



# Combined Project Information Documents / Integrated Safeguards Datasheet (PID/ISDS)

Appraisal Stage | Date Prepared/Updated: 21-Sep-2017 | Report No: PIDISDSA22646



**BASIC INFORMATION**

**A. Basic Project Data**

Country Yemen, Republic of	Project ID P164190	Project Name Yemen Integrated Urban Services Emergency Project	Parent Project ID (if any)
Region MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA	Estimated Appraisal Date 08-Aug-2017	Estimated Board Date 16-Nov-2017	Practice Area (Lead) Social, Urban, Rural and Resilience Global Practice
Financing Instrument Investment Project Financing	Borrower(s) United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS)	Implementing Agency United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS)	

Proposed Development Objective(s)

To restore access to critical urban services in selected cities within the Republic of Yemen.

Components

Services Rehabilitation  
Implementation Support and Capacity Development  
Contingent Emergency Response Component

The processing of this project is applying the policy requirements exceptions for situations of urgent need of assistance or capacity constraints that are outlined in OP 10.00, paragraph 12.

Yes

**Financing (in USD Million)**

Financing Source	Amount
IDA Grant	150.00
<b>Total Project Cost</b>	<b>150.00</b>

Environmental Assessment Category

B - Partial Assessment

Decision

The review did authorize the preparation to continue



Other Decision (as needed)

## B. Introduction and Context

### Country Context

1. **The proposed Project is being processed under OP 10.00 paragraph 12 (*Projects in Situations of Urgent Need of Assistance and Capacity Constraints*), given the instability and violence currently affecting the Republic of Yemen (RoY).** Since March 2015, Yemen descended into a full-fledged military conflict concentrated in its main cities that has caused major loss of life, internal displacement, destruction of infrastructure and disruptions in service delivery across the country's main sectors.<sup>1</sup> By August 2017, United Nations (UN) agencies noted that health facilities reported at least 5,000 people killed and more than 8,000 injured. Half of the country's 26.8 million population resides in areas directly affected by the conflict. More than two million Yemenis have been internally displaced. Food insecurity affects some 17 million people, including seven million people who are severely food insecure. Two million children are acutely malnourished, in addition to 385,000 children under the age of five who are severely acutely malnourished. Nearly 15 million people are unable to access basic healthcare. Since the start of the conflict, the provision of public services, such as electricity and water, has come to a virtual standstill. Due to the resulting lack of access to reliable water supply and uncollected garbage, Yemen is confronted with a severe outbreak of cholera. By September 2017, the World Health Organization (WHO) has reported over 600,000 cases of cholera and more than 2,000 associated deaths across 21 of 23 governorates. The extent and nature of the needs are being regularly updated under the World Bank Yemen Dynamic Needs Assessment (DNA).

### Sectoral and Institutional Context

2. **The main challenges facing the country's key urban sectors because of the ongoing conflict are detailed below:**

#### **(a) Tertiary Municipal Services<sup>2</sup> and Solid Waste Management**

3. **The level of municipal services in most urban centers in Yemen has significantly deteriorated with the ongoing conflict.** The most substantial impediment is the lack of public funds, which is affecting operational inputs such as salaries for local authority staff, availability of fuel, and equipment. Solid waste services are significantly impacted, resulting in minimal garbage collection. Untreated sewage water overflow has also become a common occurrence. These factors are directly contributing to the current cholera crisis. Neighborhood roads damaged during the conflict remain unrepaired, impeding mobility and access.

#### **(b) Urban Water and Sanitation**

4. **Yemen suffers from acute water scarcity.** The urban water crisis has been exacerbated during the

<sup>1</sup> For further details on the country's context, refer to the Yemen Country Engagement Note 2017-2018 (Report 106118-YE).

<sup>2</sup> Tertiary refers to neighborhood-level municipal services, for example, neighborhood streets, sanitation, drainage, parks, etc.



last three decades, partly from lack of water resources and partly from government policy that has encouraged farmers to shift from traditional rain-fed to irrigated agriculture. Before the ongoing conflict, public water supply covered approximately half of the urban population. The other half was supplied by the unstructured private sector.

