs from the Municipalities SOMELEC</p>
B	<p><b>INCIDENTS AND ACCIDENTS</b></p> <p>Promptly notify the Association of any Project-related incident or accident that has or is likely to have a serious adverse impact on the environment, affected communities, the public, or workers, including, but not limited to, cases of sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA), sexual harassment (SH), and accidents resulting in death or serious or multiple injuries (including workplace accidents, or Project-related deaths).</p> <p>Provide sufficient details of the extent, severity and potential causes of the incident or accident, indicating immediate measures taken or to be taken without delay to deal with it and any information made available by any contractors and/or the supervising firm, as appropriate.</p> <p>Subsequently, at the Association’s request, prepare a report on the incident or accident and propose any measures to address it and prevent its recurrence.</p>	<p>Incidents and accidents shall be notified to the Association no later than 48 hours after learning of the incident or accident and 24 hours for severe incidents including fatalities, SEA/SH allegations.</p> <p>Provide subsequent report to the Association within a timeframe acceptable to the Association.</p>	<p>PCU with inputs from the Municipalities SOMELEC</p>
C	<p><b>CONTRACTORS’ MONTHLY REPORTS</b></p> <p>Require contractors and supervising firms to provide monthly monitoring reports on ESHS performance in accordance with the metrics specified in the respective bidding documents and contracts and submit such reports to the Association.</p>	<p>Submit the monthly reports to the Association upon request throughout the contract term.</p>	<p>PCU with inputs from the Municipalities SOMELEC</p>
<b>ESS 1: ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RISKS AND IMPACTS</b>			
1.1	<p><b>ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE</b>                      [Specify whether additional staff need to be assigned/hired to work on the Project.]</p>	<p>Throughout Project implementation. Recruited the social specialist no later than six months after the FA approval date</p>	<p>Recipient, SOMELEC for the maintenance of the PCUs and PCU and local branch for its staffing</p>

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS	TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
<p>Maintain the PCU, the branch of the PCU in the city of Kiffa, and the SOMELEC PCU with qualified staff and resources to support management of ESHS risks and impacts of the Project, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- an environmental specialist with expertise on OHS, a social specialist and social/gender specialist for the PCU, and an environmental specialist with expertise on OHS for its branch in Kiffa. The social specialist will need to be recruited within 6 months of approval.</li> <li>- an environmental specialist with expertise on OHS and a social and gender specialist for the SOMELEC PCU</li> </ul> <p>Contractors and Supervising firms are also required to establish and maintain an organizational structure with qualified personnel and appropriate resources to manage environmental and social risks, including specialists in environment, social, health and safety risk management.</p>		
<p>1.2 <b>ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL INSTRUMENTS</b></p> <p>1. Prepare, disclose, consult upon, adopt and redisclose an updated version of the Environmental and Social Management Framework adopted on January 27, 2020 for the Project to take into account the additional activities to be financed under the additional financing and implement the updated Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF), all in a manner consistent with the relevant ESSs.</p> <p>2. Prepare, disclose, consult upon, adopt and implement site-specific ESIA/ESMP, as set out in the ESMF, in a manner consistent with relevant ESSs.</p> <p>While preparing such instruments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Ensure that the location of the landfill will be selected according to environmental and social criteria aiming to minimize the risk of pollution to water connected to the Senegal river system and the landfill site construction will only proceed if the risk of water pollution is avoided to the Senegal River and connected aquifers.</li> </ul>	<p>1. Update prior to negotiation and implementation of the ESMF throughout the period of implementation of the Project.</p> <p>2. Prepare, disclose, consult upon, adopt each site-specific ESIA/ESMP prior to the bidding process for any activity that requires the adoption of an ESIA/ESMP, and thereafter implement the ESIA/ESMP throughout Project implementation.</p> <p>For the rehabilitation of the existing stormwater drainage networks, the budget for ESMP implementation will need to be available and the commitment for its implementation will need to be confirmed before launching the tender for the rehabilitation works</p>	<p>PCU, for sub-component 1-1 and sub-component 1-3</p> <p>SOMELEC for sub-component 1-2 through the PCU</p>

