

**Solomon Islands
Agriculture and Rural Transformation Project
(P173043)**

**DRAFT
Environmental and Social Commitment Plan**

28 May 2021

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL COMMITMENT PLAN

1. Solomon Islands (hereinafter the **Recipient**) shall implement the Solomon Islands Agriculture and Rural Transformation Project (P173043) (the **Project**), with the involvement of the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (**MAL**). The MAL shall lead and collaborate with other relevant governmental agencies/department/units at the national, provincial, and local levels on the Project Implementation as may be necessary. The International Development Association (hereinafter the **Association**) has agreed to provide financing for the Project.
2. The Recipient shall implement material measures and actions so that the Project is implemented following the Environmental and Social Standards (**ESSs**). This Environmental and Social Commitment Plan (**ESCP**) sets out material measures and actions, any specific documents or plans, as well as the timing for each of these.
3. The Recipient is responsible for compliance with all the ESCP's requirements even when the implementation of specific measures and actions is conducted by the Ministry referenced in paragraph 1. above.
4. Implementation of the material measures and actions set out in this ESCP shall be monitored and reported to the Association by the Recipient as required by the ESCP and the conditions of the legal agreement, and the Association shall monitor and assess progress and completion of the material measures and actions throughout the implementation of the Project.
5. As agreed by the Association and the Recipient, this ESCP may be revised from time to time during Project implementation to reflect adaptive management of Project changes and unforeseen circumstances or in response to the assessment of Project performance conducted under the ESCP itself. In such circumstances, the Recipient, through MAL, shall agree to the changes with the Association and shall update the ESCP to reflect such changes. Agreement on changes to the ESCP shall be documented by exchanging letters signed between the Association and MAL. MAL shall promptly disclose the updated ESCP.
6. Where Project changes, unforeseen circumstances, or Project performance result in changes to the risks and impacts during Project implementation, the Recipient shall provide additional funds, if needed, to implement actions and measures to address such risks and impacts.

| MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS | | TIMEFRAME | RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY |
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| MONITORING AND REPORTING | | | |
| A | <p>REGULAR REPORTING:</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, the status of preparation and implementation of environmental and social (E&S) instruments (e.g., Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF), Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP), Labour Management Procedures (LMP)) required under the ESCP, stakeholder engagement activities and grievances log, Producer Organization's (as defined in the Financing Agreement for the Project) and/ contractor's ESHS implementation, ESHS incidents, functioning of the grievance mechanism(s).</p> | Six-monthly throughout Project implementation. | MAL. |
| B | <p>INCIDENTS AND ACCIDENTS</p> <p>a. 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.</p> <p>b. Provide sufficient detail regarding the incident or accident, indicating immediate measures taken or planned to be taken to address it, and any information provided by any contractor and supervising entity, as appropriate. Subsequently, as per the Association's request, prepare a report on the incident or accident and propose any measures to prevent its recurrence. These activities are outlined in the Project's Grievance Mechanism.</p> | <p>Minor incidents shall be reflected in the six-monthly reports to the Association required to be delivered throughout Project implementation. Major issues and/or severe incidents shall be reported to the Association within 24 hours of their occurrence.</p> <p>Other reports shall be provided to the Association upon its request.</p> | MAL. |

| MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS | | TIMEFRAME | RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY |
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| C | <p>CONTRACTORS REPORTS</p> <p>a. Require (via inclusion in ESHS specifications for bidding documents) the contractor to notify MAL 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.</p> <p>b. Require (via inclusion in ESHS specifications for bidding documents) contractors to provide monthly monitoring reports to MAL. Submit such reports to the Association upon request.</p> | <p>Serious and severe incidents to be reported to the Permanent Secretary (technical) at MAL or her/his alternate and the Association within 24 hours of their occurrence throughout Project implementation. Minor incidents shall be reflected in the monthly reports to be delivered to the Association throughout Project implementation and shared with the Association monthly.</p> | <p>MAL.</p> |
| <p>ESS 1: ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RISKS AND IMPACTS</p> | | | |

| MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS | | TIMEFRAME | RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY |
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| 1.1 | <p>ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE: Establish and maintain a Project Management Unit (PMU) in MAL in accordance with the Financing Agreement. The PMU shall be led by the Deputy Secretary (technical) under the guidance of Permanent Secretary, with qualified staff and resources to support the management of ESHS risks and impacts of the Project.</p> <p>a. Recruit and retain two full time local Environmental, Social, Health and Safety, and Community Engagement Consultants (or Environment and Social Consultants), with terms of reference acceptable to the Association, including one consultant for environmental risk management and another consultant for social risk management. Depending on the availability of appropriately qualified local staff, MAL may instead recruit one full time local environmental and social risk management consultant and one part time international environmental and social risk management consultant. Appoint one Focal Point for environmental risk management and one Focal Point for social risk management in MAL.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Environmental, Social, Health and Safety, and Community Engagement Consultants to be recruited within six months after the effective date of the Financing Agreement for the Project (Effective Date) and maintained throughout Project implementation. - E&S Focal Points have been appointed by MAL from August 2020, and shall be maintained throughout Project implementation. | <p>MAL including MAL Headquarter (HQ) in Honiara and the Provincial MAL (or the provincial project teams) in the targeted provinces which are part of the one National Ministry (or the MAL structure¹).</p> |

¹ To coordinate project activities at the provincial and community level, a Provincial Project Team (PPT) will be set up in each project province. The PPT will collaborate with the PMU, with the PMU managing daily implementation and management of the project and PPTs managing coordination at a provincial level. The PPT will also serve as interface and focal point for mainstreaming project activities with provincial authorities' development plans and investments. See details in the Appraisal ESRS and PAD.

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| 1.2 | <p>ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL ASSESSMENT/MANAGEMENT PLANS AND INSTRUMENTS</p> <p>a. Screen proposed project activities using the environmental and social screening processes outlined in the ESMF to confirm environmental and social risks and the instruments required.</p> <p>b. Adopt and implement any Environmental Code of Practice (ECOP) or other E&S instruments required for the respective Project/subproject activities based on the environmental and social screening or assessment process, following the ESMF and other relevant Good International Industry Practice (GIIP) including the WBG EHS guidelines for Crop Production, Livestock Production, Poultry Production and Processing, and Resource efficiency with the focus on sustainability, all in a manner acceptable to the Association.</p> <p>c. Incorporate the relevant aspects of this ESCP, including, inter alia, any instruments or other measures required under the ESCP and any other ESS requirements into the ESHS specifications of the procurement documents and contracts with contractors. Ensure that the contractors comply with the ESHS specifications of their respective contracts.</p> | <p>a. E&S screening reports have been approved by the E&S Consultants or provincial MAL before the carrying out the relevant Project activities, and thereafter throughout the carrying out of such activities.</p> <p>b. Environmental Code of Practice (ECOP) or other E&S instruments are adopted at the subproject-level before the carrying out the relevant Project activities, and thereafter throughout the carrying out of such activities.</p> <p>a. Before launching the procurement process for the relevant Project activities, and thereafter throughout the carrying out of such activities.</p> | MAL. |

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| <p>1.3 MANAGEMENT TOOLS AND INSTRUMENTS (PROJECT LEVEL) Update, adopt and implement the following set of prepared and disclosed E&S instruments as required for Project purposes (e.g., if further updates are required by the Association):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. ESMF; 2. LMP; and 3. SEP. <p>-Screen each sub-project following the ESMF procedures. Include ECOP and/or Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) and Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) requirement in bidding documents via preparation of ESHS specifications for bidding documents)</p> <p>-Prepare, disclose, and implement the subproject instruments required by the ESMF based on the screening process. Subproject instruments include, but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ECOP for agriculture and livestock production or processing or small infrastructures; • Pest Management Plan; • ESMP as required by ESMF screening procedures; • Operational management plans to address specific project risks as required (Waste Management Plans, Operational Management Plans for smallstock slaughter slabs); • ESIA as required by ESMF screening procedures; • SEP; and • LMP. <p>- Ensure that TORs and outputs of TA activities under the project are drafted for review by the Association so that the advice and other support provided is consistent with ESSs 1-10 as relevant</p> | <p>ESMF, LMP, and SEP (each dated 24 May 2021) have been prepared, disclosed and adopted and shall be implemented in accordance with the respective terms of each such instrument throughout Project implementation.</p> <p>Location-specific and sub-project specific ESMPs and other instruments shall be prepared and approved by MAL/Provincial MAL before submission to the Association for review and no-objection before the approval of the subproject and commencement of any subproject activities.</p> | <p>MAL.</p> |

| MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS | | TIMEFRAME | RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY |
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| 1.4 | <p>CONTINGENT EMERGENCY RESPONSE FINANCING</p> <p>a. Ensure that the Contingent Emergency Response Component (CERC) Manual as specified the Financing Agreement for the Project includes a description of the ESHS assessment and management arrangements [including, if applicable, a CERC-ESMF Addendum] referred to in the CERC Manual for the implementation of Component 4 (Contingent Emergency Response Component) of the Project, in accordance with the ESSs.]</p> <p>b. Prepare, disclose, consult and adopt any E&S management plans or instruments which may be required for activities under Component 4 (Contingent Emergency Response Component) of the Project, in accordance with the CERC Manual and, if applicable, CERC-ESMF Addendum and/or Emergency Action Plan and the ESSs, and thereafter implement the measures and actions required under said E&S management plans or instruments, within the timeframes specified in said E&S management plans or instruments.</p> | <p>a) The adoption of the CERC Manual, the Emergency Action Plan and any other documents required by the Association in form and substance acceptable to the Association is a withdrawal condition under Schedule 2 of the Financing Agreement for the Project.</p> <p>b) The E&S management plans or instruments shall be prepared, disclosed, consulted, and thereafter adopted before the carrying out of the relevant Project activities under Component 4 (Contingent Emergency Response Component) of the Project. The E&S management plans or instruments shall be implemented in accordance with their terms, throughout Project implementation.</p> | MAL. |
| 1.5 | <p>EXCLUSIONS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exclude the activities listed in Table 7.4 of the ESMF as ineligible for financing under the Project. | These exclusions shall be applied as part of the E&S screening process conducted under Action 1.2 above. | MAL. |
| 1.6 | <p>MANAGEMENT OF CONTRACTORS</p> <p>a. Incorporate the relevant aspects of the ESCP, including the relevant E&S documents and/or plans, and the LMP, into the ESHS specifications of the procurement documents with contractors.</p> <p>b. Ensure that the contractors comply with the ESHS specifications of their respective contracts.</p> | <p>During contract negotiations and the preparation of procurement documents throughout Project implementation.</p> <p>Monitor and supervise contractors throughout Project implementation.</p> | MAL. |
| ESS 2: LABOUR AND WORKING CONDITIONS | | | |

| MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS | | TIMEFRAME | RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY |
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| 2.1 | <p>LABOUR MANAGEMENT: Adopt and implement the LMP that has been developed for the Project and which includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Occupational Health and Safety • Fair Treatment and Non-Discrimination • Prevention of Forced Labour and Restrictions on Child Labour • Workers' Grievances | LMP (dated 24 May 2021) has been prepared, disclosed and adopted and shall be implemented on its terms throughout Project implementation. | MAL. |
| 2.2 | <p>GRIEVANCE MECHANISM FOR PROJECT WORKERS Review and adopt, monitor and document the existing grievance mechanism for Direct Project workers, as described in the LMP and consistent with ESS2 requirements.</p> <p>Establish proportionate rules, to be included in the ESHS specifications of the bidding or contractual document to ensure that all contracted workers, community workers (e.g., members of the producer organisations (POs), farmers, women-led farmers, and other project beneficiaries who are engaged in community labour whether paid or unpaid) are briefed or taught by the contractor about (a) their rights to express grievances; (b) where to address a grievance in the first instance; (c) what action they can expect as of right when a grievance is expressed; and (d) that they are adequately protected against sanctions or recriminations.</p> | Review and adopt, monitor, document and update the Grievance Mechanism throughout Project Implementation. | MAL. |
| 2.3 | <p>OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY MEASURES Prepare, adopt, and implement occupational, health, and safety (OHS) measures including compliance with the World Bank Group Environmental, Health and Safety Guidelines (EHSGs), GIIP and national legislation at the subproject level. All vehicles and particularly boats shall comply with safety standard and be accompanied by safety equipment and training according to the national requirements.</p> | Before the carrying out the relevant Project activities, and thereafter throughout the carrying out of such activities in the form of subproject ESMP and/or signing code of conduct in the LMP Annex 1. | MAL. |
| | For project related travel via boat, safety equipment (including life jackets, epirob, radio phone.etc.) must be continuously available. | Throughout Project implementation. | MAL. |

| MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS | | TIMEFRAME | RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY |
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| | <p>OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY MEASURES FOR DIRECT WORKERS</p> <p>Update, adopt, and implement the OHS measures for the direct workers (e.g., staff assigned by MAL, Consultant service providers such as E&S consultants and Young Professionals) outlined in the LMP. Risks (such as road safety, security, avoidance of infection) associated with travel to and work at remote sites shall be a vital focus of the OHS measures.</p> | Within six months after the Effective Date (allowing time for the OHS measures to reflect concerns of Project staff). | MAL. |
| | <p>OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY MEASURES FOR CONTRACTED WORKERS</p> <p>Update, adopt, and implement OHS measures for contracted workers in the LMP through the ESHS Specifications to be included in the contract documentation.</p> | ESHS specifications to be included in all contract documents for works and services entered into during the Project implementation period. | MAL. |
| ESS 3: RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT | | | |
| 3.1 | <p>POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT</p> <p>Implement pollution prevention and management measures specified in the ECOP/ESMP for each subproject/location in compliance with The Safety at Work (Pesticide) Regulations 1982 and GIIP, including the following provisions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Require the use of renewable energy technologies wherever appropriate, including for water pumping in preference to diesel pumps; • Require farmers to attend training on safe use and disposal of agriculture chemicals, solid non-biodegradable waste, and animal effluents as a standard element of extension packages; and • Avoid or minimize air, water, and land pollution and noise pollution from civil works through control of works, dust prevention measures, proper management of hazardous and non-hazardous site wastes and surplus materials, to be specified in the ESHS Specification. | Throughout Project implementation. | MAL. |

| MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS | | TIMEFRAME | RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY |
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| 3.2 | <p>RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT:</p> <p>Include measures to manage wastes and other types of hazardous and non-hazardous wastes including compliance with EHSGs, GIIP and local legislation as described in the ESMF.</p> | Throughout Project implementation. | MAL. |

| ESS 4: COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY | | | |
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| 4.1 | <p>TRAFFIC AND ROAD SAFETY:</p> <p>Adopt and implement measures and actions to assess and manage traffic and road safety risks for feeder roads in the ECOP/ESMP.</p> | Throughout Project implementation. | MAL. |
| 4.2 | <p>COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY:</p> <p>Prepare, adopt, and implement measures and actions to assess and manage specific risks and impacts to the community arising from the project activities and include these measures into the ECOP/ESMP and following the ESMF in a manner acceptable to the Association.</p> | Throughout Project implementation. | MAL. |
| | <p>COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY/PREVENTION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE TRANSMISSION</p> <p>Organize Health Awareness Training to project beneficiaries at all sites. The Health Awareness Training shall include (1) avoidance of water-borne diseases; (2) avoidance of vector-borne diseases; (3) avoidance of sexually transmitted diseases; and (4) preventing transmission of COVID-19.</p> | Throughout Project implementation. | MAL. |
| | <p>Prepare and implement a COVID-19 safety procedure to manage the risk of COVID-19 transmission.</p> | Within 30 days after the Effective Date. | MAL. |
| 4.3 | <p>Gender-Based Violence AND SEA RISKS:</p> <p>Support the existing formation and/or strengthening of Women and Children's Committee structure with specific activity to identify and support victims of gender-based violence.</p> | Throughout Project implementation. | MAL. |
| ESS 5: LAND ACQUISITION, RESTRICTIONS ON LAND USE, AND INVOLUNTARY RESETTLEMENT | | | |

