



THE REPUBLIC OF KENYA

**MINISTRY OF WATER, SANITATION AND IRRIGATION
STATE DEPARTMENT FOR IRRIGATION**

**KENYA RESILIENT IRRIGATION FOR A SUSTAINABLE
ECONOMY (K-RISE) (P517436)**

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

**Appraisal Version
September, 2026**

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL COMMITMENT PLAN

1. The Government of Kenya (the Recipient) will implement the Kenya Resilient Irrigation for a Sustainable Economy Project, (the Project), with the involvement of the Ministry of Water, Sanitation and Irrigation (MoWSI), and the National Irrigation Authority (NIA), as set out in the Original Financing Agreement (the Agreement). The International Development Association (the Association) has agreed to provide financing for the Project, as set out in Agreement.
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 Agreement. Unless otherwise defined in this ESCP, capitalized terms used in this ESCP have the meanings ascribed to them in the Agreement.
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, their respective timeframes; institutional, staffing, training, monitoring and reporting arrangements; and grievance management. The ESCP also sets out the environmental and social (E&S) documents that shall be prepared or updated, consulted, disclosed and implemented under the Project, consistent with the ESSs, in form and substance acceptable to the Association. Said E&S documents may be revised from time to time with prior written agreement by the Association. As provided for under the referred Agreement, the Recipient shall ensure that there are sufficient funds available to cover the costs of implementing the ESCP.
4. As agreed by the Association and the Recipient, this ESCP will be revised from time to time, if necessary, to reflect adaptive management of Project changes or unforeseen circumstances or in response to Project performance. In such circumstances, the Association and the Recipient agree to update the ESCP to reflect these changes through an exchange of letters signed between the Association and the Recipient's Representative specified in the Agreement or Principal Secretary, State Department for Irrigation, Ministry of Water, Sanitation and Irrigation. The Recipient shall promptly disclose the updated ESCP.
5. The subsection on "Indicators for Implementation Readiness" below identifies the actions and measures to be monitored to assess Project readiness to begin implementation in accordance with this ESCP. Nevertheless, all actions and measures in this ESCP shall be implemented as set out in the "Timeframe" column below irrespective of whether they are listed in the referred subsection.

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS AND CAPACITY SUPPORT			
A	ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE i. Establish and maintain a National Project Coordination Unit (NPCU) with qualified staff and resources to support management of environmental, social, health and safety (E&S) risks and impacts of the Project including a full-time Environmental specialist (1), and a Social specialist (1), each possessing the requisite qualifications and demonstrated experience in conducting environmental and social assessments for development projects ii. Appoint an Environmental Specialist and a Social Specialist at National Irrigation Authority (NIA), each possessing appropriate qualifications and demonstrated experience in carrying out environmental and social assessments of Projects to support management of environmental, social, health and safety (E&S) risks of the Project preferably from the existing staff establishment. iii. County Irrigation Development Units (CIDUs) to appoint community engagement officers at the county level (at least one per county) in the participating counties to support in community engagement and other relevant scheme-level activities. The officers shall have appropriate qualification and demonstrated experience in carrying out environmental and social assessments and stakeholder engagement in Project and preferably from within the county staff establishment. iv. Enter into collaboration arrangements with Irrigation Water Users Associations (IWUAs) and Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) to manage relevant E&S risks and impacts of the Project. v. Appoint at least one qualified Dam Safety Specialist at the NPCU/NIA level, with qualifications acceptable to the Association vi. Engage an independent verification agent (IVA) with ToRs acceptable to the Association, to verify E&S performance of FI-financed activities and report to the Association at agreed intervals	Establish an NPCU and appoint the Environmental Specialist and Social Specialist within 60 days after Project Effectiveness and thereafter maintain the NPCU and these positions throughout Project implementation. Appoint the Environmental Specialist and Social Specialist at NIA within 60 days after Project Effectiveness and thereafter maintain these positions throughout Project implementation. Appoint community engagement officers at County level within 90 days after Project Effectiveness and before commencement of activities on community schemes Enter collaboration arrangements with IWUAs and FPOs before implementation of relevant project activities Appoint the Dam Safety Specialist prior to launching the procurement of feasibility and design studies for any dam subproject Engage IVA prior to operationalization of the RBF and Risk-Sharing Facility	MoWSI, NIA, CIDUs

