Concept Environmental and Social Review Summary

Concept Stage

(ESRS Concept Stage)

Date Prepared/Updated: 03/24/2020 | Report No: ESRSC01208

BASIC INFORMATION

A. Basic Project Data

Country	Region	Project ID	Parent Project ID (if any)
Dominican Republic	LATIN AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN	P171778	
Project Name	Dominican Republic Water Supply and Sanitation Improvement Project		
Practice Area (Lead)	Financing Instrument	Estimated Appraisal Date	Estimated Board Date
Water	Investment Project Financing	5/29/2020	12/11/2020
Borrower(s)	Implementing Agency(ies)		
Dominican Republic, Ministry of Finance	Ministry of Economy, Planning, and Development, Water and Sewerage Corporation of Moca (CORAAMOCA), National Institute for Water Supply and Sewerage		

Proposed Development Objective(s)

To increase the efficiency, access and quality of water supply and sanitation services in target areas of the Dominican Republic.

Financing (in USD Million)	Amount
Total Project Cost	43.50

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

No

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

The Project intends, through its investments in infrastructure and technical assistance, to: (i) improve the efficiency and quality of water supply and sanitation services including wastewater treatment in the municipalities of Moca and

Gaspar Hernandez. This includes expanding access to sewerage in these localities; (ii) have a local impact on the institutional capacity of CORAAMOCA to improve efficiency and quality of services and increase the resilience of the utility, and (iii) identify reform opportunities at the national level to improve the sector's efficiency for future operations.

Three components envisaged under the Project include: (i) Infrastructure investments to improve water and sanitation infrastructure and efficiency; (ii) technical assistance to (a) improve CORAAMOCA's efficiency, effectiveness, resilience, and ability to engage consumers and problem-solve, (b) identify national level support for sector reform opportunities; and (iii) program management.

D. Environmental and Social Overview

D.1. Project location(s) and salient characteristics relevant to the ES assessment [geographic, environmental, social]

The project will be implemented in La Espaillat province with the aim to improve water distribution and wastewater treatment management in selected municipalities within the Moca Aqueduct and Sewerage Corporation (Corporacion del Acueducto y Alcantarillado de Moca-CORAAMOCA) service area. Currently, two municipalities have been identified, namely Gaspar Hernandez and Moca. However, other municipalities may be included in the project based on the results of the feasibility and engineering studies to be conducted during project implementation.

The exact scope and location of project activities have not been identified at this stage; however, it is anticipated that these will include the construction of two wastewater treatment plants (WWTP) (one in each pre-identified municipality), along with the rehabilitation and expansion of wastewater collectors and the installation of household connections. The project also includes the upgrade of La Dura water treatment plant, micro, and macro meter installation, and rehabilitation of the water distribution networks in Moca and other municipalities. At this stage, and pending confirmation of the feasibility studies and engineering designs, the wastewater treatment plant investment in Moca will likely be located within the currently disabled wastewater treatment facility of Las Colinas (built in the 1970s and which ceased functioning in 2004). Adjacent to this facility, there is a solid waste landfill that collects all of Moca's solid waste. The feasibility study for Moca that will be developed during project implementation will also consider the decommissioning of Las Colinas and will further assess the risks posed by the solid waste landfill, in case it is decided that Las Colinas is a viable option for the construction of the new wastewater treatment plant. The surrounding area of Las Colinas is characterized by a combination of urban settlements and small businesses. Investments for the upgrade of the water treatment plant of La Dura will take place in the already existing and operating plant, which is located in a peri-urban area of the municipality of Moca.

Moca is located at the upstream end of the Camu river basin which drains into the Yuna basin. The receiving water body of the Yuna basin is the Samana Bay, which is the largest semi-enclosed bay in the Caribbean, and the most important sanctuary for humpback whales in the North Atlantic. Moca is the largest municipality in La Espaillat Province, accounting for 78% of its urban population. It is also the third-largest municipality in the Yuna and Camu basins and is, therefore, a significant source of pollution to downstream users.

