

Kosovo
Emergency COVID-19 Response Project

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

April 29, 2020

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL COMMITMENT PLAN

1. The Republic of Kosovo (hereinafter the **Recipient**) shall implement the Kosovo Emergency COVID-19 Response Project (the **Project**), with the involvement of the Ministry of Health (**MoH**) and Ministry of Finance and Transfers (**MoFT**). The International Development Association (hereinafter the **Association**) has agreed to provide financing for the Project.
2. The Recipient shall implement material measures and actions so that the Project is implemented in accordance with the Environmental and Social Standards (**ESSs**). This Environmental and Social Commitment Plan (**ESCP**) sets out material measures and actions, any specific documents or plans, as well as the timing for each of these.
3. The Recipient is responsible for compliance with all requirements of the ESCP even when implementation of specific measures and actions is conducted by the Ministries referenced in 1. above.
4. Implementation of the material measures and actions set out in this ESCP shall be monitored and reported to the Association by the Recipient as required by the ESCP and the conditions of the legal agreement, and the Association shall monitor and assess progress and completion of the material measures and actions throughout implementation of the Project.
5. As agreed by the Association and the Recipient this ESCP may be revised from time to time during Project implementation, to reflect adaptive management of Project changes and unforeseen circumstances or in response to assessment of Project performance conducted under the ESCP itself. In such circumstances, the Recipient shall agree to the changes with the Association and shall update the ESCP to reflect such changes. Agreement on changes to the ESCP shall be documented through the exchange of letters signed between the Association and the Recipient. The Recipient shall promptly disclose the updated ESCP.
6. Where Project changes, unforeseen circumstances, or Project performance result in changes to the risks and impacts during Project implementation, the Recipient shall provide additional funds, if needed, to implement actions and measures to address such risks and impacts.

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS	TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
MONITORING AND REPORTING		
A	REGULAR REPORTING: Prepare and submit to the 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&S documents required under the ESCP, stakeholder engagement activities, functioning of the grievance mechanism(s).	Beginning from the Effective Date and quarterly throughout Project implementation
For component 2 MoFT through Department of International Financial Cooperation and for component 1 MoH through its Project Coordination Unit (PCU)		
ESS 1: ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RISKS AND IMPACTS		
1.1	ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE: The Project shall be managed by MoFT as overall coordinator. Component 1 shall be managed by MoH through its PCU and component 2 shall be managed by MoFT through its Department of International Financial Cooperation with support of the existing staff in the Social Assistance Scheme (SAS) Division, including the IT specialist, accountant/financial management staff. The existing PCU of the Kosovo Health Project P147402 shall continue to maintain qualified staff and resources to support management of ESHS risks and impacts of the Project including hiring an environment specialist and social standards specialist. The E&S specialists shall be hired under the ongoing health project KHP (P147402) which is being restructured. The same specialists shall be responsible for the E&S management of this Project.	The PCU in MoH shall recruit an environmental & a social specialist under the ongoing health project KHP (P147402) not later than one (1) month after the Effective Date and retain said specialists throughout Project implementation. The E&S specialists of the KHP will maintain the E&S standards and risk mitigated to Kosovo COVID-19 Project. PCU, with composition and resources acceptable to the Association, shall be maintained throughout Project implementation
MoFT and MoH		

