

**Saint Vincent and the Grenadines**

**Ministry of Finance, Economic Planning, and  
Information Technology**

**(MoFEP)**

**and**

**Ministry of Health, Wellness and Environment  
(MoHWE)**

**Strengthening Health System Resilience Project  
(P176559)**

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

**Negotiated Version**

**1 July, 2022**

## ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL COMMITMENT PLAN

1. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines (hereinafter the Recipient) will implement the Strengthening Health System Resilience Project (P176559) (the Project), with the involvement of the Ministry of Finance, Economic Planning and Information Technology (MoFEP) and the Ministry of Health, Wellness and Environment (MoHWE), as set out in the Financing Agreement. The International Development Association (hereinafter the Association) has agreed to provide financing 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 the MoFEP or MoHWE, 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 the Director of MoFEP or the Permanent Secretary of MoHWE. The Recipient shall promptly disclose the updated ESCP.

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
<b>MONITORING AND REPORTING</b>			
A	<p><b>REGULAR REPORTING</b></p> <p>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&amp;S instruments required under the ESCP, stakeholder engagement activities, and functioning of the grievance mechanism(s).</p>	<p>Submit quarterly reports to the Association throughout Project implementation, commencing 3 months after the Effective Date. Submit each report to the Association no later than 45 days after the end of each reporting period.</p>	<p>MoFEP and MoHWE [Joint reporting]</p>
B	<p><b>INCIDENTS AND ACCIDENTS</b></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, cases of sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA), sexual harassment (SH), and accidents that result in death, serious or multiple injury. Provide sufficient detail 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 any contractor and/or supervising firm, as appropriate.</p> <p>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>	<p>Notify the Association no later than 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>	<p>MoFEP and MoHWE [Joint reporting]</p>
C	<p><b>CONTRACTORS’ MONTHLY REPORTS</b></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>Submit to the Association, upon the Association’s request, the monthly reports developed by contractors and supervising firms. The monthly reports for the corresponding quarter shall be annexed to the report to be submitted under action A above.</p>	<p>MoFEP and MoHWE</p>
<b>ESS 1: ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RISKS AND IMPACTS</b>			
1.1	<p><b>ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE</b></p>	<p>a) The Specialists shall be contracted or assigned to the PCT no later than ninety (90) days after the Effective Date and thereafter maintained throughout Project implementation.</p>	<p>MoFEP and MoHWE</p>

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS	TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
<p>a) Establish and maintain a Project Coordination Team (PCT) within MoFEP in close coordination with the MoHWE with qualified staff and resources to support management of ESHS risks and impacts of the Project including one Environmental Specialist and one Social Specialist based on the agreed Terms of Reference (ToR) and with qualifications and experience acceptable to the Association.</p> <p>b) During preparation, the MoFEP has designated the Project Officer and the Environmental Resource Analyst of the Public Sector Investment Programme Management Unit (PSIPMU) within MoFEP’s Economic Planning Division as the Social Focal Point and Environmental Focal Point, respectively, for the Project. The MoFEP shall ensure sufficient time and resources of the Focal Points for the Project’s environmental and social risk management throughout Project implementation to ensure effective ESHS management.</p>	<p>b) The designated personnel shall be maintained throughout Project implementation.</p>	
<p>1.2 <b>ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL INSTRUMENTS</b></p> <p>a) Update, consult, disclose, and finalize the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA), and corresponding Environmental and Social Management Plans (ESMPs) for the Project, consistent with the relevant ESSs and in a manner acceptable to the Association.</p> <p>b) Adopt and implement the ESIA, and corresponding ESMPs for the Project, consistent with the relevant ESSs.</p> <p>c) Carry out additional environmental and social assessments for the activities not covered under the ESIA.</p>	<p>a) Prepare and disclose the initial ESIA updates and prepare the Terms of Reference (ToR) on further ESIA updates by August 10, 2022. Further updating and finalization of the ESIA at the updating of the detailed design of the hospital.</p> <p>b) Adopt the ESIA and ESMP prior to initiating the civil works, and thereafter implement the ESIA and ESMP throughout Project implementation.</p> <p>c) Before preparation of the respective procurement documents.</p>	<p>MoFEP and MoHWE</p>
<p>1.3 <b>MANAGEMENT OF CONTRACTORS</b></p>	<p>a) As part of the preparation of procurement documents and respective contracts.</p>	<p>MoFEP and MoHWE</p>

