



The Palestine Liberation Organization (for the benefit of The Palestinian Authority)

**West Bank and Gaza Health System Efficiency and Resiliency Project
(P180263)**

ENVIRONMENTAL and SOCIAL COMMITMENT PLAN (ESCP)

February 2023

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL COMMITMENT PLAN

1. The Palestine Liberation Organization (for the benefit of the Palestinian Authority) (the Recipient) will implement the West Bank and Gaza Health System Efficiency and Resiliency Project P180263 (The Project) with the involvement of Ministry of Health (PMOH), the executing agency. The International Development Association, has agreed to provide financing for the Project.
2. The Recipient shall ensure that the Project is carried out in accordance with the Environmental and Social Standards (ESSs) and this Environmental and Social Commitment Plan (ESCP), in a manner acceptable to the Association. The ESCP is a part of the Grant Agreement and the Project Agreement. Unless otherwise defined in this ESCP, capitalized terms used in this ESCP have the meanings ascribed to them in the referred agreement(s).
3. Without limitation to the foregoing, this ESCP sets out material measures and actions that the Recipient shall carry out or cause to be carried out, including, as applicable, the timeframes of the actions and measures, institutional, staffing, training, monitoring and reporting arrangements, and grievance management. The ESCP also sets out the environmental and social (E&S) instruments that shall be adopted and implemented under the Project, all of which shall be subject to prior consultation and disclosure, consistent with the ESS, and in form and substance, and in a manner acceptable to the Association. Once adopted, said E&S instruments may be revised from time to time with prior written agreement by the Association.
4. As agreed by the Association and the Recipient, this ESCP will be revised from time to time if necessary, during Project implementation, to reflect adaptive management of Project changes and unforeseen circumstances or in response to Project performance. In such circumstances, the Recipient through the Ministry of Health and the Association agree to update the ESCP to reflect these changes through an exchange of letters signed between the Association and the Ministry of Health. The recipient shall promptly disclose the updated ESCP.

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
MONITORING AND REPORTING			
A	<p>REGULAR REPORTING:</p> <p>Prepare and submit to the World Bank regular monitoring reports on the environmental, social, health and safety (ESHS) performance of the Project, including but not limited to the implementation of the ESCP, status of preparation and implementation of E&S instruments required under the ESCP, Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF), Labor Management Procedures (LMP) and stakeholder engagement activities, and functioning of the grievance mechanism(s) in accordance with the Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) as relevant.</p>	First progress report after three months of project effectiveness date and thereafter bi-annual throughout Project implementation. Submit each report no later than 15 days after the end of each reporting period.	PMOH
B	<p>Incidents and Accidents</p> <p>Promptly notify the World Bank of any incident or accident related to the Project which has, or is likely to have, a significant adverse effect on the environment, the affected communities, the public or workers, including, inter alia, cases of sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA), sexual harassment (SH), and accidents that result in death, serious or multiple injury (e.g. cases of COVID-19 and other communicable diseases) during the installation and operation of equipment and other relevant project activities. The anticipated risk of such incidents and accidents is low to moderate and requisite mitigation measures, proportionate to the level of risk, will be included in E&S instruments, as required, and implemented during the project.</p> <p>Subsequently, at the World Bank's request, prepare a report on the incident or accident and propose any measures to address it and prevent its recurrence.</p>	<p>Notify the World Bank no later than 48 hours after learning of the incident or accident.</p> <p>Fatalities will be reported within 24 hours after occurrence.</p> <p>Provide subsequent reports to the World Bank within a timeframe acceptable to the World Bank</p>	PMOH
ESS 1: ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RISKS AND IMPACTS			

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
1.1	<p>ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE:</p> <p>The PMOH shall maintain the existing Project Management Unit (PMU), and the existing Environmental, Health, and Social Officer (EHSO), and resources to support management of ESHS risks and impacts of the Project adequately. The EHSO will also be responsible for implementing the Sexual Exploitation and Abuse/Sexual Harassment Action Plan (SEA/SH Action Plan) under 4.3 below. An Environmental and Social Focal Point will also be appointed in Gaza as part of the PMU and maintained for the project.</p>	Existing PMU and EHSO shall be maintained throughout the implementation of the Project. An environmental and social focal point in Gaza will be appointed by March 1, 2023 and maintained throughout the Project.	PMOH
1.2	<p>ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL ASSESSMENT/MANAGEMENT PLANS/CONTRACTORS</p> <p>a. Disclose, adopt and implement an Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) for the Project, consistent with the relevant ESSs, and in a manner acceptable to the World Bank.</p> <p>b. Assess the environmental and social risks and impacts of proposed Project activities in accordance with ESS1 and the ESMF prepared for the Project the Environmental, Health and Safety Guidelines (EHSOs), Bank's Life and Fire Safety Requirements for (new and existing) buildings accessible to the public and other relevant Good International Industry Practice (GIIP), including relevant WHO guidelines.</p> <p>c. Prepare as relevant sub-project specific E&S mitigation measures/instruments, in accordance with the project ESMF and LMP, and consult on, disclose, adopt and implement such E&S measures/instruments.</p>	<p>a. ESMF disclosed by Project appraisal and thereafter adopted and implemented throughout Project implementation.</p> <p>b. E&S assessments shall be conducted before the carrying out of the relevant Project activities.</p> <p>c. Subproject-specific E&S mitigation measures/instruments, as required, shall be prepared, consulted on, disclosed, prior to the commencement of the bidding process. Thereafter implemented throughout Project implementation.</p>	PMOH

