

MINISTRY OF PRE AND PRIMARY SCHOOLS

**Benin COVID-19 Education Response GPE
Project (P174186)**

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

June 2020

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL COMMITMENT PLAN

1. The Government of Benin will implement the Benin COVID-19 Education Response GPE Project (P174186) (hereinafter the **Project COVID-19 Education**), through a Project Coordination Unit (PCU) under the Ministry of Pre and Primary Schools with the involvement of the following Ministries: i) Ministry of Secondary, Technical Education and Vocational Training (*Ministère des Enseignements Secondaire, Technique et de la Formation et Professionnelle, MESFTP*); and (ii) Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research (*Ministère de l'Enseignement Supérieur et de la Recherche Scientifique, MESRS*). The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development/International Development Association (hereinafter the Bank/the Association), *has agreed to provide* financing for the Project COVID-19 Education.
2. The recipient will implement material measures and actions so that the Project is implemented in accordance with the 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 recipient will also comply with the provisions of any other E&S documents required under the ESF and referred to in this ESCP, such as Environmental and Social Management Plans (ESMP), Stakeholder Engagement Plans (SEP) and the timelines specified in those E&S documents.
4. The recipient is responsible for compliance with all requirements of the ESCP even when implementation of specific measures and actions is conducted by the Ministry, agency or unit referenced in 1. above.
5. Implementation of the material measures and actions set out in this ESCP will be monitored and reported to the Bank/Association by the Government of Benin as required by the ESCP and the conditions of the legal agreement, and the *Bank/Association* will monitor and assess progress and completion of the material measures and actions throughout implementation of the Project COVID-19 Education.
6. As agreed by the Bank/Association and the Government of Benin, this ESCP may be revised from time to time during Project implementation, to reflect adaptive management of Project changes and unforeseen circumstances or in response to assessment of Project COVID-19 Education performance conducted under the ESCP itself. In such circumstances, the Government of Benin through the Ministry of Pre and Primary Schools (MPPS) will agree to the changes with the Bank/Association and will update the ESCP to reflect such changes. Agreement on changes to the ESCP will be documented through the exchange of letters signed between the Bank/Association and the Government of Benin. The Government of Benin will promptly disclose the updated ESCP.
7. Where Project changes, unforeseen circumstances, or Project performance result in changes to the risks and impacts during Project implementation, the Government of Benin 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
MONITORING AND REPORTING			
A	<p>REGULAR REPORTING</p> <p>The Government of Benin through the Ministry of Pre and Primary Schools (MPPS) or the Project Coordination Unit (PCU) will prepare and submit to the Bank/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.</p> <p>Periodic reports will include an analysis of complaint management, including Violence Against Children (VAC) risks management (SEA/SH).</p>	<p>Quarterly reports on the implementation of the project's E&S risk management measures will be produced no later than the 5th of the month following the quarter ended, and this throughout the project implementation cycle</p>	<p>- PCU Coordinator; -Specialist in monitoring and evaluation; -Environmental specialist; -Social specialist</p>
ESS 1: ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RISKS AND IMPACTS			
1.1	<p>ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE</p> <p>The Government of Benin shall establish and maintain a Project Coordination Unit (PCU) with qualified staff and resources to support management of ESHS risks and impacts of the Project including an environmental specialist and a social specialist.</p>	<p>The PCU will be set up no later than fifteen (15) days after the project effectiveness. The qualified i) environmental specialist and ii) social specialist should be hired or appointed no later than 30 days after the project effectiveness and before carrying out project activities.</p>	<p>Ministry of Pre and Primary Schools (MPPS)</p>
1.2	<p>ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL ASSESSMENT/MANAGEMENT PLANS AND INSTRUMENTS/ CONTRACTORS</p> <p>a. Prepare, disclose, adopt, and implement the environmental and social management plan (ESMP) for the project and any other instruments required for the respective Project activities based on the assessment process, in accordance with the ESSs, 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>b. 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>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No later than 30 days after project effectiveness and before the carrying out of the relevant Project activities, and thereafter throughout the carrying out of such activities. • Before launching the procurement process for the relevant Project activities, and thereafter throughout the carrying out of such activities. 	<p>-Ministry of Pre and Primary Schools (MPPS) -PCU</p>

