

**Republic of Paraguay
Ministry of Finance**

**Joining Efforts for Improving the Quality of Education in Paraguay
Project (P180015)**

Draft

**ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL
COMMITMENT PLAN (ESCP)**

December 2022

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL COMMITMENT PLAN

1. The Ministry of Finance will implement the Joining Efforts for Improving the Quality of Education in Paraguay Project (P180015) (the Project), with the involvement of the Ministry of Science and Education (MEC in Spanish) as set out in the Loan Agreement [and the Project Agreement]. The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (hereinafter the World Bank) has agreed to provide financing for the Project, as set out in the referred agreement.
2. The Borrower 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 World Bank. The ESCP is a part of the Loan Agreement. Unless otherwise defined in this ESCP, capitalized terms used in this ESCP have the meanings ascribed to them in the referred agreement.
3. Without limitation to the foregoing, this ESCP sets out material measures and actions that the Ministry of Finance 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 shall be adopted and implemented under the Project, all of which shall be subject to prior consultation and disclosure, consistent with the ESS, and in form and substance, and in a manner acceptable to the World Bank. Once adopted, said E&S instruments may be revised from time to time with prior written agreement by the World Bank.
4. As agreed by the World Bank and the Borrower, 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, the Borrower through the ministry of Education and Science and the World Bank agree to update the ESCP to reflect these changes through an exchange of letters signed between the World Bank and the Borrower of Ministry of Education. The Borrower shall promptly disclose the updated ESCP.

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
MONITORING AND REPORTING			
A	<p>REGULAR REPORTING</p> <p>Prepare and submit to the World Bank as part of the Project Reports, regular monitoring reports on the environmental, social, health and safety (ESHS) performance of the Project and implementation of the ESCP, including on the status of preparation and implementation of the environmental and social documents required for the Project, stakeholder engagement activities, and the functioning of the grievance redress mechanism.</p>	<p>Bi-annual reporting throughout Project implementation, and no later than forty-five (45) days following the end of the semester. The first report should be submitted no later than forty-five (45) days after the first semester following the Effective Date.</p>	MEC/UEPP
B	<p>INCIDENTS AND ACCIDENTS</p> <p>Promptly notify the World Bank of any incident or accident related to the Project which has, or is likely to have, a significant adverse effect on the environment, the affected communities, the public or workers, including, inter alia, accidents resulting in death, serious or multiple injury, incidents of sexual exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment (SEA/SH). Provide sufficient detail regarding the incident or accident, indicating immediate measures taken or that are planned to be taken to address it, and any information provided by any contractor and supervising entity, as appropriate. Subsequently, as per the World Bank’s request, prepare a report on the incident or accident and propose any measures to prevent its recurrence.</p> <p>The guideline “Responses to Environmental, Social, and Occupational Health and Safety Incidents for Projects Financed by the World Bank (WB)”, shall be included as an annex to the Project Operational Manual (POM).</p>	<p>Notify the World Bank no later than forty-eight (48) hours after learning of the incident or accident. Provide subsequent report to the World Bank within a timeframe and information quality acceptable to the World Bank.</p>	MEC/UEPP
C	<p>CONTRACTORS REPORTS</p> <p>MEC shall require contractors to provide monthly monitoring reports. The monitoring reports shall include a section on environmental, social, health and safety (ESHS) of the construction sites.</p> <p>MEC shall require school principals who receive transfers under Activity 1.1.2 of Subcomponent 1.1 to provide monthly monitoring reports on ESHS performance, in accordance with the guidance provided in the ESMF.</p>	<p>Monthly reports submitted to the World Bank upon request.</p>	MEC/UEPP

ESS 1: ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RISKS AND IMPACTS			
	<p>ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE</p> <p>MEC shall hire and maintain, as part of the Unidad Ejecutora de Programas y Proyectos (UEPP), qualified staff and resources to support, among others, the management of environmental and social (E&S) risks and impacts. This shall include, at minimum, the following key E&S staff:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One Environmental Specialist • Two Social Specialists, including one indigenous people's specialist • One communication specialist • One gender specialist <p>1.1 One staff will be assigned or an additional staff will be hired as needed to act as focal point for the grievance mechanism (GM). Additional staff may be contracted as needed in the areas related to the environmental, social, labor, and health and safety environment of the Project.</p> <p>Additionally, the UEPP will hire field staff responsible for supervising the implementation of ESMF and the site-specific Environment and Social Management Plans (ESMPs) and Environmental and Social Good Practices Specifications (ESGPS) and related instruments, as needed.</p> <p>The roles and responsibility of the environmental and social staff at the UEPP/MEC and of the field staff will be identified and described in the Project Operational Manual.</p>	<p>The hiring of social and environmental specialists as key staff is a condition of project effectiveness.</p> <p>This organizational structure shall remain in place throughout Project's implementation.</p> <p>The communication and gender specialists will be hired 90 days from project effectiveness.</p> <p>The field staff responsible for the supervision of the ESMF will be hired before the start of the civil works.</p>	MEC/UEPP

