Appraisal Environmental and Social Review Summary

Appraisal Stage

(ESRS Appraisal Stage)

Date Prepared/Updated: 11/23/2022 | Report No: ESRSA02441

BASIC INFORMATION

A. Basic Project Data

Country	Region	Project ID	Parent Project ID (if any)
Dominican Republic	LATIN AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN	P180163	
Project Name	Dominican Republic - Hurricane Fiona Emergency Response Project		
Practice Area (Lead)	Financing Instrument	Estimated Appraisal Date	Estimated Board Date
Urban, Resilience and Land	Investment Project Financing	11/23/2022	1/23/2023
Borrower(s)	Implementing Agency(ies)		
Donimican Republic	Ministerio de la Presidencia (MINPRE), Ministry of Economy, Planning and Development, Ministry of Presidency		

Proposed Development Objective

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

Financing (in USD Million)	Amount
Total Project Cost	200.00

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

Yes

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

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 causing catastrophic damage to infrastructure and 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 causing relatively minor damage (except for Guadeloupe where it caused the death of one person and left considerable damage to infrastructure). As the system approached Puerto Rico and the eastern coast of the Dominican Republic, Fiona gained hurricane force and made a landfall on the Dominican Republic impacting the 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, causing severe floods, extensive crop damage, destruction of housing, livelihoods, and critical infrastructure, such as electrical distribution networks, transport, communications, and water supply. According to the official reports, 8,708 homes were damaged (out of which 2,638 were fully destroyed), over 12,000 people were displaced, and 2 people lost their life. More than 1 million households experienced water supply disruptions. The storm caused significant material damage to both the transmission network (9 high-voltage lines affected) and the electricity distribution network (93 circuits affected). The agriculture sector was severely impacted, suffering losses of around 30,000 hectares of crop land, including cocoa, coconut, rice, and banana plantations.

The country's vulnerability to national hazards is among 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 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 high risk to climate-related and other disasters from natural hazards and was ranked 32 out of 181 countries in the 2021 World Risk Index. This high level of exposure and vulnerability also materializes in significant economic impacts.

Hurricane Fiona generated devastating impacts and the ensuing destruction and damage of critical infrastructure and services. Critical sectors such as agriculture, public infrastructure, and housing were severely affected in the east, southeast, and northeastern part of the country. The World Bank's preliminary estimates as of September 28 indicated the direct economic damages to infrastructure, buildings, and crops to be of the order up to $375 million, or approximately 0.4% of the country's 2021 GDP, with widespread effects across sectors. This estimate does not include economic losses associated with service disruptions and the loss of jobs and livelihoods. According to the GoDR's assessment of direct economic damages as of October 10, 2022 , the highest impact was on public infrastructure estimated at 36.6 percent of the total damages, followed closely by the agriculture sector (36.1 percent). The direct economic damages to other sectors were in the following range: water supply (12.8 percent), housing (11 percent), health (2.1 percent), education (1.1 percent), and energy (0.2 percent). La Altagracia, among the leading provinces by the level of economic productivity in the country, experienced the highest share of direct losses of 18.4 percent, followed by El Seibo (15.4 percent), and Duarte (11.3 percent). The provinces of Samaná, María Trinidad Sánchez, Hato Mayor, Monte Plata, and San Pedro de Macorís had estimated direct economic damages between 8 and 10 percent each.

Although the timely activation of government institutions allowed for a rapid response to Hurricane Fiona, the magnitude of compound impact of the hurricane has exhausted 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 537-22 , declared a State of Emergency for a period of 30 days to meet the needs of the eight provinces due to the impact of Hurricane Fiona - La Altagracia, La Romana, El Seibo, Samaná, Hato Mayor, Mariaa Trinidad Sánchez, Duarte, and Monte Plata. The State of Emergency declaration activated 21 ministries and institutions , 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. According to the preliminary government emergency response results report as of October 19, 2022, the public expenditures to alleviate the impact of Hurricane Fiona were reported to total RD$ 19,160,158,817 (US$348 million equivalent). Besides these 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.