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
1.3	EXCLUSIONS: All the excluded activities set out in the PAD or the ESMP of the Project are deemed as ineligible for financing under the Project.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> During the assessment process conducted under action 1.2.a. above. 	-Ministry of Pre and Primary Schools (MPPS) -PCU
ESS 2: LABOR AND WORKING CONDITIONS			
2.1	LABOR MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES The Project shall be carried out in accordance with the applicable requirements of ESS2, in a manner acceptable to the Bank/Association, including through, inter alia, 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.	Throughout implementation.	Project -Ministry of Pre and Primary Schools (MPPS) -PCU
ESS 3: RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT			
3.1	Relevant aspects of this standard shall be considered, as needed, under action 1.2 above, including, inter alia, measures to disinfect classrooms.		
ESS 4: COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY			
4.1	Relevant aspects of this standard should be considered, as appropriate, in action 1.2 above, including, inter alia, measures to: minimize the potential for exposure to chemicals during disinfection of classrooms; ensure that individuals or groups who, because of their particular situation, are not disadvantaged or vulnerable as a result of project activities and that they can have access to the development benefits resulting from the project; manage the risks associated with the use of security personnel; prevent and respond to sexual exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment (SEA/SH).		
ESS 5: LAND ACQUISITION, RESTRICTIONS ON LAND USE AND INVOLUNTARY RESETTLEMENT Not relevant			
ESS 6: BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF LIVING NATURAL RESOURCES Not relevant			
ESS 7: INDIGENOUS PEOPLES/SUB-SAHARAN AFRICAN HISTORICALLY UNDERSERVED TRADITIONAL LOCAL COMMUNITIES Not relevant			
ESS 8: CULTURAL HERITAGE Not relevant			
ESS 9: FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES Not relevant			
ESS 10: STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION DISCLOSURE			

10.1	<p>STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN PREPARATION AND IMPLEMENTATION The Government of Benin will prepare, disclose, adopt, and implement a Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) consistent with ESS10, in a manner acceptable to the Association.</p>	<p>A draft SEP was already prepared and disclosed and shall be updated 30 days after effectiveness to include further details and implementation arrangements</p>	<p>-Ministry of Pre and Primary Schools (MPPS) -PCU</p>
10.2	<p>PROJECT GRIEVANCE MECHANISM: Accessible grievance arrangements shall be made publicly 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>Throughout the project cycle life</p>	<p>-Ministry of Pre and Primary Schools (MPPS) -PCU</p>
CAPACITY SUPPORT (TRAINING)			
CS1	<p>-Provide a capacity enhance support including training for PCU staff based on the identified need to support project risk and E&S impact management. - Information / awareness and training for Primary School Management Committees (COGEP), local populations, students and teaching staff in order to increase their awareness of the potential environmental and social risks of the Project Covid-19 Education and their commitment and participation in the determination and the implementation of the effective management measures against these negative environmental and social impacts linked to the project. -Training of complaint management committees -Provide training for school staff and students including other workers of the project on COVID-19 barrier measures and protective measures against the negative effects of products used for classroom disinfection - Other relevant environmental and social issues, including identification and management of SEA/SH risks.</p>	<p>A full training plan will be prepared 30 days after effectiveness. It will be implemented immediately and throughout the implementation of the project.</p>	<p>-Ministry of Pre and Primary Schools (MPPS) -Recruitment of NGOs will be needed to support these capacity building actions</p>
CS2	<p>The Government will organize trainings for the project direct workers to make them better aware of the potential E&S risks and impacts related to project activities and their roles and responsibilities for the assessment and management of these risks and impacts.</p>		