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
B	CAPACITY BUILDING PLAN/MEASURES As part of the ESMF, prepare and implement a capacity building plan that entails training of the NPCU and NIA staff, CIDUs, IWUAs, FPOs, project workers and other relevant stakeholders on: the Environmental and Social Framework (ESF); implementation of the Project E&S instruments; management of the Project's environmental and social risks and impacts; stakeholder mapping and engagement; Vulnerable and Marginalized Groups (VMGs); grievance management; labor management; Occupational health and safety, including preparedness and response arrangements to emergency situations; Workers GRM, code of conduct, Gender-based Violence (GBV), Sexual Exploitation and Abuse and Sexual Harassment (SEA-SH) prevention and response; emergency preparedness and response; occupational and community health safety; integrated pest and nutrient management relevant to farmer-led irrigation, and end-of-life management of solar irrigation equipment (panels, batteries, controllers); and dam safety management at the feasibility/design stage	Submit a capacity building plan based on a capacity assessment for non-objection of the Association within 60 days after Project Effectiveness and thereafter implement it throughout Project implementation. Carry out annual Environmental & Social (E&S) capacity building, at national, county and community levels, throughout Project implementation	MoWSI
MONITORING AND REPORTING			
C	REGULAR REPORTING Prepare and submit to the Association regular monitoring reports on the environmental, social, health and safety (E&S) performance of the Project. The reports shall include: • Status of preparation and implementation of E&S documents required under the ESCP. • Summary of stakeholder engagement activities carried out as per the Stakeholder Engagement Plan. • Complaints submitted to the grievance mechanism, the grievance log, and progress made in resolving them. • E&S performance of contractors and subcontractors as reported through monthly contractors' and supervision firms' reports. • Number and status of resolution of incidents and accidents reported under action E below. • Dam safety study progress for any ongoing feasibility or design work, covering: status of dam safety assessment outputs against ToR requirements, any emerging concerns raised by the Panel (where applicable), and compliance with ESCP dam safety commitments	Submit quarterly reports to the Association throughout Project implementation, commencing after the Effective Date. Submit each report to the Association no later than 30 days after the end of each reporting period.	MoWSI

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
D	CONTRACTORS' MONTHLY REPORTS Where civil works occur, require contractors and supervising firms to provide monthly monitoring reports on E&S performance in accordance with the metrics specified in the respective bidding documents and contracts and submit such reports to the Association.	Submit the monthly reports to the Association upon request. Submit the monthly reports to the Bank as annexes for verification of E&S performance reported under action C above.	MoWSI, NIA
E	INCIDENTS AND ACCIDENTS Notify the Association of any incident or accident relating 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 those resulting in death or significant injury to workers or the public; acts of violence, discrimination or protest; unforeseen impacts to cultural heritage or biodiversity resources; pollution of the environment; dam failure; forced or child labor; displacement without due process (forced eviction); allegations of sexual exploitation or abuse (SEA), or sexual harassment (SH); or disease outbreaks. Provide available details of the incident or accident to the Association upon request. Arrange for an appropriate review of the incident or accident to establish its immediate, underlying and root causes. Prepare, agree with the Association, and implement a Corrective Action Plan that sets out the measures and actions to be taken to address the incident or accident and prevent its recurrence.	Notify the Association no later than 48 hours after learning of the incident or accident. Provide available details upon request. Provide review report and Corrective Action Plan to the Association no later than 10 days following the submission of the initial notice, unless a different timeframe is agreed to in writing by the Association.	MoWSI, NIA
	MID TERM AND PROJECT CLOSEOUT ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL AUDITS Conduct mid-term and closeout environmental and social (E&S) audits to assess the Project's compliance with the established commitments in the ESCP, Environmental and Social Management Plans, and other ESF instruments prepared for the Project. The Audits shall identify corrective actions and timeframes for their implementation. Terms of reference for the compliance Audits shall be prepared and agreed with the Association prior to commissioning the Audits.	Carry out the mid-term E&S compliance Audit of the Project, three years after effectiveness. Carry out the closeout E&S compliance audit of the Project three (3) Months prior to Project closure	MoWSI
ESS 1: ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RISKS AND IMPACTS			
1.1	ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL ASSESSMENTS AND/OR PLANS	Prepare and disclose the ESMF, RPF, and IPPF by Project Effectiveness, and thereafter implement these Frameworks throughout Project implementation.	MoWSI, NIA, National Irrigation Information Center (NIIC)

