

**Republic of Rwanda
Rwanda Biomedical Center**

**Rwanda Health Emergency Preparedness, Response, and
Resilience Project using the Multiphase Programmatic
Approach (P504764)**

Draft

**ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL
COMMITMENT PLAN (ESCP)**

March 2024

1. The Republic of Rwanda (**the Recipient**) is planning to implement the Rwanda Health Emergency Preparedness, Response, and Resilience Project using the Multi-phase Programmatic Approach (**the Project**), with the involvement of the Ministry of Health (MoH) and the Rwanda Biomedical Center (“RBC” or the “Project Implementing Entity”), as set out in the Financing Agreement and the Project Agreement (the Financing Agreement and the Project Agreement together referred to as the “Legal Agreements”). The International Development Association (**IDA**) (**the Association**) has agreed to provide financing for the Project as outlined in the referenced Legal Agreements.
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 Legal Agreements. Unless otherwise defined in this ESCP, capitalized terms used in this ESCP have the meanings ascribed to them in the referred agreement.
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 arrangement, 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 a manner acceptable to the Association. Once adopted, the said E&S may be revised at any time with prior written agreement by the Association.
4. As agreed by the Association and the Recipient, this ESCP may 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 evaluation of Project performance. In such circumstances, the Recipient Rwanda Bio-Medical Centre and the Association agree to update the ESCP to reflect these changes by an exchange of signed letters signed between the Association and the Recipient, Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning (MINECOFIN). The Recipient shall promptly disclose the updated ESCP.

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MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
MONITORING AND REPORTING			
A	<p>REGULAR REPORTING</p> <p>Prepare and submit to the Association regular monitoring reports on the environmental, social, health and safety (ESHS) performance of the Project, including, but not limited to, the implementation of the ESCP, the preparation and implementation status of the E&S instruments required under the ESCP, including site-specific ESMPs, stakeholder engagement activities, safety aspects and the operation of the grievance mechanism (s), including the provisions for SEA/SH grievances.</p>	<p>Submit quarterly consolidated progress reports to the Association throughout Project implementation, commencing three (3) months after the Effective Date. Submit each report to the Association no later than 15 days after the end of the quarter.</p>	<p>RBC Single Project Implementation Unit (<i>RBC-SPIU</i>)</p>
B	<p>INCIDENTS AND ACCIDENTS</p> <p>Promptly notify the Association of any incident or accident related to the Project that 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.</p> <p>Provide sufficient information regarding the nature, severity, and possible causes of the incident or accident, indicating the immediate measures taken or planned to remedy it, and any information provided by any contractor and/or supervising firm, as applicable. Subsequently, at the Association’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 Association within 24 hours of the occurrence of any SEA/SH incidents or incidents resulting in death, and no later than 48 hours for any other incident or accident after becoming aware of it.</p> <p>Provide subsequent reports to the Association within 7 days after learning of the incident.</p>	<p><i>RBC-SPIU</i></p>
C	<p>CONTRACTORS’ MONTHLY REPORTS</p> <p>Require contractors and supervising firms to provide monthly monitoring reports on ESHS performance in accordance with the metrics specified in the respective bidding documents and contracts and submit such reports to the Association.</p>	<p>Submit the monthly reports to the Association as annexes to the reports to be submitted under Action A above.</p>	<p><i>RBC-SPIU</i></p>
ESS 1 : ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RISKS AND IMPACTS			
1.1	<p>ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE</p> <p>Maintain the RBC Single Project Implementation Unit (SPIU) with qualified staff and resources to support management of environmental, social, health and safety (ESHS) risks and impacts of the Project including with dedicated staff for this project, one environmental risk management specialist, and one gender (GBV/SEA/SH) and one social risk management specialist.</p>	<p>Maintain the SPIU as set out in the Legal Agreements. Ensure both environment risk management one gender (GBV/SEA/SH), and social risk management specialists are hired prior to effective date and thereafter</p>	<p><i>RBC-SPIU</i></p>