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
1.3	<p>MANAGEMENT OF CONTRACTORS</p> <p>Incorporate the relevant aspects of this ESCP, including, inter alia, any environmental and social management plans or other instruments, the LMP, and code of conduct (CoC), into the ESHS specifications of the procurement documents and contracts with contractors/suppliers. Thereafter ensure that the contractors/suppliers comply with the ESHS specifications of their respective contracts.</p>	<p>As part of the preparation of procurement documents and respective contracts.</p> <p>Supervise the contractors/suppliers throughout Project implementation.</p>	PMOH
1.3	<p>EXCLUSIONS: Exclude all the activities listed in the exclusion list in the ESMF of the Project as ineligible for financing under the Project.</p>	<p>During the assessment process conducted under action 1.2.a. above.</p>	PMOH
1.4	<p>TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE</p> <p>Ensure that the technical assistance, and capacity building for the scaling up of Public Health Care (PHC) services in PMOH facilities are carried out in accordance with ESF Guidelines for Technical Assistance (TA) including for example (but not limited to):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - for capacity building, training etc.: terms of reference acceptable to the World Bank that are consistent with the ESSs and thereby ensure that the outputs of such activities comply with the terms of reference. - for detailed technical designs: relevant ESF instruments, as required for the relevant ESSs, to be prepared and reviewed and cleared by the Bank. 	<p>During the identification of the technical assistance and capacity building activities and prior to implementation of the technical assistance. Will be done throughout Project implementation.</p>	PMOH

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
1.5	<p>CONTINGENT [EMERGENCY] [EARLY] RESPONSE FINANCING</p> <p>a. Prepare and ensure that the Contingency Emergency Response Component (CERC) Manual as specified in the legal agreement includes a description of the ESHS assessment and management arrangements including, for the implementation of Component 4: Contingent Emergency Response Component, in accordance with the ESSs.</p> <p>b. Prepare and adopt any environmental and social (E&S) instruments which may be required for activities under the CERC component of the Project, in accordance with the CERC Manual and the ESSs, and thereafter implement the measures and actions required under said E&S instruments, within the timeframes specified in said E&S instruments.</p>	<p>a. The preparation and adoption of the CERC manual and, other instruments, in form and substance acceptable to the World Bank by December 2023.</p> <p>b. Adopt any required E&S mitigation measures/instrument and include it as part of the respective procurement process, if applicable, and in any case, before the carrying out of the relevant Project activities for which the E&S instrument is required. Implement the E&S mitigation measures/instruments in accordance with their terms, throughout Project implementation.</p>	PMOH
ESS 2: LABOR AND WORKING CONDITIONS			
2.1	<p>LABOR MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES:</p> <p>Adopt and implement the Labor Management Procedures (LMP) for the Project, including, inter alia, provisions on working conditions, management of workers relationships, occupational health and safety (including personal protective equipment, and emergency preparedness and response), code of conduct (including relating to SEA and SH), forced labor, child labor, grievance arrangements for Project workers, and applicable requirements for contractors/suppliers.</p>	Adopt the LMP disclosed by project appraisal, and thereafter implemented throughout Project implementation.	PMOH

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
2.2	<p>GRIEVANCE MECHANISM FOR PROJECT WORKERS</p> <p>A workers' grievance mechanism (GM) currently functioning for the West Bank and Gaza COVID-19 Emergency Response Project (P173800) will be applicable for the Project (as described in the LMP and consistent with ESS2). This GM will be strengthened before the start of project activities (if and as required) and maintained throughout the Project implementation.</p>	<p>GM will be strengthened (if and as required) by one month after project effectiveness date</p> <p>Maintain throughout the Project implementation.</p>	PMOH
ESS 3: RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT			
3.1	<p>WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN</p> <p>Relevant aspects of this standard shall be considered, as needed, under action 1.2 above and reflected in the ESMF of the Project, including, guidance for e-waste and Infection Control and Waste Management Plan (ICWMP) to be developed as needed in addition to climate friendly energy efficiency measures.</p>	The ESMF for the Project shall be disclosed and adopted by Project appraisal and maintained throughout the Project implementation.	PMOH
3.2	<p>RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT</p> <p>Incorporate resource efficiency and pollution prevention and management measures in the ESMF and environmental and social assessment to be prepared under action [1.2] above.</p>	During site-specific environmental and social assessment and maintain throughout Project implementation.	PMOH
ESS 4: COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY			
4.1	<p>TRAFFIC AND ROAD SAFETY</p> <p>N/A</p>	N/A	N/A
4.2	<p>COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY</p> <p>Assess and manage specific risks and impacts to the community arising from Project activities including, inter alia, risk of exposing communities to transmissible diseases, response to emergency situations, and include mitigation measures, proportionate to the level of risk, in the environmental and social assessment and subproject specific mitigation measures/instruments to be prepared in accordance with the ESMF.</p>	Same timeframe as for the preparation of the environmental and social assessment under actions 1.2b and 1.2c above and thereafter implemented throughout Project implementation.	PMOH

