Dominican Republic - Hurricane Fiona Emergency Response Project (P180163)

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# Project Information Document (PID)

Appraisal Stage | Date Prepared/Updated: 23-Nov-2022 | Report No: PIDA35071

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## **BASIC INFORMATION**

#### A. Basic Project Data

Country  Dominican Republic	Project ID P180163	Project Name  Dominican Republic - Hurricane Fiona Emergency Response Project	Parent Project ID (if any)
Region  LATIN AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN	Estimated Appraisal Date 25-Nov-2022	Estimated Board Date 23-Jan-2023	Practice Area (Lead) Urban, Resilience and Land
Financing Instrument Investment Project Financing	Borrower(s)  Donimican Republic	Implementing Agency Ministry of Economy, Planning and Development, Ministry of Presidency	

### Proposed Development Objective(s)

The Project Development Objectives are to support the Dominican Republic's emergency response and recovery needs and to strengthen its institutional capacity to manage risks posed by natural hazards and the effects of climate change

#### Components

Component 1. Recovery, rehabilitation, and resilient reconstruction

Component 2. Support to the Government's capacity for disaster risk preparedness, response and recovery

Component 3. Project Management and M&E

The processing of this project is applying the policy requirements exceptions for situations of urgent need of assistance or capacity constraints that are outlined in OP 10.00, paragraph 12.

Yes

## **PROJECT FINANCING DATA (US\$, Millions)**

#### **SUMMARY**

Total Project Cost	200.00
Total Financing	200.00
of which IBRD/IDA	200.00
Financing Gap	0.00

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#### **DETAILS**

#### **World Bank Group Financing**

International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD)

200.00

Environmental and Social Risk Classification

Substantial

Decision

The review did authorize the team to appraise and negotiate

Other Decision (as needed)

#### **B.** Introduction and Context

**Country Context** 

- 1. On September 19, 2022, Hurricane Fiona hit the Dominican Republic (DR) as a category 1 hurricane with strong winds of up to 150 km/h and heavy rains affecting over 1.4 million people. Hurricane Fiona is the first hurricane to directly impact the country since hurricane Jeanne in 2004. Formed as a tropical storm between September 16 and 18, Fiona crossed the Eastern Caribbean with limited impact. As the system approached Puerto Rico and the eastern coast of the DR, Fiona gained hurricane force and made landfall on the DR impacting the eastern, southeast, and northeastern provinces of La Altagracia, La Romana, San Pedro de Macoris, Santo Domingo, El Seibo, Hato Mayor, Duarte, Vega, Santiago, Samaná, Maria Trinidad Sánchez, and Monte Plata, with destructive winds and severe flood.
- 2. Hurricane Fiona generated devastating impacts and the ensuing destruction and damage of critical infrastructure and services. According to the official reports, 8,708 homes were damaged (out of which 2,638 were fully destroyed), over 43,000 people were displaced, and 2 people lost their life. More than 1 million households experienced water supply disruptions. Agriculture and public infrastructure were also severely affected. The storm caused significant damage to both the transmission network (9 high-voltage lines affected) and the electricity distribution network (93 circuits affected). The agriculture sector suffered losses of around 30,000 hectares of crop land, including cocoa, coconut, rice, and banana plantations. The direct economic damages assessment conducted by the government of the Dominican Republic (GoDR) suggests the highest impact were on public infrastructure and agriculture estimated at 36.6 percent and 36.1 percent of total damages respectively, followed by water supply (12.8 percent) and housing (11 percent), with impacts also observed in health (2.1 percent), education (1.1 percent), and energy (0.2 percent). The World Bank's preliminary estimates as of September 28¹ indicated the direct economic damages to infrastructure, buildings, and crops to be up to \$375 million.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Based on the World Bank Global Rapid Post-Disaster Damage Estimation (GRADE) for the Dominican Republic. This assessment does not include economic losses associated with service disruptions and the loss of jobs and livelihoods.

