



LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

Peace Independence Democracy Unity Prosperity

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY

Community Livelihood Enhancement and Resilience (P178545)

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL COMMITMENT PLAN

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Prepared by
Poverty Reduction Fund

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL COMMITMENT PLAN

1. The Government of Lao People's Democratic Republic (Lao PDR) (the Recipient) will implement the Lao PDR: Community Livelihood Enhancement and Resilience - CLEAR ("the Project"), with the involvement of the Poverty Reduction Fund (PRF) of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MAF), as set out in the Financing Agreement. The International Development Association (the Association) has agreed to provide financing (P178545) for the Project, as set out in the referred agreement.
2. The Recipient 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 Association. The ESCP is a part of the Financing Agreement. Unless otherwise defined in this ESCP, capitalized terms used in this ESCP have the meanings ascribed to them in the referred agreement.
3. Without limitation to the foregoing, this ESCP sets out material measures and actions that the Recipient 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 Association. Once adopted, said E&S instruments may be revised from time to time with prior written agreement by the Association.
4. As agreed by the Association and the Recipient, 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 Recipient through PRF and the Association agree to update the ESCP to reflect these changes through an exchange of letters signed between the Association and the Recipient through PRF. The Recipient shall promptly disclose the updated ESCP.

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
MONITORING AND REPORTING			
A	REGULAR REPORTING <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 instruments required under the ESCP, stakeholder engagement activities, and functioning of the grievance mechanism (GRM). 	Every six month to the Association (from Project Effectiveness throughout Project implementation, no later than 45 days after the end of each reporting period)	PRF-Project Management Unit (PMU)
B	INCIDENTS AND ACCIDENTS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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, <i>inter alia</i>, cases of sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA), sexual harassment (SH), and accidents that result in death, serious or multiple injury. Provide sufficient details 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 Village Self-Help Management Committee (VSMC)/ Village Implementation Team (VIT)/ as appropriate. Subsequently, at the Association's request, prepare a report on the incident or accident and propose any measures to address it and prevent its recurrence. 	<p>Notify the Association within 48 hours after learning of the incident or accident.</p> <p>Provide subsequent report to the Association within a timeframe acceptable to the Association.</p>	PRF-PMU
ESS 1: ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RISKS AND IMPACTS			
1.1	ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> PRF to Maintain a Project Management Unit (PMU) with qualified staff and resources to support management of ESHS risks and impacts of the Project including one ES Manager, two ES Focal Points, two ES Consultants. One ES Focal Point for each project province and District 	No later than 90 days after Project effectiveness, and thereafter maintain throughout Project implementation. Full time ES Consultants for first 2 years and intermittent for the remaining years of project life.	PRF-PMU
1.2	ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL INSTRUMENTS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adopt the Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) for the Project, consistent with the relevant ESSs. The proposed activities described in the exclusion list set out in the ESMF shall be ineligible to receive financing under the Project. Prepare and implement site-specific Environmental and Social Management Plan 	Adopt prior to commencement of any relevant activities and maintain throughout Project implementation.	PRF-PMU, DIU and VDC (VSMC and VIT)

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
	<p>(ESMP), including Abbreviated Resettlement Plan (A-RP) as needed, based on results of E&S screening exercise as per project's ESMF and consistent with the relevant ESSs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with related agencies (NRA and UXO Laos) for the UXO survey and clearance plan (if needed), UXO clearance certificated should be obtained prior to commencement of construction activities in the UXO risk area. 		
1.3	<p>MANAGEMENT OF CONTRACTORS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Incorporate relevant E&S requirements (as specified in site-specific ESMPs, ESCOP, or Do and Don't Practices) into the contracts between PRF-PMU and VITs, as applicable, based on E&S screening, to ensure E&S compliance. 	Prior to commencement of any relevant procurement activities and maintain throughout Project implementation.	PRF-PMU, District Implementation Unit (DIU) and VDC
1.4	<p>TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that one Environmental and one Social Specialist is mobilized by PRF-PMU. Additional E&S Specialist may be required as requested by the Association. During project implementation, the consultancies, capacity building, training, and any other technical assistance activities under the Project are carried out in accordance with terms of reference acceptable to the Association, that are consistent with the ESSs. Thereafter ensure that the outputs of such activities comply with the terms of reference. PRF-PMU will provide training periodically to District Implementation Unit of PRF-PMU who relay the training to Community Workers/Village Facilitators. 	Within 3 months of project effectiveness and maintained throughout Project implementation.	PRF-PMU
1.5	<p>CONTINGENT EMERGENCY RESPONSE FINANCING</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that the Contingency Emergency Response Component (CERC) Manual as specified in the legal agreement includes a description of the ESHS assessment and management arrangements including CERC-ESMF Addendum for the implementation of Component 5, in accordance with the ESSs. Adopt any environmental and social (E&S) instruments which may be required for activities under Component 5 of the Project in accordance with the CERC Manual, and thereafter implement the measures and actions required under said E&S instruments, within the timeframes specified in said E&S instruments. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fully defined prior to appraisal. Adopt any required E&S instrument to include as part of the respective bidding process before implementing relevant Project activities and thereafter throughout Project implementation. 	PRF-PMU and concerned agencies (e.g. Disaster Management Division within Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare who is lead coordinator for disaster management)

