

International Committee of the Red Cross
**SOUTH SUDAN COVID19 EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND HEALTH SYSTEM
PREPAREDNESS PROJECT**
ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL COMMITMENT PLAN

February 2022

Environmental and Social Commitment Plan

1. The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), as a recipient of financing made by the International Development Association (IDA or Association), is pursuing the next phase of the COVID-19 Emergency Response and Health System Preparedness Project (the Project) in South Sudan.
2. The ICRC, as IDA recipient, shall ensure material measures and actions are taken so that the Project aligns with the World Bank Environmental and Social Standards (ESSs) of the Environmental and Social Framework (ESF) and any environmental and social instruments required under this ESCP, as reflected in the Environmental and Social Assessment and Management Framework (ESMF). The resulting Environmental and Social Commitment Plan (ESCP) sets out the measures and actions to that affect, as well as a corresponding timeline for completion in the table below.
3. Implementation of the material measures and actions set out in this ESCP shall be monitored and reported by the ICRC to the Association in its quarterly report, facilitating the Association's monitoring and assessment of progress.
4. Where Project modifications, unforeseen circumstances, or performance result in changes to the environmental or social risks and impacts of the Project, the ICRC shall take new measures or adjust its actions as necessary to address those risks and impacts. Accordingly, upon mutual agreement and as required, this ESCP may be revised during the Project's implementation. In such circumstances, ICRC will agree to the changes with the Association and will update the ESCP to reflect these. Agreement on changes to the ESCP will be documented through the exchange of letters signed between the Association and ICRC and the updated ESCP shall promptly be disclosed in country and on ICRC's and the Association's website.
5. Where Project changes, unforeseen circumstances, or project performance result in changes to the risks and impacts during the project' duration, ICRC shall implement actions and measures to address such risks and impacts consistent with the Project context and as agreed with the Association; ICRC may re-allocate Project funds, as agreed with the Association, and/or undertake additional funds mobilization efforts, if needed, to be able to implement such agreed actions and needed measures.

South Sudan – COVID-19 Emergency Response and Health System Preparedness Project (the Project)

**ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL COMMITMENT PLAN (ESCP)
February 2022**

ESCP Monitoring & Reporting

	Material Measures and Actions	Timeframe/ Completion Date	Responsibility/ Authority
	<p>Regular Reporting: Report in quarterly narratives, on the monitoring of the context and Project activities, as well as the environmental, social, health and safety (ESHS) performance of the Project, including but not limited to, stakeholder engagement activities and recorded grievance as described in the SEP, outlined in the ESMF, and specified in the Financial Agreement.</p>	<p>Quarterly throughout project implementation.</p>	<p>ICRC Health (Field and HQ); ICRC Resource Mobilisation (REM)</p>
	<p>Incident Notification: Notify the Association promptly of any incident (including but not limited to security, sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA), fraud and corruption cases, or incidents related to or having an impact on the Project which has, or are likely to have, a significant adverse effect on the environment, the affected communities, the public, or workers, in accordance with the Protocol established for previously provided support as well as the ESMF for other potential environmental risks and impacts.</p> <p>The Protocol outlines the required level of detail of when</p>	<p>Within seven days after first becoming aware of the incident or accident.</p> <p>No later than 30 days after ICRC becomes aware of an incident or accident, ICRC shall provide the Association with a summary report.</p>	<p>ICRC Delegation Management, REM; Ethics, Risk and Compliance Office (ERCO)</p>

	reporting a Significant Event as well as follow-up reporting.		
ESS 1: Assessment and Management of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts			
	Material Measures and Actions	Timeframe /Completion Date	Responsibility/ Authority
1.1	<p>Environmental and Social Assessments:</p> <p>Assess and manage the environmental and social risks and impacts of the Project in accordance with the ESSs and the Project’s ESMF. To address those risks and impacts identified, implement appropriate mitigation measures called for by the ESMF, which shall be adopted, cleared, and disclosed prior to implementation of activities.</p>	ESMF shall be implemented as prepared under the parent project.	ICRC Health (Field & HQ), Environment and Climate Change unit (ECC), Accountability to Affected People (AAP)
1.2	<p>Institutional Capacity, Management Tools and Instruments:</p> <p>1. Maintain an organizational structure to support management of E&S risks and ensure compliance of the Project with the ESSs and this ESCP.</p> <p>2. Comply with the ESSs in the assessment and mitigation of environmental and social risks of the Project as spelled out in the ESMF, including by a) abiding by the ICRC’s Framework for Sustainable Development, the ICRC’s Framework for Environmental Management in Assistance Programs, and other relevant internal policies to systematically assess, identify and understand the potentially adverse environmental impacts and implications of</p>	<p>1. Maintain an adequate structure throughout Project implementation.</p> <p>2. Implement mitigation measures throughout Project implementation as per ESMF.</p>	ICRC Health (Field & HQ); ECC, AAP, Security and Crisis Management Support (SCMS)