- 3. The country's vulnerability to national hazards is among the key constraints to its development. The DR's Systematic Country Diagnostic (SCD) 2018 and the World Bank Group (WBG)'s DR's Country Partnership Framework (CPF) for FY22-26<sup>2</sup> found that the country's high exposure to natural adverse events threatens its economic stability and the safety and well-being of its population. The DR is highly vulnerable to a wide range of hydrometeorological hazards (e.g., hurricanes, tropical storms, flooding, and drought) and geophysical hazards (e.g., earthquakes and landslides). The DR is classified as a country with a high risk of climate-related and other disasters from natural hazards and was ranked 32 out of 181 countries in the 2021 World Risk Index<sup>3</sup>. Floods of low to medium return period are the most recurring hazards in DR and regularly affect the country's public infrastructure and housing stock, often built in high flood risk areas. According to the Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR), 26 out of the 32 DR provinces have high exposure to river floods. Multiple sources of coastal flooding risk endanger the DR's large coastline, due to sea level rise and the occurrence of tropical storms, hurricanes, or tsunamigenic earthquakes. This high level of exposure and vulnerability also materializes in significant economic impacts. The World Bank's 2018 DR Country Disaster Risk Profile (CDRP) estimates the Annual Average Losses from earthquake- and hurricane-related disasters to the country's building stock at US\$642 million (0.89 per cent of the 2016 GDP). Analysis of climate outlook and climate projections show that powered by climate change, the DR will face hurricanes with higher intensity and higher frequency causing more intense rainfall and coastal floods. Climate and disaster shocks could exacerbate macroeconomic weaknesses and pose significant risks to the sustainability of public finances in the DR, increasing contingent liabilities and debt.
- 4. Around half of the population in the DR live in vulnerable conditions and can easily fall into poverty due to economic shocks and climate-linked impacts. Women, persons with disabilities, afro descendants, immigrants, and stateless people remain a particularly vulnerable segment of the population with lower access to resources, and jobs, and face higher risks of disaster impacts. As estimated by the World Bank DR's Poverty Assessment (FY23), 2.5 million people or one quarter of the country's population live in high-risk flood prone areas, and poor households are twice as vulnerable to flooding in the DR, especially in urban areas (30 percent versus 14 percent for the richest households). Female-headed households represent 40 percent of total households in the DR; they have higher levels of poverty and are more likely to be affected by shocks than men. Over 1.2 million Dominicans (about 12 percent of the population) have a disability with a higher prevalence of women across all age groups, according to the 2010 census. The poverty rate of households with a person with disabilities is 20 percent compared to 15 percent for those without disabilities. The condition of disability of a person and their level of dependency places them in situations of disadvantage in the context of disasters<sup>4</sup>.
- 5. The impacts of Hurricane Fiona further deepened social vulnerabilities and inequalities in the country. Seven out of the 12 provinces affected by Hurricane Fiona have the highest levels of gender inequity of the country: Hato Mayor and Samaná are on the highest gender inequality scale, and Duarte, La Altagracia, La Romana, El Seibo and Monte Plata are on a medium-high inequality range<sup>5.</sup> Reproductive health indicators show less favorable results in most of the provinces with higher gender inequality. For example, in Samaná maternal mortality reaches the highest levels of the country, more than doubling the national average, with rates of 235 to 192 maternal deaths per 100,000 births. Women are overall more likely to be affected by shocks than men due to higher economic stress, additional burden of caregiving, disruption of family ties, increase in domestic violence, limited access to and control over resources (property rights, land, financial resources), and lower representation in decision-making processes. Dominican women, especially in rural areas, have less access to resources such as land ownership, credit, training, information, technology, among others, all

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Report No. 167896-DO.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> https://www.welthungerhilfe.org/news/publications/detail/worldriskreport-

