

Republic of Tajikistan

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**Agency for Land Reclamation and Irrigation and
the Ministry of Energy and Water Resources
of the Republic of Tajikistan**

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**Strengthening Water and Irrigation
Management – Tajikistan (P175356)**

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

Draft for Appraisal and Negotiations

April 18, 2022

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL COMMITMENT PLAN

1. The Republic of Tajikistan (the Recipient) will implement the Strengthening Water and Irrigation Management - Tajikistan Project (the Project) with the involvement of the Ministry of Energy and Water Resources of the Republic of Tajikistan (MEWR) and the Agency for Land Reclamation and Irrigation under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan (ALRI) as set out in the Financing Agreement. The International Development Association (the Association) has agreed to provide financing for the Project, as set out in the referred 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 Financing Agreement. Unless otherwise defined in this ESCP, capitalized terms used in this ESCP have the meanings ascribed to them in the referred 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, the timeframes of the actions and measures, institutional, staffing, training, monitoring and reporting arrangements, and grievance management. The ESCP also sets out the environmental and social (E&S) instruments that shall be adopted and implemented under the Project, all of which shall be subject to prior consultation and disclosure, consistent with the ESS, and in form and substance, and in a manner acceptable to the Association. Once adopted, said E&S instruments may be revised from time to time with prior written agreement by the Association
4. As agreed by the Association and the Recipient, this ESCP will be revised from time to time if necessary, during Project implementation, to reflect adaptive management of Project changes and unforeseen circumstances or in response to Project performance. In such circumstances, the Recipient and the Association agree to update the ESCP to reflect these changes through an exchange of letters signed between the Association and the Recipient. The Recipient shall promptly disclose the updated ESCP.

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
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, status of preparation and implementation of E&S instruments required under the ESCP, stakeholder engagement activities, functioning of the grievance mechanism(s).</p>	Biannually throughout Project implementation, commencing after the Effective Date. Submit each report to the Association no later than 15 days after the end of each reporting period.	ALRI/PMU and MEWR/PIU
B	<p>INCIDENTS AND ACCIDENTS</p> <p>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, including, inter alia, cases of sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA), sexual harassment (SH), and accidents that result in death, serious or multiple injuries, falls, vehicle accidents, larger spills of chemicals, oils, fuels, major environmental contamination, loss of biodiversity or critical habitat etc. Provide sufficient detail regarding the scope, severity, and possible causes of 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/or supervising firm, as appropriate.</p> <p>Subsequently, at the Association's request, prepare a report on the incident or accident and propose any measures to address it and prevent its recurrence.</p>	<p>Notify the Association no later than 48 hours after learning of the incident or accident.</p> <p>Provide subsequent report(s) to the Association within a timeframe acceptable to the Association.</p>	ALRI/PMU and MEWR/PIU
C	<p>CONTRACTORS' MONTHLY REPORTS</p> <p>Require contractors and supervising firms to provide monthly (and integrated semi-annual) monitoring reports on ESHS performance in accordance with the ESHS metrics specified in the respective bidding documents and contracts and submit such reports to the Association.</p>	Submit the monthly reports to the Association upon request or as annexes to the reports to be submitted under action A above.	ALRI/PMU and MEWR/PIU

