



**Ministry of Finance, Economic Planning and
Development, Malawi**

**Malawi Social Support for Resilient Livelihoods
Project (P 169198)**

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

August 20, 2019

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL COMMITMENT PLAN

1. The Ministry of Finance, Economic Planning and Development will implement the Malawi Social Support for Resilient Livelihoods Project (the **Project**), with the involvement of the following Ministries/agencies/units: National Local Government Finance Committee (NLGFC), Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development, Ministry of Gender, Children, Disability and Social Welfare, Ministry of Labour, Skills and Innovation, Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Water Development, Ministry of Natural Resources, Energy and Mining, Ministry of Lands, Housing and Urban Development, Community Savings and Investment Promotion Cooperative Union, and Local Authorities. The International Development Association (hereinafter the *Association*) *has agreed to provide* financing for the Project.
2. The Ministry of Finance, Economic Planning and Development will implement material measures and actions so that the Project is implemented in accordance with the Environmental and Social Standards (**ESSs**). This Environmental and Social Commitment Plan (**ESCP**) sets out material measures and actions, any specific documents or plans, as well as the timing for each of these.
3. The Ministry of Finance, Economic Planning and Development will also comply with the provisions of any other E&S documents required under the ESF and referred to in this ESCP, such as Environmental and Social Management Plans (ESMP), Resettlement Action Plans (RAP), and Stakeholder Engagement Plans (SEP), and the timelines specified in those E&S documents.
4. The Ministry of Finance, Economic Planning and Development is responsible for compliance with all requirements of the ESCP even when implementation of specific measures and actions is conducted by the Ministry, agency or unit referenced in 1 above.
5. Implementation of the material measures and actions set out in this ESCP will be monitored and reported to the *Association* by the Ministry of Finance, Economic Planning and Development as required by the ESCP and the conditions of the legal agreement, and the *Association* will monitor and assess progress and completion of the material measures and actions throughout implementation of the Project.
6. As agreed by the *Association* and the Ministry of Finance, Economic Planning and Development, this ESCP may be revised from time to time during Project implementation, to reflect adaptive management of Project changes and unforeseen circumstances or in response to assessment of Project performance conducted under the ESCP itself. In such circumstances, the Ministry of Finance, Economic Planning and Development will agree to the changes with the *Association* and will update the ESCP to reflect such changes. Agreement on changes to the ESCP will be documented through the exchange of letters signed between the *Association* and the Ministry of Finance, Economic Planning and Development. The Ministry of Finance, Economic Planning and Development will promptly disclose the updated ESCP.
7. Where Project changes, unforeseen circumstances, or Project performance result in changes to the risks and impacts during Project implementation, the Ministry of Finance, Economic Planning and Development shall provide additional funds, if needed, to implement actions and measures to address such risks and impacts, which may include environmental, community and worker health and safety impacts, gender-based violence and land acquisition.

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS	TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY	COMPLETION DATE
MONITORING AND REPORTING			
<p>A REGULAR REPORTING: Prepare and submit to the Association 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 documents required under the ESCP, stakeholder engagement activities, functioning of the grievance mechanism(s).</p>	<p><i>Quarterly reporting throughout Project implementation.</i></p>	<p><i>The Ministry of Finance, Economic Planning and Development</i></p>	<p><i>30th September 2020-30th June, 2025</i></p>
<p>B INCIDENTS AND ACCIDENTS: Promptly notify the Association 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 injuries requiring off-site medical attention, mistreatment of communities, incidents of GBV/SHE, damage to natural habitats, damage to physical cultural resources. Provide sufficient detail regarding 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 supervising entity, as appropriate. Subsequently, as per the Association’s request, prepare a report on the incident or accident and propose any measures to prevent its recurrence.</p>	<p><i>Notify the Association within 48 hours after learning of the incident or accident. A report would be provided within a timeframe acceptable to the Association, as requested.</i></p>	<p><i>National Government Committee</i> <i>Local Finance</i></p>	<p><i>N/A</i></p>

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS	TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY	COMPLETION DATE	
ESS 1: ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RISKS AND IMPACT				
1.1	<p>ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE: Establish and maintain an organisational structure with qualified staff and resources to support management of E&S risks.</p> <p>The PIU has recruited an E&S Specialist who will function throughout the project implementation</p>	<p><i>The organisational structure, including the environment and social specialists are in place, and should be maintained throughout Project implementation</i></p>	<p><i>National Government Committee</i> <i>Local Finance</i></p>	30 th June, 2020
1.2	<p>ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL ASSESSMENT: Update, adopt, and implement, the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment that has been prepared as part of the ESMF for the Project, in a manner acceptable to the Association.</p> <p>Where new information requires the ESMF to be revised the revised document disclosed.</p>	<p><i>Environmental and Social Assessment process for sub-projects will be done during sub-projects planning</i> <i>Implementation of the mitigation measures contained in the ESMF should continue throughout the Project implementation.</i></p>	<p><i>National Government Committee</i> <i>Local Finance</i></p>	31 st December, 2020