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 the 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 sustainable, resilient, and inclusive development. The Project will promote approaches to embed inclusion into emergency recovery and reconstruction efforts.

Component 1: Recovery, rehabilitation, and resilient reconstruction
Subcomponent 1.1: Emergency disaster recovery. This subcomponent will finance emergency disaster response to the 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 differentiated vulnerability criteria for support of women, persons with disabilities and migrant and stateless populations.

Subcomponent 1.2: 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 critical public infrastructure identified by the GoDRAll investments supported under the Project will be designed to be resilient to climate-induced events such as floods, storm surges 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 the selection of investments.

Component 2: Support to the Government's capacity for disaster risk preparedness, response, and recovery
Subcomponent 2.1: Enhancing Resilient and Inclusive Territorial Planning and Development. 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 targe ted 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. 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. The focus of his subcomponent will be on the 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. This component will finance the costs of the Project Implementing Units (PIUs) and other operational costs, including, inter alia, building the 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 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.

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 Project's recovery and reconstruction support will target areas affected by the Fiona Hurricane and provide country-wide support to strengthen institutional capacity to incorporate disaster risk management (DRM) and climate change adaptation (CCA) into its policy and regulatory environment. The exact location of project activities is yet to be determined during project implementation.

The DR is highly vulnerable to natural disasters, which are exacerbated by climate change. Hurricanes, flooding, drought, heat waves, rising sea levels, and wildfires affect the country and threaten its economic stability and the safety and well-being of its population.

The country possesses a rich biodiversity, characterized by a high level of endemism, particularly with respect to reptile species, vascular plants, and bird species, in addition to ecosystems that are unique to the Caribbean. Nature supports the lives and livelihoods of the entire population, from coffee farms high in the mountains to fishing communities along the coasts. 25% of the country's territory is recognized under natural protected areas, including a marine area, yet low institutional capabilities challenge the effectiveness of the purported land and marine conservation objectives. Pollution, overfishing, unsustainable practices in tourism and agricultural expansion also pose significant risks to biodiversity and ecosystems. From a cultural standpoint, the DR is home to one UNESCO World Heritage Site, the Ruins of the Monasterio de San Francisco in Santo Domingo, while thirteen other sites remain on the Tentative List awaiting nomination.

In particular, the country's water sector faces severe challenges related to the coverage and quality of drinking water and sanitation services, limited urban wastewater treatment, insufficient monitoring of quantity and quality of water, and watershed degradation. These risks are further exacerbated by deforestation, soil erosion, contamination, harmful agricultural practices, climate change, deficient waste management practices, and pollution.

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. As a result of the pandemic, unemployment has increased, affecting more women than men. While employment reduced by 7.9 percentage points among men between 2019 and 2020, the contraction among women was of 10.1 percent.

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 natural impacts. Women, persons with disabilities, afro-descendants, migrants, and stateless people are particularly vulnerable and remain a particularly vulnerable segment of the population with lower access to resources, and jobs, and face higher risks to disaster impacts. 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 and migration, limited access to and control over resources (property rights, land, financial resources), and lower representation in decision-making processes. Moreover, female-headed households represent 40 percent of total households in the DR and have higher levels of poverty. Over 1.2 million Dominicans (about 12 percent of the population) have a disability, with a higher prevalence in women across all age groups, according to the 2010 census. Nearly one third of households report having a person with disabilities. The poverty rate of households with a person with disabilities is 20 percent compared to 15 percent for those without disabilities. As estimated by the World Bank DR's Poverty Assessment (2022), 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). Migrants and Dominicans of Haitian descent (around 10 percent of the country's total population) are overrepresented among the poor and unskilled labor force (primarily in agriculture and construction sectors), have limited or no access to health services, and are disproportionally affected by natural adverse events.

D. 2. Borrower's Institutional Capacity

The GoDR will be responsible for overall project implementation through two dedicated PIUs under the Ministry of the Presidency and the Ministry of Economy, Planning and Development (MEPYD). These ministries are new to managing World Bank projects and will need to receive capacity building and technical assistance (under Component 3 of the project) to support the management of E&S risks during the implementation of the Project.

