

Federated States of Micronesia

Access and Renewable Increase for Sustainable Energy P181253

As Phase 2 of the Multi-Phase Programmatic Approach

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL COMMITMENT PLAN (ESCP)

**Appraisal
25 October 2024**

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL COMMITMENT PLAN

1. The Federated States of Micronesia (the Recipient) will implement the Access and Renewable Increase for Sustainable Energy Project (the Project), with the involvement of the Department of Resources and Development (DoR&D) as set out in the Financing Agreement (the Agreement). The International Development Association (the Association) has agreed to provide financing for the Project, as set out in Agreement.
2. The Recipient 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 Association. 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 Agreements.
3. Without limitation to the foregoing, this ESCP sets out material measures and actions that the Recipient 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 Association. Said E&S documents may be revised from time to time with prior written agreement by the Association. As provided for under the referred Agreement, the Recipient shall ensure that there are sufficient funds available to cover the costs of implementing the ESCP.
4. As agreed by the Association and the Recipient, 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 Association and the Recipient agree to update the ESCP to reflect these changes through an exchange of letters signed between the Association and the Recipient's Representative specified in the Agreement or the Secretary of R&D. The Recipient shall promptly disclose the updated ESCP.
5. The subsection on "Indicators for Implementation Readiness" below identifies the actions and measures to be monitored to assess Project readiness to begin implementation in accordance with this ESCP. Nevertheless, all actions and measures in this ESCP shall be implemented as set out in the "Timeframe" column below irrespective of whether they are listed in the referred subsection.

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS AND CAPACITY SUPPORT			
A	ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE a. Establish and maintain the Project Implementation Unit (PIU) in the Department of Resources and Development (DoR&D) with qualified staff and resources to support the management of the environmental, social, health and safety (E&S) risks and impacts of the Project, including a full-time Environmental and Social (E&S) Officer. b. Maintain the Central Implementation Unit (CIU) in the Department of Finance and Administration (DoFA) with an International Social Specialist, International Environment Specialist, and a local E&S officer who shall provide additional and ongoing technical E&S management and support for the Project. c. Require the state counterparts from Utility Authorities (Pohnpei Utility Corporation (PUC), Chuuk Public Utility Corporation (CPUC), Kosrae Utilities Authority (KUA), and the Yap State Public Service Corporation (YSPSC)) to appoint an E&S focal point to support the PIU E&S Officer to conduct outreach and engagement with stakeholders and community members. d. Engage part-time consultants to prepare environmental and social assessments, land access, and environmental and social instruments, develop plans and support the stakeholder engagement processes, environmental and social technical advisory work, and supervise infrastructure construction, on an as-required basis.	a. Establish a PIU and recruit an E&S Officer by no later than 6 (six) months after the Effective Date of the Project and thereafter maintain throughout Project implementation. b. The CIU International Social Specialist, International Environment Specialist, and local E&S officer to be maintained throughout Project implementation. c. Utility Authorities shall nominate an E&S Focal Point no later than 6 (six) months after the Effective Date of the Project and thereafter maintain the E&S Focal Point throughout Project implementation. d. Part time consultants shall be hired and retained on an as-required basis throughout project implementation	Department of Resources & Development (DoR&D) PIU, supported by CIU as required

