

REPUBLIC OF NIGER

Niger COVID-19 Emergency Response Project  
Second Additional Financing (P178894)

**Draft**

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

**May 6, 2022**

## ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL COMMITMENT PLAN

1. The Republic of Niger (the Recipient) will implement additional activities under the Niger Covid-19 Emergency Response Project Second Additional Financing Project (the Project), with the involvement of the Ministry of Public Health, Population and Social Affairs (MOPHPSA), as set out in the Financing Agreement. The International Development Association (the Association) has agreed to provide additional financing for the implementation of the additional activities under the Project, as set out in the referred agreement. This ESCP shall apply solely to the additional activities under the Project referred to above, and the ESCP for the original financing of the Project, shall continue to apply to the original activities under the Project.
2. The Recipient 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 Association. The ESCP is a part of the Financing 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 Recipient 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 Association. Once adopted, said E&S instruments may be revised from time to time with prior written agreement by the Association.
4. As agreed by the Association and the Recipient, this ESCP will be revised from time to time if necessary, during Project implementation, to reflect adaptive management of Project changes and unforeseen circumstances or in response to Project performance. In such circumstances, the Recipient through the MOPHPSA, and the Association agree to update the ESCP to reflect these changes through an exchange of letters signed between the Association and the Recipient (Secretary General of the MOPHPSA). The Recipient shall promptly disclose the updated ESCP.

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
<b>MONITORING AND REPORTING</b>			
A	<p><b>REGULAR REPORTING</b></p> <p>Prepare and submit to the Association regular monitoring reports on the environmental, social, health and safety (ESHS) performance of the Project, including but not limited to the implementation of the ESCP, status of preparation and implementation of E&amp;S instruments required under the ESCP, stakeholder engagement activities, and functioning of the grievance mechanism(s).</p>	<p>Submit quarterly reports to the Association throughout Project implementation, commencing after the Effective Date. Submit each report to the Association no later than 3 weeks after the end of each reporting period.</p>	<p>Project management unit (PMU)</p>
B	<p><b>INCIDENTS AND ACCIDENTS</b></p> <p>Promptly notify the Association 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 Association’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 Association no later than 48 hours after learning of the incident or accident.</p> <p>Provide subsequent report to the Association within a timeframe acceptable to the Association.</p> <p>The notification/reporting system shall remain in place throughout Project implementation.</p>	<p>PMU</p>
<b>ESS 1: ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RISKS AND IMPACTS</b>			
1.1	<p><b>ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE</b></p> <p>Establish and thereafter maintain a Project Management Unit (PMU) with qualified staff and resources to support management of ESHS risks and impacts of the Project. Key personnel from the old Project Implementation Unit (PIU), which was mandated for the management of ESHS risks and impacts of the Original Project and the First Additional Financing, shall be transitioned to this new PMU, including the environmental specialist and social specialist. A GBV specialist as well as a Project Coordinator shall be recruited in addition to the existing specialists, with terms of reference, experience, and qualifications acceptable to the Association.</p>	<p>Establish and maintain a PMU as set out in the Financing Agreement.</p> <p>Recruit the GBV specialist no later than 3 months after the Effective Date and thereafter maintain this position, in addition to the environmental specialist and social specialist of the former PIU structure throughout Project implementation.</p>	<p>PMU</p>

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
1.2	<p><b>ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL AND INSTRUMENTS/ CONTRACTORS</b></p> <p>a. Update, disclose, consult upon, adopt and implement the Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) that was prepared for the Original Project, consistent with the relevant ESSs, the Environmental, Health and Safety Guidelines (EHSGs), and other relevant Good International Industry Practice (GIIP), including relevant WHO guidelines.</p> <p>b. Adopt and implement any environmental and social management plans (e.g. health-care waste management plans), instruments or other measures required for the respective Project activities in accordance with the ESMF, the ESS, the EHSGs, and other relevant GIIP, including relevant WHO guidelines to, inter alia, ensure access to and allocation of Project benefits in a fair, equitable and inclusive manner, taking into account the needs of individuals or groups who, because of their particular circumstances, may be disadvantaged or vulnerable, including, as relevant, with regards to vaccines.</p> <p>c. Incorporate the relevant aspects of this ESCP, including, inter alia, the ESMF, any environmental and social management plans or other instruments, LMP, and any other required ESHS measures (including relevant life and fire safety 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> <p>d. Adopt procedures, protocols and/or other measures to ensure Project beneficiaries that receive vaccines under the Project do so under a program that does not include forced vaccination and is acceptable to the Association, as set out in the ESMF.</p>	<p>a. Update, disclose, consult upon, and adopt the ESMF by effectiveness date and implement the updated ESMF throughout Project implementation.</p> <p>b. Adopt the relevant plans or instruments before the carrying out of the relevant Project activities for which these are required, and thereafter implement them throughout the carrying out of such activities.</p> <p>c. Incorporate the relevant ESHS measures into the procurement documents before launching the procurement process for the relevant Project activities and subsequent contracts, and thereafter supervise compliance with these measures throughout the carrying out of such activities.</p> <p>d. Before the carrying out of the relevant Project activities, and thereafter implemented throughout the carrying out of such activities.</p>	PMU
1.3	<p><b>TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE</b></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 Association, that are consistent with the ESSs. Thereafter ensure that the outputs of such activities comply with the terms of reference.</p>	Throughout Project implementation.	PMU
<b>ESS 2: LABOR AND WORKING CONDITIONS</b>			

