

State of Assam, India

Department of Health and Family Welfare

**Assam Secondary Healthcare Initiative for
Service Delivery Transformation Project
(P179337)**

**Environmental and Social Commitment Plan
(ESCP)**

February 2023

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL COMMITMENT PLAN

1. The State of Assam (the Project Implementing Entity or PIE) will implement the Assam Secondary Healthcare Initiative for Service Delivery Transformation Project (P179337) (the Project), with the involvement of Department of Health and Family Welfare (DoHFW), as set out in the Loan Agreement between India (the Borrower) and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (hereinafter the World Bank) and the Project Agreement between the World Bank and the State of Assam (collectively the Legal Agreements). The World Bank has agreed to provide financing for the Assam Secondary Healthcare System Reform Project, as set out in the referred Legal Agreements.
2. The PIE 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 World Bank. The ESCP is a part of the Legal Agreements. Unless otherwise defined in this ESCP, capitalized terms used in this ESCP have the meanings ascribed to them in the referred Legal Agreements.
3. Without limitation to the foregoing, this ESCP sets out material measures and actions that the PIE shall carry out or cause to be carried out, including, as applicable, the timeframes of the actions and measures, institutional, staffing, training, monitoring and reporting arrangements, and grievance management. The ESCP also sets out the environmental and social (E&S) instruments that shall be adopted and implemented under the Project, all of which shall be subject to prior consultation and disclosure, consistent with the ESS, and in form and substance, and in a manner acceptable to the World Bank. Once adopted, said E&S instruments may be revised from time to time with prior written agreement by the World Bank.
4. As agreed by the World Bank and the PIE, this ESCP will be revised from time to time if necessary, during Project implementation, to reflect adaptive management of Project changes and unforeseen circumstances or in response to Project performance. In such circumstances, the PIE and the World Bank agree to update the ESCP to reflect these changes through an exchange of letters signed between the World Bank and the PIE. The PIE shall promptly disclose the updated ESCP.

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
MONITORING AND REPORTING			
A	<p>REGULAR REPORTING</p> <p>Prepare and submit to the World 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 instruments required under the ESCP, stakeholder engagement activities, and functioning of the grievance mechanism.</p>	<p>Submit bi-annual reports to the World Bank throughout Project implementation, commencing after the Effective Date. Submit each report to the World Bank no later than 21 days after the end of each reporting period.</p>	<p>Assam Health Infrastructure Development and Management Society (AHIDMS) to act as State Project Management Unit (SPMU)</p>
B	<p>INCIDENTS AND ACCIDENTS</p> <p>Promptly notify the World 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, cases of sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA), sexual harassment (SH), and accidents that result in death, serious or multiple injury. Provide sufficient detail regarding the scope, severity, and possible causes of 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/or the Project Management Consultancy (PMC), as appropriate.</p> <p>Subsequently, at the World Bank's request, prepare a report on the incident or accident and propose any measures to address it and prevent its recurrence.</p>	<p>Notify the World Bank no later than 48 hours after learning of the incident or accident.</p> <p>Provide subsequent report to the World Bank within one month after learning of the incident or accident</p>	<p>SPMU, PMC and/or Contractors</p>

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
C	<p>CONTRACTORS MONTHLY REPORTS</p> <p>Require contractors and PMC to provide monthly monitoring reports on ESHS performance in accordance with the metrics specified in the respective bidding documents and contracts and submit such reports to the World Bank.</p>	Submit monthly reports to the World Bank as annexes to the reports to be submitted under action A above.	PMC, Contractors and sub-contractors
ESS 1: ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RISKS AND IMPACTS			
1.1	<p>ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE</p> <p>Maintain the SPMU with one designated Environmental Specialist and one Social Development Specialist and adequate resources to support management of E&S risks and impacts of the Project.</p> <p>Engage PMC with one designated Environmental Expert and one Social Development Expert for E&S risk management under the Project.</p>	No later than one month after the signing of the Legal Agreements and thereafter maintain throughout Project implementation.	SPMU and PMC

