

Republic of Uzbekistan
Ministry of Water Resources

**National Irrigation and Energy Efficiency Improvement
Project (P504600)**

Draft for Appraisal

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

October 17, 2024

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL COMMITMENT PLAN

[The below paragraphs contain general undertakings about the ESCP that are standard. They are to be used verbatim across all projects. Any adjustment should be minor and drafted in consultation with the project lawyer and LEGEN.]

1. The Republic of Uzbekistan (the Borrower) will implement the National Irrigation and Energy Efficiency Improvement Project (the Project), with the involvement of the Ministry of Water Resources (MWR) and its Center for Implementation of Foreign Investment Projects in Water Sector (the Center), as set out in the Financing Agreement (the Agreement). The International Development Association (the Bank), has agreed to provide financing for the Project, as set out in referred Agreement.
2. The Borrower 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 Bank. The ESCP is a part of the Agreement. Unless otherwise defined in this ESCP, capitalized terms used in this ESCP have the meanings ascribed to them in the Agreement.
3. Without limitation to the foregoing, this ESCP sets out material measures and actions that the Borrower shall carry out or cause to be carried out, including, as applicable, their respective timeframes; institutional, staffing, training, monitoring and reporting arrangements; and grievance management. The ESCP also sets out the environmental and social (E&S) documents that shall be prepared or updated, consulted, disclosed and implemented under the Project, consistent with the ESSs, in form and substance acceptable to the Bank. Said E&S documents may be revised from time to time with prior written agreement by the Bank. As provided for under the referred Agreement, the Borrower shall ensure that there are sufficient funds available to cover the costs of implementing the ESCP.
4. As agreed by the Bank and the Borrower, this ESCP will be revised from time to time, if necessary, to reflect adaptive management of Project changes or unforeseen circumstances or in response to Project performance. In such circumstances, the Bank and the Borrower agree to update the ESCP to reflect these changes through an exchange of letters signed between the Bank and the Borrower's Representative specified in the Agreement. The Borrower shall promptly disclose the updated ESCP.
5. The subsection on "Indicators for Implementation Readiness" below identifies the actions and measures to be monitored to assess Project readiness to begin implementation in accordance with this ESCP. Nevertheless, all actions and measures in this ESCP shall be implemented as set out in the "Timeframe" column below irrespective of whether they are listed in the referred subsection.

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS AND CAPACITY SUPPORT			
A	<p>ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE</p> <p>Maintain the already existing Center for Implementation of Foreign Investment Projects in Water Sector (hereafter called the Center) under the Ministry of Water Resources of Uzbekistan with qualified staff and resources to support management of environmental, social, health and safety (E&S) risks and impacts of the Project including one environmental specialist, one social safeguard specialist and one resettlement specialist , all with experience and qualifications acceptable to the Bank, to be responsible for ensuring full compliance with the ESSs, ESCP, and relevant instruments.</p> <p>Contractors shall appoint an Environmental and Social Development Specialist and a Health & Safety Specialist before site mobilization.</p>	<p>Specialists of the Center responsible for Environmental and Social oversight will be recruited prior to Project Effectiveness.</p> <p>Appoint full time one environmental specialist, one social safeguard specialist and one resettlement specialist, no later than 60 days after Project effectiveness.</p> <p>Thereafter maintained throughout Project implementation.</p>	<p>Ministry of Water Resources (MWR).</p> <p>The Center</p>
B	<p>CAPACITY BUILDING PLAN/MEASURES</p> <p>As part of project launch activities, conduct ESF training in Tashkent and targeted project regions for the following audiences:</p> <p>Responsible staff involved in the project.</p> <p>The Center staff</p> <p>Regional staffs of involved in the project</p> <p>Contractors and site supervisors</p> <p>Main topics:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.Environmental and Social Framework. 2. Labor management procedures, including Handling workers’ and beneficiaries’ Grievances. 3.Prevention and response to potential cases of GBV/SEA/SH and application of Codes of Conduct. 4. E&S risk management including OHS/EHS 5. Community health and safety including SEA/SH 6. Pesticide management and IPM (integrated pest management) 7. Emergency prevention, preparedness, and response arrangements <p>Require Contractors to deliver training of contracted workers and subcontractor’s workers to raise awareness about their rights and obligations and OHS risks and the requirements consistent with Project LMP (including workers’ Code of Conduct) which will be embedded to the Contractor’s ESMP, emergency prevention, preparedness, and response arrangements</p>	<p>Prior to the commencement of works and thereafter throughout Project implementation.</p>	<p>The Center</p>
MONITORING AND REPORTING			

