

Republic of Niger

Niger COVID-19 Response Project

ENVIRONMENTAL and SOCIAL COMMITMENT PLAN (ESCP)

April 1, 2020

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL COMMITMENT PLAN

1. The Republic of Niger (hereinafter the Recipient) will implement the Niger COVID-19 Response Project (the **Project**), through the involvement Ministry of Health. 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 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 and between 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 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 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, stakeholder engagement activities and grievance log.	Quarterly throughout Project implementation period.	Ministry of Health
ESS 1: ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RISKS AND IMPACTS			
1.1	ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE: The PIU for REDISSE 3 will also serve as the PIU for the COVID-19 Emergency Response Project. The Coordinator and the environmental and social specialists already hired by the PIU will act as the Coordinator and environmental and social specialists for this Project.	The environmental specialist and social specialist in the PIU for REDISSE 3 will be retained throughout Project implementation. Additional specialists needed especially for the implementation of the SEP will be contracted no later than 30 days after Project effectiveness.	Ministry of Health/PIU

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS	TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
<p>1.2 ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL ASSESSMENT/MANAGEMENT PLANS AND INSTRUMENTS/ CONTRACTORS</p> <p>a. The ESMF approved for REDISSE 3 will be updated to include an Infection Control and Medical Waste Management Plan (ICMWMP), a community health and safety plan and GBV risk assessment guidance, in accordance with the ESSs and other relevant Good International Industry Practice (GIIP) including the WHO guidelines related to COVID-19, in a manner acceptable to the Association.</p> <p>b. 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.</p> <p>c. Update ICMWMP and other instruments such as the SEP with new COVID 19 guidance by WHO and the World Bank as it becomes available. This includes any new guidance or procedures related to community engagement, consultation and participation.</p>	<p>a. Updated ESMF to be finalized and disclosed no later than 30 days after effectiveness. The already approved ESMF for the REDISSE 3 project will be used to guide assessment and management of risks for the time period between approval of this Project and Project effectiveness. All required assessments to be conducted prior to the carrying out of the respective Project activity.</p> <p>b. Before launching the procurement process for the relevant Project activities, and thereafter throughout the carrying out of such activities during Project implementation.</p> <p>c. Throughout Project implementation.</p>	<p>Ministry of Health/PIU</p>

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS	TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
<p>1.3 EXCLUSIONS: Exclude the following type of activities as ineligible for financing under the Project:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Activities that may cause long term, permanent and/or irreversible adverse impacts (e.g. loss of major natural habitat); • Activities that have high probability of causing serious adverse effects to human health and/or the environment not related to treatment of COVID19 cases; • Activities that may have significant adverse social impacts and may give rise to significant social conflict; • Activities that may affect lands or rights of indigenous people or other vulnerable minorities; • Activities that may involve temporary or permanent resettlement or land acquisition, economic displacement or adverse impacts on cultural heritage; • Activities that would require Free, Prior, Informed Consent (FPIC) for Indigenous peoples; and • All the other excluded activities set out in the ESMF and PIM for the Project. 	<p>During the assessment process conducted under action 1.2.a. above.</p>	<p>Ministry of Health/PIU</p>
<p>ESS 2: LABOR AND WORKING CONDITIONS</p>		
<p>2.1</p> <p>a. 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>b. Labor Management Procedures (LMP) will be developed and implemented throughout Project implementation.</p>	<p>a. Throughout Project implementation.</p> <p>b. LMP to be prepared before engaging project workers in Project activities, and to be updated and revised periodically as necessary and implemented throughout Project implementation.</p>	<p>Ministry of Health/PIU</p>
<p>ESS 3: RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT</p>		
<p>Relevant aspects of this standard shall be considered, as needed, under action 1.2 above, including, inter alia, measures to manage health care waste and other types of hazardous and non-hazardous wastes. An ICMWMP will be included in the updated ESMF.</p>		

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
ESS 4: COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY			
4.1	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; and prevent and respond to sexual exploitation and abuse, and sexual harassment (SEA/H).	A Community Health and Safety Plan (CHSP) will be included in the updated ESMF and updated as needed during Project implementation. The updated ESMF will also include guidance regarding the assessment of SEA/H risks and mitigation measures and the procedures for a Security Risk Assessment (SRA) if needed.	Ministry of Health/PIU
ESS 5: LAND ACQUISITION, RESTRICTIONS ON LAND USE AND INVOLUNTARY RESETTLEMENT			
Relevant aspects of this standard shall be considered, as needed, under action 1.2 above.			
ESS 6: BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF LIVING NATURAL RESOURCES			
Relevant aspects of this standard shall be considered, as needed, under action 1.2 above.			
ESS 7: INDIGENOUS PEOPLES/SUB-SAHARAN AFRICAN HISTORICALLY UNDERSERVED TRADITIONAL LOCAL COMMUNITIES			
Relevant aspects of this standard shall be considered, as needed, under action 1.2 above.			
ESS 8: CULTURAL HERITAGE			
Relevant aspects of this standard shall be considered, as needed such as for chance finds, under action 1.2 above.			
ESS 9: FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES			
Not currently 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, and in line with WHO provisions entitled, “Risk communication and community engagement (RCCE) readiness and response to the 2019 novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV)” dated January 26, 2020 in a manner acceptable to the Association.	A draft SEP has already been prepared and disclosed. It shall be updated, disclosed and adopted no later than two (2) months after Project effectiveness. The updated SEP will include adaptations required for use in refugee camps in Tillaberi and Diffa regions. The SEP shall be implemented throughout Project implementation.	Ministry of Health/PIU
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, in a manner acceptable to the Association. The REDISSE GRM will be used for this project and strengthened as needed.	The REDISSE GRM will be maintained throughout Project implementation and strengthened.	Ministry of Health/PIU
CAPACITY SUPPORT & TRAINING			

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS	TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
<p>Provide training to health workers and surface technicians regarding environmental risks and waste management.</p> <p>Provide training to staff of health delivery facilities regarding the adequate use of personal protection equipment and diagnosis, care and notification of positive COVID-19 cases.</p> <p>All personnel involved in project implementation, including temporary workers will be required to attend training sessions on SEA/SH.</p>	<p>A comprehensive training plan will be prepared within 30 days of Project effectiveness. It will be implemented immediately and throughout Project implementation.</p>	<p>Ministry of Health/PIU</p>