

Republic of Vanuatu
Vanuatu Contingent Emergency Project
P516837

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL
COMMITMENT PLAN (ESCP)

Appraisal Version
[27 June 2026]

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL COMMITMENT PLAN

1. The Republic of Vanuatu (the Recipient) will implement the Vanuatu Contingent Emergency Project (the Project), with the involvement of the Ministry of Finance and Economic Management (MFEM), as set out in the legal agreements for the host operations (Financing Agreements). The International Development Association (Association) has agreed to provide the financing for the Project, as set out in Financing Agreements.
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 Financing Agreements. Unless otherwise defined in this ESCP, capitalized terms used in this ESCP have the meanings ascribed to them in the Financing 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 Financing Agreements, 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 CERP Project Paper and Manual. 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 Appoint and maintain an environmental and social (E&S) focal point to support management of environmental, social, health and safety (E&S) risks and impacts of the Project.	Appoint prior to CERP activation and thereafter maintain this position throughout the implementation	MFEM
B	CAPACITY BUILDING PLAN/MEASURES Implement the following capacity building measures: Training for E&S focal point, project workers and other stakeholders (if required) on ESMP aspects associated with CERP. This could include the ESMP, and its requirements, Occupational Health and Safety and E&S mitigation measures associated with CERP activation.	Throughout the Project implementation	MFEM
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 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 mechanisms, the grievance log, and progress made in resolving them. - E&S performance of contractors and subcontractors as reported through six-monthly contractors' reports. - Number and status of resolution of incidents and accidents reported under action E below.	Submit six-monthly reports to the Association commencing after activation throughout Project implementation. Submit each report to the Association no later than 30 days after the end of each reporting period.	MFEM
D	CONTRACTORS' MONTHLY REPORTS Require contractors to provide six-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.	Submit the six-monthly reports to the Association as annexes to the reports to be submitted under action C above.	MFEM
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	Notify the Association no later than 48 hours after learning of the incident or accident. Provide available details upon request.	MFEM

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
	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 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.	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.	
ESS 1: ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RISKS AND IMPACTS			
1.1	ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL ASSESSMENTS AND/OR PLANS (a) Implement the Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) for the Project, consistent with the relevant ESSs. (b) Update the ESMP and redisclose it, in a manner acceptable to the Association, prior to including any changes to the positive list of eligible expenditures under the Project in the CERP Manual. The updated ESMP shall reflect any new or modified activities, associated environmental and social risks, and corresponding mitigation measures arising from such changes. Thereafter, implement the updated ESMP throughout Project implementation.	(a) Implement the ESMP throughout Project implementation. (b) Prior to the including any changes to the positive list of eligible expenditures in the CERP Manual, and thereafter throughout Project implementation	MFEM
1.2	MANAGEMENT OF CONTRACTORS Incorporate the relevant aspects of the ESCP, including, inter alia, ESMP measures, the Labor Management Procedures, and code of conduct, into the E&S specifications of the procurement documents and contracts with contractors. 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.	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.	MFEM
1.3	TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE Carry out the consultancies, capacity building, training, and any other technical assistance activities under the Project 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.	MFEM
1.4	USE OF BORROWER'S ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL FRAMEWORK	Throughout Project implementation.	MFEM