<sup>2021/#:~:</sup>text=The%20WorldRiskIndex%202021%20indicates%20the,impacted%20by%20the%20Corona%20pandemic.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Learning from Irma and María: mainstreaming protection and inclusion in Disaster Risk Reduction in the Caribbean, CLACSO

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Human Development Map of the Dominican Republic, UNDP

of which limit their ability to adapt to climate change<sup>6</sup>. Moreover, the impact of Hurricane Fiona is expected to worsen the food security situation and the nutritional status of children under the age of five years, pregnant and lactating women in the areas affected by the hurricane. According to the program Acute Malnutrition, about 18% of children have acute malnutrition and are at risk in the province of Altagracia; data from the program's surveys (May 2021) to the population in the highest levels of vulnerability estimate that around 25% of families have reduced the number of meals per day and 36% have reduced the size of the portion, also food insecurity reaches 42% and 47% of households with children and pregnant women respectively<sup>7</sup>.

#### **Situation of Urgent Need or Capacity Constraints**

6. Although the timely activation of GoDR institutions allowed for a rapid response to Hurricane Fiona, its impact stretched the capacity of local and sectoral institutions as well as emergency preparedness and response systems. On September 19, 2022, the National Congress of the DR, through Presidential Decree 537-228, declared a State of Emergency for a period of 30 days due to the impact of Hurricane Fiona. The State of Emergency declaration activated 21 ministries and institutions9, allowing for the execution of the departmental, regional, municipal, and sectoral contingency plans to respond to the consequences of the hurricane. This allowed for the application of emergency procurement procedures of goods and services to provide humanitarian relief packages, rescue, rehabilitation, and reconstruction works. The GoDR mobilized public funds for the emergency response and delivered immediate relief measures to alleviate and mitigate the impacts of Hurricane Fiona. This included the distribution of food and non-food items to the affected communities, repair of infrastructure, and provision of relief packages to mitigate the impact across sectors. Besides the significant resources that have been already consumed to respond to emergency and provide rapid relief, financial resources and technical support are still needed to address the damages caused to critical sectors and support the country in building back more resiliently.

Sectoral and Institutional Context

7. The GoDR has laid a strong foundation to incorporate disaster risk management (DRM) and climate change adaptation (CCA) into its policy and regulatory environment. The Disaster Risk Management (DRM) Law 147-02 of 2002 established the National System for Prevention and Mitigation of Disaster Risk integrating the general principles of risk reduction in the country's development planning. In 2012, the GoDR reaffirmed its commitment to reduce vulnerability to climate and disaster risks through the prioritization of DRM and CCA in the 2030 National Development Strategy (END). The 2013 National Plan for Comprehensive Disaster Risk Management (PNGIRD) operationalized selected aspects of the END and facilitated substantial progress in disaster preparedness, implementation of early warning systems and

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Gender Action Plan and Climate Change Dominican Republic (PAGCC-RD) 2018

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> United Nations Hurricane Fiona Situation Report No.2 for the DR (September 28, 2022)

<sup>8</sup> https://presidencia.gob.do/decretos/537-22

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Ministry of Public Health; Ministry of Education; Ministry of Agriculture; National Institution of Price Stabilization (INESPRE); Ministry of Public Works and Communications (MOPS); Housing Ministry; Ministry of Presidential Administration; Ministry of Tourism; National Health Service; Essential Medicine Program (PROMESE-CAL); Presidential Plan for Social Assistance; Food Service Providers for Low-Income Households (*Comedores Economicos del Estado Dominicano*); Presidential Commission for Regional Development Support; Presidential Commission for Neighborhood Development Support; National Institute of Drinking Water and Sewerage (INAPA); National Institute of Hydraulic Resources (INDRHI); Aqueducts and Sewerage Corporation of Santo Domingo (CAASD); Power Transmission Company (ETED); Power Distribution Company of the East (EDEESTE); Power Distribution Company of the North (EDENORTE); Civil Defense.

response, and management of emergency situations. In 2015, the National Climate Change Policy was adopted to promote a low-emission and climate-resilient development.

