

Argentine Republic
Ministry of Social Development

**Strengthening Food Programs for Vulnerable
Populations
P180092**

Negotiated Version

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

July 14th, 2023

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL COMMITMENT PLAN

1. The Argentine Republic (the **Borrower**) shall implement the Strengthening Food Programs for Vulnerable Populations Project (the **Project**) through the Ministry of Social Development (**MDS**), as set out in the Loan Agreement. The Bank for Reconstruction and Development (the **Bank**), has agreed to provide financing for the Project, as set out in the referred agreement.
2. The Borrower, through the MDS, 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 a 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, through the MDS, this ESCP shall 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 MDS, and the Bank agree to update the ESCP to reflect these changes through an exchange of letters signed between the Bank and the Borrower's General Director of Special Projects and International Cooperation of the MDS. The Borrower, through the MDS, shall promptly disclose the updated ESCP.

| MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS | | TIMEFRAME | RESPONSIBLE ENTITY |
|---|--|---|---|
| MONITORING AND REPORTING | | | |
| A | <p>REGULAR REPORTING</p> <p>Prepare and submit to the 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, the status of preparation and implementation of E&S instruments required under the ESCP, stakeholder engagement activities, and functioning of the grievance mechanisms.</p> | <p>Submit reports to the Bank no later than 45 days after the end of each calendar semester, as part of the Project Reports required by the Loan Agreement.</p> <p>Throughout the Project implementation.</p> | <p><i>Ministry of Social Development (MDS), General Directorate of Special Projects and International Cooperation (DGPEyCI)</i></p> |
| B | <p>INCIDENTS AND ACCIDENTS</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 that result in death, serious or multiple injury. Provide sufficient detail regarding the scope, severity, and possible causes of the incident or accident, indicating immediate measures taken or that are planned to be taken to address it, and any information provided by any contractor and/or supervising firm, as appropriate.</p> <p>Subsequently, at the Bank’s request, prepare a report on the incident or accident and propose any measures to address it and prevent its recurrence.</p> | <p>Notify the Bank no later than 48 hours after learning of the incident or accident.</p> <p>Provide subsequent report within a timeframe acceptable to the Bank.</p> | <p><i>MDS / DGPEyCI</i></p> |
| ESS 1: ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RISKS AND IMPACTS | | | |
| 1.1 | <p>ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE</p> <p>Operate and maintain an organizational structure within DGPEyCI with qualified staff and resources to support the management of ESHS risks and impacts of the Project. The team shall be comprised, at least, of a social specialist and an environmental specialist (who shall also cover aspects of health and safety), with the support of a stakeholder engagement specialist. The established team shall coordinate its functions with the substantive areas of the MDS and with the different entities involved in Project activities.</p> | <p>The team, including the E&S qualified staff, is already established. This team shall remain operational and shall be maintained with their corresponding roles throughout Project implementation.</p> | <p><i>MDS</i></p> |
| 1.2 | <p>ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL INSTRUMENTS</p> <p>1. Conduct a broad stakeholder consultation process on the draft version of the Environmental and Social Assessment (ESA) prepared for the Project that is consistent with the relevant ESSs and the Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP).</p> | <p>1. The consultation of the draft version of the ESA shall be completed within 75 days of the Loan Agreement’s Effective Date.</p> | <p><i>MDS / DGPEyCI</i></p> |

| MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS | | TIMEFRAME | RESPONSIBLE ENTITY |
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| | <p>2. Update the ESA with the results of the public consultation process and send it to the Bank for its approval (No Objection).</p> <p>3. Adopt, publish, and implement the ESA prepared for the Project, consistent with the relevant ESSs.</p> | <p>2. The updated ESA shall be submitted for the Bank's No Objection within 90 days after the Loan Agreement's Effective Date.</p> <p>3. Once the No Objection is obtained, the updated version of the ESA shall be published immediately and implemented in accordance with its terms, and as required, throughout the execution of the Project.</p> | |
| 1.3 | <p>TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE</p> <p>Ensure that the consultancies, studies, capacity building, training, and any other technical assistance activities under the Project are carried out in accordance with terms of reference acceptable to the Bank, that are consistent with the ESSs. Thereafter ensure that the outputs of such activities comply with the terms of reference.</p> | Throughout Project implementation. | <i>MDS / DGPEyCI</i> |
| 1.4 | <p>ACTIVITIES SUBJECT TO RETROACTIVE FINANCING</p> <p>The implementation of activities related to the Feed the Community Program may be subject to retroactive financing in the form of disbursements under Component 3 of the Project. The MDS shall submit evidence that such activities were carried out in compliance with the requirements of the ESSs, as set forth in the ESA of the Project - Annex II - "Environmental and Social Management Checklist for Soup Kitchens Participating in the Feed the Community Program", including adequacy plans, where applicable, and any other relevant requirements included in this ESCP. Based on the evidence presented by the MDS, the Bank may request a corrective action plan.</p> | Prior to any payment requests that may be subject to retroactive financing in the form of disbursements under Component 3 of the Project, the MDS shall secure the Bank's No Objection to the ESHS arrangements associated with such payments. | <i>MDS / DGPEyCI</i> |
| ESS 2: LABOR AND WORKING CONDITIONS | | | |
| 2.1 | <p>LABOR MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES</p> <p>Prepare, adopt, and implement the Labor Management Procedures (LMP) for the Project, including, inter alia, provisions on working conditions, management of workers' relationships, occupational health and safety (including personal protective equipment, and emergency preparedness and response), code of conduct (including relating to SEA and SH), forced labor, child labor, grievance arrangements for Project workers, and applicable requirements for contractors, subcontractors, and supervising firms.</p> | <p>LMP shall be submitted to the Bank's No Objection, adopted, and published immediately within 60 days after the Loan Agreement's Effective Date, or prior to hiring any workers for the Project, whichever occurs first.</p> <p>Once approved, the LMP shall be applied throughout Project's implementation.</p> | <i>MDS / DGPEyCI</i> |

| MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS | | TIMEFRAME | RESPONSIBLE ENTITY |
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| 2.2 | <p>GRIEVANCE MECHANISM FOR PROJECT WORKERS</p> <p>Establish, maintain, and operate a grievance mechanism for Project workers, as described in the LMP and consistent with ESS2.</p> | Establish, maintain, and adopt the grievance mechanism within the same timeframe as the LMP (action 2.1) and then maintain and operate it throughout Project implementation. | MDS / DGPEyCI |
| ESS 3: RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT | | | |
| 3.1 | <p>ELECTRO/ELECTRONIC-WASTE MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE (E-WASTE)</p> <p>Adopt and implement the e-waste management procedure as part of the ESA.</p> | Same timeframe as the adoption and implementation of the ESA, according to action 1.2. | MDS / DGPEyCI |
| ESS 4: COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY | | | |
| 4.1 | <p>COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY</p> <p>Ensure that specific risks and impacts to the community arising from Project activities related to the Feed the Community Program, including, but not limited to, the Project workers' behavior, the spread of disease, and the response to emergency situations, are assessed in a timely manner and mitigation measures are incorporated into the ESA.</p> | Same timeframe as for the adoption and implementation of the ESA, according to action 1.2 | MDS / DGPEyCI |
| ESS 5: LAND ACQUISITION, RESTRICTIONS ON LAND USE AND INVOLUNTARY RESETTLEMENT – Currently not relevant | | | |
| ESS 6: BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF LIVING NATURAL RESOURCES – Currently not relevant | | | |
| ESS 7: INDIGENOUS PEOPLES/SUB-SAHARAN AFRICAN HISTORICALLY UNDERSERVED TRADITIONAL LOCAL COMMUNITIES | | | |
| 7.1 | <p>INDIGENOUS PEOPLES (IPs) ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY</p> <p>1. Assess, as part of the ESA, the conditions for IPs' access to the Food Benefit Program, including identification of possible barriers to its benefits, and propose mitigation measures that shall inform Project design.</p> <p>2. Include a specific strategy for dissemination and consultation of IP representatives within the SEP, especially for the Food Benefit Program, based on which monitoring and evaluation indicators regarding IPs' access to its benefits shall be identified.</p> | <p>1. Same timeframe as for the adoption and implementation of the ESA, according to action 1.2.</p> <p>2. Same timeframe as for the adoption and implementation of the SEP, according to action 10.1.</p> | MDS / DGPEyCI |
| ESS 8: CULTURAL HERITAGE – Currently not relevant | | | |
| ESS 9: FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES – Currently not relevant | | | |
| ESS 10: STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION DISCLOSURE | | | |
| 10.1 | <p>STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN (SEP) PREPARATION AND IMPLEMENTATION</p> <p>1. Conduct meaningful stakeholder consultations on the draft version of the SEP for the Project, consistent with ESS10.</p> | 1. The draft SEP shall be consulted no later than 75 days after the Loan Agreement's Effective Date. | MDS / DGPEyCI |

| MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS | | TIMEFRAME | RESPONSIBLE ENTITY |
|-------------------------------|--|--|----------------------|
| | <p>2. Update the SEP with the results of the public consultation and submit it for the Bank's No Objection.</p> <p>3. Adopt, publish, and implement the SEP for the Project, consistent with ESS10. The SEP 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> | <p>2. The updated SEP shall be submitted for the Bank's No Objection no later than 90 days after the Loan Agreement's Effective Date.</p> <p>3. Once the No Objection is obtained, the updated version of the SEP shall be published immediately and adopted and implemented in accordance with its terms throughout Project implementation.</p> | |
| 10.2 | <p>PROJECT GRIEVANCE MECHANISM</p> <p>Update, disseminate, maintain, and operate the MDS Grievance Mechanism (<i>Sistema Integrado de Comunicación Institucional (SICOI)</i>) to receive and facilitate the resolution of concerns, complaints, and grievances regarding the Project promptly and effectively, in a transparent and accessible 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> <p>The grievance mechanism shall be equipped to receive, register, and facilitate the resolution of SEA/SH complaints, including through the referral of survivors to relevant gender-based violence service providers, all in a safe, confidential, and survivor-centered manner.</p> | Same timeframe as for the adoption and implementation of the SEP, according to action 10.1. | <i>MDS / DGPEyCI</i> |
| CAPACITY SUPPORT | | | |
| CS1 | <p>Training may be required for MDS staff, as appropriate, on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stakeholder mapping and engagement • Specific aspects of environmental and social assessment and monitoring • Health and safety • Emergency preparedness and response • Community health and safety • Complaints and Grievance Mechanisms • Gender and intercultural perspective • Prevention of SEA/SH risks. • Other environmental and social issues defined in the Environmental and Social Instruments | A Capacity Building Plan shall be developed as part of the ESA and, therefore, within the same timeframe for adoption and implementation established for action 1.2. | <i>MDS / DGPEyCI</i> |