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	<p>All participating institutions (REMA, RAB, RDB, NCDA and GMO) shall assign one Environment and one Social specialist to maintain coordination and support E&S implementation of the Project.</p>	<p>maintain these positions throughout Project implementation.</p> <p>Appoint by effective date, one Environment and one Social specialist, and shall be maintained by each participating institution throughout the implementation of the Project.</p>	<p><i>REMA, RAB, RDB, NCDA and GMO (the “Participating Institutions”)</i></p>
1.2	<p>ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT INSTRUMENTS</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prepare, adopt and implement An Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF), in a manner consistent with the relevant ESS for the Project, including an annexed SEA/SH Action Plan (SEA/SH AP) with compliance checklists. The ESMF shall feature an annex of the Infection Control and Waste Management Plan (ICWMP). The ICWMP can be an update of the COVID-19 Emergency Response Project (P178282), updated for waste peculiarities of the Project. 2. Prepare and adopt and implement Environmental and Social Impact Assessments (ESIAs) and/or Environmental and Social Management Plans (ESMPs including compliance checklist annexes) for sub-projects, as set out in the ESMF. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. ESMF, shall be prepared, consulted, disclosed, and adopted prior to effectiveness and shall thereafter be implemented throughout Project implementation. 2. Prepare, consult, disclose, and adopt site- specific ESIAs/ESMPs as part of the bidding process for the respective sub-project/ activity prior to the commencement of works that require such instruments. Once adopted, implement the respective ESIA and ESMP throughout Project implementation. 	<p><i>RBC-SPIU as lead with participation of the Participating Institutions.</i></p>
1.3	<p>MANAGEMENT OF CONTRACTORS</p>		

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<p>Incorporate ESHS specifications into procurement documents and contracts with suppliers/contractors and supervising firms (where applicable), relevant aspects of the ESMF, including, inter alia, relevant material measures for the avoidance or mitigation of E&S risk and impacts, Labor Management Procedures including OHS risks, Code of Conduct prohibiting SEA/SH behavior and sanctions for non-compliance and regular training for workers on GBV, including SEA/HS risks and consequences, and any other mitigation measures established on the SEA/HS Action Plan. Subsequently ensure that service providers, contractors, and supervising firms comply with and ensure that subcontractors comply with the ESHS specifications of their respective contracts.</p> <p>In addition, ensure that Contractor ESMPs include provisions for managing SEA/SH risks using compliance checklists, in line with those developed by the SEA/SH Action plan of the Project. Thereafter ensure that the contractors and supervising firms comply and cause subcontractors to comply with the ESHS specifications of their respective contracts.</p>	<p>As part of the preparation of the respective procurement documents and contracts, and before any request for quotations.</p> <p>Supervise contractors throughout Project implementation.</p>	<p><i>RBC-SPIU</i></p> <p><i>Supervising firm</i> <i>Providers/suppliers</i> <i>Contractors</i></p>
<p>1.4 TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE</p> <p>Ensure that the consultancies, studies (including feasibility studies, if any), capacity building activities, training, and any other technical assistance activities under the Project, including technical support, are carried out in accordance with terms of reference that are acceptable to the Association and consistent with the ESSs. Thereafter ensure that the outputs of such activities comply with the terms of reference.</p>	<p>Throughout the implementation of the Project.</p>	<p><i>RBC-SPIU and Participating Institutions.</i></p>
<p>1.5 CONTINGENT EMERGENCY RESPONSE FINANCING (CERC)</p> <p>a) Ensure that the Contingency Emergency Response Manual (CERC Manual) as referred to in the Legal Agreements includes a description of the ESHS assessment and management arrangements including, if applicable, an ESMF Addendum that will be referred to in the CERC Manual for the implementation of CERC Part, in accordance with the ESSs.</p> <p>b) Prepare and adopt any environmental and social (E&S) instruments which may be</p>	<p>a) The adoption of the CERC Manual and, if applicable, other instruments, as relevant in form and substance acceptable to the Association, is a condition of withdrawal prior to disbursement for the CERC component.</p>	<p><i>RBC-SPIU</i></p>

