

Water Resources Department

State of Bihar

**Bihar Water Security and Irrigation
Modernization Project and P505190**

DRAFT

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

[Appraisal Version]

April 2025

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL COMMITMENT PLAN

1. The [Water Resources Department (WRD), State of Bihar, GoB] (the Borrower) will implement the Bihar Water Security and Irrigation Modernization Project (the Project), with the involvement of the [Department of Agriculture, GoB and Rural Development Department, GoB, as set out in the Original Loan Agreement (the Agreement)]. The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (the Bank) and the Project Agreement between the Bank and the State of Bihar (collectively the Legal Agreements) acting as the implementing agency has agreed to provide financing for the Project, as set out in Agreement[s]. This ESCP supersedes previous versions of the ESCP for the Project. The WRD, GoB 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 [Bank/Association]. The ESCP is a part of the Agreement[s]. Unless otherwise defined in this ESCP, capitalized terms used in this ESCP have the meanings ascribed to them in the Agreement[s]. Without limitation to the foregoing, this ESCP sets out material measures and actions that the WRD, GOB shall carry out or cause to be carried out, including, as applicable, their respective timeframes; institutional, staffing, training, monitoring and reporting arrangements; and grievance management. The ESCP also sets out the environmental and social (E&S) documents that shall be prepared or updated, consulted, disclosed and implemented under the Project, consistent with the ESSs, in form and substance acceptable to the Bank. Said E&S documents may be revised from time to time with prior written agreement by the Bank/Association]. As provided for under the referred Agreement[s], the [Borrower/Recipient] shall ensure that there are sufficient funds available to cover the costs of implementing the ESCP.
2. As agreed by the Bank and the Borrower, this ESCP will be revised from time to time, if necessary, to reflect adaptive management of Project changes or unforeseen circumstances or in response to Project performance. In such circumstances, the Bank and the Borrower agree to update the ESCP to reflect these changes through an exchange of letters signed between the Bank and the Borrower's Representative specified in the Agreement or The Borrower shall promptly disclose the updated ESCP.
3. The subsection on "Indicators for Implementation Readiness" below identifies the actions and measures to be monitored to assess Project readiness to begin implementation in accordance with this ESCP. Nevertheless, all actions and measures in this ESCP shall be implemented as set out in the "Timeframe" column below irrespective of whether they are listed in the referred subsection.

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS AND CAPACITY SUPPORT¹			
A	<p>ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE</p> <p>a. Maintain an E&S unit within the PMU, Water Resource Department, GoB with qualified staff and resources to support management of environmental, social, health and safety (E&S) risks and impacts of the Project.</p> <p>b. Maintain focal person within the Division level PIU's, Water Resource Department, GoB with qualified staff and resources to support management of environmental, social, health and safety (E&S) risks and impacts of the Project.</p> <p>c. Enter arrangements with PIU's in Agriculture and Rural Development Department, GoB to manage E&S risks and impacts of the Project.</p> <p>d. An Ecological Expert (consultant) will be hired on need basis, through the PMTC to guide the Dolphin Program, if required.</p> <p>e. Maintain one Environmental and one Social Expert (in PMTC) to support management of environmental, social, health and safety (E&S) risks and impacts of the Project.</p>	<p>a. Hire one Environment and one Social Specialist prior to appraisal and thereafter maintain the PMU and these positions throughout Project implementation.</p> <p>b. Prior to loan signing and thereafter maintain the PIU and these positions throughout Project implementation.</p> <p>c. Within one month of effectiveness and thereafter throughout Project implementation.</p> <p>d. An Ecological Expert (consultant) will be hired through PMTC, as & when needed during the implementation.</p> <p>e. Prior to loan signing and thereafter maintain throughout Project implementation.</p>	<p>a. WRD</p> <p>b. WRD</p> <p>c. Department of Agriculture, GoB, Rural Development Department, GoB</p> <p>d. WRD</p> <p>e. WRD</p>
B	<p>CAPACITY BUILDING PLAN/MEASURES</p> <p>Prepare and implement the following capacity building measures:</p> <p>a. Finalize a training plan: trainees, topics and calendar</p> <p>b. Orientation, training and learning exchange for (technical) PMU and PIU staff, on environment and social management, specific aspects of environmental and social assessment like requirements under ESMF and ESMPs, stakeholder engagement, emergency preparedness and response, community health and safety</p> <p>c. Training for contractors, key community representatives, Water User Association members and other identified stakeholders on environment and social management plan implementation and related aspects</p>	<p>a. Training Plan on E & S developed for entire project within one month of effectiveness</p> <p>b. Orientation Training for all PMU, and PIU staff and Project Workers to be completed with the first year of effectiveness followed by training carried out on a continuous basis.</p> <p>c. Training for the contractors, stakeholders, communities to be carried out on a continuous basis.</p>	WRD