In Moca, most of the urban dwellers have access to piped water with some gaps remaining in rural areas. While only 1/3 of the urban population is connected to a sewerage network (2/3 is using on-site sanitation systems that

discharge to nearby rivers or leach into subsoil and water bodies), the network is dysfunctional as the collector systems have collapsed and wastewater is disposed into local creeks and the Moca river.

Moca lacks a Land-use Zoning Plan; thus, urban development has been spread out and, in some cases, under poor living conditions and without proper natural disaster and environmental considerations. Illegal urban settlements on both margins of the river banks and other water bodies are considered highly vulnerable to natural disaster risks (hurricanes, cyclones, heavy rain or flooding).

The municipality of Gaspar Hernandez is located in the north coast of the country and is known for its tourism and agricultural production. Gaspar Hernandez is the second most populated municipality in La Espaillat Province, with approximately 57,302 inhabitants. This municipality does not have any sewerage networks. Canals that run through the municipality serve as wastewater conduits that are discharged directly to the coastline.

D. 2. Borrower's Institutional Capacity

The project will be implemented by the National Institute of Drinking Water and Sewage (Instituto Nacional de Aguas Potables y Alcantarillado, INAPA) through a Project Implementation Unit (PIU) within INAPA. The PIU will be responsible for the preparation, implementation and supervision responsibilities related to the project. INAPA is overseen by the Ministry of Health for budgetary purposes. INAPA has a department of Rural Development and Environmental Management which is responsible for the design and implementation of policies aiming at closing existing gaps on water provision services between urban and rural areas. The country does not have a policy-making nor a regulatory body in charge of water and sanitation services, and even though the Ministry of Economy and Planning plays a national planning role in this matter, it does not have expertise in the sector.

INAPA has no previous experience in implementing projects with the World Bank, however, it was involved in the preparation of the World Bank Resilient Agriculture and Integrated Water Resources Management Project (P163260), which is still pending effectiveness. INAPA neither has experience in designing or implementing resettlement plans. Given that this will be the first time that INAPA will be implementing a World Bank project, a proper capacity assessment of the implementing agency will be carried out during preparation to ensure adequate environmental and social (E&S) management capacity is in place for project implementation.

During project preparation, the role and involvement of the Water and Sewerage Corporation of Moca (CORAAMOCA) within the PIU's implementing functions will be assessed and defined. Appropriate institutional arrangements will be established for project implementation as well as training, capacity building, and other E&S management support activities included in the project to ensure effective management of all project risks.

The Bank will provide guidance and support to the PIU for the development of the project's E&S instruments required by the ESF. Specific capacity building measures agreed between the Bank and the Borrower, such as additional training, will be included in the ESCP.

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

A. Environmental and Social Risk Classification (ESRC) Substantial

Environmental Risk Rating Substantial

The environmental risk rating for the project is considered substantial at this stage. The project will finance infrastructure activities under component 1 and technical assistance activities under component 2. Infrastructure investments will include: (i) the construction of two WWTPs along with the rehabilitation and expansion of wastewater collectors; (ii) upgrade activities in the water treatment plant "La Dura" located in Moca; and (iii) the rehabilitation of water distribution networks and micrometering activities throughout La Espalliat Province. Specific technical details related to project activities under (i) and (iii), including the location, type, and collective scale/magnitude of expected investments is not yet fully known at this stage. The environmental risk anticipated for the WWTP infrastructure under (i) is considered substantial, given that sites in the proximity of receiving water bodies or existing environmental liabilities (including the potential need to decommission and dispose of existing facilities, which may require site remediation) cannot yet be ruled out. The environmental risk anticipated for infrastructure investments under (ii) and (iii) is considered moderate given that the scope of expected investments is limited to rehabilitation works.

