



# Concept Environmental and Social Review Summary

## Concept Stage

### **(ESRS Concept Stage)**

Date Prepared/Updated: 11/04/2022 | Report No: ESRSC03088



**BASIC INFORMATION**

**A. Basic Project Data**

Country	Region	Project ID	Parent Project ID (if any)
Dominican Republic	LATIN AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN	P179751	
Project Name	SPF: Dominican Republic Multisectoral Response to Migratory Flows		
Practice Area (Lead)	Financing Instrument	Estimated Appraisal Date	Estimated Board Date
Social Sustainability and Inclusion	Investment Project Financing		1/31/2023
Borrower(s)	Implementing Agency(ies)		
Dominican Republic	Ministry of Economy, Planning, and Development (MEPYD), National Institute of Migration (INM), General Directorate of Communication (DIECOM), Supérate Mujer Program, National Office of Statistics (ONE), Ministry of Woman, General Directorate of Migration (DGM), Single System of Beneficiaries (SIUBEN)		

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**Proposed Development Objective**

To improve the institutional, statistical, planning, and coordination capacities to inform policy dialogue towards a multi-sectoral and inclusive response to migratory flows in the Dominican Republic.

Financing (in USD Million)	Amount
<b>Total Project Cost</b>	<b>4.60</b>

**B. Is the project being prepared in a Situation of Urgent Need of Assistance or Capacity Constraints, as per Bank IPF Policy, para. 12?**



No

**C. Summary Description of Proposed Project [including overview of Country, Sectoral & Institutional Contexts and Relationship to CPF]**

The project’s objective is to improve the institutional, statistical, planning, and coordination capacities to inform policy dialogue towards a multisectoral and inclusive response to migratory flows in the Dominican Republic. The proposal is structured around four pillars: (1) Strengthening statistical capacity, (2) Strengthening of multisectoral institutional, planning, and coordination capacities, (3) Investments for improved support to vulnerable migrant populations, and (4) Project Management and Supervision.

The proposal is structured around four pillars:

**Pillar 1. Strengthening statistical capacity.** Component 1.1. Periodic Demand Estimation Program of Foreign-born Labor Force. Since 2021, the national government has been supporting large regularization efforts of Haitian immigrants and initiatives to reduce discrimination and exploitation risks, primarily through a structured dialogue with the private sector, and national and local authorities in order to design a more systematic way to estimate immigrant workers’ demands and provide safer legal pathways to migrant workers, particularly those coming from Haiti. Under this broader public-private framework, this component will support hiring experts and consultants to implement quantitative and qualitative methods to estimate the demand and supply of foreign labor needs (e.g., business surveys and interviews with key stakeholders), specifically in the Agriculture (rice, bananas, and beans), Construction, and Tourism sectors, which have the highest representation of the foreign labor force in the country (54.4%; 53.2%, and 17.5%, respectively). Component 1.2. Strengthening the Administrative Records Program within the National System of Migratory Statistics. Based on the findings of the 2019 diagnostic report on the main migratory statistical operations in the country, this component contributes to reducing the gaps in data coverage, level of disaggregation, lack of harmonized classification systems, and the comparability and interoperability of the data collected by different institutions linked to migration management (e.g., MIREX, DGM, Ministry of the Interior and Police, among others). Complementing data from studies and surveys, this component includes: (i) supporting the collection of primary data to calculate the sector's indicators, including social, welfare, health, and education indicators; (ii) expanding the diagnostic of administrative records carried out in 2019 to cover other government institutions that fulfill statistical operations related to migration, such as Social Protection, Health and, Education; (iii) disseminating the key findings and the improvement plan to strengthen administrative records; and (iv) implementing a rapid improvements plan to improve databases structures, conceptual harmonization of variables, acquisition of electronic equipment, and identification of opportunities for the expansion of the Social Protection and Health databases, based on best international practices. Component 1.3. National Immigrant Survey (ENI). Building on the 2012 and 2017 rounds, the ENI 2023 aims to generate relevant information to better design and target public policies and investments that support migrant and host populations in the country. The ENI is the main data source on the immigrant population, and it is a national and regional reference and a systematic way of evaluating the contributions that the migrant population makes to the Dominican economy and society, the transformations they have experienced in recent years, and the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. Activities under this component will include: (i) hiring incremental fieldwork staff, supervisors, and technical support; (ii) data processing and related consulting services; and (iii) support for fieldwork implementation. Component 1.4. Single Social Beneficiaries System (SIUBEN). The objective of this component is to implement improvements in the registry of the migrant population in conditions of vulnerability and pilot a migration module in SIUBEN. Under the principle of non-discrimination, this component will support: (i) adapting the questionnaire and methodological approaches to minimize non-response rates and the

