

**Government of the Republic of the Marshall Islands
Ministry of Health and Human Services
RMI COVID-19 Response Project
(P173887)**

**ENVIRONMENTAL and SOCIAL
COMMITMENT PLAN (ESCP)**

**Draft
April 9, 2020**

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL COMMITMENT PLAN

1. The Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI)(hereinafter the Borrower) willimplementthe COVID-19 Emergency response Project (the **Project**), with the involvement of the following Ministry of Health and Human Services.The International Development Association(hereinafter the Association) has agreed to provide financingfor the Project.
2. The Borrower will implementmaterial measures and actions so that the Project is implemented in accordance with the Environmental and Social Standards (**ESSs**).This Environmental and Social Commitment Plan (**ESCP**) sets outmaterial measures and actions, anys specific documents or plans, as well as the timing for each of these.
3. The Borroweris responsible for compliance with all requirements of the ESCP even when implementation of specific measures and actions is conducted by the Ministry, agency or unit referenced in 1. above.
4. Implementation of the material measures and actions set out in this ESCP will be monitored and reported to the Association by the Borroweras required by the ESCP and the conditions of the legal agreement, and the Association will monitor and assess progress and completion of the material measures and actions throughout implementation of the Project.
5. As agreed by the Association 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 Borrowerwill agree to the changes with the Association and will update the ESCP to reflect such changes.Agreement on changes to the ESCP will be documented through the exchange of letters signed between the Association and the Borrower.The Borrowerwill 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 Borrowershall provide additional funds, if needed, to implement actions and measures to address such risks and impacts.

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
MONITORING AND REPORTING			
A	REGULAR REPORTING: 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, status of preparation and implementation of E&S documents required under the ESCP, stakeholder engagement activities and grievances log, Labor Management Procedures, contractor’s ESHS implementation (when required for the improvement of physical facilities/equipping the existing facilities), ESHS incidents, functioning of the grievance mechanism(s).	Six-monthly throughout Project implementation.	MOHHS/MOF DIDA (CIU)
B	INCIDENTS AND ACCIDENTS Promptly 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. 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 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.	Minor incidents will be reflected in the six-monthly reports to the Association, serious incidents will be notified to the Association immediately. A report would be provided to the Association, as requested.	MOHHS/MOF DIDA (CIU)
ESS 1: ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RISKS AND IMPACTS			
1.1	ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE: The Project will be managed by a Project Director within the MOHHS. Assessment and management of the environmental and social risks and impacts are delegated to the environmental and social staff of the CIU who will provide operational support to the project. The CIU staff will coordinate with the Project Director and other key staff of the MOHHS to manage environmental and social risks and impacts.	CIU staff will include 3 individuals with responsibility for implementation, monitoring and reporting for relevant environmental and social aspects including but not limited to the ESMF, LMP and SEP. Two specialists, one international and one national, are already on board and the third specialist shall be recruited within 60 days of the Effective Date.	MOHHS/MOF DIDA (CIU)

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS	TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
<p>1.2 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 Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF), prepared pursuant to the provisions of the Loan Agreement, including to ensure that individuals or groups who, because of their particular circumstances, may be disadvantaged or vulnerable, have access to the development benefits resulting from the Project.</p> <p>b. Prepare, disclose, adopt, and implement any environmental and social management plans or other instruments required for the respective Project activities based on the assessment process, in accordance with the ESSs, the ESMF, the ESHGs, and other relevant Good International Industry Practice (GIIP) in a manner acceptable to the Association</p> <p>c. Incorporate the relevant aspects of this ESCP, including, inter alia, 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 and consultants. Thereafter ensure that the contractors and consultants comply with the ESHS specifications of their respective contracts.</p>	<p>a. ESMF to be prepared, disclosed and adopted no later than 30 days after the Effective Date and prior to commencement of relevant Project activities. Assessments to be conducted prior to the carrying out of the relevant Project activities. Until the ESMF is approved, the Project will apply the WHO standards on COVID-19 response in a manner consistent with ESS1.</p> <p>b. Before the carrying out of the relevant Project activities, and thereafter throughout the carrying out of such activities.</p> <p>c. Before launching the procurement process for the relevant Project activities, and thereafter throughout the carrying out of such activities.</p>	<p>MOHHS/MOF DIDA (CIU)</p>

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<p>1.3 EXCLUSIONS: Exclude the following type 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 (e.g. loss of major natural habitat) adverse impacts; • Activities that have high probability of causing serious adverse effects to human health and/or the environment not related treatment of COVID-19 cases; • Activities that may have significant adverse social impacts and /or may give rise to significant social conflict; • Activities that may involve permanent resettlement or land acquisition or adverse impacts on cultural heritage; and • Activities involving the acquisition of land or the involuntary resettlement of individuals, households, communities, or businesses; • The disposal of medical waste in any site adversely impacting natural habitats or ecosystem services; • All the other excluded activities set out in the <i>ESMF</i> of the Project. 	<p>During the assessment process conducted under action 1.2.a. above.</p>	<p><i>MOHHS/MOF DIDA (CIU)</i></p>
<p>ESS 2: LABOR AND WORKING CONDITIONS</p>		
<p>2.1 LABOR MANAGEMENT: The Project shall be carried out in accordance with the applicable requirements of ESS2, in a manner acceptable to the Bank/Association, including through, inter alia, implementing adequate occupational health and safety measures (including emergency preparedness and response measures), setting out grievance arrangements for Project workers, and incorporating labor requirements into the ESHS specifications of the procurement documents and contracts with contractors and consultants.</p>	<p>Labor Management Procedures shall be prepared, disclosed and adopted as part of the ESMF, no later than 30 days after the Effective Date and before the carrying out of the relevant Project activities.</p> <p>All measures specified in this action 2.1 shall be implemented throughout the Project implementation period.</p>	<p><i>MOHHS/MOF DIDA (CIU)</i></p>