<p>their activities, and b) taking feasible initiatives to avoid, reduce, or compensate for these impacts and enhance efficiency/quality when relevant and as necessary. In case of any difference between these ICRC policies and the ESF, spell out in the ESMF supplementary measures to be applied to the Project to facilitate the Project's E&S risk management in accordance with the ESF.</p> <p>3. With a view to complying with the ESSs and the Project's ESMF, operate the Project according to ICRC Social Considerations and Security Management protocols, leveraging acceptance, persuasion, influence and credibility for the safety of staff and continuity of operations. Follow reporting structures and notification systems to mitigate potential risks as relevant.</p> <p>4. With a view to complying with the ESSs, this ESCP, and the ESMF, in a manner satisfactory to the Association, leverage and adhere to the Accountability to Affected People (AAP) Institutional Framework to engage directly with people and communities and involve them in planning and implementing activities, as well as mitigate their exposure to risks and back efforts to strengthen resilience to the effects of conflict and violence.</p> <p>5. Develop, adopt, disclose, and implement the Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) for targeted, inclusive consultations and feedback</p>	<p>3. Throughout Project implementation.</p> <p>4. Throughout Project implementation.</p> <p>5. On timeframes specified in sections 10.1 and 10.2.</p>	
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	throughout Project implementation as outlined under the section on ESS10 below.		
ESS 2: Labor and Working Conditions			
	Material Measures and Actions	Timeframe/ Completion date	Responsibility/ Authority
2.1	<p>Labor Management Procedures</p> <p>Consistent with ESS2 and in a manner satisfactory to the Association, implement Labor Management Procedures (LMP) for the Project as per ICRC HR practices referenced in the ESMF.</p>	LMP as per HR policies shall be applied by ICRC throughout Project implementation.	ICRC Health (Field and HQ); Delegation Management
2.2	<p>Occupational Health and Safety Measures:</p> <p>Ensure that health staff for the Project is medically screened, briefed and trained on mission risks, and particularly related to medical waste, clinical techniques or use of equipment. This includes promoting adherence to the primary and secondary measures highlighted in ICRC's Medical Waste Management Manual and other exposure protocols, such as those in the ICRC PEP guidelines as referenced in the ESMF including the World Bank Group ESHS Guidelines.</p>	Throughout Project implementation.	ICRC Health (Field and HQ); Delegation Management
2.3	<p>Security Management:</p> <p>Manage security risks of the Project consistent with the ESSs and the provisions of this ESCP concerning ESS4 as assessed and spelled out in the ESMF. To this end, leverage the actions of understanding, acceptance, persuasion, influence and credibility for the safety of staff and continuity of operations according to SOPs and guidance from the ICRC Security and Crisis</p>	Throughout Project implementation.	ICRC SCMS; delegation management

	Management Support Unit (SCMS) as further outlined in the ESMF in consistency with the ESF.		
2.4	<p>Grievance Mechanisms: Consistent with ESS2, maintain a grievance redress mechanism available to ICRC staff (guards included) working on the Project. To this end, leverage and communicate on the ombudsman relay system for staff, the Independent Board of Appeal, and the ERCO, as noted in the ESMF. This will ensure that individuals or groups who, because of their particular circumstances, may be disadvantaged or vulnerable, have access to the development benefits resulting from the Project.</p>	Throughout Project implementation.	ICRC HR, ERCO, ombudsman system; Independent Board of Appeal (IBA)
ESS 3: Resource Efficiency and Pollution Prevention and Management			
	Material Measures and Actions	Timeframe/ Completion Date	Responsibility/ Authority
3.1	<p>Medical Waste Management: Reduce the risks of hazardous medical waste and the means of managing that waste through the application of the ICRC Medical Waste Management Manual, consistent with ESS3, existing national waste management legislation and plans, as well as context-appropriate measures for Akobo County hospital.</p> <p>Destroy expired medicines in accordance with ESS3 and as specified in ESMF.</p>	Throughout Project implementation.	ICRC Health Field Team
ESS 4: Community Health and Safety			
	Material Measures and Actions	Timeframe/ Completion Date	Responsibility/Authority

4.1	Traffic and Road Safety ICRC staff generally walk from their compound to the Akobo County hospital. Road safety management measures applicable to the Project shall be laid out in the ESMF.	Throughout Project implementation.	ICRC delegation management
4.2	Community Health Quality of Goods and Safety:		

	Relevant aspects of ESS 4 are considered and integrated in the ESMF, including measures to: minimize the potential for community exposure to communicable diseases; establish and implement appropriate quality management systems to the risks and the impacts that services provided and activities carried out under the Project may have on community health and safety; manage the risks of contextual insecurity for beneficiaries; and prevent and respond to any sexual exploitation and abuse, and sexual harassment.	Measures reflected in the ESMF on timeframe specified in section 1.1 of this ESCP, and thereafter implemented throughout Project implementation.	ICRC Health (Field and HQ); Delegation Management
4.3	Security Management A security management plan, which shall contain all the procedures and protocols related to security for the ICRC staff contributing to the Project, exists as per ICRC SOP, and is referenced in the ESMF.	Throughout Project implementation	ICRC delegation management; SCMS