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low representativeness of Haitian households in SIUBEN (including hiring a field team of Haitian origin); (ii) installing an open-source platform to register households that lack identity documents; (iii) pilot a self-registration module for Venezuelan migrants; (iv) strengthening the interoperability of migratory registries with the General Directorate of Migration (DGM), emergency response registries, and the single registry of beneficiaries; (v) implement an interoperability pilot with educational centers with a high migrant population (and potentially the non-contributive health insurance); and (vi) develop dashboards and web mapping. Component 1.5. Strengthening DGM's protocols and procedures for safe and people-centered migration management (DGM). This component will finance the following activities aimed at protecting migrants and promoting peaceful coexistence between host and migrant communities: (i) strengthening technical capacity of the DGM for managing irregular migration, human trafficking and smuggling, with a focus on the protection of migrants rights, improving response protocols in control border points; (ii) establish clear and context-sensitive (i.e. language, age, sociodemographic considerations) communication channels that increase social cohesion between government and migrants; (iii) improving biometric data collection processes and data privacy procedures (compliant with ISO-9001: 2015).

Pillar 2. Strengthening of multisectoral institutional, planning, and coordination capacities. Component 2.1. National Social Cohesion Strategy (NSCS) between migrants and host communities. For the preparation and dissemination of the strategy, this component will support three activities: (i) technical consultants and experts for the preparation and dissemination of the NSCS, focusing on the prevention of interpersonal conflicts and violence between host populations and migrants; (ii) design and implementation of a pilot Social Cohesion Laboratory to monitor narratives about migration in social networks, the media and public debates; and (iii) conducting a survey to study perceptions, attitudes, behaviors, and practices on social cohesion to understand the origins of common narratives in host and migrant populations. Component 2.2. Strengthening of the legal and institutional framework for migration management. This component will support technical consultancies to: (i) carry out a comprehensive regulatory and institutional framework review and provide policy recommendations; (ii) provide technical support to the congressional and Executive's technical commissions (e.g., National Migration Council, National Climate Change Council, National Interior and Police Commissions of both chambers of the National Congress, Inter-institutional Commission to Combat Trafficking in Persons and Illicit Smuggling of Migrants, CITIM); (iii) carry out international seminars and knowledge exchanges with civil society participation; and (iv) awareness-raising and sensitization activities among civil society, private sector, and civil servants.

Pillar 3. Investments for improved support to vulnerable migrant populations. Component 3.1. Pilot Tool for the Continuous Measurement of Binational Markets. It will support the following activities: (i) produce recurring data on the flow of users in 2 of the 19 binational markets between Haiti and the Dominican Republic (Dajabón and Pedernales binational markets); (ii) document user profiles (migrants and nationals) in the two selected binational markets; and (iii) help inform policies to respond to human mobility situations at the national, regional and local levels. Component 3.2. Prevention and Response to Gender Based Violence (GBV) among migrant women and support for the implementation of the 2022-2024 National Plan Against Migrant Smuggling and Human Trafficking. The objective of this component is to strengthen response protocols and services to care for migrant women, regardless of their legal migratory status, who are victims of gender-based violence, human trafficking, and smuggling. The component will support (i) the training of technical personnel at the Provincial and Municipal Offices for Women (OPMO/WMO) in Bateyes and 2-3 selected border areas, particularly on human trafficking identification and responses; (ii) acquiring basic equipment to improve the physical conditions of OPMO/WMP shelters specialized in human smuggling and trafficking; and (iii) strengthening the Ministry of Women's campaign "Living without violence, it is possible", by supporting its translation into Haitian Creole, and the preparation of brochures and promotional



materials in traditional and digital media. Component 3.3. Strengthening care for women migrants in the “Supérate Mujer Program”. The objective of this component is to provide technical support and articulate interventions for eligible women and girls survivors of GBV (eligibility conditions are being finalized, and it is expected that these will include having a valid identity document), as well as to cover social protection gaps in households that host children and adolescents orphaned because of femicides. This component will support the following activities: (i) provide eligible beneficiaries with information about their rights to access social benefits; (ii) access to specialized training on economic and financial inclusion; (iii) assess eligibility for the National Happy Family Housing Plan and to other cash transfer programs such as the 'Women's Bonus' granted by the Ministry of Women.

