

**Republic of Kiribati**  
**Kiribati COVID-19 Emergency Response Project**  
**(P174219)**

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

**Final Version**  
**24 June 2020**

## ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL COMMITMENT PLAN

1. The Republic of Kiribati (hereinafter the Recipient) will implement the Kiribati COVID-19 Emergency Response Project (the **Project**), with the involvement of the Ministry of Health and Medical Services (MHMS). The MHMS will lead and coordinate with the Ministry of Infrastructure and Sustainable Energy (MISE) and the Ministry of Information, Communication, Transport and Tourism Development (MICTTD) and other government ministries/agencies/units on Project implementation as may be necessary. The International Development Association (hereinafter the Association) has agreed to provide financing for the Project.
2. The Recipient will 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 will 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 Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF), the Environmental Code of Practice (ECOP), the Waste Management Plan (WMP), the Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) and the Labor Management Plan (LMP, 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 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 the conditions of the legal agreement, and the Association will 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 MHMS will 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 MHMS. The MHMS will 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.

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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, the implementation of the ESCP, status of preparation and implementation of E&amp;S documents required under the ESCP, stakeholder engagement activities, functioning of the grievance mechanism(s) including the grievances log.</p>	Six-monthly throughout Project implementation.	<p>The Ministry of Health and Medical Services The Ministry of Infrastructure and Sustainable Energy The Ministry of Information, Communication, Transport &amp; Tourism Development</p>
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. 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 Association's request, prepare a report on the incident or accident and propose any measures to prevent its recurrence. These activities are outlined in the Project's Grievance Mechanism.</p>	<p>Minor incidents will be reflected in the six-monthly reports to the Association, major incidents will be reported to the Association within 24 hours.<sup>1</sup></p> <p>A report would be provided to the Association, as requested.</p>	<p>The Ministry of Health and Medical Services The Ministry of Infrastructure and Sustainable Energy The Ministry of Information, Communication, Transport &amp; Tourism Development</p>

<sup>1</sup> Clarification as to what is a minor incident and what is a major incident will be provided in the ESMF.

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<b>ESS 1: ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RISKS AND IMPACTS</b>		
1.1 <b>ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE:</b> The Ministry of Health and Medical Services shall engage a project manager supported by qualified staff within the Kiribati Fiduciary Services Unit (KFSU) (as engaged by Ministry of Finance and Economic Development) to support management of ESHS risks and impacts of the Project including both an international and a local environment, social and health and safety specialist.	The Environment, Social and Health and Safety Specialists be appointed no later than 60 days after the Effective Date and before the carrying out of the relevant Project activities. Procurement of goods and consultancy activities can be initiated as soon as the project is effective, however the distribution of goods should not commence prior to the finalization of the ESMF. Any activities that have been screened for environmental and social risks will not be carried out without the completed, consulted and disclosed ESMF.	The Ministry of Health and Medical Services Ministry of Finance and Economic Development (KFSU)

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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 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. Include a waste management plan, labor management procedures and environmental code of practice within the ESMF.</p> <p>b. 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 EHSs, and other relevant Good International Industry Practice (GIIP) including the relevant WHO guidelines on COVID-19, in a manner acceptable to the Association.</p> <p>c. 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.</p>	<p>a. ESMF to be prepared, disclosed and adopted no later than 60 days after the Effective Date and prior to commencement of relevant Project activities. Assessment to be conducted before the carrying out of the relevant Project activities.</p> <p>b. Before the 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>The Ministry of Health and Medical Services The Ministry of Infrastructure and Sustainable Energy The Ministry of Information, Communication, Transport &amp; Tourism Development</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>• Activities that may cause long term, permanent and/or irreversible (e.g. loss of major natural habitat) adverse impacts;</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 may have significant adverse social impacts and may give rise to significant social conflict;</li> <li>• Activities that may affect lands or rights of indigenous people or other vulnerable minorities;</li> <li>• Activities that may involve resettlement or land acquisition/use restriction or adverse impacts on cultural heritage; and</li> <li>• All the other excluded activities set out in the ESMF of the Project.</li> </ul>	<p>During the assessment process conducted under action 1.2.a. above.</p>	<p>The Ministry of Health and Medical Services</p>
<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, 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, 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>Labor Management Procedures shall be prepared, disclosed and adopted as part of the ESMF, no later than 60 days after the Effective Date and before the carrying out of the relevant Project activities.</p> <p>All measures specified in this action 2.1 shall be implemented throughout the Project implementation period.</p>	<p>The Ministry of Health and Medical Services The Ministry of Infrastructure and Sustainable Energy The Ministry of Information, Communication, Transport &amp; Tourism Development</p>
2.2	<p><b>OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY (OHS) MEASURES</b> Adopt, implement and update the Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) measures in line with the ESMF and LMP in a manner acceptable to the Association.</p>	<p>The ESMF shall be prepared, disclosed and adopted not later than 60 days after the Effective Date and before the carrying out of the relevant Project activities.</p> <p>All measures specified in this action 2.2 shall be implemented throughout the Project implementation period.</p>	<p>The Ministry of Health and Medical Services The Ministry of Infrastructure and Sustainable Energy The Ministry of Information, Communication, Transport &amp; Tourism Development</p>