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
2.1	<p><b>LABOR MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES</b></p> <p>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>	Adopt the updated LMP by appraisal and thereafter implement the LMP throughout Project implementation.	PMU
<b>ESS 3: RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT</b>			
3	<p>Relevant aspects of this standard shall be considered, as needed, under action 1.2 above, including, inter alia, measures to: carry out the purchase, storage, transportation and handling of vaccines (including, ultra-cold chain management) in a safe manner and in accordance with the EHSs, and other relevant GIIP including relevant WHO guidelines; and adequately manage and dispose of health care wastes (including, vaccines) and other types of hazardous and non-hazardous wastes.</p> <p>Implement the Infection Control and Waste Management Plan (ICWMP) which was prepared under the First Additional Financing and site-specific medical and waste management plans, consistent with ESS3 and in a manner acceptable to the Association.</p>	Throughout Project implementation.	
<b>ESS 4: COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY</b>			
4.1	<p><b>COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY</b></p> <p>Relevant aspects of this standard shall be considered, as needed, under action 1.2 above including, inter alia, measures to: minimize the potential for community exposure to communicable diseases; establish and implement appropriate quality management systems to manage the risks and the impacts that services provided and activities carried out under the Project may have on community health and safety; manage the risks of the use of security personnel; manage the risks of labor influx; and prevent and respond to sexual exploitation and abuse, and sexual harassment; prepare and respond to fire emergencies in health care facilities, alternate COVID-19 health care facilities, and/o refurbished buildings, if applicable.</p>	Throughout Project implementation.	PMU

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
4.2	<p><b>SEA/SH RISKS</b></p> <p>Implement the SEA/SH Action as part of the ESMF, to assess and manage the risks of SEA/SH, which includes, inter alia, a code of conduct for Project workers, worker and community training and awareness measures, and measures to facilitate the adaptation of the Project's Grievance Mechanism to ensure ethical and confidential management and resolution, including timely service referrals, of SEA/SH allegations.</p>	Throughout Project implementation.	PMU
4.3	<p><b>SECURITY MANAGEMENT</b></p> <p>Assess and implement measures to manage the security risks of the Project, if and as needed, consistent with ESS4 and in a manner acceptable to the Association. The use of security personnel is not contemplated at this stage to safeguard Project workers, sites, assets, and activities. However, the Recipient shall conduct a prior review of security measures that may be in place throughout the supply chain and if security personnel are contemplated at any point during the vaccine deployment, the ESMF shall be updated with a risk assessment and relevant mitigation measures, guided by the principles of proportionality and GIIP, and by applicable law, in relation to hiring, rules of conduct, training, equipping, and monitoring of such personnel.</p>	Throughout Project implementation.	
<b>ESS 5: LAND ACQUISITION, RESTRICTIONS ON LAND USE AND INVOLUNTARY RESETTLEMENT</b>			
5	Not relevant		
<b>ESS 6: BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF LIVING NATURAL RESOURCES</b>			
6	Not relevant, however, if required, the relevant aspects of this standard shall be considered, as needed, under action 1.2 as above	Throughout Project implementation.	
<b>ESS 7: INDIGENOUS PEOPLES/SUB-SAHARAN AFRICAN HISTORICALLY UNDERSERVED TRADITIONAL LOCAL COMMUNITIES</b>			
7.1	Not relevant		
<b>ESS 8: CULTURAL HERITAGE</b>			
8	Not relevant		
<b>ESS 9: FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES</b>			
9	Not relevant		
<b>ESS 10: STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION DISCLOSURE</b>			

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
10.1	<p><b>STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN</b></p> <p>Adopt and implement the Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) which was prepared for the Original Project and updated for the First Additional Financing and further updated for the Project, consistent with ESS10, which shall include measures to, inter alia, provide stakeholders with timely, relevant, understandable and accessible information, and consult with them in a culturally appropriate manner, which is free of manipulation, interference, coercion, discrimination and intimidation.</p>	Adopt the updated SEP prior to appraisal, and thereafter implement the SEP throughout Project implementation.	PMU
10.2	<p><b>GRIEVANCE MECHANISM</b></p> <p>Establish, publicize, maintain, and operate an accessible grievance mechanism, to receive and facilitate resolution of concerns and grievances in relation to the Project, promptly and effectively, in a transparent manner that is culturally appropriate and readily accessible to all Project-affected parties, at no cost and without retribution, including concerns and grievances filed anonymously, in a manner consistent with ESS10.</p> <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> <p>The grievance mechanism shall also receive, register, and address concerns arising from unintended health consequences after vaccination especially those resulting in serious adverse effects.</p>	Maintain and operate the existing grievance mechanism throughout Project implementation.	PMU
<b>CAPACITY SUPPORT (TRAINING)</b>			
CS1	PMU staff, including the GBV specialist, responsible for the Project to receive training on the Project's E&S instruments, fair, equitable and inclusive access and allocation of Project benefits (including with regards to vaccines), and the roles and responsibilities of different key agencies in the ESCP implementation.	No later than 30 days of the Effective Date and periodically with the addition of new Project team members join the Project throughout implementation.	PMU