Key environmental risks and impacts are expected to occur during the construction and operational phases and are expected to be site-specific, short-term, and effectively avoided, minimized or mitigated subject to the establishment of a proper E&S management system within the project. Some of the key negative potential impacts during the construction and operation phases of the project may include: (i) vegetation and soil loss for the construction of the WWTPs and wastewater systems; (ii) generation of solid waste from residual construction materials; (iii) generation of solid waste and sludge for the WWTPs activities; (iv) nuisance related to dust generation, vibration, noise and odors ; (v) temporary disruptions to local traffic; and (vii) OHS hazards for the workforce. The location and scale of works will be determined during implementation, and the risk rating may be increased or decreased proportionately if deemed necessary.

Social Risk Rating Substantial

The Social risk is rated as substantial due to the following reasons: (i) Lack of access to water is a key source of strikes and unrest across the country. The risk of social unrest also exists under this project if the measures to improve water access, billing and fee collection for water delivery and use are not implemented in a pro-poor manner and communicated effectively to the key stakeholders. (ii) Hygiene practices of poorest segments of beneficiaries could be adversely affected if their water use is reduced linked to the new billing and fee collection measures, (iii) The civil works may require physical or economic displacement leading to loss of income sources or other means of livelihoods particularly in high-density neighborhoods, businesses, and schools. The communities involved will likely be vulnerable in the sense of weak tenure security and legal titles. The sub-project locations are currently unknown. The nature and level of land and resettlement related impacts will be determined once the specific sub-project sites are finalized and the engineering designs are completed. (iv) There are social exclusion risks especially for vulnerable stakeholders, including the risk of women or local youth not fully benefiting from available job opportunities created by the project, and community/day/rotating workers, especially Haitian migrant workers, which exist in large numbers across the country, may not have full access to a contract, proper working conditions, health and safety measures in work areas, if targeted measures are not in place. There are also certain risks associated to the client's low institutional capacity. INAPA has no track record in conducting and implementing social assessments as well as

carrying out resettlement or restoration of livelihood practices. Additional staff will need to be retained throughout project implementation to monitor the social risks and impacts, including communication staff.

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:

The project is expected to have substantial E&S risks and impacts. Component 1 will include civil works for the construction of two new WWTPs, rehabilitation and expansion of wastewater collectors, and the installation of household connections in Moca and Gaspar Hernandez, as well as the upgrade of the existing water treatment plant in Moca (La Dura), the installation of micro and macro meters, and the rehabilitation of the water distribution networks in Moca and other municipalities yet to be defined. The exact scope, design, and location of such infrastructure activities will be defined during project implementation once the feasibility and engineering studies have been completed. Since there is the possibility that the construction of the new WWTP in Moca will take place on the already disabled WWTP (Las Colinas), some aspects will need to be further assessed, as these may include decommissioning activities (including the potential need for site remediation) and potential impacts of the operating landfill adjacent to this plant. In addition, given the country's high level of seismicity, project related studies will ensure that all civil works designs include resilience considerations towards natural disaster risks. Site selection of the WWTPs and other infrastructure will be critical to avoid E&S risks and impacts.

The potential E&S risks and impacts expected from these activities are anticipated to be site-specific, temporary, and manageable. In the construction phase, these may include, among others: vegetation and soil removal, construction waste generation, noise and dust generation, temporary blockage and diversion of traffic for construction works (use of heavy machinery and excavations next to existing rights of ways (ROW)s, potential temporary drainage impacts related to excavation and temporary stockpiling of excavated material; pavement resurface works for wastewater collectors and water distribution networks and potential service disruptions of domestic water supply services in the affected municipalities. These civil works may require physical or economic displacement leading to loss of income sources or other means of livelihood or both. Any resettlement, economic displacement, or other types of impact to the community will be confirmed by the specific project locations once engineering designs are completed. During the operation phase, key environmental risks and impacts may be related to the use of chemicals in waste and wastewater treatment, generation and management of sludge from wastewater, and noise, odor emissions, and effluent discharge. Specific E&S mitigation measures to address impacts generated during the construction and operation phases following the mitigation hierarchy will be included in the E&S instruments to be prepared for the project.

