

United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
Emergency Education Response for Afghanistan

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

August 25, 2022

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL COMMITMENT PLAN

1. The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) will implement the Emergency Education Response for Afghanistan (EERA) Project (the Project) for the benefit of the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan, as set out in the Grant Agreement. The International Development Association (World Bank) acting as the administrator of the Afghanistan Reconstruction Trust Fund (ARTF), has agreed to provide financing for the Project, as set out in the referred Grant Agreement.
2. UNICEF 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 Grant Agreement. Unless otherwise defined in this ESCP, capitalized terms used in this ESCP have the meanings ascribed to them in the referred Grant Agreement.
3. Without limitation to the foregoing, this ESCP sets out material measures and actions that UNICEF 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, grievance management, and 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 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 UNICEF, 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, UNICEF and the World Bank agree to update the ESCP to reflect these changes through an exchange of letters signed between the World Bank and UNICEF. UNICEF shall promptly disclose the updated ESCP.

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS [The actions listed below are illustrative (unless otherwise explicitly specified with a “NOTE”) – delete or adjust them, or add new actions as needed].		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
MONITORING AND REPORTING			
A	<p>REGULAR REPORTING: 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(s).</p>	Submit Quarterly reports within 30 days of the end of each quarter throughout the Project implementation period.	UNICEF
B	<p>INCIDENTS AND ACCIDENTS: 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 injuries. Provide sufficient detail regarding the scope, severity, and possible causes of the incident or accident, indicating immediate measures taken or planned to be taken to address it, and any information provided by any implementing partner/contractor.</p> <p>Subsequently, at the World Bank’s request, prepare a report on the incident or accident and propose any measures to prevent its recurrence.</p>	<p>Notify the World Bank within 48 hours after learning of and confirming the incident or accident.</p> <p>A detailed report of the incident shall be provided within thirty (30) days of making the initial report of the incident or accident</p>	UNICEF
C	<p>CONTRACTORS’ QUARTERLY REPORTS Require implementing partners/contractors to provide quarterly monitoring reports to UNICEF on ESHS performance in accordance with the ESHS metrics specified in the respective procurement documents.</p>	Submit Quarterly reports as part of regular progress reports throughout the Project implementation period	UNICEF
ESS 1: ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RISKS AND IMPACTS			
1.1	ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE		

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS [The actions listed below are illustrative (unless otherwise explicitly specified with a “NOTE”) – delete or adjust them, or add new actions as needed].	TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
<p>UNICEF has defined a management structure to implement the project which includes qualified staff and resources to support the management of ESHS risks and impacts of the project. UNICEF will maintain sufficient capacity for environmental and social safeguards including, one Environmental Specialist, one Social Specialist, and one SEA/SH specialist. These resources will be shared between the HER and EERA, and any other projects that require the same areas of expertise and detailed in the SEP and ESMF.</p> <p>Each of the contracted implementing partners will make adequate resources available from the financing provided under the Project to conduct sub-project-specific environmental and social risk screening and implement E&S risk management measures following the generic ESMP. UNICEF shall ensure basic environmental and social risk management capacity shall be a selection criterion in the procurement process for new partners, if applicable.</p>	<p>Prior to the commencement of project activities and maintain throughout project implementation.</p> <p>Throughout the project implementation</p>	<p>UNICEF</p>
<p>1.2 ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL INSTRUMENTS</p> <p>Prepare, consult, adopt, disclose, and thereafter implement an Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF), consistent with the relevant ESSs, the Environmental, Health, and Safety Guidelines (EHSGs), and other relevant Good International Industry Practice (GIIP), including relevant WHO guidelines. The ESMF will include an environmental and social screening template, an exclusion list, a generic ESMP for the Project, measures related to occupational health and safety and community health and safety, an infection prevention and control plan, solid and hazardous waste management, a simplified LMP, and security risk management measures.</p>	<p>Prepared and disclosed prior to the signing of the contract between UNICEF and implementing partners and/or contractors and implemented throughout Project implementation.</p>	<p>UNICEF</p>
<p>1.3 MANAGEMENT OF CONTRACTORS</p> <p>Incorporate by reference the relevant aspects of the ESCP, including, inter alia, the ESMF, into the ESHS specifications of the procurement documents with implementing partners and contractors. Such requirements will be extended by UNICEF’s contractors/implementing partners to all subcontractors.</p>	<p>Throughout Project implementation, relevant ESCP, ESMF, and E&S instrument requirements shall be integrated into the preparation of all Project procurement activity documents.</p>	<p>UNICEF</p>