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
D	<p>NOTIFICATIONS RELATING TO DAAB COMPLIANCE REVIEW OF CONTRACTOR COMPLIANCE WITH SEA/SH PREVENTION AND RESPONSE OBLIGATIONS</p> <p>Notify the Association of any referral submitted to the Dispute Avoidance and Adjudication Board (DAAB) to initiate a process of compliance review in relation to a contractor's obligations to prevent and respond to sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA), and/or sexual harassment (SH) specified in the respective works contract with such contractor; and, in the event of any such referral, notify the Association of: (i) the DAAB's decision on such referral; (ii) the contractor's Notice of Dissatisfaction, if any, with such DAAB decision; (iii) any notification received on the commencement of an emergency arbitration proceeding or full arbitration proceeding in relation to the DAAB's decision; and (iv) the resulting emergency arbitration order and/or full arbitration order, if any.</p>	No later than 7 days after the issuance or receipt, as applicable, of the relevant document (i.e., referral to the DAAB, issuance of DAAB decision, Notice of Dissatisfaction, notice of commencement of emergency/full arbitration, emergency/full arbitration order, as applicable).	ALRI/PMU and MEWR/PIU
ESS 1: ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RISKS AND IMPACTS			
1.1	<p>ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE</p> <p>Establish and maintain the MEWR Project Implementation Unit (PIU) and the ALRI Project Management Unit (PMU) with qualified staff and resources to support management of ESHS risks and impacts of the Project, including at least one Social Specialist at the MEWR PIU and an Environmental Specialist and a Social Specialist at the ALRI/PMU with terms of reference, experience, and qualifications acceptable to the Association and contracted consultants (firms and/or individuals), as necessary, for support in specific areas that may include, but is not limited to current field monitoring and reporting, providing training, community outreach, stakeholder engagement, and integrated assessment of the results.</p> <p>Environmental and Social staff will have clear responsibilities to implement all commitments stated in the Project's environmental and social instruments in a manner satisfactory to the Association.</p> <p>Contractors for works shall be required to assign qualified environmental and social experts and occupational health and safety specialists for sub-projects' environmental and social risk management by including this requirement in the bidding documents for works.</p>	<p>Establish MEWR PIU and recruit relevant staff within one month of the Effective Date, and maintain ALRI/PMU and retain the E&S PMU & PIU staff throughout Project implementation</p> <p>Throughout Project Implementation.</p>	MEWR/ALRI

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS	TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
<p>1.2 ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL INSTRUMENTS</p> <p>1. Prepare, consult, adopt, disclose, and thereafter implement an Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) for the Project, consistent with the relevant ESSs and to the satisfaction of the Association.</p> <p>2. Screen any proposed subproject in accordance with the ESMF adopted for the Project and, thereafter, cause subproject entities to prepare, consult, adopt, disclose, and thereafter implement the site-specific Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) and/or Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP), as set out in the ESMF. The proposed activities described in the exclusion list set out in the ESMF shall be ineligible to receive financing under the Project</p>	<p>Adopt the ESMF prior to Appraisal completion, and thereafter implement the ESMF throughout Project implementation.</p> <p>Prepare site specific ESIA/ESMP to the satisfaction of the Association, for inclusion in bidding documents for the respective subproject. Once adopted, implement the ESIA/ESMP throughout sub-project implementation.</p>	ALRI/PMU and MEWR/PIU
<p>1.3 MANAGEMENT OF CONTRACTORS</p> <p>Incorporate the relevant aspects of the ESCP, including, inter alia, the relevant environmental and social instruments, the Labor Management Procedures, and code of conduct, into the ESHS specifications of the procurement documents and contracts with contractors and supervising firms. Thereafter ensure that the contractors and supervising firms comply and cause subcontractors to comply with the ESHS specifications of their respective contracts.</p> <p>Ensure that civil works contractors prepare Contractors-ESMP and related plans such as Materials and Waste Management Plan, Hazardous Waste Management Plan, Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) Plan, the Labor Management Plan, Traffic Management Plan, environmental and social monitoring plan to Plan etc. to be submitted to and reviewed by the supervision Engineers and approved by the PMU/PIU and the World Bank.</p>	<p>As part of the preparation of procurement documents and respective contracts.</p> <p>Supervise contractors throughout Project implementation.</p> <p>Prior to commencement of civil works</p>	ALRI/PMU and MEWR/PIU
<p>1.4 TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE</p> <p>Ensure that the consultancies, studies (including feasibility studies, if applicable), capacity building, training, and any other technical assistance activities under the Project, are carried out in accordance with terms of reference acceptable to the Association, that are consistent with the ESSs. Thereafter ensure that the outputs of such activities comply with the terms of reference and are consistent with the ESSs.</p>	The technical assistance activities are carried out consistent with the ESSs throughout Project implementation.	??