Potential risk of social unrest is also possible due to the increased overhead cost towards businesses who will need to pay for water access and potentially could have their income generation affected. At this stage of the project, it is not possible to identify whether, as a result of businesses needing to pay for the use of water, these businesses will need to increase their prices to customers causing disagreements among the population, or whether this could have any other negative impacts to vulnerable population. Based on the outcome of the assessments, the Project will implement a system to monitor short to medium term impacts of this component and assist businesses with the transition through measures to assist with the rationalization of water use, access to social tariffs where appropriate

or improved financial management. Stakeholder engagement will be key in obtaining Project Affected People (PAPs)'s feedback on impacts and mitigation options. Special attention will be given to the identification of vulnerable households and on the ways to better address their particular needs.

Component 2 will finance technical activities to be carried out at local and national levels that will provide useful information regarding water use and management. This component is not expected to result in direct E&S impacts, however, all TORs to be developed for this component will be reviewed to ensure that E&S considerations are included. Final products will be reviewed by the Bank to ensure they meet ESF standards. Component 3 "Program management" is related to project management activities, and no environmental or social risks are anticipated. expected from this component.

The Borrower will prepare, consult and disclose prior to appraisal the following instruments:

(i) Detailed Terms of Reference (TORs) for the E&S studies to be carried out for the two WWTPs that are not yet identified in terms of siting or technology. These will take place in parallel with the prefeasibility, feasibility and design studies during implementation, to guide the site selection, design, assessment, and ESHS mitigation and monitoring plans as information become available.

(ii) An Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) for the upgrade of the La Dura water treatment plant. The ESMP was determined to be the right E&S instrument given the limited scope of project investments, which include minor upgrade works and the procurement of equipment for laboratory, water treatment, and health and safety operations.

(iii) An Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) which will include an Environmental and Social Assessment (ESA) to guide investments and the preparation of specific ESHS Management Plans as needed, for the water distribution networks and macro/micrometer installation-related investments across La Espaillat Province.

E&S instruments for the WWTPs, the upgrade of La Dura, and the water distribution networks will be developed in compliance with the ESF standards and complement national environmental permit and licensing processes that need to be undertaken before any civil works begin, and will include an Occupational Health and Safety Plan (OHSP). Furthermore, they will include information on project characteristics and baseline conditions (as known at appraisal stage), applicable national legislation, and overall potential direct, indirect and cumulative environmental and social risks and impacts, as well as implementation arrangements for INAPA and the PIU during the preparation and construction phases based on the types of activities to be financed by the project. All project E&S instruments will also include an environmental liabilities assessment, an alternative analysis for the siting of the project's infrastructure, a Chance Finds screening procedures and a natural disaster risk assessment as necessary and will consider the World Bank Group (WBG) Environmental, Health and Safety (EHS) Guidelines as well as those specific to Water and Sanitation aspects. The ESMF will include generic management and mitigation measures for all E&S impacts identified in the ESA and known to be associated with these types of investments.

The Borrower will also prepare and disclose before project appraisal and as early as possible a Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) in a manner that is accessible and culturally appropriate, as well as a Labor Management Procedure (LMP) and a Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF). The Borrower will also need to prepare and disclose an

Environmental and Social Commitment Plan (ESCP) prior to appraisal, which will be reviewed by the Bank. The ESCP will include all necessary measures that the project will need to address during preparation and implementation in relation to all E&S instruments and in compliance with the ESF, as well as monitoring and reporting arrangements during project implementation.

