



Appraisal Environmental and Social Review Summary Appraisal Stage **(ESRS Appraisal Stage)**

Date Prepared/Updated: 07/18/2024 | Report No: ESRSA03608



I. BASIC INFORMATION

A. Basic Operation Data

Operation ID	Product	Operation Acronym	Approval Fiscal Year
P180781	Investment Project Financing (IPF)	TPPHEP	2025
Operation Name	Türkiye Preparedness for Public Health Emergencies Project		
Country/Region Code	Beneficiary country/countries (borrower, recipient)	Region	Practice Area (Lead)
Türkiye	Türkiye	EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA	Health, Nutrition & Population
Borrower(s)	Implementing Agency(ies)	Estimated Appraisal Date	Estimated Board Date
Republic of Türkiye	Ministry of Health	08-Jul-2024	07-Oct-2024
Estimated Decision Review Date	Total Project Cost		
02-Jul-2024	250,000,000.00		

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Proposed Development Objective

The Project Development Objective is to strengthen Türkiye's capacity to (i) produce vaccines, and (ii) detect and initiate a rapid response to public health emergencies

B. Is the operation 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 Activities

[Description imported from the PAD Data Sheet in the Portal providing information about the key aspects and components/sub-components of the project]

This proposed project aims to support the government of Türkiye's efforts to establish a national vaccine production facility and strengthen laboratory and surveillance capacity for early identification and response to public health emergencies.



D. Environmental and Social Overview

D.1 Overview of Environmental and Social Project Settings

[Description of key features relevant to the operation's environmental and social risks and opportunities (e.g., whether the project is nationwide or regional in scope, urban/rural, in an FCV context, presence of Indigenous Peoples or other minorities, involves associated facilities, high-biodiversity settings, etc.) – Max. character limit 10,000]

Project activities will be implemented across Türkiye, including the allocated site of the Ankara Vaccine Production Center where the project will supply equipment. The VPC site is located in the Akyurt district of the Ankara province. The site is within the peri-urban setting, surrounded by factories and commercial enterprises. The parcel adjacent to the VPC site to the southeast is currently occupied by a vaccine and pharmaceuticals storage warehouse. The warehouse belongs to, and is operated by the MoH. One of the warehouse buildings is located on the Project site and currently used for the storage of vaccines. The Project site consists of two parcels: the main VPC complex area accommodating all administrative, laboratory and production compounds, and a recreational area which will accommodate a kindergarten for the children of the VPC staff. The Çubuk water stream, known to be adversely impacted by the industrial and agricultural activities upstream, is adjacent to the northwest boundary of the Project site (recreational area parcel). Capacity building and TA activities will be undertaken at the national and subnational levels, within the footprint of existing medical laboratory facilities. The project activities will also focus on reducing climate vulnerability by strengthening health system preparedness to prevent and respond to public health emergencies, including those exacerbated by climate change.

With the onset of the COVID-19 outbreak, Türkiye successfully mobilized its health resources to respond to the pandemic. Türkiye also launched its vaccination program and demonstrated high vaccination capacity. However, it also had supply chain challenges and shortages in this period. To address these challenges, the Turkish Health Institutes Presidency (TÜSEB) supported the manufacturing and commercialization of several essential products for COVID-19 treatment. The earthquakes in February 2023 significantly affected surveillance and laboratory capacities in many provinces leading to increased risk of exposure to zoonoses and other infections. Moreover, public health risks and emerging infectious diseases have been on the rise in recent years, with more zoonotic pathogens spilling over from animals to humans. This provides the context for the necessity of the present project.

D.2 Overview of Borrower's Institutional Capacity for Managing Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts

[Description of Borrower's capacity (i.e., prior performance under the Safeguard Policies or ESF, experience applying E&S policies of IFIs, Environmental and social unit/staff already in place) and willingness to manage risks and impacts and of provisions planned or required to have capabilities in place, along with the needs for enhanced support to the Borrower – Max. character limit 10,000]

The Project will be implemented by the Ministry of Health (MoH) as the key implementing agency, with support from the existing Project Management and Support Unit (PMSU). The PMSU has been implementing the Türkiye Health Systems Strengthening and Support Project