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
	Ensure that the E&S risks and impacts of the Project, are managed in accordance with this ESCP and the Recipient's E&S Framework, which includes, inter alia, the country's relevant policy, legal and institutional framework, including its national, departmental, or local implementing institutions and applicable laws, regulations, procedures, and implementation capacity Promptly notify the Association of any changes to the Recipient's E&S Framework that may materially adversely affect the Recipient's ability to manage the E&S risks and impacts of the Project in line with the ESSs and the immediate measures taken or that are planned to be taken to address said changes and the ensuing potential risks and impacts of the Project. If, in the opinion of the Association, such changes adversely affect relevant ESHS risk management aspects of the Project, the Recipient shall agree to implement measures and actions to address them in a manner acceptable to the Association. The ESCP shall be updated to reflect such agreed actions.	Notify the Association immediately after taking notice of the change to the Recipient's E&S Framework. Subsequent actions, if requested by the Association, shall be reflected in an updated ESCP as indicated in paragraph 4 of the Initial Section of this ESCP.	
ESS 2: LABOR AND WORKING CONDITIONS			
2.1	LABOR MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES Implement the Labor Management Procedures (LMP) for the Project as outlined in the ESMP.	Same timeframe as for action 1.1	MFEM
2.2	OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY MANAGEMENT PLAN Implement and cause the contractors to implement the OHS Management measures included in the ESMP to manage the OHS risks and impacts of the Project.	Same timeframe as for action 1.1	MFEM
2.3	GRIEVANCE MECHANISM FOR PROJECT WORKERS Operate a grievance mechanism for Project workers, as described in the LMP and consistent with ESS2.	Same timeframe as for action 1.1	MFEM
ESS 3: RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT			
3.1	WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN Implement the waste management measures included as part of the ESMP prepared for the Project, to manage hazardous and non-hazardous wastes, consistent with ESS3.	Same timeframe as for action 1.1	MFEM
3.2	RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT Incorporate resource efficiency and pollution prevention and management measures in the ESMP consistent with ESS3.	Same timeframe as for action 1.1	MFEM
3.3	FUEL PROCUREMENT AND DISTRIBUTION Implement the risk management measures included as part of the ESMP prepared for the Project, to manage E&S risk associated with fuel imports, unloading, storage, transport, and distribution outside of the usual systems under the project.	Same timeframe as for action 1.1	MFEM
ESS 4: COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY			
4.1	COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY	Same timeframe as for action 1.1	MFEM

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
	Manage specific risks and impacts to the community arising from Project activities including, inter alia, water supply, sanitation, hygiene, storage of perishable foods etc. in accordance with the mitigation measures in the ESMP and consistent with ESS4.		
4.2	SEA AND SH RISKS Manage risks of SEA/SH arising from Project activities as per the SEA/SH prevention measures in ESMP. Implement Code of conduct for project workers as included in the ESMP.	Same timeframe as for action 1.1	MFEM
ESS 6: BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF LIVING NATURAL RESOURCES			
6.1	BIODIVERSITY RISKS AND IMPACTS Manage potential risks and impacts on biodiversity values and from invasive alien species arising from Project activities as part of the ESMP consistent with ESS6.	Same timeframe as for action 1.1	MFEM
ESS 10: STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION DISCLOSURE			
10.1	STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN (a) Implement the Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) prepared and disclosed 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) Update the SEP and redisclose it, in a manner acceptable to the Association, prior to implementing any changes to the positive list of eligible expenditures under the Project. Thereafter, implement the updated SEP throughout Project implementation	(a) Throughout Project implementation. (b) Prior to inclusion of changes to the positive list in the CERP Manual	MFEM
10.2	PROJECT GRIEVANCE MECHANISM (a) Maintain, and operate an accessible grievance mechanism as included in the SEP, 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. (b) Establish and operate an accessible grievance mechanism, to receive and facilitate resolution of concerns and grievances in relation to the cash transfer, Cash for Work activities, 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.	(a) Maintain and operate the mechanism throughout Project implementation. (b) Establish the grievance mechanism prior to inclusion of Cash Transfer and Cash for Work activities in the positive list and thereafter maintain and operate throughout Project implementation	MFEM MFEM

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
INDICATORS FOR IMPLEMENTATION READINESS			
The following actions are indicators for implementation readiness: A: Ensure the MFEM have designated qualified staff and resources to support management of environmental, social, and health and safety (E&S) risks and impacts upon activation of the CERP. 1.1: Implement the Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) and annexes and Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) for the Project consistent with the relevant ESSs.			