5. **The ongoing conflict has exacerbated the systemic water resources crisis in Yemen.** As of July 2017, about 19.4 million people lack adequate access to clean water and sanitation, including 8.2 million who are in acute need. The armed conflict has seriously affected infrastructure and led to an almost complete stoppage of water service delivery. In addition, per the DNA, more than 40 percent of water and sanitation facilities in major cities are currently damaged and have lost functionality. An assessment conducted in 2016<sup>3</sup> also demonstrated how the inability to pay basic salaries of Local Corporations' (LCs)<sup>4</sup> staff has further limited the operation of water facilities and services. Although the LCs, their branch offices, and associated utilities have maintained a skeleton staff, they continue to face significant challenges, including financial survival, infrastructure replacement or repair, customer demands and work force remuneration. Thus, a significant portion of the urban population is relying on unregulated private water tankers. Due to the lack of functioning water and sanitation services, many cities in Yemen, including Aden and Sana'a, are currently confronted with a significant cholera outbreak that is spreading rapidly across 21 out of 23 governorates.

### (c) Urban Roads and Transport

6. **Yemen's road sector has gone through a significant transformation in the past three decades, albeit challenges remain.** The road network has grown from only about 5,000 km in 1990 to about 16,000 km in 2015, a 220 percent increase over 25 years. These changes have had a major impact on the population and the economy, promoting internal and external trade, connecting a growing share of the population to public services and markets, and ensuring that food imports reach remote areas. In addition, several private road construction and maintenance companies as well as engineering firms have emerged. The main challenges to the road sector include underfunding, poor planning and budgeting, and low civil service salaries.

7. **Urban roads in major cities in Yemen, such as Sana'a, Aden, Taiz, Al Hodeidah, Saadah and Amran, have been severely damaged.** The road sector has incurred widespread damage; major road links and bridges have been destroyed. Per the DNA, more than 60 percent of intra-urban roads have been affected in Saadah and Taiz. The damage to urban roads has rendered large segments of the road network inaccessible for people and vehicles with negative impacts on mobility and access to localized services (e.g. markets, health facilities and schools).

### (d) Energy

8. **Even before the conflict, Yemen had one of the lowest per capita levels of electricity consumption and the lowest electricity access level in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region, with estimates of access—from either on-grid or off-grid sources—ranging between 52 percent and 72 percent in 2014.** The national electricity company, Public Electricity Corporation, lacked the resources and

<sup>3</sup> Conducted by *Deutsche Gesellschaft fuer Internationale Zusammenarbeit* (GIZ)

<sup>4</sup> The Local Corporations are the utility providers operating in Yemen.



capacity to supply adequate electricity to meet the country's requirements for maintaining economic growth.

9. **The conflict in Yemen has significantly worsened the already low electricity access level with severe impacts on urban public services as well as commercial and industrial activities, which all rely heavily on a functioning power supply.** Fuel is scarce and many electricity generation facilities have been damaged. The national grid has disintegrated into several subnational systems because transmission links were damaged or ceased operations due to the conflict. Consequently, public electricity supply has been completely shut down in large areas of the country, including major cities such as Sana'a, Al Hodeidah and Taiz. Only an estimated ten percent of the population has access to reliable electricity. Light emissions visible from satellite imagery indicate that electricity consumption has decreased by about 75 percent. The impact on facilities dependent on reliable electricity has been devastating. Hospitals, water pumping stations, water treatment stations, industry and commercial facilities have all had to cut back operations or find alternative power sources.

#### (e) Housing

10. **Prior to the conflict, high urban population growth (albeit starting from a low level of urbanization), coupled with poverty and increased land costs, have led to a housing deficit in Yemen.** Per the World Development Indicators, in the last ten years, Yemen's urban population growth rate has averaged 4.41, over double that of the MENA region. However, urban planning and housing have not kept up, with significant overcrowding in cities, especially in temporary substandard units.<sup>5</sup> Land and property rights in Yemen are based on a deeds registration system with no national cadaster. In urban areas, 32 percent of the population are renters. Other sector challenges include a mismatch between supply and demand, high construction costs, and low quality of building materials.

11. **The housing sector in Yemen has been devastated by the ongoing conflict.** As per the findings of the regularly updated World Bank Yemen DNA, more than 25 percent of the housing stock has experienced some form of damage in the ten assessed cities. Since investments in housing sector reconstruction are difficult under the current conflict conditions, it is proposed to undertake preparatory, analytical measures that will contribute to creating the enabling conditions for future investments.

### C. Proposed Development Objective(s)

Development Objective(s) (From Project Appraisal Document)

To restore access to critical urban services in selected cities within the Republic of Yemen.