(P152799), where environmental and social risks were managed under the safeguard policies, and the Emergency COVID-19 Response Project (P173988) which was subject to the ESF Environmental and Social Standards (ESSs). Under both operations, the environmental and safeguard performance has been rated as Satisfactory at the ICR (P152799) and at the latest supervision of January 2024 (P173988). The MoH, which has the overarching responsibility for Türkiye’s health sector and related policy oversight, will be responsible for project’s financial management, procurement, and ESF compliance of the project through its PMSU and will ensure the technical implementation of all components. The full time environmental specialist will remain onboard for the proposed project, and one social specialist will be hired by the Project Effective Date. These specialists will oversee ESF performance, including OHS, of the proposed project. In order to support the management of ESHS risks and impacts of the Ankara Vaccine Production Center (Ankara VPC), one OHS and one biosafety specialists have been assigned by MOH General Directorate of Public Health (GDoPH) and will be maintained during the Project implementation. For the saem purpose, In addition, one environmental and one social specialist will be assigned by GDoPH or recruited under PMSU. Since the onset of the COVID-19 crisis, the World Bank has been working closely with the MoH to strengthen its response to COVID-19 and prepare for future public health threats. The ongoing Emergency COVID-19 Health Project supports Türkiye’s actions to curb the spread of COVID-19 and strengthen the overall health system to detect and treat cases. The recently closed Health Systems Strengthening and Support Project P152799 also funded the procurement of pharmaceuticals, goods, and supplies to combat COVID-19, which were provided to health care center, and supported Türkiye’s efforts to strengthen its vaccine production capabilities by funding the consultants who undertook the Environmental and Social Assessment of the VPC design, construction and operation.

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II. SUMMARY OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL (ES) RISKS AND IMPACTS

A. Environmental and Social Risk Classification (ESRC) Substantial

A.1 Environmental Risk Rating Substantial

[Summary of key factors contributing to risk rating, in accordance with the ES Directive and the Technical Note on Screening and Risk Classification under the ESF - Max. character limit 4,000]

The overall environmental risk of the project is rated as “Substantial”. While the project will not support the construction of the BSL2 Vaccine Production Center (VPC) in Ankara, it will procure equipment and laboratory supplies for the VPC. Thus, VPC is classified as an associated facility to the project and subject to the E&S due diligence, considering construction and operation phases. The main potential risks are related to the construction and operation of the Ankara VPC, including impacts of the large scale construction works, biological safety of storing, experimenting, researching and production of vaccines, and OHS and personal protection during the refurbishment, construction and operation of VPC. Such risks and impacts include:

During construction: (i) temporary localized changes in hydrological and hydrogeological conditions; (ii) increased erosion and sediment release into the nearby stream and groundwaters; (iii) compaction of soils and risk of pollution due to the extensive groundworks and use of construction machinery; (iv) generation of construction wastes; (v) dust, noise and



vibration pollution; (vi) risk of spillage and leaks resulting from the use of hazardous materials such as fuels, lubricants and paints, as well as construction materials such as liquid cement and lime, and the refueling and maintenance of construction equipment and machinery; (vii) impacts on soil due to excavation and generation of excessive materials, topsoil removal; (viii) temporary habitat loss; and (ix) OHS risks caused by improper OHS practices. During operation: (i) risks of improper pre-treatment of liquid and solid wastes, including medical, potentially causing health and safety impacts to VPC personnel and communities; (ii) biosafety and biosecurity risks due to improper handling of the vaccine production cycle, which may cause leak and spread of infectious/contagious materials, thus, causing serious threat to the VPC personnel and neighboring communities health and welfare; (iii) air emissions due to the improper operation of the ventilation shafts, pure natural gas fired steam generator and steam boilers; (iv) animal welfare impact. The other groups of risks will vary from “Low to “Moderate” and relate to the need to manage and dispose some amounts of wastes and occupational health and safety (OHS) during minor refurbishment and operation of laboratories and the Ankara Simulation-Based Training Center (SEUM) to be equipped under the proposed project. The identification of vaccine manufacturing technologies which in future will inform and guide the vaccine production processes at VPC shall consider, inter alia, associated risks and the ways of addressing those.

