

# **MONGOLIA**

**MONGOLIA COVID-19 EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND HEALTH SYSTEM  
PREPAREDNESS PROJECT (P173799) AND ADDITIONAL FINANCING  
(P175730)**

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

**January 26, 2021**

## ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL COMMITMENT PLAN

1. Mongolia (hereinafter the Recipient) shall implement the COVID-19 Emergency Response and Health System Preparedness Project (P173799) including the activities to be supported under the Additional Financing (P175730) Project (the **Project**), with the involvement of the Ministry of Health. International Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the International Development Association (collectively, hereinafter the Bank) has agreed to provide financing for the Project.
2. The Recipient 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 Recipient, 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. Implementation of the material measures and actions set out in this ESCP shall be monitored and reported to the Bank by the Recipient as required by the ESCP and the provisions of the Loan Agreement and Financing Agreement.
4. As agreed by the Bank 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 update the ESCP to reflect the agreed-upon changes. Agreement on changes to the ESCP shall be documented through an exchange of letters signed between the Bank and the Recipient. The Recipient shall promptly disclose the updated ESCP.
5. 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
<b>MONITORING AND REPORTING</b>			
A	<b>REGULAR REPORTING:</b> 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, stakeholder engagement activities and grievances log.	Quarterly throughout Project implementation	<i>PIU at the Ministry of Health</i>
B	<b>INCIDENTS AND ACCIDENTS:</b> 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 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.	Minor incidents will be reflected in the six-monthly reports to the Bank, major issues will be flagged to the Bank immediately.  A report would be provided to the Bank, as requested.	<i>PIU at the Ministry of Health</i>
<b>ESS 1: ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RISKS AND IMPACTS</b>			
1.1	<b>ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE:</b> The Ministry of Health shall establish and maintain a Project Implementation Unit with qualified staff and resources to support management of ESHS risks and impacts of the Project including (i) a community engagement specialist experienced in working with poor, vulnerable and remotely located communities; (ii) facility health and safety specialist; (iii) environmental health specialist; iv) Vaccination Specialist; and v) Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist.  The PIU will also contract UNICEF and WHO to support Project activities. The PIU shall ensure that these organizations follow the Project’s ESMF and comply with all relevant ESSs.	Key staff to be appointed prior to commencement of Project activities and maintained throughout Project implementation  1. Community engagement specialist 2. Facility health and safety specialist 3. Environmental health specialist 4. Vaccination Specialist 5. Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist	<i>PIU at the Ministry of Health</i>

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS	TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
<p>1.2 <b>ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL ASSESSMENT/MANAGEMENT PLANS AND INSTRUMENTS/ CONTRACTORS</b></p> <p>a. Assess the environmental and social risks and impacts of proposed Project activities, in accordance with an Environmental &amp; Social Management Framework (ESMF) to be prepared, disclosed, consulted and adopted by the Recipient for the Project, the ESSs, the Environmental, Health and Safety Guidelines (EHSGs), and other relevant Good International Industry Practice (GIIP), including relevant WHO guidelines.</p> <p>b. Prepare, disclose, consult, adopt and implement any environmental and social management plans (e.g. health-care waste management plans), instruments or other measures required for the respective Project activities based on the assessment process, in accordance with the ESSs, the ESMF, the EHSGs, and other relevant Good International Industry Practice (GIIP), including relevant WHO guidelines 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, the ESMF, 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 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 is acceptable to the Bank, as set out in the ESMF.</p>	<p>a. ESMF shall be prepared, disclosed, consulted and adopted before the Effective Date. Assessment shall be conducted before the carrying out of the relevant Project activities.</p> <p>b. Plans/instruments shall be prepared, disclosed, consulted and adapted before the carrying out of the relevant Project activities, and thereafter implemented throughout the carrying out of such activities.</p> <p>c. The relevant ESHS measures shall be incorporated into the procurement documents before launching the procurement process for the relevant Project activities and shall thereafter be complied with 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><i>PIU at the Ministry of Health</i></p>

