

**The Government of Guinea Bissau
Ministry of Health**

**The Guinea Bissau: COVID-19 EMERGENCY
RESPONSE PROJECT (P174243)**

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

June 29, 2020

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL COMMITMENT PLAN

1. The Republic of Guinea Bissau (hereinafter the Recipient) will implement the Guinea Bissau Covid-19 Emergency Response Project (the **Project**), with the involvement of the Ministry of Public Health (MINSAP). The International Development Association (hereinafter the Association) has agreed to provide financing for the Project.
2. The Recipient will 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 Ministry referenced in 1. above.
4. Implementation of the material measures and actions set out in this ESCP will 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 will 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 will agree to the changes with the Association and will update the ESCP to reflect such changes. Agreement on changes to the ESCP will be documented through the exchange of letters signed between the Association and the Recipient. The Recipient will 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, stakeholder engagement activities and grievances log.	Biannually throughout Project implementation.	Ministry of Public Health
ESS 1: ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RISKS AND IMPACTS			
1.1	ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE: The project will be implemented by the existing PIU in the Ministry of Public Health, responsible for the Maternal Health and REDISSE projects. The Safeguards Specialist of this PIU will also support the management of environmental and social risks and impacts of this Project. Alternative implementation arrangements in procurement and payment of incentives for staff will be arranged with United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and health sector non-governmental organization NGO Entraide Médicale Internationale (EMI). These partners will be required to comply with the Environmental and Social Commitment Plan (ESCP) and it's related ESF instruments.	Throughout Project implementation	Ministry of Public Health
1.2	ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL ASSESSMENT/MANAGEMENT PLANS AND INSTRUMENTS/ CONTRACTORS a. Assess the environmental and social risks and impacts of proposed Project activities in accordance with Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) to be prepared, disclosed and adopted for the Project, 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. b. Prepare, disclose, adopt, and implement any environmental and social management plans or other instruments required for the respective Project activities based on the assessment process, in accordance with the ESSs, the ESMF, the EHSs, and other relevant Good International Industry Practice (GIIP) including the WHO COVID-19 quarantine guidelines and COVID-19 biosafety guidelines, in a manner acceptable to the Association. c. Incorporate the relevant aspects of this ESCP, including, inter alia, any environmental and social management plans 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.	a. ESMF, acceptable to the Bank, to be adopted within 60 days of the Effective Date. Activities that have any potential environmental and social risks and impacts and that require screening under the ESMF will not be initiated within this period. Assessment to be conducted before the carrying out of the relevant Project activities. b. Before the carrying out of the relevant Project activities, and thereafter throughout the carrying out of such activities. c. Before launching the procurement process for the relevant Project activities, and thereafter throughout the carrying out of such activities.	Ministry of Public Health

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
1.3	<p>EXCLUSIONS: the following types of activities as ineligible for financing under the Project:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Activities causing long-term, permanent and/or irreversible damage in the environment (e.g. loss, degradation and fragmentation of habitats) • Activities that have high probability of causing serious adverse effects to human health and/or the environment not related to treatment of COVID-19 cases • Activities that may give rise to social conflicts • Activities that involve involuntarily permanent resettlement, land acquisition/use restriction and adverse impacts on cultural heritage. • All the other excluded activities set out in the ESMF of the Project. 	Throughout Project implementation	Ministry of Public Health
ESS 2: LABOR AND WORKING CONDITIONS			
2.1	<p>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.</p> <p>The Recipient shall adopt and implement Labor Management Procedures (LMP) incorporating the relevant requirements of ESS2.</p> <p>The Recipient will ensure that specific prohibitions will be enacted in the deployment of security personnel for the construction or other relevant activities, including no child labor and no forced labor.</p>	The LMP as part of the ESMF shall be approved and disclosed not later than 60 days after the Effective Date. The LMP and all measures specified in this action 2.1 shall be implemented throughout Project implementation.	Ministry of Public Health
2.2	<p>GRIEVANCE MECHANISM FOR PROJECT WORKERS:</p> <p>Set up, maintain and operate a grievance mechanism for project workers, as described in the LMP and in accordance with ESS2, with focal points to deal with these grievances established within the Ministry of Health.</p>	Adopt, implement and update the grievance redress mechanism throughout the implementation of the Project.	Ministry of Public Health

