

Republic of Moldova

Strengthening Moldova's Disaster Risk Management and Resilience (P504278)

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL COMMITMENT PLAN (ESCP)

July 19, 2024

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL COMMITMENT PLAN

1. The Republic of Moldova (the Borrower) will implement the Strengthening Moldova's Disaster Risk Management and Resilience Project (the Project), with the involvement of the Ministry of Finance (**MoF**) as set out in the Loan Agreement. Ministry of Internal Affairs (MoIA), Ministry of Finance (MoF), Ministry of Infrastructure and Regional Development (MoIRD) and Ministry of Environment (MoE) together with its agency State Hydrometeorological Service (SHS), will serve as Implementation Agencies, each leading the technical work for their respective Part. The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (the World Bank) has agreed to provide financing for the Project, as set out in the referred agreement.
2. The Borrower 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 World Bank. The ESCP is a part of the Loan Agreement. 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 Borrower 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 World Bank. Once adopted, said E&S instruments may be revised from time to time with prior written agreement of the World Bank.
4. As agreed by the World Bank and the Borrower, 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 Borrower and the World Bank agree to update the ESCP to reflect these changes through an exchange of letters signed between the World Bank and the Borrower, represented by the Minister of Finance. The Borrower shall promptly disclose the updated ESCP.

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
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, contractor ESHS performance, stakeholder engagement activities, and functioning of the grievance mechanism(s).</p>	<p>Submit semestral reports to the World Bank throughout Project implementation, commencing after the Effective Date. Submit each report to the World Bank no later than fifteen (15) days after the end of each reporting period.</p>	<p><i>MoF shall and shall cause relevant Implementing Agencies per the respective Implementation Agreements, as set out in the LA</i></p>
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. Provide sufficient detail regarding the scope, severity, and possible causes of the incident or accident, indicating immediate measures taken or that are planned to be taken to address it, and any information provided by any contractor and/or supervising firm, as appropriate.</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 forty-eight (48) hours after learning of the incident or accident.</p> <p>Provide subsequent report to the World Bank within a timeframe acceptable to the World Bank.</p>	<p><i>MoF shall and shall cause relevant Implementing Agencies per the respective Implementation Agreements, as set out in the LA</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 World Bank upon request.</p>	<p>Submit the monthly reports to the World Bank upon request</p>	<p><i>MoF shall and shall cause relevant Implementing Agencies per the respective Implementation Agreements, as set out in the LA</i></p>

ESS 1: ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RISKS AND IMPACTS			
1.1	<p>ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE</p> <p>a. MoF shall maintain the Office for External Assistance Programs Management (OEAPM), which shall function as the Project Implementation Unit (PIU), with qualified staff and resources to support the management of ESHS risks and impacts of the overall Project, including one qualified full time environmental and one qualified full time social specialist.</p> <p>b. Each Implementing Agency shall appoint a qualified environmental and social focal point, and this shall be reflected in the relevant implementation agreement, as set out in the Loan Agreement.</p> <p>c. MoF and OEAPM shall develop, adopt, and implement the Project Operations Manual (POM) with clear references to the roles and resources required to implement E&S assessment and management tools prepared for the Project.</p>	<p>a. Establish and maintain a PIU as set out in the legal agreement. Hire one environmental and one social specialist not later than ninety (90) days after the Effective Date and retain them throughout Project implementation.</p> <p>b. Not later than ninety (90) days after the Effective Date or before launching procurement processes, whichever is earlier.</p> <p>c. POM, satisfactory to the World Bank, shall be adopted by OEAPM prior to the Effective Date and by the Implementing Agencies through the relevant implementation agreements, as set out in the Loan Agreement. Thereafter, implement throughout Project implementation.</p>	<p><i>a. MoF</i></p> <p><i>b. Implementing Agencies</i></p> <p><i>c. MoF and Implementing Agencies.</i></p>
1.2	<p>ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL INSTRUMENTS</p> <p>a. Adopt and implement an Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) for the Project, consistent with the relevant ESSs. The ESMF has been prepared, disclosed, consulted, and adopted prior to appraisal.</p> <p>b. Prepare, disclose, consult, and cause relevant implementing agencies to adopt and implement the site-specific Environmental and Social Management Plans (ESMPs)/ESMP checklists, as set out in the ESMF. Activities requiring land acquisition or that are considered of substantial or high risk, shall be ineligible to receive financing under the Project as set out in the ESMF.</p>	<p>a. Implement the ESMF throughout Project implementation.</p> <p>b. prior to launching the bidding process for the Project activity that requires the adoption of such ESMP/ ESMP checklists. Once adopted, implement the respective ESMP throughout Project implementation.</p>	<p><i>MoF and Implementing Agencies</i></p> <p><i>MoF shall and shall cause relevant Implementing Agencies per the respective Implementation Agreements, as set out in the LA</i></p>