1.2	<p>ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL ASSESSMENT</p> <p>Finalize, adopt and implement an Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) for the Project, consistent with the relevant ESSs.</p>	<p>Within 60 days of the effective date.</p> <p>Throughout Project implementation.</p>	MEC/UEPP
1.3	<p>TOOLS AND INSTRUMENTS</p> <p>MEC shall ensure that proposed subprojects are evaluated using a E&S screening checklist to be included in the ESMF and the Project Operational Manual (POM) to determine the risk level of subprojects and the E&S management tool to be prepared. Depending on the risks level, an Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) or Environmental and Social Good Practices Specifications (ESGPS) will be prepared in accordance with the ESMF.</p> <p>MEC shall ensure the preparation, consultation, disclosure, adoption, and implementation of ESMPs or Environmental and Social Good Practices Specifications (ESGPS) for subprojects, and other relevant Project activities, in accordance with the ESMF and in a manner that is acceptable to the World Bank.</p> <p>Ensure that all instruments, including procedures and processes for environmental and social management, are referenced and functionally integrated into the POM.</p>	<p>a) The ESMPs/ESGPS of the Subprojects and other relevant Project activities shall be prepared, disclosed, consulted and approved before the implementation of the civil works as relevant.</p> <p>b) The preparation of ESMPs/ESGPS shall be required in the respective bidding documents as relevant, and subsequent civil works contracts. The ESMPs shall be implemented during the execution of said works</p> <p>c) A sample of the ESMP/ESGPS of the sub-projects shall be reviewed and approved by the Bank, as set out in the POM, before launching the respective bidding processes, or before the start of works, as relevant.</p> <p>d) The ESMPs/ESGPS shall be implemented throughout the entire duration of the Subproject or relevant Project activity.</p>	MEC/UEPP

1.4	<p>MANAGEMENT OF CONTRACTORS</p> <p>a) Incorporate the relevant aspects of this ESCP, including, inter alia, the relevant requirements in the ESMF, IPPF, SEP, LMP and Temporary Resettlement Frameworks (TRF) as well as codes of conduct with sexual exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment (SEA/SH) provisions and ESHS measures, and the minimum number and qualifications of the environmental and social staff that will be needed, into the specifications of the bidding and procurement documents with contractors, and in their respective contracts.</p> <p>b) Ensure that all contractors comply with the environmental, social, and health & safety specifications as well as the codes of conduct of their respective contracts.</p> <p>c) Ensure that contractors, including supervising entities and consultants, have the necessary capacity to comply with the relevant aspects of the ESCP, including, inter alia, the requirements of the ESMF, the ESMP/ESFPS, the TRF, and the Labor Management Procedures (LMP). This includes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ensuring that the bidding documents and contracts include, inter alia, the technical specifications necessary for the proper handling of ESHS aspects contained in the ESMF, ESMPs, LMP and other specific socio-environmental instruments, measures, and requirements as applicable to the respective Project activities, including the preparation of contractor's ESMP/ESGPS (C-ESFMP/ESGPS). 2. Ensuring that contractors, including supervising entities and consultants, have the personnel, capacity, and budget required to comply with the technical specifications related to ESHS aspects in their contracts. 	<p>a) Prior to commencing the corresponding bidding processes.</p> <p>b) Throughout Project implementation.</p>	MEC/UEPP
1.5	<p>CONTINGENT EMERGENCY RESPONSE</p> <p>a) Ensure that the existing Contingency Emergency Response Manual (CER Manual) incorporates environmental and social management arrangements and requirements in a manner consistent with the ESSs, including the preparation of any necessary environmental and social instruments for activities supported under Part 4 of the Project.</p>	<p>a) Before any CERC withdrawal request, following the condition under Section 1 E(a) of Schedule 2 of the legal agreement for the Project.</p>	MEC/UEPP/PMU