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
	<p>a) Incorporate the relevant aspects of the ESCP, including, inter alia, the relevant E&amp;S instruments (e.g., ESIA and ESMPs), the Labour Management Procedures (LMP), and code of conduct, into the ESHS specifications of the procurement documents and contracts with contractors and supervising firms.</p> <p>b) Ensure that the contractors and supervising firms comply and cause subcontractors to comply with the ESHS specifications of their respective contracts.</p>	<p>b) Supervise contractors and supervision firms throughout Project implementation.</p>	
1.4	<p><b>TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE</b></p> <p>Ensure that the consultancies, studies (including different technical studies to strengthening health system resilience), 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.</p>	<p>Throughout Project implementation.</p>	<p>MoFEP and MoHWE</p>
1.5	<p><b>CONTINGENT EMERGENCY RESPONSE FINANCING</b></p> <p>a) Ensure that the Contingency Emergency Response Component (CERC) Manual includes a description of the ESHS assessment and management arrangements for the implementation of the Component 4 (CERC component) in accordance with the ESSs.</p> <p>b) Develop and adopt a CERC-Environmental and Social Management Framework (CERC-ESMF) which shall be required for activities under Component 4 (CERC component), in accordance with the CERC Manual and the ESSs, and thereafter implement the measures and actions required under CERC-ESMF, within the timeframes specified in said CERC-ESMF.</p>	<p>a) The adoption of the CERC manual in form and substance acceptable to the Association is a withdrawal condition under Section III(B)(1)(d) of Schedule 2 of the Financing Agreement for the Project.</p> <p>b) Finalize and disclose CERC-ESMF by August 10, 2022. Adopt CERC-ESMF and include it as part of the respective bidding process, if applicable, and in any case, before the carrying out of the relevant Project activities for which the CERC-ESMF is required. Implement the CERC-ESMF in accordance with their terms, throughout Project implementation.</p>	<p>MoFEP and Coordinating Authority</p>
<b>ESS 2: LABOR AND WORKING CONDITIONS</b>			

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
2.1	<p><b>LABOR MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES</b></p> <p>Prepare, consult, disclose, finalize, adopt, and implement Labour Management Procedure (LMP) 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 and SH), forced labour, child labour, grievance arrangements for Project workers, and applicable requirements for contractors, subcontractors, and supervising firms.</p>	Prepare and disclose draft LMP by August 10, 2022. Finalize and adopt the LMP no later than ninety (90) days after the Effective Date, and thereafter implement the LMP throughout Project implementation.	MoFEP and MoHWE
2.2	<p><b>GRIEVANCE MECHANISM FOR PROJECT WORKERS</b></p> <p>Establish and operate a grievance mechanism for Project workers, as described in the LMP and consistent with ESS2.</p>	Establish grievance mechanism no later than thirty (30) days after the Effective Date based on draft LMP, update it (as required) after finalization of LMP, and thereafter maintain and operate it throughout Project implementation.	MoFEP and MoHWE
<b>ESS 3: RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT</b>			
3.1	<p><b>WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN</b></p> <p>Prepare, adopt, and implement a Waste Management Plan (WMP) as part of the ESMP, to manage hazardous and non-hazardous wastes, including health care waste consistent with ESS3.</p>	Same timeframe as for the preparation, adoption, and implementation of the ESMP, under action 1.2a and 1.2b.	MoFEP and MoHWE
3.2	<p><b>RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT</b></p> <p>Incorporate resource efficiency and pollution prevention and management measures in the ESMP to be prepared under action 1.2 above.</p>	Same timeframe as for the preparation, adoption, and implementation of the ESMP, under action 1.2a and 1.2b.	MoFEP and MoHWE
<b>ESS 4: COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY</b>			
4.1	<p><b>TRAFFIC AND ROAD SAFETY</b></p> <p>Incorporate measures to manage traffic and road safety risks as required in the ESMP to be prepared under action 1.2 above.</p>	Same timeframe as for the preparation, adoption, and implementation of the ESMP, under action 1.2a and 1.2b.	MoFEP and MoHWE
4.2	<p><b>COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY</b></p> <p>Assess and manage specific risks and impacts to the community arising from Project activities including, inter alia, risk of exposing communities to transmissible diseases, behaviour of Project workers, risks of labour influx, response to emergency situations, and include mitigation measures in the ESMPs as consistent to ESS4.</p>	Same timeframe as for the preparation, adoption, and implementation of the ESMP, under action 1.2a and 1.2b.	MoFEP and MoHWE