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 Ministry of the Presidency 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. The MINPRE PIU will be responsible for Component 1 - Recovery, rehabilitation, and resilient reconstruction. The MEPyD PIU will be responsible for Component 2 - Support to the Government's capacity for disaster risk preparedness, response and recovery. These Specialists will be hired or assigned no later than 60 days of Project Effectiveness. The Project will ensure proper coordination between MINPRE and MEPyD for all implementation related activities, including consultations, monitoring, and reporting between the two PIUs and their respective environmental and social staff. The Project will put in place coordination mechanisms to ensure smooth communication and reporting between the PIUs. 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 an 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.

II. SUMMARY OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL (ES) RISKS AND IMPACTS

A. Environmental and Social Risk Classification (ESRC) — Substantial

Environmental Risk Rating — Substantial

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 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 Moderate

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 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.

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:

Under Sub-Component 1.1, the project will retroactively finance expenditures for emergency disaster response, including emergency evacuation and rescue, renting of private transport equipment and payment of fuel, distribution of food/non-food items and personal protective equipment (PPE) to affected populations, short and long-term sheltering, among others yet to be defined. 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. Due diligence will be conducted to identify any required actions to ensure that activities that will be considered for retroactive financing meet the requirements of the ESSs and may be subject to an E&S Audit to be completed and found satisfactory to the Bank prior to authorization for disbursement of funds. The TORs for the E&S Audit will be outlined in the ESMF and reflected in the Project Operational Manual. Eligible activities will likely be considered low to moderate risk, and can be managed through appropriate E&S mitigation measures, such as sub-project ESMPs.

Project activities under Sub-Component 1.2 will include the rehabilitation/reconstruction of selected critical public and community infrastructure, including roads, drainage, community buildings (i.e., schools); however, it is expected

they will take place within existing/previous footprints. Component 3 will finance goods, equipment, and small works necessary for the good performance of the Project Implementing Units (PIUs), such as fuel-efficient vehicles, information, and communication IT equipment (including laptops, printers, etc.), office furniture and materials, renting of premises, upgrade/refurbishment works.

Anticipated key E&S risks associated with Sub-Component 1.2 and Component 3 activities are: (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 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. The risk management approach to be adopted, implemented, monitored, and supervised is detailed below. All civil works to be financed by the project will be reconstructed/rehabilitated taking into consideration climate-resilient aspects that will have the ability to anticipate, prepare and respond to future hazardous events, trends, or disturbances related to climate, thus reducing future climate-related risks.

Sub-Component 2.1. will enhance the GoDR's capacity for territorial planning, supporting the development of territorial planning instruments, including manuals, methodologies, norms, and regulations to promote a participatory and inclusive processes. Sub Component 2.2. will build the GoDR's capacity for emergency response and resilient development based on reliable geospatial data and land administration systems, including cartography production; risks assessment and mapping; and a multipurpose cadaster implementation. Project activities under these sub-components will be grounded in existing national laws and policies and the Bank's Environmental and Social Framework (ESF), taking into consideration climate change and disaster risk management, together with biodiversity and cultural heritage considerations.

The Project has adopted a framework approach to E&S risk management to account for unknows relating to the exact location, type, and scope of infrastructure works and activities to be financed. The core project instrument will consist of a project-level Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) that will be drafted, consulted, finalized, and disclosed within 90 days of Project Effectiveness. The ESMF will contain E&S screening checklists for risk classification of sub-projects, which will set forth the requirements for sub-project level Environmental and Social Impact Assessments (ESIAs) and Environmental and Social Management Plans (ESMPs), as deemed necessary and required by national laws, based on the initial screening and risk classification. The ESMF will include a list specific to eligibility for retroactive financing. It will also comprise an exclusion list of activities that may result in the long term, permanent or irreversible negative E&S risks and impacts on highly sensitive areas in terms of their biodiversity importance and cultural heritage value. Considering the framework approach, the ESMF will include generic E&S risk procedures/codes of practice in line with the ESF and the WBG's Environmental Health and Safety Guidelines (EHSG) and other Good International Industry Practices (GIIP) that can be quickly and easily adapted and tailored to specific sub-projects and incorporated into sub-project ESMPs and bid documents. The ESMF will include SEA/SH prevention

and response measures. During implementation, the preparation of sub-project ESIAs and/or ESMPs will be determined as needed as more detailed information of the type and scope of investments to be financed is available. The ESMF will further detail institutional roles and responsibilities, monitoring and reporting requirements, and an estimated budget for E&S management, including capacity building measures.