- 8. Over the recent years, the GoDR has also implemented a set of critical reforms for disaster risk reduction and emergency preparedness and response. In 2016 the GoDR started, with World Bank support<sup>10</sup>, to mainstream DRM and CCA at the sectoral level, including health, education, water resource management, public investment, construction, fiscal management, and social protection. The reforms helped address institutional gaps within the responsible ministries to understand better disaster risks and include them in planning processes, and established risk and resilience norms and standards in the national public investment system, health, and construction sectors. With World Bank support, the GoDR continued to undertake reforms to better manage risks resulting from natural and public health adverse events by strengthening disaster risk reduction in territorial planning and the housing sector, and strengthening disaster risk preparedness, response and recovery through shock-responsive social protection and fiscal risk management.
- 9. Hurricane Fiona has nevertheless revealed the remaining gaps in addressing the country's vulnerability to adverse natural events, which is exacerbated by unplanned urban growth, land degradation, and weak enforcement of building codes and zoning regulations. The impact of the hurricane's catastrophic floods could have been mitigated if public and private buildings had been established in areas less exposed, identified through local territorial planning instruments. Between 1996 and 2015, a quarter of the built-up surface in the DR was constructed near the ocean (less than three kilometers away)<sup>11</sup>. The recent Urbanization and Territorial Review <sup>12</sup> of the DR found that most municipalities lack the adequate capacities and resources to plan and manage territorial development only 2 municipalities out of 158 had an approved municipal territorial and land use plan in 2021, resulting in a significant expansion of built-up areas, including along the coastline and in flood-prone zones. Most urban growth is happening without planning instruments to guide it and without considering hazard exposure. The metro area of Santo Domingo and the provinces of Santiago and La Vega have the largest built-up surface located in flood-prone areas, with 14.3, 12.6, and 12.5 km², respectively. <sup>13</sup> Urban areas without a strong planning framework can sprawl and consume large areas of land with infrastructure needs that can be costly and inefficient to deliver.
- 10. The GoDR has made a significant step in this direction by introducing the Law on Territorial Planning, Land Use and Human Settlements that establishes principles, instruments, and criteria governing land use and territorial planning in the DR, at different political-administrative levels, following environmental, cultural, economic, social, risk management, and sustainability guidelines. It mandates the development of national, regional, and municipal territorial and land-use plans, in a risk-informed way, that is, protecting private and public infrastructure and interests from adverse natural and climate-related events, as well as preserving natural assets. Eight criteria are identified to guide territorial and land-use plans, including those supporting DRM, climate resilience, and the protection of biodiversity in the country. In the wake of Hurricane Fiona, the bill was approved by the Senate on October 12th, 2022, and submitted to the Chamber of Deputies for its final approval.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> First DRM DPL with Cat DDO (P159351, closed in FY21)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Coastline urbanization has been most pronounced in the easternmost municipality of Higüey, where 40 percent of the built-up constructed in the same period took place along the coastline, responding to the increased demand from the tourism sector.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Restrepo, Tello et alii - World Bank, 2022

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> A significant increase was also experienced in the provinces of San Cristóbal and the touristic provinces of Puerto Plata and La Altagracia.

## C. Proposed Development Objective(s)

Development Objective(s) (From PAD)

The Project Development Objectives are to support the Dominican Republic's emergency response and recovery needs and to strengthen its institutional capacity to manage risks posed by natural hazards and the effects of climate change.