¹ For all actions, consult with the country lawyer to ensure consistency with the legal agreement in cases where some actions need to be completed before the project becomes effective (effectiveness condition) or before certain disbursements can occur (disbursement condition).

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
MONITORING AND REPORTING			
C	<p>REGULAR REPORTING</p> <p>Prepare and submit to the Bank regular monitoring reports on the environmental, social, health and safety (E&S) performance of the Project. The reports shall include:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Status of preparation and implementation of E&S documents required under the ESCP. • Summary of stakeholder engagement activities carried out as per the Stakeholder Engagement Plan. • Complaints submitted to the grievance mechanism(s), the grievance log, and progress made in resolving them. • E&S performance of contractors and subcontractors as reported through [monthly] contractors' and supervision firms' reports. • Number and status of resolution of incidents and accidents reported under action E below. • Status of the regulatory permits required and maintained, and their compliance thereof. • Status of the implementation of the ESMP clauses applicable at different times of the project. 	<p>Submit half-yearly reports to the Bank throughout Project implementation, commencing after the Effective Date.</p> <p>Submit each report to the Bank no later than 30 days after the end of each reporting period.</p>	WRD
D	<p>CONTRACTORS' MONTHLY REPORTS</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Require contractors and supervising firms to provide monthly monitoring reports on E&S performance in accordance with the metrics specified in the respective bidding documents and contracts and submit such reports to the Bank. Develop app/ tech based real-time reporting mechanism for the implementation: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Environmental and Social Management Plan by Contractor Resettlement Action Plan. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Submit Monthly Progress Reports (MPR) to WRD. WRD shall summarize the key progress and issues to Bank on an agreed Quarterly Progress Reports QPR Within six months of award of effectiveness 	WRD

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
E	<p>INCIDENTS AND ACCIDENTS</p> <p>a. Notify the Bank of any incident or accident relating 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 those resulting in death or significant injury to workers or the public; acts of violence, discrimination or protest; unforeseen impacts to cultural heritage or biodiversity resources; pollution of the environment; dam failure; forced or child labor; displacement without due process (forced eviction); allegations of sexual exploitation or abuse (SEA), or sexual harassment (SH); or disease outbreaks. Provide available details of the incident or accident to the Bank upon request.</p> <p>b. Arrange for an appropriate review of the incident or accident to establish its immediate, underlying and root causes. Prepare, agree with the [Bank/Association], and implement a Corrective Action Plan that sets out the measures and actions to be taken to address the incident or accident and prevent its recurrence.</p>	<p>a. Notify the Bank no later than 48 hours after learning of the incident or accident. Provide available details upon request.</p> <p>b. Provide review report and Corrective Action Plan to the Bank no later than 10 days following the submission of the initial notice, unless a different timeframe is agreed to in writing by the Bank.</p>	WRD
ESS 1: ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RISKS AND IMPACTS			
1.1	<p>ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL ASSESSMENTS AND/OR PLANS</p> <p>a. Prepare and implement an Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA), and corresponding Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) including SEA/SH risk assessment and management measures</p> <p>b. Prepare and Implement the Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) for the Project, consistent with the relevant ESSs.</p> <p>c. WRD, GoB to prepare and implement the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP), as set out in the ESMF. The proposed subprojects/activities described in the exclusion list set out in the ESMF shall be ineligible to receive financing under the Project.</p>	<p>a. Prepare the ESIA and ESMP prior to the issue of the No-objection on the Bidding Document /issuance of the bid under 30% readiness and thereafter implement the ESIA and ESMP throughout Project implementation.</p> <p>b. Prepare and disclose the ESMF by Appraisal and thereafter implement the ESMF throughout Project implementation.</p> <p>c. Prepare the ESMP and incorporate the ESMP as part of the respective bidding documents for the respective subproject prior to issue of the No-objection on the Bidding Document by the Bank /issuance of the bid that requires the preparation of such ESMP. Once finalized, implement the respective ESMP throughout Project implementation.</p>	WRD