Social exclusion risks are addressed through project design by integrating social inclusion measures across the project components. This includes prioritizing emergency disaster recovery activities under Component 1.1 for vulnerable populations including women, persons with disabilities and migrant and stateless populations; including inclusion parameters in the prioritization criteria for rehabilitation of critical public and community infrastructure under Component 1.2. Under component 2, territorial planning and support for geospatial information systems and land administration, social inclusion will be supported in the territorial planning processes as well as the risks assessments and mapping. These measures will be detailed in the Project Operational Manual. In addition, the ESMF will assess the vulnerabilities of groups and subgroups that may be at risk of exclusion and define adequate mitigation measures across the project.
Relevant and meaningful consultations will be carried out by the Client as part of the development of the ESMF, to integrate stakeholders' concerns and expectations into the analysis of potential risks and impacts, as well as proposed management measures. Sub-project ESIAs and ESMPs will also be consulted and disclosed locally before proceeding with the investment, and those developed for higher risk sub-projects (as per criteria to be specified in the ESMF) will be carried out by independent consultants (separate from engineering design teams) and will also require prior review and approval by the Bank.

ESS1 also applies to all potential Associated Facilities (AF) identified within the scope of the project to the extent that the Borrower has control or influence over such AF. This will be further assessed in the project ESMF.

The draft Environmental and Social Commitment Plan (ESCP) prepared for the project contains all the measures and actions to ensure compliance with the ESF and the project's E&S instruments, as well as related implementation details, including monitoring and reporting activities.

ESS10 Stakeholder Engagement and Information Disclosure

This Standard is relevant. An initial draft Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) has been developed during project preparation and shall be consulted, finalized and disclosed within 90 days of project effectiveness as well as implemented throughout project implementation. The SEP identifies affected and interested parties, emphasizing the characterization of vulnerable groups, and presents an initial strategy that includes timelines and methodologies for consultations and continuous engagement throughout project implementation that is based upon meaningful consultation and disclosure of information. Given the emergency context, the SEP also considers and describes the inherent limitations in the consultation process and access to information, which are further augmented by the health risks posed by the COVID-19 pandemic. To date, given the emergency nature of the project and very limited project preparation timeframe, no public consultations have taken place on the project. As indicated in the SEP, consultations will be initiated during early implementation, starting with consultations on the draft E&S instruments, which will take place at the latest 90 days after project effectiveness.

Engagement will focus on the development and implementation of a communications plan to ensure timely, inclusive and transparent information about the Project's identified risks and proposed mitigation strategies. The SEP also identifies specific vulnerable groups or groups whose interests are traditionally underrepresented, such as women, elders youth, and migrants and persons with disabilities, including targeted strategies to ensure their active engagement throughout the Project's lifecycle. The SEP is designed to consider the mobility and gathering limitations brought by the COVID-19 pandemic, including the active use of virtual platforms and remote data gathering to reduce risk of contagion and adhere to health guidelines.

Considering the numerous actors and stakeholders that are taking and will take part in the disaster response, the SEP furthermore outlines the PIU's engagement approach with other multilateral, humanitarian and non-governmental organizations. This includes a description of these organizations' efforts (when known) and any relevant outreach or coordination efforts to enhance the social and environmental management of risks.

The SEP also includes a Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) to address concerns and complaints promptly and transparently with no cost or discrimination toward project-affected communities. The GRM is expected to be in place together with the SEP within 90 days of project effectiveness. Implementing staff and local-level coordination structures will be oriented on their roles and responsibilities to address grievances, particularly around exclusion and manipulation of targeting and entitlements. The GRM will have multiple entry contact points, including at the community, municipal and regional level, and will have the capacity to give attention to SEA/SH related grievances allowing for anonymous complaints. The GRM is also expected to provide early warnings on emerging social risks.