Key Results

1.4 million beneficiaries with restored access to critical urban services.

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<sup>5</sup>See also: *Residents' Perception of the Affordability of Private Housing Schemes: Lessons from Aden, Yemen*. Overcrowding generally takes place when housing per person is below 16 square meters. In Yemen, 20 percent of temporary substandard units have an estimated average of four square meters per person.



## D. Project Description

12. **The Project financing is an International Development Association (IDA) grant in an amount equivalent to US\$150 million.** The Project will finance activities that support the restoration of critical urban services in selected Yemeni cities. The restoration of urban services, including water and sanitation, transport, energy and solid waste management, will be critical to improve health outcomes, basic living conditions and local economic activity.

13. **The Project adopts an integrated approach to urban service delivery that provides coordinated, multi-sectoral support to Yemen during the conflict.** The Project design is based on findings and lessons learned from relevant analytical pieces and operational experience in Fragility, Conflict and Violence (FCV) environments. The regularly updated World Bank Yemen DNA highlights the need for an integrated and multi-sectoral World Bank engagement in urban settings. For example, water and sanitation services in Sana'a suffer from reduced functionality due to a shortage of electricity. The Project design encompasses cooperation among service providers, collaboration among sectors, and co-location of complementary services to deliver interdependent goals.

14. **In light of this national catastrophe, the proposed project focuses on restoring access to critical urban services in selected cities where most of the conflict-related damage has occurred.** The Project will target cities in Yemen with an estimated pre-crisis population of 50,000 people or more to benefit from the economies of scales that these medium to large cities provide. In Yemen, 15 cities qualify under this criterion: Aden, Al Hodeidah, Al Mukalla, Amran, Bajil, Bayt al-Faqih, Dhamar, Ibb, Rida, Saadah, Sana'a, Say'oun, Shihr, Taiz, and Yarim. During the first year of implementation, the Project will focus on five cities: Aden, Al Hodeidah, Amran, Sana'a, and Saadah.<sup>6</sup> In subsequent years, investments in these five cities will continue while the Project aims to expand to the additional cities, contingent upon UNOPS' ability to operate in these cities. The Project is operating in a diverse sectoral and institutional context with activities spanning several sectors (tertiary municipal services and solid waste management, urban water and sanitation, urban roads, energy, and housing). Initial assessments indicate a high degree of interdependence amongst these sectors. The Project will embrace an integrated approach to selecting and implementing activities to maximize cost effectiveness and to ensure complementarity across sectors.

### Component 1: Service Restoration (US\$130 million)

15. **This component will support the restoration of critical urban services in selected cities in Yemen.** The targeted services cover five sectors: tertiary municipal services and solid waste management, water and sanitation, urban roads, electricity for critical services, and housing.<sup>7</sup> The services are selected to address the most urgent needs of the urban population in Yemen. No investments in any of the sectors will be undertaken unless there is sufficient evidence that the supply chain and/or related network or system will be operational enough to assure full utilization of the investment.

16. **In the first year, the Project will focus on critical investments that can restore services in a short**

<sup>6</sup> These five cities have been selected based on: (a) UNOPS' ability to operate; and b) the availability of detailed sector-level data from the DNA that will help expedite Project preparation.

<sup>7</sup> The housing sector subcomponent will not include any investments or works but will focus on technical assistance to prepare for housing sector reconstruction once the situation permits.



**implementation timeframe.** These include, for example, water pumps, generators to provide electricity to water pumps and critical health facilities, solid waste management, and simple road fixes. Project activities will be decided upon based on technical, social, and economic feasibility, as well as readiness for implementation. Starting from the second year, the Project will expand to additional activities that will be based on community priorities identified through citizen engagement mechanisms and the community validation of investment options (see subcomponent 2.2 for more details). The identification and preparation of bottom-up, needs-based activities for the subsequent years of the Project will be conducted during the first year of Project implementation.

17. This component will finance works, goods, consultants' services, non-consultant services, training, and operating costs of the local partners involved in the different subcomponents. All civil works under the Project are expected to be undertaken by private sector contractors, thus supporting the revitalization of local economic activity.

