

**Ministry of Economy and Finance
Republic of Uzbekistan**

**Uzbekistan-Rural Infrastructure Development
Program – Phase 2
(P509427)**

IPF-TA Component

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

Draft for Appraisal

April 2026

1. The Republic of Uzbekistan (the Borrower) will implement the Uzbekistan Rural Infrastructure Development Program – Phase 2 (RIDP2) the project, with the involvement of the Ministry of Economy and Finance (MoEF), as set out in the Financing Agreement (the Agreement). The International Development Association (Bank), has agreed to provide financing for the Project, as set out in Agreement. The operation consists of a Program-for-Results (PforR) Financing component (the Program) and an Investment Project Financing (IPF) component (the Project).
2. The Borrower shall ensure that the Project is carried out in accordance with the Environmental and Social Standards (ESSs) and this Environmental and Social Commitment Plan (ESCP), in a manner acceptable to the Bank. The ESCP is a part of the Agreement. Unless otherwise defined in this ESCP, capitalized terms used in this ESCP have the meanings ascribed to them in the Agreement.
3. Without limitation to the foregoing, this ESCP sets out material measures and actions that the Borrower shall carry out or cause to be carried out, including, as applicable, their respective timeframes; institutional, staffing, training, monitoring and reporting arrangements; and grievance management. The ESCP also sets out the environmental and social (E&S) documents that shall be prepared or updated, consulted, disclosed and implemented under the Project, consistent with the ESSs, in form and substance acceptable to the Bank. Said E&S documents may be revised from time to time with prior written agreement by the Bank. As provided for under the referred Agreement, the Borrower shall ensure that there are sufficient funds available to cover the costs of implementing the ESCP.
4. As agreed by the Bank and the Borrower, this ESCP will be revised from time to time, if necessary, to reflect adaptive management of Project changes or unforeseen circumstances or in response to Project performance. In such circumstances, the Bank and the Borrower agree to update the ESCP to reflect these changes through an exchange of letters signed between the Bank and the Borrower’s Representative specified in the Agreement. The Borrower shall promptly disclose the updated ESCP.
5. The subsection on “Implementation Monitoring Indicators” below identifies the key actions and measures to be monitored to assess the progress of environmental and social system strengthening under the Program. Notwithstanding the foregoing, all actions and measures set out in this ESCP shall be implemented in accordance with the timeframes specified therein, regardless of whether they are explicitly included in the aforementioned subsection.

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS AND CAPACITY SUPPORT¹			
A	<p>ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE</p> <p>a. The MoEF shall maintain the existing Program Coordination Team (PCT), including one environmental, one social and one community development specialist, for managing environmental, social, health and safety (E&S) aspects of the Project.</p> <p>b. The MoEF shall ensure appropriate coordination and collaboration arrangements with relevant ministries, agencies, or other entities responsible for environmental and social (E&S) management of the Project. These arrangements shall support the identification, management, monitoring, and reporting of E&S risks and impacts, in accordance with the applicable national environmental and social laws and regulations.</p>	<p>a. The PCT, including one environmental, one social and one community development specialists, maintained throughout Project implementation.</p> <p>b. Throughout project implementation</p>	MoEF/PCT
B	<p>CAPACITY BUILDING PLAN/MEASURES</p> <p>Prepare and implement the capacity building plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> training programs for environmental and social specialists of the PCT and its regional entities on environmental and social assessment, monitoring, and related aspects, to strengthen their capacity for effective implementation of E&S requirements under the Project training seminars for design and construction entities to provide instruction and guidance on matters related to environmental and social assessments and management training for stakeholders (regional/district hokimiyat, single customers service (SCS) and mahalla 7) on environmental and social assessment, environmental and social risks and mitigation measures, emergency preparedness and response, community health and safety. 	The capacity building plan prepare within 90 days of the Project Effective Date and implemented throughout Project implementation	MoEF, qualified E&S consultants
MONITORING AND REPORTING			
C	<p>REGULAR REPORTING</p> <p>Prepare and submit to the Bank regular monitoring reports on the environmental, social, health and safety (E&S) performance of the Project. The reports shall include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Status of preparation and implementation of E&S documents required under the ESCP. Summary of stakeholder engagement activities carried out as per the Stakeholder Engagement Plan. Complaints submitted to the grievance mechanism(s), the grievance log, and progress made in resolving them. E&S performance of consultants, contractors and subcontractors under the Project Number and status of resolution of incidents and accidents reported under action E below. 	Submit quarterly reports to the Bank throughout Project implementation, commencing after the Effective Date. Submit each report to the Bank no later than 30 days after the end of each reporting period	PCT