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

None

ESS10 Stakeholder Engagement and Information Disclosure

The PIU will prepare, disclose and consult on, before appraisal, a stakeholder analysis and Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) to map out the various stakeholders and develop a strategy on how to engage with them, share project information, mitigate potential social conflicts and/or misperceptions about project impacts and benefits and solicit feedback on the project. The SEP will outline (i) who the key stakeholders are; (ii) how they are to be engaged; (iii) how often the engagement will occur throughout the project; (iv) how feedback will be solicited, recorded and monitored over the project; (v) who will be charged/responsible with this engagement; (vi) timeline for this engagement, and budget. A project-level Grievance Redress Mechanism will also be elaborated in the SEP. This will be completed and disclosed well in advance of appraisal so that it can inform preparation-stage stakeholder engagement activities. It is expected that several types of stakeholders will need to be targeted. The key stakeholders should include INAPA, CORAAMOCA, "Juntas de Vecinos" (Neighborhoods board), women's organizations, and NGOs. The SEP will include a gender consultation to identify specific issues and contextual factors affecting male and female stakeholders. The project will ensure to engage beneficiaries and other stakeholders (including the implementing agencies) in gender-sensitive project design and implementation to build skills and knowledge for gender-sensitive water services and resource management. The process of stakeholder engagement will begin during preparation and continue into implementation. Prior to appraisal, the following measures will be implemented: (i) stakeholder identification and analysis; (ii) developing the SEP; (iii) disclosure of information; and (iv) consultation with stakeholders on the project overall as well as on the E&S instruments.

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. The project will be implemented by a mixture of government officials, consultants, and contractors, including specialized personnel and laborers for different aspects of project implementation. At this stage of the project, it is uncertain whether there would be labor influx or workers will come from the local area. The client will have the first draft of an LMP ready before appraisal and will have a final version prior to first disbursement. The LMP will identify the different types of workers and risks according to the activities they will be performing. The LMP will identify the equipment, safety, and emergency protocols that are needed to protect the integrity of every different type of worker for activities related to Components 1 and 2. It will also contain measures to address potential risks and impacts that may arise from the interaction between project workers and local communities. The project will not hire children under the age of 18 and will promote transparency in terms and conditions of employment, non-discrimination, and equal opportunity. In addition, the LMP will include a GRM specifically for project workers to ensure they have a mechanism in place for complaints and grievances. To ensure

that the project promotes safe workspaces for women, and to avoid that beneficiaries become targets of sexual harassment and assault, the LMP will include a code of conduct addressing respectful interaction with the community in general and SEA-SH in particular. This code of conduct will apply to all types of project workers within the LMP and will have scope consistent with the ESF and international good practices. Both the labor GRM as well as the overall project GRM will include specific procedures and train personnel, to register and refer potential complaints related to gender based violence (GBV) or sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA).

In addition to identifying potential SEA/SH impacts, and establishing the proper mitigation and response mechanisms, the LMP will need to apply the principle of equal opportunity and fair treatment in the employment of project workers, to avoid gender discrimination, and to promote women's empowerment. The Borrower will ensure to provide appropriate measures of protection and assistance to address the vulnerabilities of project workers, including specific groups of workers such as women, people with disabilities, migrant workers and young workers

To ensure the health and safety of workers during the construction and implementation phases of the project, the borrower will develop and implement an OHSP in line with the WBG Occupational Health and Safety EHS Guidelines. The OHSP will include procedures for incident/accident investigation and reporting, recording and reporting of non-conformances, emergency preparedness, and response procedures, and continuous training for workers. OHS hazards associated with the project activities may include among others: (i) working at height; (ii) slips, trips and falls; (iii) material and manual handling; (iv) failure to use proper protective equipment; and (iv) exposure to hazardous substances (asbestos and others).

The borrower will be actively monitoring these processes throughout the project cycle to ensure adherence to the standard.

ESS3 Resource Efficiency and Pollution Prevention and Management

The standard is relevant as there are potential sources of pollution from the construction and operation of the project activities under component 1. Appropriate mitigation measures will be included in all E&S instruments to be developed following the mitigation hierarchy. Some possible mitigation measures will include the following:

Vegetation and soil loss: Soil removal, clearance of vegetation and biodiversity loss may occur from construction activities for the rehabilitation of the water supply networks, wastewater collectors, as well as for the upgrade of the water treatment plant and the new construction of WWTPs. All construction material needed for all rehabilitation and construction activities (sand, stones, timber, etc.) will be obtained from licensed quarries and certified timber suppliers.

Water: The construction and operation of the two WWTPs are expected to contribute to water quality in the near-by rivers and water bodies in the Espaillat province. Thus, a baseline study for receiving water bodies and quality monitoring parameters will be included in the E&S TORs to be prepared, and these will be a requirement to report upon during operation. In addition, the proposed implementation of household metering and progressive water tariffs is expected to result in an incentive to the rational use of water.