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
	i. Prepare, disclose and implement an Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) for the Project consistent with the relevant ESSs. The ESMF shall describe the dual compliance baseline of Kenyan law and the World Bank ESF; biophysical and socioeconomic baselines; the E&S screening process for classifying subprojects by risk level (High, Substantial, Moderate, Low); an Exclusion list for activities ineligible for financing under the Project; Integrated Water Resource Management approaches; an anticipatory assessment of likely impacts and standard mitigation measures; a project-level GRM; Labor Management Procedures including a workers' GRM; institutional arrangements and staffing requirements; a capacity-building plan; a monitoring framework; and estimated E&S risk management costs. Annexes to the ESMF shall include a SEA/SH Prevention and Response Plan, an Integrated Pest Management Framework (IPMF), Security Management Plan (SMP), and an E-waste Management Framework ii. As relevant to each identified sub-project under Component 2 and 3, require the implementing entity to prepare, disclose and implement site-specific Plans (Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIAs)), Environmental and Social Management Plans (ESMPs), Biodiversity Management Plans (BMPs), as set out in the ESMF. The activities described in the exclusion list set out in the ESMF shall be ineligible to receive financing under the Project iii. Prepare relevant Dam Safety Plans for prioritized dams prepared under the project. iv. Analyze and prepare a Report on the water status and cumulative impacts of the aggregate water withdrawal effects across irrigated watersheds. In addition, apply water informatics in development and implementation of necessary adaptive measures. v. Prepare Terms of Reference for Technical Assistance (TA) activities with adequate E&S provisions to ensure TA outputs comply with the ESF vi. Fully Implement the Post Closure Action Plan (PCAP) prepared for the Kenya Water Security and Climate Resilience Project - Lower Nzoia Irrigation Project (LNIP)	Prepare and disclose the relevant site-specific Plans before commencement of works and thereafter implement the Plans throughout Project implementation Prepare the ESMP and incorporate the ESMP as part of the respective bidding documents for the respective subproject/Project activity prior to the carrying out of the subproject/Project activity that requires the preparation of such ESMP. Once finalized, implement the respective ESMP throughout Project implementation. Prepare the relevant dam safety plans as part of detailed studies for the prioritized dams Prepare an annual report on the water status and cumulative impacts of water withdrawal effects across irrigated watersheds. Prepare ToRs for TA activities prior to commencement of the activities Implement the PCAP and confirm completion before any disbursement for sub-component 2.1 on public irrigation schemes	
1.2	MANAGEMENT OF CONTRACTORS Incorporate the relevant aspects of the ESCP, including, inter alia, subproject ESMPs, the Labor Management Procedures, and code of conduct, into the E&S specifications of the procurement documents and contracts with contractors and supervising firms. Thereafter ensure that the contractors and supervising firms comply and that they require their subcontractors to comply with the E&S specifications of their respective contracts. Provide copies of the relevant contracts with contractors/subcontractors and supervision firms to the Association.	As part of the preparation of procurement documents and respective contracts. Supervise contractors throughout Project implementation. Copies of relevant contracts provided to the Association upon request.	MoWSI
1.3	TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE	Throughout Project implementation.	MoWSI

