

**Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health**

**Philippines COVID-19 Emergency Response
Project (P1 73877) and Additional Financing
Project (P1 75953)**

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

17 March 2021

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL COMMITMENT PLAN

1. The Republic of the Philippines (hereinafter the Borrower) through the Department of the Health shall implement the Philippines COVID-19 emergency Response Project including the activities to be supported under the Additional Financing (the **Project**), with the involvement of other relevant governmental agencies/departments/units at the national, regional, and local levels on Project implementation as may be necessary. The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (hereinafter the Bank) has agreed to provide financing for the Project.
2. The Borrower 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 Borrower, 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 Borrower as required by the ESCP and the provisions of the Loan Agreement.
4. As agreed by the Bank and the Borrower, 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 Borrower, through Department of Health 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 Borrower, through Department of Health. The Borrower, through Department of Health 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 Borrower 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 Bank 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&S documents required under the ESCP, stakeholder engagement activities and grievances log.	Quarterly reports shall be submitted no later than 05 days after the end of each reporting period throughout Project Implementation.	DOH
B	INCIDENTS AND ACCIDENTS: 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, improper disposal of healthcare wastes from diagnosis, treatment, and immunization activities and incidents related to security and military personnel following incident classification defined in the ESMF. Provide enough 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.	Notify the Bank within 48 working hours after learning of the incident or accident following incident classification defined in the ESMF.	DOH
ESS 1: ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RISKS AND IMPACTS			
1.1	ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE: The Department of Health shall establish and maintain Project Director and Project Manager with qualified staff and resources to support management of ESHS risks and impacts of the Project including environmental, social, health and safety (ESHS) specialists, a risk communication focal point, vaccine specialist and M&E specialist.	By effectiveness under the Additional Financing and throughout Project implementation.	DOH
1.2	ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL ASSESSMENT/MANAGEMENT PLANS AND INSTRUMENTS/ CONTRACTORS a. Update, adopt, and implement the ESMF that has been prepared for the Project, in a manner acceptable to the Bank 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. Assess the environmental, health, safety and social risks and impacts of proposed Project activities, in accordance with the Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) prepared, disclosed, consulted, and adopted for the Project, the ESSs, the Environmental, Health and Safety Guidelines (EHSGs), and other relevant Good International Industry Practice (GIIP), including relevant WHO guidelines.	a. Final ESMF shall be prepared, disclosed, consulted, and adopted by effectiveness date.	DOH

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS	TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
<p>b. Prepare, disclose, consult, adopt and implement any environmental and social management plans (ESMPs), Environmental Code of Practice (ECOP) or other instruments such as the Infection Control and Waste Management Plan (ICWMP) or other measures required for the respective Project activities based on the assessment process, in accordance with the ESSs, the ESMF, the ESHGs, 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>e. Assess climate and disaster risks and mainstream climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction measures in the Additional Financing activities, for incorporation in the National Deployment and Vaccination Plan (NVDP). Ensure that the various components of the NVDP (e.g. planning and coordination, delivery strategies) are consistent with the National Climate Change Act and the Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act, in a manner acceptable to the Bank.</p>	<p>b. Plans/instruments shall be prepared, disclosed, consulted and adopted by effectiveness, and thereafter implemented throughout project implementation.</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 complied with throughout the carrying out of such activities.</p> <p>d. By effectiveness and thereafter implemented throughout the carrying out of such activities.</p> <p>e. Before the carrying out of the relevant Project activities</p>	

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<p>f. Assess the ozone depleting potential, chemical safety and environmental-soundness of refrigerants and the energy- efficiency of the cold storages and refrigerated transport of vaccines in accordance with the Philippines’ Montreal Protocol phaseout targets, and include the environmental mitigation measures in the ESMPs, to be monitored through the monitoring report requirement to be submitted by the operator/service provider.</p> <p>g. Update, mitigate and manage Adverse Events Following Immunization (AEFI) guidelines including National and Regional Committees for AEFI, and develop response mechanisms based on the AEFI.</p>	<p>f. Review the type of cold storage refrigerants to be used and ensure compliance to the Montreal Protocol targeted phaseout commitment of the Philippines. Monitoring of the use of cold storage refrigerants, chemical safety and energy-efficiency will be conducted throughout the project duration.</p> <p>g. Present final version of the AEFI Guidelines prior to the administration of COVID-19 vaccines to target priority populations by effectiveness. Regular and continuous monitoring of and implementation of AEFI mechanisms.</p>	
<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, unprecedented and/or irreversible (e.g. loss of major natural habitat) adverse impacts. • Activities that have high probability of causing serious adverse effects to human health and/or the environment not related to COVID-19 treatment • Activities that may have significant adverse social impacts and may give rise to significant social conflict • Activities that may involve resettlement or land acquisition or adverse impacts on cultural heritage • 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>DOH</p>
<p>1.4 CONTINGENT EMERGENCY RESPONSE FINANCING</p> <p>a. Ensure that the Emergency Response Manual (ERM) includes a description of the ESHS assessment and management arrangements including for the implementation of Component 4 CERC, in accordance with the ESSs.</p> <p>b. Prepare, disclose, consult, and adopt any environmental and social (E&S) management plans or instruments which may be required for activities under Component 4 (Contingent Emergency Response) of the Project, in accordance</p>	<p>a) The adoption of the Emergency Response Manual in form and substance acceptable to the Bank is a withdrawal condition under paragraph 1(b) of Section III.B of Schedule 2 of the Loan Agreement for the Project.</p>	