***Subcomponent 1.1: Tertiary Municipal Services and Solid Waste Management***

18. The subcomponent will include small-scale, neighborhood-level tertiary municipal goods and infrastructure that will improve access to municipal services. Selection of investments will be based on the priority needs identified by each targeted urban community in collaboration with the relevant District Local Authorities (DLAs) and/or communities. Since infrastructure will be provided through local contractors, this subcomponent will also help restore local economic activity and generate local employment through the participation of small private sector contractors, building material suppliers, and service providers. Activities supported by this subcomponent may include solid waste management, neighborhood sanitation, rain water drainage, stone paving of neighborhood streets, and the rehabilitation of local parks and green spaces. The subcomponent will be implemented by the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) in partnership with the Public Works Project.

***Subcomponent 1.2: Urban Water and Sanitation***

19. The subcomponent includes small- to medium-scale goods and infrastructure works, as well as critical supplies (such as fuel) to restore water and sanitation service delivery at the city level. The selection of activities will be based on the priority needs to be identified by UNOPS in consultation with the Urban Water PMU (UW-PMU), LCs, relevant DLAs and/or local communities. These subprojects will complement water and sanitation system activities currently foreseen under the Yemen Emergency Health and Nutrition Project (EHNP) – Additional Financing – P164466, which focuses on the rehabilitation of medium- to large-scale water and sanitation infrastructure including waste water treatment plants. Particular attention will be paid to investments in sanitation to ensure that the entire supply chain from collection to final treatment is functional or made functional through the investments. The subcomponent will be implemented by UNOPS in partnership with the UW-PMU. Activities under this subcomponent will also be coordinated with the United Nations Children's Fund.

***Subcomponent 1.3: Urban Roads***

20. The subcomponent will rehabilitate primary and secondary urban roads including those at the entrances to the cities. Activities may include spot and pothole repairs, crack sealing, patch works, asphalt



resurfacing, road safety improvement works and intersection rehabilitation. This subcomponent will contribute to increasing mobility and access, including supporting regeneration of economic activity, and improving road safety. The choice of activities will be based on the priority needs to be identified by UNOPS in consultation with Road Maintenance Fund Implementation Unit (RMF-IU), DLAs and/or local communities. Each rehabilitation works contract will maximize the use of manual labor to support local employment. The subcomponent will be implemented by UNOPS in partnership with the RMF-IU.

***Subcomponent 1.4: Electricity for Critical Services***

21. This subcomponent supports the restoration of electricity supply to critical urban services. During the first year, it will prioritize off-grid electricity solutions for functional water, sanitation, health, and education facilities. Demand for such activities will be closely coordinated with relevant UN agencies. Other urban services may be included in later years based on local-level demand. The selection of activities will be based on the priority needs to be identified by UNOPS in consultation with LCs, relevant DLAs and/or local communities. The short- to medium-term activities under this subcomponent may include: (a) rehabilitation of existing conventional (diesel) generation systems; (b) installation of new off-grid generation using diesel, renewable energy (such as rooftop or ground-mounted solar photovoltaic (PV) panels for buildings) or diesel-solar PV hybrid technologies; (c) restoration of fuel supply, where needed;<sup>8</sup> (d) solar PV and light-emitting diode (LED) street lights; (e) energy efficiency improvements, such as LED lights in buildings and solar water heaters; and (f) provision of electricity through off-grid private sector rental generation. The long-term, sustainable option is to move to grid-based electricity supply platforms that can provide more reliable and affordable electricity. While the focus of this Project in the short-term will be on off-grid solutions targeted for electricity supply to critical urban services, the feasibility of private sector service contracts for decentralized production and provision of electricity may be examined in the later years of the Project. The subcomponent will be implemented by UNOPS.

***Subcomponent 1.5: Housing Sector***

22. This subcomponent will focus on conducting technical assistance for the housing sector, which is the most impacted sector in terms of recovery needs.<sup>9</sup> In the event that the assessments are completed and appropriate reconstruction strategies can be developed prior to project completion, funding could be provided under this Project to support the repair and rebuilding of damaged residential structures.

**Component 2: Implementation Support and Capacity Development (US\$20 million)**

***Subcomponent 2.1: Project Implementation and Management Support***

23. This subcomponent will finance: a) general management support (indirect) costs for UNOPS; b) direct project management and supervision costs required to support the implementation of the Project; c) Project monitoring, evaluation and coordination at the city level; d) a global information system (GIS)-based expenditure tracking and information dissemination system; e) independent audits of project activities; and

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<sup>8</sup> In some cases, such as hospitals and health facilities, the fuel supply may be covered by another development partner and the activity will require close coordination to avoid duplication.