A.2 Social Risk Rating

Moderate

[Summary of key factors contributing to risk rating, in accordance with the ES Directive and the Technical Note on Screening and Risk Classification under the ESF – Max. character limit 4,000]

The social risk rating for the project is “Moderate”. The moderate risk classification is based on the nature and scale of the project investments which do not include major infrastructure (or new construction of laboratories and VPCs), land acquisition with resettlement and livelihoods impacts nor activities which pose risks to human health. The project's social risks and impacts will be mitigated through implementation of Good International Industry Practices (GIPPs) in the health sector. Hence, adverse risks and impacts are residual due to poor implementation of the required measures, such as unintended spread of infectious diseases due to improper Infection Prevention Control (IPC) and disease containment. Also, the Vaccine Production Center (VPC) is considered as Associated Facility and may cause some labor and working conditions risks and impacts. MoH has already developed an ESIA for construction and operation of VPC under the ongoing Health Systems Strengthening and Support Project including measures to prevent infections and diseases, to manage labor and working conditions risks and impacts, and relevant staff assignment to manage these risks. Activities planned under sub-components 2.2 and 3.3. will involve minor refurbishment works for the establishment of the Ankara Simulation-Based Training Center (Ankara SEUM), which is already designated area managed by public authorities and hence, considered as public land with no prior use by private individuals for livelihood activities. There is also minor risk related to exclusion of certain beneficiaries or stakeholders from project benefits due to inadequate consultation in designing the planned interventions.

[Summary of key factors contributing to risk rating. This attribute is only for the internal version of the download document and not a part of the disclosable version – Max. character limit 8,000]



B. Environment and Social Standards (ESS) that Apply to the Activities Being Considered

B.1 Relevance of Environmental and Social Standards

ESS1 - Assessment and Management of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts

Relevant

[Explanation - Max. character limit 10,000]

In order to address the environmental and social impacts of the construction and operation of the Ankara VPC, as described above, the MOH has conducted a site-specific Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) and developed Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP), including sub-management plans. The ESIA/ESMP has been disclosed and consulted by MOH from May 2 to May 20, 2024, and final version including consultation feedbacks, redisclosed and furnished to the Bank on July 9, 2024. The Bank disclosed the ESIA and ESMP on July 18, 2024. Other risks associated with E&S practices of MOH's laboratory and training facilities to be equipped under the project, technical advisory services, capacity building activities as well as minor refurbishment works, will be addressed through respective provisions of the Project Operations Manual (POM), Terms of References (ToRs) for consultancy services on identification of the vaccine production technologies, technical specifications and civil works and consultancy contracts as well as through ToRs of other consultancies and studies as appropriate. The implementation of the consultancy services shall be in accordance with the E&S provisions of respective ToRs as per relevant ESSs. Further, the identification of vaccine production technologies shall be conducted with due consideration of the findings and recommendations of the Ankara VPC ESIA and ESMP. On Component 4 'Contingent Emergency Response (CERC)', CERC-ESMF will be prepared as part of the CERC Manual, providing a description of the E&S assessment and management arrangements for the implementation of CERC Component 4 of the Project in accordance with the ESSs. As part of the E&S assessment under ESS1, and addressing the requirements of EES4, MOH will undertake a risk hazard assessment (RHA). Based on the results of the RHA, the Borrower will prepare an Emergency Action Plan (EAP) in coordination with the relevant local authorities and affected community, and will take into account the emergency prevention, preparedness and response arrangements put in place with project workers under ESS2. CERC Manual and ESMF, as well as RHA and EAP will be finalized by MOH as a disbursement condition for Component 4. These actions are captured in the ESCP.

ESS10 - Stakeholder Engagement and Information Disclosure

Relevant

[Explanation - Max. character limit 10,000]

The key stakeholders for this project include entities at various levels within the Ministry of Health as well as healthcare workers across different entities such as the Presidency of Turkish Health Institutes (TUSEB), Vaccine Production Center (VPC), IDEA Biosafety lab, laboratories part of the national laboratory system, primary health care facilities (PHCs) etc. A SEP has



been prepared in consistency with the requirements of ESS10 and disclosed, consulted, and finalized with the consultation feedbacks. The existing national GM systems (SABIM - MoH Communication Center and SBN - GM for health workers) will be utilized for the project and be strengthened to ensure feedback, consultation, and effective communication with stakeholders during the preparation and implementation phase. The SEP has first been disclosed prior to the appraisal, consistent with the requirements of ESS10, then updated to incorporate consultation feedback and redisclosed by MOH on July 9, 2024, and by the Bank on July 18, 2024. The SEP might be further updated, as necessary. The proposed project and the SEP build upon existing government systems.