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1.5	<p>CONTINGENT EMERGENCY RESPONSE COMPONENT (CERC)</p> <p>a) Ensure that the CERC Manual includes a description of the ESHS assessment and management arrangements including, ESMF Addendum that will be included or referred to in the CERC Manual for the implementation of CERC Part in accordance with the ESSs.</p> <p>b) Prepare, consult, adopt, and disclose any environmental and social instruments which may be required for activities under CERC Part of the Project, in accordance with the CERC Manual and ESMF Addendum and the ESSs, and thereafter implement the measures and actions required under said environmental and social instruments, within the timeframes specified in said environmental and social instruments.</p>	<p>a) The adoption of the CERC manual and, if applicable, other instruments, as relevant in form and substance acceptable to the Association is a withdrawal condition under Section XXX of Schedule 2 of the financing agreement for the Project.</p> <p>b) Submit the respective environmental and social instrument for the Association's prior review and approval and include it as part of the respective bidding process, and in any case, before the carrying out of the relevant Project activities for which the environmental and social instrument is required. Implement the environmental and social instruments in accordance with their terms, throughout Project implementation.</p>	To be determined
1.6	<p>GENDER ACTION PLAN (GAP)</p> <p>Conduct gender assessment and prepare an action plan, outlining guiding principles and approach as well as methodology to ensure that women are included in the Project activities</p>	A GAP will be prepared, consulted on, and disclosed not later than three months after the Effective Date, and implemented throughout Project implementation.	MEWR/PIU and ALRI/PMU
ESS 2: LABOR AND WORKING CONDITIONS			
2.1	<p>LABOR MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES (LMP)</p> <p>Prepare, consult, adopt, disclose, and implement the Labor Management Procedures (LMP) for the Project, including, inter alia, provisions on working conditions, management of workers relationships, occupational health and safety (including personal protective equipment, and emergency preparedness and response), code of conduct (including relating to SEA and SH), forced labor, child labor, grievance arrangements for Project workers, and applicable requirements for contractors, subcontractors, and supervising firms (including relevant national laws and other ESS2 requirements, such as adoption of a code of conduct, prevention of all forms of forced labor and child labor) consistent with ESS2.</p>	LMP disclosed before Appraisal will be implemented throughout Project implementation.	MEWR/PIU and ALRI/PMU

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2.2	<p>GRIEVANCE MECHANISM FOR PROJECT WORKERS</p> <p>Establish and operate a grievance mechanism for Project workers, as described in the LMP and consistent with ESS2.</p>	Establish grievance mechanism prior engaging Project workers and thereafter maintain and operate it throughout Project implementation	ALRI/PMU and MEWR/PIU
ESS 3: RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT			
3.1	<p>RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT:</p> <p>Assess risks associated with project activities and impacts and propose mitigation measures related to relevant requirement of ESS 3, including raw materials, water use, air pollution, hazardous materials, organic and pesticides and fertilizers, GHG emissions, hazardous waste included in all site-specific ESMPs, as relevant.</p> <p>Respective resource efficiency and pollution prevention measures will be developed as part of sub-project specific ESIA's, including Resource Management Plan, Materials and Waste/Hazardous Waste Management Plan, Pest MP; implemented throughout the project in a manner acceptable to the Association.</p> <p>Ensure assessment of Pollution Prevention and Management measures, with a focus on those issues which might arise while conducting civil works for facilities construction and rehabilitation activities.</p>	<p>ESMPs shall be prepared in accordance with the ESMF for inclusion in sub-project bidding documents.</p> <p>ESMPs shall be implemented throughout sub-project implementation.</p>	ALRI/PMU and MEWR/PIU
ESS 4: COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY			
4.1	<p>COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY</p> <p>Assess and manage specific risks and impacts to the community arising from Project activities, including, inter alia, COVID-19 risks and precautions; traffic management and safety (including requirements for notifying public of closures and restrictions on use during construction); pollution and waste management; pest management; and the prevention of and response to sexual exploitation and abuse, and sexual harassment, and include mitigation measures in the ESMPs to be prepared in accordance with the ESMF.</p>	Adopt prior to commencement of any sub-project works and implement throughout the sub-project implementation.	ALRI/PMU and MEWR/PIU

