

ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN
Iran COVID-19 Emergency Response Project
Additional Financing

ENVIRONMENTAL and SOCIAL
COMMITMENT PLAN (ESCP)

August 2021

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL COMMITMENT PLAN

1. The Islamic Republic of Iran (hereinafter the Borrower) shall implement the Iran COVID-19 Emergency Response Project: Additional Financing (the **Project**) through the World Health Organization (WHO) with the involvement of the Ministry of Health and Medical Education (MOHME). The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (hereinafter the Bank) has agreed to provide financing for the Project.
2. The Borrower shall, and shall cause WHO to, carry out the Project in accordance with the Environmental and Social Standards (**ESSs**). To this end, this Environmental and Social Commitment Plan (**ESCP**) sets out material measures and actions to be carried out or caused to be carried out by the Borrower, including the timeframes of the actions and measures, institutional, staffing, training, monitoring and reporting arrangements, grievance management and the environmental and social assessments and instruments to be prepared or updated, disclosed, consulted, adopted and implemented under the ESCP and the ESSs, all in a manner acceptable to the Bank.
3. The Borrower is responsible for compliance with all requirements of the ESCP even when implementation of specific measures and actions is conducted by WHO as specified in Para 1. above.
4. Implementation of the material measures and actions set out in this ESCP shall be monitored and reported to the Bank by the Borrower through WHO as required by the ESCP and the conditions of the Loan Agreement, and the Bank shall monitor and assess progress and completion of the material measures and actions throughout implementation of the Project.
5. As agreed by the Bank and the Borrower, 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 assessment of Project performance conducted under the ESCP itself. In such circumstances, the Borrower shall agree to the changes with the Bank and shall, and shall cause WHO to, update the ESCP to reflect the agreed-upon changes. Agreement on changes to the ESCP shall be documented through the exchange of letters signed between the Bank and the Borrower. The Borrower shall, and shall cause WHO to, 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 Borrower shall provide additional funds, if needed, to implement actions and measures to address such risks and impact.

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
MONITORING AND REPORTING			
A	<p>REGULAR REPORTING:</p> <p>Contract (i) an independent firm to assess the environmental and social (E&S) compliance of selected healthcare facilities until all the health facilities are graded “Green” (i.e., E&S compliant and eligible to receive the equipment) and provide corrective actions for other health facilities that do not meet the required standard and (ii) another specialized firm as a Third Party Verification Agency (TPVA) to verify compliance with ESHS measures after installation of equipment and report on confirmed facilities and those with non-conformities that require action plan(s) to improve.</p> <p>Prepare and submit to the Bank regular monitoring reports, including from the firm assessing E&S compliance and the TPVA, on the environmental, social, health and safety (ESHS) performance of the Project, including but not limited to, stakeholder engagement activities, grievances log, and incident and accident reports.</p>	<p><i>E&S firm to be contracted within first quarter and TPVA within second quarter of Project Effectiveness.</i></p> <p><i>Starting from the Effectiveness Date, quarterly progress reports, including E&S assessment report, shall be submitted throughout Project implementation. TPVA reporting shall start from the third quarter of the Project.</i></p>	WHO
B	<p>INCIDENTS AND ACCIDENTS:</p> <p>Promptly notify the Bank 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 <i>including, inter alia, road accidents during transportation of procured equipment, installation of equipment, and sexual exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment (SEA/SH) allegations.</i> Provide sufficient detail regarding the incident or accident, indicating immediate measures taken or that are planned to be taken to address it, and any information provided by any contractor and supervising entity, as appropriate. Subsequently, as per the Bank’s request, prepare a report on the incident or accident and propose any measures to prevent its recurrence.</p>	<p><i>After learning of the incident or accident, notify the Bank latest within 48 hours at the latest.</i></p> <p><i>A subsequent report shall be provided to the Bank within a timeframe acceptable to the Bank, as requested.</i></p>	Borrower WHO
ESS 1: ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RISKS AND IMPACTS			
1.1	<p>ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE:</p> <p>Maintain and strengthen the Project Implementation Unit (PIU), which was already established under the Parent Project, with qualified staff and resources to support management of ESHS risks and impacts of the Project, including handling of Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) related issues. The following specialists shall at least be maintained for this Project: Senior E&S Team Lead in addition to E&S Health Officer, E&S Specialist, Social Engagement Officer, hotline operator and communication specialist.</p>	<p>Senior E&S Team Lead, E&S Health Officer, E&S Specialist, and Social Engagement Officer were already hired/appointed under the parent project, but their contracts need to be updated. A hotline operator and a communication specialist shall be additionally hired or appointed before the carrying out of relevant Project activities within first two months of the project. <i>PIU shall be maintained throughout Project implementation.</i></p>	Borrower WHO