	b) Prepare, adopt, and disclose any environmental and social instrument which may be required for activities under Part 4 of the Project, in accordance with the CER Manual and the ESSs, and thereafter implement the measures and actions required under said instruments, within the timeframes specified in said instruments, all in manner acceptable to the World Bank.	b) The E&S instruments shall be submitted for the World Bank's prior review and approval, and thereafter adopted before the carrying out of any activity that requires the preparation of these instruments. Once adopted, the instruments shall be implemented in accordance with their terms, in a manner acceptable to the World Bank, throughout the implementation of activities.	
ESS 2: LABOR AND WORKING CONDITIONS			
2.1	LABOR MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES Finalize and implement the LMP and cause Subproject proponents to incorporate relevant requirements of the LMP into the specific ESMP/ESGPS to be prepared as per action 1.3 e) above.	Finalized within 90 days from the project effective date Throughout Project implementation. Specific ESMPs to incorporate relevant requirements of the LMP within the timeframe specified in action 1.3 e) above.	MEC/UEPP
2.2	GRIEVANCE MECHANISM FOR PROJECT WORKERS a) Implement the grievance redress mechanism for workers and update it, as necessary. b) Incorporate the requirements of the grievance redress mechanism for workers for consulting firms and contractors into the bidding documents and the corresponding contracts.	a) establish the labor GRM before contracting workers under the Project and maintain it throughout Project implementation. b) Before starting bidding processes.	MEC/UEPP
2.3	OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY (OHS) MEASURES a) Develop specific Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) measures for each Subproject (including measures for emergency preparation and response, as applicable), and include these measures in the corresponding ESMP of each Subproject.	a) During the development of each Subproject (business plan).	MEC/UEPP

	<p>b) Incorporate the OHS measures into bidding documents and contracts with consulting firms and contractors.</p> <p>c) Ensure that the OHS measures specified are implemented for each work site/activity.</p>	<p>b) Before starting bidding processes.</p> <p>c) Throughout the implementation of Subprojects or other Project activity.</p>	
ESS 3: RESOURCES USAGE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT			
3.1	<p>RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT Resource efficiency and pollution prevention and management requirements will be included in the ESMF, ESMPs and the POM to secure procurement of any energy efficient equipment.</p>	Same timeframe as for action 1.2.	MEC/UEPP
3.2	<p>MANAGEMENT OF WASTE AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS Develop, adopt, disclose, and implement waste management procedures as part of the ESMPs of Subprojects, in accordance with the ESMF.</p>	Same timeframe as action 1.3.	MEC/UEPP
3.3	<p>POLLUTION AND PEST PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT a. Ensure that pollution and pest prevention and risk management measures are incorporated in ESMPs for Subprojects. b. Ensure in the context of the environmental and social assessment of each Subproject, that all sources of pollution (liquid, solid and gaseous) are identified and analyzed, and appropriate specific mitigation measures are incorporated in the ESMPs and implemented.</p>	Same timeframe as action 1.3.	MEC/UEPP
ESS 4: COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY			
4.1	<p>COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY Prepare, adopt, and implement measures and actions to assess and manage specific risks and impacts to the community arising from Project activities, including in relation to behavior of Project workers, risks of labor influx, use of pesticides, and preparation and response to specific emergencies. Include these measures in the ESMPs for Subprojects, and other relevant Project activities, which shall be developed in accordance with the ESMF, in a manner that is acceptable to the Association.</p>	Same timeframe as action 1.3	MEC/UEPP/PMU
4.2.	SEXUAL EXPLOITATION AND ABUSE (SEA) AND SEXUAL HARASSMENT (SH)	Throughout Project implementation	MEC/UEPP

