

Republic of the Philippines

**PHILIPPINE RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECT SCALE-UP**

**FINAL**

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

May 31, 2023

## **PHILIPPINE RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECT SCALE-UP**

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

1. The Republic of the Philippines (the Borrower) will implement the Philippine Rural Development Project Scale-Up (the Project), with the involvement of the Department of Agriculture (DA), as set out in the Loan Agreement. The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (the World Bank/Bank), has agreed to provide financing for the Project, as set out in the referred agreement.
2. The Borrower, through DA, 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 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 manner acceptable to the Bank. Once adopted, said E&S instruments may be revised from time to time with prior written agreement by the Bank.
4. As agreed by the 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, through the DA, and the Bank agree to update the ESCP to reflect these changes through exchange letters signed between the Bank and the Borrower' Senior Undersecretary of the DA. The Borrower shall promptly disclose the updated ESCP.

## ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL COMMITMENT PLAN

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
<b>MONITORING AND REPORTING</b>			
A	<p><b>REGULAR REPORTING</b></p> <p>Prepare and submit to the 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&amp;S instruments required under the ESCP, stakeholder engagement activities, and functioning of the grievance mechanism(s).</p>	Submit semi-annual reports to the Bank throughout Project implementation, commencing after the Effective Date. Submit report to the Bank within the duration of each Implementation Support Mission.	National Project Coordination Office (NPCO)
B	<p><b>INCIDENTS AND ACCIDENTS</b></p> <p>Promptly notify the 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. Provide sufficient details 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/subcontractor and/or supervising firm, as appropriate.</p> <p>Subsequently, at the Bank's request, prepare a report on the incident or accident and propose any measures to prevent its recurrence.</p>	<p>Notify the Bank within 24 hours and no later than 48 hours after learning of the incident or accident.</p> <p>Provide subsequent report to the Bank within a timeframe acceptable to the Bank.</p>	NPCO
C	<p><b>CONTRACTOR'S MONTHLY REPORTS</b></p> <p>Require contractors and supervising firms to provide monthly monitoring reports on ESHS performance in accordance with</p>	Submit the monthly reports to the Bank as annexes to the reports to	NPCO

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
	the metrics specified in the respective bidding documents and contracts, and submit such reports to the Bank.	be submitted under action A above.	
<b>ESS 1: ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RISKS AND IMPACTS</b>			
1.1	<p><b>ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE</b></p> <p>Establish and maintain a Social and Environment Safeguards (SES) unit within the entity implementing the project that is tasked with ESHS management, e.g., NPCO, PSO, RPCO, P/C/MPMIU, with qualified staff and resources to support management of ESHS risks and impacts of the Project.</p> <p>At the DA national level, continue and maintain the existing NPCO SES Unit with at least one senior environment specialist and one senior social specialist, which shall be responsible for overall management/administration of the Project's environmental and social risks and impacts;</p> <p>(i) The four Project Support Offices (PSOs)<sup>1</sup> will be maintained to oversee regional cluster operations and support services covering Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao. At each PSO, designate SES team/unit, which shall be responsible for providing technical assistance and coordination with the covered regions.</p> <p>(ii) At each region, maintain the Regional Project Coordination Office (RPCO) SES team/unit, which shall be responsible for providing assistance to LGUs/project proponents in the conduct of safeguards activities, review and monitoring of subprojects.</p>	<p>(i) No later than thirty (30) days after the Effective Date and thereafter maintain the NPCO SES unit throughout Project implementation.</p> <p>(ii) Not later than sixty days (60) days after Effective Date and thereafter maintain the PSOs SES team/unit throughout Project implementation.</p> <p>(iii) Not later than sixty days (60) days after Effective Date and thereafter maintain the RPCO SES team/unit throughout Project implementation</p>	<p>DA/NPCO</p> <p>PSO</p> <p>RPCO</p>

<sup>1</sup> The four PSOs are comprised of: PSO North Luzon covering CAR and regions 1, 2 and 3; PSO South Luzon covering regions 4A, 4B and 5; PSO Visayas covering regions 6, 7 and 8; and PSO Mindanao covering regions 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 and BARMM.