Pillar 4. Support for the management and execution of projects.

#### D. Environmental and Social Overview

D.1. Detailed project location(s) and salient physical characteristics relevant to the E&S assessment [geographic, environmental, social]

The foreign-born population in the DR 570,933 people (5.6% of the total population of the country). The largest migrant groups are those coming from Haiti (87.2%) and Venezuela (5%). The DR has a permanent immigration policy that is selective, favoring qualified immigration, investors, and retirees based on national needs. It also has clear mechanisms to facilitate temporal workers agreements, and transition across migratory status. However, easing foreign labor market frictions, managing migration flows, and strengthening conditions for the social and economic integration of migrants remain challenges that can transform into development opportunities.

The proposed grant responds to the need to mobilize technical and financial resources to provide international assistance to the DR in its response to migratory flows. The number of Venezuelan migrants doubled in the last 6 years, while the Haitian population grew by 8.6% from 2012 to 2017. First, the speed and magnitude of these human flows are stretching the social fabric, with the country experiencing greater conflicts between host communities and migrants, especially Haitians. Second, both immigrant populations are fleeing their home countries following outbreaks of conflict, violence, poverty, and political instability. Consequently, the DR receives people in increasingly vulnerable conditions (refugees, asylum seekers, stateless people of Haitian origin or descent, forcibly displaced persons, and unaccompanied migrant children), as well as people who, due to their degree of social and economic vulnerability, cannot apply for a visa, residence permit, documentation or even some of the humanitarian statutes, harming their regularization. Sexual and gender-identity minorities are estimated to be overrepresented among the poor and migrant populations, according to the 2020 LGBTQI National Survey.

Dominican firms demand foreign workers. This demand is projected to remain stable or increase slightly by 2023. Agriculture, where 54.4% of total labor force is composed by immigrants is still the sector with the largest demand for immigrants' workers. Nevertheless, other sectors have grown their demand for foreign-born workers as immigrants increasingly settle in urban areas. For example, 53.2% of construction workers are immigrants, as Dominican workers self-exclude from these jobs due to (i) having access to social protection benefits that raise their reservation wage for this type of jobs; and (ii) cultural factors that inhibit the participation of the Dominican labor force in this sector. On other sectors like Tourism and Retail trade, immigrant workers represent 17.5 percent and 14.4% of the total labor force, respectively. On the other hand, Dominican households' home and abroad (23% of all Dominican nationals) have benefitted from migration and remittances flows. In 2020, remittances were at a historical high, growing by 12%



points from 2019 and reaching 10.6% of GDP. In this same year, remittances triplicated the FDI inflows and proved one of the most resilient financial flows during the COVID-19 pandemic, as migrants abroad sent USD 8.3 billion to 400,000 Dominican families during the pandemic.

The COVID-19 pandemic has significantly impacted the DR’s economy, causing a sharp contraction in the second quarter of 2020 across critical sectors such as tourism, construction, and mining. The COVID-19 pandemic has pushed the DR into its first recession in nearly 25 years. GDP is estimated to have contracted 6.7% in 2020 and remains below its potential in 2021 and (forecasted) 2022. As a result of the pandemic, unemployment has increased, affecting more women than men. While employment reduced by 7.9% point among men between 2019 and 2020, the contraction among women was of 10.1%. Adverse impacts of higher unemployment on women include exacerbated burden of unpaid care work, disruptions to their health and well-being, food security and nutrition, and livelihoods.

D. 2. Borrower’s Institutional Capacity

The Ministry of Economy, Planning and Development (MEPYD) is responsible for the overall implementation of the project and will be coordinating with the different implementing agencies: National Institute of Migration, General Directorate of Communication, Supérate Mujer Program, National Office of Statistics, Ministry of Woman, General Directorate of Migration, and Single System of Beneficiaries. During project preparation, the institutional capacity of each of the implementing agencies will be assessed as well as possible coordination mechanisms that will be needed to be put in place for efficient project management, including E&S management.

