

Ministry of Innovation and Technology

Ethiopia Digital Foundation Project



ENVIRONMENTAL and SOCIAL COMMITMENT PLAN (ESCP)

December, 2020
Addis Ababa

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL COMMITMENT PLAN

1. The Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia (FDRE) will implement the Ethiopia Digital Foundations Project (the Project) with the involvement of Ministry of Innovation and Technology (MInT). The International Development Association, hereinafter the World Bank, has agreed to provide financing for the Project.
2. FDRE will implement material measures and actions so that the Project will be 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 FDRE 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 Framework (ESMF) and Stakeholder Engagement Plans (SEP) (which will be prepared before Project appraisal), and the timelines specified in those E&S documents.
4. The FDRE is responsible for compliance with all requirements of the ESCP even when implementation of specific measures and actions is conducted by the Ministries referenced in 1. above.
5. Implementation of the material measures and actions set out in this ESCP will be monitored and reported to the World Bank by FDRE as required by the ESCP and the conditions of the legal agreement, and the World Bank will monitor and assess progress and completion of the material measures and actions throughout implementation of the Project.
6. As agreed by the World Bank and the FDRE, this ESCP may be revised from time to time during the Project implementation, to reflect adaptive management of the Project and unforeseen circumstances or in response to assessment of Project preparation and performance conducted under the ESCP itself. In such circumstances, FDRE will agree to the changes with the World Bank 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 World Bank and the FDRE. The FDRE will promptly disclose the updated ESCP.
7. Where the Project changes, unforeseen circumstances, or the Project performance result in changes to the risks and impacts during Project implementation, the FDRE shall provide additional funds, if needed, to implement actions and measures to address such risks and impacts, which may include risks and impacts that are relevant to the Project such as environmental, social, health, and safety impacts.

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MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
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 documents required under the ESCP such as the implementation of the Environmental and Social Management Framework, stakeholder engagement activities, functioning of the grievance mechanism(s).</p>	Quarterly	Ministry of Innovation and Technology (MIiT)
B	<p>INCIDENTS AND ACCIDENTS</p> <p>Promptly notify the World Bank of any incident or accident related to the PROJECT activities which has, or is likely to have, a significant adverse effect on the environment, the affected communities, the public or workers [including] [specify examples of incidents and accidents, as appropriate for the type of operation]. 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 World Bank’s request, prepare a report on the incident or accident and propose any measures to prevent its recurrence.</p>	Report to the Bank within 48 hours after learning of the incident or accident.	MIiT
ESS 1: ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RISKS AND IMPACTS			
1.1	<p>ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE</p> <p>Establish and maintain an organizational structure with qualified staff (at least one environment and one social safeguards specialist in each implementing agency) and allocate required resources and equipment to support management of E&S risks at MIiT and ECA.</p>	<p>Before end of Appraisal</p> <p>Maintained throughout project implementation</p>	MIiT, Ethiopian Communications Authority (ECA)
1.2	<p>ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL ASSESSMENT</p> <p>Prepare and disclose Environmental and Social Management Framework for the Project (the ESMF), including a social assessment fulfilling criteria under ESS7, for the Project in a manner acceptable to the World Bank.</p>	<p>Prior to the Board Approval</p> <p>Throughout Project implementation</p>	MIiT

