

Republic of Zambia

ZAMBIA COVID-19 EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND
HEALTH SYSTEMS PREPAREDNESS PROJECT

**Environmental and Social
Commitment Plan (ESCP)**

8th October, 2020

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL COMMITMENT PLAN

1. The Republic of Zambia (hereinafter the **Recipient**) shall implement the Zambia COVID-19 Emergency Response and Health Systems Preparedness Project (the **Project**), with the involvement of the Ministry of Health (MoH) and the Zambia National Public Health Institute (ZNPPI/PIU). 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 of these.
3. The Recipient shall also comply with the provisions of any other Environmental and Social (E&S) documents required under the Environmental and Social Framework (ESF) and referred to in this ESCP, such as the Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF), any Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP), any Resettlement Action Plan (RAP), any Infection Control and Waste Management Plan (ICWMP) and the Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP), and the timelines specified in those E&S 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 Ministry or Institute referenced in 1. above.
5. Implementation of the material measures and actions set out in this ESCP will be monitored and reported to the Association by the Recipient as required by the ESCP and in accordance with the provisions of the Financing Agreement between the Recipient and the Association for the Project (Financing Agreement), and the Association shall 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 will update the ESCP to reflect such changes. Agreement on changes to the ESCP will 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	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 and grievances log.	Quarterly throughout Project implementation Report to the Association any serious injury or fatality under the Project within 48 hours of occurrence.	MoH/ZNPHI
B	International Alignment. An internationally renowned health agency Africa Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (ACDC) or World Health Organization (WHO) will regularly review the Project's implementation, monitoring, and reporting provisions made under the Project.	Reporting bi-monthly throughout the Project implementation period.	MoH/Recipient
ESS 1: ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RISKS AND IMPACTS			
1.1	ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE: The Recipient shall maintain a PIU with qualified staff and resources to support management of ESHS risks and impacts of the Project including: one environmental specialist and one social specialist. The environmental and social specialists will be appointed from existing MoH staff or hired as deemed necessary.	Environmental and Social staff with qualifications and experience satisfactory to the Association to be deployed 3 months after effectiveness.	MoH/NPHI

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS	TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
<p>1.2 ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL ASSESSMENT/MANAGEMENT PLANS AND INSTRUMENTS/ CONTRACTORS</p> <p>a. Prepare, disclose and adopt an ESMF, which will include a template for ICWM) as well as a template for ESMP as necessary for isolation centers construction. Assess the environmental and social risks and impacts of proposed Project activities - 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 - in accordance with ESSs and the ESMF.</p> <p>b. Prepare, publicly consult, disclose, adopt, and implement ICWMPs, ESMPs and/or other instruments, if required for the respective Project activities based on the screening and assessment process, in accordance with the ESSs, the ESMF, the EHSs and other relevant Good International Industry Practice including relevant WHO Guidelines related to COVID-19, in a manner acceptable to the Association.</p> <p>c. Incorporate the relevant aspects of this ESCP, including, inter alia, any ESMPs 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. Update ESMPs, and ICWMPs or other instruments based on updated guidance by WHO on COVID-19.</p>	<p>a. The ESMF shall be prepared, disclosed and adopted before the carrying out of Project activities that may cause environmental and social risks, within forty-five (45) days after the Effective Date (as defined in the Financing Agreement). Between the 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.</p> <p>An assessment shall be conducted before the carrying out of the relevant Project activities.</p> <p>b. Before carrying out of the relevant Project activities, and thereafter throughout the carrying out of such activities.</p> <p>c. Before launching the procurement process for the relevant Project activities and thereafter throughout the carrying out of such activities.</p> <p>d. Throughout Project implementation</p>	<p>MoH/ZNPHI</p>

