



Concept Environmental and Social Review Summary

Concept Stage

(ESRS Concept Stage)

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

Operation ID	Product	Operation Acronym	Approval Fiscal Year
P508698	Program-for-Results Financing (PforR)	SRWSSP2	2026
Operation Name	Sustainable Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Program Phase 2		
Country/Region Code	Beneficiary country/countries (borrower, recipient)	Region	Practice Area (Lead)
Tanzania	Tanzania	EASTERN AND SOUTHERN AFRICA	Water
Borrower(s)	Implementing Agency(ies)	Estimated Appraisal Date	Estimated Board Date
Ministry of Finance	Ministry of Water	12-May-2025	15-Sep-2025
Estimated Concept Review Date	Total Project Cost		
18-Feb-2025	260,000,000.00		

Proposed Development Objective

The program development objective is to increase and sustain access to at least basic water supply, sanitation and hygiene services in all rural districts.

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 access gap to water supply, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services remains high in Tanzania. There is a need to maintain and accelerate the progress on sector reforms initiated by the government through its Water Sector Development Program and through previous World Bank-financed projects. There is an opportunity and a pressing need for a transformational operation addressing the institutional challenges affecting the sustainability of rural water supply and sanitation in Tanzania and increasing access to WASH for the under and unserved populations. In recent years, the Bank has been supporting WASH services in rural areas of Tanzania through the Sustainable Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Program Phase 1. Through the program, over 7.9 million people have been provided access to clean and



sustainable water supply services and 10 million people with improved sanitation services in four years. The proposed program is to continue the successful implementation of Phase 1 and further push the agenda of sustainable WASH service delivery in rural areas of Tanzania. The program will have the following four results areas: (i) Increased access and sustainability of safely managed WASH services; (ii) Climate resilient water resources management; (iii) Policy, institutions and regulation for strengthened service delivery; and (iv) Maximizing finance for development.

D. Environmental and Social Overview

D.1 Overview of Environmental and Social Project Settings

The SRWSSP Phase 2, and its IPF component, will be implemented in 25 regions across the mainland Tanzania. Tanzania experiences a variety of climatic conditions. Mean annual temperatures are influenced by altitude, ranging from 21°C in high mountain areas to 29°C at sea level. Ensuring adequate water resources for competing needs requires attention, as renewable freshwater resources (per capita) have been cut roughly in half over the last 25 years and are becoming increasingly variable due to climate change. The rural water supply and sanitation sector faced legacy challenges related to service coverage. Environmental factors such as drinking water quality, poor sanitation, and hygienic practices significantly contribute to poor nutritional status and health conditions. Tanzania regularly suffers from cholera linked to poor Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) conditions, including an ongoing outbreak since 1 January 2024 affecting 23 regions, with 6,143 cases and 100 deaths. This follows a previous outbreak in 2015. Since the establishment of RUWASA in 2019; a 23-fold increase in the number of functional rural water points was achieved with more than 7.91 million people verified to have gained access to improved water supply under the SRWSSP; there was a significant increase in rural household sanitation access, with 10.1 million people gaining access to improved sanitation facilities as of June 2024. As of December 2023, WASH access in primary schools and health care facilities improved with 1,902 health care facilities (out of 6,888 total public health care facilities in the country) and 1,387 primary schools (out of 11,485 total primary schools in the country) provided with improved sanitation and hand washing facilities, through the SRWSSP

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

The main implementing agency for the Program will be RUWASA which was established by the SRWSSP in 2019. Since its establishment RUWASA has been responsible for implementing the SRWSSP requirements including the environmental and social measures per the PAP and the ESSA recommendations. The E&S performance of the SRWSSP has been maintained as satisfactory and moderately satisfactory. All requirements of the national system (preparation of ESIA's, ESMPs, registration at OSHA etc.) have been met. The main challenge facing environmental and social management of the Program is the limited capacity of RUWASA to manage works contracts and ensuring that requirement E&S measures are being effectively implemented on ground. The Environmental and Social System Assessment (ESSA) that will be prepared for the PforR will address such challenges and will include recommendations to effectively enhance the E&S capacity of RUWASA through providing E&S contract management training and enhance the E&S staffing in different regions.

Water Basin Boards will be implementing some of the IPF components, especially those associated with limited works. The Water Basin Boards vary in their capacity, some of them have participated in implementing some of the World Bank projects, such as the Ruvu-Wami Water Board, and have experience in complying with the Bank's environmental and social requirements. However, the majority do not have such track record and will need some capacity building in specific ESF requirements associated to their correspondent activities



II. SCREENING OF POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RISKS AND IMPACTS

A. Environmental and Social Risk Classification (ESRC)

Moderate

A.1 Environmental Risk Rating

Moderate

The IPF component will mainly include technical assistance activities and capacity building activities that are of a soft nature but will also include some works that may be associated with some risks and impacts. Those works include drilling some testing boreholes and installing Hydromet stations. Those activities would be associated with some environmental risks including: (i) health and safety risks to workers especially related to the traffic safety and risk of being struck by moving machines; (ii) limited air emissions and noise from drilling machinery and transportation; and (iii) limited construction waste management. Some of the technical assistance activities are associated with some downstream environmental and social risks, such as the update of IWRM plans, which may recommend some investments that would be associated, in addition to the above, with: (iv) risks related to changed land use and (v) possible minor risks on marine biodiversity.