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
1.2	<p>ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL ASSESSMENT/MANAGEMENT PLANS AND INSTRUMENTS/ CONTRACTORS</p> <p>a. Assess the environmental and social risks and impacts of proposed Project activities, in accordance with the <i>Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF)</i> to be prepared, disclosed, consulted and adopted for the Project, the ESSs, the Environmental, Health and Safety Guidelines (EHSGs), and other relevant Good International Industry Practice (GIIP), including relevant WHO guidelines. The Borrower shall also ensure that UN Protocols on transporting, storing, utilizing the supplies and safe disposal of the used ones are implemented in a manner consistent with the ESSs and in a manner acceptable to the Bank.</p> <p>b. Incorporate the relevant aspects of this ESCP, including, inter alia, the ESMF, any environmental and social management plans or other instruments, ESS2 requirements, and any other required ESHS measures, into the ESHS specifications of the procurement documents and contracts with contractors, suppliers delivering equipment and supervising firms. Thereafter ensure that the contractors and supervising firms comply with the ESHS specifications of their respective contracts. Ministry of Health and Medical Education (MOHME) shall include a requirement for preparing an environmental and occupational health and safety plan in the contracts with Contractors and/or suppliers performing civil works to build or expand assets needed to qualify healthcare facilities to receive the equipment and/or performing any associated activities to the Project. MOHME shall make sure those plans are prepared before commencing such civil works and are effectively implemented while performing the works.</p> <p>c. The WHO shall conduct an E&S assessment of the selected facilities to confirm that adequate occupational health and safety (OHS) and waste management systems are in place in line with WHO standards and GIIP, in a manner consistent with the ESSs and acceptable to the Bank, including the improvement plan to be addressed by the Borrower for the potential gaps. Healthcare facilities lacking minimum capacity and those against the use of OHS and healthcare waste disposal guidelines shall be excluded or subject to an action plan to be implemented and followed.</p>	<p>a. <i>ESMF shall be prepared, disclosed, consulted, and adopted before Project Appraisal and implemented throughout the Project implementation.</i> An E&S assessment shall be conducted before the carrying out of the relevant Project activities.</p> <p>b. The relevant ESHS measures shall be incorporated into the procurement documents before launching the procurement process for the relevant Project activities and shall thereafter complied with throughout the carrying out of such activities.</p> <p>c. E&S assessments for each healthcare facility to be conducted, confirming E&S eligibility, prior to shipment of equipment to the facility.</p>	<p><i>Borrower</i> <i>WHO</i></p>

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
1.3	<p>EXCLUSIONS: Exclude the following types of activities as ineligible for financing under the Project:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Activities that may cause long term, permanent and/or irreversible adverse impacts Activities that have high probability of causing serious adverse effects to human health and/or the environment Activities that may have significant adverse social impacts and may give rise to significant social conflict All the other excluded activities set out in the ESMF of the Project 	These exclusions shall be applied as part of the assessment process conducted under action 1.2.	<i>Borrower WHO</i>
ESS 2: LABOR AND WORKING CONDITIONS			
2.1	<p>LABOR MANAGEMENT:</p> <p>The Project shall be carried out in accordance with the applicable requirements of ESS2 including through, inter alia, implementing adequate occupational health and safety measures (including personal protective equipment and emergency preparedness and response measures), setting out grievance mechanisms for Project workers, and incorporating labor requirements into the ESHS specifications of the procurement documents and contracts with contractors and supervising firms.</p> <p>Prepare, disclose, consult, adopt and implement Labor Management Procedures (annexed to the ESMF) in accordance with the requirements of ESS2 and in a manner acceptable to the Bank.</p>	<p>Throughout Project implementation.</p> <p>LMP (annexed to the ESMF) shall be prepared, disclosed, consulted, and adopted before Appraisal and implemented throughout Project implementation.</p>	<i>Borrower WHO</i>
2.2	<p>GRIEVANCE REDRESS MECHANISM (GRM) FOR PROJECT WORKERS</p> <p>Establish, maintain, and operate a GRM for the Project workers, as described in the LMP included in ESMF and consistent with ESS2.</p>	GRM shall be established and operational before commencement of Project activities and engaging Project workers and shall remain operational throughout Project implementation.	<i>Borrower WHO</i>
ESS 3: RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT			
	Relevant aspects of this standard shall be considered, as needed, under action 1.2 above, including, inter alia, measures to adequately manage and dispose of health care wastes and other types of hazardous and non-hazardous wastes and to maintain energy efficiency.	Throughout Project implementation	<i>WHO MOHME</i>