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2.3	<p><b>WORKER CODE OF CONDUCT</b> Ensure that all construction workers adhere to the Code of Conduct.</p> <p>Provisions to prevent Sexual Exploitation and Abuse/Sexual Harassment (SEA/SH) shall be included in the Code of Conduct (CoC) for Project staff and for contracted workers in line with relevant national laws and legislation and ESS2 and adopted and applied under the Project.</p>	Throughout Project implementation.	<p>The Ministry of Health and Medical Services</p> <p>The Ministry of Infrastructure and Sustainable Energy</p> <p>The Ministry of Information, Communication, Transport &amp; Tourism Development</p>
2.4	<p><b>GRIEVANCE MECHANISM FOR PROJECT WORKERS</b> Establish, maintain, and operate a grievance mechanism for project workers, as described in the Labor Management Procedures (LMP) and consistent with ESS2, with focal points to address these grievances established within The Ministry of Health and Medical Services</p>	Adopt, implement and update the Grievance Redress Mechanism throughout Project Implementation.	The Ministry of Health and Medical Services
2.5	<p><b>CHILD LABOR AND MINIMUM AGE</b> Prohibit child labor (any person under the age of 18) due to the hazardous work situation.</p>	Throughout Project implementation.	<p>The Ministry of Health and Medical Services</p> <p>The Ministry of Infrastructure and Sustainable Energy</p> <p>The Ministry of Information, Communication, Transport &amp; Tourism Development</p>
<b>ESS 3: RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT</b>			
	Relevant aspects of this standard shall be considered, as needed, under action 1.2 above, including, inter alia, measures to manage construction, demolition and other types of hazardous and non-hazardous wastes.		
<b>ESS 4: 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 community exposure to noise and dust from construction and demolition activities; 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 labor influx; and prevent and respond to sexual exploitation and abuse, and sexual harassment.		
<b>ESS 5: LAND ACQUISITION, RESTRICTIONS ON LAND USE AND INVOLUNTARY RESETTLEMENT</b>			
	Not relevant.		
<b>ESS 6: BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF LIVING NATURAL RESOURCES</b>			
	Not relevant.		

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<b>ESS 7: INDIGENOUS PEOPLES/SUB-SAHARAN AFRICAN HISTORICALLY UNDERSERVED TRADITIONAL LOCAL COMMUNITIES</b>			
	Not relevant.		
<b>ESS 8: CULTURAL HERITAGE</b>			
	Not relevant.		
<b>ESS 9: FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES</b>			
	Not relevant.		
<b>ESS 10: STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION DISCLOSURE</b>			
10.1	<b>STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN:</b> Update, disclose, adopt, and implement the preliminary Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) consistent with ESS10, in a manner acceptable to the Association.	Update, disclose, and adopt the preliminary SEP no later than 60 days after the Effective Date, and implement the SEP throughout the Project implementation period.	The Ministry of Health and Medical Services
10.2	<b>GRIEVANCE MECHANISM:</b> 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.	The Ministry of Health and Medical Services
<b>CAPACITY SUPPORT (TRAINING)</b>			
CS1	The Ministry of Health and Medical Services and other relevant implementing support staff responsible for the Project to receive training on the Project's ESF instruments, CoC and provisions to prevent SEA/SH, the relevant requirements of the ESMF, LMP, SEP and WMP, and the roles and responsibilities of different key agencies in the ESF implementation.	Within two months of the Effective Date and as new Project team members join the Project throughout implementation.	The Ministry of Health and Medical Services
CS2	Contractors to receive training on the relevant aspects of the Project ESF instruments and relevant ESHS requirements.	Prior to work commencing, throughout Project implementation.	The Ministry of Health and Medical Services