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| 5.1 | <p>RESETTLEMENT PLANS: Avoid land acquisition and involuntary physical or economic displacement as described in the ESMF.</p> | Throughout Project implementation. | MAL. |
| ESS 6: BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF LIVING NATURAL RESOURCES | | | |
| - | <p>- BIODIVERSITY RISKS AND IMPACTS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apply the IFC Good Practice Note on Improving Animal Welfare in Livestock (p13), the animal welfare biodiversity or supply chain choice includes animal welfare, food safety, quality, human health, and the environment. • Implement the exclusion criteria in the ESMF to exclude such activities that involve any significant risks on biodiversity, animal welfare, land conversion, or legally protected natural resources. • Apply the slaughtering hygiene, health, and safety standards required under the FAO guidelines. • Adopt and implement the ECOP or other instruments required for the respective Project/subproject activities based on the environmental and social screening or assessment process, following the ESMF and other relevant GIIP to minimise biodiversity impacts associated with land clearing | Throughout Project implementation. | MAL. |
| ESS 7: INDIGENOUS PEOPLES/SUB-SAHARAN AFRICAN HISTORICALLY UNDERSERVED TRADITIONAL LOCAL COMMUNITIES | | | |
| - | <p>GRIEVANCE MECHANISM: Review and adopt, monitor and document the existing Grievance Mechanism aligning with elements of ESS7 as the majority of the national population is indigenous.</p> | Review and adopt, monitor, document and update the Grievance Mechanism throughout Project Implementation. | MAL. |

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| | <p>COMMUNITY CONSULTATION:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensure that community consultations shall be facilitated and documented by the project with the support of two environmental and social consultants aligning with ESS7 requirements. -Ensure that community consultations shall be facilitated with special measures considering any linguistic differences among the local population and using audio and/or visual material such as a simple leaflet to present the project and E&S aspects to the local people. | Throughout Project implementation. | MAL. |
| ESS 8: CULTURAL HERITAGE | | | |
| - | <p>CHANCE FINDS:</p> <p>Update, adopt, and implement the chance finds procedure described in the ESMF developed for the Project. Chance finds procedure to be included in ESHS specification for works contracts.</p> | Throughout Project implementation. | MAL. |
| - | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Adopt, implement and report that the construction sites are cleared of UXOs; a chance finds procedure for handling the UXOs shall be the responsibility of the contractor. | Throughout Project implementation. | MAL. |
| ESS 9: FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES | | | |
| | - Not relevant. | | |
| ESS 10: STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION DISCLOSURE | | | |
| 10.1 | <p>STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update, disclose, adopt, and implement the project's SEP consistent with ESS10, in a manner acceptable to the Association. | SEP (dated 24 May 2021) has been prepared, disclosed and adopted and shall be implemented on its terms throughout Project implementation. | MAL. |
| 10.2 | <p>GRIEVANCE MECHANISM:</p> <p>Review and adopt, monitor and document the existing Grievance Mechanism as described in the SEP. Project's Grievance Mechanism to be operationalized and disseminated to stakeholders.</p> | Review and adopt, monitor, document and update the Grievance Mechanism throughout Project Implementation. | MAL. |

CAPACITY SUPPORT (TRAINING)

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| <p>CS1</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CAPACITY BUILDING PLAN - Prepare, update, and implement the capacity building plan for E&S risk management as described in the ESMF, with the following outcomes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All project staff familiar with all E&S instruments • Grievance mechanism established and operating effectively • E&S, risk management measures, integrated into sub-project designs • Contractors and suppliers understand and can implement their E&S obligations (e.g., through ESHS specifications) • Improved environmental health, safety, and sanitation to the project staff and beneficiaries | <p>Throughout Project implementation.</p> | <p>MAL.</p> |
| <p>CS2</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Training to be provided to targeted groups: - - Provide Training of project staff on the understanding of E&S risk management instruments, with refresher courses as needed. - Provide Training to contractors, suppliers, and project beneficiaries before site-specific Project activities and throughout Project implementation as needed, including but not limited to management of E&S risks, labour management and OH&S, resource efficiency and pollution management, community health and safety, biodiversity conservation and sustainable management of living natural resources and grievance mechanisms. | <p>Within six months after the Effective Date and throughout Project implementation.</p> | <p>MAL.</p> |