

**Province of Buenos Aires / Provincial Directorate
of Multilateral Organizations and Bilateral
Financing
Strengthening the Digital Health Agenda in the
Buenos Aires Province (P179534)**

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

January 2023

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL COMMITMENT PLAN

1. The Province of Buenos Aires (the Borrower) will implement the Strengthening the Digital Health Agenda in the Buenos Aires Province (P179534) Project (the Project), with the involvement of the Provincial Directorate of Multilateral Organizations and Bilateral Financing (Dirección Provincial de Organismos Multilaterales y Bilaterales, DPOMFB) that reports to the Undersecretary of Finance from the Provincial Ministry of Economy (PMOE), as set out in the Loan Agreement. The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (the 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 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 Borrower 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 Bank. Once adopted, said E&S instruments may be revised from time to time with prior written agreement by the 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 Provincial Directorate of Multilateral Organizations and Bilateral Financing (DPOMFB) and the Bank agree to update the ESCP to reflect these changes through an exchange of letters signed between the Bank and the Provincial Director of Multilateral Organizations and Bilateral Financing. 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 Bank regular monitoring reports on the environmental, social, health and safety (ESHS) performance of the Project, including but not limited to the implementation of the ESCP, status of preparation and implementation of E&S instruments required under the ESCP, stakeholder engagement activities, and functioning of the grievance mechanism(s).</p>	<p>Six-monthly reports to the Bank throughout Project implementation, commencing after the Effective Date. Submit each report to the Bank no later than 45 days after the end of each reporting period.</p>	<p><i>Provincial Directorate of Multilateral Organizations and Bilateral Financing (DPOMFB)</i></p>
B	<p>INCIDENTS AND ACCIDENTS</p> <p>Promptly notify the 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, cases of sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA), sexual harassment (SH), and accidents that result in death, serious or multiple injury. Provide sufficient detail regarding the scope, severity, and possible causes of 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/or supervising firm, as appropriate.</p> <p>Subsequently, at the Bank’s request, prepare a report on the incident or accident and propose any measures to address it and prevent its recurrence.</p>	<p>Notify the Bank no later than 48 hours after learning of the incident or accident.</p> <p>Provide subsequent report to the Bank within a timeframe acceptable to the Bank</p>	<p><i>DPOMFB</i></p>
ESS 1: ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RISKS AND IMPACTS			
1.1	<p>ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE</p> <p>Maintain and strengthen an ESHS management team in the DPOMFB and in the Provincial Directorate of Health System Strengthening Unit (DPFSS) with qualified staff and resources to support management of ESHS risks and impacts of the Project including a health and safety specialist, an environmental specialist, a social specialist, and four new stakeholder engagement specialists.</p>	<p>Maintain a PIU as set out in the loan agreement. Hire or appoint the stakeholder engagement specialists no later than four months after the Effective Date, and thereafter maintain these positions throughout the Project.</p>	<p><i>DPOMFB and the Provincial Directorate of Health System Strengthening Unit (DPFSS)</i></p>
1.2	<p>ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL INSTRUMENTS</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Adopt and implement an Environmental and Social Assessment (ESA) Adopt and implement Environmental and Social Management Plans (ESMPs) for the Project, consistent with the relevant ESSs. Cause selected municipalities to adopt and implement the Environmental and Social Management Plans (ESMPs). 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Consult and disclose the final version of the ESA no later than 90 days of project effectiveness and thereafter implement the ESA throughout the Project. Adopt ESMPs no later than 90 days of project effectiveness, implement the respective ESMPs throughout the Project. 	<p><i>DPOMFB and DPFSS</i></p>

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
		3. Adopt the ESMPs before delivering project electronic equipment. Once adopted, implement the respective ESMPs throughout the Project.	
1.3	<p>TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE</p> <p>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 Bank, that are consistent with the ESSs. Thereafter ensure that the outputs of such activities comply with the terms of reference.</p>	Throughout Project implementation.	<i>DPOMFB and DPFSS</i>
1.4	<p>ACTIVITIES SUBJECT TO RETROACTIVE FINANCING</p> <p>In case of carrying out actions that require Retroactive Financing, an environmental and social audit will be carried out to corroborate that they are based on an analysis of potential environmental and social risks and impacts and that they were managed in accordance with the requirements established in the ESMPs as a condition for disbursements.</p>	The Borrower will carry out an E&S audit to verify compliance with the ESMP, and inform the Bank with evidence for revision and approval.	<i>DPOMFB and DPFSS</i>
ESS 2: LABOR AND WORKING CONDITIONS			
2.1	<p>LABOR MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES</p> <p>Adopt and implement the Labor Management Procedures (LMP) for the Project, 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.</p>	<p>Adopt the LMP no later than 90 days after Project Effectiveness or before contracting any project worker, whichever comes first, and thereafter implement the LMP throughout the Project.</p> <p>The LMP shall be updated as many times as necessary during the entire implementation period of the Project</p>	<i>DPOMFB and DPFSS</i>

