

Strengthening Foundations for Improved Justice Service Delivery (P178599)

# Appraisal Environmental and Social Review Summary Appraisal Stage (ESRS Appraisal Stage)

Date Prepared/Updated: 04/01/2023 | Report No: ESRSA02584

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#### **BASIC INFORMATION**

#### A. Basic Project Data

Country	Region	Project ID	Parent Project ID (if any)
Romania	EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA	P178599	
Project Name	Strengthening Foundations for Improved Justice Service Delivery		
Practice Area (Lead)	Financing Instrument	Estimated Appraisal Date	Estimated Board Date
Governance	Investment Project Financing	3/29/2023	5/25/2023
Borrower(s)	Implementing Agency(ies)		
Romania	Ministry of Justice		

Proposed Development Objective

To improve access to and the resilience of selected justice services.

Financing (in USD Million)	Amount
Total Project Cost	107.28

# B. Is the project 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 [including overview of Country, Sectoral & Institutional Contexts and Relationship to CPF]

The proposed project aims to improve access to and resilience of selected justice services by improving both the downstream service delivery directly to users as well as strengthening key aspects of the sector's upstream management of its resources. The project has been designed as the first of a two part intervention. Building from work under the proposed project to develop and start rolling out the integrated justice service delivery model in selected first instance courts (Part 1), Part 2 is expected to support the operationalization of the integrated justice service delivery model in the Justice District in Bucharest, enabling further enhancement of service delivery processes and increased accessibility of integrated services in a location that deals with a specialized case load and which sees the country's highest volume of cases.

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The proposed project will support targeted reforms and investments to strengthen justice sector institutions' management of the sector's resources and establish key building blocks for the shift towards a more integrated model of justice service provision in Romania. It will be financed through a US\$100 million Investment Project Financing (IPF) from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD). Project activities respond to the need to address both upstream and downstream challenges which present barriers to justice service access and the resilience of service delivery, with the goal of having tangible impacts on services delivery that will serve to create momentum for additional future reforms. The project, to be carried out over the course of five years, is organized around two interlinked technical components, Component 1 – Improving Access to Justice Services, and Component 2 – Improving the Management of the Justice Sector's Resources.

#### D. Environmental and Social Overview

D.1. Detailed project location(s) and salient physical characteristics relevant to the E&S assessment [geographic, environmental, social]

Romania is a high-income country with one of the highest poverty rates in the EU coupled with inclusion challenges. The Romanian economy performed better than anticipated during the COVID-19 crisis, with growth rebounding to 5.9 percent in 2021 following a 3.7 percent contraction in 2020. However, disparities between urban and rural areas, where approximately 45 percent of the population lives, remain high, and rural poverty rates are reported to be six times higher than those in metropolitan areas. Recent crises, including the COVID-19 pandemic and the war in Ukraine, have further underlined long-standing gaps in public service delivery and placed additional pressures on Romania's budget expenditures. To successfully leverage the full potential of activities within the NRRP aimed at strengthening justice and the rule of law, the government will need to ensure that key enabling conditions and foundational institutional strengthening are in place, including a strategic direction for digitalization, effective coordination mechanisms, and adequate business continuity planning within the sector, and advance on parallel improvements to the service delivery model aimed at systematically addressing key barriers to access to justice.

The proposed project, to be carried out over the course of five years, is organized around two interlinked technical components (in addition a third component on Project Management): Component 1 – Improving Access to Justice Services, and Component 2 – Improving the Management of the Justice Sector's Resources. Component 1- Improving Access to Justice Services - aims to address downstream challenges with service delivery by developing an integrated, user centric approach to justice service delivery across jurisdictions and levels through improvements to the management of legal aid, development and roll-out of a more integrated, user-centric model for justice service delivery, and modernization of selected courts' infrastructure. This Component will also finance the prepatory work for the development of a consolidated Justice District in Bucharest, including the preparation and refinement of environmental and social standads documents. Component 2 - Improving the Management of Justice Sector Resources- aims to strengthen the resilience and management capacities of justice sector institutions through improvements to the management of the justice sector's resources, including continuing advancements in digitalization and the development of business continuity plans, as well as by addressing new institutional capacity building needs within the HCCJ linked to the upcoming transfer of payroll management.

