

Accelerating Trade Facilitation and Logistics in The Pacific (P508537)

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL COMMITMENT PLAN (ESCP)

Appraisal Version

27 July 2025

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL COMMITMENT PLAN

1. The Republic of Fiji, Republic of Kiribati, Solomon Islands Government, Kingdom of Tonga, The Government of Tuvalu, the Republic of Vanuatu and Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIF) (the Recipients) will implement the Accelerating Trade Facilitation and Logistics in the Pacific Project (the Project), through their respective Implementing Agencies, including Fiji Customs and Revenue Services, Kiribati Ports Authority and Port Authority Tonga, as set out in the respective Financing Agreements and Project Agreements (the Agreements). The International Development Association (the Association) has agreed to provide financing for the Project, as set out in Agreements.
2. The Recipients 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 Agreements. 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 Recipients 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 Agreements, the Recipients shall ensure that there are sufficient funds available to cover the costs of implementing the ESCP.
4. As agreed by the Association and the Recipients, 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 Recipients agree to update the ESCP to reflect these changes through an exchange of letters signed between the Association and the Recipients' Representatives or delegates specified in the Agreements. The Recipients 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	<p>ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE</p> <p>a. Each Recipient to establish and maintain a project management unit (PMU) including a qualified Environmental and Social (E&S) safeguards specialist to support management of environment, social, health and safety (ESHS) risks and impacts of the Project.</p> <p>b. The Project has twelve Implementing Agencies (IAs) including Ministry of Finance and Treasury (Solomon Islands); Fiji Revenue and Customs Service (Fiji); Ministry of Finance and Economic Mgmt, Ministry of Infrastructure - Dept of Ports and Marine (Vanuatu); Ministry of Revenue & Customs - Customs Department, Ministry of Infrastructure – Marine and Ports, and Port Authority Tonga (Tonga); Ministry of Finance and Economic Development - Customs and Inland Revenue; Ministry of Transport - Marine Dept (Tuvalu); Ministry of Finance and Economic Dev and Kiribati Ports Authority (Kiribati), PIF Secretariat. Recipient shall cause each Implementation Agency (IA) to appoint a qualified E&S focal point for implementing the activity level E&S risk management procedures and mitigation measures before the carrying out of the relevant project activities and thereafter maintain these positions throughout project implementation.</p>	<p>a. Appoint the E&S safeguard specialist in PMU within 30 days from Effective Date and thereafter maintain these resources throughout Project implementation.</p> <p>b. Appoint the E&S focal point within 90 days of the Project's Effective Date and thereafter maintain these resources throughout project implementation.</p>	<p>Recipient</p> <p>IAs</p>
B	<p>CAPACITY BUILDING PLAN/MEASURES</p> <p>Prepare and implement the following training and capacity building measures for the PMUs and PIEs on: (a) stakeholder mapping and engagement; (b) handling sexual exploitation or abuse (SEA), or sexual harassment (SH) Grievance Redressal Mechanism (GRM) cases in survivor-centric manner and as per WB Gender-Based Violence (GBV) GRM guidelines for those responsible for handling GRM (c) occupational health and safety (OHS) including on emergency prevention and preparedness and response arrangements to emergency situations, and safety measures for heavy vehicle operation</p>	<p>Capacity building measures to commence within six months of Project Effectiveness and thereafter continue throughout the project implementation</p>	<p>PMUs</p>
MONITORING AND REPORTING			

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
C	<p>REGULAR REPORTING</p> <p>Prepare and submit to the Association regular monitoring reports on ESHS 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. • Complaints submitted to the grievance mechanism, the grievance log, and progress made in resolving them. • E&S performance of contractors. • Number of trainings delivered. • Number and status of resolution of incidents and accidents reported under action D below. • Timebound action plan with assigned responsible persons for next six months of the project. 	Submit six-monthly reports to the Association throughout Project implementation, commencing after the Effective Date. Submit each report to the Association no later than 60 days after the end of each reporting period.	PMUs
D	<p>CONTRACTORS' MONTHLY REPORTS</p> <p>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 submit such reports to the Association.</p>	Submit the reports to the Association as annexes to the reports to be submitted under action C above.	PMUs
E	<p>INCIDENTS AND ACCIDENTS</p> <p>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 SEA/SH; or disease outbreaks. Provide available details of the incident or accident to the Association upon request.</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>Notify the Association no later than 48 hours after learning of the incident or accident. Provide available details upon request.</p> <p>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 to in writing by the Association.</p>	PMUs
ESS 1: ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RISKS AND IMPACTS			
1.1	<p>ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL ASSESSMENTS AND/OR PLANS</p> <p>a. Adopt Focused E&S Assessment (FESA) and Environmental and Social Code of Practices (ESCoPs)</p>	<p>a. 15 days from the Effective Date.</p> <p>b. 90 days from the Effective Date.</p>	PMUs