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS	TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
2.3 OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY (OHS) MEASURES Adopt, implement and update occupational health and safety (OHS) measures in accordance with the WHO guidelines on COVID-19, including measures to address the risks of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse/Sexual Harassment (SEA/SH), in a manner consistent with ESS2 and acceptable to the Association.	All the measures specified under action 2.2 will be implemented throughout the Project implementation period.	Ministry of Public Health
2.4 CHILD LABOR AND MINIMUM AGE Prohibit child labor (any person under the age of 18) due to the hazardous work situation.	Throughout Project implementation.	Ministry of Public Health
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		
	<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 SEA/SH.</p> <p>The Recipient will ensure that any security personnel engaged in the implementation of activities supported under the Project (i) have been screened to confirm that they have not engaged in past unlawful or abusive behavior, including SEA, SH or excessive use of force; (ii) adequately instructed and trained, on a regular basis, on the use of force and appropriate behavior and conduct (including in relation to SEA and SH); (iii) deployed in a manner consistent with applicable national law; and (iv) will follow strict rules of engagement, code of conduct, and avoid any escalation. The ESMF will provide guidance regarding how these measures will be integrated.</p> <p>The Recipient will put measures in place to prevent or minimize the spread of the infectious disease/COVID-19 to the community.</p> <p>The Recipient will implement emergency preparedness measures in case of laboratory accidents/ emergencies e.g. a fire response or natural phenomena event.</p> <p>The Recipient will operate quarantine and isolation centers in line with WHO guidelines on “Key considerations for repatriation and quarantine of travelers in relation to the outbreak of novel coronavirus 2019-nCoV” as well as the Africa CDC guideline on “Africa CDC Guidance for Assessment, Monitoring, and Movement Restrictions of People at Risk for COVID-19 in Africa”, in a manner consistent with ESS4.</p> <p>The Recipient will ensure the avoidance of any form of SEA/SH by relying on the WHO Code of Ethics and Professional conduct for all workers in the quarantine facilities as well as the provision of gender-sensitive infrastructure such as segregated toilets and enough light in quarantine and isolation centers.</p>	
ESS 5: LAND ACQUISITION, RESTRICTIONS ON LAND USE AND INVOLUNTARY RESETTLEMENT		

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
	All eventual construction will be undertaken within existing facilities and thus at this point ESS5 is not considered relevant. In case land acquisition leading to economic or physical displacement would be necessary, resettlement action plans would be developed and implemented in accordance with the requirements of ESS5 to the satisfaction of the Association.	Throughout Project implementation	Ministry of Public Health
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			
	Relevant aspects of this standard shall be considered, as needed, under action 1.2 above.		
ESS 9: FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES			
	Not relevant		
ESS 10: STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION DISCLOSURE			
10.1	STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN: Prepare, disclose, adopt, and implement a Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) consistent with ESS10, in a manner acceptable to the Association.	A draft SEP was already prepared and disclosed and shall be updated no later than 60 days following the Effective Date. The SEP shall be implemented throughout Project implementation.	Ministry of Public Health
10.2	GRIEVANCE MECHANISM: Using the existing health sector grievance redress mechanism (GRM), 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, in a manner acceptable to the Association.	Throughout Project implementation.	Ministry of Public Health
CAPACITY SUPPORT (TRAINING)			

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS	TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
<p>Training topics for PIU and personnel involved in Project implementation will among others include:</p> <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 • WHO and Africa CDC guidelines on quarantine including case management • Training on the prevention of SEA/SH and awareness of child protection protocols, on Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs) and other communicable diseases, including to security personnel. 	<p>Throughout Project implementation</p>	<p>Ministry of Public Health</p>