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS	TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
<p>✓ b. Ensure that the ESIA's to be prepared for the rehabilitation of the existing stormwater drainage networks will carry out an in-depth analysis of the quality of the drained water and of the dredged material, as well as measurements of the volumes of wastewater drained into the Senegal River, and will recommend adequate measures to avoid/mitigate risks of pollution to the Senegal River, in line with the WBG EHS guidelines, with costing and budget. The cost and timing of the implementation of mitigation measures will be indicated in the ESMP.</p>		
<p>1.3 <b>MANAGEMENT OF CONTRACTORS</b>                      Incorporate the relevant aspects of the ESCP, including, inter alia, the relevant E&amp;S instruments, the Labor Management Procedures, and code of conduct, into the ESHS specifications of the procurement documents and contracts with contractors and supervising firms. Thereafter ensure that the contractors and supervising firms comply and cause subcontractors to comply with the ESHS specifications of their respective contracts.</p>	<p>As part of the preparation of procurement documents and respective contracts.                      Supervise contractors throughout Project implementation.</p>	<p>PCU with support from the Municipalities and SOMELEC                       Contractors, subcontractors, and supervision firms</p>
<p>1.4 <b>TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE</b>                      Ensure that the consultancies, studies (including feasibility studies, if applicable), capacity building, training, and any other technical assistance activities under the Project are carried out in accordance with terms of reference acceptable to the Association, that are consistent with the ESSs. Thereafter ensure that the outputs of such activities comply with the terms of reference.</p>	<p>Throughout Project implementation.</p>	<p>PCU with support from the Municipalities and SOMELEC</p>
<p>1.5 <b>CONTINGENT [EMERGENCY] [EARLY] RESPONSE FINANCING</b>                       a) Ensure that the CERC Manual as specified the legal agreement includes a description of the ESHS assessment and management arrangements including, if applicable, the CERC-ESMF that will be included or referred to in the CERC Manual for the implementation of CERC component, in accordance with the ESSs.                       b) Adopt any environmental and social (E&amp;S) instruments which may be required for activities under CERC component of the Project, in accordance with the CERC Manual and, if applicable, CERC-ESMF and the ESSs, and thereafter implement the measures and actions required under said E&amp;S instruments, within the timeframes specified in said E&amp;S instruments.</p>	<p>a) The adoption of the manual and, if applicable, other instruments in form and substance acceptable to the Association, is a withdrawal condition under Section II.B.1(b) of Schedule 2 of each of the Financing Agreements.</p>	<p>Coordinating Authority designated by the Recipient for the purpose of implementing the CERC as stated in the CERC Manual</p>

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
		b) Adopt any required E&S instrument and include it as part of the respective bidding process, if applicable, and in any case, before the carrying out of the relevant Project activities for which the E&S instrument is required. Implement the E&S instruments in accordance with their terms, throughout Project implementation.	
<b>ESS 2: LABOR AND WORKING CONDITIONS</b>			
2.1	<p><b>LABOR MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES</b></p> <p>Implement the Labor Management Procedures (LMP) adopted and disclosed on January 31, 2020,, including, inter alia, provisions on working conditions, management of workers relationships, occupational health and safety (including personal protective equipment, and emergency preparedness and response), code of conduct (including relating to SEA and SH), forced labor, child labor, grievance arrangements for Project workers, and applicable requirements for contractors, subcontractors, and supervising firms.</p>	Implement the LMP throughout Project implementation.	<p>PCU with support from the Municipalities and SOMELEC</p> <p>Contractors Supervising firms</p>
2.2	<p><b>GRIEVANCE MECHANISM FOR PROJECT WORKERS</b></p> <p>Establish and operate a grievance mechanism for Project workers, as described in the LMP and consistent with ESS2.</p>	Establish grievance mechanism prior engaging Project workers and thereafter maintain and operate it throughout Project implementation.	<p>PCU with support from the Municipalities and SOMELEC</p> <p>Contractors Supervising firms</p>
<b>ESS 3: RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT</b>			
3.1	<p><b>WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN</b></p> <p>Adopt and implement a Waste Management Plan (WMP), to manage hazardous and non-hazardous wastes, consistent with ESS3.</p>	Adopt the WMP prior to the start of civil works, and thereafter implement the WMP throughout Project implementation.	<p>PCU with support from the Municipalities and SOMELEC</p> <p>Contractors Supervising firms</p>
3.2	<p><b>RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT</b></p> <p>Incorporate resource efficiency and pollution prevention and management measures in the ESMP to be prepared under action 1.2 above.</p>	Same timeframe as for the adoption and implementation of the ESMP	<p>PCU with support from the Municipalities and SOMELEC</p> <p>Contractors Supervising firms</p>
<b>ESS 4: COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY</b>			