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS [The actions listed below are illustrative (unless otherwise explicitly specified with a “NOTE”) – delete or adjust them, or add new actions as needed].		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
ESS 2: LABOR AND WORKING CONDITIONS			
2.1	<p>LABOR MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES</p> <p>As part of the ESMF under action 1.2 above, prepare, adopt, disclose, and implement the simplified Labor Management Procedures (LMP).</p>	Prepared and disclosed prior to the signing of the contract between UNICEF and implementing partners/contractors and implemented throughout the project implementation period.	UNICEF
2.2	<p>OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY:</p> <p>As part of the ESMF under action 1.2 above, prepare, adopt, and implement measures and actions to assess and manage specific risks and impacts on occupational health and safety as part of the ESMF and the measures in the Generic ESMP.</p>	Prepared and included as part of ESMF and disclosed prior to the signing of the contract between UNICEF and implementing partners/contractors and implemented throughout the project implementation period.	UNICEF
2.3	<p>GRIEVANCE MECHANISM FOR PROJECT WORKERS</p> <p>All workers will access the Project GRM as described in the LMP and SEP and consistent with ESS2 and ESS10. The Project GRM will include experts familiar with labor-related grievances and relevant policies.</p>	GRM will be operationalized prior to engaging project workers and thereafter maintained throughout Project implementation.	UNICEF
ESS 3: RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT			
3.1	<p>RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT:</p> <p>Ensure that the more focused assessments of the environmental and social impacts and risks and the development of the generic ESMP described under action 1.2 above shall cover risks and impacts relating to the World Bank ESS3 (Resource Efficiency and Pollution Prevention and Management Standard).</p>	Prepared and disclosed as part of ESMF prior to the signing of the contract between UNICEF and implementing partners and/or contractors and implemented throughout the Project implementation period.	UNICEF
ESS 4: COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY			

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS [The actions listed below are illustrative (unless otherwise explicitly specified with a “NOTE”) – delete or adjust them, or add new actions as needed].		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
4.1	<p>COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY:</p> <p>Prepare, adopt, and implement measures and actions to assess and manage specific risks and impacts on community health and safety as part of the ESMF and the measures in the Generic ESMP described under action 1.2 above.</p>	Prepared and included as part of ESMF and disclosed prior to the signing of the contract between UNICEF and implementing partners/contractors and implemented throughout the project implementation period.	UNICEF
4.2	<p>TRAFFIC AND ROAD SAFETY:</p> <p>As part of the ESMF and ESMPs under action 1.2 above, prepare, adopt, and implement measures and actions to assess and manage traffic and road safety risks as required.</p>	Prepared and included as part of ESMF and disclosed prior to the signing of the contract between UNICEF and implementing partners/contractors and implemented throughout the project implementation period.	UNICEF
4.3	<p>SEA AND SH RISKS</p> <p>As a part of the ESMF under action 1.2 above, prepare, adopt, and implement a SEA/SH Action Plan, to assess and manage the risks of SEA and SH.</p> <p>Ensure sufficient GBV service providers are in place to refer SEA/SH cases.</p>	<p>Has been drafted and will be disclosed prior to the signing of the contract between UNICEF and implementing partners/contractors and implemented throughout the Project implementation period</p> <p>Prior to the commencement of project activities</p>	UNICEF
4.4	SECURITY MANAGEMENT		

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS [The actions listed below are illustrative (unless otherwise explicitly specified with a “NOTE”) – delete or adjust them, or add new actions as needed].		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
	<p>As part of the ESMF under action 1.2 above, implement security risk management measures, which would include measures under the UN security protocols and any measures necessary to ensure consistency with the ESF requirements including security risk assessment and any security management measures necessary for the implementation of Project activities and the provision of security to Project workers, sites and/or assets.</p>	<p>Throughout Project implementation.</p>	<p>UNICEF</p>
ESS 10: STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION DISCLOSURE			
<p>10.1</p>	<p>STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN PREPARATION AND IMPLEMENTATION</p> <p>Prepare, consult, adopt, disclose, and implement a Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) for the Project, consistent with ESS10, which shall include measures to, inter alia, provide stakeholders and project actors 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. This shall include measures to consult the E&S instruments for the Project with key stakeholders considering the COVID-19 restrictions and limitations (social distancing rules).</p>	<p>Prepared and disclosed prior to starting project implementation; updated and implemented throughout project implementation.</p>	<p>UNICEF</p>
<p>10.2</p>	<p>PROJECT GRIEVANCE MECHANISM</p> <p>Establish, publicize, maintain, and operate an accessible Project grievance mechanism, to receive and facilitate the 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 Project 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-centred manner.</p>	<p>Establish the Project GRM prior to commencement of project activities and thereafter maintain it throughout the project period</p>	<p>UNICEF</p>
CAPACITY SUPPORT			

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS [The actions listed below are illustrative (unless otherwise explicitly specified with a “NOTE”) – delete or adjust them, or add new actions as needed].		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
<p>CS1</p>	<p>All capacity-building activities and training will be further detailed in a Capacity Building and Training Plan in the ESMF. UNICEF shall facilitate training as per ESMF to build the capacity of staff of UNICEF, implementing partners, and contractors. Content of capacity building will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grievance mechanisms for workers and communities • GBV, including Code of conduct to prevent GBV and SEA • Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) • Simplified Labor Management Procedures • Community health and safety (including emergency prevention and preparedness, response arrangements to an emergency) • Security risk management measures • COVID 19 Infection Prevention and Control Protocols 	<p>Prior to the commencement of Project activities and throughout Project implementation.</p>	<p>UNICEF</p>