ESS 4: COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY			
MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
	COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY: Relevant aspects of this standard shall be considered, as needed, under action 1.2 above including, <i>inter alia</i> , measures to: minimize the potential for community exposure to communicable diseases; establish and implement appropriate quality management systems to manage the risks and the impacts that services provided and activities carried out under the Project may have on community health and safety; and prevent and respond to sexual exploitation and abuse, and sexual harassment.	Throughout Project implementation.	<i>Borrower</i> <i>WHO</i>
4.1	ROAD SAFETY: WHO shall include a requirement in the contracts with suppliers transporting the equipment to designated healthcare facilities for preparing transportation procedures that ensure maintaining vehicles safety and providing adequate training and management of drivers in accordance with the requirements of ESS4, national legislation and in a manner acceptable to the Bank.	The requirement to be included before contracting contractors/suppliers and the procedures to be prepared before shipment of equipment.	<i>Borrower</i> <i>WHO</i>
4.2	COVID-19 Measures: Put measures in place to prevent or minimize the spread of COVID-19 to the community and among workers by following national and WHO guidelines of social distancing and other measures as per ESMF in accordance with the requirements of ESS4 and in a manner acceptable to the Bank.	Adopt the measures related to community health and safety issues described in ESMF in accordance with the timeframe as per Section 1.2 and implement them throughout Project implementation	<i>Borrower</i> <i>WHO</i>
ESS 5: LAND ACQUISITION, RESTRICTIONS ON LAND USE AND INVOLUNTARY RESETTLEMENT			
	Not relevant		
ESS 6: BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF LIVING NATURAL RESOURCES			
	Not relevant		
ESS 7: INDIGENOUS PEOPLES/SUB-SAHARAN AFRICAN HISTORICALLY UNDERSERVED TRADITIONAL LOCAL COMMUNITIES			
	Not relevant		
ESS 8: CULTURAL HERITAGE			
	Not relevant		
ESS 9: FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES			
	Not relevant		

ESS 10: STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION DISCLOSURE			
MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
10.1	<p>STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN:</p> <p>Adopt, implement and update (if needed) the SEP which is cleared and disclosed prior to Project Appraisal to ensure a set of stakeholder engagement actions, including information disclosure and a consultation process in place with selected health facilities and relevant stakeholders throughout the entire Project cycle. This 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, all consistent with ESS10, and in a manner acceptable to the Bank.</p>	<i>A SEP shall be prepared, disclosed, consulted, and adopted before Project Appraisal and implemented throughout the Project implementation.</i>	<i>Borrower WHO</i>
10.2	<p>GRIEVANCE MECHANISM (GM):</p> <p>A Project GM was already established under the Parent Project. The existing GM shall be maintained and operated as described in the SEP, by which all parties can raise concerns, provide feedback, or make complaints at the health care facilities about 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.</p> <p>The grievance mechanism shall also receive, register, and address concerns and grievances related to sexual exploitation and abuse, and sexual harassment in a safe and confidential manner, including through the referral of survivors to gender-based violence service providers as per applicable national laws and guidelines, consistent with ESS10, and in a manner acceptable to the Bank.</p>	Throughout Project implementation.	<i>Borrower WHO</i>
CAPACITY SUPPORT (TRAINING)			
	Project Implementation Unit and other relevant implementing support staff responsible for the Project to receive training and briefing sessions on the Project's ESHS plans and instruments, fair, equitable and inclusive access and allocation of Project benefits and the roles and responsibilities of different key agencies in the ESF implementation	No later than 30 working days of the Effectiveness Date and periodically with the addition of new Project team members throughout implementation	<i>Borrower WHO</i>