

**Republic of Honduras
Innovation for Rural Competitiveness Project-
COMRURAL III (P174328) and Additional
Financing (P181004)**

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

**Draft Revised Version
May 23, 2023**

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL COMMITMENT PLAN

1. The Republic of Honduras (the Recipient) is planning to implement the proposed “Innovation for Rural Competitiveness Project-COMRURAL III” (the Project) with the involvement of the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (SAG), as established in the Financing Agreement and Grant Agreement. The International Development Association (hereinafter the Association) has agreed to finance the original financing (P174328), and acting as administrator of the Global Agriculture and Food Security Program (GAFSP), the additional financing (P181004) for the Project, as set out in the referred agreements. The present ESCP substitutes earlier versions of the Project’s ESCP and shall apply both to the original and the additional financing for the Project referred above.
 2. The Recipient shall ensure that the Activities are 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 and the Grant Agreement. Unless otherwise defined in this ESCP, capitalized terms used in this ESCP have the meanings ascribed to them in the referred agreements.
 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 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 the implementation of the Project, to reflect adaptive management of Project changes and unforeseen circumstances related to the Project or in response to assessment of performance of the Project. In such circumstances, the Recipient, through the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock and the Association agree to update the ESCP to reflect these changes through an exchange of letters signed between the Association and the Recipient’s Minister of the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock, or a person designated by the Minister of the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock. The Recipient shall promptly disclose the updated ESCP.
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MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
MONITORING AND REPORTING			
A	<p>REGULAR REPORTING</p> <p>Prepare and submit to the Association as part of the Project Reports, regular monitoring reports on the environmental, social, health and safety (ESHS) performance of the Project and implementation of the ESCP, including on the status of preparation and implementation of the environmental and social documents required for the Project, stakeholder engagement activities, and the functioning of the grievance redress mechanism.</p>	<p>Bi-annual reporting throughout Project implementation, and no later than forty-five (45) days following the end of the semester. The first report should be submitted no later than forty-five (45) days after the first semester following the Effective Date.</p>	SAG
B	<p>INCIDENTS AND ACCIDENTS</p> <p>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, inter alia, accidents resulting in death, serious or multiple injury, incidents of sexual exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment (SEA/SH). 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>The guideline “Responses to Environmental, Social, and Occupational Health and Safety Incidents for Projects Financed by the World Bank (WB)”, shall be included as an annex to the Project Operational Manual (POM).</p>	<p>Notify the Association no later than forty-eight (48) hours after learning of the incident or accident. Provide subsequent report to the Association within a timeframe acceptable to the Association.</p>	SAG
C	<p>CONTRACTORS REPORTS</p> <p>Require contractors and supervising firms to provide monthly monitoring reports on ESHS performance in accordance with the metrics specified in the respective bidding documents and contracts, and submit such reports to the Association.</p>	<p>Monthly reports submitted to the Association upon request.</p>	SAG
ESS 1: ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RISKS AND IMPACTS			

1.1	<p>ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE</p> <p>SAG shall establish and maintain, as part of its Project Implement Unit (PIU), an organizational structure with qualified staff and resources to support, among others, the management of environmental and social (E&S) risks and impacts. This shall include, at minimum, the following key E&S staff:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three (3) Environmental Specialists • Three (3) Social Specialists • Three (3) Environmental Technicians • Three (3) Social Technicians <p>For the AF, the following key personnel will additionally be maintained:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One (1) Environmental Specialist • One (1) Social Specialist <p>Additional staff may be contracted as needed in the areas related to the environmental, social, labor, and health and safety environment of the Project.</p>	<p>Two (2) Environmental Specialists and two (2) Social Specialists are already part of the PIU and will be supporting the implementation starting on the effective date. One (1) additional environmental specialist and one (1) additional social specialist shall be hired no later than ninety (90) working days after the effective date. This organizational structure shall remain in place throughout the Project's implementation.</p> <p>Two (2) Environmental Technicians and one (1) Social Technician are already part of the PIU and will be supporting the implementation starting the effective date. One (1) additional Environmental Technician and two (2) additional Social Technicians shall be hired no later than ninety (90) working days after the effective date.</p> <p>One (1) Environmental Specialist and one (1) Social Specialist for the AF will be hired no later than sixty (60) days from the effective date of the AF.</p> <p>This organizational structure shall remain in place throughout Project's implementation.</p>	SAG
1.2	<p>ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL ASSESSMENT</p> <p>SAG shall carry out, and shall cause Subprojects proponents, as the case may be, to carry out a specific environmental and social assessment as part of each Subproject and other relevant Project activities, as required, in accordance with the ESMF, in a manner that is acceptable to the Association.</p>	<p>The specific E&S assessments shall be carried out before starting the activities of the respective Subproject or other relevant Project activities, as the case may be.</p>	SAG

