

THE SOLOMON ISLANDS

Solomon Islands Engaging Communities to Improve Health Outcomes (P510479)

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL COMMITMENT PLAN (ESCP)

Appraisal Version (final draft)

19 September 2025

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL COMMITMENT PLAN

1. The Solomon Islands (the Recipient) will implement the Solomon Islands Engaging Communities to Improve Health Outcomes Project (the Project), with the involvement of the Ministry of Health and Medical Services, as set out in the Financing Agreement (the Agreement). The International Development Association (the Association) has agreed to provide financing for the Project, as set out in Agreement.
2. The Recipient shall ensure that the Project is carried out in accordance with the Environmental and Social Standards (ESSs) and this Environmental and Social Commitment Plan (ESCP), in a manner acceptable to the association. The ESCP is a part of the Agreement. Unless otherwise defined in this ESCP, capitalized terms used in this ESCP have the meanings ascribed to them in the Agreement.
3. Without limitation to the foregoing, this ESCP sets out material measures and actions that the Recipient shall carry out or cause to be carried out, including, as applicable, their respective timeframes; institutional, staffing, training, monitoring and reporting arrangements; and grievance management. The ESCP also sets out the environmental and social (E&S) documents that shall be prepared or updated, consulted, disclosed and implemented under the Project, consistent with the ESSs, in form and substance acceptable to the Association. Said E&S documents may be revised from time to time with prior written agreement by the Association. As provided for under the referred Agreement, the Recipient shall ensure that there are sufficient funds available to cover the costs of implementing the ESCP.
4. As agreed by the Association and the Recipient, this ESCP will be revised from time to time, if necessary, to reflect adaptive management of Project changes or unforeseen circumstances or in response to Project performance. In such circumstances, the Association and the Recipient agree to update the ESCP to reflect these changes through an exchange of letters signed between the Association and the Recipient's Representative specified in the Agreement or Minister of Health and Medical Services. The Recipient shall promptly disclose the updated ESCP.
5. The subsection on "Indicators for Implementation Readiness" below identifies the actions and measures to be monitored to assess Project readiness to begin implementation in accordance with this ESCP. Nevertheless, all actions and measures in this ESCP shall be implemented as set out in the "Timeframe" column below irrespective of whether they are listed in the referred subsection.

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS AND CAPACITY SUPPORT			
A	ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE Maintain a Project Management Unit (PMU) with qualified staff and resources to support management of environmental, social, health and safety (E&S) risks and impacts of the Project, including an E&S officer (full-time) and an OHS specialist (intermittent).	The E&S Officer shall be recruited within three (3) months after the effective date of the Financing Agreement for the Project (effective date) and thereafter maintain the PMU and this position throughout implementation. The OHS specialist shall be hired and retained on an as-required basis throughout implementation.	Ministry of Health and Medical Services
B	CAPACITY BUILDING PLAN/MEASURES Prepare and implement the following capacity building measures: • Training PMU staff on the implementation of the Project's E&S instruments and the roles and responsibilities of different key agencies in E&S risk management. • Training to project workers on occupational health and safety (OHS), Gender Based Violence (GBV), Sexual Exploitation and Abuse and Sexual Harassment (SEA/SH), and Violence Against Children (VAC) incidents prevention and awareness raising, environmental incidents, emergency prevention and responses to emergency situations, and the grievance mechanisms (GMs). • Training contractors on the relevant aspects of the Project E&S instruments and relevant E&S requirements, including preparation and implementation of Contractor Environmental and Social Management Plans (CESMPs). In addition, support to be provided to ensure contractors understand, sign, and follow the contractor's code of conduct (CoC). • Training to the PMU E&S Officer as relevant and available, as offered by external training providers, in areas of E&S risk management to support their capacity building.	Throughout project implementation.	PMU to arrange training and keep records.