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
1.2	<p>ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL ASSESSMENT</p> <p>Consult, disclose and thereafter implement an Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) consistent with the relevant ESSs. This includes implementing the suggested screening format included in the ESMF.</p> <p>Adopt and implement the site-specific Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) and Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) of all sub-projects, as set out in the ESMF. The proposed activities described in the exclusion list set out in the ESMF shall be ineligible to receive financing under the Project.</p> <p>Implement the ESMF screening format, and where relevant adopt and implement the site-specific ESIA and ESMP to approved activities financed by the IPA Grant. The proposed activities described in the exclusion list set out in the ESMF shall be ineligible to receive financing under the Project</p>	<p>Consult and disclose the ESMF by appraisal, and thereafter implement throughout Project implementation.</p> <p>Adopt the site-specific ESIA and ESMP before launching the bidding process for the respective subproject. Once adopted, implement the respective ESIA and ESMP throughout Project implementation.</p> <p>Adopt the site-specific ESIA and ESMP for the approved activities under the IPA Grant.</p>	<p>SPMU</p> <p>SPMU, PMC, and Contractors</p> <p>SPMU, Beneficiaries</p>
1.3	<p>ENVIRONMENTAL STATUTORY CLEARANCE AND APPROVALS</p> <p>Obtain clearances, licenses/approvals and permits under existing legal framework that are applicable to the project from relevant national, state and/or local authorities.</p>	<p>Prior to commencement of civil works</p>	<p>SPMU and Contractors</p>
1.4	<p>MANAGEMENT OF CONTRACTORS</p> <p>Incorporate the relevant aspects of the ESCP, including, inter alia, the relevant E&S instruments, the Labor Management Procedures, and code of conduct into the ESHS specifications of the procurement documents with contractors. Thereafter ensure that the contractors comply with the ESHS specifications of their respective contracts.</p> <p>Bidding documents and contracts to include relevant measures in the ESMP</p>	<p>Prior to issuance of bidding documents and Expression of Interest (EOI) notice for contractors; supervise contractors throughout Project implementation</p> <p>During Bid document preparation</p>	<p>SPMU</p> <p>SPMU</p>
ESS 2: LABOR AND WORKING CONDITIONS			

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
2.1	<p>LABOR MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES</p> <p>Prepare, disclose, adopt, and implement the Labor Management Procedures (LMP) including, inter alia, 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 relating to SEA and SH), forced labor, child labor, grievance arrangements for Project workers, and applicable requirements for contractors, subcontractors, and PMC.</p>	Prepare and disclose the LMP by project appraisal and maintained throughout Project implementation.	SPMU, PMC and Contractors
2.2	<p>GRIEVANCE MECHANISM FOR PROJECT WORKERS</p> <p>Establish, maintain, and operate a grievance mechanism for Project workers, as described in the LMP and consistent with ESS2 and national and state-specific labor laws. The GRM will also be responsive to SEA/SH complaints.</p>	Setup a labor GRM by Project appraisal and maintained throughout Project implementation.	SPMU, PMC and Contractors
2.3	<p>OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY (OHS) MEASURES</p> <p>Prepare, adopt, and implement occupational, health and safety (OHS) measures as part of the ESMF.</p> <p>Wherever relevant, adopt and implement OHS measures as a part of ESMP to approve activities financed by the IPA grant.</p> <p>Prepare Construction OHS and Code of Conduct incorporating E & S requirements specified in the LMP and Construction Work Contracts (Contractors ESMP)</p> <p>Healthcare facilities OHS Management Plan (OHSMP) and emergency response plan (ERP) of health care facilities to be supported under the project.</p>	<p>Prior to project appraisal and maintained throughout Project implementation.</p> <p>Adopt OHS measures as part of ESMP for the approved activities under the IPA Grant.</p> <p>By contractors prior to site mobilization and implemented during civil works.</p> <p>Generic Plan to be prepared and updated (as needed) prior to operationalization of facilities and implemented throughout project implementation.</p>	<p>SPMU</p> <p>SPMU, Beneficiaries</p> <p>Contractor</p> <p>SPMU</p>
ESS 3: RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT			
3.1	<p>MANAGEMENT OF CONSTRUCTION WASTE</p> <p>Prepare, adopt, and implement Construction Management Plan in accordance with ESMF detailing management of waste generated, sourcing of construction material, resource efficiency enhancement measures.</p>	Contractors shall prepare, adopt, and implement Construction Management Plan prior to site mobilization; and thereafter implement the Construction Management Plan during civil works throughout Project implementation.	Contractors