<sup>9</sup> According to the DNA, recovery needs in the housing sector account for more than 65 percent of the total needs in assessed cities.





f) the establishment of a Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) to document complaints and ensure follow-up. UNOPS will perform project management and implementation support functions through their local office in Sana'a. Its project management and implementation support team will include a program manager, procurement specialists, finance specialists, environment and social safeguards specialist, logistician officer, and administrative officer.

***Subcomponent 2.2: Technical Assistance***

24. This subcomponent will support capacity building activities for the stakeholders who will be involved in the delivery of activities under the Project at central and local levels. These activities will focus on technical skills for all sectors involved in the Project, including more effective human resource management, coordination, transparency and accountability, safeguards, and public financial management. The outcomes of the first round of capacity development will allow the Bank team to gain a better understanding of the capacity needs on the ground and tailor the activities under this subcomponent accordingly.

25. This subcomponent will also support citizen engagement and communication throughout the Project, including facilitation of a bottom-up process for needs prioritization at the local level. Activities will include a context-sensitive public communication plan to ensure the transparency of the subprojects' cost, selection rationale, and implementation schedule. In addition, citizen participation in the decision-making on annual investment plans to validate priorities identified by the implementing agency and to choose between competing investment options will be applied in the second and third year of the project.

26. UNOPS will implement these activities by engaging civil society organizations or other relevant technical experts, as needed.

***Subcomponent 2.3: Third Party Monitoring***

27. UNOPS will engage a Third-Party Monitoring (TPM) agent to undertake independent results verification of subprojects funded under the Project.

**Component 3: Contingent Emergency Response (US\$0)**

28. The objective of this component is to improve the country's response capacity in the event of an emergency, following the procedures governed by OP 10.00 paragraph 12 (Rapid Response to Crises and Emergencies). There is a probability that during the life of the Project a natural disaster, epidemic or another emergency may occur, which causes a major adverse economic and/or social impact. In anticipation of such an event, this Contingent Emergency Response Component (CERC) allows UNOPS to receive support by reallocating funds from other Project components or serving as a conduit to process additional financing from other funding sources for eligible emergencies to mitigate, respond to and recover from the potential harmful consequences arising from the emergency. Disbursements under this subcomponent will be subject to the declaration of emergency by the RoY, the international community, or the UN.



## E. Implementation

### Institutional and Implementation Arrangements

29. **The proposed Project is an emergency operation processed under OP 10.00 paragraph 12 and OP 2.30.** It uses UNOPS as the recipient of IDA funds and alternative implementation agency on an exceptional basis under the Financial Management Framework Agreement (FMFA) between the World Bank and UN agencies. The Project's financial management arrangements will be governed by the FMFA, which provides for the use of the UN's Financial Regulations. Per the procurement arrangement under this Project, UNOPS will follow its own procurement procedures as Alternative Procurement Arrangements allowed by the World Bank's new Procurement Framework Policy Section III.F.

30. **The Project will be implemented by UNOPS through direct implementation as well as project cooperation agreements between UNOPS and local partners.** UNOPS will: (a) take responsibility for project implementation; (b) monitor the project targets and results in coordination with the local partners; (c) handle relevant procurement, financial management, and disbursement management including the preparation of withdrawal applications under the project; and (d) ensure that all reporting requirements for IDA are met per the Project Financing Agreement.

31. **Annual Investment Plans:** For the first year, a preliminary list of interventions has been prepared by UNOPS in collaboration with local partners. For subsequent years, a citizen-informed investment plan recommended by the Technical Committee (composed of UNOPS and the local partners), and finalized by UNOPS, will be submitted to the World Bank for non-objection prior to commencement of implementation. The annual investment plans will be reviewed during implementation to ensure the continued appropriateness of the selected investments.

32. **Closing date and implementation schedule:** The planned activities under this proposed emergency operation will be implemented over a period of three years (January 1, 2018 to December 31, 2020). It is therefore envisaged that the proposed US\$150 million IDA grant will be disbursed over the period of three years.