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
MONITORING AND REPORTING			
C	REGULAR REPORTING Prepare and submit to the Association regular monitoring reports on the E&S performance of the Project. The reports shall include the following: • Status of preparation and implementation of E&S documents required under the ESCP. • Summary of stakeholder engagement activities carried out as per the Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP). • Complaints submitted to the GM(s), the grievance log, and progress made in resolving them. • E&S performance of contractors and subcontractors as reported through monthly contractors' and supervision firms' reports. • Number and status of resolution of incidents and accidents reported under action E below.	Submit six-monthly reports to the Association throughout Project implementation, commencing three (3) months after the effective date. Submit each report to the Association no later than 30 days after the end of each reporting period.	PMU
D	CONTRACTORS' MONTHLY REPORTS Require contractors and supervising firms to provide monthly monitoring reports on E&S performance in accordance with the metrics specified in the respective bidding documents and contracts and submit such reports to the Association.	Submit the monthly reports to the Association upon request and as annexes to the reports to be submitted under action C above.	PMU
E	INCIDENTS AND ACCIDENTS Notify the Association of any incident or accident relating to the project which has, or is likely to have, a significant adverse effect on the environment, the affected communities, the public or workers, including those resulting in death or significant injury to workers or the public; acts of violence, discrimination or protest; unforeseen impacts to cultural heritage or biodiversity resources; pollution of the environment; dam failure; forced or child labor; displacement without due process (forced eviction); allegations of SEA/SH or disease outbreaks. Provide available details of the incident or accident to the Association upon request. Arrange for an appropriate review of the incident or accident to establish its immediate, underlying and root causes. Prepare, agree with the Association, and implement a Corrective Action Plan that sets out the measures and actions to be taken to address the incident or accident and prevent its recurrence.	Notify the Association no later than 48 hours after learning of the incident or accident. Provide available details upon request. Provide review report and Corrective Action Plan to the Association no later than 10 days following the submission of the initial notice, unless a different timeframe is agreed to in writing by the Association. All incidents and accidents will be reflected in 6 monthly reports to the Association to be submitted under action C above.	PMU

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
ESS 1: ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RISKS AND IMPACTS			
1.1	ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL ASSESSMENTS AND/OR PLANS Adopt and implement an ESMF for the Project, consistent with the relevant ESSs. The PMU shall use the screening process included in the ESMF to screen activities for eligibility, and E&S risks and impacts, prior to commencement of specific project activities. Any additional E&S management plans prepared shall be developed, consulted on, disclosed, and implemented during Project implementation as determined through the E&S screening process, and prior to commencement of the bidding process for any physical works. The proposed activities described in the exclusion list set out in the ESMF shall be ineligible to receive financing under the Project.	Disclose the draft ESMF prior to appraisal. Finalize and disclose the final ESMF within 30 days of the effective date and adopt the ESMF as part of the negotiation package, prior to project effectiveness, and thereafter implement the ESMF throughout Project implementation. The PMU to review the E&S screening process after six (6) months of the effective date. Plans to be developed, adopted, and disclosed prior to commencement of the bidding process for any physical works.	PMU
1.2	MANAGEMENT OF CONTRACTORS 1. Incorporate the relevant aspects of the ESCP, including, inter alia, the Environmental and Social Code of Practice (ESCoP), site specific ESMP(s), Labor Management Procedures (LMP), and CoC, into the E&S specifications of the procurement documents and contracts with contractors and supervising firms. Thereafter, ensure that the contractors and supervising firms comply and that they require their subcontractors to comply with the E&S specifications of their respective contracts. Provide copies of the relevant contracts with contractors/subcontractors and supervision firms to the Association. 2. Require contractors to prepare, adopt and implement a CESMP detailing the methods to comply with the Project E&S instruments, in accordance with the screening requirements outlined in the ESMF and acceptable to the Association.	1. As part of the preparation of procurement documents and respective contracts. Supervise contractors throughout Project implementation. Copies of relevant contracts provided to the Association upon request. 2. Reviewed CESMPs submitted to the Association for review prior to commencement of civil works. Supervise Contractors' E&S performance throughout Project implementation.	PMU