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
ESS 2: LABOR AND WORKING CONDITIONS			
2.1	LABOR MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adopt and implement the Labor Management Procedures (LMP) as part of the ESMF for the Project, 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/ SH and VAC, forced labor, child labor), grievance arrangements for Project workers, and applicable requirements for VITs/VSMCs. 	Prepare LMP prior to project effectiveness and adopt by project effectiveness and implement throughout project implementation.	PRF-PMU
2.2	GRIEVANCE MECHANISM FOR PROJECT WORKERS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish, maintain, and operate a grievance mechanism for Project workers, as described in the LMP consistent with ESS2 and GoL's Labor Law 2013. LMP establishes various channels through which labor related grievance could be lodged. VITs/VSMCs designate relevant staff to receive and resolve work related complaint using one of the channels described in LMP. 	Establish grievance mechanism prior to engaging Project workers and thereafter maintain and operate it throughout Project implementation.	PRF-PMU
ESS 3: RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT			
3.1	RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Incorporate resource efficiency and pollution prevention and management measures in the Site Specific ESMP (SS-ESMP) as described in 1.2 above. DURING CONSTRUCTION PHASE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that resources efficiency, waste generation, and pollution management from rehabilitation/ construction of subproject and/or activities can be adequately mitigated and managed using SS-ESMP as described in 1.2 above. Ensure that the mitigation measures are included in the agreement between local communities and PRF-PMU while ESF training, especially those related to ESHS, Good Agriculture Practices, etc. will be provided to VIT, local workers hired by VIT, and Community Supervisors engaged by VIT to conduct day-to-day monitoring and supervision of the subprojects/activities. DURING OPERATION PHASE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Before commencement of construction and operations of the facilities, same timeframe as for the adoption and implementation of the SS-ESMPs Before and during construction and/or rehabilitation of civil works subprojects and/or activities, as identified in the ESMP and ESCOP Training to be provided before implementing relevant Project activities and thereafter throughout Project implementation. 	PRF-PMU, DIU and VDC (VSMC and VIT)

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For all facilities, adopt mitigation measures to conserve the use of water and electricity in these facilities (e.g. grain processing facilities, drying platforms) and also to manage waste generation and disposal, especially those related to plastic and animal wastes following the 3R (reduce, reuse, and recycle) principles. For subprojects related to irrigation and/or operations of agriculture production that involve the use of toxic and/or agricultural chemicals, adopt, provide training to farmers and local authorities at all levels, and implement Good Agriculture Practices to promote appropriate use of pesticides for crop production including safe management and disposal of its containers/packages and/or other toxic wastes and hazardous wastes (including electronic wastes) consistent with ESS3. Components 2 and 4: Ensure appropriate training is provided to local farmers, communities, and authorities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Before construction/rehabilitation is completed, provide training to farmers and local authorities at all levels Before construction/rehabilitation or related activity is completed Before loan disbursement for members of Self-Help Groups/Producers Group and thereafter throughout project implementation 	
ESS 4: COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY			
4.1	TRAFFIC AND ROAD SAFETY <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Incorporate measures to manage traffic and road safety risks as required in the SS-ESMP as described in 1.2 above. 	Before commencement of project activities and thereafter throughout project implementation	PRF-PMU, DIU and VDC (VSMC and VIT)
4.2	COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess and manage specific risks and impacts to the community arising from Project activities, including, inter alia, especially on behavior of Project workers, risks of labor influx, response to emergency situations, and include mitigation measures in the SS-ESMP as described in 1.2 above. 	Prior to tendering respective works, and throughout the project implementation	PRF-PMU, DIU and VDC (VSMC and VIT)
4.3	RISKS RELATED TO SEA/SH/VAC AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update, adopt, and implement measures to avoid/minimize the risks related to SEA/SH/VAC and domestic violence as part of SS-ESMPs based on the ES assessment and manage the risks of gender-based violence (GBV) and Sexual Exploitation and Abuse and Sexual Harassment (SEA/SH) and Violence Against Children (VAC). 	Before commencement of project activities and thereafter throughout project implementation	PRF-PMU, DIU and VDC (VSMC and VIT)
ESS 5: LAND ACQUISITION, RESTRICTIONS ON LAND USE AND INVOLUNTARY RESETTLEMENT			
5.1	RESETTLEMENT POLICY FRAMEWORK		

