

**Republic of El Salvador
Ministry of Health (MINSAL)**

**El Salvador COVID-19 Response
Project (P173872)
and
Additional Financing
(P176033)**

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

February 3, 2021

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL COMMITMENT PLAN

1. The Republic of El Salvador (hereinafter the Borrower), through the Ministry of Health (MINSAL), will implement the El Salvador COVID-19 Emergency Response Project (the Parent Project), including the activities to be supported under an Additional Financing (the Project). The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (hereinafter the Bank) has agreed to provide financing for the Project.
2. The Borrower, through the MINSAL, shall 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 MINSAL.
4. Implementation of the material measures and actions set out in this ESCP shall be monitored and reported to the Bank by the Borrower as required by the ESCP and the conditions of the Loan Agreements.
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 update the ESCP to reflect such changes. Agreement on changes to the ESCP shall be documented through the exchange of letters signed between the Bank and minister in charge of MINSAL on behalf of the Borrower. MINSAL 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 Borrower 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
MONITORING AND REPORTING			
A	REGULAR REPORTING: Prepare and submit to the Bank regular monitoring reports on the environmental, social, health and safety (ESHS) performance of the Project, including but not limited to, medical waste management, occupational health and safety, stakeholder engagement activities and grievances logs.	Every six-months during the Project's implementation in conjunction with the Project Reports, starting from the Effective Date.	Project Coordination Unit (PCU) of the Ministry of Health (MINSAL)
B	INCIDENTS AND ACCIDENTS: 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, including, inter alia, any COVID-19 outbreak in the Project area. 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.	Notify the Bank within 48 hours after learning of the incident or accident. A report would be provided within a timeframe acceptable to the Bank, as requested.	MINSAL
ESS 1: ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RISKS AND IMPACTS			
1.1	ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE: MINSAL shall establish and maintain a Project Coordination Unit (PCU) with qualified staff and resources to support management of ESHS risks and impacts of the Project, including environmental and social specialists with qualifications and experience acceptable to the Bank.	An environmental specialist and a social specialist shall be hired or assigned for the Project as an Additional Condition of Effectiveness under the additional financing and shall be maintained throughout Project implementation.	MINSAL

<p>1.2</p>	<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 Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF), to be updated, disclosed and adopted for the Project, the ESSs, the Environmental, Health and Safety Guidelines (EHSs), and other relevant Good International Industry Practice (GIIP), including relevant WHO guidelines. Until the ESMF is updated, the environmental and social risks and impacts of the Project will be assessed and managed in accordance with the current ESMF in a manner consistent with the ESSs. The updated ESMF shall include an Infection Control and Waste Management Plan (ICWMP), a Medical Waste Management Plan (MWMP), and an Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan (ERP) for the vaccination activities.</p> <p>b. Prepare, disclose, adopt, and implement any environmental and social management plans (ESMPs), instruments or other measures required for the respective Project activities based on the assessment process, in accordance with the ESSs, the ESMF, the EHSs, and other relevant Good International Industry Practice (GIIP) including relevant WHO Guidelines on COVID-19 response to, inter alia, ensure access to and allocation of Project benefits in a fair, equitable and inclusive manner, taking into account the needs of individuals or groups who, because of their particular circumstances, may be disadvantaged or vulnerable, including, as relevant, with regards to vaccines..</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 supervising firms. Thereafter ensure that the contractors and supervising firms (as applicable) comply with the ESHS specifications of their respective contracts.</p> <p>d. Adopt procedures, protocols and/or other measures to ensure Project beneficiaries that receive vaccines under the Project do so under a program that does not include forced vaccination and where beneficiaries give informed consent to receive a vaccine, and is acceptable to the Bank, as set out in the ESMF.</p> <p>e. Ensure that any activity financed retroactively complies with the current and the updated ESMF, LMP, as relevant and the ESSs. The ESMF will include TORs</p>	<p>a. Updated ESMF shall be disclosed, consulted and adopted as an Additional Condition of Effectiveness for the additional financing . Assessment to be conducted before the carrying out of the relevant Project activities.</p> <p>b. Plans/instruments shall be prepared, disclosed, consulted and adopted before the carrying out of the relevant Project activities, and thereafter implemented 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>d. Before the carrying out of the relevant Project activities, and thereafter implemented throughout the carrying out of such activities.</p> <p>e. Throughout the implementation of activities financed retroactively.</p>	<p>MINSAL</p>
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MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS	TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
for the E&S audit that would be necessary to allow retroactive financing.		
<p>1.3 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 (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 to treatment of COVID-19 cases • Activities that may have significant adverse social impacts and may give rise to significant social conflict • Activities that may involve resettlement or land acquisition/land use restriction or adverse impacts on cultural heritage • All the other excluded activities set out in the ESMF of the Project. 	During the assessment process conducted under action 1.2.a. above.	MINSAL
1.4 The Borrower shall ensure that resources, including human and financial resources, are available to cover the incremental costs associated with the management of increased waste volumes, including biomedical waste and vaccination related waste (expired and opened vaccine vials), resulting from Project activities.	Throughout Project implementation	MINSAL
ESS 2: LABOR AND WORKING CONDITIONS		
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, including through, inter alia, implementing adequate occupational health and safety measures (including emergency preparedness and response measures), setting out a grievance mechanism specific for Project workers, and incorporating labor requirements into the ESHS specifications of the procurement documents and contracts with contractors and supervising firms. The Borrower shall adopt and implement Labor Management Procedures (LMP) reflecting the above requirements.	The current LMP shall be updated and disclosed no later than 30 days after the Effectiveness Date. All measures specified in this action 2.1 to be implemented throughout Project implementation. The current LMP shall apply until it is updated.	MINSAL
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: carry out the purchase, storage, transportation and handling of vaccines (including, ultra-cold chain management) in a safe manner and in accordance with the EHSs, and other relevant GIIP including relevant WHO guidelines; and adequately manage and dispose of health care wastes (including, vaccines) and other types of hazardous and non-hazardous wastes.	Throughout Project implementation.	MINSAL