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
1.2	MANAGEMENT OF CONTRACTORS Incorporate the relevant aspects of the ESCP, including, inter alia, [specify relevant E&S assessments or plans], the Labor Management Procedures, and code of conduct, into the E&S specifications of the procurement documents and contracts with contractors and supervising firms. Thereafter ensure that the contractors and supervising firms comply and that they require their subcontractors to comply with the E&S specifications of their respective contracts. Provide copies of the relevant contracts with contractors/subcontractors and supervision firms to the Bank.	Supervise contractors throughout Project implementation. Copies of relevant contracts provided to the Bank upon request.	WRD
1.3	TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE Carry out the consultancies, studies (including feasibility studies, if applicable), capacity building, training, and any other technical assistance activities under the Project in accordance with terms of reference acceptable to the Bank, that are consistent with the ESSs. Thereafter prepare and finalize the outputs of such activities in compliance with the terms of reference.	Throughout Project implementation.	
ESS 2: LABOR AND WORKING CONDITIONS			
2.1	LABOR MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES Prepare and implement the Labor Management Procedures (LMP) for the Project as part of ESMF integrated into the ESIA and ESMP. LMP to include Grievance mechanisms for workers consistent with ESS2. Relevant SEA/SH risk mitigation measures will be implemented.	Finalize LMP (part of ESMF) before award of contracts, integrate in ESMP and maintain throughout Project implementation.	WRD
2.2	OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY MANAGEMENT PLAN Require contractors and subcontractors to prepare and implement OHS Management Measures or Plan in accordance with ESMP.	Prepare the OHS Management Plan along with the work program and thereafter implement the plan throughout Project implementation.	WRD through the Contractor
2.3	GRIEVANCE MECHANISM FOR PROJECT WORKERS Establish and operate a grievance mechanism for Project workers, as described in the LMP and consistent with ESS2.	Establish grievance mechanism prior to engaging Project workers and thereafter maintain and operate it throughout Project implementation.	WRD
ESS 3: RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT			
3.1	WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN Prepare and implement a Waste Management Plan (WMP), as part of the ESMP prepared for the Project, to manage hazardous and non-hazardous wastes, consistent with ESS3.	Prepare the WMP along with the work program and thereafter implement the WMP throughout Project implementation.	WRD through the Contractor
3.2	RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT Incorporate resource efficiency and pollution prevention and management measures in the Contractor's ESMP (CESMP) to be prepared under action 1.1 above.	Prepare the CESMP along with the work program and thereafter implement the CESMP throughout Project implementation.	WRD

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
ESS 4: COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY			
4.1	TRAFFIC AND ROAD SAFETY Incorporate measures to manage traffic and road safety risks as required in the CESMP to be prepared under action 1.1 above.	Prepare the Traffic Management Plan along with the work program and thereafter implement the Traffic Management Plan throughout Project implementation	WRD through the Contractor
4.2	COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY Assess and manage specific risks and impacts to the community arising from Project activities behavior of Project workers, risks of labor influx and include mitigation measures in the CESMP to be prepared in accordance with the ESMF.	Same timeframe as for the preparation and implementation of the CESMPs.	WRD through the Contractor
4.3	SEA AND SH RISKS Prepare and implement a GBV/SEA/SH Action Plan to assess and manage the risks of SEA and SH in labor management, resettlement and capacity development activities.	Same as ESMF	WRD
ESS 5: LAND ACQUISITION, RESTRICTIONS ON LAND USE AND INVOLUNTARY RESETTLEMENT			
5.1	RESETTLEMENT PLANNING FRAMEWORK a. Prepare and implement a Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF) for the Project, consistent with ESS5 (part of ESMF). b. Prepare and implement a Resettlement Action Plan (RAP) for each activity under the Project as set out in the RPF consistent with ESS5. Hire agency for verification and implementation of RAPs.	a. Prepare and disclose RPF (as part of ESMF) by Appraisal and thereafter implement throughout Project implementation b. Prepare and implement the RAP prior to carrying out the relevant works, including ensuring that before taking possession of the land and related assets.	WRD WRD
ESS 6: BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF LIVING NATURAL RESOURCES			
6.1	BIODIVERSITY RISKS AND IMPACTS Prepare and implement a Dolphin Program (as part of ESMF) and, site-specific EMP consistent with ESS6	Prepare, disclose Dolphin Program (as part of ESMF) by Appraisal and site specific ESMP (as part of ESIA) by finalization of bids and implement	WRD
ESS 7: INDIGENOUS PEOPLES/SUB-SAHARAN AFRICAN HISTORICALLY UNDERSERVED TRADITIONAL LOCAL COMMUNITIES			
	NA		