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1.3	<p>TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND STUDIES</p> <p>The Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia shall make sure that any terms of reference for studies, advisory services and the outputs of any technical assistance which may be provided under this Project such as the preparation of environmental and social risk management instruments for the Project are prepared considering the Environmental and Social Standards of the Environmental and Social Framework of the World Bank. Such terms of reference shall be submitted to the World Bank for prior review and no objection.</p>	Throughout the Project implementation.	MInT
1.4	<p>ASSOCIATED FACILITIES</p> <p>Reform of the telecommunications sector and the opening of the market to new operators could lead to infrastructure development for expansion of services (such as construction of data centers and cell towers). At this point these indirect consequences and/or downstream activities are not considered Associated Facilities, assessing the criteria outlined in the ESF Policy, Para 11.</p> <p>If at any point this assessment would be revised based on adaptation of the project design, instruments would be developed for these facilities under this project and the ESCP revised accordingly to ensure that these works would be subject to compliance with relevant WBG Environment, Health and Safety Guidelines and ESF Standards. Respective due diligence will be conducted regular during the Bank’s Implementation Support Missions or ad hoc based on request by the client.</p>	<p>Due diligence throughout the Project implementation, at least every six months during implementation.</p> <p>Update of the ESCP and preparation of instruments in case of assessment of association.</p>	World Bank, MInT
ESS 2: LABOR AND WORKING CONDITIONS			
2.1	<p>LABOR MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES</p> <p>Prepare Labor Management Procedures ((LMP) and OHS management plan for the Project.</p>	Prior to the Board Approval	MInT
2.2	Implement labor management procedure	Throughout the implementation Project	MInT
2.3	Implement measures to minimize or avoid occupational health and safety risks	Throughout the implementation Project	MInT
2.4	Establish, maintain, and operate a grievance mechanism for Project workers, as described in the LMP and consistent with ESS2.	Grievance mechanism for project workers in place as per the LMP and maintained throughout Project implementation.	MInT

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ESS 3: RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT			
3.1	Prepare and implement an E-Waste Management Plan.	Throughout the implementation Project	MInT
3.2	Implement the project activities in compliance with ESS3	Throughout the implementation Project	MInT
ESS 4: COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY			
4.1	Implement the project activities in compliance with the requirements of ESS4	Throughout the implementation Project	MInT
ESS 5: LAND ACQUISITION, RESTRICTIONS ON LAND USE AND INVOLUNTARY RESETTLEMENT			
5.1	RESETTLEMENT PLANS As part of the support to ECA in developing specifications for a mechanism to disburse USF funds, the Project will also finance the development of an a Resettlement Policy Framework consistent with ESS5, in a manner acceptable to the Association and compliance with it will be a criteria to access said funds.	Prior to finalization of noted TA process.	MInT, ECA
5.2	GRIEVANCE MECHANISM The project GRM outlined in the SEP will be used in cases of complaints related to preparation of the RPF.	Prior to finalization of noted TA process.	MInT, ECA
ESS 6: BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF LIVING NATURAL RESOURCES			
6.1	Implement the Project activities in compliance with ESS6	Throughout the implementation Project	MInT
ESS 7: INDIGENOUS PEOPLES/SUB-SAHARAN AFRICAN HISTORICALLY UNDERSERVED TRADITIONAL LOCAL COMMUNITIES			

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7.1	<p>The social assessment will be prepared and disclosed with the ESMF in manner acceptable to the association prior to board approval.</p> <p>Design related recommendations stemming from the social assessment will be integrated and adapted by the client prior to disbursement;</p> <p>Respective contingency provisions will be used in case of resource requirements, including potential proactive capacity development to enable underserved local communities to benefit within the framework of the project. Related targets outlined in the SA shall thereby be reported and achieved.</p>	<p>Prior to the Board Approval</p> <p>Prior to disbursement</p> <p>Throughout the implementation</p>	MInT
ESS 8: CULTURAL HERITAGE.			
8.1	Implement the Project activities in compliance with ESS6	Throughout the implementation Project	MInT
ESS10: STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION DISCLOSURE			
10.1	Prepare a Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) for the Project and for the Activities under the Project	Before appraisal	MInT
10.2	Implement the SEP	Throughout the Project implementation	MInT
10.3	PROJECT GRIEVANCE MECHANISM: Prepare and implement a grievance mechanism, as described in the SEP.	GM established no later than 60 days after the project effectiveness date ,maintained throughout the Project implementation	MInT
CAPACITY SUPPORT (TRAINING)			
CS1	Establishment of environment and social management system within MiNT (including procedures, staffing, equipment) in line with requirements under 1.3 and the project capacity development support.	Maintained throughout the Project implementation	MiNT
CS2	Establishment of environment and social management system within ECA (including procedures, staffing, equipment) in line with requirements under 1.3 and the project capacity development support.	Maintained throughout the Project implementation	ECA

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CS3	<p>Training topics for personnel involved in Project implementation will among others include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• ESMF of the project• Grievance redress mechanisms• Stakeholder Engagement and OHS management• <p>Training shall be cascaded also down to lower levels of project implementors.</p>	Throughout the Project implementation	MIInT, ECA