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

This Standard is relevant. Project implementation will involve various workers, ranging from PIUs and other government staff to specialized personnel of consulting, service provision and construction firms as well as unskilled laborers. In sum, a considerable workforce will be needed, and the Project may face difficulties in promoting sound worker-management relationships and to guarantee safe and healthy working conditions. The PIUs will develop Labor Management Procedures (LMP) within 90 days of project effectiveness to manage labor related risks and impacts. The LMP will provide an overview of applicable legislation, expected types of personnel to be hired under the project, and measures to comply with ESS2, including child labor, minimum salary and work hours. The LMP will also include a description of the dedicated GRM available to project workers.

To ensure the health and safety of workers during project implementation, the ESMF will contain an Occupational Health and Safety Procedure (OHSP) and an Infectious Disease Prevention and Response Procedure (IDPRP) for potential communicable infectious diseases which could affect project workers including COVID-19, dengue, malaria, and cholera. These procedures will be in line with the WBG's EHS Guidelines and Good International Industry Practice (GIIP), including WHO and PAHO guidance, particularly for the COVID-19 virus. The OHSP will comprise requirements for the use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), planning of training activities, and investigation/reporting of accidents, while the IDPRP will include measures for prevention, infection control and case management of infectious

diseases. The ESMF will also contain an Emergency Response Procedure (ERP) that will include emergency prevention, preparedness and response arrangements in the event of any social, labor related and/or natural disaster situation that could take place or evolve during project implementation. These procedures will serve as the basis for the development of specific OHSPs and ERPs that will be required in sub-project-level ESMPs, as necessary. Bidding documents for all investments will include OHS requirements, a worker Code of Conduct, and requirements for other labor issues such as labor influx, non-discrimination, equal opportunity, and prevention of all forms of forced labor. In the Dominican Republic, a person is considered of legal age for labor purposes at 16. The Project will not hire people younger than 18 years old for hazardous work; those between the national legal minimum age and 18 could do non-hazardous work in line with ESS2 provisions and will comply with all Dominican Republic labor laws. The PIUs or their designated supervision consultants (including E&S monitoring consultants) will actively monitor civil works activities throughout the project cycle to ensure adherence to this standard.

The LMP will also contain provisions to ensure fair wages in line with local legislation and provide contractual hiring of workers (both male and female), adequate payment for overwork and other measures. If labor camps are established for construction purposes, contractors must follow guidelines to be specified in the ESMF to ensure safe and hygienic living conditions. Additionally, the risk of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse and Sexual Harassment (SEA/SH) will be assessed, and appropriate interventions designed to mitigate this risk.

The LMP will be reviewed and updated throughout project implementation as required, considering the activities to be undertaken in each sub-project and as additional project activities unfold entailing additional labor related risks or issues.

ESS3 Resource Efficiency and Pollution Prevention and Management

This Standard is relevant as there are potential sources of pollution from debris and rubble left behind by the hurricane, as well as from rehabilitation/reconstruction of selected critical infrastructure to be financed by the project under Sub-Component 1.2 and the office upgrade/refurbishment works for the PIUs under Component 3. The project also provides opportunities to incorporate energy and resource efficiency measures in the rehabilitation/reconstruction of infrastructure, and in the use of raw materials.

The ESMF will unpack generic mitigation measures for the anticipated types of impacts resulting from construction and disaster response, in line with the WBG's General EHS Guidelines and industry specific EHS Guidelines, as well as national legislation standards, whichever are more stringent. Detailed site-specific mitigation measures will be identified and contained in sub-project ESIAs and ESMPs that will be developed based upon the scale, location, and detailed technical specifications of the infrastructure to be rehabilitated/reconstructed become available.