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY	COMPLETION DATE
1.3	<p>MANAGEMENT TOOLS AND INSTRUMENTS: Screen any proposed sub-project in accordance with the Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) prepared for the Project.</p> <p>Draft, adopt, and implement the sub-project Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) for sub-projects, as specified Chapter 4 of the ESMF, in a manner acceptable to the Association.</p> <p>Review and Update Project Implementation Manual for the Enhanced Public Works to incorporate lessons learnt from the pilot.</p>	<p><i>ESMF finalised and disclosed by 20th September 2019</i></p> <p><i>ESMP submitted for the Bank/Association approval before launching the bidding process where contractors are involved, or before commencing EPWP activities for the respective sub-project.</i></p> <p><i>Once prepared, tools and instruments apply throughout Project implementation.</i></p> <p><i>EPWP Project Implementation Manual revised by –</i></p>	<p><i>National Government Committee, Association</i></p> <p><i>Local Finance The</i></p>	<p><i>31st December, 2020 but screening will be carried out every time there is a new cycle of sub-projects</i></p>
1.4	<p>MANAGEMENT OF CONTRACTORS: Incorporate the relevant aspects of the ESCP, including the relevant E&S documents and/or plans, and the Labour Management Procedures, 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><i>Prior to the preparation of procurement documents.</i></p> <p><i>Supervise contractors throughout Project implementation.</i></p>	<p><i>National Government Committee</i></p> <p><i>Local Finance</i></p>	<p><i>Every time new procurement is undertaken</i></p>

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ESS 2: LABOUR AND WORKING CONDITIONS				
2.1	<p>LABOUR MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES: Update, adopt, and implement the Labour Management Procedures (LMP) that have been developed for the Project covering Community Workers, Community Volunteers, Contracted Workers, Short-Term Consultants and Direct Project Workers.</p>	<p><i>Labor Management Procedures developed prior to appraisal and project effectiveness and maintained throughout Project implementation.</i></p>	<p><i>National Government Committee</i> <i>Local Finance</i></p>	<p><i>31st December, 2020</i></p>
2.2	<p>GRIEVANCE MECHANISM FOR PROJECT WORKERS: Establish, maintain, and operate a grievance mechanism for Project workers, as described in Section 10 of the LMP and consistent with ESS2.</p>	<p><i>Worker grievance mechanism operational prior to engaging Project workers and maintained throughout Project construction works.</i></p>	<p><i>National Government Committee, Contractors</i> <i>Local Finance</i></p>	<p><i>31st December, 2020</i></p>

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY	COMPLETION DATE
2.3	<p>OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY (OHS) MEASURES: Prepare, adopt, and implement occupational, health and safety (OHS) measures specified in the ESMP and LMP.</p> <p>Site specific risk assessments to be carried out and preventative action and mitigation measures to be developed in ESMP.</p> <p>First-aid training provided to sub-project workers and first-aid kits provided.</p>	<p><i>OHS measures operational prior to engaging Project workers and maintained throughout Project implementation.</i></p> <p><i>Site specific RA to be completed prior to commencement of work under the same timeframe as for the preparation and implementation of the ESMPs</i></p> <p><i>First aid training completed and kits available prior to commencement of works, kits maintained throughout sub-project implementation</i></p>	<p><i>National Government Committee, Contractors</i></p> <p><i>Local Finance</i></p>	31st December, 2020
ESS 3: RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT				
3.1	<p>PEST MANAGEMENT PLAN: Prepare, adopt, and implement a Pest Management Plan where the use of pesticides or chemicals are considered necessary within the EPWP or livelihoods activities as part of the sub-project ESMP under action 1.3 above.</p>	<p><i>Same timeframe as that of the preparation and implementation of the ESMPs</i></p>	<p><i>National Government Committee</i></p> <p><i>Local Finance</i></p>	31st December, 2020
3.2	<p>RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT: Resource efficiency and pollution prevention and management measures for each sub-project will be covered under the ESMP to be prepared under action 1.3 above.</p>	<p><i>Same timeframe as that of the preparation and implementation of the ESMPs</i></p>	<p><i>National Government Committee</i></p> <p><i>Local Finance</i></p>	31st December, 2020