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1.3	<b>EXCLUSIONS:</b> Exclude activities that may cause long term, permanent and/or irreversible (e.g. loss of major natural habitat) adverse impacts; have high probability of causing serious adverse effects to human health and/or the environment other than during treatment of COVID-19 cases and all the other excluded activities set out in the ESMF of the Project.	During the assessment process conducted under action 1.2.a above	<i>PIU at the Ministry of Health</i>
1.4.	<b>CONTINGENT EMERGENCY RESPONSE FINANCING</b> a. Ensure that the Emergency Response Manual and ESMF include a description of the ESHS assessment and management arrangements for the implementation of the Contingent Emergency Response Component of the Project, in accordance with the ESSs.  b. Prepare, disclose, consult and adopt any environmental and social (E&S) management plans or instruments which may be required for activities under the Contingent Emergency Response Component, in accordance with the Emergency Response Manual, the ESMF and the ESSs, and thereafter implement the measures and actions required under said E&S management plans or instruments, within the timeframes specified in said E&S management plans or instruments.	a) The adoption of the Emergency Response Manual and relevant E&S instruments is a withdrawal condition in the Loan Agreement and Financing Agreement for the Project.  b) The E&S management plans or instruments shall be prepared, disclosed, consulted, and thereafter adopted before the carrying out of the relevant Project activities under the Contingent Emergency Response Component. The E&S management plans or instruments shall be implemented in accordance with their terms, throughout Project implementation.	<i>PIU at the Ministry of Health</i>
<b>ESS 2: LABOR AND WORKING CONDITIONS</b>			
2.1	<b>LABOR MANAGEMENT:</b> The Project shall be carried out in accordance with the applicable requirements of ESS2, in a manner acceptable to the Bank, setting out grievance mechanisms and incorporating labor requirements. These requirements are outlined in the ESMF and Labor Management Procedures (LMP).	Throughout Project implementation.	<i>PIU at the Ministry of Health</i>
2.2	<b>OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY:</b> The Recipient shall implement adequate occupational health and safety measures (including emergency preparedness and response 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 Bank.	Throughout Project implementation.	<i>PIU at the Ministry of Health</i>
2.3	<b>WORKERS CODE OF CONDUCT:</b> The Recipient shall ensure that all health workers adhere to the WHO Code of Ethics and Professional conduct.	Throughout Project implementation	<i>PIU at the Ministry of Health</i>

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
2.4	<b>GRIEVANCE MECHANISM FOR PROJECT WORKERS</b> Establish, maintain, and operate a grievance redress mechanism for Project workers, as described in the Labor Management Procedures and consistent with ESS2, with focal points to address these grievances established within MOH.	Throughout Project implementation	<i>PIU at the Ministry of Health</i>
2.5	<b>CHILD LABOR AND MINIMUM AGE</b> The Recipient will prohibit child labor (any person under the age of 18) due to the hazardous work situation.	Throughout Project implementation	<i>PIU at the Ministry of Health</i>
<b>ESS 3: RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT</b>			
3.1	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 EHSGs, 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	<i>PIU at the Ministry of Health</i>
<b>ESS 4: COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY</b>			
4.1	<b>COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY:</b> 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; establish and implement appropriate quality management systems to manage the risks and the impacts that services provided and activities carried out under the Project may have on community health and safety; manage the risks of the use of security personnel; and prevent and respond to sexual exploitation and abuse, and sexual harassment.	Throughout Project implementation	<i>PIU at the Ministry of Health</i>
4.2	<b>LIFE AND FIRE SAFETY RISK:</b> Relevant aspects of this standard shall be considered, as needed, under action 1.2 above regarding measure to prevent or mitigate life and fire safety risks from the supply of oxygen delivery systems. These will be included in the ESMF and subsequent specific E&S assessments. In addition, health care facilities that receive funding for the procurement of oxygen delivery system shall review their life and fire safety systems, update their emergency response procedures and ensure these are communicated to staff, and undertake regular drills.	The life and fire safety risk mitigation procedures shall be prepared as part of the ESMF by the Effective Date.  Emergency response procedures for participating health facilities shall be updated before oxygen delivery systems are installed.	<i>PIU at the Ministry of Health</i>