Civil works and water and debris clearing/removal activities are expected to generate significant amounts of hazardous and non-hazardous wastes, including residual construction materials waste and hazardous materials from demolitions. Construction waste has the potential to generate significant amount of solid waste at construction and decommissioning sites, including excess fill materials from grading and excavation activities, scrap wood and metals, and small concrete spills. Construction waste could also include hazardous materials from demolished existing infrastructure, which could consist of asbestos, lead, mercury, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), and others. Other

hazardous solid waste could also comprise contaminated soils, machinery maintenance materials, such as oily rags, used oil filters, and used oil, as well as spill cleanup materials from oil and fuel spills. In addition, diverse wastes of potentially hazardous and non-hazardous nature could result from the emergency response measures to be considered for retroactive financing. Safe waste handling and disposal will be critical during project implementation, especially given the currently weak capacity in waste management in the Dominican Republic. Thus, specific and tailored mitigation measures will be specified in a Solid Waste Management Plan (SWMP) to be developed together with sub-project ESIA or ESMP, as relevant, (and based on the general guidance in ESMF). to guarantee that all types of wastes are properly collected, treated and disposed in licensed/controlled landfills, where necessary, including the potential generation of e-wastes derived from the procurement of IT equipment for the PIUs under Component 3. Sub-project ESIAs and ESMPs to be prepared will further assess the institutional capacity for waste management and identify appropriate landfills for solid hazardous and non-hazardous wastes available to receive and treat all wastes generated by or in connection with the project. Techniques for assessing the characteristics of the material to be excavated during rehabilitation/reconstruction activities and measures for preventing and controlling hazardous and non-hazardous wastes will be detailed in the SWMP, and such assessments will be included in the sub-project ESIAs/ESMPs.

Similarly, an Integrated Wastewaters Management Plan (IWMP) will assess the generation and discharge of mud and wastewaters from civil works, as well as sludge generation and disposal from potential water and sanitation works (if financed under the project), and proper mitigation measures will be defined. The ESMF will contain the requirement that the disposal of these materials will be preceded by an analysis to verify potential contamination to inform the proper treatment process. Final disposal and treatment will also comprise the verification of disposal facilities to ensure the capacity and technology to receive such wastes. Sub-project ESIAs and ESMPs shall consider site-specific measures.

Construction materials needed for all rehabilitation/reconstruction activities (e.g. sand, stones, timber, etc.) will be obtained from licensed quarries and certified timber suppliers. The project will – as much as possible – reuse and recycle construction material from the debris left behind by the cyclones for drainage, roads, fill material, retaining walls, and foundation bases with previous confirmation that these do not contain hazardous materials like asbestos, lead,, mercury, PCBs, etc. The corresponding ESIAs and ESMPs will consider mitigation measures to address nuisance related to dust, noise, vibration, and odors that may be generated during rehabilitation/reconstruction works and debris cleanup. While project activities are expected to take place within existing footprints, impacts from localized soil removal, clearance of vegetation, and biodiversity loss may still occur. Screening procedures as part of the ESMF will help rule out activities that could pose significant impacts on biodiversity (further detailed in ESS6 below) and sub-project ESIAs and ESMPs will include appropriate measures as deemed necessary.

Energy efficiency measures such as efficient lighting, cooling, heating, and other energy efficiency equipment will be considered in the project – where applicable – during the rehabilitation/reconstruction of infrastructure, including public schools. Resource efficiency measures will also be considered – where applicable – in the procurement of equipment (vehicles, information and communication technological materials, firefighting, and first responders' equipment). Water-efficient measures will also be considered, as much as possible, through the adoption of water saving techniques as part of the design of housing and public buildings. Recommended measures for energy, resource, and water efficiency will be detailed in the ESMF, to facilitate quick incorporation into sub-project designs where feasible.

If during implementation, it is considered necessary to adopt measures to reduce and control the number of mosquitoes that could spread diseases as malaria and dengue, the Vector and Pesticide Management Procedures (VPMP) included in the ESMF will specify the measures that will need to be considered, including (i) that larvicides and other chemicals used shall be of low toxicity for the people, animals, and environment; (ii) application by a licensed vector control professional who follows label instructions and OHS considerations to ensure a safe application; (iii) measures for targeted application.

Based on the screening of project activities, the GHG estimations will not be calculated, as the potential GHG sources are expected to be small and come from diverse sources.