A key element of the government's medium-term plan to improve the delivery of justice services is centered upon facilitating access through the development and rolling out of an integrated service delivery model. Outside of Bucharest, the project will design, construct, refurbrish, furnish and operationalise at least two new Integrated Justice Service Centers for selected priority services in selected courts as per component 1, subcomponent 1.2 (e). In

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addition, subcomponent 1.3 seeks to modernise Selected Courts under MOJ Authority with the aim to improve the justice system's ability to deliver services and strengthen the resilience of selected courts under the authority of the MOJ. This will entail mainly by building and rehabilitating selected courthouses and tribunals in underserved regions in areas that are yet to be identified, as well as finalizing civil works at the Corabia and Calafat courts which were originally under the Justice Sector Improvement Project (P160751, JSIP) and may be included under this project. Corobia and Calafar courts already have Environmental and Social Management Plans (ESMPs) prepared under the Justice Services Improvement Project. These ESMPs were prepared before the introduction of ESF and will be reviewed to reflect the additional ESF requirements. Corabia and Calafat are situated in the South part of Romania, both being also ports on Danube river, natural border with Bulgaria. At these sub-project sites, the project seeks to restore, consolidate and repair the buildings, and also to separate the circulation flows imposed by operational/legislation rules in force. The building in Corabia is designated as a historical monument. Romania has a well-developed cultural heritage protection system with responsibility for monitoring and enforcement conducted by the Ministry of Culture (MoC). The construction permit for rehabilitation works at the historical court building includes requirements for managing potential impact to such cultural properties, based on a specific permit that is issued by MoC. During the execution of construction works, the MoC also requires the use of supervisor engineers certified to work on historical buildings. In addition, the bidding documents prepared for this court building will include specific qualification criteria for contractors to prove expertise and certification in such types of works.

In Bucharest, the proposed Justice District would act as a one stop shop for internal and external users in Bucharest (which's functional urban area accounts for approximately 11 percent of the country's population and which has the country's largest caseload), is central to justice service delivery transformation, and is expected to also contribute to the urban regeneration of a strategically located and under-invested area of Bucharest. The location is part of central Bucharest, near the Unirii Square and the historic center, just across the National Library. The support provided under the ongoing US\$2.5 million project preparation advance (PPA) for the Justice District will progress through component 1, subcomponent 1.2 (f) of the proposed project, to conduct preparatory work for the development of a consolidated Justice District in Bucharest. The Activities will include: performing the geotechnical investigation of the Justice District site through, inter-alia: borehole drilling, soil characterization studies, geophysical investigation, seismic risk analysis, assessment of the capacity of the existing foundation, in line with specific requirements of applicable national legislation; preparation of a preliminary expropriation corridor through, inter alia: (i) financial estimation for the expropriation costs of land plots falling within the proposed area of the expropriation corridor in line with specific requirements of applicable national legislation; (ii) preparing an assessment and analysis for decision-making on the proposed area of the expropriation corridor, based on applicable national legislation, surveys and previous mapping; reflecting the proposed area of the expropriation corridor in the existing urban documentation etc.; and (iii) analysis of options for determination of allowable uses for the site, based on applicable national legislation and stakeholder consultations; and preparation of detailed planning and design through, inter-alia: (i) preparation of requisite documents for plan approval including site urban design and detailed planning, technical research studies, ownership and cadastral documents; and (ii) completion of all studies and documentation necessary for building permit approval including the design theme, a pre-feasibility study and feasibility study in line with specific requirements of applicable national and local legislation.

#### D. 2. Borrower's Institutional Capacity

The Borrower for this project is the Ministry of Justice through its Department for Implementation of Externally Financed Projects, DIEFP, which has a long history of successful project implementation under the Judicial Reform

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Project (JRP, P090309), Justice Services Improvement Project (JSIP, P160751), and the Justice District project preparation advance (PPA), including the application of safeguard policies of the World Bank. While the DIEFP has proven itself as highly competent – most recently under JSIP – it remains understaffed and faces challenges in attracting and retaining qualified staff due to wage constraints. Loss of staff or further failure to fill positions would have a significant impact on the project, given DIEFP's role in project implementation. To mitigate this risk, the task team proposes a Loan Covenant requiring the Government to maintain the DIEFP to a level of staffing and resourcing acceptable to the Bank at all times.