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<p>4.3 <b>USE OF SECURITY PERSONNEL:</b> The following measures shall be adopted, to ensure that the engagement of security personnel to protect lab testing unit, quarantine and isolation and/or vaccination centers are carried out in accordance with the ESSs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Assess the risks and impacts of engagement of the security 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 personnel;</li> <li>b. Adopt and enforce standards, protocols and codes of conduct for the selection and use of security 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;</li> <li>c. Ensure that the security personnel is adequately instructed and trained, prior to development and on a regular basis, on the use of force and appropriate conduct (including in relation to civilian-security engagement, SEA and SH, and other relevant areas), as set out in the Environmental and Social Management Framework..</li> <li>d. Ensure that the stakeholder engagement activities under the Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) include a communication strategy on the involvement of security personnel under the Project;</li> <li>e. Ensure that any concerns or grievances regarding the conduct of security 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 no later than 14 days after being received;</li> </ul>	<p>Throughout Project Implementation</p>	<p><i>PIU at the Ministry of Health National Emergency Committee</i></p>
<p><b>ESS 5: LAND ACQUISITION, RESTRICTIONS ON LAND USE AND INVOLUNTARY RESETTLEMENT</b></p>		
<p>Not relevant.</p>		
<p><b>ESS 6: BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF LIVING NATURAL RESOURCES</b></p>		
<p>Not relevant</p>		
<p><b>ESS 7: INDIGENOUS PEOPLES/SUB-SAHARAN AFRICAN HISTORICALLY UNDERSERVED TRADITIONAL LOCAL COMMUNITIES</b></p>		

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
7.1	<p><b>MEASURES FOR INDIGENOUS PEOPLES:</b> 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 ethnic minority people throughout Project implementation; (ii) implementing procedures, protocols and/or other measures to ensure that ethnic minority peoples have access to Project benefits in an fair, equitable, inclusive and culturally appropriate manner, as set out in the ESMF and the SEP; and (iii) implementing measures to ensure that ethnic minorities are able to access the Project’s grievance mechanism in a culturally appropriate manner.</p>	Throughout Project implementation.	<i>PIU at the Ministry of Health</i>
<b>ESS 8: CULTURAL HERITAGE</b>			
Relevant aspects of this standard shall be considered, as needed, under action 1.2 above.			
<b>ESS 9: FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES</b>			
Not relevant.			
<b>ESS 10: STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION DISCLOSURE</b>			
10.1	<p><b>STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN:</b> Prepare or revise, disclose, consult, adopt and implement a Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) 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>	A SEP was already prepared and disclosed, and shall be consulted, updated and adopted before the Effective Date. The SEP shall be implemented throughout Project implementation.	<i>PIU at the Ministry of Health</i>
10.2	<p><b>GRIEVANCE MECHANISM:</b> An accessible grievance mechanism shall be established, publicized, maintained and operated 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>	Throughout Project implementation.	<i>PIU at the Ministry of Health</i>
<b>CAPACITY SUPPORT (TRAINING)</b>			



MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
CS1	<p>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. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• COVID-19 Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations Laboratory biosafety guidance related to the COVID-19</li> <li>• Specimen collection and shipment</li> <li>• Vaccine storage, transportation, distribution and administration</li> <li>• Standard precautions for COVID-19 patients</li> <li>• Risk communication and community engagement</li> <li>• Medical and hazardous waste management</li> </ul>	<p>No later than 30 days of the Effective Date and periodically with the addition of new Project team members join the Project throughout implementation.</p>	<p><i>PIU at the Ministry of Health</i></p>