

Republic of Tajikistan

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Committee for Environmental Protection under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan

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RESILAND CA+: Tajikistan Resilient Landscape Restoration Project

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ENVIRONMENTAL and SOCIAL COMMITMENT PLAN (ESCP)

November 19, 2021

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL COMMITMENT PLAN

1. The Republic of Tajikistan (hereafter, the Recipient) shall implement the RESILAND CA+:Tajikistan Resilient Landscape Restoration Project (hereafter, the Project) through the Committee for Environmental Protection under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan (CEP) supported by the Implementation Group established under the CEP (CEP IG) in collaboration with the Recipient's State Forest Agency, the Recipient's Pasture Reclamation Trust under its Ministry of Agriculture (PRT), and the Recipient's State Institution of the Specially Protected Natural Areas (SISPNA). The International Development Association (hereafter the Association) has agreed to provide financing for the Project.
2. The Recipient shall implement material 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 out material measures and actions, any specific documents or plans, as well as the timing for each of these.
3. The Recipient shall also comply with the provisions of any other E&S documents required under the ESF and referred to in this ESCP, such as Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF); site specific- Environmental and Social Impact Assessments/Environmental and Social Management Plans (ESIA/ESMPs); Labor Management Procedures (LMP); Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF); Process Framework (PF); Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP), Biodiversity Management Plan (BMP) and the timelines specified in those Environment and Social documents.
4. The Recipient is responsible for compliance with all requirements of the ESCP even when implementation of specific measures and actions is conducted by the CEP through IG referenced in 1. above.
5. Implementation of the material measures and actions set out in this ESCP shall be monitored and reported to the Association by the Recipient as 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.
6. As agreed by the Association and the Recipient, 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 Recipient shall agree to the changes with the Association 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 Association and the Recipient. The Recipient shall promptly disclose the updated ESCP.
7. Where Project changes, unforeseen circumstances, or Project performance result in changes to the risks and impacts during Project implementation, the Recipient 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	<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 Environment and Social documents required under the ESCP, stakeholder engagement activities, functioning of the grievance mechanism(s).</p>	Biannually throughout Project implementation.	CEP
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. Provide sufficient detail regarding the incident or accident, findings of the Root Cause Analysis (RCA), 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.</p> <p>Include in bidding documents of contractors that prompt notification of accident and incidents remain inclusive under contractor’s Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP). Ensure and monitor that an incident register at all construction sites is kept by the contractors throughout Project implementation.</p>	Promptly after taking notice of the incident or accident, but no later than two calendar days from learning of its occurrence. Follow-on reporting with root cause analysis will be provided within a timeframe acceptable to the Association.	CEP

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
ESS 1: ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RISKS AND IMPACTS			
1.1	<p>ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE</p> <p>The Recipient shall establish and maintain the CEP IG with qualified staff and resources to support management of Environment and Social risks and the delivery of actions agreed in this ESCP. The CEP IG shall include one Environmental Specialist and one Social Specialist on staff and shall contract consultants, as necessary, for support in specific areas that may include, but is not limited to, pest management, biodiversity, and stakeholder engagement.</p> <p>Contractors for works shall be required to assign qualified E&S experts for sub-projects' E&S risk management by including this requirement in the bidding documents for works.</p>	<p>Establish CEP IG and recruit relevant staff within one month of the Effective Date, and maintain IG and retain staff throughout Project implementation</p> <p>Throughout Project Implementation.</p>	CEP
1.2	<p>ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK (ESMF)</p> <p>Implement the ESMF prepared, disclosed, consulted upon, and adopted for the Project, which outlines the guiding principles of environmental and social screening, assessment, review, management, and monitoring procedures for all envisaged activities.</p>	Throughout Project implementation.	CEP
1.2.1	<p>The ESMF includes a check-list for determining if and when site-specific environmental and social assessments (ESA) (e.g. ESIA/ESMP, BMP) shall be required for proposed activities.</p> <p>The associated facilities of the sub-projects as well as cumulative impacts shall also be taken into consideration through preparation of site-specific ESIA/ESMPs, Biodiversity Management Plans. Cumulative impacts assessment will be implemented as part of ESIA.</p>	ESA for the relevant sub-project activities shall be prepared, disclosed and consulted upon before tendering of works for the relevant sub-projects. The requirements and management measures specified in these documents shall be implemented during the works (construction) and operation of those sub projects.	CEP
1.3	<p>GENDER ACTION PLAN (GAP)</p> <p>Conduct gender gap analysis 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>	The GAP shall be prepared, consulted on, and disclosed not later than two months after the Effective Date, and implemented throughout Project implementation.	CEP

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
1.4	<p>MANAGEMENT TOOLS AND INSTRUMENTS</p> <p>Screen any proposed sub-project in accordance with the ESMF prepared for the Project and, thereafter, ensure drafting, disclosing and implementing any required sub-project ESIA/ESMPs in a manner acceptable to the Association.</p> <p>Based on conducted sub-projects ESIA/ESMPs, incorporate the relevant environment and social issues and/or plans, along with the LMP, into the Environmental, Social, Health and Safety (ESHS) specifications of contracts for civil works or landscape restoration. Thereafter, ensure that the contractors will be required to comply with the ESHS specifications of their respective contracts.</p>	Prior to the preparation of all bidding documents.	CEP
ESS 2: LABOR AND WORKING CONDITIONS			
2.1	<p>LABOR MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES (LMP)</p> <p>The LMP prepared, disclosed, consulted upon and adopted for the Project shall be implemented to ensure adequate occupational health and safety measures (including emergency preparedness and response measures), to ensure there is no use of child or forced labor, setting out grievance arrangements for Project workers, ensuring that the grievance mechanism (GM) is equipped or adapted to address SEA/SH allegations, and incorporating labor requirements, standard Codes of Conduct to prevent Sexual Exploitation and Abuse and Sexual Harassment (SEA/SH) into the ESHS specifications of the procurement documents and contracts with contractors and supervising firms.</p>	LMP shall be implemented starting on the Effective Date and throughout Project implementation.	CEP
2.2	<p>GRIEVANCE MECHANISM FOR PROJECT WORKERS</p> <p>Establish, maintain, and operate a locally based Grievance Mechanism specifically for Project workers as described in the LMP and consistent with ESS2.</p>	The grievance mechanism for project workers shall be made operational prior to engaging project staff and maintained throughout Project implementation.	CEP