	Implement sexual abuse and exploitation and sexual harassment (SEA/SH) prevention and response measures, proportionate to the risks of the Project, including the mapping of services for victims of SEA/SH in the areas of intervention, guidelines in the code of conduct for contractors, and adequate treatment in the Project grievance redress mechanism, as reflected in the ESMF and SEP.		
ESS 5: LAND ACQUISITION, RESTRICTIONS ON LAND USE AND INVOLUNTARY RESETTLEMENT			
5.1	TEMPORARY RELOCATION FRAMEWORK Develop, consult, disclose, adopt, and implement a Temporary Relocation Framework (TRF), in accordance with guidelines included in the ESMF and with the requirements of ESS5, in a manner acceptable to the World Bank.	Within 90 days from project effectiveness. Throughout project implementation	MEC/UEPP
5.2	TEMPORARY RELOCATION PLANS Develop, consult, disclose, adopt, and implement Temporary Relocation Plans (TRP), in accordance with guidelines included in the ESMF, the TRF and with the requirements of ESS5, in a manner acceptable to the World Bank.	The TRPs must be approved by the World Bank prior to starting implementation of Subprojects. Once approved, the Plans shall be implemented prior to carrying out any Project works.	MEC/UEPP
ESS 6: BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF LIVING NATURAL RESOURCES			
6.1	Not relevant.		
ESS 7: INDIGENOUS PEOPLES/SUB-SAHARAN AFRICAN HISTORICALLY UNDERSERVED TRADITIONAL LOCAL COMMUNITIES			
7.1	INDIGENOUS PEOPLES PLANNING FRAMEWORK Prepare, disclose, consult, adopt and implement the Indigenous Peoples Planning Framework (IPPF) consistent with ESS7 and in a manner acceptable to the Bank.	Within 90 days from project effectiveness Throughout the implementation of each Subproject	MEC/UEPP
7.2	INDIGENOUS PEOPLES PLANS Prepare, consult, disclose, adopt, and implement Indigenous Peoples Plans (IPP) consistent with Indigenous Peoples Planning Framework requirements (IPPF).	The respective IPPs shall be prepared, disclosed and consulted prior to the start of civil works Once approved, the respective IPPs shall be adopted and implemented throughout Project implementation.	MEC/UEPP

		The first two IPPs shall be submitted to the Bank for approval. Additional IPPs may be submitted for approval as needed.	
7.2	<p>GRIEVANCE MECHANISM</p> <p>a) Implement the Project Grievance Redress Mechanism, as described in the IPPF to ensure cultural appropriateness for indigenous peoples, in line with ESS7</p> <p>b) Describe the grievance redress mechanism and its local adaptation, if required, in the respective Subproject.</p> <p>c) Implement the grievance redress mechanism included in each ESMP of each Subproject.</p>	<p>a) Throughout Project implementation.</p> <p>b) when developing Subprojects.</p> <p>c) Throughout Project implementation.</p>	MEC/UEPP
ESS 8: CULTURAL HERITAGE			
8.1	<p>CHANCE FINDS</p> <p>a) Include reference to the chance finds procedure in each of the ESMPs for the Subproject, in accordance with the ESMF.</p> <p>b) Implement the chance finds procedures for each Subproject.</p> <p>c) Prepare a Cultural Heritage Management Plan (CHMP)</p>	<p>a) Same timeframe than action 1.3.</p> <p>b) throughout the implementation of each ESMPs.</p> <p>c) The CHMP will be prepared and finalized within 90 days from the project effective date</p>	MEC/UEPP
ESS 9: FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES			
This standard is not relevant.			
ESS 10: STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION DISCLOSURE			
10.1	<p>STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN</p> <p>a) Finalize, adopt and implement the Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) for the Project, consistent with the relevant ESSs</p>	<p>a) Within 60 days from project effectiveness and throughout Project implementation.</p>	MEC/UEPP

	b) Report on the implementation of the SEP.	b) Bi-annually as set out in action A above.	
10.2	<p>PROJECT GRIEVANCE MECHANISM</p> <p>a) Implement the Grievance Redress Mechanism described in the SEP, including a mechanism to address SEA/SH complaints.</p> <p>b) Report on project-level Grievance Redress Mechanism implementation.</p>	<p>a) Within 60 days from effectiveness and throughout the Project implementation.</p> <p>b) As part of the Bi-annual reports to the Association required under action A above.</p>	MEC/UEPP
CAPACITY SUPPORT (TRAINING)			
C	<p>a) Develop a Project training plan for a) UEPP and relevant MEC staff, at central and local level; b) for school principals and c) contractors in a form that is acceptable to the World Bank, on requirements of environmental and social instruments (ESMF, SEP, LMP, IPPF, TPF) and requirements of the ESCP, including the grievance mechanism and SEA/SH issues, and the monitoring of the Project's environmental and social standards and requirements.</p> <p>b) Implement the plan and update it based on emerging needs of the Project, including the schedule of training activities planned for the following year.</p> <p>c) Report on the implementation of the training plan.</p>	<p>a) No later than ninety (90) days after the Effective Date of the Project.</p> <p>b) Initiate in the first year of implementation and update annually.</p> <p>c) Every 3 months and as part of the bi-annual reports to the World Bank, required under action A above.</p>	MEC/UEPP