ESS4 Community Health and Safety

This Standard is relevant. Specific measures to protect community health and safety in the aftermath of disaster are necessary, as rehabilitation/reconstruction activities may result in an increase in movement of heavy vehicles for the transport of construction materials and equipment, in a context where road damage has diverted local traffic to limited routes, increasing the risk of traffic-related accidents and injuries to workers and local communities. The rehabilitation/reconstruction works will demand special measures, to be outlined in the ESMF, to reduce road accidents involving project vehicles during construction, especially in areas with already limited road infrastructure which are usually occupied by pedestrians. Sub-project ESMPs and ESIAs will include traffic management measures and measures for local communities to ensure pedestrian safety, as well as requirements for the adoption of signage and safety barriers in or near construction zones and safe storage arrangements for construction machinery and equipment. Due consideration will be put to the specific needs of vulnerable groups such as elderly, children, and persons with disabilities. The ESMF will address nuisances caused to local communities from noise, dust and vibrations resulting from the use of construction machinery and vehicle movement during rehabilitation/reconstruction works, causing disturbance to nearby homes and businesses, while sub-project ESMPs will be required to unpack specific measures to reduce the impacts from these activities, as necessary, to ensure adherence to ESS4. In addition, the design and construction of public infrastructure to be financed by the project will consider life and fire safety considerarions in line with national legislation and the WBG's EHS.

For civil works situated in high-risk locations, including those with risk of extreme weather or slow onset events, and those where their failure or malfunction may threaten the safety of communities, the project will be required to engage one or more independent experts with relevant and recognized experience in similar projects, separate from those responsible for the design and construction, to conduct a review as early as possible and throughout the stages of project design, construction, operation, and decommissioning.

Unstable settings, due to collapsing buildings, mudslides, and landslides, as a result of the hurricane, could also pose a potential health and safety risk to the affected local communities and project workforce. The ESMF will unpack appropriate measures to guide the workforce and local communities on what to do when there are imminent threats, as well as on actions for during and after these types of events. Sub-project ESMPs will adopt these measures as deemed necessary, depending on the specific risks at each worksite.

All civil works to be financed by the project will be reconstructed/rehabilitated taking into consideration climate-resilient aspects that will have the ability to anticipate, prepare and respond to future hazardous events, trends, or disturbances related to climate, thus reducing future climate-related risks. The ESMF will also identify the project's potential risks and impacts on ecosystem services that may be exacerbated by climate change. In addition, public infrastructure works will include universal access design principles and gender sensitivity where relevant as part of their design, and will ensure that design and engineering works do not augment the vulnerability of communities already at risk.

Disaster relief efforts and civil works can risk becoming COVID-19 spreading events that could seriously affect communities. Project activities will ensure that all workers wear PPE and receive appropriate training to reduce contagion to a minimum. Outbreaks of water-borne (cholera, typhoid, etc.) and vector-borne (malaria, dengue, etc.) diseases could occur as a result of the flooding caused by the tropical cyclones. The Infectious Disease Response Procedure (IDRP) included in the ESMF will outline measures to (i) identify and reduce sources of contagion in the affected areas; (ii) evaluate living conditions of the affected population; (iii) ensure availability of safe water and adequate sanitation facilities; and, (iv) assess the degree of access to healthcare and effective case management. Other potential health and safety risks to affected communities may be produced from diminution of water quantity or quality, exposure to hazardous materials, and potential impacts caused by other natural disaster risks affecting the surrounding communities. The ESMF's Emergency Response Procedure (ERP) will contain measures to manage and mitigate these risks.

The influx of labor for sub-projects is expected to increase the risk of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse and Sexual Exploitation (SEA/SH) for vulnerable communities including children. The ESMF will include measures to support prevention and response to SEA/SH to minimize the risks to the population.

ESS5 Land Acquisition, Restrictions on Land Use and Involuntary Resettlement

This Standard is not relevant. To facilitate rapid implementation of this emergency project, involuntary resettlement inducing activities will be screened through the Project ESMF and excluded from Project activities. This includes any land acquisition or restrictions of land use that lead to physical and economic displacement of a permanent or temporary nature.