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
4.1	<p><b>TRAFFIC AND ROAD SAFETY</b></p> <p>Incorporate measures to manage traffic and road safety risks as required in the ESMP to be prepared under action 1.2 above.</p>	Same timeframe as for the adoption and implementation of the ESMP	PCU with support from the Municipalities and SOMELEC Contractors Supervising firms
4.2	<p><b>COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY</b></p> <p>Assess and manage specific risks and impacts to the community arising from the implementation of the Project activities and include mitigation measures in the ESIA/ESMPs to be prepared in accordance with the ESMF.</p>	Same timeframe as for the adoption and implementation of the ESMPs	PCU with support from the Municipalities and SOMELEC Contractors Supervising firms
4.3	<p><b>SEA AND SH RISKS</b></p> <p>Adopt as part of the ESMP and implement a SEA/SH Action Plan already developed, to assess and manage the risks of SEA and SH.</p>	The SEA/SH Action Plan will be adopted prior to start of civil works, and thereafter implemented the SEA/SH Action Plan throughout Project implementation	PCU with support from the Municipalities and SOMELEC  Contractors Supervising firms
<b>ESS 5: LAND ACQUISITION, RESTRICTIONS ON LAND USE AND INVOLUNTARY RESETTLEMENT</b>			
5.1	<p><b>RESETTLEMENT POLICY FRAMEWORK</b></p> <p>Prepare, disclose, consult upon, adopt, and redisclose an updated version of the Resettlement Policy Framework adopted on January 31, 2020 for the Project, to take into account the additional activities to be financed under the additional financing and implement the updated Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF), all in a manner consistent with ESS5.</p>	The RPF of the parent project developed, disclosed, consulted upon, and, by the Recipient, updated for the Additional Financing and redisclosed on October 16, 2023. Thereafter implement the updated RPF throughout the implementation of the Project.	PCU with support from the Municipalities and SOMELEC
5.2	<p><b>RESETTLEMENT PLANS</b></p> <p>Prepare, disclose, consult upon, adopt and implement site specific resettlement action plans (RAP), as set out in the RPF, and in a manner consistent with ESS5.</p>	Adopt and implement the respective RAP, including ensuring that before taking possession of the land and related assets, full compensation has been provided and [as applicable] displaced people have been resettled and moving allowances have been provided.	PCU with support from the Municipalities and SOMELEC
5.3	<p><b>GRIEVANCE MECHANISM</b></p>	Prior to the start of RAP implementation, and thereafter throughout Project implementation	PCU with support from the Municipalities and SOMELEC

