

Republic of Zambia

ZAMBIA COVID-19 EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND  
HEALTH SYSTEMS PREPAREDNESS PROJECT  
ADDITIONAL FINANCING (P176400)

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

**May 2021**

## ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL COMMITMENT PLAN

1. The Republic of Zambia (hereinafter the **Recipient**) will implement the Zambia COVID-19 Emergency Response and Health Systems Preparedness Project Additional Financing (the **Project**), with the involvement of the Ministry of Health (MoH) and the Zambia National Public Health Institute (ZNPHI/PIU). The International Development Association (hereinafter **the Association**) 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 Association.
3. The Recipient is responsible for compliance with all requirements of the ESCP even when implementation of specific measures and actions is conducted by the Ministry, agency or unit referenced in 1. Above or other entities.
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 provisions of the Financing Agreement.
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, through such delegate(s) as it may designate, 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 Association and the Recipient or its duly authorized delegate(s). The Recipient or its duly authorized delegate(s) 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.

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MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
<b>MONITORING AND REPORTING</b>			
A	<p><b>REGULAR REPORTING:</b> 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 and grievances log.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Starting from the Effective Date, submit quarterly, throughout Project implementation period.</li> </ul>	MoH/ZNPHI
B	<p><b>INCIDENTS AND ACCIDENTS:</b> 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 but not limited to any COVID-19 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.</p> <p>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>Notify the Association within 48 hours after learning of the incident or accident</p> <p>A report shall be provided upon request within a timeframe acceptable to the Association.</p>	MoH/ZNPHI
<b>ESS 1: ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RISKS AND IMPACTS</b>			
1.1	<p><b>ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE:</b> The Ministry of Health shall maintain a PIU with qualified staff and resources to support management of ESHS risks and impacts of the Project, including at least: one environmental specialist, one social specialist, and one communications specialist.</p> <p>The Environmental Specialist, Social Specialist and Communications Specialist recruited under the parent project shall be assigned to undertake AF E&amp;S responsibilities for this AF.</p>	<p>Assignment of the Environmental Specialist, Social Specialist and Communication Specialist shall be completed prior to Project Effectiveness and maintained throughout Project Implementation.</p>	MoH/ZNPHI

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<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 the proposed Project activities, in accordance with the Parent Project (PP) Environmental and Social Management Framework (the ESMF), which shall be updated, disclosed, consulted, and adopted to reflect and account for Project activities and ensure compliance of Project activities with 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 or update, 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.</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>e. As part of the ESMF and National Vaccine Development Plan, prepare, adopt and implement a vaccine targeting protocol (the Vaccination Protocol) in line with WHO SAGE values framework and a plan to implement and monitor said protocol to the satisfaction of the Association.</p>	<p>a. The PP ESMF shall be updated, disclosed, consulted, and adopted before Project Effectiveness. Assessment shall be conducted before the carrying out of the relevant Project activities.</p> <p>b. Plans/instruments shall be prepared, disclosed, consulted upon, and adopted 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>e. Before carrying out to the relevant Project activities, and thereafter implemented throughout the carrying out of such activities.</p>	<p>MoH/ZNPHI</p>

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1.3	<p><b>EXCLUSIONS:</b> Exclude the following types of activities as ineligible for financing under the Project:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Laboratory activities that may require BSL3 lab facilities</li> <li>• Activities that may cause long term, permanent and/or irreversible adverse impacts (e.g., loss of natural habitat)</li> <li>• 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</li> <li>• Activities that would require Free Prior Informed Consent under ESS7</li> <li>• Activities that may affect lands or rights of indigenous people or other vulnerable minorities</li> <li>• Activities that may involve permanent resettlement or land acquisition, or adverse impacts on cultural heritage</li> <li>• All the other excluded activities set out in the ESMF</li> </ul>	During the assessment process conducted under action 1.2.a. above.	MoH/ZNPHI
<b>ESS 2: LABOR AND WORKING CONDITIONS</b>			
2.1	<p><b>LABOR MANAGEMENT:</b> The Project shall be carried out in accordance with the applicable requirements of ESS2 including through, inter alia, implementing adequate occupational health and safety measures (including personal protective equipment, and emergency preparedness and response measures), setting out grievance mechanisms for Project workers, and incorporating labor requirements into the ESHS specifications of the procurement documents and contracts with contractors and supervising firms.</p>	Throughout Project implementation. The LMP shall be updated (to reflect additional staffing complement), disclosed, consulted, and adopted before Project Effectiveness.	MoH/ZNPHI
<b>ESS 3: RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT</b>			