Waste Management: Construction waste will include mostly waste from excavated soil and debris and hazardous waste such as hydrocarbon oils from construction machinery and vehicles. Any waste generated by construction activities will be disposed according to national regulations and international best practices. Waste management will also include decommissioning existing facilities and potential requirements for site remediation (including of soils, if applicable). All E&S instruments will be required to include specific measures for the management of dangerous materials as a result of the potential decommissioning activities, as well as for all the rehabilitation and construction of all civil works envisioned as part of the project. In addition, they will include measures to address and manage sludge from the wastewater treatment according to the technology that will be decided upon as part of the feasibility and engineering studies.

Hazardous chemicals: Potential use of chemicals and hazardous materials for water and wastewater treatment operations will be assessed during project preparation, and all E&S instruments will include mitigation measures and good practices accordingly.

Air emissions and noise: These may be generated during the construction phase from the use of heavy vehicles, machinery, and construction activities. However, based on the proposed project activities, these are expected to be minimal. Nonetheless, all E&S instruments will consider mitigation measures, which may include dust suppression and vehicle maintenance, to minimize the impact of air emissions and to minimize and manage the noise levels, such as applying standard restrictions to hours of site work. The project will need to undertake GHG accounting using an agreed methodology during project preparation. The approach to the GHG accounting will be detailed in the appraisal stage ESRS.

Efficiency measures: Energy efficiency measures such as efficient lighting, cooling, heating, and other energy efficiency equipment will be a factor in this project, where applicable, these aspects will be considered during the construction phase of the rehabilitation and construction of the water and WWTPs. Regarding water efficiency, the core objective of the project is to enhance the efficiency of water supply and treatment systems.

ESS4 Community Health and Safety

This standard is relevant given that all project activities may expose communities to health and safety risks, especially if there are communities that are immediately close to the construction sites and activities. The presence of near-by communities will be confirmed during project implementation once the exact locations of the project construction activities are known. Some impacts from water and wastewater civil works that may cause inconvenience to local communities may include air emissions and odors, disposal of effluent water, hazardous materials, closure of roads, traffic disruptions, and others. Careful siting of WWTPs to avoid their proximity to known seismic fault zones in the Espaillat province will be considered during the design phase. Specific management plans addressing these, and all other issues identified will be included accordingly in the TORs for the E&S studies and eventual site-specific ESHS Management Plans. The use of security workers is not expected based on the information available at this stage of project preparation. However, the security risks of site-specific activities and the potential need for security workers to protect personnel or property will be assessed during preparation. Fences and security systems around the project sites, as well as secured storage places for the construction equipment during the construction period, will also be assessed and considered in the E&S instruments.

Potential risks and impacts of labor influx coming from other communities within La Espaillat Province will also be assessed during preparation. The grievance redress mechanism (GRM) for the SEP will also need to address community complaints and provide answers to any questions that they may have about the project. This will be particularly important for any potential labor influx, even if the labor is coming from other communities within La Espaillat Province.

ESS5 Land Acquisition, Restrictions on Land Use and Involuntary Resettlement

The standard is relevant as land will be required for the construction of project facilities. However, at this stage of the project, there is not enough information to establish how much land will be needed and whether it will need to be acquired and/or will cause resettlement, economic displacement or land/resource use restrictions. An RPF will be prepared for the project by appraisal. The RPF will state the governing principles to carry land acquisition for the Project in accordance with ESS5, and the process by which the land acquisition and resettlement actions will take place, including any key gaps between local practices and ESS5 and ways to address them, including, among other things, eligibility criteria for defining various categories of displaced persons, and methods for valuing affected assets. It would establish milestones and responsibilities of the actors involved, it would identify the actors that will prepare, approve and implement the Resettlement Action Plans (RAPs). It will also entail an annotated outline of what will be included in each RAP. Once the specific sites are identified and land acquisition or land-use change is determined to be needed, one or more Resettlement Action Plans (RAPs) will be prepared before works are bid out and implemented before construction works start at each site. It is also noted that INAPA has no experience in resettlement, which creates an additional risk if resettlement would be needed. INAPA has some experience in providing temporary shelters at the national level when there are natural disasters.