A.2 Social Risk Rating

Moderate

Under the IPF component, the primary focus will be on providing technical assistance and building capacity, activities that are generally anticipated to have no negative impacts on communities or other involved stakeholders. Additionally, the client intends to drill boreholes and install Hydromet stations. The drilling activities will not require new land acquisition, as they will take place on client-owned land or institutional lands, which will not trigger any land acquisition or displacement of individuals. However, it is expected that the drilling activities may pose risks related to the health and safety of workers involved in these tasks. These anticipated risks will be managed through mitigation measures that will be put in place.

B. Relevance of Standards and Policies at Concept Stage

B.1 Relevance of Environmental and Social Standards

ESS1 - Assessment and Management of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts

Relevant

ESS1 is relevant as there will be some environmental and social risks and impacts that need to be managed consistent with ESS1 requirements. A template Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) will be prepared to identify the different E&S risks related to the IPF component activities, identify mitigation measures and include standard requirements to be included in contracts with works/supply contracts. The Technical Assistance activities, such as Integrated Water Resource Management Plans and inventory of risk based dams, will include E&S requirements in their correspondent ToRs. Those E&S requirements will be according to the Operational Environmental and Social Risk Committee (OESRC) Advisory Note on Technical Assistance and the ESF.

ESS10 - Stakeholder Engagement and Information Disclosure

Relevant

ESS10 is relevant as project implementation will involve a diverse range of stakeholders across various levels of government, including National, Regional, District, Ward, Village/Mtaa, and grassroots communities. Additionally, other key parties—such as NGOs, CBOs, and stakeholders in the water sector, including the Development Partner



Group for Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (DPG-WASH)—will actively participate at different stages of the project. Aligned with the principles of ESS10, it is essential to ensure meaningful engagement of all stakeholders, including vulnerable communities, throughout the project's lifecycle. To achieve this, a comprehensive Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) will be developed and implemented.

ESS2 - Labor and Working Conditions

Relevant

Project workers are expected to be of two main categories (i) direct workers, mostly civil servants employed by the Government at the National and local level; and (ii) contracted workers including consultants sourced nationally and internationally and contractor workers. Risks are related to OHS and are possible failure to abide by national legislation in relation to working hours, rest periods, pay, and other benefits and health and safety of workers including all required insurances. Those risks will be managed through the template ESMP that will be prepared for the TA activities as mentioned under ESS1.

ESS3 - Resource Efficiency and Pollution Prevention and Management

Relevant

ESS3 is relevant because the monitoring wells will abstract water, however just limited amount. The Integrated Water Resource Management plans that will be prepared need to address ESS3 requirements in terms of water conservation and pollution prevention measures, and those requirements will be included in their ToRs and will be according to the requirements of the World Bank Group Environmental, Health and Safety Guidelines (WBG EHSG).

ESS4 - Community Health and Safety

Relevant

There will be some traffic for transporting equipment for drilling wells and Hydromet and traffic management procedures, as part of the template ESMP, need to be in place to ensure safety of the community. It is worth noting that the dam inventory will not probably include technical studies that will have significance on dam safety, however, should the inventory needs to include such studies, dam safety requirements of ESS4 should be considered in their ToRs

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

Not Currently Relevant

The small amount of land required for this activity will not involve the acquisition of new land, and there is no anticipated risk of displacing individuals. The plan is to install monitoring equipment in the boreholes being drilled as part of the RUWASA supply project, ensuring that the activity remains within the boundaries of existing resources.

ESS6 - Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Management of Living Natural Resources

Not Currently Relevant

The template ESMP will include exclusion criteria for IWRM that may be associated with downstream impacts on marine sensitive habitats, and for drilling wells that may impact protected areas and critical habitats.

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

Not Currently Relevant

ESS8 - Cultural Heritage

Not Currently Relevant



The template ESMP will include exclusion criteria for activities that may be associated with impacts on marine sensitive physical cultural resources

ESS9 - Financial Intermediaries

Not Currently Relevant

B.2 Legal Operational Policies that Apply

OP 7.50 Operations on International Waterways

TBD

OP 7.60 Operations in Disputed Areas

No

B.3 Other Salient Features

Use of Borrower Framework

No

Use of Common Approach

No

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 Appraisal?

By Appraisal

- Draft Environmental and Social Commitment Plan (ESCP), and final version following negotiations
- Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP)
- Revised environmental and Social Systems Assessment (ESSA) for the PforR

During implementation and before IPF works are contracted

- Template ESMP for the IPF component

III. CONTACT POINT

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