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
2.2	<p>OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY (OHS) MEASURES Adopt, implement and update the Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) measures in line with the ESMF, LMP, Infection Prevention & Waste Management Plan (IPC&WMP) and WHO guidelines on COVID-19 in a manner acceptable to the Association.</p> <p>MOHHS will make available the necessary training, infrastructure and supplies to enable adherence to their infection prevention and control standards and the Infection Prevention and Control and Waste Management Plan.</p>	<p>The IPC&WMP will be prepared, disclosed and adopted as part of the ESMF, no later than 30 days after the Effective Date and before the carrying out of the relevant Project activities.</p> <p>All measures specified in this action 2.2 shall be implemented throughout the Project implementation period.</p>	MOHHS/MOF DIDA (CIU)
2.3	<p>WORKER CODE OF CONDUCT Ensure that all health workers adhere to the WHO Code of Ethics and Professional conduct. Provisions to prevent Sexual Exploitation and Abuse/Sexual Harassment (SEA/SH) shall be included in the Code of Conduct (CoC) for workers in line with relevant national laws and legislation and adopted and applied under the Project.</p>	Throughout Project implementation.	MOHHS/MOF DIDA (CIU)
2.4	<p>GRIEVANCE MECHANISM FOR PROJECT WORKERS Establish, maintain, and operate a grievance mechanism for project workers, as described in the Labor Management Procedures (LMP) and consistent with ESS2, with focal points to address these grievances established within MOHHS.</p>	<p>Prepare and implement a Grievance Mechanism as part of LMP.</p> <p>GM for project workers to be established and functional within 30 days after the Effective Date.</p>	MOHHS/MOF DIDA (CIU)
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 manage health care wastes and other types of hazardous and non-hazardous wastes.		
ESS 4: COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY			
	Relevant aspects of this standard shall be considered, as needed, under action 1.2 above including, inter alia, measures to: minimize the potential for community exposure to communicable diseases; ensure that individuals or groups who, because of their particular circumstances, may be disadvantaged or vulnerable, have access to the development benefits resulting from the Project; manage the risks of gender based violence; and prevent and respond to sexual exploitation and abuse, and sexual harassment.		
ESS 5: LAND ACQUISITION, RESTRICTIONS ON LAND USE AND INVOLUNTARY RESETTLEMENT			
	Not relevant. Activities involving land acquisition will be excluded from the project		
ESS 6: BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF LIVING NATURAL RESOURCES			
	Not relevant. Activities involving the disposal of waste at sites adversely affecting natural habitats or ecosystem services will be excluded from the project.		
ESS 7: INDIGENOUS PEOPLES/SUB-SAHARAN AFRICAN HISTORICALLY UNDERSERVED TRADITIONAL LOCAL COMMUNITIES			
	Not relevant.		

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ESS 8: CULTURAL HERITAGE			
Not relevant.			
ESS 9: FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES			
Not relevant.			
ESS 10: STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION DISCLOSURE			
10.1	STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN: Update, disclose, adopt, and implement a Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) consistent with ESS10, in a manner acceptable to the Association.	Update, disclose and adopt the preliminary SEP no later than 30 days after the Effective Date and implement the SEP throughout the Project implementation period.	MOHHS/ MOFBPS (CIU)
10.2	GRIEVANCE MECHANISM: Accessible grievance arrangements shall be made publicly available to receive and facilitate resolution of concerns and grievances in relation to the Project, consistent with ESS10, in a manner acceptable to the Association. Without limitation to the foregoing, the Recipient shall adopt, implement and update the Grievance Mechanism (GM) included in the Project's Stakeholder Engagement Plan throughout Project implementation.	Adopt the GM for the Project within 30 days of the Effective Date, and implement and update the GM and all requirements under this action throughout the Project implementation period.	MOHHS/ MOFBPS (CIU)
CAPACITY SUPPORT (TRAINING)			
CS1	MOHSS, Pacific Island Health Officer's Association and other relevant implementing agency and support staff responsible for the Project to receive training on the Project's ESF instruments and WHO guidelines on COVID19, and the roles and responsibilities of different key agencies in the ESF implementation. Specifically, training will be provided on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training in safe handling, disposal of PPE • Training in effective stakeholder engagement processes • Sensitization training on sexual exploitation and abuse, and sexual harassment. 	Relevant implementing agency and support staff to be identified and to receive ESF training within two months of the Effective Date. Refresher and support trainings to be provided throughout the project lifecycle.	MOHHS/ MOFBPS (CIU) to provide training
CS2	Contractors to receive training on the relevant aspects of the Project ESF instruments and relevant ESHS requirements.	Prior to work commencing, throughout Project implementation.	MOHHS/ MOFBPS (CIU)
CS3	MOHSS to prepare and implement training as per Component 1 on Infection prevention and control for facility staff to limit risk of hospital-based infection.	Throughout Project Implementation.	MOHSS