This project will be the first operation in which DIEFP that will apply the ESF. The PIU will need to hire 2 full time qualified specialists covering Environmental and Social issues. An additional Occupational Health and Safety Specialist will be required, considering that the project will involve multiple civil works. However, this OHS specialist may either be hired on a full time basis or as a consultant to be engaged as needed. Other experts, such as those with knowledge of community engagement may be hired as needed to support the project's inclusion aspects. All specialists to be hired will be required to participate in ESF trainings and periodic technical meetings to be conducted by the Bank's Environmental and Social Specialists to enhance their capacity, understanding and application of the ESSs.

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

#### A. Environmental and Social Risk Classification (ESRC)

Moderate

Environmental Risk Rating Moderate

Project potential environmental risks and impacts are moderate. These risks and impacts will be generated mostly under the Civil Works. Firstly, finalizing civil works at the Corabia and Calafat courts, as needed, as well as building and rehabilitation works at selected courthouses and tribunals in underserved regions. Secondly, the design, construction, refurbishment, furnishing, and operationalization of at least two new Integrated Justice Service Centers for selected priority services in selected courts outside of Bucharest. Construction of both will take into account energy efficiency and resilience standards. The concept of a one-stop shop include 4-5 dedicated counter/ windows where people can get answers for a specific question. This could be accommodated either in a room belonging to the court or a small adjacent building, based on the future selection of locations. Contracting and implementing civil works at the Corabia and Calafat courts as well other selected courthouses and tribunals in underserved regions will generate moderate environmental risks primarily dust, noise as well as limited construction debris and potential soil pollution. The works will be done in urban areas, so there will be no protected species affected. The environmental risks mentioned are site-specific and with current mitigation measures used in the prevalent construction methods, their impact will be contained and the effect on the environment will be limited. In addition to the site-specific ESMPs prepared for the sub-projects in Corabia and Calafat, all other sub-projects involving works to be included in this proposed project will also have ESMPs prepared. In cases where cultural heritage is identified, such as in Corabia, the advice from the Ministry of Culture will been obtained and all relevant cultural heritage aspects will be maintained during the rehabilitation of the building. The activities for finalizing the design for the future Justice District will be a refinement of existing draft designs and will take in consideration latest green design technologies, including among others the near Zero Energy Building concept with all relevant aspects. It is also important to mention that support for Justice District will include also support for refining E&S documents, potentially? through externally contracted

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consultancy. In conclusion the Environmental Risk rating is considered Moderate, where an important mitigation measure will be to hire a qualified Environmental Specialist to support the PIU in implementing ESF requirements.

**Social Risk Rating** Moderate

The social risks are related to potential exclusion in benefits for marginalized segments of the population in regards to accessing improved justice services and legal aid and those related to temporary impacts from civil works. Overall, the project is designed to improve access to justice. There are several ways in which social inclusion and positive social outcomes are embedded in the project design. For example, the project will expand legal aid services to include prejudicial guidance and legal advice as well as developing a new framework for the provision of legal aid services. The project will also detail methodologies for the prioritization and non-discriminatory treatment of vulnerable groups, and develop monitoring and evaluation processes to assess the effectiveness of services. This will benefit various groups, including women, Roma, forcibly displaced persons (FDPs), sexual minorities, disabled persons, the elderly, etc. Nevertheless, it is important this project design is well resourced, particularly with appropriate technical expertise at the project implementation unit. Attract and retaining qualified staff in the PIU to support delivery of social aspects has been a challenge for not only the for this project but for other PIUs in the country. Other contextual challenges that may impede the realization of the project objectives include language barriers (especially among FDPs), literacy levels and systemic exclusion of the Roma population, especially in underserved areas that the project is targeting. Roma communities face particular obstacles related to the lack of identity documents: low levels of education; low levels of knowledge about the judiciary, legal proceedings; a lack of trust in state institutions and the judiciary; and, low levels of income/unaffordability of court fees and taxes. Similarly, women, particularly poor or under-educated women, are known to face multiple barriers to justice, encounter gender-based discrimination, and are underrepresented in public and decision-making positions; Roma, elderly, and disabled women also face cumulative disadvantages. Ensuring women's access to justice services is particularly important, given the country's high rate of domestic violence, i.e. 30 percent of women report having experienced physical and/or sexual violence since the age of 15; only 24 percent of domestic violence victims file complaints to the police and up to 13 percent withdraw. As part of the preparatory work for the Justice District under Component 1, subcomponent 1.2 (f), the project will prepare and refine social and environmental instruments. Draft instruments have been prepared through the project preparation advance, including a draft SEP and a draft ESIA. Civil works related to the Justice District will not be carried out under this project and this Project will also not support the finalization and implementation of the draft RAP. Social risks related to civil works are predictable, temporary and can be mitigated. Based on other World Bank financed projects in Romania, the number of foreign workers has been steadily increasing in the past years, with specific risks related to labor rights, language barriers, improper accommodation, but these risks are manageable through the LMP, ESMF and subsequent ESMPs.