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
B	CAPACITY BUILDING MEASURES Prepare and implement the following capacity building measures for PIU staff, State Authorities E&S Focal Points, Project workers, stakeholders, Project participants, and communities: • Training to PMU staff on implementation of the Project's environmental, social, health and safety (E&S) instruments and the roles and responsibilities of different key agencies in E&S risk management. • Training to project workers on occupational health and safety, Gender Based Violence (GBV), Sexual Exploitation and Abuse and Sexual Harassment (SEA/SH), and Violence Against Children (VAC) incidents prevention and awareness raising, environmental incidents, emergency prevention and responses to emergency situations, and the grievance mechanism • Training to contractors on the relevant aspects of the Project E&S instruments and relevant environmental, social, health and safety (ESHS) requirements, including preparation and implementation of Contractor Environmental and Social Management Plans (CESMPs). In addition, support provided to ensure contractors understand, sign, and follow the CESMP contractor's code of conduct (CoC). • Training to the PIU E&S Officer as relevant and available, as offered by external training providers, on areas of environmental and social risk management to support their capacity building.	Throughout project implementation	PIU to arrange training and keep records. CIU to prepare and deliver training as relevant.
MONITORING AND REPORTING			
C	REGULAR REPORTING Prepare and submit to the Association regular monitoring reports on the environmental, social, health and safety (E&S) performance of the Project. The reports shall include: • Status of preparation and implementation of E&S documents required under the ESCP (such as the Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF), LMP (as an annex to the ESMF), and SEP and any other E&S plans prepared for Project Activities e.g., site specific ESMPs. • Summary of stakeholder engagement activities conducted as per the SEP • Complaints submitted to the GM(s), the grievance log, and progress made in resolving them. • E&S performance of contractors and subcontractors as reported through monthly contractors' and supervision firms' reports. • Number and status of resolution of incidents and accidents reported under action E below.	Submit six-monthly reports to the Association throughout Project implementation, commencing three (3) months after the Effective date. Submit each report to the Association no later than 30 days after the end of each reporting period.	PIU supported by CIU Safeguards Team .
D	CONTRACTORS' MONTHLY REPORTS Require contractors and supervising firms to provide monthly monitoring reports on E&S performance in accordance with the metrics specified in the respective bidding documents and contracts, and in Contractor ESMPs (CESMPs) and submit such reports to the Association.	Submit the monthly reports to the Association upon request and as annexes to the reports to be submitted under action C above.	PIU supported by CIU Safeguards Team.

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
E	INCIDENTS AND ACCIDENTS Notify the Association 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; forced or child labor; displacement without due process (forced eviction); allegations of sexual exploitation or abuse (SEA) or sexual harassment (SH) or violence against children (VAC); or disease outbreaks. Provide available details of the incident or accident to the Association upon request. Arrange for an appropriate review of the incident or accident to establish its immediate, underlying and root causes. Prepare, agree with the Association, and implement a Corrective Action Plan that sets out the measures and actions to be taken to address the incident or accident and prevent its recurrence.	Notify the Association no later than 48 hours after learning of the incident or accident. Provide available details on request. Provide review report and Corrective Action Plan to the Association no later than 10 days following the submission of the initial notice, unless a different timeframe is agreed in writing by the Association. All incidents and accidents will be reflected in 6 monthly reports to the Association to be submitted under action C above.	PIU supported by CIU Safeguards Team
ESS 1: ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RISKS AND IMPACTS			
1.1	ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL ASSESSMENTS AND/OR PLANS 1. Update and implement an ESMF (including Labor Management Procedures (LMP) and Land Access Procedures) for the Project, consistent with the relevant ESSs. 2. Screen sub-project activities using the screening process outlined in the ESMF as activities are confirmed and prepare, consult, disclose, and thereafter implement relevant activity level E&S instruments (site-specific Environmental and Social Management Plans (ESMPs), Contractor ESMPs (CESMPs), Environmental and Social Codes of Practice (ESCoPs), as set out in the ESMF, to be prepared under action 1.1(a) above. The proposed activities described in the exclusion list set out in the ESMF shall be ineligible to receive financing under the Project.	1. Update, disclose and implement the ESMF within six months of effectiveness, and thereafter implement throughout Project implementation.	PIU supported by CIU Safeguards Team.

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
		2. Screen sub-project activities and prepare and/or implement activity level E&S instruments (site-specific ESMPs, CESMPs/ESCoPs), as applicable. Draft activity level E&S instruments shall be finalized before launching the bidding process. Activity level E&S instruments shall be incorporated as part of the respective bidding documents for the respective activities before the commencement of any physical works. Once finalized, implement the respective activity level E&S instruments throughout Project implementation.	
1.2	MANAGEMENT OF CONTRACTORS 1. Incorporate the relevant aspects of the ESCP, including, inter alia, site specific ESMP(s), Labor Management Procedures (LMP), and code of conduct, into the E&S specifications of the procurement documents and contracts with contractors and supervising firms. Thereafter ensure that the contractors and supervising firms comply and that they require their subcontractors to comply with the E&S specifications of their respective contracts. Provide copies of the relevant contracts with contractors/subcontractors and supervision firms to the Association. 2. Require contractors to prepare, adopt and implement a CESMP/ESCoP detailing the methods to comply with the Project E&S instruments, in accordance with the screening requirements outlined in the ESMF and acceptable to the Association.	1. As part of the preparation of procurement documents and respective contracts. Supervise contractors throughout Project implementation. Copies of relevant contracts provided to the Association upon request. 2. Reviewed CESMPs/ESCoPs submitted to the Association for review prior to commencement of civil works. Supervise Contractors' E&S performance throughout Project implementation.	1. PIU supported by CIU Safeguards Team. 2. Supervision by the State Authorities Focal Points, supported by Project Engineer, PIU, and the CIU Safeguards Team.