¹ For all actions, consult with the country lawyer to ensure consistency with the legal agreement in cases where some actions need to be completed before the project becomes effective (effectiveness condition) or before certain disbursements can occur (disbursement condition).

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
D	<p>INCIDENTS AND ACCIDENTS</p> <p>Notify the Bank of any incident or accident relating 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 those resulting in death or significant injury to workers or the public; acts of violence, discrimination or protest; unforeseen impacts to cultural heritage or biodiversity resources; pollution of the environment; dam failure; forced or child labor; displacement without due process (forced eviction); allegations of sexual exploitation or abuse (SEA), or sexual harassment (SH); or disease outbreaks. Provide available details of the incident or accident to the Bank upon request.</p>	Notify the Bank no later than 48 hours after learning of the incident or accident. Provide available details upon request. Provide subsequent report to the Bank within a timeframe acceptable to the Bank, as requested.	PCT
ESS 1: ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RISKS AND IMPACTS			
1.1	<p>ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL ASSESSMENTS AND/OR PLANS</p> <p>Undertake environmental and social risk screening of each sub-project. Prepare and implement sub-project specific Environmental and Social Management Plans (ESMPs) or ESMP checklists, consistent with the relevant ESSs.</p>	Sub-project specific ESMPs/ ESMP checklists to be prepared prior to finalization of the engineering design documentation for each respective sub-project, and thereafter implemented throughout the Project implementation.	MoEF, PCT
1.2	<p>TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE</p> <p>1. Prepare terms of reference (TORs) for all technical assistance activities under the Project, including consultancies, analytical studies (including feasibility studies, where applicable), capacity building, and training, in a manner satisfactory to the Bank, and consistent with the relevant ESSs and applicable national environmental and social laws and regulations.</p> <p>2. Ensure that such activities are carried out, and their outputs are finalized, in accordance with the agreed TORs, and in a manner consistent with the applicable environmental and social requirements under the Project.</p>	<p>1. TORs prepared prior to the preparation of procurement documents</p> <p>2. TA activities are implemented throughout Project implementation.</p>	PCT
ESS 2: LABOR AND WORKING CONDITIONS			

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
2.1	<p>Prepare, disclose and implement the Labor Management Procedures (LMP) including the following measures:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide Project workers (direct and contracted workers) with information and documentation that is clear and understandable regarding their terms and conditions of employment through written contracts setting out their rights, including, inter alia, rights related to hours of work, wages, overtime, compensation, and benefits, as well as written notice of termination of employment, and details of severance payments, as applicable. 2. Implement occupational health and safety (including personal protective equipment, and emergency preparedness and response) measures, considering the General Environmental, Health and Safety Guidelines (EHSGs), the industry-specific EHSGs and other Good International Industry Practice (GIIP), as relevant. 3. Implement measures, as applicable, to, inter alia: (i) prevent the use of all forms of forced labor and child labor; and (ii) provide effective freedom to form and join workers organizations or alternative mechanisms for expressing their concerns and protect their rights related to labor and working conditions. 4. Develop a code of conduct for workers, which shall include measures to prevent and respond to sexual exploitation and abuse, and sexual harassment (SEA/SH) cases. 5. Incorporate the relevant requirements above in the E&S specifications of the procurement documents and contracts with third parties that engage Project workers in the implementation of the Project. 6. Maintain and operate the MoEF workers' grievance mechanism for Project workers and enable workers to know about its existence and benefit from it without fear of retaliation. 	Prepare the LMP prior to Effective date, and implement the LMP throughout Project implementation.	PCT
2.2	<p>GRIEVANCE MECHANISM FOR PROJECT WORKERS Establish and operate a grievance mechanism for Project workers, as described in the LMP and consistent with ESS2.</p>	Establish grievance mechanism prior engaging Project workers and thereafter maintain and operate it throughout Project implementation.	PCT
ESS 3: RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT			
3.1	<p>WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN Incorporate waste management measures into sub-project-specific ESMPs or ESMP checklists to be prepared as part of the engineering design.</p>	For the development, incorporation and implementation of waste management measures – same timeframe as under action 1.1 above	PCT
3.2	<p>RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT Incorporate resource efficiency and pollution prevention and management measures in the subproject-specific ESMPs/ESMP checklists to be prepared as part of the engineering design.</p>	Same timeframe as for the preparation and implementation of the ESMPs / ESMP checklists under action 1.1 above t	PCT