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adopt and implement a Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF) for the Project, consistent with ESS5. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adopt the RPF 30 days after effectiveness, and thereafter implement, where applicable, throughout Project implementation 	PRF-PMU
5.2	RESETTLEMENT PLANS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prepare, consult, adopt, disclose and implement Abbreviated Resettlement Plans (ARPs), if applicable, consistent with the requirements of the RPF, ESS5, and national legislation and implement the respective Abbreviated Resettlement Plans (A-RP) before carrying out the associated activities, in a manner acceptable to the Association. Monitoring and reporting of implementation of A-RP including grievance mechanism as described in 7.2 below. Voluntary land donations, if any, must follow the principles and procedure outlined in the RPF (Section 3.3.4 of project's RPF) and be consistent with requirements outlined in ESS5 in the World Bank's ESF. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adopt and implement the respective abbreviated resettlement plans, including ensuring that before taking possession of the land and related assets, full compensation has been provided. Full compensation will be paid to affected households/ persons before any civil works is implemented. Every 6 months after the implementation of Abbreviated Resettlement Plan 	PRF-PMU
ESS 6: BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF LIVING NATURAL RESOURCES			
6.1	BIODIVERSITY RISKS AND IMPACTS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A screening is carrying out to ensure that ESS6 requirements are well considered and addressed as part of ESS1. Adopt Do's and Dont's principles to prevent project's workers from involving in any form of natural resource extraction, habitat degradation, wildlife trade and 	Prior to start of any field activities and thereafter throughout Project implementation.	PRF-PMU, DIU and VDC (VSMC and VIT)

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
	consumption which was developed as part of the ESMF and will be applied to all project workers while working in the village's areas.		
ESS 7: INDIGENOUS PEOPLES/SUB-SAHARAN AFRICAN HISTORICALLY UNDERSERVED TRADITIONAL LOCAL COMMUNITIES			
7.1	ETHNIC GROUP ENGAGEMENT FRAMEWORK (EGEF) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> EGEF will not be prepared under this project. Instead the SEP is prepared to incorporate the principles, objectives and requirements of ESS7. 	Adopt by project effectiveness and implement throughout project implementation	PRF-PMU, DIU and VDC (VSMC and VIT)
7.2	GRIEVANCE REDRESS MECHANISM <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prepare, consult, adopt, and implement a grievance mechanism that is culturally appropriate to Ethnic Groups, as required under the ESS10. GRM for Ethnic Groups (EG) takes into account also informal grievance redress practices and has a number of channels for convenient use of EG, including channels to receive verbal and written grievances. The Feedback and Resolution Committees (FRC) (already established under RPF III - Additional Financing) will be maintained, and established in new project area under CLEAR. FRC will ensure at least 50% of committee members are female and appropriate to EGs as they have been built and adopted under RPF project series based on existing practices of EGs in terms of grievance redressal. 	Prior to any construction and other investment activities, and thereafter maintain and operate the mechanism throughout Project implementation.	PRF-PMU, DIU and VDC (VSMC and VIT)
ESS 8: CULTURAL HERITAGE – NOT RELEVANT			
8.1	CHANCE FINDS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement the chance finds procedures described in the ESMF, SS-ESMPs and ESCOP for the Project (as described in 1.2 above). 	Implement throughout Project implementation.	PRF-PMU, DIU and VDC (VSMC and VIT)
ESS 10: STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION DISCLOSURE			
10.1	STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN PREPARATION AND IMPLEMENTATION <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adopt 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. 	SEP prepared and disclosed prior to project appraisal. Implement throughout Project implementation	PRF-PMU

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
10.2	<p>PROJECT GRIEVANCE MECHANISM</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish, publicize, maintain, and operate an accessible grievance mechanism, 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. 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>Prior to commencement of the Project activities.</p> <p>Maintained throughout Project implementation</p>	PRF-PMU
CAPACITY SUPPORT			
CS1	<p>Implement the capacity building outlined in section 5.4 of the ESMF.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> WB ESF specialists and/or the ESF consultant provide basic knowledge on the WB's new ESF to PRF-PMU, PRF provincial coordinators and district staffs. PRF-PMU provides training on the ESF application (ESMP/per village and SS-ESCAP) to local communities and farmers to mitigate risks and impacts during construction and operations. These includes issues related to social measures (e.g. Abbreviated Resettlement Plan, SEP, LMP, and GRM), and accident reporting for PRF PMU, Provincial coordinators, PRF districts, and VDCs/VSMCs/VITs. In particular, provision of trainings focus on VSMC and VIT to familiarize their members key E&S risks and impacts associated with project activities, including training to ensure they could use E&S screening template, monitoring E&S risks and impacts, reporting, and so forth. PMU provides training on implementation and reporting of ESMP/per village and SS-ESCAP, COC on SEA/SH and VAC, SEP and GRM including accident reporting for VDCs, VITs, VSMCs including workers, technician and community supervisor, Self-Help Groups (SHG), and Producer's Groups (PG)s. The implementation and reporting of Good Agriculture Practices (GAP), SEP and GRM for Self-Help Groups and Producer's Groups. 	<p>Two months after effectiveness.</p> <p>At least one month before starting the civil works.</p> <p>At least one month before starting the civil works and throughout implementation of Subprojects.</p>	PRF-PMU, DIU and VDC (VSMC and VIT)