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
3.2	<p>BIO MEDICAL WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN</p> <p>Prepare and implement an Infection Control and Medical Waste Management Plan (ICWMP); and Biomedical Waste Management Plan (BMWMP) as part of the site-specific ESIA and ESMP for each District Hospital facility supported under the Project.</p> <p>Conduct a Waste characterization study on all BMW waste streams and quantities.</p>	<p>Prepare and implement the ICWMP and BMWMP prior to site mobilization; and thereafter implemented throughout Project implementation. Conduct and submit a Waste characterization study within one year of project implementation]</p>	<p>SPMU</p> <p>SPMU</p>
3.3	<p>ADOPTION OF GREEN HOSPITAL INITIATIVES</p> <p>Institutionalize adoption of resource recovery, energy efficiency and pollution prevention measures as specified in ESMF across the State through procurement and supply chain management practices and awareness among the workers in the HCFs.</p>	<p>Awareness/ sensitization workshops among workers on energy and water conservation From Year 1 of the project implementation throughout the project implementation and implementation of conservation measures from year 3 of the project implementation.</p>	<p>SPMU</p>
ESS 4: COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY			
4.1	<p>COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY:</p> <p>Assess and manage specific risks and impacts to the community arising from Project activities and include mitigation measures in the site-specific ESMPs to be prepared in accordance with the ESMF. Wherever relevant, adopt and implement Community health and safety measures as a part of ESMP to approve activities financed by the IPA grant.</p>	<p>Same timeframe as for the adoption and implementation of the sub project specific ESMPs.</p>	<p>SPMU, Contractors and Beneficiaries</p>
4.2	<p>SEA AND SH RISKS</p> <p>Prepare, adopt, and implement measures to manage SEA/ SH risks, as per the requirements of the ESMF.</p>	<p>Adopt and implement measures to manage SEA/SH risks within 6 months of project effectiveness, and therefore implemented throughout Project implementation</p>	<p>SPMU, PMC line departments, HCFs and Contractors</p>
ESS 5: LAND ACQUISITION, RESTRICTIONS ON LAND USE AND INVOLUNTARY RESETTLEMENT			
	<p>Not applicable</p>		
ESS 6: BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF LIVING NATURAL RESOURCES			

	Not applicable		
ESS 7: INDIGENOUS PEOPLES/SUB-SAHARAN AFRICAN HISTORICALLY UNDERSERVED TRADITIONAL LOCAL COMMUNITIES			
7.1	INDIGENOUS PEOPLES PLANNING FRAMEWORK: Prepare, adopt, and implement an Indigenous Peoples Planning Framework (IPPF) consistent with ESS7 which will be applied to sub-projects where indigenous people may be present in, or have collective attachment to, the project area. Activities posing significant risks on indigenous communities or requiring Free Prior Informed Consent (FPIC) will be excluded from the project.	Adopt and implement the IPPF prior to signing of legal agreement.	SPMU
7.2	INDIGENOUS PEOPLES PLAN Prepare and implement an Indigenous Peoples Plan (IPP) for sub-projects for which the IPPF requires such IPP, consistent with ESS7.	Adopt the site-specific IPP (where required) before launching the bidding process for the respective subproject. Once adopted, implement the respective IPP throughout Project implementation	SPMU
ESS 8: CULTURAL HERITAGE			
8.1	CHANCE FINDS Adopt and implement the Chance Finds protocol as included in the ESMF. Prepare and implement chance finds procedure described in the subproject ESMPs and included as a requirement in the Bid documents for civil works Wherever relevant, adopt and implement Chance Find procedures as a part of ESMP to approve activities financed by the IPA grant	Adopt and implement Chance Finds protocol prior to initiation of design/DPR preparation. Same timeframe as for the adoption and implementation of the sub project specific ESMPs. Same timeframe as for the adoption and implementation of the sub project specific ESMPs.	SPMU Contractors Contractors, Beneficiaries
ESS 10: STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION DISCLOSURE			
10.1	STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN PREPARATION AND IMPLEMENTATION Prepare, disclose, 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.	Prepare and disclose the SEP by Project appraisal, and thereafter implement the SEP throughout Project implementation.	SPMU

10.2	<p>PROJECT GRIEVANCE MECHANISM: Strengthen, publicize, and adopt existing multi-lingual Sarathi Helpline (104 Helpline) for the project, as described 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.</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>	Strengthen and adopt grievance mechanism prior to commencement of Project activities, and thereafter maintain and operate the mechanism throughout Project implementation.	SPMU and NHM
CAPACITY SUPPORT (TRAINING)			
CS1	<p>Trainings to be conducted to build capacity of staff of the SPMU, implementing agencies, healthcare workers, consultants, and contractors on E&S, beneficiaries and other relevant stakeholders. Content of capacity building will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project staff training on World Bank ESF and its implementation modality (screening, scoping etc.) and various provision of the ESMF, SEP, ESCP, IPPF • Social and Environmental Audit • Training to DoHFW, HCF, Contractors and others on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Bio-medical Waste Management ▪ Occupational Health and Safety, Infection Prevention and Control and Community Health and Safety. ▪ Grievance Redressal Mechanism, GBV/SEA and CoCs ▪ Additional training will be identified during project implementation 	During Project implementation	SPMU