A Project Coordinator will be hired to coordinate with MEPYD and specific assigned focal points in the other implementing agencies (INM, ONE, SIUBEN, DIECOM, DGM, MEPYD, Ministry of Women, Supérate Mujer Program) the overall implementation of the program, the results framework, compliance with environmental and social standards (ESS) and report progress to the WB. The coordinator will articulate with the implementing agencies and will be responsible for involving other relevant actors and institutions with competencies in migration policy, data, and investments. Currently MEPYD does not have an E&S management unit but will assign an Environmental and Social specialist in order to ensure adequate management of E&S risks, implementation, monitoring and reporting on the project’s E&S instruments. The E&S Specialist will report to the Project Coordinator. The E&S management process will be commensurate for the purposes of the Project and to comply with the requirements of the ESF. MEPYD’s assessments at initiation/concept stage show that it has limited experience overseeing World Bank-financed projects and the limited experience with ESF includes the IPF for “Modernization of the Water Sector” (a hybrid operation part of PforR, currently under preparation). Therefore, the WB team will provide support to the project Coordinator and Environmental and Social Specialist to establish a coordinated and efficient E&S management. The World Bank team will also work with and provide training and support to MEPYD for developing the project’s E&S management instruments; additional capacity building during implementation is foreseen and will be included in the ESCP.

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**II. SCREENING OF POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL (ES) RISKS AND IMPACTS**

**A. Environmental and Social Risk Classification (ESRC)** Moderate

**Environmental Risk Rating** Moderate

The environmental risk rating for the Project is considered Moderate. Project activities are not expected to generate adverse environmental risks and impacts. The Project will support the institutional, statistical, planning, and



coordination capacities of the Dominican Republic to respond to migratory flows by gathering and processing information, conducting surveys, improving databases and registries, managing dashboards and other tools, preparing policies, protocols and procedures, disseminating information, promoting financial inclusion, running pilot programs, awareness-raising and sensitization activities among civil society, private sector, and civil servants; TA for the strengthening of the legal, institutional frameworks, and policy development; and other technical assistance activities. The Project will not finance any type of civil works. Key environmental risks and impacts are related to the potential generation of e-wastes from the replacement of electronics to be procured. Thus, to ensure proper management of these types of waste, an E-Waste Management Plan to be prepared during implementation will be adopted and implemented as deemed necessary.

**Social Risk Rating**

Moderate

Social risk is considered Moderate. The grant may face difficulties for implementation, given negative perceptions towards migrants, especially from Haiti, and effort to support this population could exacerbate this trend. To mitigate this risk, the grant will develop sensitization, awareness, and communications campaigns. Another risk, particularly under Pilar 3, is the potential of social conflict between migrants and host communities that currently do not receive any type of social assistance and the Grants intention to assess eligibility for the National Happy Family Housing Plan and to other cash transfer programs such as the "Women's Bonus" granted by the Ministry of Women. As mitigation measure, care will be taken to guarantee the quality, transparency, and effectiveness of the targeting process. Additionally, the Program will have adequate GRM mechanisms for beneficiaries and the community at large. This may include telephone lines, WhatsApp, and email; this will be documented in detail in the Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP). Finally, as TA involves collection and registration of data through surveys, as well as the improvement of existing databases and registries, there is the need to ensure that all required information security controls and protocols for the protection and controlled access to personal data are in place. The need for interinstitutional coordination and information security protocols will be reviewed during project preparation. Additionally, the ESCP will make reference to the information security protocols that have to be in place in each of the participating institutions that will manage data and registries within the scope of the project. The grant will fund the hiring of fieldwork staff and supervisors, experts, and consultants to implement low-risk activities related to capacity building (institutional, statistical, planning, policy development, training and knowledge exchanges, awareness-raising and sensitization activities, data collection and processing, developing of dashboards and web mapping, and TA to improve biometric data collection processes and data privacy procedures). All capacity building TA, awareness raising, training, and knowledge sharing activities will be designed considering the principles of the relevant Environmental and Social Standards (ESS), especially ESS1, 2, 4, and 10. The carrying out of surveys and qualitative and quantitative data collection implies community engagement which could infer a certain risk of sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA)/sexual harassment (SH) or misconduct. These activities will be designed considering the principles of the relevant ESS, especially ESS 2 and 4. The grant will help advance complementary efforts to improve the institutional, statistical, planning and coordination capacities to inform national policies towards a multisectoral and inclusive response to migratory flows in the Dominican Republic. Expected positive social impact includes the support of the government's intend to modernize policies and regulations that allow for safe, orderly, regular, and responsible migration while reducing risks of interpersonal violence and conflict between Dominicans and Haitians living in the Dominican Republic. It is also expected to have a positive impact on the economic inclusion of migrant women, strengthening services for migrant women and survivors of smuggling and human trafficking, expanding service accessibility assessments, data recording and information management for women victims of GBV, and awareness campaigns.