ESS2 - Labor and Working Conditions

Relevant

[Explanation - Max. character limit 10,000]

This standard is relevant. Project workers will include direct workers (MoH staff and full-time project staff); contracted workers (construction workers, experts, consultants, trainers, etc.) and primary supply workers. Project activities are likely to affect direct and contracted healthcare staff employed either by the MoH (directly, indirectly or contractually) as well as technical support agencies for technical support and capacity building work. Primary supply workers and Community workers are not involved in the Project activities. Compliance with applicable laws, Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) guidelines as well as guidelines for the prevention of sexual harassment at the workplace will apply to these workers. The MoH has prepared an LMP that outlines the policies and procedures for all categories of workers, key labor requirements and risks associated with the project. The MoH will also prepare a stand alone Life and Fire Safety (LFS) plan to clearly define emergency preparedness and response and evacuation measures to be followed in case of operational accidents or fires.

ESS3 - Resource Efficiency and Pollution Prevention and Management

Relevant

[Explanation - Max. character limit 10,000]

While the proposed project will not support physical construction, considerations will be taken to ensure investment in equipment is safe from climatic hazard. Where feasible, greenhouse gas emissions will be mitigated by selecting energy-efficient equipment compliant with one of the efficiency standards. The construction of the VPC will generate various streams of wastes which will be managed in accordance with the ESMP and detailed waste management plan developed as part of Ankara VPC ESIA Study. The use of resources during construction will be subject to resource efficiency measures specified in the Ankara VPC ESMP. Wastes that may be generated from medical facilities and labs could include liquid contaminated waste, chemicals, and other hazardous materials. The beneficiary facilities and laboratories will implement the provisions of Medical Waste Management Plans which are developed in accordance with the requirements of, and following the content and format established by national regulations.

ESS4 - Community Health and Safety

Relevant

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[Explanation - Max. character limit 10,000]

There is a risk to community health and safety due to accidental release of experimental and vaccine production materials, which are addressed within the scope of Ankara VPC ESIA and Istanbul ESMP, suggesting respective mitigation and monitoring measures. Also, the facilities will undergo international certification at the commencement and then regularly as envisaged by international biosafety standards. Community-level surveillance and monitoring will be undertaken in accordance with the project level SEPs. A stand alone Life and Fire Safety Plan will be developed for the kindergarten to accommodate the evacuation protocols and emergency response for the children and personnel of the kindergarten. Furthermore, an independent biosafety/biosecurity expert will be engaged by MOH to provide an expert opinion on the kindergarten incorporated as part of the VPC recreational zone, prior to the finalisation of the VPC design. Other community health and safety risks will be caused by minor refurbishment and installation works, such as noise and dust emissions, lack of security precautions that could create risks for workers and building users, etc., and will be managed by the application and integration of WB EHSGs and GIIPs into respective TORs and contracts. Large-scale labor influx and worker accommodation are not expected.

ESS5 - Land Acquisition, Restrictions on Land Use and Involuntary Resettlement

Not Currently Relevant

[Explanation - Max. character limit 10,000]

This standard is not relevant as no land acquisition is expected under the proposed project. All the rehabilitation will take place in the existing facilities and within the existing premises.

ESS6 - Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Management of Living Natural Resources

Relevant

[Explanation - Max. character limit 10,000]

This standard is relevant. While no protected, sensitive or ecologically and biologically valuable areas are determined with the area of influence of the VPC site, the construction and operation of the Ankara VPC may pose temporary disturbance to flora and fauna species as well as some loss of modified habitat identified on the site. These potential impacts are considered within the ESIA Study and site-specific Biodiversity Management Plan. All other interventions will be within the existing footprint of facilities unlikely to raise any risks to biodiversity and natural resources.

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

Not Currently Relevant

[Explanation - Max. character limit 10,000]

This standard is not applicable, since there are no Indigenous People known to reside in Turkiye.

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ESS8 - Cultural Heritage

Relevant

[Explanation - Max. character limit 10,000]

While no cultural heritage objects were found within the study areas of the Ankara VPC, and these facilities are not categorized as cultural heritage by the government, chance finds procedures are incorporated into the respective ESMPs.