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
1.3	<p>EXCLUSIONS: Exclude the following types of activities as ineligible for financing under the Project:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Laboratory activities that may require BSL3 lab facilities • Activities that may cause long term, permanent and/or irreversible (e.g. loss of natural habitat) adverse impacts • 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 adverse social impacts and may give rise to significant social conflict • Activities which would require Free Prior Informed Consent • Activities that may affect lands or rights of indigenous people or other vulnerable minorities, • Activities that may involve permanent resettlement or land acquisition, or adverse impacts on cultural heritage • All the other excluded activities set out in the ESMF of the Project. 	During the assessment process conducted under action 1.2.a. above.	MoH/ZNPHI
ESS 2: LABOR AND WORKING CONDITIONS			
2.1	<p>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), setting out grievance arrangements for Project workers (including health staff and community volunteers), and incorporating labor requirements into the ESHS specifications of the procurement documents and contracts with contractors and supervising firms.</p>	Throughout Project Implementation	MOH/ZNPHI
2.2	Prepare Labor Management Procedure	45 days after the Effective Date but before the engagement of Project workers in Project activities	MoH/ZNPHI

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
2.3	Implement the Labor Management Procedure	Throughout Project implementation	MoH/ZNPHI
ESS 3: RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT			
3.1	Relevant aspects of this standard shall be considered, as needed, under action 1.2 above, including, <i>inter alia</i> , measures to: manage health care wastes, and other types of hazardous and non-hazardous wastes. Use of resources (water, air, etc.) should follow relevant WHO environmental infections control guidelines standards for medical facilities.	Throughout Project implementation.	MoH/ZNPHI
ESS 4: COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY			
4.1	Relevant aspects of this standard shall be considered, as needed, under action 1.2 above, including, <i>inter alia</i> , 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; and prevent and respond to sexual exploitation and abuse, and sexual harassment.	Throughout Project implementation.	MoH/ZNPHI
ESS 5: LAND ACQUISITION, RESTRICTIONS ON LAND USE AND INVOLUNTARY RESETTLEMENT			
5.1	Relevant aspects of this standard shall be considered, as needed, under action 1.2 above.	Throughout Project implementation.	MoH/ZNPHI
ESS 6: BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF LIVING NATURAL RESOURCES			
6.1	Relevant aspects of this standard shall be considered, as needed, under action 1.2 above. MoH/ZNPHI		
ESS 7: INDIGENOUS PEOPLES/SUB-SAHARAN AFRICAN HISTORICALLY UNDERSERVED TRADITIONAL LOCAL COMMUNITIES			
7.1	Relevant aspects of this standard shall be considered as needed, under action 1.2 above.		
ESS 8: CULTURAL HERITAGE			
8.1	Relevant aspects of this standard shall be considered, as needed such as for chance finds, under action 1.2 above MoH/ZNPHI		

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
ESS 9: FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES			
9.1	Not relevant.		
ESS 10: STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION DISCLOSURE			
10.1	STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN: Update, disclose and adopt a Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) consistent with ESS10, in a manner acceptable to the Association. The updated version of the SEP will include a risk communication and community engagement strategy, to be finalized under the Project in line with WHO guidance on “Risk communication and community engagement (RCCE) readiness and response to the 2019 novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV)” (January 26, 2020), and relevant updates, and in a manner consistent with ESS10 and acceptable to the Association.	A draft SEP has been prepared and disclosed, and shall be updated and re-disclosed not later 45 days after the Effective Date. The SEP shall be continuously updated, as required, and implemented throughout the Project implementation period.	MoH/ZNPHI
10.2	CASE MANAGEMENT: In line with the SEP, the Project will ensure systematic case management, allowing communication between quarantined people and their relatives.	Throughout Project implementation.	MoH/ZNPHI
10.3	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.	Throughout Project implementation.	MoH/ZNPHI
CAPACITY SUPPORT (TRAINING)			
	Training topics for personnel involved in Project implementation will among others include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview of the relevant standards under the ESF (as per the Project ESRS) • COVID-19 Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations • Laboratory biosafety guidance related to the COVID-19 • Specimen collection and shipment • Standard precautions for COVID-19 patients • Risk communication and community engagement • Grievance redress mechanisms • WHO guidelines 	Throughout Project implementation.	MoH/ZNPHI