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3.1	<p>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 through the parent project ICWMP; and manage the potential impacts of pollution to the air, water and land.</p> <p>2. Complete the baseline assessment of ZEMA licensed hazardous waste contractors and implementation of disposal systems and adopt and implement an action plan to address any identified gaps, including updating general and site specific ICWMPs and the ESMF as needed</p>	<p>1. Throughout Project implementation.</p> <p>2. Present report and action plan satisfactory to the Association as part of ESMF (i.e. before Project Effectiveness), and thereafter implement it throughout Project implementation</p>	MoH/ZNPHI
<b>ESS 4: COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY</b>			
4.1	<p><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; manage the risks of labor influx; and prevent and respond to sexual exploitation and abuse, and sexual harassment.</p>	Throughout Project implementation.	MoH/ZNPHI

<p>4.2</p>	<p><b>USE OF MILITARY OR SECURITY PERSONNEL:</b> The use of the Military or Security Personnel is not currently envisioned for any activities related to the Project. If, however, during Project implementation, the Recipient decides to use its military or security forces, the Recipient shall: (a) prior to any involvement of its military and/or security forces in the carrying out of Project activities, send a written notice to the Association communicating such decision, including the name of the military or security unit; and (b) ensure that all activities carried out by military or security personnel under the Project are under the control of MoH or ZNPHI and undertaken exclusively for the purposes related to the Project and in compliance with the ESSs and the provisions set out under this provision 4.2.</p> <p>In addition, in the event of involvement of military or security Personnel, the following measures shall be adopted, to ensure that the engagement of security or military personnel in the implementation of Project activities or for provision of security to Project workers, sites and/or assets, is 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 or military personnel, and implement measures to manage such risks and impacts, including a stand-alone Security Management Plan, 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 or military personnel;</li> <li>b. Adopt and enforce standards, protocols and codes of conduct for the selection and use of security or military 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 Ministry of Health enters into a memorandum of understanding (MoU), with the line ministry in control of military or security forces and/or the relevant Security or Military Unit, setting out the arrangements for the engagement of the military or security personnel under the Project, including compliance with the relevant requirements of this ESCP;</li> </ul>	<p>Throughout Project Implementation</p>	<p>MOH/ZNPHI</p>
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	<p>d. Ensure that such personnel is adequately instructed and trained, prior to deployment and on a regular basis, on the use of force and appropriate conduct (including in relation to civilian-military engagement, SEA and SH, and other relevant areas), as set out in the Project Operational Manual, ESMF, GBV action plan, as well as the MoU and Security management plan which shall be developed in case the Recipient decides to use security forces or the military in association with any activities under the Project;</p> <p>e. Ensure that the stakeholder engagement activities under the Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) include a communication strategy on the involvement of security or military personnel under the Project;</p> <p>f. Ensure that any concerns or grievances regarding the conduct of security or military personnel are received, monitored, documented (taking into account the need to protect confidentiality), resolved through the Project's grievance mechanism and reported to the Association no later than 2 days after being received; and</p> <p>g. At the Association's written request after consultation with the Recipient: (i) promptly appoint a third-party monitor consultant, with terms of reference, qualifications and experience satisfactory to the Association, to visit and monitor the Project area where military or security personnel are deployed, collect relevant data and communicate with Project stakeholders and beneficiaries; (ii) require the third-party monitor consultant to prepare and submit monitoring reports, which shall be promptly made available to and discussed with the Association; and (iii) promptly take any actions, as may be requested by the Association upon its review of the third-party monitor consultant reports.</p>		
<b>ESS 5: LAND ACQUISITION, RESTRICTIONS ON LAND USE AND INVOLUNTARY RESETTLEMENT</b>			
5.1	Not currently relevant. No civil works, including renovations and constructions, are expected for the Project. Administering of the COVID-19 vaccine will be undertaken in existing health facilities across the project. The risk of land acquisition, restrictions on land use and involuntary settlement shall be considered under the ESMF, and related activities, if any, shall be carried out in accordance with ESS5.		MoH/ZNPHI
<b>ESS 6: BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF LIVING NATURAL RESOURCES</b>			