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
2.2	<p>GRIEVANCE MECHANISM FOR PROJECT WORKERS</p> <p>Establish and operate a grievance mechanism for Project workers, as described in the LMP and consistent with ESS2.</p>	Establish a grievance mechanism prior to engaging Project workers and thereafter maintain and operate it throughout the Project.	<i>DPOMFB and DPFSS</i>
ESS 3: RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT			
3.1	<p>E- WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN</p> <p>Adopt and implement an Electronic Waste Management Plan (E - WMP), to manage post-consumer electrical and electronic devices and electronic wastes, consistent with ESS3.</p>	The E-Waste management will be prepared within three months of the effectiveness of the Project and will be sent for No Objection from the World Bank. It is implemented throughout the Project.	<i>DPOMFB and DPFSS</i>
3.2	<p>RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT</p> <p>The acquisition of computer equipment will be done under energy efficiency labelling.</p>	It will be indicated in the ToR of the acquisitions	<i>DPOMFB and DPFSS</i>
ESS 4: COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY			
4.1	<p>COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY</p> <p>Assess and manage specific risks and impacts to the community arising from Project activities, and include mitigation measures in the ESMPs to be prepared.</p>	Same timeframe as for the adoption and implementation of the ESMPs.	<i>DPOMFB and DPFSS</i>
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			
7.1	<p>INDIGENOUS PEOPLES PLAN</p> <p>Prepare, consult, adopt, disclose, and implement the Indigenous Peoples Plan (IPP) in the selected municipalities where indigenous peoples (IP) are present, as established in ESS7, in a manner acceptable to the Bank. The IPP shall establish the proposed measures and actions, as well as their implementation timeframes to be agreed with the communities present in the area.</p>	Prepare, consult, and disclose the IPP no later than 90 days of project effectiveness before carrying out any proposed Project activity in selected municipalities where indigenous peoples (IP) are present. Once adopted, the IPP shall be implemented in accordance with its terms throughout development of Project activities.	<i>DPOMFB and DPFSS</i>
7.2	<p>GRIEVANCE MECHANISM</p>	The same timeframe as for the implementation of 7.1.	<i>DPOMFB and DPFSS</i>

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
	Prepare, adopt, and implement arrangements for the specific, culturally appropriate, Grievance Mechanism for indigenous peoples, and describe these arrangements in detail in the respective plans for indigenous peoples (IPP).		
ESS 8: CULTURAL HERITAGE. Not relevant.			
ESS 9: FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES. Not Relevant.			
ESS 10: STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION DISCLOSURE			
10.1	<p>STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN PREPARATION AND IMPLEMENTATION</p> <p>Adopt and implement a Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) for the Project, consistent with ESS10, which shall include 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.</p>	The draft version of the SEP will be published and consulted by appraisal, and the final version adopted no later than 90 days after Effective Date, and implemented throughout the Project.	<i>DPOMFB and DPFSS</i>
10.2	<p>PROJECT GRIEVANCE MECHANISM</p> <p>Establish, publicize, maintain, and operate an accessible grievance mechanism, 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.</p> <p>The grievance mechanism shall be 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.</p>	Establish the grievance mechanism no later than 90 days after Effective Date, and thereafter maintain and operate the mechanism throughout the Project.	<i>DPOMFB and DPFSS</i>
CAPACITY SUPPORT			
CS1	<p>Training will be developed for health staff involved in Project activities on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gender equality and diversity • Intercultural health • Accessibility and effective communication • Community health and safety, including SEA/SH prevention and norms of conduct 	To be during the entire Project.	<i>DPFSS and Provincial Directorate of Statistics and Digital Health (DPEySD)</i>