## F. Project location and Salient physical characteristics relevant to the safeguard analysis (if known)

The Project will target cities in Yemen with an estimated pre-crisis (2014) population of 50,000 people or more. Fifteen cities qualify for the project under this criterion: Aden, Al Hodeidah, Al Mukalla, Amran, Bajil, Bayt al-Faqih, Dhamar, Ibb, Rida, Saadah, Sana'a, Say'oun, Shihr, Taiz, and Yarim. These cities represent 59 percent of the urban pre-crisis population, and 21 percent of the total country pre-crisis population. In the first year, the Project will focus on the five cities, which have been selected based on: (a) UNOPS' ability to operate; and b) the availability of detailed sector-level data from the regularly updated World Bank Yemen DNA that will help expedite Project preparation. The five first-year cities are Aden, Al Hodeidah, Amran, Saadah and Sana'a. In subsequent years, investments in these five cities will continue while the Project aims to expand to the additional cities, contingent upon UNOPS' ability to operate in these cities. Overall, the



Project is expected to reach approximately 1.4 million beneficiaries, representing roughly 26 percent of the population in the selected 15 cities. The selected cities represent highland and lowland with climate that is characterized as semi-arid. Rainfall is generally limited but with significant variations depending on the elevations. Temperatures are generally high, particularly in the coastal regions. The highlands enjoy a temperate, rainy summer with an average high temperature of 21 °C (69.8 °F) and a cool, moderately dry winter with temperatures occasionally dipping below 0 °C (32.0 °F) at some places. More relevant physical characteristics will be included in the ESMF that will be prepared for the Project.

**G. Environmental and Social Safeguards Specialists on the Team**

Amer Abdulwahab Ali Al-Ghorbany, Environmental Safeguards Specialist  
Ibrahim Ismail Mohammed Basalamah, Social Safeguards Specialist

**SAFEGUARD POLICIES THAT MIGHT APPLY**

Safeguard Policies	Triggered?	Explanation (Optional)
Environmental Assessment OP/BP 4.01	Yes	This Policy is triggered and the Project is category ‘B’ as the proposed interventions under Component 1 support the rehabilitation, maintenance and restoration of existing infrastructure and services such as rehabilitation of roads, water and sewer networks, parks; rehabilitation of existing and installation of new generation systems and solid waste collection and disposal. The policy is triggered for the entire scope of the project including the technical assistance in the housing sector and Component 2. To ensure proper management of environmental impacts that might result from project activities, an Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) will be prepared, consulted on, and disclosed in country and on the World Bank’s external website within sixty (60) days from the Effective Date. Furthermore, activities – including those that might be supported by the Contingent Emergency Response Component (CERC) – will be screened against criteria that will be included in the ESMF, and subsequent site-specific environmental assessment instruments will be prepared -if needed- during the implementation



		<p>phase and before the commencement of any physical activities. For solid waste management activities, a site suitability assessment will be undertaken of existing landfill sites serving the five cities targeted for the first year of investments. The objective of the assessment will be to produce an action plan designed to enable solid waste collection activities in conjunction with a landfill site management program that implements mitigation measures determined to satisfy safeguard requirements and minimize environmental impacts. As this Project is prepared under emergency procedures as defined by OP 10.00 para 12, the preparation of the ESMF is deferred and a Safeguards Action Plan (SAP) has been prepared and will be disclosed.</p>
Natural Habitats OP/BP 4.04	No	<p>Policy is not triggered as the project will not intervene in areas of natural habitat nor result in loss, conversion or degradation of natural habitats or critical natural habitats as defined by the policy.</p>
Forests OP/BP 4.36	No	<p>Policy does not apply as the project will not be implemented in any forested areas.</p>
Pest Management OP 4.09	No	<p>Policy does not apply as the project will not support the purchase or use of pesticides or pesticide application equipment.</p>
Physical Cultural Resources OP/BP 4.11	No	<p>Policy is not triggered as the project will not be implemented in areas of cultural heritage sites.</p>
Indigenous Peoples OP/BP 4.10	No	<p>Policy is not triggered as indigenous people as defined in the policy are not present in project areas.</p>
Involuntary Resettlement OP/BP 4.12	Yes	<p>The Project will not involve any land acquisition and/or physical resettlement as it will support the rehabilitation and reconstruction of damaged infrastructures, and all activities are planned to take place on existing footprints. However, Project activities may have an impact on livelihoods, mainly to informal businesses and waste pickers on landfill sites, which will be compensated for the loss of their income. If there are encroachers or squatters within the location or proposed area of any activities who need to be relocated, the activities will not be implemented. For these reasons, the Bank Policy on</p>