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ESS 4: COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY			
4.1 COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY: Prepare, adopt, and implement measures and action to assess and manage specific risks and impacts to the community arising from Project activities, including, inter alia, behaviour of Project workers, worker sanitation arrangements, response to emergency situations, and include these measures in the ESMPs to be prepared in accordance with the ESMF, in a manner acceptable to the Association.	<i>Same timeframe as that of the preparation and implementation of the ESMPs.</i>	National Government Committee Local Finance	31 st December, 2020 but screening and ESMP development will be done every time there is a new cycle of sub-projects
4.2 GBV AND SEXUAL EXPLOITATION AND ABUSE RISKS: Develop and implement measures and actions to assess and manage the risks of gender-based violence (GBV) and sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA).	<i>Same timeframe as that of the preparation and implementation of the ESMPs.</i>	National Government Committee Local Finance	31 st December, 2020 but screening and ESMP development will be done every time there is a new cycle of subprojects
ESS 5: LAND ACQUISITION, RESTRICTIONS ON LAND USE AND INVOLUNTARY RESETTLEMENT			
5.1 RESETTLEMENT PLANS: Prepare, adopt, and implement resettlement plans (RAPs) in accordance with ESS 5 and consistent with the requirements of the Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF) that has been prepared for the Project, and thereafter adopt and implement the respective RAPs before carrying out the associated activities, in a manner acceptable to the Association.	<i>RPF finalised and disclosed by 20th September, 2019</i> <i>Resettlement Plans submitted for the Bank/Association approval and implemented fully prior to commencement of any works in the subproject.</i>	National Government Committee Local Finance	31 st December, 2020

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5.2	<p>GRIEVANCE REDRESS MECHANISM: The grievance mechanism to address resettlement related complaints is described in the RPF and SEP. The Project GRM will be used to address resettlement related complaints and issues. Specific Resettlement Plans will describe the GRM to be applied.</p>	<p><i>Implementation of GRM should continue throughout resettlement implementation.</i></p>	<p><i>National Government Committee</i></p> <p><i>Local Finance</i></p>	<p><i>31st December, 2020</i></p>
ESS 6: BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF LIVING NATURAL RESOURCES				
6.1	<p>BIODIVERSITY RISKS AND IMPACTS: Screening for biodiversity and living natural resources risks will be carried out at sub-project level. Biodiversity conservation and sustainable management of living natural resources measures for each sub-project will be covered under the ESMP to be prepared under action 1.3 above.</p>	<p><i>Same timeframe as that for the preparation and implementation of the ESMPs.</i></p>	<p><i>National Government Committee</i></p> <p><i>Local Finance</i></p>	<p><i>31st December, 2020 but screening and ESMP development will be done every time there is a new cycle of subprojects</i></p>
ESS 8: CULTURAL HERITAGE				
8.1	<p>CHANCE FINDS: Prepare, adopt, and implement the chance finds procedure described in the ESMF developed for the Project. Screening of sub-project sites and necessary measures for each sub-project will be covered under the ESMP to be prepared under action 1.3 above.</p>	<p><i>Same timeframe as that for the preparation and implementation of the ESMPs.</i></p>	<p><i>National Government Committee</i></p> <p><i>Local Finance</i></p>	<p><i>31st December, 2020 but screening and ESMP development will be done every time there is a new cycle of sub-projects</i></p>

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY		COMPLETION DATE
ESS 10: STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION DISCLOSURE					
10.1	STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN PREPARATION AND IMPLEMENTATION: Update, adopt, and implement Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP).	<i>SEP finalised and disclosed by 20th September, 2019</i> <i>Implementation of the measures contained in the SEP should continue throughout the Project implementation.</i>	<i>National Government Committee</i>	<i>Local Finance</i>	<i>31st December, 2020</i>
10.2	PROJECT GRIEVANCE MECHANISM: Prepare, adopt, maintain and operate a project grievance mechanism, as described in the SEP.	<i>Same timeframe as that of the preparation and disclosure of the SEP.</i> <i>Project GRM operational by project effectiveness date of</i> <i>Implementation of GRM will continue throughout Project implementation.</i>	<i>National Government Committee</i>	<i>Local Finance</i>	<i>31st December, 2020</i>
CAPACITY SUPPORT (TRAINING)					
CS1	Carry out assessment of environmental and social impacts capacity building needs. Prepare and implement training programme to strengthen stakeholder capacity in coordinating, planning, implementing and monitoring environmental and social safeguards issues.	Within 3 months of project effectiveness. Plan developed 1 month after project effectiveness and continue throughout project implementation.	<i>National Government Committee</i>	<i>Local Finance</i>	<i>30th September, 2020</i>
CS2	Training for Project workers on EPWP and livelihoods sub-projects on occupational health and safety including on emergency prevention and preparedness and response arrangements to emergency situations.	Prior to commencement of sub-project activities	<i>National Government Committee</i>	<i>Local Finance</i>	<i>31st December, 2020</i>