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## B. Environment and Social Standards (ESSs) that Apply to the Activities Being Considered

### B.1. General Assessment

#### ESS1 Assessment and Management of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts

##### **Overview of the relevance of the Standard for the Project:**

This standard is relevant, although the project's components are not expected to result in significant negative environmental or social impacts. Some equipment will be purchased, including electronic equipment (for the functioning of the PMU and under component 1.2) that might generate e-waste and basic equipment to improve the physical conditions of shelters specialized in prevention of human smuggling and trafficking (component 3.2). However, most activities to be financed will fall under "Type 3: Strengthening Borrower Capacity" technical assistance (TA) and the project will neither finance nor support any civil works activities, therefore, a specific Environmental and Social Assessment is not needed for the TA activities. TA activities will consist of institutional, statistical, planning, and coordination capacity building, data collection and processing, training services, events, and awareness raising. During project preparation a better idea can be formed of the project boundaries, this will be discussed with MEPYD and the different implementing agencies, so that potential downstream risks can also be properly assessed and mitigated.

The terms of reference (ToRs), work plans or other documents defining the scope and outputs of the project's TA activities, including training materials, knowledge exchanges and analytical work will be prepared so that the advice and other support provided is consistent with ESS1-10, out of which ESS1, 2, 3, 4, and 10 are deemed to be relevant to the project as per its initial design. Activities implemented by MEPyD following the completion of the project that are not financed by the World Bank, or activities that are not directly related to the TA provided under the project, will not be subject to the World Bank ESSs.

The project will prepare a stand-alone E&S screening checklist (to also be included in the Project's Operation Manual) to ensure that activities under all Pillars are consistent with the ESF and in alignment with the principles of the relevant ESSs. To ensure a proper management of the potential E-waste generated, the project will need adopt and implement an E-waste Management Plan which will be developed no later than 60 days after the Project Effectiveness date. During project implementation, any E&S impacts will be managed by: (i) conducting screening to ensure that activities under all Pillars are consistent with the ESF and in alignment with the principles of the relevant ESSs; (ii) ensuring that activities are widely consulted on with the key stakeholders and enjoy broad support of their main beneficiaries; and (iii) promoting transparency and public information disclosure. Importantly, in line with the overall capacity building nature of the project, responsible personnel in MEPyD will be trained to consider any E&S implications in the design and implementation of the project activities.

##### **Areas where "Use of Borrower Framework" is being considered:**

None.

#### ESS10 Stakeholder Engagement and Information Disclosure

ESS10 is relevant. The prioritized activities were identified during two cycles of consultations led by the Ministry of Economy, Planning, and Development (MEPyD), and selected in line with the National Development Strategy 2030 (END 2030, Law No. 1-12, Objective 2.3.7) and the Multiannual Plan for the Public Sector 2021-2024 (PNPSP,





Prioritized Policy No. 28), which establish the priority lines of action for the ordering of migratory flows and the management of human mobility. During preparation further consultations with interested parties (affected, vulnerable, and other) will be carried out by MEPYD and the National Institute of Migration (INM). The INM has experience with previous consultations on migratory topics and their database of stakeholders, including companies belonging to the sectors of the Dominican economy that require foreign labor, immigrants, immigrant associations, NGOs that work with the migrant population, academics and researchers who are experts in the field of migration, as well as government actors involved in migratory issues, is an important input for ensuring a meaningful consultation.

The Client will prepare, consult and disclose a draft SEP prior to Appraisal. The Client will update, consult, publish and adopt a final SEP within 60 days after Project Effectiveness. The SEP will be updated as needed during the project lifecycle. The draft SEP will include the mapping of relevant stakeholders, and a plan for consultations with them during preparation and implementation, including potential Project beneficiaries (especially migrants, migrant women, survivors of GBV, smuggling and human trafficking, and children), relevant implementing agencies and government institutions at the central and local levels, skills and labor training providers, and civil society organizations that represent identified vulnerable groups. Based on consultations, the draft SEP will include measures to address any gaps or challenges faced by the vulnerable groups or other people belonging to the target population to access to the project benefits.