4.4	<p>Security Personnel ICRC will not engage contractors, including not using the services of security actors, nor hire private, armed security service providers or staff as part of the Project. Any ICRC staff providing non-armed security services related to the Project shall be hired and employed consistent with ESS4 24, 26-27 and other relevant provisions of this ESCP, including actions 2.3, 2.4, 4.3, 4.6, 10.4, and 10.5.</p>	Throughout Project implementation.	ICRC delegation management; SCMS
4.5	<p>Personal Data Protection: Safeguard personal data of individuals as an essential aspect of protecting people’s lives, their physical and mental integrity, and their dignity under the codified Rules on Personal Data Protection; take the appropriate measures, as defined by institutional guidelines, if any breach of the rules takes place.</p>	Throughout Project implementation.	ICRC Field medical teams, ICRC Data Protection Office (DPO), REM
4.6	<p>SEA, GBV, Fraud and Corruption: To ensure compliance with ESS4, ensure all staff (ICRC guards included) have read, understood and signed the ICRC Code of Conduct, implement strong hiring procedures and background checks, as well as diligent performance appraisals. Promote understanding of and adherence to the AkoboCounty Hospital’s (ACH) code of conduct among the local MoH Akobo hospital staff, guards included, at the Hospital. Implement the agreed corrective measures for any misconduct. Details integrated into the ESMF shall apply.</p>	Throughout Project implementation.	ICRC HR, ERCO, Delegation Management; Akobo County Health department
ESS 5: Land Acquisition, Restrictions and Land Use and Involuntary Resettlement			

	<i>Standard currently not relevant to the Project</i>		
ESS 6: Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Management of Living Natural Resources			
	Material Measures and Actions	Timeframe/Completion Date	Responsibility/ Authority
6.1	Biodiversity conservation: As part of the ESMF and consistent with ESS3, adopt procedures to minimize impacts on biodiversity from disposal of medical wastes.	Throughout Project implementation.	ICRC Health Field Team
ESS 7: Indigenous Peoples/ Sub-Saharan African Historically Underserved Traditional Local Communities			
	Material Measures and Actions	Timeframe/Completion Date	Responsibility/ Authority
7.1	Cultural Characteristics, AAP Implement the Project in accordance with ESS7 and as mentioned in the ESMF as well as the SEP, to ensure inclusive consultations and adequate access to secondary health care services to those	Throughout Project implementation.	ICRC AAP, ICRC Health Field Team
	falling under ESS7. To this end, leverage the ICRC's long-term presence, the knowledge of its resident staff and the ongoing dialogue with people affected by conflict to continuously update the understanding of the context. Reinforce this analysis and the integration of community needs and priorities through community outreach, promoting a dignified, people-centered approach that pays particular attention to those most marginalized and at risk, in line also with ICRC's framework on Accountability to Affected People.		
	Given it is envisioned that all Project beneficiaries are SSAHUTLCs, the grievance mechanism has been established under ESS10. The grievance mechanism shall be maintained throughout Project implementation.	Throughout Project implementation.	ICRC AAP, ICRC Health FieldTeam

ESS 8: Cultural Heritage			
	<i>Standard currently not relevant to the Project</i>		
ESS 9: Financial Intermediaries			
	<i>Standard currently not relevant to the Project</i>		
ESS 10: Stakeholder Engagement and Information Disclosure			
	Material Measures and Actions	Timeframe/Completion Date	Responsibility/ Authority
10.1	Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) Development: Consistent with ESS10, develop, adopt, and disclose the SEP in alignment with the memorandum of understanding with the County Health Department. Refine the process and mechanisms to continue engaging relevant stakeholders during the implementation phase, including regarding grievances redress mechanisms.	Prior to appraisal	ICRC Health Field Team, AAP
10.2	Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) Implementation: Ensure implementation of approaches and strategies highlighted in the prepared, cleared, and disclosed SEP.	SEP implemented throughout project implementation	ICRC Health Field Team, AAP
10.3	Integrated Feedback Mechanism: Enable regular and systematic engagement with communities, and receipt of and response to their feedback. Ensure methods and approaches to gathering and responding to feedback are tailored to cultural and context realities, available infrastructure for feedback channels, as well as resources.	Throughout Project implementation.	ICRC Health Field Team, AAP

10.4	<p>Grievance Redress: In a manner consistent with ESS10, address Project-related grievances through direct contact of ICRC Staff with MoH staff (guards included), beneficiaries and communities or through more formal channels, depending on their nature. Exchange to that effect regularly with patients, traditional and official authorities, as well as the Hospital Governance Board.</p>	Throughout Project implementation.	ICRC Health Field Team, AAP, and Delegation Management
10.5	<p>Capacity support and training: Capacity building activities and trainings as relevant and further detailed in the ESMF, shall focus on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stakeholder engagement • Occupational and Community Health and Safety • Emergency preparedness and response • GBV risk mitigation • Prevention and reporting of SEA • Grievance Management • Management of medical waste and disposal of sharps • COVID-19 Infection prevention and control • Medical waste management • Cold chain management 	Throughout Project implementation	ICRC Health Field Team, AAP, and Delegation Management