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
1.3	TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE Carry out the consultancies, studies (including feasibility studies, if applicable), capacity building, training, and any other technical assistance activities under the Project, including, inter alia, trainings for rural health clinic staff, in accordance with terms of reference acceptable to the Association, that are consistent with the ESSs. Thereafter prepare and finalize the outputs of such activities in compliance with the terms of reference.	Throughout Project implementation.	PMU
1.4	USE OF RECIPIENT'S ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL FRAMEWORK Apply the relevant national regulations especially on the labor management procedures (Labor Act Cap 73), and National Infection Prevention and Control Guidelines (IPCG, 2020) for healthcare waste management, OHS at the healthcare facilities. The Recipient must notify the Bank of any change that may have an impact on E&S risk management for the Project.	Throughout Project implementation.	PMU
ESS 2: LABOR AND WORKING CONDITIONS			
2.1	LABOR MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES Adopt and implement LMP, included as an annex of the ESMF, prepared under action 1.1(a) above, including provisions on working conditions, management of workers relationships, OHS (including personal protective equipment, and emergency preparedness and response), CoC (including provisions relating to GBV, SEA/SH, VAC), sexually transmitted infections (STIs), forced labor, a mandated age verification procedure for all workers, grievance arrangements for Project workers, incident reporting, and applicable requirements for contractors, subcontractors, and supervising firms.	Prepare the LMP as part of the ESMF in the timeframe noted in 1.1 and thereafter implement the LMP throughout Project implementation.	PMU
2.2	GRIEVANCE MECHANISM FOR PROJECT WORKERS Update the GM for project workers and thereafter, operate and maintain the GM, as described in the LMP and consistent with ESS2. The Project Worker GM shall be able to receive complaints of a sensitive nature, including those about GBV, SEA/SH, child endangerment, VAC, as described in the LMP and consistent with ESS2.	Update the GM as part of the LMP and thereafter maintain and operate it throughout Project implementation.	PMU
ESS 3: RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT			
3.1	RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT Prepare and implement an ESMF that integrates the existing Operational Waste Management, Health and Safety Manual developed under the SI COVID-19 ERP. The ESMF shall include measures to screen for and manage solid and liquid wastes and other types of hazardous and non-hazardous wastes associated with proposed Project activities.	Same timeframe as for the preparation and implementation of the ESMF noted in 1.1.	PMU

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
3.2	HEALTHCARE WASTE MANAGEMENT Appropriate healthcare waste disposal facilities, such as burners and/or disposal pits, to be included in Rural Healthcare Clinic designs as determined through prescreening. Healthcare waste disposal facilities to be built in accordance with the designs included in the MHMS Operational Waste Management, Health and Safety Manual for Health Care Facilities to be incorporated into the ESMF.	Appropriate healthcare waste disposal facilities to be included in the rural healthcare clinics design as determined during prescreening.	PMU
ESS 4: COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY			
4.1	COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY Use the ESMF to screen, assess and manage specific risks and impacts to the community consistent with ESS4 arising from Project activities, including, inter alia, increases in GBV, SEA/SH, and safety risks, the potential for labor influx and worker spread of STIs, HIV/AIDS, Covid-19, and other infectious diseases and viruses, GBV, SEA/SH, child endangerment, or VAC incidents perpetrated between project workers or by workers toward community members, and/or lack of universal access in infrastructure design	Same timeframe as for the preparation and implementation of the ESMF noted in 1.1.	PMU
ESS 5: LAND ACQUISITION, RESTRICTIONS ON LAND USE AND INVOLUNTARY RESETTLEMENT			
5.1	IMPACTS ON LAND AND LAND ACCESS 1. Prepare and implement Land Access Procedures (LAP) guiding land access for the Project, consistent with ESS5, as part of the ESMF to be prepared under action 1.1 above. The LAP shall include guidance on design and siting of works, and process for confirming availability and access to land, any land access or lease arrangements, and that there will be no physical or economic displacement. Government land will be prioritized, and any use of non-Government land will be voluntary and subject to a lease arrangement, all consistent with ESS5. 2. Land requirements for each activity will be implemented in line with procedures outlined in the LAP and ESS5, prior to commencing civil works.	1. Same timeframe as for the preparation and implementation of the ESMF noted in 1.1. 2. Implement civil works activities requirements in line with the LAP before starting works.	PMU
ESS 6: BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF LIVING NATURAL RESOURCES			
6.1	BIODIVERSITY RISKS AND IMPACTS The Recipient shall adopt and implement an E&S screening procedure as part of the ESMF consistent with ESS6. The included E&S screening procedure shall dictate the exclusion of activities that may impact on critical natural or high value biodiversity habitats such as unauthorized extraction of construction materials in biodiverse and resource-rich areas.	Same timeframe as for the preparation and implementation of the ESMF noted in 1.1.	PMU