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
	<p>(iii) At the local level, establish a Provincial/Municipal/City Project Management and Implementation Unit (P/M/CPMIU) to ensure that the LGU has organization, management, and resources satisfactory to the Bank for carrying out proposed Sub-projects.</p> <p>The SES will ensure that qualified OSH experts are present in PIU as well as within site-based teams.</p>	(iv) After effective date of the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) signed between the DA and the Local Government Units (LGUs) and prior to the commencement of any Project activity in each LGU.	PPMIU CPMIU MPMIU
1.2	<p><b>ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL INSTRUMENTS</b></p> <p>(a) Update, adopt, and implement an Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) dated April 24, 2023, that has been prepared for the Project, consistent with the relevant ESSs and acceptable to the bank and disclosed by the DA and the Bank respectively on April 25, 2023, and April 27, 2023</p> <p>(b) Cause the proponent groups/local government units/farmers-fisherfolks cooperatives and associations and its clusters to screen and assess E&amp;S risks and impacts for site-specific subprojects, adopt and implement the site-specific environmental and social assessment (ESA), and Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP), as set out in the ESMF. The proposed subproject activities described in the exclusion list set out in the ESMF shall be ineligible to receive financing under the Project.</p>	<p>(a) Adopt no later than 60 days from the Effective Date and to be implemented throughout the Project implementation.</p> <p>(b) Adopt the ESMP no later than 60 days after the Effective Date or before launching the bidding process for the respective subproject prior to carrying out subproject activity that requires the adoption of such ESMP. Once adopted, implement the respective ESMP throughout subproject implementation.</p>	<p>DA through: NPCO PSOs RPCO</p> <p>DA through: NPCO PSOs RPCO</p>
1.3	<b>E&amp;S BUDGET</b>		

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
	Prepare, adopt, and implement an Environmental and Social Management Budget for the implementation and compliance of E&S requirements for the Project.	To be maintained throughout the life of the Project	DA through NPCO
1.4	<b>CLEARANCES, PERMITS AND AUTHORIZATIONS</b>  Prepare environmental assessment documents to support the application of Environmental Compliance Certificates (ECCs) or Certificate of Non-Coverage (if required) for each subproject to be funded for implementation, consistent with the E&S screening mechanism under ESMF.	Prior to the implementation of the identified Subprojects.	DA through NPCO/PSOs/RPCO with LGUs and Communities
1.5	<b>MANAGEMENT OF CONTRACTORS</b>  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.  Selection of contractors: Ascertain that the contractors are legitimate and reliable entities and able to comply with the relevant environmental and social requirements of the Project.  Performance monitoring: monitor and ensure that the contractors and supervising firms comply and cause subcontractors to comply with the ESHS specifications of their respective contracts.	As part of the preparation of procurement documents and respective contracts.  During Evaluation of bidders  Supervise contractors throughout Project implementation.	DA through: NPCO PSOs RPCO P/C/MPMIUs
1.6	<b>TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE</b>		