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
C	<p>REGULAR REPORTING</p> <p>Prepare and submit to the Bank regular monitoring reports on the environmental, social, health and safety (E&S) performance of the Project. The reports shall include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Status of preparation and implementation of E&S documents required under the ESCP. • Summary of stakeholder engagement activities carried out as per the Stakeholder Engagement Plan. • Complaints submitted to the grievance mechanism, the grievance log, and progress made in resolving them. • E&S performance of contractors and subcontractors as reported through monthly contractors' and supervision firms' reports. • Number and status of resolution of incidents and accidents reported under action E below. • Reporting shall also cover compliance of the Labor Management Procedures (LMP), and findings of Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA), and Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP), and Training/Capacity Building. 	Submit semiannual reports to the Bank throughout Project implementation, commencing after the Effective Date. Submit each report to the Bank no later than 30 days after the end of each reporting period.	The Center.
D	<p>CONTRACTORS' MONTHLY REPORTS</p> <p>Require contractors and supervising firms to provide monthly monitoring reports on E&S performance in accordance with the metrics specified in the respective bidding documents and contracts and submit such reports to the Bank.</p>	Submit the monthly reports to the Bank as annexes to the reports to be submitted under action C above.	The Center.
E	<p>INCIDENTS AND ACCIDENTS</p> <p>Notify the Bank of any incident or accident relating 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 those resulting in death or significant injury to workers or the public; acts of violence, discrimination or protest; unforeseen impacts to cultural heritage or biodiversity resources; pollution of the environment; dam failure; forced or child labor; displacement without due process (forced eviction); allegations of sexual exploitation or abuse (SEA), or sexual harassment (SH); or disease outbreaks. Provide available details of the incident or accident to the Bank upon request.</p> <p>Arrange for an appropriate review of the incident or accident to establish its immediate, underlying and root causes. Prepare, agree with the Bank, and implement a Corrective Action Plan that sets out the measures and actions to be taken to address the incident or accident and prevent its recurrence.</p>	<p>Notify the Bank no later than 48 hours after learning of the incident or accident. Provide available details upon request.</p> <p>Provide review report and Corrective Action Plan to the Bank no later than 10 days following the submission of the initial notice, unless a different timeframe is agreed to in writing by the Bank.</p>	The Center.

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
ESS 1: ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RISKS AND IMPACTS			
1.1	<p>ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL ASSESSMENTS AND/OR PLANS</p> <p>Prepare and implement an Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA), and corresponding Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) for the Component 1 of the Project, consistent with the relevant ESSs.</p>	Adopt the ESIA and ESMP and incorporate as part of the respective bidding documents for the Component 1 prior to commencement of works, and thereafter implement the ESIA and ESMP throughout Project implementation.	The Center.
1.2	<p>MANAGEMENT OF CONTRACTORS</p> <p>Incorporate the relevant aspects of the ESCP, including, relevant E&S instruments, the Labor Management Procedures, and code of conduct, into the E&S specifications of the procurement documents and contracts with contractors and supervising firms. Require Contractors to develop Contractor's ESMPs, including OHS Management, Waste Management, Traffic Management, Community Health and Safety, Landscape Restoration, and other plans and method statements in accordance with ESHS specifications included in their contracts all to the satisfaction of Supervision Engineer and Evaluation and Monitoring Consultant (where one is contracted) and the Center.</p> <p>Thereafter, ensure that Contractors comply with the ESHS specifications of their respective contracts.</p> <p>Thereafter ensure that the contractors and supervising firms comply and that they require their subcontractors to comply with the E&S specifications of their respective contracts. Provide copies of the relevant contracts with contractors/subcontractors and supervision firms to the Bank.</p>	<p>As part of the preparation of procurement documents and respective contracts. Supervise contractors throughout Project implementation.</p> <p><i>Ensure adherence with ESHS specifications and Contractor's ESMPs prior to commencement of works and supervise throughout the life of respective civil works contracts..</i></p> <p>Copies of relevant contracts provided to the Bank upon request.</p>	The Center.
1.3	<p>TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE</p> <p>Carry out the consultancies, studies (including feasibility studies, if applicable), capacity building, training, and any other technical assistance activities under the Project, in accordance with terms of reference acceptable to the Bank, that are consistent with the ESSs. Thereafter prepare and finalize the outputs of such activities in compliance with the terms of reference.</p>	<p>Prior to the preparation of procurement documents.</p> <p>Supervise consultants throughout Project implementation.</p>	The Center.
ESS 2: LABOR AND WORKING CONDITIONS			
2.1	<p>LABOR MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES</p>	<p><i>Implement the LMP throughout Project implementation.</i></p> <p>Measures concerning suppliers shall be adopted before launching</p>	The Center.

