

**Republic of Congo / Ministry of Social  
Affairs and Humanitarian Action  
Republic of Congo Lisungi Emergency  
COVID-19 Response Project (P174178)**

**Draft**

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

**May 14, 2020**

## ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL COMMITMENT PLAN

1. The Republic of Congo (hereinafter the "Borrower") will implement the Republic of Congo Lisungi Emergency COVID-19 Response Project (the "Project"), with the participation of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Humanitarian Action (MSAHA) and the LISUNGI Safety Nets System Project II (P166143) Project Implementing Unit. The International Development Association (hereinafter the "Association") has agreed to provide financing for Project.
2. The Borrower will implement measures and material actions so that the project is implemented in accordance with Environmental and Social Standards (**ESSs**). This Environmental and Social Commitment Plan (**ESCP**) sets out material measures and actions, any specific documents or plans, as well as the timing for each of these.
3. The Borrower is responsible for compliance with all the requirements of the ESCP even when the implementation of specific measures and actions is conducted by the Ministry, agency or unit mentioned in point 1. Above.
4. Implementation of the material measures and actions set out in this ESCP will be monitored and reported to the Association by the Borrower as required by the ESCP and the conditions of the legal agreement, and the Association will monitor and assess progress and completion of the material measures and actions throughout implementation of the Project.
5. As agreed by the Association and the Borrower this ESCP may be revised from time to time during Project implementation, to reflect adaptive management of Project change and unforeseen circumstances or in response to assessment of Project performance conducted under the ESCP itself. In such circumstances, the Borrower will agree to the changes with the Association and will update the ESCP to reflect such changes. Agreement on change to the ESCP will be documented through the exchange of letters signed between the Association and the Borrower. The Borrower will promptly disclose the updated ESCP.
6. Where Project changes, unforeseen circumstances, or Project performance result in changes to the risks and impacts during Project implementation, the Borrower shall provide additional funds, if needed, to implement actions and measures to address such risks and impacts.

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
<b>MONITORING AND REPORTING</b>			
A	<b>REGULAR REPORTING:</b> 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, stakeholder engagement activities and grievances log.	Quarterly, throughout the project implementation period.	Ministry of Social Affairs / LISUNGI Project Implementing Unit
<b>ESS 1: ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RISKS AND IMPACTS</b>			
1.1	<b>ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE:</b> The LISUNGI Project Implementing Unit will recruit qualified staff and resources to support the management of the project's environmental, social, health and safety risks and impacts, including one Environmental Specialist, one Socials Specialist, and one SEA/SH Specialist.	No later than two months after project Effectiveness. The organizational structure, including the specialists, will be maintained throughout the implementation of the Project.	MSAHA / LISUNGI Project Implementing Unit
1.2	<b>ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL ASSESSMENT/MANAGEMENT PLANS AND INSTRUMENTS/ CONTRACTORS</b> a. Assess the environmental and social risks and impacts of proposed Project activities, in accordance with the <i>Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF)</i> , to be updated and disclosed pursuant to the provisions of the Loan Agreement, including to ensure that individuals or groups who, because of their particular circumstances, may be disadvantaged or vulnerable, have access to the development benefits resulting from the Project, in a manner acceptable to the Association. The existing ESMF for the LISUNGI Safety Nets System Project II (P166143) will be used to be updated, disclosed, and implemented.	a. Updated and disclosed no later than two months after project Effectiveness. Implemented throughout Project implementation. b. Before the carrying out of the relevant Project activities, and thereafter throughout the carrying out of such activities.	MSAHA / LISUNGI Project Implementing Unit

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS	TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
<p>b. Prepare, disclose, adopt, and implement any environmental and social management plans (ESMPs) or other instruments required for the respective Project activities based on the assessment process, in accordance with the ESSs, the ESMF, the EHSGs, and other relevant Good International Industry Practice (GIIP) including <i>the WHO guidelines on COVID-19</i>, in a manner acceptable to the Association.</p> <p>c. Incorporate the relevant aspects of this ESCP, including, inter alia, any environmental and social management plans or other instruments, ESS2 requirements, and any other required ESHS measures, into the ESHS specifications of the procurement documents and contracts with contractors and supervising firms. Thereafter ensure that the contractors and supervising firms comply with the ESHS specifications of their respective contracts.</p>	<p>c. Before launching the procurement process for the relevant Project activities, and thereafter throughout the carrying out of such activities.</p>	
<p>1.3 <b>EXCLUSION :</b>                      Exclude the following type of activities as ineligible for financing under the Project:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Activities that may cause long-term, permanent and / or irreversible negative effects (such as loss of major natural habitat)</li> <li>• Activities that are likely to cause serious adverse effects on human health and / or the environment</li> <li>• Activities likely to have negative social impacts and which may give rise to significant social conflicts</li> <li>• Activities likely to affect the land or rights of Indigenous Peoples or other vulnerable minorities</li> <li>• Activities that may involve permanent resettlement or acquisition of land or negative impacts on cultural heritage</li> <li>• Activities that would require free, informed, and prior consent (FPIC)</li> <li>• All other excluded activities set out in the ESMF of the Project.</li> </ul>	<p>During the assessment process conducted under action 1.2.a. above.</p>	<p>MSAHA / LISUNGI Project Implementing Unit</p>