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
	Ensure that the consultancies, studies (including feasibility studies, if applicable), capacity building, training, and any other technical assistance activities under the Project, including, inter alia, ESMF, SEP, IPPF, LARPF, and LMP, are carried out in accordance with terms of reference acceptable to the Bank, that are consistent with the ESSs. Thereafter ensure that the outputs of such activities comply with their respective terms of reference.	Throughout Project implementation	DA through: NPCO PSOs RPCO
1.7	<p><b>CONTINGENT EMERGENCY RESPONSE FINANCING</b></p> <p>(a) Ensure that the “CERC Manual” as specified in the legal agreement includes a description of the environmental and social (E&amp;S) assessment and management arrangements including the CERC-ESMF that will be included or referred to in the CERC Manual for the implementation of Contingent Emergency Response Component (Component 5) of the Project, in accordance with the ESSs.</p> <p>(b) Adopt any E&amp;S instruments which may be required for activities under CERC (Component 5) of the Project, in accordance with the CERC-ESMF and the ESSs, and thereafter implement the measures and actions required under said E&amp;S instruments, within the timeframes specified in said E&amp;S instruments.</p>	<p>(a) The adoption of the CERC Manual and, if applicable, other instruments, as relevant in form and substance acceptable to the Bank is a withdrawal conditions of the Legal Agreement for the Project.</p> <p>(b) Adopt any required E&amp;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&amp;S instrument is required. Implement the E&amp;S instruments in accordance with their terms, throughout Project implementation.</p>	<p>DA through NPCO</p> <p>DA through NPCO</p>
1.8	<b>ASSOCIATED FACILITIES</b>		NPCO

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
	Cause the proponent group/local government unit/farmer-fisherfolks cooperatives and associations and its clusters to ensure that associated facilities as defined under ESS1 of the ESF the activities in the subproject are carried out in accordance with the applicable requirements of this ESCP and the ESSs, including inter alia, ESA, ESMP, LMP, management of contractors, RAP, SEP, etc.	Throughout Project implementation	PSOs RPCO
<b>ESS 2: LABOR AND WORKING CONDITIONS</b>			
2.1	<b>LABOR MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES</b>  Adopt and implement the Labor Management Procedures (LMP) for the Project, including inter alia, provisions on working conditions, management of workers relationships, occupational safety and health (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 thereafter implement the LMP throughout Project implementation.	NPCO
2.2	<b>GRIEVANCE MECHANISM FOR PROJECT WORKERS</b>  Establish and operate 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.	NPCO PSOs RPCOs PPMIU MPMIU CPMIU
<b>ESS 3: RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT</b>			
3.1	<b>WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN</b>		



MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
	Adopt and implement a Waste Management Plan (WMP), to manage hazardous and non-hazardous wastes, consistent with ESS3.	Adopt the WMP prior to commencement of any subproject activities and thereafter implement the WMP throughout Project implementation.	NPCO PSO RPCO LGUs FCA/ FCA Clusters
3.2	<b>RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT</b>  Incorporate resource efficiency and pollution prevention and management measures in the ESMP to be prepared under action 3.1 above.	Same timeframe as for the adoption and implementation of the ESMP.	NPCO PSO RPCO LGUs FCA/ FCA Clusters
<b>ESS 4: COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY</b>			
4.1	<b>TRAFFIC AND ROAD SAFETY</b>  Adopt Road Safety Standards (Design, Signs, Pavement Markings) which are identified in the ESMF and incorporate measures to manage traffic and road safety risks as required in the ESMP. Such measures shall take in to consideration safety risks to workers and the community resulting from movement of vehicles involved in the construction of infrastructure and other activities consistent with ESS4, in a manner acceptable to the Bank	Same timeframe as for the adoption and implementation of the ESMP and shall continue to be followed throughout the project period	RPCO LGUs Subproject contractors and subcontractors
4.2	<b>COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY</b>  Assess and manage specific risks and impacts to the community arising from Project activities, including, inter alia, food safety, communicable diseases or other diseases that are	Same timeframe as for the adoption and implementation of the ESMP.	NPCO PSO RPCO MPMIU