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
4.3	<b>SEA AND SH RISKS</b>  Adopt and implement a SEA/SH Action Plan as part of the ESMP, to assess and manage the risks of SEA and SH.	Same timeframe as for the preparation, adoption, and implementation of the ESMP, under action 1.2a and 1.2b.	MoFEP and MoHWE
4.4	<b>SECURITY MANAGEMENT</b>  Assess and implement measures to manage the security risks of the Project, including the risks of engaging security personnel to safeguard project workers, sites, assets, and activities, as set out in the Security Management Plan as part of ESMP, guided by the principles of proportionality and Good International Industry Practice (GIIP), and by applicable law, in relation to hiring, rules of conduct, training, equipping, and monitoring of such personnel.	Prior to engaging security personnel and thereafter implemented throughout Project implementation.	MoFEP and MoHWE
<b>ESS 5: LAND ACQUISITION, RESTRICTIONS ON LAND USE AND INVOLUNTARY RESETTLEMENT</b>			
	This standard is not currently relevant.		
<b>ESS 6: BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF LIVING NATURAL RESOURCES</b>			
	This standard is not currently relevant.		
<b>ESS 7: INDIGENOUS PEOPLES/SUB-SAHARAN AFRICAN HISTORICALLY UNDERSERVED TRADITIONAL LOCAL COMMUNITIES</b>			
	This standard is not currently relevant.		
<b>ESS 8: CULTURAL HERITAGE</b>			
8.1	<b>CHANCE FINDS</b>  Prepare, adopt, and implement the chance finds procedures (CFP) as part of the ESMP and consistent to ESS8.	Same timeframe as for the preparation, adoption, and implementation of the ESMP, under action 1.2a and 1.2b.	MoFEP and MoHWE
<b>ESS 9: FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES</b>			
	This standard is not currently relevant.		
<b>ESS 10: STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION DISCLOSURE</b>			
10.1	<b>STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN PREPARATION AND IMPLEMENTATION</b>  Update, consult, disclose, finalize, 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.	Finalize and adopt the SEP no later than sixty (60) days after the Effective Date and thereafter implement the SEP throughout Project implementation.	MoFEP and MoHWE

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
10.2	<p><b>PROJECT GRIEVANCE MECHANISM</b></p> <p>Establish, publicise, 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>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-centred manner.</p>	<p>Establish the grievance mechanism based on draft SEP no later than thirty (30) days after the Effective Date, update it (as required) with the finalization of SEP, and thereafter maintain and operate the mechanism throughout Project implementation.</p>	<p>MoFEP and MoHWE</p>
<b>CAPACITY SUPPORT</b>			
CS1	<p>Develop and implement an Environmental and Social Training Plan (ESTP) acceptable to the Association to ensure the required capacity for environmental and social implementation of the Project. The plan shall include a schedule, budget, goals, and indicators. The training shall be focused on project workers, contractors, and community-based organizations.</p> <p>The plan shall include the following topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Applicable Environmental and Social Standards</li> <li>• Project Environmental and Social Management Instruments</li> <li>• World Bank Group Environmental Health and Safety Guidelines</li> <li>• Stakeholder Engagement and Grievance Redress Mechanism and Management</li> <li>• Stakeholders mapping and engagement</li> <li>• Community and worker health and safety</li> <li>• Gender Based Violence (GBV) Risk Mitigation</li> <li>• Health Care Waste Management</li> </ul>	<p>The first year ESTP shall be submitted to the Association as early as possible, but no later than ninety (90) days after the Effective Date.</p> <p>Trainings will be provided during Project implementation by the PCT and/or their supervision consultants or other consultants retained for Project support, in accordance with an agreed timeline as per the ESTP.</p>	<p>MoFEP and MoHWE</p>
CS2	<p>Develop and implement training for Project workers on occupational health and safety including on emergency prevention and preparedness and response arrangements to emergency situations.</p>	<p>Develop the plan before initiating any bidding process and implement the plan throughout the project implementation.</p>	<p>MoFEP and MoHWE</p>