1.3	<p>MANAGEMENT OF CONTRACTORS</p> <p>Incorporate the relevant aspects of the ESCP, including, inter alia, the relevant E&S instruments, the Labor Management Procedures, and code of conduct, into the ESHS specifications of the procurement documents and contracts with contractors and supervising firms. 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 procurement documents and respective contracts.</p>	<p><i>MoF shall and shall cause relevant Implementing Agencies per the respective Implementation Agreements, as set out in the LA</i></p>
1.4	<p>TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE</p> <p>Ensure that the consultancies, studies (including feasibility studies), capacity building, training, and any other technical assistance activities under the Project are carried out in accordance with terms of reference acceptable to the World Bank, that are consistent with the ESSs. Thereafter ensure that the outputs of such activities comply with the terms of reference.</p>	<p>Throughout Project implementation.</p>	<p><i>MoF shall and shall cause relevant Implementing Agencies per the respective Implementation Agreements, as set out in the LA</i></p>
1.5	<p>CONTINGENT EMERGENCY RESPONSE FINANCING</p> <p>a. Ensure that the CERC Manual includes a description of the ESHS assessment and management arrangements, including the Environmental and Social Management Framework for the CERC Part, consistent with the relevant ESSs that will be prepared for the implementation of the CERC Part, in accordance with the ESSs.</p> <p>b. Adopt any environmental and social (E&S) instruments which may be required for activities under the CERC Part of the Project, in accordance with the CERC Manual and ESMF for CERC part 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 CERC-ESMF Addendum in form and substance acceptable to the World Bank is a withdrawal condition Section III.B.1b. of Schedule 2 to the Loan Agreement for the Project.</p> <p>b. Adopt any required E&S instrument and include it as part of the respective bidding 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 instruments in accordance with their terms, throughout Project implementation.</p>	<p><i>MoF shall and shall cause relevant Implementing Agencies performing the CERC activities per the respective Implementation Agreements, as set out in the LA</i></p>

ESS 2: LABOR AND WORKING CONDITIONS			
2.1	LABOR MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES a. Prepare, disclose, adopt and implement 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, subcontractors, and supervising firms.	a. Adopt LMP not later than thirty (60) days after the Effective Date, or before launching any procurement processes, whichever is earlier, and thereafter implement the LMP throughout Project implementation.	<i>MoF shall and shall cause relevant Implementing Agencies per the respective Implementation Agreements, as set out in the LA</i>
2.2	GRIEVANCE MECHANISM FOR PROJECT WORKERS Establish, operate and maintain a grievance mechanism for Project workers, as described in the LMP and consistent with ESS2.	Establish grievance mechanism prior to engaging Project workers and thereafter maintain and operate it throughout Project implementation.	<i>MoF shall and shall cause relevant Implementing Agencies per the respective Implementation Agreements, as set out in the LA</i>
ESS 3: WASTE MANGEGEMENT, RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT			
3.1	WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN a. Adopt and implement a Waste Management Plan (WMP), to manage hazardous and non-hazardous wastes, including e-waste consistent with ESS3. b. Include applicable provisions from the WMP in site-specific ESMPs.	a. Adopt the project WMP no later than sixty (60) days from the Effective Date, and thereafter implement throughout Project implementation. b. Same timeframe as for the adoption and implementation of site-specific ESMPs under action 1.2 (b) above.	<i>MoF shall and shall cause relevant Implementing Agencies per the respective Implementation Agreements, as set out in the LA</i>
3.2	RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT Incorporate resource efficiency and pollution prevention and management measures in the ESMP to be prepared under action 1.2 (b) including, inter alia, measures to address: noise and dust emissions and the generation of e-waste, construction waste, including hazardous and non-hazardous waste, all in manner consistent with ESS3.	Same timeframe as for the adoption and implementation of ESMPs under Action 1.2 (b) above.	<i>MoF shall and shall cause relevant Implementing Agencies per the respective Implementation Agreements, as set out in the LA</i>