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
	Ensure that the Grievance Mechanism (GM) to address resettlement related complaints is described in the Project RPF, site-specific RAPs, and SEP. This GM shall be operational and accessible to all those affected by land acquisition and resettlement activities.		
<b>ESS 6: BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF LIVING NATURAL RESOURCES</b>			
6.1	<b>BIODIVERSITY RISKS AND IMPACTS</b> Initial due diligence indicates that the preliminary sites are in existing footprints. Further impacts on biodiversity or modified habitats will be assessed during the preparation of the site-specific ESIA/ESMPs.	Same timeframe as for the adoption and implementation of the ESMPs	PCU with support from the Municipalities and SOMELEC
<b>ESS 7: INDIGENOUS PEOPLES/SUB-SAHARAN AFRICAN HISTORICALLY UNDERSERVED TRADITIONAL LOCAL COMMUNITIES</b>			
	<b>Not relevant</b>		
<b>ESS 8: CULTURAL HERITAGE</b>			
8.1	<b>CHANCE FINDS</b> Describe and implement the chance finds procedures as part of the ESMF of the Project and site specific ESIA/ESMPs.	Describe the chance find procedures in the ESMF and site specific ESIA/ESMPs. Implement the procedures throughout Project implementation	PCU with support from the Municipalities and SOMELEC
<b>ESS 9: FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES [This standard is only relevant for Projects involving Financial Intermediaries (FIs).]</b>			
	<b>Not relevant</b>		
10.1	<b>STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN PREPARATION AND IMPLEMENTATION</b> Prepare, disclose, consult upon, adopt, and redisclose an update of the SEP prepared for the Project in a manner consistent with ESS10, which includes measures to, inter alia, provide stakeholders with timely, relevant, understandable and accessible information, and consult with them in a culturally appropriate manner, which is free of manipulation, interference, coercion, discrimination and intimidation. Implement the updated SEP	Rediscovered updated SEP no later than project negotiations.  implement the updated SEP throughout the implementation of the Project.	PCU with support from the Municipalities and SOMELEC
10.2	<b>PROJECT GRIEVANCE MECHANISM</b>  Establish, publicize, maintain, and operate the accessible grievance mechanism established for the Project, to receive and facilitate resolution of concerns and grievances in relation to the Project, promptly and effectively, in a transparent manner that is culturally appropriate and readily accessible to all Project-affected parties, at no cost and without retribution, including concerns and grievances filed anonymously, in a manner consistent with ESS10.  The grievance mechanism is equipped to receive, register, and facilitate the resolution of SEA/SH complaints, including through the referral of survivors to relevant gender-based violence service providers, all in a safe, confidential, and survivor-centered manner.	Operate the GM throughout Project implementation.	PCU with support from the Municipalities and SOMELEC

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
<b>CAPACITY SUPPORT</b>			
CS1	<p>Training will be provided as follows:</p> <p>Training on <b>Environmental and Social Framework</b> to be provided to staff of the PCU and SOMELEC, including those in charge of M&amp;E and Procurement, etc.);</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Management of Environmental and Social Risks (staff of the PCU, relevant staff of SOMELEC, consulting firms, individual consultants, contractors)</li> <li>• Process for selection and environmental and social screening and classification of sub-projects</li> <li>• Dissemination of ESIA/ reports</li> <li>• Dissemination of project safeguard documents (ESMF, RPF, GRM, SEP, LMP) Preventing and combating VBG</li> <li>• Environmental legislation and procedures in the Islamic Republic of Mauritania</li> <li>• GBV prevention and mitigation</li> <li>• Stakeholder mapping and engagement</li> <li>• Specific aspects of environmental and social assessment</li> <li>• Emergency preparedness and response</li> <li>• Community health and safety</li> </ul> <p><b>Grievance Redress Mechanism</b> (PCU, SOMELEC, Municipal staff, regional deconcentrated services, local authorities, consulting firms, consultants). Training module will be designed inclusive of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How to register and process complaints,</li> <li>• Complaints procedure,</li> <li>• Documentation and handling of complaints,</li> <li>• Use of the procedure by different stakeholders</li> </ul> <p>Awareness raising sessions on the risks associated with the proximity of construction sites and measures to mitigate the risks of exposure to hazards during work and potential adverse effects on local populations bordering the infrastructure.</p>	<i>Throughout project implementation</i>	PCU with support from the Municipalities and SOMELEC
CS2	<p><b>Occupational Health and Safety</b> (PCU, SOMELEC, Municipal staff, regional deconcentrated services, local authorities, consulting firms, consultants)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Solid and liquid waste management</li> <li>• Tackling and managing workplace-related risks</li> <li>• Preventing workplace accidents</li> </ul>	<i>Throughout project implementation</i>	PCU with support from the Municipalities and SOMELEC

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS	TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use of personal protective equipment,</li> <li>• Health and safety standards</li> </ul> <p><b>Employment and Labor conditions</b> (PCU, SOMELEC, Municipal staff, regional deconcentrated services, local authorities, consulting firms, consultants)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ESS2</li> <li>• Obligations of suppliers, suppliers, contractors and subcontractors in regard to labor standards and child labor</li> <li>• Introduction to Risk and Disaster Management (UCG, sub-UCG, design offices, consultants) Types of disasters Disaster management</li> </ul> <p><b>Introduction to Disaster Risk Management</b> (PCU, SOMELEC, Municipal staff, regional deconcentrated services, local authorities, consulting firms, consultants)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Types of disasters</li> </ul> <p>Disaster management</p>		