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
ESS 8: CULTURAL HERITAGE			
8.1	<p>CHANCE FINDS</p> <p>Describe and implement the chance finds procedures, as part of the ESMF of the Project. The relevance of ESS8 is established during the ESA process. As with other ESSs, ESS8 may require the preparation of specific measures that may be set out in an E&S document (e.g., ESMP) already mentioned in the section under ESS1 above or as a stand-alone document or a separate measure or action.</p>	Describe the chance find procedures in the ESMF/site-specific ESMP. Implement the procedures throughout Project implementation.	WRD
ESS 9: FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES			
	NA		
ESS 10: STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION DISCLOSURE			
10.1	<p>STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN</p> <p>Update 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.</p>	Prepare and disclose SEP by Appraisal and thereafter implement throughout Project implementation	WRD
10.2	<p>PROJECT GRIEVANCE MECHANISM</p> <p>a. 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.</p> <p>b. The grievance mechanism shall be equipped to receive, register, and facilitate the resolution of project worker related complaints as well as 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>	<p>a. Establish and publicize a grievance mechanism three months of effectiveness and thereafter maintain and operate the mechanism throughout Project implementation.</p> <p>b. Report every six months on the number of complaints received, resolved, pending.</p>	WRD

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
INDICATORS FOR IMPLEMENTATION READINESS			
The following actions are indicators for implementation readiness:			
A	<p>ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE</p> <p>a. Maintain an E&S unit within the PMU, Water Resource Department, GoB with qualified staff and resources to support management of environmental, social, health and safety (E&S) risks and impacts of the Project.</p> <p>b. Maintain focal person within the Division level PIU's, Water Resource Department, GoB with qualified staff and resources to support management of environmental, social, health and safety (E&S) risks and impacts of the Project.</p> <p>c. Enter arrangements with PIU's in Agriculture and Rural Development Department, GoB to manage E&S risks and impacts of the Project.</p> <p>d. Maintain one Environmental and one Social Expert (in PMTC) to support management of environmental, social, health and safety (E&S) risks and impacts of the Project.</p> <p>e. Prepare and implement capacity building measures: Finalize a training plan: trainees, topics and calendar</p>	<p>a. Hire one Environment and one Social Specialist prior to appraisal and thereafter maintain the PMU and these positions throughout Project implementation.</p> <p>b. Prior to loan signing and thereafter maintain the PIU and these positions throughout Project implementation.</p> <p>c. Prior to loan signing and thereafter maintain the PIU and these positions throughout Project implementation.</p> <p>d. Prior to loan signing and thereafter maintain throughout Project implementation.</p> <p>e. Prior to loan signing and thereafter maintain throughout Project implementation.</p>	<p>a. WRD</p> <p>b. WRD</p> <p>c. Department of Agriculture, GoB, Rural Development Department, GoB</p> <p>d. WRD</p> <p>e. WRD</p>
B	<p>ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL ASSESSMENTS AND/OR PLANS</p> <p>Prepare and Implement the Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) for the Project, consistent with the relevant ESSs.</p>	<p>Prepare and disclose the ESMF (includes RPF, LMP and other mitigation measures like OHS, GBV Action plan) by Appraisal and thereafter implement throughout Project implementation</p>	<p>WRD</p>