**Key Results** 

The key indicators for tracking progress toward the PDO are the following:

- Affected population who have benefitted from emergency support provided by the GoDR (Number; disaggregated by sex)
- Affected population who have benefitted from resilient reconstruction and rehabilitation of critical infrastructure (Number; disaggregated by sex)
- Subnational entities supported by the Project with risk-informed and inclusive territorial planning instruments (Number)
- National Territorial Information System (SNIT) established with a risk assessment dataset, providing information to national and subnational institutions (Text)

#### **D. Project Description**

11. The proposed Project responds to the immediate and most critical reconstruction and rehabilitation needs from Hurricane Fiona, while also proactively supporting measures required to build resilience to disaster and climate risks. All interventions under the Project are designed to consider sustainable approaches and building resilience to disasters and climate change through structural strengthening of infrastructure and increasing emergency response capacity for hurricanes, flooding, and other disasters. The institutional activities developed under the Project will support the GoDR and municipalities to achieve their vision for a sustainable, resilient, and inclusive development. The Project will promote approaches to embed inclusion into emergency recovery and reconstruction efforts. The project is structured around three components:

#### Component 1: Recovery, rehabilitation, and resilient reconstruction (US\$100million)

#### Subcomponent 1.1: Emergency disaster recovery (US\$40 million)

13. This subcomponent will finance emergency disaster response to affected population through: (a) emergency cash transfers; (b) emergency evacuation and rescue support, including the purchase of reconstruction supplies and construction equipment; (c) renting of private transport equipment; (d) fuel; (e) distribution of food and non-food items; (f) personal protective equipment; (g) short and long-term sheltering; and (h) medical supplies and medical protective equipment. Support will be prioritized and may include a differentiated vulnerability criteria for support of women, persons with disabilities and migrant and stateless populations.

# Subcomponent 1.2: Rehabilitation and reconstruction of selected critical public and community infrastructure (US\$60 million)

14. This subcomponent will finance the technical preparation (including works requirements, specifications, designs, or drawings, etc.), and implementation of urgent repairs as well as resilient rehabilitation and reconstruction of high priority public and community infrastructure. It will also finance surveys or design activities needed for high priority facilities requiring new construction. Reconstruction efforts will be assessed based on prioritization criteria for the

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critical public infrastructure identified by the GoDR. All investments supported under the Project will be designed to be resilient to climate-induced events such as floods, storm surge and landslides, e.g., by using design standards increasing assets resilience to higher return period events and enforcing compliance with building regulations and standards or upgrading from the provisions where needed. Where relevant, selected investments will include appropriate energy efficiency measures. Detailed eligibility criteria will be included in the POM as will the institutional process for selection of investments.

## Component 2: Support to the Government's capacity for disaster risk preparedness, response, and recovery (US\$90 million)

#### Subcomponent 2.1: Enhancing Resilient and Inclusive Territorial Planning and Development (US\$40 million)

15. This subcomponent will focus on supporting different levels of government and will concentrate on three key areas of engagement: (i) enhancing the capacity at the national and subnational levels for territorial planning through the design and implementation of a Capacity Building Program, (ii) supporting the development of territorial planning instruments at the subnational level and (iii) providing technical inputs to facilitate the strengthening of the territorial planning system and the roll-out of the territorial planning reform. Subnational entities benefiting from the targeted support to develop territorial planning instruments will be prioritized following the agreed criteria. Subnational entities participating in this component will also need to demonstrate commitment t in strengthening their institutional capacity for territorial planning and commitment to lead the process at the local level.

## Subcomponent 2.2. Strengthening geospatial information systems for disaster risk assessment and response (US\$25 million)

16. This subcomponent will focus on supporting the GoDR in building capacity for emergency response and resilient development based on reliable geospatial data and risk mapping which are used for setting up disaster risk mitigation actions and recovery and reconstruction programs. It will include the following activities: (i) strengthening the National Spatial Data Infrastructure; (ii) strengthening the geodetic network; and (iii)production of base cartography. The activities supported under this sub-component present a critical input for territorial planning, land use management, and disaster risk management. Together, this leads to a stronger capacity to respond to future nature-caused disasters and increase resilience to climate change.

# Subcomponent 2.3.: Supporting institutional capacity for risk, damage assessment and disaster preparedness (US\$25 million).