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
1.3	TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE Carry out the consultancies, studies (including feasibility studies, if applicable), capacity building, training, and any other technical assistance activities under the Project, including, inter alia, SEA/SH action plan, prefeasibility studies, apprenticeship program(s), energy efficiency policy, electricity awareness campaigns, in accordance with terms of reference acceptable to the Association, that are consistent with the ESSs. Thereafter prepare and finalize the outputs of such activities in compliance with the terms of reference.	Throughout Project implementation.	PIU supported by CIU Safeguards Team.
ESS 2: LABOR AND WORKING CONDITIONS			
2.1	LABOR MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES Update and implement the Labor Management Procedures (LMP) for the Project, included as an annex of the ESMF, prepared under action 1.1(a) above, including provisions on working conditions, management of workers relationships, occupational health and safety (including personal protective equipment, and emergency preparedness and response), code of conduct (including provisions relating to GBV, SEA/SH, VAC), sexually transmitted infections (STIs), forced labor, a mandated age verification procedure for all workers, grievance arrangements for Project workers, incident reporting, and applicable requirements for contractors, subcontractors, and supervising firms.	Update the LMP as part of the ESMF in the timeframe noted in 1.1 and thereafter implement the LMP throughout Project implementation.	PIU supported by CIU Safeguards Team.
2.2	GRIEVANCE MECHANISM FOR PROJECT WORKERS Establish and operate a grievance mechanism (GM) for Project workers, as described in the LMP as part of the ESMF, and consistent with ESS2.	Establish the GM as part of the LMP and thereafter maintain and operate it throughout Project implementation.	PIU supported by CIU Safeguards Team.
ESS 3: RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT			
3.1	RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT - The Recipient shall incorporate resource efficiency and pollution prevention and management measures, including end of life options for solar panels and batteries, and include mitigation measures in the site-specific ESMPs, to be prepared under action 1.1(b) above. Thereafter implement the measures in accordance with the requirement. - The Recipient shall conduct a targeted audit(s) of existing sites that will benefit from the Project's work. Audit(s) will assess the extent of leakages and the resulting contamination of soil and water by hazardous substances, and recommend any necessary remediation measures.	Prepare the site-specific ESMPs once the scope of works are known, and thereafter implement the site-specific ESMP(s) throughout Project implementation. The PIU will conduct periodic monitoring of the implementation of site-specific ESMP(s) and include it in periodic reporting throughout Project implementation.	PIU supported by CIU Safeguards Team.

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
		2. During preparation of site-specific ESMPs.	
ESS 4: COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY			
4.1	TRAFFIC AND ROAD SAFETY Incorporate measures to manage traffic and road safety risks and include mitigation measures in the site-specific ESMPs, to be prepared under action 1.1(b) above, and include in CESMPs/ESCoPs.	Develop and implement as part of site-specific ESMP(s) and same timeframe for adopting and implementation of the CESMP.	PIU supported by CIU Safeguards Team
4.2	COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY 1. Assess and manage specific risks and impacts to the community arising from Project activities, including, inter alia, increases in safety risks, such as potential exposure to live wires and due to trucks carrying construction materials, the potential for labor influx and worker spread of STIs, HIV/AIDS, and other infectious diseases and viruses, increases in GBV, and/or SEA/SH perpetrated between Project workers, and/or increases in GBV, SEA/SH, or VAC incidents by workers toward community members, and include mitigation measures in the site-specific ESMPs, to be prepared under action 1.1(b) above, and ensure they are subsequently included and implemented as part of the CESMP. 2. Include a UXO chance finds procedure (CFP) in the ESMF prepared under action 1.1(a) above, and shall thereafter include UXO CFPs as part of the mitigation measures in the site-specific ESMPs and CESMPs/ESCoPs (as required) to be prepared under action 1.1(b) above.	1. Develop and implement as part of site-specific ESMP(s) and same timeframe for adopting and implementation the CESMP. 2. Same timeframe as noted in 1.1 above. Adopt and implement the UXO CFP as part of the site-specific ESMP(s), as required, and implement throughout project implementation.	PIU supported by CIU Safeguards Team
4.3	SEA AND SH RISKS Prepare and adopt an SEA/SH action plan as part of site-specific ESMPs, to assess and manage the risks of SEA/SH	Prepare and adopt as part of site specific ESMPs in accordance with the timeframe set out in 1.1 above. Thereafter implement throughout Project implementation.	PIU supported by CIU Safeguards Team
ESS 5: LAND ACQUISITION, RESTRICTIONS ON LAND USE AND INVOLUNTARY RESETTLEMENT			