ESS6 Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Management of Living Natural Resources

This Standard is considered relevant. Urgent repairs, structural strengthening, and rehabilitation and reconstruction of selected critical infrastructure envisaged by the project (Sub-Component 1.2), as well as office upgrade/refurbishment works for the PIUs (Component 3), will be developed within existing footprints. However, it is possible that some civil works may potentially interfere with remaining areas of native vegetation or areas of importance for biodiversity conservation. In addition, biodiversity considerations are indispensable in the preparation of territorial planning instruments, cartography production, and cadaster implementation envisaged under Component 2 and need to be incorporated early on during the preparation process.

The ESMF will contain an exclusion list of activities that may result in the long term, permanent or irreversible negative E&S risks and impacts on highly sensitive areas in terms of their biodiversity importance, which will not be financed under the project. It will also provide general guidance on biodiversity screening to ensure that project activities do not alter or cause destruction or degradation of habitats and biodiversity, especially forests and wetlands. With the information available at Appraisal stage, the need for a Biodiversity Management Plan cannot be ruled out in light of the existing uncertainties of project activities which for instance may include activities in biologically sensitive areas that will require specific and ad hoc management measures. The ESMF will also describe generic biodiversity related mitigation measures that will serve as a basis for subsequent development of sub-project ESIAs and ESMPs, where risks and impacts on natural habitats and ecosystem services will be assessed in detail upon the definition of the location, type, and scope of infrastructure work to be financed.

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

The Standard is not relevant. Previous assessments for World Bank supported Projects in the Dominican Republic concluded that there are no distinct Indigenous Peoples in the country that fulfill the four characteristics indicated under OP 4.12, which is covered by paragraph 8 of ESS7.

ESS8 Cultural Heritage

This Standard is relevant since the project will finance rehabilitation/reconstruction of infrastructure that may involve soil excavations or comprise damaged buildings with cultural or historical value. In addition to civil works, cultural heritage considerations are indispensable in the preparation of territorial planning instruments, cartography production, and cadaster implementation envisaged under Component 2 and need to be incorporated early on during the preparation process.

The ESMF will contain an exclusion list of activities that may result in the long term, permanent or irreversible negative E&S risks and impacts on highly sensitive areas in terms of their cultural heritage value, which will not be financed under the project. It will also contain provisions for sub-project level screening and assessment of any known sites of cultural or historical importance which may be impacted, as well as the identification of any sites of cultural/social importance for local communities. To adequately manage cultural heritage, the ESMF will comprise: (i) a generic Chance Finds Procedure for all construction or works contracts, requiring civil contractors and other third parties involved, to undergo training and adopt protective measures in case cultural heritage is discovered, including to stop construction activities when necessary; and (ii) generic cultural heritage mitigation measures for civil works to avoid or reduce direct, indirect and cumulative impacts on cultural heritage, which will serve as a basis for the subsequent development of sub-project ESIAs and ESMPs.

Where necessary, the preparation of territorial planning instruments, cartography production, and cadaster implementation, and similar activities will consider carrying out meaningful consultations with relevant stakeholders, including communities, and/or independent experts in accordance with ESS10 in order to identify, assess, and protect cultural heritage.

ESS9 Financial Intermediaries

Not applicable

C. Legal Operational Policies that Apply

OP 7.50 Projects on International Waterways	No
OP 7.60 Projects in Disputed Areas	No

B.3. Reliance on Borrower's policy, legal and institutional framework, relevant to the Project risks and impacts

Is this project being prepared for use of Borrower Framework?	No

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

None

IV. CONTACT POINTS

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Implementing Agency(ies)

Implementing Agency: Ministerio de la Presidencia (MINPRE)

Implementing Agency: Ministry of Economy, Planning and Development

Implementing Agency: Ministry of Presidency

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VI. APPROVAL

Task Team Leader(s):	Anna-Maria Bogdanova
Practice Manager (ENR/Social)	Genevieve Connors Cleared on 23-Nov-2022 at 10:44:40 GMT-05:00
Safeguards Advisor ESSA	Angela Nyawira Khaminwa (SAESSA) Concurred on 23-Nov-2022 at 12:57:20 GMT-05:00