The draft SEP will also include a stakeholder engagement strategy to be conducted throughout the project preparation and implementation. This strategy will consider relevant channels and mechanisms to ensure an effective disclosure of information, and other actions to promote beneficiary feedback. The project design considers already several stakeholders engagement activities, including workshops, knowledge exchanges, amongst others. Activities and work plans will be discussed and agreed upon with the implementing agencies to ensure they address their specific needs, and mechanisms will be put in place to ensure the engagement of women and youth in the planning and execution of the project activities. If considered necessary, the Client can assess the need for specific methods for stakeholder engagement or consultations for vulnerable groups and propose additional means such as gatherings or meetings with small focus groups. All public gatherings will be designed taking into account relevant WB and local public health requirements in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Client already has a well established GRM which can be adapted in order to address and respond to project related grievances. The Client's GRM allows for anonymous grievances. One of the adaptation necessary is in the registration forms, where claimants would have to indicate when a grievance is project related so these can be addressed by the project as described in the draft SEP and tracked for later reporting. The draft SEP includes training of MEPYD personnel in charge of the overall GRM as a measure for them to know how to identify and channel project related grievances and how to deal adequately with GBV and SEA/SH related grievances in accordance with the ESF. The project's GRM will be available to all project stakeholders, and will be designed to guarantee confidentiality, accessibility, and translations to indigenous languages where necessary. The description of the GRM in the SEP will cover their operational principles, processing responsibilities, internal administration, and the frequency of periodic monitoring reports. The GRM will establish the mechanisms to submit grievances and receive responses, timeframes to address grievances received, and will identify different levels of conflict resolution, for example when a grievance needs to be escalated as well as the appeal process in the case a complainant is not satisfied with the response provided. The project GRM will include specific considerations for addressing Gender Based-Violence (GBV) or Sexual



Exploitation and Abuse & Sexual Harassment (SEA/SH) complaints, which include measures to ensure confidentiality and development of a database of service providers for case referrals.

## **B.2. Specific Risks and Impacts**

**A brief description of the potential environmental and social risks and impacts relevant to the Project.**

### **ESS2 Labor and Working Conditions**

ESS2 is relevant. The project activities will involve contracted field staff and supervisors, experts, and consultants, including trainers and facilitators. In accordance with ESS2, the Client will develop, publish, and adopt a stand-alone Labor Management Procedures (LMP) within two months (sixty days) after the Project's Effectiveness.

Although labor considerations will be limited to the standard aspects considering worker wellbeing and health and safety, the LMP will include a code of conduct acceptable to the World Bank to mitigate the risk of sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA)/sexual harassment (SH) or misconduct in the workplace or when engaging with communities. There is no risk of potential forced or child labor use in this project. The LMP will assess national labor-related laws related to public service and related human resource policies, labor law, and institutional roles related to enforcement of the laws, including recruitment, discipline, appraisals, and dismissals and identify any gaps that may exist with ESS2 requirements and define measures to overcome such gaps. Separate GRMs for work-related grievances will be provided to project staff and consultants, including necessary considerations for confidentiality and whistle-blower protection. These GRMs will be described in the LMP. The LMP will also include Occupational Health and Safety considerations in line with the WBG EHS Guidelines and national legislation to ensure health and safety of workers during the installation of equipment, management of e-waste, and throughout TA activities such as capacity building, training services, events, among others. To mitigate the risk of spread of the COVID-19 virus, the LMP will also include measures for infection control and prevention in line with national legislation and international best practices. The LMP will be applicable to direct and contracted workers of the Project. It is expected that the E&S Specialist will be a civil servant assigned by MEPYD to the project. This will be confirmed during project preparation, in which case the limited coverage of the ESS2 for this type of workers will be described in the LMP. The necessary training for project workers, including on workers' codes of conduct, will be included in the ESCP.