		Involuntary Resettlement OP 4.12 is applied for precautionary purposes to the entire Project. Accordingly, a Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF) will be prepared to cover the entire scope of potential investments which will provide the principles and procedures for compensation and resettlement requirements and the guidelines for the preparation of Resettlement Action Plans (RAPs) or Abbreviated Resettlement Action Plans (ARAPs) if needed.
Safety of Dams OP/BP 4.37	No	Policy is not triggered as the project will not include construction of dams as defined by the policy.
Projects on International Waterways OP/BP 7.50	No	Policy is not triggered as the project will not undertake any activities in the catchment areas of international waterways and shared aquifers.
Projects in Disputed Areas OP/BP 7.60	No	Policy is not triggered as project activities will not be implemented in any disputed areas.

**KEY SAFEGUARD POLICY ISSUES AND THEIR MANAGEMENT**

**A. Summary of Key Safeguard Issues**

1. Describe any safeguard issues and impacts associated with the proposed project. Identify and describe any potential large scale, significant and/or irreversible impacts:

Activities to be supported by the Project might cause environmental impacts potentially arising from improper management of physical works such as rehabilitation of roads, water and sewer networks, and parks; rehabilitation of existing and installation of new generation systems; and solid waste collection and disposal. Environmental impacts of such activities are expected to be site-specific, limited, and mitigatable, including common negative environmental impacts like construction waste, wastewater, dust and noise generation, traffic deviation and occupational health and safety. It is anticipated that for most activities with negative impacts identified, implementation of Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) generic guidelines that will be included in the Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF), or preparation and implementation of site-specific Environmental and Social Management Plans (ESMPs), will be sufficient as explained below under section 4. No large-scale, significant or irreversible impacts are anticipated as a result of implementing the activities under this Project.

For the solid waste management interventions, and considering the fact that the current status of solid waste collection and disposal systems is unknown and might have been impacted by the crisis, the improper disposal of solid waste may pose some health and environmental risks. To ensure the proper disposal of collected solid waste collected under the Project, and prior to any investment in this sector, a site suitability assessment will be undertaken of existing landfill sites. The assessment will produce an action plan designed to enable solid waste collection activities in conjunction with a pragmatic and conflict-sensitive landfill site management program that implements mitigation



measures determined to satisfy safeguard requirements and minimize environmental impacts.

The current situation in the country has also negatively impacted some wastewater treatment plants and sewerage networks. While supporting the rehabilitation of sewerage networks will have tremendous positive impacts, the Project will intervene only in the rehabilitation of sewerage networks that are connected to functional wastewater treatment plants or sewerage networks that are connected to wastewater treatment plants that are under rehabilitation to avoid the health and environmental risks that might be associated with lack or improper treatment of collected wastewater.

The proposed Project will have broad social benefits as it will finance small-scale economic and social infrastructures identified by the communities and improve access to basic social services in the selected cities. The key social challenges would be associated with the community's participation in identifying and implementing the priority activities to be financed by the project due to the conflict context and security constraints. The Project will not involve any land acquisition and/or physical resettlement as it will support the rehabilitation and reconstruction of damaged infrastructures, and all activities are planned to take place on existing footprints. However, Project activities may have an impact on livelihoods, mainly to informal businesses and waste pickers on landfill sites, which will be compensated for the loss of their income. If there are encroachers or squatters within the location or proposed area of any activities who need to be relocated, the activities will not be implemented. For these reasons, the Bank Policy on Involuntary Resettlement OP 4.12 is applied for precautionary purposes to the entire Project. Accordingly, a Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF) will be prepared within sixty (60) days from the Effective Date, to cover the entire scope of potential investments. The RPF will outline the principles and procedures for compensation and resettlement requirements and the guidelines for the preparation of Resettlement Action Plans (RAPs) and Abbreviated Resettlement Action Plans (ARAPs) if needed.

2. Describe any potential indirect and/or long term impacts due to anticipated future activities in the project area: There are no potential indirect or long term impacts due to anticipated future activities in the project area.

3. Describe any project alternatives (if relevant) considered to help avoid or minimize adverse impacts. The alternative of not implementing the Project would likely have severe negative impacts on the public health and socioeconomic conditions as result of continuous and rapid deterioration of basic services in Yemen.

4. Describe measures taken by the borrower to address safeguard policy issues. Provide an assessment of borrower capacity to plan and implement the measures described.