### B. Environment and Social Standards (ESSs) that Apply to the Activities Being Considered

**B.1. General Assessment** 

ESS1 Assessment and Management of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts

### Overview of the relevance of the Standard for the Project:

This standard is relevant.

component 1 for renovation/repairs of existing first instance courts spaces, conducting the feasibility studies and designing of Justice District, and purchasing of equipment, other activities proposed under components 2, 3 are not

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environmentally risky. The associated environmental impacts would be limited and typically include: dust, noise, on-site occupational health and safety issues and solid waste management. All potential environmental risks and impacts are predictable, expected to be temporary and reversible, low in magnitude, and site specific. The expected environmental impacts may include also health impacts related with inadequate handling and disposal of asbestos containing material (if the case in rehabilitation of the old buildings).

Considering that the project's civil works will mainly be undertaken in court premises, it is critical that the health and safety of court staff, court users and visitors and nearby communities are maintained throughout the construction phase.

To ensure that the project does not generate indirect environmental and social impacts through the technical assistance to advance the preparatory work for the Justice District, all the technical designs, and safeguards instruments prepared and refined in this regard will be subject to the ESS as applicable to this project. Instruments for the Justice District to be refined under this project are the SEP and ESIA which are in draft but have not been submitted for review to the Bank as they would need to be updated since they were drafted under the old Safeguards Policies. All other technical assistance related to the preparatory work for the Justice Quarter will also apply the ESF.

The management of environmental and social risks and impacts will adopt a framework approach. The client has prepared a draft Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF), that sets out the principles, guidelines and procedures to assess the environmental and social risks and impacts, and measures and plans to reduce, mitigate and/or offset such risks and impacts during design, construction and operational phase of the project, including the preparatory work for the Justice District. The ESMF has been submitted to the Bank and is currently under review. Review of the ESMF will take into account the application the ESF to the refinement of the instruments as well as all other technical assistance activities to advance the preparatory work for the Justice District.

During the project implementation, site-specific ESMPs for civil works will be prepared in accordance with the ESMF provisions to mitigate any environmental and social impacts. The ESMPs for Corabia and Calafat which are already prepared, consulted upon and cleared by the Bank under JSIP will be revised and updated, to specify the new requirements of the ESF and its ESSs, since they were prepared under the old safeguards Policies of the World Bank. The review and updates to these existing ESMPs will likely take place after project effectiveness, when it is certain what stages the sub-projects will be when they are carried over. This action is specified in the Environmental and Social Commitment Plan (ESCP). The ESMF and all the (sub?) project ESMPs will be subject to information disclosure, public consultation with a broad range of stakeholders and clearance by the Bank. The ESMPs will be included in the bidding documents and will form the basis for the works contractor's ESMP for each site. The ESMP document might include a set of appropriate sector specific management plans, such as Waste Management Plan, Materials Supply Plan, and Traffic Management Plan, etc., for addressing risks and impacts associated with specific details of potential sub-projects, as relevant.