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
	<p>water/air-borne that can be related to the Project (HIV/AIDS/Dengue etc.), risks of labor misconduct, labor influx, road accidents, increased social interactions between project workers and communities, risks of construction activities, and risks of sexual exploitation and abuse, and sexual harassment, and include mitigation measures in the ESMPs to be prepared in accordance with the ESMF.</p> <p>Prepare a Community Health and Safety Plan (CHSP) as part of the ESMP.</p>		<p>CPMIU PPMIU Subproject contractors and subcontractors</p>
4.3	<p><b>SECURITY MANAGEMENT</b></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, as set out in the Local Government Unit's (LGUs) Peace and Order and Public Safety Plan, guided by the principles of proportionality and Good International Industry Practice (GIIP), and by applicable law, in relation to hiring, rules of conduct, training, equipping, and monitoring of such personnel.</p>	Prior to engaging security personnel and thereafter implemented throughout Project implementation.	<p>LGUs MPMIU CPMIU PPMIU FCAs RPCO</p>
4.4	<p><b>GENDER- BASED VIOLENCE AND SEXUAL EXPLOITATION AND ABUSE (SEA)/SEXUAL HARASSMENT (SH) RISKS</b></p> <p>Assess and manage risks related to gender-based violence (GBV), sexual exploitation and abuse/sexual harassment (SEA/SH) and sexual orientation or gender identity (SOGI) related to the Project. Include such issues in the subproject specific ESA and operate a GRM that is survivor-centered and sensitized to handling GBV, SEA/SH, and SOGI complaints.</p>	Throughout Project implementation	<p>DA and through LGUs NPCO PSO RPCO LGUs</p>
<b>ESS 5: LAND ACQUISITION, RESTRICTIONS ON LAND USE AND INVOLUNTARY RESETTLEMENT</b>			

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
5.1	<b>RESETTLEMENT POLICY FRAMEWORK</b>  Adopt and implement the Land Acquisition and Resettlement Policy Framework (LARPF) for the Project, consistent with ESS5.	Adopt and implement the LARPF throughout Project implementation.	NPCO PSOs RPCOs LGUs FCA/ FCA Clusters
5.2	<b>RESETTLEMENT PLANS</b>  Adopt and implement a Resettlement Action Plan (RAP) for each activity under the Project for which the LARPF requires such action plan, consistent with ESS5. Ensure that full compensation has been provided to affected persons in accordance with LARPF, and displaced people have been resettled and moving allowances have been provided, prior to initiating any sub-project activity.	Adopt and fully implement RAP prior to initiating activities on the respective sub-project and before taking possession of any land and related assets.	NPCO PSOs RPCOs LGUs FCA/ FCA Clusters
5.3	<b>GRIEVANCE MECHANISM</b>  Prepare, adopt, maintain, and operate a Grievance Redress Mechanism, as described in the LARPF and SEP.	Adopt the GRM no later than 60 days from Effective date, and thereafter implement the LARPF and GRM throughout Project implementation.	NPCO PSOs RPCOs LGUs FCA/ FCA Clusters
<b>ESS 6: BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF LIVING NATURAL RESOURCES</b>			
6.1	<b>BIODIVERSITY RISKS AND IMPACTS</b>  Adopt, implement and monitor a Biodiversity Management Plan (BMP) as part of the ESMP, in accordance with the guidelines of the ESA prepared for the Project, and consistent with ESS6.	Develop BMP prior to the commencement of activities requiring BMP, and thereafter implement the BMP throughout Project implementation.	DA through: NPCO PSO RPCO LGUs FCA/ FCA Clusters
<b>ESS 7: INDIGENOUS PEOPLES/SUB-SAHARAN AFRICAN HISTORICALLY UNDERSERVED TRADITIONAL LOCAL COMMUNITIES</b>			