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS	TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
<p>1.2 ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL ASSESSMENT/MANAGEMENT PLANS AND INSTRUMENTS/ CONTRACTORS</p> <p>a. Prepare, disclose and adopt an Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF), and assess the environmental and social risks and impacts of proposed Project activities in accordance with ESSs and the ESMF, including to ensure that individuals or groups who, because of their particular circumstances, may be disadvantaged or vulnerable, have access to the development benefits resulting from the Project.</p> <p>b. Prepare, disclose, adopt, and implement any Environmental and Social Management Plans (ESMPs), Infection Prevention Control and Waste Management Plans (IPC & WMPs) and/or other instruments required for the respective Project activities based on the assessment process, in accordance with the ESSs, the ESMF, relevant Good International Industry Practice (GIIP) including the WHO Country & Technical Guidance - Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) and the WHO Guidelines on Safe Management of Wastes from Health-Care Activities in a manner acceptable to the Association.</p> <p>c. Incorporate the relevant aspects of this ESCP, including, inter alia, any ESMPs, IPC & WMPs and/or other instruments, ESS2 requirements, and any other required ESHS measures, into the ESHS specifications of the procurement documents and contracts with contractors and supervising firms. Thereafter ensure that the contractors and supervising firms comply with the ESHS specifications of their respective contracts.</p>	<p>a. The ESMF shall be prepared, disclosed and adopted not later than one (1) month after the Effective Date. Until the ESMF is adopted, the Project shall apply the WHO standards and guidance on COVID-19 response in a manner consistent with the ESSs. Assessment shall be conducted before the carrying out of the respective Project activity.</p> <p>b. ESMPs, IPC & WMPs and/or instruments acceptable to the Association, will be prepared, disclosed and adopted before beginning the relevant Project activities, and thereafter implemented throughout the implementation of such activities.</p> <p>c. Before launching the procurement process for the relevant Project activities, and thereafter ensure that contractors comply with the ESHS specifications in their contracts through their involvement in the respective Project activities.</p>	<p>MoFT in cooperation with MoH</p>

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS	TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
1.3 EXCLUSIONS: The following types of activities shall not be eligible for financing under the Project: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Activities that may have significant adverse social impacts and may give rise to significant social conflict • Activities that may cause long term, permanent and/or irreversible (e.g. loss of major natural habitat) adverse impacts on the environment • Activities that may affect lands or rights of minorities, • Activities that may involve resettlement or land acquisition(not limited to permanent) /use restriction or adverse impacts on cultural heritage • All the other excluded activities set out in the ESMF of the Project. 	These exclusions shall be applied as part of the assessment process conducted under action 1.2.a. above.	MoFT in cooperation with MoH
1.4 The Recipient will commit to the provision of services and supplies to all people, regardless of their social status, based on the urgency of the need, in line with the latest data related to the prevalence of the cases, and the implementation of WHO guidance tools for COVID-19 risk communication and engagement.	Throughout Project Implementation	MoFT and MoH
ESS 2: LABOR AND WORKING CONDITIONS		
2.1 LABOR MANAGEMENT: The Project shall be carried out in accordance with the applicable requirements of ESS2, in a manner acceptable to the Association, including through, inter alia, implementing adequate occupational health and safety measures (including emergency preparedness and response measures), setting out grievance arrangements for Project workers, and incorporating labor requirements into the ESHS specifications of the procurement documents and contracts with contractors and supervising firms. The Recipient shall adopt and implement Labor Management Procedures (LMP) incorporating the relevant requirements of ESS2.	The LMP as part of the ESMF shall be finalized not later than one (1) month after the Effective Date of the Project, The LMP and all measures specified in this action 2.1 shall be implemented throughout the Project implementation period.	MoFT in cooperation with MoH
ESS 3: RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT		
Relevant aspects of this standard shall be considered, as needed, under action 1.2 above, including, inter alia, measures to manage health care wastes and other types of hazardous and non-hazardous wastes		
ESS 4: COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY		

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

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS	TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
<p>Training topics for personnel involved in Project implementation will among others include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training topics as per the WHO Country & Technical Guidance - Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/technical-guidance including but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - COVID-19 Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations - Laboratory biosafety guidance related to the COVID-19 - Specimen collection and shipment - Standard precautions for COVID-19 patients - Risk communication and community engagement - Establishment of quarantine • Training topics as per the WHO Guidelines on Safe Management of Wastes from Health-Care Activities https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/85349/9789241548564_eng.pdf;jsessionid=EE45FF4B510A5297A7DFF6030A3BED25?sequence=1 • Training on the prevention of GBV and SEA/SH and awareness of child protection protocols, on Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs) and other communicable diseases, including for security personnel. • Country Sanitary Regulations and Norms 	Throughout Project implementation.	MoFT through IFC department and MoH through PCU