

Republic of Cameroon
COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Project

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

July 29, 2020

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL COMMITMENT PLAN

1. Cameroon (hereinafter the **Recipient**) shall implement the Cameroon COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Project (the **Project**) with the involvement of the Ministry of Public Health. The International Development Association (hereinafter 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.
3. The Recipient is responsible for compliance with all requirements of this ESCP even when implementation of specific measures and actions is conducted by the Ministry referenced in paragraph 1 above.
4. 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 shall monitor and assess progress and completion of the material measures and actions throughout implementation of the Project.
5. 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.
6. 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	REGULAR REPORTING: 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, stakeholder engagement activities, incident reports and grievance log.	Starting from the Effective Date (as defined in the Financing Agreement), every six-months during the Project's implementation in conjunction with the Project Reports.	Ministry of Public Health (MoPH) through Performance-Based Financing National Technical Unit (PBF Technical Unit) acting as the Project Implementation Unit.
ESS 1: ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RISKS AND IMPACTS			
1.1	ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE: The Recipient shall maintain the Project Implementation Unit (PBF Technical Unit) with qualified staff and resources to support management of ESHS risks and impacts of the Project including environmental and social risk management specialists. The PBF Technical Unit will include the two current E&S specialists and will recruit an additional Sexual Exploitation and Abuse/Sexual Harassment (SEA/SH) specialist.	<p>PBF Technical Unit to be maintained throughout Project implementation. A SEA/SH specialist shall be recruited not later than 30 days after the Effective Date and thereafter retained throughout Project implementation.</p> <p>The current PBF Technical Unit has E&S specialists who will manage E&S risks for the period following the Effective Date and before the E&S/ SEA/SH staff is recruited.</p>	MoPH/ PBF Technical Unit.

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS	TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
<p>1.2 ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL ASSESSMENT/MANAGEMENT PLANS AND INSTRUMENTS/ CONTRACTORS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 prepared, disclosed and adopted for the Project, including to 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. An Infection Control Medical Waste Management Plan (ICMWMP) that integrates WHO guidance and other Good International Industry Practice (GIIP) will be integrated into the ESMF. b. The ESMF will also screen, identify and guide the management of the risks related to contracting and/or utilizing security forces to support transportation of equipment e.g. rehabilitation of healthcare facilities or other relevant activities supported under the project. In doing so, the environmental and social assessment will be guided by the principles of proportionality and GIIP, and by applicable law, in relation to engaging security forces, rules of conduct, training, equipping, and monitoring of security forces. c. Prepare, disclose, adopt, and implement any environmental and social management plans or other instruments required for the respective Project activities based on the assessment process, in accordance with the ESSs, the ESMF, the World Bank Group Environmental, Health and Safety Guidelines (EHSGs), and other relevant GIIP including relevant WHO Guidelines on COVID-19 response, in accordance with the requirement of the ESS and in a manner acceptable to the Association. d. 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 comply with the ESHS specifications of their respective contracts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The ESMF shall be finalized not later than 30 days after the Effective Date. Between Effective Date and the disclosure and adoption of the ESMF, the Project shall strictly follow current WHO guidance on COVID-19 in a manner consistent with the ESSs. Assessment to be conducted before the carrying out of the relevant Project activities. b. Before the carrying out of the relevant Project activities, and thereafter throughout the carrying out of such activities. c. Before the carrying out of the relevant Project activities, and thereafter throughout the carrying out of such activities. d. Before launching the procurement process for the relevant Project activities, and thereafter throughout the carrying out of such activities. 	<p>MoPH/ PBF Technical Unit</p>

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS	TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
<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 adverse impacts (e.g. loss of natural habitat); • 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 generate social conflict; • Activities that may involve, adverse impacts on cultural heritage; • Activities that would require Free, Prior, Informed Consent (FPIC); • All the other excluded activities set out in the ESMF of the Project. 	<p>During the assessment process conducted under action 1.2.a. above.</p>	<p>MoPH/ PBF Technical Unit</p>
<p>1.4 Provide medical and emergency services and supplies based on the urgency of the need, in line with the latest data related to the prevalence of the cases.</p>	<p>Throughout Project implementation</p>	<p>MoPH/ PBF Technical Unit</p>
<p>ESS 2: LABOR AND WORKING CONDITIONS</p>		
<p>2.1 LABOR MANAGEMENT: The Project shall be carried out in accordance with the applicable requirements of ESS2, in a manner acceptable to the Association, including through, inter alia, implementing adequate occupational health and safety measures (including emergency preparedness and response measures), establishing grievance arrangements for Project workers, and incorporating labor requirements into the ESHS specifications of the procurement documents and contracts with contractors and supervising firms. The Recipient shall adopt and implement Labor Management Procedures (LMP) incorporating the relevant requirements of ESS2.</p> <p>The Recipient will ensure that specific prohibitions will be enacted in the deployment of security personnel for the transportation of equipment or other relevant activities including no child labor and no forced labor.</p>	<p>The LMP shall be prepared and disclosed and adopted not later than 30 days after the Effective Date. The LMP shall be updated and revised periodically as necessary and implemented throughout Project implementation. All other measures specified under this action 2.1 to be implemented throughout the Project implementation period.</p>	<p>MoPH/ PBF Technical Unit</p>
<p>ESS 3: RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT</p>		
<p>Relevant aspects of this standard shall be considered, as needed, under action 1.2 above, including, inter alia, measures to manage health care wastes and other types of hazardous and non-hazardous wastes. An Infection Control Medical Waste Management Plan (ICMWMP) that integrates WHO guidance and other international good practice shall be integrated into the ESMF and finalized not later than 30 days after the Effective Date.</p>		
<p>ESS 4: COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY</p>		

