



Appraisal Environmental and Social Review Summary

Appraisal Stage

**(ESRS Appraisal Stage)**

Date Prepared/Updated: 10/22/2024 | Report No: ESRSA03769

**I. BASIC INFORMATION****A. Basic Operation Data**

Operation ID	Product	Operation Acronym	Approval Fiscal Year
P504398	Investment Project Financing (IPF)	ID Targeting II	2025
Operation Name	Morocco Second Identity and Targeting for Social Protection Project		
Country/Region Code	Beneficiary country/countries (borrower, recipient)	Region	Practice Area (Lead)
Morocco	Morocco	MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA	Social Protection & Jobs
Borrower(s)	Implementing Agency(ies)	Estimated Appraisal Date	Estimated Board Date
Ministry of Economy and Finance	Ministry of Interior	02-Sep-2024	30-Oct-2024
Estimated Decision Review Date	Total Project Cost		
	60,000,000.00		

**Proposed Development Objective**

The PDO is to expand coverage of the Digital Civil and Social Identifier (DCSID) for the Moroccan population and foreign residents and strengthen the NPR and SR inclusion, including in rural, remote areas, to improve the targeting of Social Protection programs in the project area.

**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**

The project aims to support the development of key building blocks of a modern, adaptative and efficient social protection system. The project will support the national rollout of the National Population Registry (Registre National de la Population – RNP) to provide a trusted source of identity and an accurate digital authentication of individuals using the Civil and Social Digital Identifier (IDCS). In addition, the RNP design incorporates services such as digital authentication and electronic “know-your-customer” (eKYC) services. The new services will contribute to extending the usefulness of the system and establish the basis for a modern, digital platform for citizens and residents to verify their



identity in a remote and paperless form, which can be used across social programs and beyond. The Project will also support the implementation of the Unified Social Registry (Registre Social Unifié – RSU) as a unique gateway for all SSN in Morocco. The RSU will provide reliable socio-economic information on households to estimate the level of consumption per household member and, on this basis, identify the applicants who are eligible for SSN programs. The RSU constitutes the first level of the universal and adaptative social protection system and will improve the targeting of SSN programs, reduce fraud and error, including duplicate or ghost beneficiaries.

D. Environmental and Social Overview

D.1 Overview of Environmental and Social Project Settings

The project is of national scope as defined by the project area and does not include physical footprint. With an estimated population of about 38 million people, nearly 50 percent of the total population was enrolled in the National Population Registry (NPR) and more than 40 percent in the Social Registry (SR), in 2023. In addition, about 9 270 293 women and slightly less than 9 000 000 men were registered in the NPR. Currently, the NPR covers more than 70% of the population living in rural areas across the country.

Lessons learned from the ongoing Social Protection (SP) reform and the first Identity and Targeting for SP Project (P155198) highlighted the limited targeting of non-salaried workers in the informal sector for social insurance. As such, this operation will support increased access to social protection programs for the poor and vulnerable with a specific focus on design of more efficient identification and targeting tools. In addition, the SR becomes the single entry point for all revised or new social protection programs. As of June 2024, four (4) social protection programs adopted the NPR and the SR features to identify beneficiaries.

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

The project will be implemented by a Project Management Unit (PMU) within the Ministry of Interior (MI). The Ministry of Interior does not have prior experience with the ESF nor safeguard policies. To manage the anticipated impacts, a dedicated E&S focal point with stakeholder engagement expertise within the PMU is recommended to be assigned to monitor the implementation of environmental and social aspects and ensure that all E&S mitigation measures are properly integrated and reported to the WB. The ESCP specifies the E&S training requirements in building capacity to manage environmental and social risks and impacts. Training and awareness-raising on social and environmental risk management will comprise stakeholder engagement including grievance mechanism, gender-based violence, and any other needs identified.

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

A. Environmental and Social Risk Classification (ESRC)

Moderate

A.1 Environmental Risk Rating

Moderate

The environmental risks associated with the project are moderate. The project will have a positive impact by enhancing access to social services for the Moroccan population, including poor and vulnerable households within the project area. Risks are related to the usage of electronic devices (mobile units) which could generate e-waste, and



improper disposal. However, these risks are mitigated by the adherence to the sustainable procurement, robust e-waste management procedure availability in the Ministry of Interior, and public education and awareness on proper waste management to further minimize the environmental impact.

## **A.2 Social Risk Rating**

Moderate

The social risks associated with the project are considered moderate. The project will bring mostly positive impacts by providing digital IDs to the Moroccan population including foreign residents within the project area as well as by providing poor and vulnerable households and individuals greater access to social services. Certain groups, such as illiterate individuals, those who are digitally illiterate, or those without internet access, may face potential exclusion from benefits. The risk of exclusion can be further exacerbated by inefficient or inadequate public communication efforts as well unclear registration processes. The project is not likely to cause significant risks or negative impacts on human population. The project will not support any civil works nor land acquisition and/or resettlement.