ESS 4: COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY			
4.1	TRAFFIC AND ROAD SAFETY Incorporate measures to manage traffic and road safety risks as required in the ESMPs to be prepared under action 1.2 (b) above	Same timeframe as for the adoption and implementation of ESMPs under Action 1.2 (b) above	<i>MoF shall and shall cause relevant Implementing Agencies per the respective Implementation Agreements, as set out in the LA</i>
4.2	COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY Assess and manage specific risks and impacts to the community arising from Project activities, including, inter alia, behavior of Project workers, risks of labor influx, communicable diseases relating to the presence of labor (response to emergency situations, and include mitigation measures in the ESMPs to be prepared in accordance with the ESMF.	Same timeframe as for the adoption and implementation of ESMPs under Action 1.2 (b) above.	<i>MoF shall and shall cause relevant Implementing Agencies per the respective Implementation Agreements, as set out in the LA</i>
ESS 5: LAND ACQUISITION, RESTRICTIONS ON LAND USE AND INVOLUNTARY RESETTLEMENT			
	Not currently relevant.		
ESS 6: BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF LIVING NATURAL RESOURCES			
	Not currently relevant.		
ESS 7: INDIGENOUS PEOPLES/SUB-SAHARAN AFRICAN HISTORICALLY UNDERSERVED TRADITIONAL LOCAL COMMUNITIES			
	Not currently relevant.	Not relevant	Not relevant
ESS 8: CULTURAL HERITAGE			
	Not currently relevant.	Not relevant	Not relevant
ESS 9: FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES			
	Not relevant.	Not relevant	Not relevant

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN PREPARATION AND IMPLEMENTATION			
10.1	<p>Adopt and Implement a 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 has been prepared, disclosed, consulted, and adopted before project appraisal.</p>	Implement the SEP throughout Project implementation.	<i>MoF shall and shall cause relevant Implementing Agencies per the respective Implementation Agreements, as set out in the LA</i>
10.2	<p>PROJECT GRIEVANCE MECHANISM Establish, publicize, maintain, and operate an accessible grievance mechanism, to receive and facilitate 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, at no cost and without retribution, including concerns and grievances filed anonymously, in a manner consistent with ESS10. The SEP describes and establishes the project GRM, and the procedures, including linkages to implementing agencies, will be further detailed in the Project Operations Manual.</p> <p>The grievance mechanism shall be equipped to receive, register, and facilitate the resolution of SEA/SH complaints, including through the referral of survivors to relevant gender-based violence service providers, all in a safe, confidential, and survivor-centered manner. The detailed procedures for handling complaints related to SEA/SH will be detailed in the Project Operations Manual.</p>	Operate the Grievance Mechanism and maintain it throughout Project implementation.	<i>MoF shall and shall cause relevant Implementing Agencies per the respective Implementation Agreements, as set out in the LA</i>
CAPACITY SUPPORT			
CS1	<p>The MoF shall deploy or hire an E&S specialist trainer to do a E&S training needs asesment for PIU and Implementing agencies, develop and implement a training plan for PIU and relevant E&S specialists, with adequate budget, providers and timeframe. Training shall be required for PIU staff on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Screening of project components for E&S risk • Monitoring and reporting on environmental and social performance of site-specific activities • Stakeholder mapping and engagement • Occupational health and safety and SEA/SH • Labor working conditions and associated inspections 	<p>E&S (internal or external) specialist trainer shall be in position no later than sixty (60) days after the Effective Date; training plan developed and delivered no later than sixty (60) days after hiring.</p> <p>Thereafter, deliver training activities at least once annually, throughout Project implementation.</p>	<i>MoF shall and shall cause relevant Implementing Agencies per the respective Implementation Agreements, as set out in the LA</i>

CS2	Provide training for Project workers on occupational health and safety on construction sites including on emergency prevention and preparedness and response arrangements to emergency situations.	The OHS training Specialist will be available (internal or external) no later than signature of the Works contract.	<i>MoF shall and shall cause relevant Implementing Agencies per the respective Implementation Agreements, as set out in the LA</i>
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