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS	TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
<p>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 (if needed); and prevent and respond to sexual exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment. (SEA/SH).</p> <p>The Recipient will ensure that any security personnel involved in the transportation of medical equipment associated with the Project have been: (i) screened to confirm that they have not engaged in past unlawful or abusive behavior, including SEA, SH or excessive use of force; (ii) adequately instructed and trained, on a regular basis, on the use of force and appropriate behavior and conduct (including in relation to SEA and SH); (iii) deployed in a manner consistent with applicable national law; and (iv) will follow strict rules of engagement, code of conduct, and avoid any escalation.</p> <p>Specifically, in case of the use of security personnel, the Recipient will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Prior to carrying out the transportation of medical equipment involving the use of security personnel, conduct a security risk assessment to assess the level of security risks in the area where the activity will take place and the risks associated to the use of security personnel and to propose mitigation measures to implemented). ii) Prior to carrying out the transportation of medical equipment involving the use of security personnel, sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Ministry of the Defense to set arrangements for the use of such security personnel, and thereafter ensure that such activities are carried out in accordance with such arrangements. iii) Train such security personnel adequately in the use of force, and appropriate conduct toward workers and affected communities. iv) Ensure an efficient monitoring of the security personnel on field. 		
ESS 5: LAND ACQUISITION, RESTRICTIONS ON LAND USE AND INVOLUNTARY RESETTLEMENT		
Not currently relevant.		
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 INDIGENOUS PEOPLES: The Project shall be carried out in accordance with the applicable requirements of ESS7, in a manner acceptable to the Association, including, inter alia, implementing adequate measures to ensure that IP/SSAHUTLCs communities are appropriately informed and can share in the benefits of the Project in an inclusive and culturally appropriate manner with provisions included in the ESMF and SEP.	Throughout Project implementation.	MoPH/ PBF Technical Unit

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
7.2	<p>In case of interventions in areas where IP/SSAHUTLCs live or are settled, site-specific Indigenous Peoples Plans shall be prepared, disclosed and adopted, and thereafter implemented in accordance with the ESMF and SEP to ensure adequate consideration of their specific cultural needs, in form and substance satisfactory of the Association.</p> <p>If IP/SSAHUTLCs are subject to quarantine provisions/policies, site-specific Indigenous Peoples Plans shall be prepared, disclosed and adopted, and thereafter implemented in accordance with the ESMF/ESMP and SEP to ensure adequate consideration of their specific cultural needs, in form and substance satisfactory of the Bank.</p>	Throughout Project implementation.	MoPH/ PBF Technical Unit
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	<p>STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN: Update, disclose and implement the Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) consistent with ESS10, in a form and substance satisfactory to the Association. The SEP shall include measures to address the needs of IP/SSAHUTLCs.</p> <p>The E&S documents disclosed shall also include relevant information about the arrangements to the public about the use of security forces. The project-level GRM shall accept grievances related to security and the use of security personnel as is required for any other complaint, and worker and community concerns related to security personnel shall be addressed.</p>	A draft SEP has already been prepared and disclosed and shall be updated not later than 30 days after the Effective Date. The SEP shall be implemented throughout Project implementation.	MoPH/ PBF Technical Unit
10.2	<p>GRIEVANCE MECHANISM: Accessible grievance arrangements shall be made publicly available to receive and facilitate resolution of concerns and grievances in relation to the Project, consistent with ESS10, in a manner acceptable to the Association.</p>	The project grievance redress mechanism (GRM) shall be operational and adequately resourced not later than 30 days after the Effective Date and thereafter maintained throughout Project implementation.	MoPH/ PBF Technical Unit
CAPACITY SUPPORT (TRAINING)			

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS	TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
<p>Improve capacity of MoPH/ PBF Technical Unit by providing: (i) training for all relevant staff, health workers and other stakeholders such as surface technicians regarding E&S risks and waste management; (ii) training on GRM for complaint management committees; (iii) training to staff of health delivery facilities including other workers on the adequate use of personal protection equipment and on diagnosis, care and notification of positive COVID-19 cases; and (iv) training on the prevention of GBV and SEA/SH and awareness of child protection protocols, on Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs) and other communicable diseases, including to security personnel.</p> <p>The recruitment of a specialized NGO may be necessary to provide some of this training.</p> <p>A comprehensive training plan shall be prepared and shall be properly resourced.</p>	<p>A comprehensive training plan shall be prepared not later than 30 days after the Effective Date. It shall be implemented throughout Project implementation.</p>	<p>MoPH/ PBF Technical Unit</p>