The focus of his subcomponent will be on strengthening of institutional and technical capacity of government agencies for better risk and damage assessment and stronger integration of climate risk information in decision-making processes. It will finance activities such as: (i) risk assessment and mapping; (ii) production of risk datasets of the National Territorial Information System (SNIT); (iii) improvement of the use of the GoDR's Damage Assessment System (Sistema de Recopilacion y Evaluacion de Daños - SIRED); (iv) integration of climate risks and requirements in the national system of public investments norms (SNIP); (v) facilitating access to disaster risk insurance financing tools; and (vi) integration of weather and climate information in building national resilience and strengthening adaptation.

#### Component 3: Project Management and M&E (US\$10 million)

17. This component will finance the costs of the Project Implementing Units (PIUs) and other operational costs, including, *inter alia*, building technical and institutional capacity of the PIUs in the Ministry of Economy, Planning and Development (MEPyD) and in the Ministry of Presidency (MINPRE) on, *inter alia*, Project management, procurement, financial management, environmental and social risk management (including compliance monitoring of construction activities, grievance redress mechanisms and social inclusion targets), the carrying out of public outreach and

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dissemination activities, and the preparation of technical and financial audits of the Project. It will also include operational costs and training for MEPyD PIU and MINPRE PIU.

Legal Operational Policies				
	Triggered?			
Projects on International Waterways OP 7.50	No			
Projects in Disputed Areas OP 7.60	No			
Summary of Assessment of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts				

18. **Environmental and Social Risk Management.** The project's environmental and social risks and corresponding mitigation measures will be set out in the Project's Environmental and Social Management Framework which includes Labor Management Procedures (including a Project workers-specific GRM) and a Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP). The GoDR will be responsible for the overall project implementation through two dedicated PIUs under the MINPRE and the MEPYD. Each PIU will be under the leadership of a General Coordinator and will have one Environmental Specialist and one Social Specialist. In addition, the PIU for the MINPRE will have an OHS specialist based in the project area for the duration of civil works, given this PIU will be responsible for overseeing the civil works under the project. These Specialists will be hired or assigned no later than 60 days of Project Effectiveness. The roles and responsibilities of the ESHS staff will be clearly spelled out in the TORs, the POM and the Environmental and Social Management Framework. In order to strengthen monitoring of E&S risk management aspects during implementation, the PIU for component 1 (Ministry of the Presidency), the component involving civil works, will mobilize E&S Supervisors comprising 1 environmental and 1 social specialist. These E&S Supervisors will carry out periodic site visits and prepare quarterly reports on project implementation and compliance with the E&S instruments, and present corrective action plans in instances of non-compliance. These reports will be submitted to the PIU and the World Bank.

#### **Environmental Risk Rating**

19. The environmental risk rating is considered Substantial, due to the inclusion of major civil works, the uncertainty at this stage of the project's specifics (location, type, and scale of each infrastructure work); the sensitive health and safety contextual aspects derived from the post-disaster context; the context of strained implementation capacity in a post disaster setting to effectively manage environmental, health and safety risks and impacts; the Client's institutional capacity; and the potential downstream effects of territorial planning. The risk rating will be reviewed and adjusted, if necessary, as more detailed information becomes available and as detailed E&S risk assessments are completed. The principal environmental risks and impacts under the project are expected to result from activities related to infrastructure reconstruction/rehabilitation, such as: (i) diverse impacts on lands and land use, including

potentially on natural habitats or other sensitive landscapes; (ii) nuisance related to dust generation, vibration, noise and odors derived from civil works; (iii) generation, management and disposal of non-hazardous and hazardous solid waste, including debris caused by the storm, residual construction materials waste, hazardous materials from demolitions, and e-wastes; (iv) generation and discharge of wastewater from civil works; (v) sludge generation and disposal from potential water and sanitation works; (vi) temporary disruptions to local traffic during the construction

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phase; (vii) health and safety risks to the project workforce and local communities, including from exposure to hazardous materials and wastes; potential worksites involving physically unstable settings such as landslide-prone areas or collapsing buildings; the possibility of additional disease outbreaks as well as risks of spread of the COVID-19 virus and outbreaks of malaria, dengue or cholera; and (viii) direct and indirect impacts from other natural hazards that may occur in the affected areas. Retroactive financing activities under sub-Component 1 may also generate risks and impacts. A list of eligible retroactive expenditures will be specified in the Project Operational Manual and will rule out any activities with substantial or high environmental and social risks from eligibility. Eligible activities will likely be considered low to moderate risk and can be managed through appropriate E&S mitigation measures.