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
2.3	<p>OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY (OHS) MEASURES</p> <p>Prepare, disclose, consult upon, adopt, and thereafter implement occupational, health and safety (OHS) measures that are specified in the LMP and the ESMP for sub-projects.</p> <p>Ensure that contractors develop, implement, and maintain OHS plan(s) for their work/ sub-projects.</p> <p>Monitor that occupational health and safety standards are met at workplaces in line with national occupational health and safety legislation, ESS2 OHS requirements, and WHO and WB guidelines on COVID-19 prevention.</p>	<p>Prior to implementation of sub-projects.</p> <p>Before the commencement of sub-projects</p> <p>Throughout Project implementation and report in semi-annual (six months) project progress reports.</p>	CEP
ESS 3: RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT			
3.1	<p>RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT: 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. Assess risks associated with project activities and impacts and propose mitigation measures related to relevant requirement of ESS3, including raw materials, water use, air pollution, hazardous materials, organic and pesticides and fertilizers, hazardous waste included in all site specific ESMPs, as relevant.</p>	<p>Respective resource efficiency and pollution prevention measures developed as part of sub-project specific ESIA's, including Resource Management Plan, Waste/Hazardous Waste Management Plan; implemented throughout the project</p> <p>The plans shall be reviewed and cleared by the Association before commencement of works at any of the sites.</p> <p>The plans shall be implemented throughout Project implementation</p>	CEP
ESS 4: COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY			
4.1	<p>COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY</p> <p>Adopt and implement measures and actions to assess and manage specific risks and impacts to the community arising from Project activities including COVID-19 risks and precautions; traffic management and safety; pollution and waste management; pest management; and the prevention of and response to sexual exploitation and abuse, and sexual harassment, and ensure these measures are included in the ESMPs, which shall be prepared in accordance with the ESMF, in a manner acceptable to the Association.</p>	<p>Adopt prior to commencement of any sub-project works and implement throughout the Project implementation; report in semi-annual (six months) Project progress reports.</p>	CEP

ESS 5: LAND ACQUISITION, RESTRICTIONS ON LAND USE AND INVOLUNTARY RESETTLEMENT			
5.1	<p>RESETTLEMENT POLICY FRAMEWORK (RPF) Prepare, where required, disclose, consult upon, and adopt site-specific resettlement action plans (RAPs) in accordance with ESS 5</p> <p>Implement the RPF and site-specific RAPs</p>	<p>The RPF shall be implemented throughout Project implementation.</p> <p>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.</p>	CEP
5.2	<p>PROCESS FRAMEWORK (PF): The PF prepared for the Project shall be implemented to prevent, mitigate, and avoid the risks related to restriction on land use and access to natural resources that cause a community or groups within community to lose access to resource usage, including legally designated protected areas, forests, or biodiversity areas to be restored in connection with the Project.</p> <p>Prepare, where required, disclose, consult upon, adopt, and implement site-specific Action Plans as detailed in the Process Framework, in a manner acceptable to the Association in accordance with ESS 5.</p>	<p>The PF shall be implemented throughout Project implementation.</p>	CEP
ESS 6: BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF LIVING NATURAL RESOURCES			
6.1	<p>BIODIVERSITY MANAGEMENT PLAN (BMP): Respective measure to manage biodiversity risks developed and reflected in specific ESMPs; if appropriate, Biodiversity Management Plans (BMP) developed</p>	<p>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.</p> <p>Apply mitigation measures throughout Project implementation and report in semi-annual (six months) project progress reports.</p>	CEP
ESS 7: INDIGENOUS PEOPLES/SUB-SAHARAN AFRICAN HISTORICALLY UNDERSERVED TRADITIONAL LOCAL COMMUNITIES			
ESS 7 is not relevant for the project.			
ESS 8: CULTURAL HERITAGE			
8.1	<p>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.</p>	<p>ESIA/ESMPs (including Chance Find Procedure) shall be prepared prior to tendering works and will be implemented throughout Project implementation</p>	CEP
ESS 9: FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES			
ESS 9 is not relevant for the project.			

ESS 10: STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION DISCLOSURE			
10.1	STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN Implement the SEP throughout the project life cycle	Ensure SEP implementation throughout Project implementation	CEP
10.2	PROJECT GRIEVANCE MECHANISM Maintain, and operate a grievance mechanism, as described in the SEP.	Maintain and operate throughout project implementation.	CEP
CAPACITY SUPPORT (TRAINING)			
CS1	<p>Training shall be provided to relevant staff of CEP IG, and other involved agencies, including the State Forest Agency, the PRT and the SISPA on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – The World Bank Environmental and Social Framework and requirements of the ESSs – The ESMF, RPF, and PF prepared for the project; – Biodiversity management issues and best practices; – 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 SEA/SH. 	Training to start within two months of the Effective Date, and to be provided throughout project implementation as needed.	CEP
CS2	<p>Training for Project 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, community health and safety; and – SEA/SH risk prevention and Labor Management Procedures 	The trainings shall be delivered at the commencement of engagement of Project workers, followed by, at minimum, one annual refresher training.	CEP