ESS6 Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Management of Living Natural Resources

At this stage, the specific locations of construction activities are still to be determined. However, given that La Espaillat province is considered as one of the most diverse ecosystem areas of the country, the E&S instruments will provide guidance on biodiversity screening and mitigation measures to ensure that project activities do not alter or cause destruction or degradation of any critical or sensitive natural habitats, especially forests and wetlands. Once the exact locations for the civil works are confirmed, and if deemed necessary, site-specific ESHS Management Plans will include Biodiversity Management Plans for those activities that may pose a risk to natural habitats.

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

TThis standard is not relevant, given that there are no identified indigenous communities neither in Moca or Gaspar Hernandez.

ESS8 Cultural Heritage

This standard is relevant since some of the construction activities may involve soil excavations. The E&S instruments will include screening procedures for any known sites of cultural or historic importance and will include appropriate

measures to avoid, minimize or mitigate impacts as necessary. Site-specific ESHS Management Plans will furthermore include Chance Finds Procedures for civil works to be carried out under the project. All construction contracts will also include a Chance Finds clause which will require contractors to take protective measures in case cultural heritage sites are discovered during construction.

ESS9 Financial Intermediaries

The standard is not relevant. FI's are not part of this project.

B.3 Other Relevant Project Risks

None

C. Legal Operational Policies that Apply

OP 7.50 Projects on International Waterways No

The project does not take place on international waterways.

OP 7.60 Projects in Disputed Areas No

The project is not in disputed areas.

III. WORLD BANK ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL DUE DILIGENCE

A. Is a common approach being considered? No

Financing Partners

None

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

Actions to be completed prior to Bank Board Approval:

Prior to appraisal, the borrower will prepare draft versions of the following documents that provide the necessary level of detail to inform stakeholder engagement and Bank decision-making and are key for understanding the project's most relevant ESHS risks and impacts:

- E&S TORs for the two WWTPs
- ESMP including an ESHS Management Plan for the investments in the water supply plant (La Dura)
- ESMF including an ESA for water distribution networks and metering related investments
- SEP
- RPF (to be finalized before first disbursement)
- ESCP
- First draft of an LMP

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

The ESCP will include details and timeframes for:

(i) The development or finalization and implementation of all E&S instruments (TORs, ESMP, and ESMF/ESMPs, RPF, project-level ESHS Management Plans and RAPs as needed for each investment;
(ii) The implementation of the SEP with its GRM;
(iii) - Finalization of LMP prior to first disbursement, and implementation of the LMP with its GRM;
(iv) Implementation arrangements and any necessary E&S staffing and capacity-building measures.

For all project activities that will be designed and executed during project implementation, the ESCP will specify that detailed site-specific planning shall include site-specific E&S assessments commensurate with their potential risks and impacts, and ESHS Management Plans consulted with relevant stakeholders, disclosed and approved by the Bank prior to issuance of corresponding bid packages.

C. Timing

Tentative target date for preparing the Appraisal Stage ESRS 10-May-2020

IV. CONTACT POINTS

World Bank

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Borrower/Client/Recipient

Borrower: Dominican Republic

Borrower: Ministry of Finance

Implementing Agency(ies)

Implementing Agency: Ministry of Economy, Planning, and Development

Implementing Agency: Water and Sewerage Corporation of Moca (CORAAMOCA)

Implementing Agency: National Institute for Water Supply and Sewerage

V. FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

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VI. APPROVAL

Task Team Leader(s):	Craig Phillip Kullmann, Victor Vazquez Alvarez
Practice Manager (ENR/Social)	Valerie Hickey Recommended on 23-Mar-2020 at 12:57:50 EDT
Safeguards Advisor ESSA	Maria Da Cunha (SAESSA) Cleared on 24-Mar-2020 at 18:08:46 EDT