1.3	<p>MANAGEMENT TOOLS AND INSTRUMENTS</p> <p>SAG shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Update and expand the social assessment of the ESMF to provide more detail on social risks and impacts as well as characteristics and barriers faced by vulnerable groups (e.g. indigenous peoples, Afro-Hondurans, women, youth, persons with disabilities) both in the intervention areas of the original project as those in the AF, to inform the socialization, determination of areas of intervention and implementation of Project activities. b) Update and disclose the final version of the Project’s environmental and social risk management instruments (ESMF, SEP, RPF, IPPF and LMP) incorporating SAG as the implementing agency of the Project and cover AF activities and intervention areas, in a manner that is acceptable to the Association. c) Implement the Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) developed, consulted and disclosed for the Project, which includes, inter alia, requirements for environmental and social assessment in the context of each business plan and guidelines for the preparation of environmental and social management plans as part of the subprojects and other relevant Project activities. d) Ensure that all instruments, including procedures and processes for environmental and social management, are referenced and functionally integrated into the POM. e) Ensure the preparation, consultation, disclosure, adoption, and implementation of the specific environmental and social assessments (ESAs) and environmental and social management plans (ESMPs) for Subprojects, and other relevant Project activities, in accordance with the ESMF, in a manner that is acceptable to the Association. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Within ninety (90) days of the effective date. b) Within ninety (90) days of the effective date. c) Throughout Project implementation. d) Throughout project implementation. e) The ESAs/ESMPs of the Subprojects and other relevant Project activities shall be adopted before starting implementation of those Subproject investments or Project activities. The ESMPs shall be implemented throughout the entire duration of the Subproject or relevant Project activity. When relevant, Subproject or Project activities ESMPs will be included in the bidding documents and subsequent contracts. The selected contractors will develop and implement their own contractor’s ESMPs (C-ESMPs) based on the ESMPs of the Subprojects or Project activities. 	SAG
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1.4	<p>INTERINSTITUTIONAL AGREEMENTS WITH OTHER ENTITIES FOR EXECUTION SUPPORT</p> <p>In the event of interinstitutional agreements being established between the SAG-UAP and other Entities, they must be acceptable to the Bank and include, among other points, the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The requirement that the Entities support the implementation of the ESCP, including the environmental and social instruments referred to in it, as appropriate. b) A description of the Entities' responsibilities concerning E&S management, as described in the ESCP and the E&S instruments referred to in it, as well as the necessary coordination arrangements. c) The content requirements for E&S management in the reports that the Entities periodically submit to the SAG-UAP. d) The requirements for the Entities regarding the submission of reports related to accidents/incidents. e) The requirement that the Entities have qualified personnel to support the management of E&S aspects. 	<p>The signing of the respective Interinstitutional Agreements must be carried out in accordance with what is described in the Legal Agreement.</p>	
1.5	<p>MANAGEMENT OF CONTRACTORS</p> <p>a) Incorporate the relevant aspects of this ESCP, including, inter alia, the relevant requirements in the ESMF, IPPF, SEP, RPF and LMP as well as codes of conduct with sexual exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment (SEA/SH) provisions and ESHS measures, and the minimum number and qualifications of the environmental and social staff that will be needed, into the specifications of the bidding and procurement documents with implementing entities, consulting firms and contractors, and in their respective contracts.</p> <p>b) Ensure that all implementing entities, consulting firms and contractors comply with the environmental, social, and health & safety specifications as well as the codes of conduct of their respective contracts.</p>	<p>a) Prior to commencing the corresponding bidding processes.</p> <p>b) Throughout Project implementation.</p>	<p>a) SAG</p> <p>b) SAG</p>