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
	<p>b. Incorporate Focused E&S Assessment (FESA) and Environmental and Social Code of Practices (ESCoPs) into the Project Operational Manual (POM),</p> <p>c. Implement and cause contractor to implement the E&S risk management measures outlined in FESA and ESCoPs</p>	c. Throughout Project implementation	<p>PMUs</p> <p>IAs with PMU support</p>
1.2	<p>MANAGEMENT OF CONTRACTORS</p> <p>Incorporate the relevant aspects of the ESCP, including, inter alia, ESCoP, the Labor Management Procedures, 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 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 to the Association.</p>	As part of the preparation of procurement documents and respective contracts throughout Project implementation. Copies of relevant contracts provided to the Association upon request.	IAs
1.3	<p>TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE</p> <p>Prepare and then integrate into POM, procedures on (i) drafting and approval process (including clearance by Association) of Terms of Reference (ToR), work plans of technical assistance activities under the Project and (ii) review and finalization of outputs of such TA so that the advise and other support provided is consistent with ESSs 1-10.</p> <p>(c) Ensure that the consultancies, work plans, preparatory studies, capacity building, training, and any other technical assistance activities under the Project are carried out in accordance with ToRs acceptable to the Association, that are consistent with the ESSs.</p>	<p>(a) Preparing the procedures prior to signing any contract in the procurement plan</p> <p>(b) Integrating the procedures into POM 90 days from the Effective Date</p> <p>(c) Throughout Project implementation.</p>	<p>(a) PMU</p> <p>(b) PMU</p> <p>(c) IAs with PMU Support</p>
ESS 2: LABOR AND WORKING CONDITIONS			
2.1	<p>LABOR MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES</p> <p>a. Prepare and disclose Labor Management Procedures (LMP) for each Recipient in accordance with ESS2.</p> <p>b. Implement, and cause contractors to implement LMP</p>	<p>a. 15 days from the Effective Date</p> <p>b. Throughout Project implementation</p>	<p>a. PMU</p> <p>b. IAs</p>
2.2	Implement, and cause contractors to implement OHS management measures in accordance with ESCoP, and LMP.	Throughout Project implementation	IAs

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
2.3	GRIEVANCE MECHANISM FOR PROJECT WORKERS Establish and operate a grievance mechanism for Project workers, as described in the LMP and consistent with ESS2.	Establish the mechanism with same timeframe as Action 2.1 (a) and prior to engaging project workers and thereafter maintain and operate it throughout Project implementation	PMU
ESS 3: RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT			
3.1	WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN Implement and shall cause the contractor to implement waste management procedures detailed in the ESCoP and FESA, consistent with ESS3	Throughout project implementation	IA
3.2	WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT Implement and shall cause the contractor to implement wastewater management measures, set out in the ESCoP and FESA, including, inter alia: (a) undertake wastewater treatment prior to discharging (b) undertake discharge wastewater quality monitoring as specified in the ESCoP; all in accordance with ESS3.	Throughout project implementation	IAS
3.3	RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT Implement and shall cause the contractor to implement resource efficiency and pollution prevention and management measures, set out in the ESCoP and FESA, all in accordance with ESS3.. This includes ensuring aggregate extraction required for the Project will be from licensed sites with all required permits and approvals from the relevant authorities.	Throughout project implementation	IAS
ESS 4: COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY			
4.1	SEA AND SH RISKS Prepare and implement the following SEA and SH risks mitigation measures: (1) Develop and adopt strict Codes of Conduct (CoC) for all project workers, including contractors, consultants, and trainers, explicitly prohibiting SEA/SH. (2) Incorporate SEA/SH clauses into all contractor and consultant contracts, making compliance with SEA/SH prevention and response measures a contractual obligation. (3) Implement mandatory SEA/SH awareness and prevention training for all project personnel, emphasizing respectful behavior and understanding of local cultural norms. (4) Establishing accessible, confidential, and survivor-centered grievance mechanisms (GM) that are culturally appropriate and widely publicized within project-affected communities and among workers. (5) Conducting community sensitization and awareness campaigns on SEA/SH risks and reporting mechanisms, tailored to local contexts and languages.	Prepare and adopt the SEA/SH Action Plan prior to starting any activities which require SEA/SH risk management, and thereafter implement the SEA/SH Action Plan throughout Project implementation. Submit the SEA/SH Action Plan to the Association for no-objection, prior to start any activities that require SEA/SH risk management.	IAS