In addition, a draft Labor Management Procedures (LMP) has been prepared in accordance with national law and ESS2 and has been submitted to the Bank for review. Contractors will prepare their sub-project Labor Management Plans based on this LMP.

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For the sites categorized as historical buildings, such as Corabia, a Cultural Heritage Management Plan (CHMP) will be included as an integral part of the ESMP, where applicable. Similarly, a Chance Finds Procedure will be integrated into the ESMPs, defining which steps to follow if a previously unknown cultural heritage is encountered during project activities. Such Chance Find Procedures will be included in all contracts relating to civil works in the project, including associated facilities, if any. All these issues will be outlined as part of the ESMF document.

A stakeholder engagement plan (SEP), which will also informs the public consultations as well as outline the grievance redress mechanism of the project, has been prepared and submitted to the Bank for review and clearance in accordance with ESS 10 (see below). It is expected that the client will disclose and consult the SEP by appraisal.

The draft ESMF, LMP, and SEP as well as the draft subsequent site-specific ESMPS will be subject to meaningful and participatory stakeholder consultations in the proposed subprojects sites. These documents will be disclosed to all stakeholders both on the MoJ website, in participating project-specific sites, in formats and languages understandable by the local population. They will also be disclosed on the WB external website prior to appraisal.

The Client in consultation with the Bank has developed a draft Environment and Social Commitment Plan (ESCP), which sets out the measures and actions required for the project to achieve compliance with the ESF over a specified timeframe. This draft is also under review by the Bank.

If there are significant changes to the project that result in additional risks and impacts, particularly where these will increase the level of overall project risk rating and impact project-affected parties, the Borrower will consult with the Bank and provide information on such risks and impacts and consult with project-affected parties as to how these risks and impacts will be mitigated. The client will redisclose the updated ESCP, and will identify the tools, guidelines, and instruments to be used to manage and mitigate the impacts and risks.

The PIU will have the full responsibility for the implementation and supervision of all the ESF instruments related to this project, and will take responsibility to ensure that instruments produced as part of the technical assistance to advance the preparatory work fo the justice quarter apply the ESF. The designated Environmental and Social specialists at the PIU will ensure ESF compliance of the project/sub-projects, including day-to-day supervision (jointly with the technical staff and site-supervision engineers), guidance to sub-project applicants, review of documents and provision of inputs to the Head of the PIU.

**ESS10 Stakeholder Engagement and Information Disclosure** 

This standard is relevant.

A Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) has been prepared as a standalone document, which will both guide the initial stakeholder engagement activities at the national level during project preparation as well as outline the basic framework for the subsequent stakeholder engagements at sub-project level during design and implementation of the sub-projects. The draft SEP has been submitted to the Bank and is currently under the review.

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The proposed project has three broad groups of beneficiaries. First, and farthest downstream, are the individuals, businesses, and other users who stand to gain from improved access to justice services, and the improvements to broader service provision expected to result from the project's impact on the resilience of service delivery. The second group of beneficiaries is made up of the courts and other justice sector entities who will benefit from simplified administrative processes, improved coordination mechanisms, development of a standardized methodology for the digitalization of justice archives, the direction provided by a sector wide strategy for digitalization, and training. Other beneficiaries at this level also include other actors within the justice sector, including attorneys, the bar association, and civil society organizations which regularly interact and work with justice sector entities and which will benefit from clearer processes to do such in areas like legal aid and services targeted for more integrated service provision. as well as linternational organizations and the European Commission which will also benefit from increased coordination and collaboration for better reporting. Third, at the center of the reform, the Ministry of Justice, the High Court of Cassation and Justice (HCCJ) (including the Prosecution Service of the HCCJ, which plays a key role in ex-officio legal aid), courts selected for infrastructure modernization, and staff of the Integrated Justice Service Centers will be direct beneficiaries of the project. Therefore, the key stakeholders of this project include the aforementioned beneficiaries, i.e. the Ministry of Justice and its associated institutions such as the courts, prosecutors office, HCCJ, attorneys, legal aid providers. Stakeholders also includes marginalized and vulnerable groups such as Roma, women, sexual minorities; and forcibly displaced peoples, particularly from Ukraine, will benefit from improved access to justice services.