1.6	<p>CONTINGENT EMERGENCY RESPONSE</p> <p>a) Ensure that the existing Contingency Emergency Response Manual (CER Manual) incorporates environmental and social management arrangements and requirements in a manner consistent with the ESSs, including the preparation of any necessary environmental and social instruments for activities supported under Part 4 of the Project.</p> <p>b) Prepare, adopt, and disclose any environmental and social instrument which may be required for activities under Part 4 of the Project, in accordance with the CER Manual and the ESSs, and thereafter implement the measures and actions required under said instruments, within the timeframes specified in said instruments, all in manner acceptable to the Association.</p>	<p>a) Before any CERC withdrawal request, following the condition under Section 1 E(a) of Schedule 2 of the legal agreement for the Project.</p> <p>b) The E&S instruments shall be submitted for the Association’s prior review and approval, and thereafter adopted before the carrying out of any activity under Part 4 of the Project that requires the preparation of these instruments. Once adopted, the instruments shall be implemented in accordance with their terms, in a manner acceptable to the Association, throughout the implementation of activities under Part 4 of the Project.</p>	The entity/ministry/agency designated by the Republic of Honduras for Part 4 of the Project.
ESS 2: LABOR AND WORKING CONDITIONS			
2.1	<p>LABOR MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES</p> <p>Implement the LMP and cause Subproject proponents to incorporate relevant requirements of the LMP into the specific ESMPs to be prepared as per action 1.3 e) above.</p>	LMP implemented throughout Project implementation. Specific ESMPs to incorporate relevant requirements of the LMP within the timeframe specified in action 1.3 e) above.	SAG
2.2	<p>GRIEVANCE MECHANISM FOR PROJECT WORKERS</p> <p>a) Implement the grievance redress mechanism for workers and update it, as necessary.</p> <p>b) Incorporate the requirements of the grievance redress mechanism for workers for consulting firms and contractors into the bidding documents and the corresponding contracts.</p>	<p>a) establish the labor GRM before contracting workers under the Project and maintain it throughout Project implementation.</p> <p>b) Before starting bidding processes.</p>	<p>SAG</p> <p>SAG</p>

2.3	<p>OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY (OHS) MEASURES</p> <p>a) Develop specific Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) measures for each Subproject (including measures for emergency preparation and response, as applicable), and include these measures in the corresponding ESMP of each Subproject.</p> <p>b) Incorporate the OHS measures into bidding documents and contracts with consulting firms and contractors.</p> <p>c) Ensure that the OHS measures specified are implemented for each work site/activity.</p>	<p>a) During the development of each Subproject (business plan).</p> <p>b) Before starting bidding processes.</p> <p>c) Throughout the implementation of Subprojects or other Project activity.</p>	SAG
ESS 3: RESOURCES USAGE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT			
3.1	<p>RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT</p> <p>Resource efficiency and pollution prevention and management requirements will be included in the ESMF, ESMPs and the POM to secure procurement of any energy efficient equipment.</p>	Same timeframe than for action 1.2.	SAG
3.2	<p>MANAGEMENT OF WASTE AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS</p> <p>Develop, adopt, disclose, and implement waste management procedures as part of the ESMPs of Subprojects, in accordance with the ESMF.</p>	Same timeframe as action 1.3.	SAG
3.3	<p>POLLUTION AND PEST PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT</p> <p>a) Ensure that pollution and pest prevention and risk management measures are incorporated in ESMPs for Subprojects.</p> <p>b) Ensure in the context of the environmental and social assessment of each Subproject, that all sources of pollution (liquid, solid and gaseous) are identified and analyzed, and appropriate specific mitigation measures are incorporated in the ESMPs and implemented.</p>	Same timeframe as action 1.3.	SAG
ESS 4: COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY			
4.1	<p>COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY</p> <p>Prepare, adopt, and implement measures and actions to assess and manage specific risks and impacts to the community arising from Project activities,</p>	Same timeframe as action 1.3	SAG