## **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

The proposed project aims to harmonize existing identity data and enhance the capacities of implementing agencies in improving registry of the entire population and targeting of the most vulnerable population into social services. The establishment of an UIN, which was launched in 2022, is in line with the recommendations of the study completed by ID4D in 2018. The project is expected to have significant positive environmental and social (E&S) impacts on both the Moroccan population and foreigners residing in Morocco, including vulnerable groups. These benefits include: enhanced opportunities for all individuals within the project area, including foreigners, to exercise their identity and enrollment rights through a more accessible and streamlined digital ID acquisition process, with half of the beneficiaries being women; improved access to essential social and economic services such as health, education, and SSNs for the most vulnerable; better targeting and access to social services for households/individuals vulnerable to climate shocks and persons living with disabilities. Key social risks are related to the potential failure to reach segments of the population through inadequate outreach and/or communication campaigns. A Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) which has been prepared in accordance with ESS10 requirements defines strategies to continuously engage with project stakeholders. Environmental risks are limited to potential e-waste management and disposal.

#### **ESS10 - Stakeholder Engagement and Information Disclosure**

Relevant

A SEP has been prepared as part of the project preparation and disclosed on. It includes: (i) stakeholder identification and analysis; (ii) planning engagement and information disclosure modalities designed to address the needs and concerns of various stakeholder groups; (iii) defining roles and responsibilities in implementing the SEP; (iv) a grievance mechanism (GM) to receive and facilitate resolution of stakeholder concerns or grievance; and (v) respective timeline and budget and human resources, among other details. Project affected parties include Moroccan citizens, foreign residents and relevant governmental entities within the project area. Other interested parties consist of NGOs, social media, press and other governmental agencies. Vulnerable groups include persons living with disabilities; orphans; migrants; refugees; elderly; women; people living in remote areas; digital illiterate and/or



illiterate individuals, and those without access to internet. These groups could face administrative, cultural, economic, geographical, language and social norm related barriers when accessing services and benefits.

**ESS2 - Labor and Working Conditions**

Relevant

Morocco has a comprehensive system of laws and regulations, and institutions. Project workers directly involved in project activities will consist primarily of civil servants who will remain subject to the terms and conditions of their existing contract. A small number of contracted workers such as consultants might be envisaged. Potential labor risks for direct workers are limited to occupational health and safety, non-respect of terms and conditions of employment, and exposure to gender-based violence within an office environment. The national framework will be used in full to respond to ESS2. ESCP and POM will include gap filling measures and actions to comply with ESS2 set out the way project workers will be managed in accordance with the requirements of national labor laws and include any necessary gap filling measures such as access to grievance mechanisms and respect of terms and conditions for contracted workers, and relevant trainings.

**ESS3 - Resource Efficiency and Pollution Prevention and Management**

Relevant

The project aims to significantly reduce paper consumption through digitization and promoting dematerialization through the transition to fully electronic processes. Potential environmental risks associated with e-waste generation appears to be well managed. After discussing with the counterpart, they confirm to have a defined process for the valorization of electronic and electrical equipment, as these assets/property belong to the Ministry (State's property), thus, they cannot be disposed of by the civil servants/operators. The importance of proper disposal, and these procedures will be clearly outlined in the POM.

**ESS4 - Community Health and Safety**

Relevant

There will be limited interaction between project actors and the community as most interactions occur in public settings. To further reduce the potential risk of violence against women and children as a part of project activities that imply community engagement such as enrollment of citizens at home, the project will ensure that mitigating measures such as awareness raising, training of officers and appropriate GM are included in the POM and ESCP.

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

Not Currently Relevant

This standard is not currently relevant.

**ESS6 - Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Management of Living Natural Resources**

Not Currently Relevant

This standard is not currently relevant.

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

Not Currently Relevant

This standard is not currently relevant.



**ESS8 - Cultural Heritage**

Not Currently Relevant

This standard is not currently relevant.

**ESS9 - Financial Intermediaries**

Not Currently Relevant

This standard is not currently relevant.

**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**

In Part

Overall, the national framework will be used in part. It will be used in full to respond to ESS2 requirements. The majority of the workers are civil servants and a small number of consultants might be envisaged. Moroccan labor laws and regulations are in most part aligned with ESS2 requirements. Relevant gaps filling measures such as access to grievance mechanisms for contracted workers are included in the ESCP and will be included in the POM. The national framework is partially aligned with ESS10 requirements. Given the importance of stakeholder engagement for this project, ESF will be applied and there will be transition to rely on borrower's framework with further capacity building and assessment.

**Use of Common Approach**

No

No other financing partners.

**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?**

A dedicated E&S specialist with expertise on stakeholder engagement aspects has been assigned within PMU to ensure adequate management of E&S risks and shall be maintained throughout project implementation.

The SEP disclosed on XX shall be implemented as and updated as needed.

**III. CONTACT POINT**

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**IV. FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT**

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**V. APPROVAL**

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