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
5.1	IMPACTS ON LAND USE AND ACCESS - Update and implement Land Access Procedures guiding land access for the Project, consistent with ESS5, as part of the ESMF to be prepared under action 1.1(a) above. The Land Access Plans will include guidance on design and siting of works, and process for confirming lease arrangements and voluntary access arrangements. Public land will be prioritized and any use of non-Government land will be voluntary and subject to a lease arrangement. - Land requirements for each activity will be implemented in line with procedures outlined in the Land Access Procedures, prior to civil works commencing.	- Update the Land Access Procedures as part of the ESMF and disclose the earlier of: (i) no later the timeframe set out in 1.1; or (ii) prior to the commencement of any Project-related activities requiring any access to land. - Implement requirements for civil works activities in line with Land Access Procedures prior to commencement of civil works.	- PIU supported by CIU Safeguards Team - PIU supported by CIU Safeguards Team
ESS 6: BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF LIVING NATURAL RESOURCES			
6.1	BIODIVERSITY RISKS AND IMPACTS Incorporate measures to manage biodiversity risks consistent with ESS6, as required, and include mitigation measures in the site-specific ESMPs to be prepared under action 1.1(b) above. The included E&S screening procedure shall dictate the exclusion of activities that may impact critical natural or high value biodiversity habitats. The Project shall not use material sourced from: - coral rock below highest astronomical tide, or - coastal and/or lagoon mining within the Federated States of Micronesia, except where the source is licenced, demonstrated to be sustainable, and is consistent with the ESSs, all to the satisfaction of the Association.	Prepare the site-specific ESMP(s), once the scope of works are known, and thereafter implement the site-specific ESMP(s) throughout Project implementation.	PIU supported by CIU Safeguards Team.
ESS 8: CULTURAL HERITAGE			
8.1	CHANCE FINDS The Recipient shall include cultural heritage CFPs in the ESMF, prepared under action 1.1(a) above and shall thereafter include cultural heritage CFPs as part of the site-specific ESMPs (as required), to be prepared under action 1.1(b) above.	Same time frame as the adoption and implementation of the site specific ESMP(s) and thereafter implement throughout the project implementation.	PIU supported by CIU Safeguards Team
ESS 10: STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION DISCLOSURE			

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
10.1	STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN Update, disclose, consult on, adopt and implement the 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, disclose, and adopt the SEP in accordance with the timeframe set out in 1.1 above and thereafter implement the SEP throughout Project implementation.	PIU supported by CIU Safeguards Team
10.2	PROJECT GRIEVANCE MECHANISM Establish, publicize, maintain, and operate an accessible GM, 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. The GM shall be equipped to receive, register, and facilitate the resolution of GBV, SEA/SH and VAC complaints, including through the referral of survivors to relevant GBV service providers, all in a safe, confidential, and survivor-centered manner.	GM to be established and operational prior to the commencement of project activities. Maintain and operate throughout Project implementation.	PIU supported by CIU Safeguards Team
INDICATORS FOR IMPLEMENTATION READINESS The following actions are indicators for implementation readiness: Action A.a – Recruit an E&S Officer by no later than six months after the Effective Date. Action 1.1(a) – ESMF, LMP (as part of the ESMF), SEP, and ESCP updated and disclosed within six months of effectiveness. Action 1.1(b) - Draft activity specific E&S instruments finalized before launching the bidding process. Action 1.2(a) - Incorporate activity level E&S instruments into respective bidding documents for the respective activities. Action 1.2(b) – CESMPs/ESCoPs reviewed and approved by the Association prior to the commencement of works. Action 5 – Land due diligence reports completed as required by Land Access Procedures prior to commencement of works.			