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1.4.	<p>with the ESMF, Emergency Response Manual, 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.</p> <p>c. Prepare, disclose, consult and adopt an ESMF addendum with the situation-specific environmental and social risk assessment and management measures if current ESMF measures envisaged do not fit the activities of the CERC.</p>	<p>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 Component 4 (Contingent Emergency Response) of the Project. The E&S management plans or instruments shall be implemented in accordance with their terms, throughout Project implementation.</p> <p>c) Prior to CERC activation.</p>	DOH
ESS 2: LABOR AND WORKING CONDITIONS			
2.1	<p>LABOR MANAGEMENT: The Project shall be carried out in accordance with the applicable Labor Management Procedures included in the ESMF 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>	By effectiveness and thereafter implemented throughout project implementation.	DOH including its Service providers and Contractors
ESS 3: RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT			
	<p>a. 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, handling and deployment of vaccines (including, ultra-cold chain management) in a safe manner and in accordance with the EHSs, 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.</p> <p>b. Continuous assessment and monitoring of the Philippine health care waste management (HCWM) system for increased volumes associated with COVID-19 cases and immunization activities, and the development of a roadmap as basis for the implementation of a National HCWM Plan to support the management of COVID-19 diagnosis, treatment, and immunization activities nationwide.</p>	Throughout Project implementation.	DOH

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ESS 4: COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY			
4.1	<p>COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY</p> <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; 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.	DOH
4.2	<p>USE 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 for provision of security to Project workers, sites and/or assets, is carried out in accordance with the ESSs:</p> <p>a. Assess the risks and impacts of engagement of the security or military personnel, as part of the assessment referred to in action 1.2 a) above, and implement measures to manage such risks and impacts, <i>Security Management Procedures</i> to be included in the Project ESMF and Project Operations Manual (POM) as indicated in Loan Agreement and guided by the principles of proportionality and Good International Industry Practice (GIIP), and by applicable law, in relation to hiring, rules of conduct, training, equipping, and monitoring of such security or military personnel;</p> <p>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.</p> <p>c. 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 Operations Manual/Vaccine Delivery and Distribution Manual and ESMF.</p>	<p>a) Assessment carried out in the same timeframe than action 1.2 a) above and any required measures shall be adopted before deploying security or military personnel under the Project and thereafter implemented throughout Project implementation.</p> <p>b), c) and d) before deploying security or military personnel under the Project and thereafter throughout Project implementation.</p> <p>e) and f) as set out under actions 10.1 and 10.2 respectively.</p>	DOH

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
	<p>d. 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>e. 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 (see action 10.2 below).</p>		
ESS 5: LAND ACQUISITION, RESTRICTIONS ON LAND USE AND INVOLUNTARY RESETTLEMENT			
	Not relevant.		
ESS 6: BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF LIVING NATURAL RESOURCES			
	Not relevant		
ESS 7: INDIGENOUS PEOPLES/SUB-SAHARAN AFRICAN HISTORICALLY UNDERSERVED TRADITIONAL LOCAL COMMUNITIES			
7.1	<p>MEASURES FOR INDIGENOUS PEOPLES: 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 indigenous peoples throughout Project implementation; (ii) implementing procedures, protocols and/or other measures to ensure that indigenous peoples have access to Project benefits in an fair, equitable, inclusive and culturally appropriate manner, including, among others, as relevant, with regards to vaccines; and (iii) implementing measures to ensure that indigenous peoples are able to access the Project's grievance mechanism in a culturally appropriate manner.</p> <p>a. Report and update the share of project-targeted population given COVID-19 vaccinations, including Indigenous Peoples, indicator, as part of the monitoring and evaluation mechanism as defined in the POM and VDDM.</p>	<p>By effectiveness and thereafter implemented throughout project implementation.</p> <p>a. Every 6 months or when requested by the Bank, and throughout Project implementation.</p>	DOH, in collaboration with IP health practitioners and National Commission on Indigenous Peoples when needed
ESS 8: CULTURAL HERITAGE			
	Not relevant		
ESS 9: FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES			
	Not relevant		

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
ESS 10: STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION DISCLOSURE			
10.1	<p>STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN: 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. The SEP shall also include measures to provide relevant information to the public about the use of security personnel in project activities, including providing security at health facilities.</p>	<p>A draft SEP was prepared, updated and disclosed it before appraisal. A final SEP shall be prepared, disclosed and shall be consulted, updated and adopted by effectiveness date and thereafter implemented throughout project implementation.</p>	DOH
10.2	<p>GRIEVANCE MECHANISM: 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. Grievances shall be documented through the Project's grievance mechanism and reported to the Bank following incident classification defined in the ESMF.</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. The AEFI protocols of the Government of the Philippines and the DOH should also be observed in case of adverse effects following COVID-19 vaccination.</p>	<p>By effectiveness and throughout Project implementation.</p>	DOH

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CAPACITY SUPPORT (TRAINING)			
CS1	The Department of Health and other relevant implementing support staff responsible for the Project, including the ESF Focal Points, to receive training on the Project's ESF instruments, CoC, and provisions to prevent SEA/SH, Gender Based Violence (GBV) and/or Violence Against Children (VAC), the relevant requirements of the ESMF, SEP, LMP, Healthcare Wastes Management Manual (HCWM Manual), ICWMP, WHO guidelines on COVID-19, 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.	No later than three (3) months after the Effective Date and periodically with the addition of new Project team members join the Project throughout implementation.	DOH
	Contractors to receive training on the relevant aspects of the Project's ESF instruments.	Prior to work commencing and throughout project implementation.	DOH
	Security and military personnel to receive training on SEA/SH, GBV, VAC and awareness on child protection protocols, on Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs) and other communicable diseases.	Prior to involvement and support to Project activities and throughout project implementation.	DOH
	Training on the COVID-19 vaccine administration for the program coordinators and implementers, surveillance teams, community health educators and workers and partner agencies.	Prior to the administration of COVID-19 vaccines to target priority populations.	DOH