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
7.1	<b>INDIGENOUS PEOPLES POLICY FRAMEWORK</b>  Adopt and implement an Indigenous Peoples Policy Framework (IPPF) for the Project, consistent with ESS7.	Adopt the IPPF no later than 60 days from Effective date, and thereafter implement the IPPF throughout Project implementation	NPCO PSO RPCO NCIP Regional Offices and MIPA Indigenous Peoples' Organization (IPOs) LGUs FCA/FCA Clusters
7.2	<b>INDIGENOUS PEOPLES PLAN</b>  Adopt and implement an Indigenous Peoples Plan (IPP) for each activity under the Project for which the IPPF requires such IPP, as set out in the IPPF, consistent with ESS7.	Adopt the IPP prior to the carrying out of any activity that requires the preparation of such IPP. Once adopted, implement the respective IPP throughout Project implementation.	RPCO NCIP Regional Offices and MIPA Indigenous Peoples' Organization (IPOs) LGUs FCA/FCA Clusters
7.3	<b>GRIEVANCE MECHANISM</b>  Address complaints submitted by Indigenous Peoples as described in the IPPF and SEP.	Same timeframe as for the adoption and implementation of the IPPF.	RPCO NCIP Regional Offices and MIPA Indigenous Peoples' Organization (IPOs) P/C/MPMIU FCA/FCA Clusters
<b>ESS 8: CULTURAL HERITAGE</b>			
8.1	<b>CULTURAL HERITAGE RISKS AND IMPACTS</b>  Adopt and implement a Cultural Heritage Management Plan (CHMP) as part of the ESMP, which is included in the ESMF, in accordance with the guidelines of the ESA prepared for the Project, and consistent with ESS8.	Develop CHMP prior to the commencement of activities requiring CHMP and thereafter implement the CHMP throughout the subproject implementation.	DA through: NPCO PSO RPCO LGUs FCA/ FCA Clusters

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
8.2	<p><b>CHANCE FINDS</b></p> <p>Describe and implement the chance finds procedures, as part of the ESMF of the Project and include in the ESMP</p>	Describe and implement the chance find procedures in the ESMF. Implement the procedures throughout Project implementation.	DA through: NPCO PSO RPCO LGUs FCA/ FCA Clusters
<b>ESS 10: STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN</b>			
10.1	<p><b>STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN PREPARATION AND IMPLEMENTATION</b></p> <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.</p>	Adopt and implement the SEP throughout Project implementation	NPCO PSO RPCO PPMIU MPMIU CPMIU FCAs
10.2	<p><b>PROJECT GRIEVANCE MECHANISM</b></p> <p>The existing mechanism to be enhanced, publicized, maintained, and continue to 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.</p>	Adopt the enhanced grievance mechanism no later than 60 days from Effective Date, and thereafter maintain and operate the mechanism throughout Project implementation.	NPCO PSOs RPCOs PPMIU MPMIU CPMIU Subproject proponent LGUs and FCAs

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
	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.		
<b>CAPACITY SUPPORT</b>			
CS1	<p>Training for DA PRDP SES Unit (NPCO, PSOs, RPCOs) and subproject proponent LGUs and FCA/FCA Clusters focal persons on the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deep dive training on ESMF, ESF Instruments, and ESS Principles</li> <li>Continuous capacity building on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ESMF, ESF Instruments, and ESS</li> <li>Emergency Response and Preparedness</li> <li>Disaster and Risk Management</li> <li>Labor Management Procedures (LMP)</li> <li>Land Acquisition and Resettlement Policy Framework (LARPF)</li> <li>Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP)</li> <li>Indigenous Peoples Policy Framework (IPPF)</li> <li>Cultural Heritage Management Plan (CHMP)</li> <li>Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) and environmental and social dispute resolution</li> <li>E&amp;S monitoring and reporting</li> <li>Community health and safety</li> <li>Biodiversity management planning</li> <li>Climate change and disaster resilience in the agriculture sector</li> <li>Training on cultural and conflict sensitivity and assessment</li> </ul> </li> </ol>	<p>Before deployment of DA PRDP (NPCO, PSO and RPCO) staff</p> <p>Throughout implementation                      Project</p>	<p>NPCO PSOs RPCOs</p>

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Conflict-sensitive and peace-promoting (CSPP) approaches</li> <li>● Gender and development</li> <li>● Other related trainings as required during project implementation</li> </ul>		