With regards to the Justice District, direct Project beneficiaries are the personnel of the public institutions to be housed within the District: The Ministry of Justice, Bucharest Court of Appeal, Bucharest Tribunal, First Instance Courts for Bucharest Sectors 1-6, Superior Council of Magistracy, National School of Clerks, National Institute of Magistracy, Judicial Inspection, Public Ministry (The General Prosecutor's Office), National Directorate for Anticorruption, Prosecutor's Office attached to the Bucharest Tribunal and all 6 Sector First Instance Courts, 4 Institutions of professional organizations for lawyers. The Justice District Project will have impacts to Project Affected Parties impacted by land acquisition, although these impacts and engagement with PAPs from land acquisition will not be addressed within this Project.

The SEP is expected to set out a systematic and socially inclusive engagement strategy between the project-affected people and other stakeholders throughout the project duration. The SEP will also include the definition of all stakeholders (direct, indirect and other interested parties), the engagement strategy and plan as well as the disclosure of relevant project documents.

The SEP will pay particular attention to the identification and inclusion of vulnerable and marginalized groups and will outline appropriate engagement strategies. SEP activities, including consultations may be a blend of virtual and in person meetings, depending on the current national regulations pertaining to COVID-19. The relevant COVID-19 guidance will also be followed and embedded in relevant E&S instruments to guide civil work activities.

The SEP will also include the details of project level grievance redress mechanism, which is a key part of the document. The GRM will include provisions for SEA/SH related complaints and referral pathways to be followed.

The SEP will be disclosed in-country on the MoJ website and in other relevant places and will be consulted by Appraisal.

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## **B.2. Specific Risks and Impacts**

A brief description of the potential environmental and social risks and impacts relevant to the Project.

**ESS2 Labor and Working Conditions** 

This standard is relevant.

The project will undertake a number of civil works which will impact various categories of project workers including direct workers, contracted workers, primary supply workers and civil servants. A draft LMP has been prepared, based on the Romanian national labor code and relevant international conventions accessed by Romania, as well as ESS2. The draft LMP is currently under review. It is expected that the LMP will will specify the labor and working conditions for each of the categories of workers in the project. Civil servants will remain subject to the terms and conditions of their existing public sector employment agreement, unless they are legally transferred to the project. Key aspects of the LMP pertaining to contracted workers, such as Occupational Health and Safety (OHS), adequate working conditions, adequate living conditions in the unlikely event of work camps, nondiscrimination and equal opportunities in employment, a wage policy, measures to prevent child and/or forced labor, a functioning grievance and redress mechanism for workers, etc. will be included in the Contractors' ESMP. Community workers are not expected to be engaged in the Project.

The LMP will also include a Code of Conduct for laborers engaged in major civil works and also a detailed worker's grievance mechanisms for Project workers.

Labor-related requirements pertaining to occupational health and safety issues relevant to the various construction activities will also be incorporated into the site-specific ESMPs and bidding documents for all the investments. Bidding documents will make explicit reference to these aspects to ensure the commitment of selected contractors to adhere to ESS2 principles as outlined in the ESMF.

The worker specific GRM will be established and maintained for the project proportionate to its potential risks and impacts. In addition, construction contractors and subcontractors will be required to provide a GRM for their personnel, as part of their C-ESMP. The GRM will be designed at an early stage and will be formally established by project effectiveness and before any disbursements. Complaints received and resolved will be reviewed during the implementation support missions.

The ESMF document will specify that OHS related specified risks and impacts and mitigation measures, consistent with the WBG EHS General Guidelines will be required to be included in all site-specific ESMPs. Furthermore, the ESMF will set up the procedure for identification, removal, storage, and transportation of hazardous materials, along with the requirements for protection and training of operating workers on site and notification of risks for any community members who might be exposed to such risks, including the risk of COVID-19.

The LMP will include measures to address SEA/SH risks, including Codes of Conducts for workers and the sensitive and confidential handling of SEA/SH grievances.

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During Project implementation, the LMP may be reviewed and updated as required.

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

The standard is relevant.