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
ESS 4: COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY			
4.1	TRAFFIC AND ROAD SAFETY Incorporate measures to manage traffic and road safety risks as required in subproject-specific ESMPs/ESP checklists to be prepared as part of the engineering design.	Same timeframe as for the preparation and implementation of subproject-specific ESMPs / ESMP checklists under action 1.1 above	PCT
4.2	COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY Incorporate community health and safety measures, including life and fire safety protocols, into subproject-specific ESMPs/ESMP checklists to be developed as part of the engineering design.	Same timeframe as for the preparation and implementation of subproject-specific ESMPs / ESMP checklists under action 1.1 above	PCT
4.3	SEA AND SH RISKS Prepare and adopt a Code of Conduct to address and manage SEA/SH, which will be incorporated into the LMP.	Same timeframe as for the preparation of the LMP, and thereafter implement the Code of Conduct throughout Project implementation.	PCT
ESS 5: LAND ACQUISITION, RESTRICTIONS ON LAND USE AND INVOLUNTARY RESETTLEMENT			
ESS 5 is currently not relevant to the Project			
ESS 6: BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF LIVING NATURAL RESOURCES			
ESS 6 is currently not relevant to the Project			
ESS 7: INDIGENOUS PEOPLES/SUB-SAHARAN AFRICAN HISTORICALLY UNDERSERVED TRADITIONAL LOCAL COMMUNITIES			
ESS 7 is currently not relevant to the Project			
ESS 8: CULTURAL HERITAGE			
8.1	CULTURAL HERITAGE RISKS AND IMPACTS Ensure engineering design incorporates cultural heritage impact mitigation measures; incorporate chance find procedures into subproject-specific ESMPs/ESMP checklists to be prepared as part of the engineering design.	Same timeframe as for subproject-specific ESMPs/ ESMP checklists under action 1.1 above	PCT
ESS 9: FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES			
ESS 9 is currently not relevant to the Project			
ESS 10: STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION DISCLOSURE			
10.1	STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN Update and implement a Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) for the Project, 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.	Update the SEP no later than 30 days after the Project effectiveness, and thereafter implement the SEP throughout Project implementation	PCT

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
10.2	<p>PROJECT GRIEVANCE MECHANISM</p> <p>Establish, publicize, maintain, and operate an accessible grievance mechanism, 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.</p> <p>The grievance mechanism shall be equipped to receive, register, and facilitate the resolution of SEA/SH complaints, including through the referral of survivors to relevant gender-based violence service providers, all in a safe, confidential, and survivor-centered manner.</p>	Establish the grievance mechanism no later than 30 days after the Effective Date, and thereafter maintain and operate the mechanism throughout Project implementation	PCT
<p>INDICATORS FOR IMPLEMENTATION READINESS</p> <p>The following actions are indicators for implementation readiness:</p> <p>Prepare, disclose and implement the Labor Management Procedures (LMP) prior to the Effective date</p> <p>Prepare and adopt a Code of Conduct to address and manage SEA/SH, which will be incorporated into the LMP</p> <p>Update a Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) Establish and publicize an accessible grievance mechanism</p>			