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
	(6) Monitor and report on SEA/SH measures including Number of CoC signed by project workers, Number of SEA/SH incidents reported and closed, and Number of SEA/SH awareness and prevention trainings provided to project personnel and community members.		
4.2	TRAFFIC AND ROAD SAFETY Implement and shall cause contractor to implement traffic and road safety procedures detailed in the EScOP and FESA, consistent with ESS4.	Throughout Project implementation.	IAS
4.3	COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY Implement and shall cause contractor to manage specific health and safety risks and impacts to nearby communities arising from Project activities in accordance with the EScOP, consistent with ESS4. and FESA. Develop procedures in accordance with Recipient requirements for the Unidentified Ordinances (UXO) identification and clearance activities and integrate such provisions in the civil works procurement documents.	Throughout Project implementation. Prior to signing civil works contract	IAS IAS
ESS 5: LAND ACQUISITION, RESTRICTIONS ON LAND USE AND INVOLUNTARY RESETTLEMENT			
5.1	TOR upstream TA feasibility and assessment activities shall stipulate the need to identify land requirements, undertake land due diligence, avoid displacement through design, and specify risk assessment and management measures consistent with ESS5. Undertake ES screening process consistent with ESS5, as set out in the Focused E&S Assessment, to manage risks and impacts related to land acquisition and/or restriction on land use and involuntary resettlement.	Prior to the release of bid documents for TA activities and thereafter implement throughout relevant Project activities. Throughout project implementation	IA with PMUs support IA with PMUs support
ESS 6: BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF LIVING NATURAL RESOURCES			
6.1	BIODIVERSITY RISKS AND IMPACTS (a) Implement and cause the contractor to Implement the EScOPs for water management and wastewater management including sediment control plan and storm water management in line with Good International Industry Practice (GIIP) and consistent with ESS6 (b) For the studies that will be financed by the project, (i) develop and obtain clearance from Association the ToR integrating ESS6 considerations and (ii) review and finalize outputs of such studies so that the advise and other support provided is consistent with ESS6.	(a) Throughout project implementation	IA IAs with PMUs support

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
		(b) (i) Prior to the release of bid documents for TA activities and (ii) through to the finalization of the reports	
ESS 7: INDIGENOUS PEOPLES/SUB-SAHARAN AFRICAN HISTORICALLY UNDERSERVED TRADITIONAL LOCAL COMMUNITIES			
7.1	Implement risk management measures set out in the Focused E&S Assessment and ensure IP considerations are incorporated into the Terms of Reference for the relevant studies, planning documents developed under the Project, consistent with ESS7.	Prior to the release of bid documents for TA activities and thereafter implement the measures throughout project implementation	IAs with PMUs support
ESS 8: CULTURAL HERITAGE			
8.1	CHANCE FINDS Implement the chance finds procedure (CFP) set out in the Focused E&S Assessment, consistent with ESS8.	Implement the procedure throughout Project implementation	IAs
ESS 10: STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION DISCLOSURE			
10.1	STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN a. Adopt and implement a Stakeholder Engagement Framework (SEF) 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. b. Prepare, consult upon, disclose, and implement a Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) covering each participating country, as set out in the SEF and consistent with ESS10.	Adopt the SEF and prepare, adopt and disclose the SEP within 15 days of the Effective Date , and thereafter implement the SEP throughout Project implementation	Adoption of SEF and preparation of SEP by PMU and implementation by PIEs with support from PMU
10.2	PROJECT GRIEVANCE MECHANISM Establish, publicize, maintain, and operate an accessible grievance mechanism (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 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.	GM to be established no later than 15 days after the Effective Date and implemented throughout Project implementation.	PMUs

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
INDICATORS FOR IMPLEMENTATION READINESS			
<p>The following actions are indicators for implementation readiness:</p> <p>A. Establishment of E&S safeguards specialist in the PMU(s), and appointment of E&S focal point in each IAs.</p> <p>1.1(a) Adopt Focused E&S Assessment (FESA) and Environmental and Social Code of Practices (ESCoPs)</p> <p>1.1(b) Incorporate Focused E&S Assessment (FESA) and Environmental and Social Code of Practices (ESCoPs) into the Project Operational Manual (POM),</p> <p>2.1 (a) Prepare Labor Management Procedures (LMPs) for each Recipient in accordance with ESS2.</p> <p>10.1. Prepare, consult upon, disclose, and implement a Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) covering each participating country, as set in the Stakeholder Engagement Framework (SEF) and consistent with ESS10.</p> <p>10.2. Establish project's grievance mechanism to receive and facilitate resolution of concerns and grievances in relation to the Project activities</p>			