### **ESS3 Resource Efficiency and Pollution Prevention and Management**

ESS3 is relevant. The project may potentially generate e-wastes, which will need to be adequately managed by the Client to prevent water and soil pollution. For that reason, any equipment that may be replaced will have to be disposed of in a manner that follows specific guidelines as articulated in E-Waste Management Plan (EWMP). During implementation, within 60 days of the Project Effectiveness date, the Client will prepare and disclose an EWMP in accordance with national legislation and good international industry practices. The EWMP will be adopted and implemented as deemed necessary during implementation (if E-waste is generated as a result of the equipment replacement). Existing capacity for ensuring proper e-waste management in the Dominican Republic varies and will therefore be a key area of supervision under the project. Only reputable, legitimate, and licensed contractors will be retained for the transportation and disposal of e-wastes, but still, the Client must obtain chain of custody documentation to the final destination to ensure only licensed disposals sites are being used. In addition, for all the equipment to be procured for the project, the procurement bidding documents will specify the need to meet



certified energy standards, and this will also be outlined in the operational manual. The specific energy standard to meet will be based on the availability, cost, and utility of the item to be procured.

**ESS4 Community Health and Safety**

ESS4 is relevant. The project activities involving public gatherings and data collection in the field will be designed taking into account relevant WB and local public health requirements in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic. Labor influx risks related to community health and safety, hiring of security forces are not issues in the project. The project will ensure that measures and criteria are in place to reduce the risk of gender based violence (GBV) and/or sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA)/sexual harassment (SH) as a part of project activities that imply community engagement (e.g., surveys, qualitative and quantitative data collection).

**ESS5 Land Acquisition, Restrictions on Land Use and Involuntary Resettlement**

ESS5 is currently not relevant. The project will not involve any physical investments having on-the-ground impacts.

**ESS6 Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Management of Living Natural Resources**

ESS6 is currently not relevant.

**ESS7 Indigenous Peoples/Sub-Saharan African Historically Underserved Traditional Local Communities**

ESS7 is currently not relevant.

**ESS8 Cultural Heritage**

ESS8 is currently not relevant.

**ESS9 Financial Intermediaries**

ESS9 is currently not relevant for the project as it will not involve participation of financial intermediaries.

**C. Legal Operational Policies that Apply**

**OP 7.50 Projects on International Waterways** No

**OP 7.60 Projects in Disputed Areas** No

**III. WORLD BANK ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL DUE DILIGENCE**

**A. Is a common approach being considered?** No

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**Financing Partners**

None

**B. Proposed Measures, Actions and Timing (Borrower’s commitments)**

**Actions to be completed prior to Bank Board Approval:**

1. MPEyD to prepare, consult, and disclose an SEP with GRM and an Environmental and Social Commitment Plan (ESCP) prior to Appraisal.

**Possible issues to be addressed in the Borrower Environmental and Social Commitment Plan (ESCP):**

1. Adequate monitoring of the overall project GRM and the labor-specific GRM.
2. Screening the project activities to ensure that activities under all Pillars are consistent with the ESF and in alignment with the principles of the relevant ESSs. The Client will develop, publish and adopt a stand-alone E&S screening checklist.
3. Information security protocols have to be in place in each of the participating institutions that will manage data and registries within the scope of the project.
4. Provide ESF-related training to project workers and stakeholders as relevant, including on workers' codes of conduct.
5. The Client will develop, publish and adopt an LMP within 60 days after Project Effectiveness.
6. The Client will update, publish and adopt a final SEP within 60 days after Project Effectiveness.
7. The Client will prepare, publish and adopt an E-Waste Management Plan (EWMP) within 60 days after Project Effectiveness.

**C. Timing**

**Tentative target date for preparing the Appraisal Stage ESRS**

30-Jan-2023

**IV. CONTACT POINTS**

**World Bank**

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**Borrower/Client/Recipient**

Borrower: Dominican Republic

**Implementing Agency(ies)**

Implementing Agency: Ministry of Economy, Planning, and Development (MEPYD)

Implementing Agency: National Institute of Migration (INM)

Implementing Agency: General Directorate of Communication (DIECOM)

Public Disclosure



Implementing Agency: Supérate Mujer Program

Implementing Agency: National Office of Statistics (ONE)

Implementing Agency: Ministry of Woman

Implementing Agency: General Directorate of Migration (DGM)

Implementing Agency: Single System of Beneficiaries (SIUBEN)

#### **V. FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT**

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#### **VI. APPROVAL**

Task Team Leader(s): Ana Isabel Aguilera De Llano

Practice Manager (ENR/Social) Genevieve Connors Recommended on 01-Nov-2022 at 19:22:51 GMT-04:00