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
	Develop, disclose and implement a Labor Management Procedure (LMP), in consonance with ESS2 and the Uzbek national labor laws to guide working conditions as mitigation measures of labor related risks for the Project. The LMP will include, 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. Ensure that all contractors for civil works are also in full compliance with all provisions of the LMP.	the procurement process for the relevant Project activities and implemented thereafter throughout the relevant Project activities.	
2.2	<p>OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY MANAGEMENT PLAN</p> <p>Prepare and implement an OHS Management Plan to assess and manage the OHS risks and impacts of the Project.</p> <p>Ensure that contractors identify measures for OHS risk management based on a thorough assessment of site-specific hazards and develop, adopt, implement, and update periodically, as required, the Contractors OHS plans consistent with the Project LMP and ESIA/ESMP in the manner acceptable to the Bank and in compliance with the requirements of ESS2 and national legislation of Uzbekistan.</p> <p>Ensure that contractors and supervision Consultants teams have designated staff responsible for the implementation of OHS measures.</p>	Prepare the OHS Management Plan as part of the C-ESMP prior to commencement of construction works, and thereafter implement the plan throughout Project implementation.	The contractor The Center
2.3	<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 to engaging Project workers and thereafter maintain and operate it throughout Project implementation.	The Center. The Contractor
ESS 3: RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT			
3.1	<p>WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN</p> <p>Prepare and implement a Waste Management Plan (WMP), as part of the ESMP prepared for the Project, to manage hazardous and non-hazardous wastes, consistent with ESS3.</p>	Prepare the WMP prior to construction works, and thereafter implement the WMP throughout Project implementation.	The Center. The contractor.
3.2	<p>RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT</p> <p>Incorporate resource efficiency and pollution prevention and management measures in the ESMP to be prepared under action 1.1 above.</p>	Same timeframe as for the preparation and implementation of the ESMP.	The Center. The contractor.

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
3.3	<p>EFFICIENT USE OF WATER RESOURCES</p> <p>Ensure that designs prepared for the rehabilitation of the selected irrigation schemes respond to the objective of maximizing efficiency of water use and energy saving, and that designed capacity and operational arrangements for the schemes enable meeting MWR's requirement.</p> <p>Promote the use of water saving irrigation technologies among water users served by the schemes selected for the Project support.</p>	Include the requirement for maximizing water and energy savings into the TORs of design Consultants prior to the commencement of consultant selection.	The Center.
ESS 4: COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY			
4.1	<p>TRAFFIC AND ROAD SAFETY</p> <p>Incorporate measures to manage traffic and road safety risks, in Traffic Management Plans (TMPs), for each work site as required in the ESMP. Ensure that Implementing contractors develop and implement a site-specific traffic management plan (as part of the C-ESMP) with details on traffic volume, routes and time of travel.</p>	<p>Same timeframe as for the preparation and implementation of the ESMP.</p> <p>The C-ESMPs must be reviewed and cleared by the Bank before commencement of works at any of the sites will be adopted and implemented throughout Project implementation</p>	The Center.
4.2	<p>COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY</p> <p>Assess and manage specific risks and impacts to the community arising from Project activities, such as infrastructure design and equipment design and safety, safety of services, traffic and road safety, community exposure to health issues, management and safety of hazardous materials, erosion, landslide, exposure to contaminants, emergency preparedness and response, O&M issues include mitigation measures in the ESMPs to be prepared in accordance with the ESIA, in line with ESS4 and in a manner acceptable to the World Bank.</p>	Same timeframe as for the preparation and implementation of the ESMPs.	The Center.
4.3	<p>SEA AND SH RISKS</p> <p>Develop and disclose a Gender Action and Monitoring Plan (GAP).</p> <p>Assess site specific SEA/SH risk using tool for SEA/SH risks assessment as part of ESMP, if required, a SEA/SH risks assessment shall be conducted and an action plan for risks management/ mitigation plan shall be developed, if necessary. The Center will ensure that contractors and subcontractors bidding documents provide requirements for GBV risks mitigation including signing of Code of Conduct for employees /workers/laborers.</p>	Adopt the GAP with the same timeframe as for the preparation of the LMP, and thereafter implement the Gender Action and Monitoring Plan (GAP) including SEA/SH Action Plan throughout Project implementation.	The Center.
ESS 5: LAND ACQUISITION, RESTRICTIONS ON LAND USE AND INVOLUNTARY RESETTLEMENT			