Project's physical activities are limited to rehabilitation of Justice infrastructure within existing courts and building new Information centers associated with some courts. The expected environmental risks are associated with Civil works construction sites like care, handling and storage of construction material, waste, excessive noise and dust levels, and disposal of asbestos containing material, if present.

Mitigation measures such as dust suppression, vehicle maintenance etc. will be applied to minimize the impacts and residual impacts are expected to be limited in scope and duration. Noise will likely be generated from use of construction machinery and vehicle movements. Measures will be taken to limit the volume and frequency of noise generating operations. Waste management- Liquid and solid waste- will mainly include excavated soil, oils from construction machinery, concrete blocks, metal and glass pieces from demolished walls etc. The selected works contractors will be required to develop detailed Waste Management Plans (WMPs) prior to commencement of the civil works and enforce these during contracts implementation. WMPs will include specific instructions on how the waste will be segregated, stored and disposed at approved sites. In particular, the WMPs will consider the proper management of hazardous waste such as asbestos and asbestos containing materials (ACM) in accordance with the WBG EHS Guidelines for removal, transport and final disposal. Water and sanitation on site: Due to the relative small scale of the construction sites, there will be no excessive water consumption and proper sanitation of the working site will be ensured.

### **ESS4 Community Health and Safety**

This standard is relevant.

The potential risks and adverse impacts on community health and safety might be associated with the proposed activities under the Component 2. These potential risks and impacts include emissions of dust, noise, odors and vehicle exhausts; traffic jams and traffic and road safety risks due to increased traffic volume and movements of heavy-duty vehicles. The community's potential exposure to waste (including hazardous waste), particulate matters, may lead to increased risks of health issues resulting from poor site management, communicable diseases relating to presence of labor (i.e. COVID-19) and any SEA/SH risks.

The ESMF will include procedures to screen for the risks and impacts to the health and safety of project affected communities, including groups that might be vulnerable. Relevant mitigation measures will also be included in ESMPs, where necessary. These will include management and mitigation measures to secure community health and safety during civil works and operations, as well as monitoring and reporting requirements.

ESS5 Land Acquisition, Restrictions on Land Use and Involuntary Resettlement

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This standard is not relevant as neither land acquisition nor involuntary resettlement or permanent restrictions to access are anticipated in relation to the works construction under this project. All civil works are expected to be carried out within their existing footprints. Any reconstruction activities that might cause land acquisition or involuntary resettlement will not be eligible for financing.

ESS6 Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Management of Living Natural Resources

This standard is not relevant.

Civil works are intended to be done in urban areas, with no disturbance to existing protected areas for biodiversity.

ESS7 Indigenous Peoples/Sub-Saharan African Historically Underserved Traditional Local Communities This standards is not relevant.

#### **ESS8 Cultural Heritage**

This standard is relevant.

While all sub-project sites have not been identified, the Corobia court is a designated historical buildings. The risks and impacts in Corobia are not expected to be adverse due to the extent of the works. Nonetheless, a Cultural Heritage Management Plan will be prepared as part of the ESMP, in close coordination with the Ministry of Culture and National Identity and in compliance with ESS8. In case any other physical culture assets are discovered during implementation, a Chance Find Procedure will be included in the ESMF.

#### **ESS9 Financial Intermediaries**

No FI involvement is envisaged in the project.

#### **B.3 Other Relevant Project Risks**

No other relevant risks

### C. Legal Operational Policies that Apply

# **OP 7.50 Projects on International Waterways**

No

#### **OP 7.60 Projects in Disputed Areas**

No

B.3. Reliance on Borrower's policy, legal and institutional framework, relevant to the Project risks and impacts

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# Is this project being prepared for use of Borrower Framework?

No

# Areas where "Use of Borrower Framework" is being considered:

The use of borrower framework is not being considered at this stage.

#### **IV. CONTACT POINTS**

**World Bank** 

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Borrower/Client/Recipient

Borrower: Romania

Implementing Agency(ies)

Implementing Agency: Ministry of Justice

#### V. FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

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#### VI. APPROVAL

Task Team Leader(s): Valerie Joy Eunice Santos, Carolina Rendon

Practice Manager (ENR/Social) Varalakshmi Vemuru Cleared on 10-Feb-2023 at 00:08:46 EST

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