	including in relation to behavior of Project workers, risks of labor influx, use of pesticides, and preparation and response to specific emergencies. Include these measures in the ESMPs for Subprojects, and other relevant Project activities, which shall be developed in accordance with the ESMF, in a manner that is acceptable to the Association.		
4.2.	SEXUAL EXPLOITATION AND ABUSE (SEA) AND SEXUAL HARASSMENT (SH) Implement sexual abuse and exploitation and sexual harassment (SEA/SH) prevention and response measures, proportionate to the risks of the Project, including the mapping of services for victims of SEA/SH in the areas of intervention, guidelines in the code of conduct for contractors, and adequate treatment in the Project grievance redress mechanism, as reflected in the ESMF and SEP.	Throughout Project implementation	SAG
4.3	DAM SAFETY a) In subprojects that rely or may rely on the performance of an existing dam or a dam under construction (DUC): Engage one or more independent dam specialists with terms of reference acceptable to the Association to, inter alia: (a) inspect and evaluate the safety status of the dam, its appurtenances, and its performance history; (b) review and evaluate the owner's operation and maintenance procedures; and (c) provide a written report of findings and recommendations for any remedial work or safety related measures necessary to upgrade the dam to an acceptable standard of safety. b) In subprojects that may design or construct dams not falling under paragraph 2 of Annex 1 or ESS4: Engage qualified engineers to design dam safety measures for the dam, in accordance with good international industry practice, and thereafter adopt and implement such measures.	Throughout the implementation of each Subproject, and prior to carrying out any activity under the Subproject.	SAG
4.4	MANAGEMENT OF SECURITY PERSONNEL Should there be a need for in-house or outsourced armed security personnel to ensure the safety of the Project, its staff, or assets, or to provide any form of assistance related to the project, measures will be implemented as outlined in the ESMF. These measures will be guided by the principles of proportionality, Good International Industry Practices (GIIPs), and applicable regulations concerning recruitment, conduct, training, equipment, and monitoring of the personnel in question.	Same timeframe as action 1.3 (a).	SAG

ESS 5: LAND ACQUISITION, RESTRICTIONS ON LAND USE AND INVOLUNTARY RESETTLEMENT			
5.1	<p>RESETTLEMENT & PROCESS FRAMEWORK AND PLANS</p> <p>Develop, consult, adopt, disclose and implement Resettlement Action Plans and Process Action Plans, in accordance with the requirements of the Resettlement and Process Framework (RPF) of the Project, updated for the AF, and ESS5, in a manner acceptable to the Association.</p>	<p>The Action Plans must be approved by the Association prior to starting implementation of Subprojects and other relevant Project activities. Once approved, the Plans shall be implemented prior to carrying out any Project works or other activities that could entail land acquisition restrictions on land use and/or physical or economic resettlement.</p>	SAG
5.2	<p>WILLING SELLER / WILLING BUYER TRANSACTIONS</p> <p>If “willing buyer-willing seller” transactions are contemplated, evidence shall be provided to demonstrate that the sale-purchase of land for the implementation of civil works was voluntary and informed, in which the seller has a real opportunity to keep the land and refuse to sell it, without coercion or fear of reprisals, and that the negotiations were based on market prices and will not have any adverse effects on third parties in accordance with ESS 5.</p>	<p>Evidence must be submitted to the Association prior to the transaction and prior to the initiation of the bidding process for Subprojects and other relevant Project activities.</p>	SAG
5.3	<p>GRIEVANCE MECHANISM</p> <p>Implement the grievance redress mechanism to address the issues related to land acquisition and resettlement in each Action Plan. The Project level Grievance Redress Mechanism channels can be used, but it shall maintain a separate log for claims and complaints related to ESS 5.</p>	<p>During implementation of Action Plans</p>	SAG
ESS 6: BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF LIVING NATURAL RESOURCES			
6.1	<p>BIODIVERSITY RISKS AND IMPACTS</p> <p>a) Develop and implement measures and actions to avoid, minimize or mitigate potential risks and impacts on the biodiversity and sustainable management of living natural resources, including the preparation of Biodiversity Management Plans (BMP) in areas with significant biodiversity values. These measures and actions shall be part of the ESMF to be updated under action 1.2 above and must be incorporated ESMPs for Subprojects.</p> <p>b) Update and expand the environmental categorization of selected areas, within the ESMF, as information becomes available from the relevant regulatory agencies.</p>	<p>Same timeframe as for the implementation of the ESMF, under action 1.2.</p>	SAG