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
	Carry out the consultancies, studies (including feasibility studies, if applicable), capacity building, training, and any other technical assistance activities under the Project, including, inter alia, the environmental and social studies for the prioritized dams in accordance with terms of reference acceptable to the Association, that are consistent with the ESSs. Thereafter prepare and finalize the outputs of such activities in compliance with the terms of reference.		
ESS 2: LABOR AND WORKING CONDITIONS			
2.1	LABOR MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES Prepare and implement the Labor Management Procedures (LMP) for the Project as part of the ESMF.	Prepare the LMP as specified under action 1.1 above and thereafter implement the LMP throughout Project implementation.	MoWSI
2.2	OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY MANAGEMENT PLAN Require contractors and subcontractors to prepare and implement OHS Management Measures or Plan in accordance with the ESMF, and subproject ESMPs.	Prepare OHS Management Measures or Plan as specified under action 1.1 above and thereafter implement the plan throughout Project implementation.	MoWSI
2.3	GRIEVANCE MECHANISM FOR PROJECT WORKERS Establish and operate a grievance mechanism for Project workers, as per the LMP and consistent with ESS2.	Establish grievance mechanism prior engaging Project workers and thereafter maintain and operate it throughout Project implementation.	
ESS 3: RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT			
3.1	WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN Prepare and implement a Waste Management Plan (WMP), as part of the ESMF prepared for the Project, to manage hazardous and non-hazardous waste, consistent with ESS3.	Prepare the WMP as specified under action 1.1 and thereafter implement the WMP throughout Project implementation.	MoWSI
3.2	RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT Incorporate resource efficiency and pollution prevention and management measures in subproject ESMPs to be prepared under action 1.1 above.	Same timeframe as for the preparation and implementation of the ESMPs.	MoWSI
ESS 4: COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY			
4.1	TRAFFIC AND ROAD SAFETY Incorporate measures to manage traffic and road safety risks as required in the ESMP to be prepared under action 1.1 above.	Same timeframe as for the preparation and implementation of the ESMP.	MoWSI

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
4.2	COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY Assess and manage specific risks and impacts to the community arising from Project activities including, inter alia, behavior of Project workers, risks of labor influx, response to emergency situations, and include mitigation measures in the ESMPs to be prepared in accordance with the ESMF.	Same timeframe as for the preparation and implementation of the ESMPs.	MoWSI
4.3	SEA AND SH RISKS Prepare and implement a SEA/SH Action Plan as part of the ESMF, to assess and manage the risks of SEA and SH.	Prepare the SEA/SH Action Plan as specified under action 1.1 and thereafter implement the SEA/SH Action Plan throughout Project implementation.	MoWSI
4.4	SECURITY MANAGEMENT Undertake a security risk assessment on security risks of the Project, including the risks of engaging security personnel to safeguard project workers, sites, assets, and activities, and prepare a Security Management Plan (SMP) as part of the ESMF. Site-specific security risk assessments will be carried out as part of sub-project ESIA, and the resulting management plans implemented during each sub-project implementation, and consistent with ESS4	As specified under action 1.1 and thereafter implement throughout the Project.	MoWSI
4.5	DAM SAFETY (FOR ANNEX A ESS4) Establish and maintain an independent Panel of Experts (PoE), with ToRs and composition acceptable to the Association, to review and advise on dam safety matters related to the investigation, feasibility study, and design of the prioritized dams. Prepare ToRs acceptable to the Association, for feasibility and detailed design studies for each prioritized dam. As minimum content, the ToRs shall include: (i) geotechnical and hydrological investigation; (ii) dam safety risk assessment including flood routing, failure mode analysis, and preliminary downstream consequence assessment; (iii) assessment of downstream affected communities, infrastructure, and ecosystems; (iv) broad emergency preparedness framework; (v) preliminary O&M requirements; (vi) environmental and social baseline assessment; and (vii) biodiversity and cultural heritage screening. Prepare, as an output of each feasibility study, the following at a preliminary or framework level, to be developed to full detail under any subsequent construction financing: (i) a preliminary plan for construction supervision and quality assurance (scope and methodology only); (ii) a preliminary instrumentation plan; (iii) a framework O&M plan with cost estimates; and (iv) a framework Emergency Preparedness Plan including preliminary downstream consequence assessment, early warning considerations, and estimated affected population.	The PoE shall be established prior to finalization of the ToR for feasibility studies for each prioritized dam Prepare ToRs before launching procurement for the feasibility studies Prepare the dam safety plans during the feasibility studies for each dam	MoWSI
ESS 5: LAND ACQUISITION, RESTRICTIONS ON LAND USE AND INVOLUNTARY RESETTLEMENT			