#### **Social Risk Rating**

20. Social risk is classified as Moderate at this stage of Project preparation based on the nature of its activities. While the overall social benefits are expected to be positive, identified social risks and potential impacts include: (i) social exclusion risks especially for vulnerable stakeholders, including the risk that women, youths, migrants and persons with disabilities may not fully access the project benefits; (ii) perceived inequities in the selection of beneficiaries; (iii) potential inadequate implementation of a robust stakeholder engagement strategy, including differentiated approaches to reach the most vulnerable stakeholders, and (iv) territorial planning may contribute to existing tensions or cause social conflict on land use. These risks and corresponding mitigation measures will be set out in the Project's ESMF which will include Labor Management Procedures (including a Project workers-specific GRM) and a Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP), which will be developed incorporating a stakeholder mapping and a two-way engagement strategy to guide the interactions with Project beneficiaries (including the most vulnerable among them) and ensure that a Project Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) is in place for addressing concerns and grievances during the Project implementation. Resettlement inducing activities are excluded from project financed activities.

#### Sexual Exploitation and Abuse/Sexual Harassment (SEA/SH) Risk Rating

21. Sexual exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment (SEA/SH) risks is assessed to be moderate based on the contextual and project specific risks. The ESMF of the project will include measures to support SEA/SH prevention and response in accordance with the Good Practice Note on SEA/SH prevention and response in projects with major civil works, including taking into account local labor legislation and mandatory reporting requirements regarding GBV.

#### E. Implementation

Institutional and Implementation Arrangements

The project implementation will be carried out by Ministry of Economy, Planning, and Development and the Ministry of Presidency. There will be two project implementation units (PIUs) under the project. One PIU will be placed in the MINPRE, and its responsibilities will be focused on the implementation of Component 1 of the Project. The second PIU will be placed in MEPYD and will be focused on the implementation of activities under Component 2. It is considered that the coordination between the PIUs, including consolidation of fiduciary and progress reports, will be carried out by the MEPYD with the inputs from MINPRE. Each PIUs will have to have core staff, including technical coordinators and specialists in the areas of procurement, financial management, M&E, social and environmental risk management and occupational health and safety. Each PIU will be responsible for safeguards oversight during the implementation. All project implementation arrangements, including PIUs organizational structure, staff duties and responsibilities, will be further detailed in the Project Operations Manual (POM).

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#### **CONTACT POINT**

#### **World Bank**

Anna-Maria Bogdanova Disaster Risk Management Specialist

## **Borrower/Client/Recipient**

Donimican Republic María José Martínez Vice Minister, Public Credit infodeuda@creditopublico.gov.do

## **Implementing Agencies**

Ministry of Economy, Planning and Development Domingo Matias Vice Minister, Territorial Planning and Development informacion@economica.gob.do

Ministry of Presidency Camel Curi Vice Minister, Investment Projects MINPRE@PRESIDENCIA.GOB.DO

### FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

The World Bank 1818 H Street, NW Washington, D.C. 20433 Telephone: (202) 473-1000

Web: <a href="http://www.worldbank.org/projects">http://www.worldbank.org/projects</a>

#### **APPROVAL**

Task Team Leader(s): Anna-Maria Bogdanova

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Approved By				
Practice Manager/Manager:				
Country Director:	Joelle Beatrice Dehasse	23-Nov-2022		

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