ESS 7: INDIGENOUS PEOPLES/SUB-SAHARAN AFRICAN HISTORICALLY UNDERSERVED TRADITIONAL LOCAL COMMUNITIES			
7.1	<p>INDIGENOUS PEOPLES PLANS</p> <p>a) Integrate the findings of the site-specific social assessment in each ESMP of subprojects and, if Indigenous Peoples are present, include a section in the ESMP with specific measures that shall be equivalent to an Indigenous Peoples Plan (IPP), in accordance with the requirements of the Indigenous Peoples’ Planning Framework (IPPF) developed for the Project and in line with ESS7 and updated for the AF, in a manner that is acceptable to the Association. In case Indigenous Peoples are present in a subproject, as described in this action, that subproject’s business plan shall be prepared in consultation with the Indigenous peoples involved and disclosed.</p> <p>b) Implement and monitor the IPP content included in the Subproject.</p>	<p>a) After determining, through the procedures described in the IPPF, the presence of indigenous peoples in the proposed area of implementation of the Subproject and incorporated as part of the respective subproject activities.</p> <p>b) Throughout the implementation of each Subproject</p>	SAG
7.2	<p>GRIEVANCE MECHANISM</p> <p>a) Implement the Project Grievance Redress Mechanism, as described in the IPPF to ensure cultural appropriateness for indigenous peoples, in line with ESS7</p> <p>b) Describe the grievance redress mechanism and its local adaptation, if required, in the respective Subproject.</p> <p>c) Implement the grievance redress mechanism included in each ESMP of each Subproject.</p>	<p>a) Throughout Project implementation.</p> <p>b) when developing Subprojects.</p> <p>c) Throughout Project implementation.</p>	SAG
ESS 8: CULTURAL HERITAGE			
8.1	<p>CHANCE FINDS</p> <p>a) Include reference to the chance finds procedure in each of the ESMPs for the Subproject, in accordance with the ESMF.</p> <p>b) Implement the chance finds procedures for each Subproject.</p>	<p>a) Same timeframe than action 1.3.</p> <p>b) throughout the implementation of each</p>	SAG

		ESMPs.	
ESS 9: FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES			
This standard is not relevant.			
ESS 10: STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION DISCLOSURE			
	STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN		SAG
10.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Implement the SEP. b) Report on the implementation of the SEP. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> b) Throughout Project implementation. c) Bi-annually as set out in action A above. 	
10.2	PROJECT GRIEVANCE MECHANISM		SAG
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Implement the Grievance Redress Mechanism, including adequate mechanisms to address SEA/SH cases, described in the SEP. b) Report on project-level Grievance Redress Mechanism implementation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Throughout the Project implementation. b) As part of the Bi-annual reports to the Association required under action A above. 	
CAPACITY SUPPORT (TRAINING)			
C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Develop a Project training plan for Project staff, in a form that is acceptable to the Association, on environmental and social instruments (ESMF, SEP, LMP, IPPF, RPF), the requirements of the ESCP, and the monitoring of the Project's environmental and social standards and requirements. b) Implement the plan and update it based on emerging needs of the Project, including the schedule of training activities planned for the following year. c) Report on the implementation of the training plan. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> c) No later than ninety (90) days after the Effective Date of the Project. d) Initiate in the first year of implementation and update annually. e) Every 3 months and as part of the bi-annual reports to the Association, required under action A above. 	SAG