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
5.1	<p>RESETTLEMENT [FRAMEWORK] [PLAN] or [PLANS]</p> <p>Adopt and implement Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF) consistent with the requirements of the ESS5 before acquiring the land / restricting land use, or causing the impacts associated with involuntary resettlement, and carrying out the associated civil works.</p> <p>Adopt and implement a resettlement action plan (RAP) for each activity under the Project for which the RAP is required and consistent with ESS5. Whenever the displacement affects people's livelihoods, the RAPs will include livelihood restoration plans to maintain or improve people's living conditions. Provide funding for the implementation of the RAPs in a timely manner. Ensure that RAPs are approved by the Bank and fully implemented before carrying out the associated activities, in a manner acceptable to the Bank.</p> <p>The Project will ensure monitoring and reporting on such land acquisition and resettlement activities throughout Project implementation as part of regular reporting.</p>	<p><i>Implement the RPF throughout Project implementation..</i></p> <p>Adopt and implement the respective RAPs prior to launch of bidding documents, including ensuring that before taking possession of the land and related assets, full compensation has been provided and, as applicable, displaced people have been resettled, moving allowances have been provided, and that livelihood restoration measures have been implemented as needed.</p>	The Center.
ESS 6: BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF LIVING NATURAL RESOURCES			
6.1	<p>BIODIVERSITY RISKS AND IMPACTS</p> <p>Prepare, adopt and implement a Biodiversity Management Plan (BMP) where significant risk and adverse impacts on biodiversity have been identified, consistent with ESS6, and in accordance with the guidelines of the ESIA prepared for the Project, Require Contractors to include biodiversity management and compensatory measures into Contractors ESMPs to the satisfaction of Supervision Engineer (where one is contracted) and the MEPA and implement them</p>	Prepare the BMP during subproject screening process, and thereafter implement the BMP throughout Project implementation.	The Center and Contractor
ESS 7: INDIGENOUS PEOPLES/SUB-SAHARAN AFRICAN HISTORICALLY UNDERSERVED TRADITIONAL LOCAL COMMUNITIES			
No people/group of people identified as Indigenous Peoples in the project area, therefore no mitigation measures to be undertaken under ESS7 for the Project.			
ESS 8: CULTURAL HERITAGE			
8.1	<p>CHANCE FINDS</p> <p>Describe and implement the chance finds procedures, as part of the ESIA of the Project.</p>	Describe the chance find procedures in the ESIA. Implement the procedures throughout Project implementation.	The Center.
ESS 9: FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES			
ESS 9 is not relevant for the project			
ESS 10: STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION DISCLOSURE			

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
10.1	<p>STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN</p> <p>Adopt and implement a Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) for the Project, consistent 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.</p>	<p><i>Update the SEP no later than 60 days after Project effectiveness, and thereafter implement the SEP throughout Project implementation.</i></p>	The Center.
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>The grievance mechanism shall be equipped to receive, register, and facilitate the resolution of SEA/SH complaints, including through the referral of survivors to relevant gender-based violence service providers, all in a safe, confidential, and survivor-centered manner.</p>	<p>Establish the grievance mechanism in the timeframe established in 10.1, and thereafter maintain and operate the mechanism throughout Project implementation.</p>	The Center.
INDICATORS FOR IMPLEMENTATION READINESS			
<p>The following actions are indicators for implementation readiness:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Recruitment and training of E&S staff within Project Implementation Unit ii) Conduct ESF training in Tashkent and targeted project regions iii) Adopt Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA), and corresponding Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) – (1.1) iv) Adopt Labor Management Procedures – (2.1) v) Establish Grievance Mechanism – (2.3, 10.2) vi) Adopt Gender Action and Monitoring Plan (GAP). – (4.3) vii) Adopt Resettlement Policy Framework – (5.1) viii) Adopt Stakeholder Engagement Plan – (10.1) 			