The United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) has a comprehensive mechanism to deal with safeguard issues. For this Project, an Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) and Resettlement Planning Policy Framework (RPF) will be prepared to cover the entire scope of potential investments, consulted on, and disclosed in country and on the World Bank's external website at maximum 60 days after Project Effectiveness. Furthermore, project activities will be screened against criteria that will be included in the ESMF, and that would guide the development of subproject-level safeguard instruments, if needed. The screening list will exclude any subprojects that might cause impacts that require triggering any safeguard policies other than those that are already triggered. The ESMF will include environmental and social mitigation measures and health and safety requirements to be implemented for the project's interventions, particularly for the first year works program. UNOPS will deploy a permanent environmental and social officer in the Sana'a office. The officer will be supported by an international expert to be available on a needs basis to oversee the overall implementation, monitoring, and reporting of safeguards aspects. In addition, each local partner will have a safeguards focal point for ensuring on-site compliance with environmental and social mitigation measures and health and safety requirements.



5. Identify the key stakeholders and describe the mechanisms for consultation and disclosure on safeguard policies, with an emphasis on potentially affected people.

Public consultations are a significant challenge in fragility, conflict and violence (FCV) contexts like Yemen. The alternative approach is to consider individual interviews and/or meetings to be carried out in safe places using limited questionnaires. The consultant who will prepare the RPF should conduct meetings with the implementing agency (UNOPS), key stakeholders in the four main sectors (solid waste management and tertiary municipal services, water and sanitation, electricity for critical services, urban roads) and the communities. The objective of the meetings with communities is to identify key issues and determine how concerns of all parties will be addressed. Separate women interviews should be held by a female consultant, if possible.

Grievance Redress Mechanism: UNOPS will establish a unit in its Sana'a Office to handle project activity-related complaints with one to two dedicated focal points. Multiple access points (telephone, complaint box, website, email, text message, etc.) should be provided so that beneficiaries will have different ways to voice their concerns. The contact information of the GRM focal point(s) will be posted in the local language and at the local level. The UNOPS Program Manager will have the overall responsibility to address concerns brought to the attention of the focal points regarding any environmental and/or social impacts due to project activities. Complaints received by UNOPS shall be registered, tracked, investigated and promptly resolved. Copies of complaints shall be recorded in the activity files and the progress reports, including the number and type of complaints and the results of their resolution.

## **B. Disclosure Requirements**

The review of this Safeguards has been Deferred.

### Comments

The Project is prepared under emergency procedures as defined by OP 10.00 para 12, the preparation of the Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) is deferred and a Safeguards Action Plan (SAP) has been prepared and will be disclosed.

The review of this Safeguards has been Deferred.

### Comments

The Project is prepared under emergency procedures as defined by OP 10.00 para 12, the preparation of the Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF) is deferred and a Safeguards Action Plan (SAP) has been prepared and will be disclosed.

## **C. Compliance Monitoring Indicators at the Corporate Level (to be filled in when the ISDS is finalized by the project decision meeting)**

**OP/BP/GP 4.01 - Environment Assessment**



Does the project require a stand-alone EA (including EMP) report?

Yes

If yes, then did the Regional Environment Unit or Practice Manager (PM) review and approve the EA report?

No

Are the cost and the accountabilities for the EMP incorporated in the credit/loan?

Yes

#### **OP/BP 4.12 - Involuntary Resettlement**

Has a resettlement plan/abbreviated plan/policy framework/process framework (as appropriate) been prepared?

No

If yes, then did the Regional unit responsible for safeguards or Practice Manager review the plan?

NA

#### **The World Bank Policy on Disclosure of Information**

Have relevant safeguard policies documents been sent to the World Bank for disclosure?

No

Have relevant documents been disclosed in-country in a public place in a form and language that are understandable and accessible to project-affected groups and local NGOs?

No

#### **All Safeguard Policies**

Have satisfactory calendar, budget and clear institutional responsibilities been prepared for the implementation of measures related to safeguard policies?

Yes

Have costs related to safeguard policy measures been included in the project cost?

Yes

Does the Monitoring and Evaluation system of the project include the monitoring of safeguard impacts and measures related to safeguard policies?

Yes

Have satisfactory implementation arrangements been agreed with the borrower and the same been adequately reflected in the project legal documents?

Yes

#### **CONTACT POINT**

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**Borrower/Client/Recipient**

United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS)

**Implementing Agencies**

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**APPROVAL**

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**Approved By**

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