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	required for activities under CERC component of the Project, in accordance with the CERC Manual and, if applicable, a CERC Addendum to the existing ESMF consistent with the ESSs, including a description of the ESHS assessment and management arrangements, and thereafter implement the measures and actions required under said E&S instruments, within the timeframes specified in these instruments.	b) Adopt any required E&S instruments and include them in the respective bidding procedures, when appropriate, and in any case prior to the implementation of the relevant Project activities for which the environmental and social instrument is required. Implement the E&S instruments in accordance with the conditions stipulated therein, throughout the implementation of the Project	
ESS 2 : LABOR AND WORKING CONDITIONS			
2.1	LABOR MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES Prepare, and adopt, and implement the Labor Management Procedures (LMP) for the Project, including, among others, 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, subcontractors, and supervising firms.	Adopt the LMP no later than 60 days after the Effective Date and then implement the LMP throughout the duration of the Project.	<i>RBC-SPIU and Participating Institutions.</i>
2.2	GRIEVANCE REDRESS MECHANISM FOR PROJECT WORKERS Establish and operate a grievance mechanism for Project workers as described in the LMP and consistent with ESS2, including procedures for reporting SEA/SH incidents in an ethical and confidential manner, following a survivor-centered approach.	Establish the Grievance Mechanism (GM) prior to start of civil works and engaging Project workers and thereafter maintain and operate throughout Project implementation.	<i>RBC-SPIU and Participating Institutions.</i>
ESS 3 : RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT			
3.1	WASTE AND HAZARDOUS MANAGEMENT PLAN 1. update, adopt and implement the updated Infection Control and Waste Management Plan (ICWMP) annexed in the Project ESMF as elaborated under 1.2, to manage hazardous and non-hazardous wastes consistent with ESS3. ICWMP of the Rwanda COVID-19 Emergency Response Project (P178282). 2. In the case of the renovation of buildings containing asbestos, the Recipient shall ensure that the removal of asbestos is carried out by 1 licensed firms.	Same timeframe as in section 1.2. Prior to commencement of subproject activities and throughout Project implementation. Same time frame as in section 1.2.	<i>RBC-SPIU and Participating Institutions.</i>

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<p>3. Develop guideline for e-waste management consisting of recovery, re-use, recycling as well as its collection and disposal mechanisms as annex to the ESMF to be used by all project beneficiaries. This includes guideline for managing refurbishment/retrofitting activities including residues from upgrading such mercury from lamps, gases from refrigeration equipment and if solar panels will be installed for solar power systems as would be provided for the e-waste guideline above.</p>		
<p>3.2 RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT</p> <p>Incorporate resource efficiency and pollution prevention and management measures into the ESMF and for subprojects in the ESIA's and ESMPs to be prepared under action 1.2</p>	<p>Same timeframe as in section 1.2.</p>	<p><i>RBC-SPIU</i></p>
<p>ESS 4 : POPULATION HEALTH AND SAFETY</p>		
<p>4.1 TRAFFIC AND ROAD SAFETY</p> <p>. Incorporate measures to manage traffic and road safety risks as required in the Project ESMF, and LMP into subproject ESMPs and C-ESMP.</p>	<p>Same timeframe as for the adoption and implementation of the ESMPs.</p>	<p><i>RBC-SPIU and Participating Institutions.</i></p>
<p>4.2 COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY</p> <p>Assess and manage specific risks and impacts to the community arising from Project activities, including, inter alia, exposure to transmissible diseases (including HIV/AIDS), noise, pollution, and other public health issues, safety risks, risky behavior Project workers, risks of labor influx, response to emergencies, and include mitigation measures in the ESMPs to be prepared in accordance with the ESMF.</p>	<p>Same timeframe as in section 1.2.</p>	<p><i>RBC-SPIU and Participating Institutions.</i></p>
<p>4.3 SEXUAL EXPLOITATION AND ABUSE AND SEXUAL HARASSMENT (EAS/HS) RISKS</p> <p>Prepare, adopt and implement SEA/SH Action Plan with measures to manage the risks of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA)/Sexual Harassment (HS) consistent with ESS4.</p> <p>The SEA/SH action plan shall include several measures, including but not limited to continuous SEA/SH risk identification, awareness-raising activities, community consultations, Project workers training, the signature of a code of conduct prohibiting and sanctioning SEA/SH acts by all Project actors (Project workers and other actors, including officials working on the Project but whose employment is not legally transferred to the</p>	<p>Adopt The SEA/SH Action Plan is an annex to the ESMF within the same timeframe as in section 1.2 and thereafter implemented throughout Project.</p>	<p><i>RBC-SPIU and Participating Institutions.</i></p>