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6.1	Relevant aspects of this standard shall be considered, as needed, under action 1.2 above.	Throughout Project implementation.	MoH/ZNPPI
<b>ESS 7: INDIGENOUS PEOPLES/SUB-SAHARAN AFRICAN HISTORICALLY UNDERSERVED TRADITIONAL LOCAL COMMUNITIES</b>			
7.1	No specific groups of indigenous peoples or sub-Saharan African historically underserved communities have been identified. Linguistic, cultural and geographic challenges in accessing health care services, particularly vaccination shall be addressed in the Vaccination Protocol in Section 1.2 above and in the communications and engagement strategies including the SEP and GRM in Section 10 below.		MoH/ZNPPI
<b>ESS 8: CULTURAL HERITAGE</b>			
8.1	Relevant aspects of this standard shall be considered, as needed, under action 1.2 above.	Throughout Project implementation.	MoH/ZNPPI
<b>ESS 9: FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES</b>			
	Not relevant.		MoH/ZNPPI
<b>ESS 10: STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION DISCLOSURE</b>			
10.1	<b>STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN: Revise</b> 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. Publicly re-disclose revised SEP.	The SEP prepared and disclosed for this Project shall be consulted upon, updated (to reflect additional requirements for vaccines and update list of stakeholders), and adopted before Project Effectiveness. The SEP shall be implemented throughout Project implementation.	MoH/ZNPPI
10.2	<b>STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT INFORMATION AND DISCLOSURE:</b> Adopt measures as set out in ESMF and SEP to ensure that the carrying out of Project activities includes stakeholder engagement and information disclosure consistent with ESS10, including 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.	Throughout Project implementation.	MoH/ZNPPI

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<p>10.3 <b>GRIEVANCE MECHANISM:</b> Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) under parent project shall be developed, approved and operationalized to receive and facilitate resolution of concerns and grievances, including complaints related to the Project. The GRM shall promptly respond to complaints 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 sexual exploitation and abuse, and sexual harassment in a safe and confidential manner, including through the referral of survivors to gender-based violence service providers.</p>	<p>GRM shall be operationalized prior to Project Effectiveness. Thereafter, maintain GRM throughout Project implementation.</p>	<p>MoH/ZNPHI</p>
<p><b>CAPACITY SUPPORT (TRAINING)</b></p>		

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<p>CS1</p> <p>Project Management Unit and other relevant implementing support staff responsible for the Project shall 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.</p> <p>Training topics for personnel involved in Project implementation shall, among others, include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vaccine specifics – for example, how it is made, how it works, what it contains</li> <li>• who the vaccine should be given to</li> <li>• contraindications and precautions</li> <li>• The need to obtain consent before vaccination and the legal framework to supply/administer the vaccine</li> <li>• how the vaccine should be stored</li> <li>• how to prepare the vaccine</li> <li>• how and at which anatomical site to administer the vaccine</li> <li>• how to recognise and respond to side effects following immunisation</li> <li>• how to dispose of vaccine equipment</li> <li>• what to expect after vaccination and other information to give those who have been vaccinated</li> <li>• where to record that COVID-19 vaccine has been given and what to record</li> <li>• supervision and delegation responsibilities</li> <li>• how to put on and take off the personal protective equipment (PPE) required for immunisation</li> <li>• infection prevention and control measures</li> <li>• risk communication and community engagement</li> <li>• management and supervision of the GBV/SEA/SH sensitive GM and preparation of a training plan</li> <li>• risk and prevention of gender-based violence, including the mechanism for submitting GBV/SEA complaints</li> </ul>	<p>Initial training to be completed no later than 30 days of the Effective Date and periodically thereafter as new Project team members join the Project, throughout implementation.</p>	<p>MoH/ZNPHI</p>