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ESS 5: LAND ACQUISITION, RESTRICTIONS ON LAND USE AND INVOLUNTARY RESETTLEMENT			
5.1	RESETTLEMENT FRAMEWORK (RF) Prepare, consult, adopt, disclose, and implement a Resettlement Framework for the Project, consistent with ESS5. Prepare, consult upon, and disclose site-specific resettlement action plans (RAPs) in accordance with ESS 5, as needed.	Implement the RF disclosed before appraisal throughout Project implementation. RAPs shall be subject to the Association's no-objection and fully implemented before carrying out the respective Project activities, in a manner acceptable to the Association.	ALRI/PMU and MEWR/PIU
5.2	RESETTLEMENT PLANS Prepare, consult, adopt, disclose, and implement a resettlement action plan (RAP) for each subproject under the Project for which the RF requires such RAP and consistent with ESS5.	Submit the respective RAP for the Association's prior review and no objection, adopt, and disclose the RAP, and once adopted, implement the respective RAP, including providing compensation and assistance before taking possession of the land and related assets, unless otherwise specified in the RAP.	ALRI/PMU and MEWR/PIU
ESS 6: BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF LIVING NATURAL RESOURCES			
6.1	BIODIVERSITY MANAGEMENT PLAN (BMP): Respective measures to manage biodiversity risks developed and reflected in specific ESMPs. If appropriate, Biodiversity Management Plans (BMP) as a part of the ESMP or separate will be developed based on the results of environmental screening. Any proposed subprojects that will have adverse impacts on protected areas, critical habitats or Ramsar sites will be excluded from the Project activities during the screening process.	BMP, if needed, prepared prior to finalization of bidding documents and will be complementary to ESMP. BMP shall be implemented throughout the project life cycle. Apply mitigation measures throughout Project implementation.	ALRI/PMU and MEWR/PIU
ESS 7: INDIGENOUS PEOPLES/SUB-SAHARAN AFRICAN HISTORICALLY UNDERSERVED TRADITIONAL LOCAL COMMUNITIES			
ESS 7 is not relevant to the project.			
ESS 8: CULTURAL HERITAGE			
8.1	CHANCE FINDS: In accordance with the ESMF and site specific ESIA/ESMPs, Chance Finds Procedures shall be included into all civil works contracts and contractors are obligated to adhere.	ESIA/ESMPs (including Chance Find Procedures) shall be prepared prior to tendering works and will be implemented throughout Project implementation	ALRI/PMU
ESS 9: FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES			
ESS 9 is not relevant to the project.			

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
ESS 10: STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION DISCLOSURE			
10.1	<p>STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN</p> <p>Implement the SEP prepared, consulted upon and disclosed for the Project, consistent with ESS10, which includes 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.</p> <p>Review SEP at least annually and update as needed, submit revisions to the Association for review and approval.</p> <p>Announce and hold consultation meetings with local communities as per SEP.</p>	<p>Ensure SEP implementation throughout Project implementation</p> <p>Review: annually throughout Project implementation.</p> <p>Submit for approval: prior to adoption of revisions</p> <p>Annually throughout Project implementation.</p>	ALRI/PMU and MEWR/PIU
10.2	<p>PROJECT GRIEVANCE MECHANISM</p> <p>Establish, publicize, maintain, and operate an accessible grievance mechanism, 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>Establish the grievance mechanism within one month of the Effective Date, and thereafter maintain and operate the mechanism throughout Project implementation</p>	ALRI/PMU and MEWR/PIU
CAPACITY SUPPORT (TRAINING)			
CS1	<p>Training shall be provided to relevant staff of ALRI/PMU, MEWR PIU, and other involved agencies on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – The World Bank Environmental and Social Framework and requirements of the ESSs – The ESMF and RPF prepared for the project; – Relevant occupational health and safety, issues including COVID-19 precautions; – Gender Action Plan, SEP and GRM implementation; – Labor Management Procedures; and – Prevention of and response to sexual exploitation and abuse, and sexual harassment. 	<p>Training to start within two months of the Project effectiveness, and, thereafter, regularly throughout project implementation.</p>	ALRI/PMU and MEWR/PIU

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
CS2	<p>Training for Contractors', subcontractors', and supervising firms' workers on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Occupational health and safety including on emergency prevention and preparedness and response arrangements to emergency situations; – COVID-19 infection safety awareness and other health issues including HIV; – Community health and safety; – Code of Conduct requirements concerning interactions with communities; – SEA/SH risk prevention and Labor Management Procedures; and – Employee and community Grievance Mechanisms. 	All workers will receive a comprehensive training on commencement of their contract with the Project. Thereafter, there will be regular repetition of each topic through daily "tool-box" talks and other regular trainings.	Contractors, ALRI/PMU and MEWR/PIU