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
ESS 7: INDIGENOUS PEOPLES/SUB-SAHARAN AFRICAN HISTORICALLY UNDERSERVED TRADITIONAL LOCAL COMMUNITIES			
7.1	INDIGENOUS PEOPLES PLANNING FRAMEWORK The key requirements of ESS7 and relevant elements of an IPPF (e.g., culturally appropriate mechanisms of engagement) will be included in the SEP and ESMF.	Same timeframe as for the preparation and implementation of the ESMF noted in 1.1. and the SEP noted in 10.1	PMU
ESS 8: CULTURAL HERITAGE			
8.1	CHANCE FINDS Include cultural heritage CFPs in the ESMF, prepared under action 1.1.	Same timeframe as for the preparation and implementation of the ESMF noted in 1.1.	
ESS 9: FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES			
9.1	Not currently relevant		
ESS 10: STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION DISCLOSURE			
10.1	STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN Prepare, disclose, consult on, adopt and implement the SEP for the Project, consistent with ESS10, which shall include measures to, inter alia, provide stakeholders with timely, relevant, understandable and accessible information, and consult with them in a culturally appropriate manner, which is free of manipulation, interference, coercion, discrimination and intimidation.	Disclose the draft SEP prior to appraisal. Finalize and disclose the final SEP within 30 days of the effective date and adopt the SEP as part of the negotiation package, prior to project effectiveness, and thereafter implement the SEP throughout Project implementation.	PMU
10.2	PROJECT GRIEVANCE MECHANISM Update the GM for the project and then operate and maintain the GM to receive and facilitate resolution of concerns and grievances in relation to the Project, promptly and effectively, in a transparent manner that is culturally appropriate and readily accessible to all Project-affected parties, at no cost and without retribution, including concerns and grievances filed anonymously, in a manner consistent with ESS10. The GM shall be equipped to receive, register, and facilitate the resolution of SEA/SH, GBV, child endangerment, and/or VAC complaints, including through the referral of survivors to relevant GBV service providers, all in a safe, confidential, and survivor-centered manner.	Update the GM prior to appraisal. Finalize the GM and disclose the final GM within 30 days of the effective date and adopt the GM as part of the negotiation package, prior to project effectiveness and thereafter implement the GM throughout Project implementation.	PMU

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS	TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
INDICATORS FOR IMPLEMENTATION READINESS		
The following actions are indicators for implementation readiness: Action 1.1 and 10.1 – Finalize and disclose the ESMF, LMP and LAP (as part of the ESMF), SEP, and ESCP within 30 days of the effective date. Action 1.2(1) - Incorporate activity level E&S instruments into respective bidding documents for the respective activities. Action 1.2(2) – CESMPs reviewed and approved by the Association prior to commencement of works. Action 5.1 – Implementation of land requirements as required by LAPs prior to commencement of works.		