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
<b>ESS 2: LABOR AND WORKING CONDITIONS</b>			
2.1	<p><b>LABOR MANAGEMENT:</b></p> <p>The Project shall be carried out in accordance with the applicable requirements of ESS2, in a manner acceptable to the Association, including through, inter alia, the implementation of Labor Management Plan (LMP) as defined in the Annex to the ESMF, implementing adequate occupational health and safety measures (including emergency preparedness and response measures), setting out grievance arrangements for Project workers, and incorporating labor requirements into the ESHS specifications of the procurement documents and contracts with contractors and supervising firms.</p>	<p>The initial LMP will be prepared no later than two months after effectiveness and before engaging workers in the relevant Project activities, and will be updated and revised periodically if necessary; the LMP and other measures specified in action 2.1 are to be implemented throughout Project implementation.</p>	<p>MSAHA / LISUNGI Project Implementing Unit</p>
2.2	<p>The borrower must implement adequate occupational health and safety measures (including emergency preparedness and response measures) in accordance with the ESMF and WHO directives on COVID19, including Health, Hygiene, and Safety (HHS) measures that will address: (a) hazards to project workers; (b) preventive and protective measures; (c) training of project officers and keeping of training records; (d) documentation and notification of occupational accidents, diseases and incidents; (e) prevention of emergency situations and arrangements for emergency preparedness and response; and (f) remedies for harmful effects such as accidents at work, death, disability and illness.</p>	<p>All the measures specified in this action 2.2 must be implemented throughout the project implementation.</p>	<p>MSAHA / LISUNGI Project Implementing Unit</p>
<b>ESS 3: RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT</b>			
3.1	<p>Relevant aspects of this standard shall be considered, as needed, under action 1.2 above, in an acceptable manner to the Association.</p> <p><a href="#">Measures related to pest management will be included in the project ESMF</a></p>		
<b>ESS 4: COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY</b>			

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
4.1	Relevant aspects of this standard shall be considered, as needed, under action 1.2 above including, inter alia, measures to: minimize the potential for community exposure to communicable diseases; ensure that individuals or groups who, because of their particular circumstances, may be disadvantaged or vulnerable, have access to the development benefits resulting from the Project; manage the risks of the use of security personnel; manage the risks of labor influx; and prevent and respond to sexual exploitation and abuse, and sexual harassment. A Community Health and Safety Plan will be developed as part of the project ESMF	Throughout the project implementation.	MSAHA / LISUNGI Project Implementing Unit
<b>ESS 5: LAND ACQUISITION, RESTRICTIONS ON LAND USE AND INVOLUNTARY RESETTLEMENT</b>			
5.1	Not relevant.		
<b>ESS 6: BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF LIVING NATURAL RESOURCES</b>			
6.1	Not relevant.		
<b>ESS 7: INDIGENOUS PEOPLES/SUB-SAHARAN AFRICAN HISTORICALLY UNDERSERVED TRADITIONAL LOCAL COMMUNITIES</b>			
7.1	Currently not relevant. In the event that one or more activities proposed within the framework of the Project would imply potential risks and impacts with regard to this standard, relevant aspects of this standard shall be considered, as needed, under action 1.2 above.		
7.2	The client will ensure that the IP/SSAHUTLCs are properly informed and can share the benefits of the Project in an inclusive and culturally appropriate manner (i.e. as a Borrower of cash transfers, IGA funds, and awareness on COVID and prevention, etc.) and that provisions to this end be included in the ESMF and the Stakeholder Mobilization Plan (SEP).	Throughout Project implementation.	MSAHA / LISUNGI Project Implementing Unit
<b>ESS 8: CULTURAL HERITAGE</b>			
8.1	Currently not relevant. In the event that one or more activities proposed within the framework of the Project would imply potential risks and impacts with regard to this standard, Relevant aspects of this standard shall be considered, as needed, under action 1.2 above.		
<b>ESS 9: FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES</b>			
	Not relevant.		

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
<b>ESS 10: STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION DISCLOSURE</b>			
10.1	<p><b>STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN:</b> The SEP has already been prepared in draft form. Finalize, disclose, adopt, and implement a Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) consistent with ESS10, in a manner acceptable to the Association.</p> <p>The SEP will take into account social norms and gender limiting the participation of certain groups (e.g. women, girls, people with disabilities, minorities, indigenous peoples, etc.) and will organize consultations and meetings separated by gender, age and facilitated by same-sex person, including in the context of COVID-19.</p>	Finalize and disclose no later than two months after the Effective Date; Implement throughout Project implementation.	MSAHA / LISUNGI Project Implementing Unit
10.2	<p><b>GRIEVANCE MECHANISM:</b> Accessible grievance arrangements shall be disclosed available to receive and facilitate resolution of concerns and grievances in relation to the Project, consistent with ESS10, in a manner acceptable to the Association.</p> <p>Without limitation to the above, the Beneficiary will review the existing Project-wide Grievance Mechanism to ensure that COVID-19 protection measures are respected and will assign focal points within the project mgt unit, who will be properly trained to respond to complaints.</p>	Throughout Project implementation.	MSAHA / LISUNGI Project Implementing Unit
<b>CAPACITY SUPPORT (TRAINING)</b>			
	<p>E&amp;S Training topics for staff involved in Project activities will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For LISUNGI project staff and non-LISUNGI staff: on the handling of inquiries, complaints and grievances related to the project.</li> <li>• Occupational health and safety training for project workers, including social workers.</li> <li>• Communication strategy on the recommendations for preventing and combating COVID-19 infections;</li> <li>• Recommendations for preventing and combating COVID-19 infections;</li> <li>• Risk communication and Community engagement;</li> </ul>	Throughout Project implementation.	MSAHA / LISUNGI Project Implementing Unit

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Other pertinent environmental and social issues, including management of SEA/SH risks.</li> </ul>		