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	Project), recruitment of a GBV specialist. The SEA/HS risk mitigation and response action plan shall be properly budgeted.		
4.4	<p>SECURITY MANAGEMENT</p> <p>Assess and implement measures to manage the security risks of the Project, including the risks of engaging security personnel to safeguard project workers, sites, assets, and activities, shall be carried out and a corresponding Security Management Plan guided by the principles of proportionality and GIIP, and by applicable law, in relation to hiring, rules of conduct, training, equipping, and monitoring of such personnel.</p>	Prior to hiring security personnel and thereafter implemented throughout the Project.	<i>RBC-SPIU</i>
ESS 5: LAND ACQUISITION, LAND USE RESTRICTIONS AND INVOLUNTARY RELOCATION (Not currently relevant)			
	Not currently relevant. No land acquisition shall take place under the Project without prior notice and approval of the Association and the adoption of the required instruments under ESS5.	Throughout Project implementation.	
ESS 6: BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF LIVING NATURAL RESOURCES			
6.1	<p>BIODIVERSITY RISKS AND IMPACTS</p> <p>Adopt and implement, as part of the ESMF, requirements on screening and mitigation measures to ensure that Project activities do not alter or cause the destruction of critical and/or natural habitats, in accordance with ESS6.</p> <p>Exclude from Project financing any activity on the negative list included in the ESMF, including subprojects/activities with significant risks and/or adverse impacts on biodiversity and those that would need clearing of any type of forested land. Project activities are not expected to harm biodiversity.</p>	Same timeframe as for section 1.2	<i>RBC-SPIU</i>
ESS 7: INDIGENOUS PEOPLES/SUB-SAHARAN AFRICAN HISTORICALLY UNDERSERVED TRADITIONAL LOCAL COMMUNITIES			
	Not relevant		
ESS 8: CULTURAL HERITAGE			
8.1	<p>CHANCE FINDS</p> <p>Include and implement chance find procedures in ESMF and for subprojects and ESIA/ESMPs in case valuable artifacts or culturally valuable materials are found during Project implementation.</p>	Same timeframe as action 1.2 and implemented throughout Project implementation.	<i>RBC-SPIU</i>

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ESS 10 : STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION DISCLOSURE			
10.1	<p>STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN PREPARATION AND IMPLEMENTATION</p> <p>Prepare, adopt and implement a Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) for the Project in accordance with the provisions of ESS10, which includes measures to, among other things, provide stakeholders with up-to-date, relevant, understandable, and accessible information, and to consult with them in a culturally sensitive manner, free from manipulation, interference, coercion, discrimination, and intimidation.</p>	Update the draft disclosed SEP by effective date, adopt. and implement throughout the implementation of the Project.	<i>RBC-SPIU and Participating Institutions.</i>
10.2	<p>PROJECT GRIEVANCE MECHANISM</p> <p>Establish, publicize, maintain, and operate an accessible Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) to receive and facilitate the timely and effective resolution of Project related concerns and complaints in a transparent, culturally appropriate, and easily accessible manner to all Project-affected parties, free of charge and without retribution, including anonymously filed concerns and complaints, in a manner consistent with the ESS10. The GRM shall have Grievance Redress Committees and shall be equipped with several entry points to receive, record, and facilitate the reception, management, and resolution of SEA/SH complaints, including through the referral of survivors to relevant gender-based violence service providers, in a safe, confidential and survivor-centered manner.</p>	Establish a Grievance Redress Mechanism and operationalize Grievance Redress Committees prior to the commencement of each subproject/activity.	<i>RBC-SPIU and Participating Institutions.</i>
CAPACITY SUPPORT (TRAINING)			
CS1	<p>RBC shall provide training and capacity building support to Project staff, stakeholders, members of affected communities on the following topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stakeholder Identification and Engagement. • Specific monitoring and management aspects of environmental and social impact assessment implementation • emergency preparedness and response; • Occupational health and safety; • Population Health And Safety; • Trainer’s training on veterinary care and veterinary laboratory activities waste management; • Refresher training of staff and cleaners on biowaste management; • Develop good practice guides and refresher train staff involved in the use of waste management (for selective sorting, use of bins, equipment, etc.) and display internal waste management procedures; • Refresher training of laboratory technicians, but also agents in charge of BW 	<p>Prepare a training plan for each of the listed topics 90 days after effectiveness and conduct training before the commencement of the Project activities. Conduct training there after annually.</p> <p>To increase efficiency, the members of the Grievance Redress Committee will be trained on the work site for 10 days after the start of the activities.</p>	RBC-SPIU and Participating Institutions.

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	<p>disposal, operation, and maintenance of incinerators before their installation (broad outlines of the treatment and operation process; health and safety related to operations; emergency and rescue procedures; technical procedures; maintenance; control and monitoring of the process and residues, etc.).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prevention and response to the risks of SEA/ SH and GBV associated with the Project. • Training of Grievance Redress Committees within the framework of GRM 		
CS2	<p>Train Project workers on occupational health and safety; emergency prevention, preparedness and response arrangements; health emergencies related to climate change; application of labor-management procedures, code of conduct; reporting on incidents; sexual exploitation, abuse and sexual harassment; including mitigating the effects of epidemics.</p>	<p>Prepare a training plan 90 days after effectiveness and conduct training for Project workers before the beginning commencement of Project activities.</p>	<p><i>RBC-SPIU and Participating Institutions.</i></p>