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
5.1	RESETTLEMENT FRAMEWORK AND PLANS i. Prepare, disclose and implement a Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF) to guide resettlement planning where project activities may result in physical and/or economic displacement and a protocol for voluntary land donation for community lands. ii. Prepare and implement a Resettlement Plan (RP) or a Livelihood Restoration Plan (LRP) for each activity under the Project for which such RP or LRP is required, as set out in the RPF and consistent with ESS5.	Prepare the RPF as specified under action 1.1 and thereafter implement the RPF throughout Project implementation. Prepare and implement the respective RP or LRP prior to carrying out the relevant works, 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.	MoWSI
ESS 6: BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF LIVING NATURAL RESOURCES			
6.1	BIODIVERSITY RISKS AND IMPACTS i. Prepare and implement a Biodiversity Management Plan (BMP) in accordance with the guidelines of the ESIA prepared for each subproject, and consistent with ESS6. ii. Undertake biodiversity screening as part of dam site selection and shortlisting, consistent with ESS6. In addition, prepare a BMP as a mandatory output of the feasibility study for any shortlisted dam site near or within a protected area, critical natural habitat, or identified biodiversity-sensitive area iii. Include an environmental flow assessment in ToRs for dam feasibility studies to determine the minimum flow releases required to maintain downstream aquatic ecosystems, riparian habitats, and downstream water user rights, consistent with ESS6 and WBG EHS Guidelines for Water and Sanitation and include monitoring indicators.	As specified under action 1.1 and thereafter implement the BMP throughout Project implementation. Undertake biodiversity screening and prepare BMPs during feasibility studies for prioritized dams	MoWSI
ESS 7: INDIGENOUS PEOPLES/SUB-SAHARAN AFRICAN HISTORICALLY UNDERSERVED TRADITIONAL LOCAL COMMUNITIES			

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
7.1	INDIGENOUS PEOPLES FRAMEWORK and PLANS iii. Prepare, disclose and implement an IP/SSAHUTLCs Planning Framework (IPPF) to define planning requirements ensuring potentially affected communities have equitable access to project benefits. i. Prepare and implement an Indigenous Peoples Plan (IPP) for each activity under the Project for which such IPP is required, as set out in the IPPF, and consistent with ESS7.	Prepare the IPPF as specified under action 1.1 and thereafter implement the IPPF throughout Project implementation. Prepare the IPP prior to the carrying out of any activity that requires the preparation of such IPP. Once finalized, implement the respective IPP throughout Project implementation.	MoWSI
ESS 8: CULTURAL HERITAGE			
8.1	CULTURAL HERITAGE RISKS AND IMPACTS Assess the cultural heritage risks and impacts of each proposed subproject, and as relevant, prepare and implement a Cultural Heritage Management Plan (CHMP) as part of the ESMP, in accordance with the guidelines of the ESIA prepared for each subproject, and consistent with ESS8.	Prepare the CHMP as specified under action 1.1 and thereafter implement the CHMP throughout Project implementation.	MoWSI
8.2	CHANCE FINDS Describe and implement the chance finds procedures, as part of the ESMF and subproject ESMPs	Describe the chance find procedures in the ESMF and ESMPs. Implement the procedures throughout Project implementation.	MoWSI
ESS 9: FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES [This standard is only relevant for Projects involving Financial Intermediaries (FIs)]			
9.1	ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (ESMS) i. Develop, maintain, and implement an Environmental and Social Management System (ESMS) to identify, assess, manage, and monitor the environmental and social risks and impacts of activities that receive financing from the Project. ii. Establish and maintain an External Communication Mechanism	Prepare and disclose the ESMS and the External Communication Mechanism before receipt of Project financing	Each Financial Intermediary (FI) receiving support from the Project
ESS 10: STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION DISCLOSURE			
10.1	STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN Prepare 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.	Prepare and disclose the SEP prior to Project Readiness Review and thereafter implement the SEP throughout Project implementation.	MoWSI

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
10.2	PROJECT GRIEVANCE MECHANISM 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. 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.	Establish the grievance mechanism prior to Project Effectiveness and thereafter maintain and operate the mechanism throughout Project implementation.	MoWSI
INDICATORS FOR IMPLEMENTATION READINESS			
The following actions are indicators for implementation readiness: A -Recruitment and maintenance of E&S risk management team including Environmental Specialists and Social Specialists in the NPCU and other implementing entities, 1.1 -ESMF with all its annexes prepared duly consulted and disclosed by Project Effectiveness; -RPF, IPPF prepared duly consulted and disclosed by Project Effectiveness -ESMP and other E&S risk management instruments prescribed by the project ESMF prepared, consulted and disclosed prior to start of subprojects/ site-specific activities 10.1. - SEP prepared, duly consulted and disclosed by Readiness Review. 10.2. - GRM established and effective by Project Effectiveness.			