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
4.3	<p>SEA AND SH RISKS</p> <p>a. Prepare, adopt, disclose and implement a SEA/SH Action Plan for the Project in a manner acceptable to the World Bank.</p> <p>b. Assess and manage the risks of SEA and SH arising from Project activities and include SEA/SH mitigation measures, proportionate to the level of risk, in the site-specific subproject environmental and social assessment and E&S mitigation measures/instruments and Grievance Mechanisms.</p>	<p>a. The SEA/SH Action Plan will be prepared, reviewed and cleared by the Bank and disclosed by two months after project effectiveness and implemented throughout Project implementation.</p> <p>b. Same timeframe as for the preparation of the environmental and social assessment and E&S mitigation measures/instruments under 1.2b and 1.2c above, and thereafter implemented throughout Project implementation.</p>	PMOH
4.4	<p>SECURITY MANAGEMENT</p> <p>N/A</p>	N/A	N/A
ESS 5: LAND ACQUISITION, RESTRICTIONS ON LAND USE AND INVOLUNTARY RESETTLEMENT			
	This standard is not relevant	N/A	
ESS 6: BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF LIVING NATURAL RESOURCES			
	Not relevant		
ESS 7: INDIGENOUS PEOPLES/SUB-SAHARAN AFRICAN HISTORICALLY UNDERSERVED TRADITIONAL LOCAL COMMUNITIES			
	Not relevant		
ESS 8: CULTURAL HERITAGE			

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
	Not relevant		
ESS 9: FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES			
	Not relevant		
ESS 10: STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION DISCLOSURE			
10.1	STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN PREPARATION AND IMPLEMENTATION: Adopt, and implement the Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) for the Project, consistent with ESS10, which shall include measures to, inter alia, provide stakeholders with timely, relevant, understandable, and accessible information, and consult with them in a culturally appropriate manner, which is free of manipulation, interference, coercion, discrimination, and intimidation.	The SEP disclosed by project appraisal shall be implemented throughout Project implementation and updated as necessary.	PMOH
10.2	GRIEVANCE MECHANISM: The GM currently functioning for the West Bank and Gaza COVID-19 Emergency Response Project (P173800) will be applicable for the Project (as described in the SEP). This GM will be strengthened during project implementation (if and as required) and maintained throughout the Project implementation. The GM shall remain accessible and functional to receive and facilitate the resolution of concerns and grievances in relation to the Project, promptly and effectively, in a transparent manner that is culturally appropriate and readily accessible to all Project-Affected Parties (PAP), at no cost and without retribution, including concerns and grievances filed anonymously, in a manner consistent with ESS10.	GM will be strengthened (if and as required) by one month after project effectiveness date and shall be maintained throughout the implementation of the Project.	PMOH
CAPACITY SUPPORT (TRAINING)			

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
CS1	<p>Qualified environmental and social consultants, PMOH staff etc. will provide training for the PCU; suppliers, etc. as detailed in the project capacity development plan including (but not limited to):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specific aspects of environmental and social assessment • Occupational Health and Safety management • Integrating Environmental and Social Requirements in the procurement documents and compliance of the same • Emergency Preparedness and Response • Environmental and social mitigation measures/instruments implementation, monitoring, and reporting • Works relevant ESHS • Grievance Mechanism, including Workers' Grievance Mechanism • Stakeholder Identification and Engagement • Gender and Inclusion Issues (e.g. regarding vulnerable groups such as persons with disabilities, women-headed households, elderly, etc.) • Assessment of and Mitigation against SEA/SH • Labor Management • Code of Conduct for Workers 	An annual training program and calendar shall be prepared at the beginning of each year and shared with the World Bank and training shall be conducted based on the agreed annual training plan.	PMOH and the World Bank
CS2	Training for EHSO on SEA/SH prevention and response and to support implementation of the project SEA/SH Action Plan	A training needs and training program shall be prepared at the beginning of the project and shared with the World Bank by the start of the project and training will begin by one month after project effectiveness date and maintained throughout Project implementation	PMOH and the World Bank

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
CS3	<p>Training for Project workers on (not limited to):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Occupational Health and Safety · Emergency prevention and preparedness and response arrangements to emergency situations · Health Care Waste Management · Infection Prevention and Control Measures · Grievance Mechanism for Workers · SEA/SH issues · Code of Conduct for Workers 	An annual training program and calendar shall be prepared at the beginning of each year and shared with the World Bank and training shall start two month after the Project commencement date and maintained throughout Project implementation	PMOH