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS	TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
ESS 4: COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY		
<p>4.1 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 the use of security personnel; manage the risks of labor influx; and prevent and respond to sexual exploitation and abuse, and sexual harassment.</p>	<p>Throughout Project implementation.</p>	<p>MINSAL</p>
<p>4.2 USE OF MILITARY OR SECURITY PERSONNEL: The following measures shall be adopted, to ensure that the engagement of security or military personnel in the implementation of Project activities for provision of security to Project workers, sites and/or assets, is carried out in accordance with the ESSs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Assess the risks and impacts of engagement of the security or military personnel, as part of the assessment referred to in action 1.2 a) above, and implement measures to manage such risks and impacts, guided by the principles of proportionality and GIIP, and by applicable law, in relation to hiring, rules of conduct, training, equipping, and monitoring of such security or military personnel; b. Adopt and enforce standards, protocols and codes of conduct for the selection and use of [security or military] personnel, and screen such personnel to verify that they have not engaged in past unlawful or abusive behavior, including sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA), sexual harassment (SH) or excessive use of force; c. Ensure that such personnel is adequately instructed and trained, prior to deployment and on a regular basis, on the use of force and appropriate conduct (including in relation to civilian-military engagement, SEA and SH, and other relevant areas), as set out in the Project Operational Manual, ESMF, Security Management Plan (if necessary); d. Ensure that the stakeholder engagement activities under the Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) include a communication strategy on the involvement of [security or military] personnel under the Project; 	<p>a) Assessment carried out in the same timeframe than action 1.2 a) above and any required measures shall be adopted before deploying security or military personnel under the Project and thereafter implemented throughout Project implementation.</p> <p>b) and c) before deploying security or military personnel under the Project and thereafter throughout Project implementation.</p> <p>d) and e) as set out under actions 10.1 and 10.2 respectively.</p>	<p>MINSAL</p>

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
	e. Ensure that any concerns or grievances regarding the conduct of security or military personnel are received, monitored, documented (taking into account the need to protect confidentiality), resolved through the Project's grievance mechanism (see action 10.2 below) and reported to the [Bank/Association] no later than 5 days after being received.		
ESS 5: LAND ACQUISITION, RESTRICTIONS ON LAND USE AND INVOLUNTARY RESETTLEMENT			
	Not currently relevant. Should any proposed Project activities involve any land acquisition, restrictions on land use or involuntary resettlement, relevant aspects of this standard shall be considered under action 1.2 above.		
ESS 6: BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF LIVING NATURAL RESOURCES			
	Not currently relevant		
ESS 7: INDIGENOUS PEOPLES/SUB-SAHARAN AFRICAN HISTORICALLY UNDERSERVED TRADITIONAL LOCAL COMMUNITIES			
7.1	MEASURES FOR INDIGENOUS PEOPLES: The Project shall be carried out in accordance with the applicable requirements of ESS7, including, inter alia: (i) ensuring that the Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) includes meaningful consultations with indigenous peoples throughout Project implementation; (ii) implementing procedures, protocols and/or other measures to ensure that indigenous peoples have access to Project benefits in a fair, equitable, inclusive and culturally appropriate manner, particularly with regards to information and access to vaccines, with elements of an IPPF incorporated into the ESMF and the SEP; and (iii) implementing measures to ensure that indigenous peoples are able to access the Project's grievance mechanism in a culturally appropriate manner.	Throughout Project implementation.	MINSAL
ESS 8: CULTURAL HERITAGE			
	Relevant aspects of this standard shall be considered, as needed, under action 1.2 above.		
ESS 9: FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES			
	Not currently relevant.		
ESS 10: STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION DISCLOSURE			
10.1	STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN: Update the current SEP, disclose, consult, adopt and implement in consistency 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.	A draft updated SEP has been prepared and disclosed, and shall be consulted, updated and adopted as an Additional Effectiveness Condition for the additional financing. The SEP shall be implemented throughout Project implementation.	MINSAL

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS	TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
<p>10.2 GRIEVANCE MECHANISM: An accessible grievance mechanism has been established and will continue its operation 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.</p> <p>The grievance mechanism shall also receive, register and address concerns and grievances related to the, sexual exploitation and abuse, sexual harassment in a safe and confidential manner, including through the referral of survivors to gender-based violence service providers.</p> <p>The grievance mechanism shall also receive, register and address concerns arising from unintended health consequences after vaccination especially those resulting in serious adverse effects.</p>	<p>Throughout Project implementation.</p>	<p>MINSAL</p>
<p>CAPACITY SUPPORT (TRAINING)</p>		
<p>A. TRAINING: Project Management Unit and other relevant implementing support staff responsible for the Project to receive training on the Project’s ESHS plans and instruments, fair, equitable and inclusive access and allocation of Project benefits, including with regards to vaccines, and the roles and responsibilities of different key agencies in the ESF implementation. Project workers to receive training on the contents and requirements detailed in the ESFM, the Infection Control and Waste Management Plan and Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan to ensure compliance with environmental and social requirements. Armed forces shall be trained on the applicable standards and code of conduct in line with the guidance provided in the WB’s Technical Note “Use of Military Forces to Assist in Covid-19 Operations” and as defined in the updated ESMF. The Borrower shall ensure that resources, including human and financial resources, are available to cover costs associated with such training requirements.</p>	<p>Throughout Project implementation.</p>	<p>MINSAL</p>