ESS9 - Financial Intermediaries

Not Currently Relevant

[Explanation - Max. character limit 10,000]

The project does not involve Financial Intermediaries.

B.2 Legal Operational Policies that Apply

OP 7.50 Operations on International Waterways

No

OP 7.60 Operations in Disputed Areas

No

B.3 Other Salient Features

Use of Borrower Framework

No

[Explanation including areas where "Use of Borrower Framework" is being considered - Max. character limit 10,000]

N/A

Use of Common Approach

No

[Explanation including list of possible financing partners - Max. character limit 4,000]

N/A

B.4 Summary of Assessment of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts

[Description provided will not be disclosed but will flow as a one time flow to the Appraisal Stage PID and PAD - Max. character limit 10,000]

The overall environmental risk of the project is rated as "Substantial". This is due to the potential risks related to the construction and operation of BSL3 Vaccine Production Center (VPC) in Ankara, including impacts of the implementation of large scale construction works, and biological safety of storing, experimenting, researching and production of vaccines. While the proposed project will not support the construction of the VPC, it will procure equipment and laboratory supplies for the VPC. Thus, VPC has been classified as the associated facility to the project and has been subject

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to the E&S due diligence, considering construction and operation phases. These risks are assessed and addressed within the scope of site-specific Ankara VPC ESIA and ESMP. The risks of the minor refurbishment and those of TA on identifying the vaccine production technologies will be captured by incorporating relevant WB ESHGs provisions and references to ESIA and ESMP findings and measures into respective technical specifications and TORs. The social risk rating for the project is "Moderate" based on the nature and scale of the potential investments which do not include major infrastructure, land acquisition nor activities which pose risks to human health. The project's social risks and impacts can be mitigated through implementation of Good International Industry Practices (GIPPs) in the health sector. Some adverse risks and impacts may be residual due to poor implementation of the required measures, such as unintended spread of infectious diseases due to improper Infection Prevention Control (IPC) and disease containment. MoH has already developed an ESIA and ESMP for construction and operation of VPC under the Health Systems Strengthening and Support Project including measures to prevent infections and diseases and relevant staff assignment to manage these risks. Although no major labor risks and impacts are expected, the MoH prepared the LMP to define the policies and procedures for all categories of workers to be involved in the project.

The environmental and social risks anticipated under CERC will be addressed within the scope of CERC Manual/CERC ESMF and EAP, to be prepared within three months after the Project Effective Date.

C. Overview of Required Environmental and Social Risk Management Activities

C.1 What Borrower environmental and social analyses, instruments, plans and/or frameworks are planned or required by implementation?

[Description of expectations in terms of documents to be prepared to assess and manage the project's environmental and social risks and by when (i.e., prior to Effectiveness, or during implementation), highlighted features of ESA documents, other project documents where environmental and social measures are to be included, and the related due diligence process planned to be carried out by the World Bank, including sources of information for the due diligence - Max. character limit 10,000]

Ankara VPC ESIA and ESMP is disclosed, consulted and finalized with consultation feedbacks before the end of appraisal.

The risks of the minor refurbishment and those of TA identifying the vaccine production technologies will be captured by incorporating relevant WB ESHGs provisions and references to ESIA and ESMP findings and measures into respective technical specifications and TORs.

The Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP), including GM, has been prepared, disclosed and consulted with stakeholders. The SEP identifies and map key stakeholders, including vulnerable and disadvantaged groups. It defines the mode and frequency of engagement with stakeholders at various stages of the project cycle.

The Environmental and Social Commitment Plan (ESCP) has been prepared by the Appraisal.

Labor Management Procedures has been prepared by the Appraisal.



III. CONTACT POINT

World Bank

Task Team Leader: Nadwa Rafeh Title: Senior Health Specialist

Email: nrafeh@worldbank.org

IV. FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

The World Bank
1818 H Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20433
Telephone: (202) 473-1000
Web: <http://www.worldbank.org/projects>

V. APPROVAL

Task Team Leader(s):	Nadwa Rafeh
ADM Environmental Specialist:	Gulana Enar Hajiyeva
ADM Social Specialist:	Ebru Demir Aykan

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