GOVERNMENT OF SAINT VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

# ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK

Coastal and Marine Ecosystems Management Strengthening Project (P172528)

JULY, 2024

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# **ACRONYMS & ABBREVIATIONS**

Corrective Action Plan
Catastrophe Deferred Drawdown Option
Environmental Impact Assessment
Exclusive Economic Zone
Environmental and Social Management Framework
Environmental and Social Standards
Gender Assessment
Grievance Acknowledgement Form
Gender-based Violence
Global Environment Facility
Grievance Information Form
Government of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
Grievance Redress Committee
Grievance Redress Mechanism
Grievance Redress Registration and Monitoring Sheet
Knowledge, Attitudes and Practices
Labour Management Procedures
National Environmental Data and Information Platform
National Economic and Social Development Plan
National Ocean Policy
Organization of the Eastern Caribbean States
Project Implementation Unit
Process Framework
Project Steering Committee
Public Sector Investment Programme Management Unit
Resettlement Action Plan
Root Cause Analysis
Stakeholder Engagement Plan
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
United Nations
United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea
UN Framework Convention on Climate Change
Workers' Grievance Redress Mechanism
Waste Management Plan
World Travel and Tourism Council

# 1. INTRODUCTION

This project, the Coastal and Marine Ecosystems Management Strengthening Project (P172980), is funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and implemented by the World Bank. The project is expected to create many positive impacts and social benefits for Saint Vincent and the Grenadines (SVG). There are also potential negative consequences which may occur as a result and for which measures should be put in place to mitigate these negative impacts. To reduce or minimize these negative impacts, this Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) was developed in keeping with the World Bank's Environmental and Social Framework 2018 and the commitment of the Government of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines (GOSVG) to address those project-related negative outcomes which may affect the environment, communities and individuals.

This ESMF document therefore establishes the commitment that the GOSVG places on good environmental and social management practices throughout the project cycle. It also serves as a public document for stakeholder information and improvement of the project by providing feedback on community concerns. The possible pilot sites have been selected; however, the specific locations and detailed activities will be determined during the initial stage of project implementation. Activities with the potential for significant negative environment and social impacts are not expected, however, if any are identified, a subproject-specific environmental and/or social assessment will be prepared and subjected to review and approval by the WB. All proposed activities will be subject to environmental screening to decrease potential negative impacts through analysing design alternatives and to avoid or mitigate negative impacts. The tool for screening is in section 9.1 and Annex 1.

This ESMF is developed in line with relevant national laws of SVG and relevant World Bank Environmental and Social Framework 2018. The purpose of the ESMF is to guide in screening of proposed sub projects, identify specific environmental and social risks and impacts associated with the proposed subprojects, establish mitigation measures and how to operationalize, including specific safeguards instruments, principles, organizational arrangements, and design criteria to be applied to meet the needs of the people who may be affected by the various sub-projects. The ESMF, therefore, is prepared to guide and govern the subprojects that are selected for financing and sets out the elements that will be common to all subprojects that will require mitigation measures.

The ESMF has the following specific objectives:

- To establish clear procedures and methodologies for environmental and social planning, consultations, screening, review, approval/clearance, disclosure and implementation of subprojects to be financed under the Project;
- To propose broad streamlined procedures for the environmental and social assessment process and subsequent supervision of sub-projects;
- To define guidelines for sub-projects which might require an environmental and social management plan (ESMP) by location, size of sub–project and other site-specific criteria; and,

• To develop guidelines for preparation of the operation and maintenance plans by communities and local government for new investments taking into account environmental and social considerations and mitigation measures identified during micro-project evaluation.

The ESMF focal point for this project is the Sustainable Development Unit which will be responsible for its coordination and implementation, the Public Sector Investment Programme Management Unit (PSIPMU) will be responsible for the fiduciary and Environmental and Social Safeguards . This ESMF will be shared with the public via the government website as part of disclosure and consultation to gather feedback and input. This ESMF was prepared based on the best available information and it will be updated at the detailed design stage when more information becomes available on exact locations, size, scope and methodologies of the proposed activities and works.

#### Figure 1-1: Proposed Project Management Structure



Note: PSIPMU and Gender Affairs Division will provide relevant support to the PIU.

# 2. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

# 1.1 Project Background

Coastal and marine resources offer an opportunity for accelerating inclusive sustainable growth and productivity. Tourism related activities are critical for the creation of jobs for communities and for earning foreign currency. Marine-based tourism is a key sector for employment and revenue generation and will be critical for the country's economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. The World Travel and Tourism Council (WTTC) noted that in 2019, close to 7,000 people were directly employed in the tourism industry and the Ministry of Tourism, Civil Aviation, Sustainable Development and Culture estimates that total jobs in the industry in 2019, including indirect jobs, totalled 20,000, representing 10-15 percent of employment in the country.<sup>1</sup> In addition to employment benefits related to coastal and marine resources, they are essential for providing environmental services and nature-based solutions to climate mitigation and adaptation. An economic evaluation undertaken of marine biodiversity and its related environmental services in SVG estimated an aggregate value of more than US\$1.9 million. For example, coral reefs in SVG serve as a habitat to a multitude of different species of fish, invertebrates, and sea mammals, providing a location for spawning, nursery, refuge and feeding for multitude of marine organisms. The high fish population within reefs makes them a great catchment area for fishing, which is another key sector for employment and economic sustainability.<sup>2</sup> Coral reefs also provide regulatory benefits such as acting as natural breakwaters, thus minimizing wave impacts during storms, protecting the coastline from wave erosion, and contributing to SVG's resilience to climate change impacts. Anthropogenic threats to coastal and marine biodiversity are the most numerous and include global climate change, habitat modification and/or destruction caused by unregulated land use, particularly in coastal areas, exotic and invasive alien species – marine (lionfish and Sargassum seaweed – and inappropriate use of chemicals which eventually leach into coastal and marine areas. The management of coastal and marine resources in the islands of SVG is a critical issue because of the fragility of its ecosystems and demand for growth.

SVG has documented its commitment to protect its coastal and marine ecosystems through several initiatives, though their implementation remains weak. SVG's National Economic and Social Development Plan (NESDP) 2013–25<sup>3</sup> includes a specific set of strategic goals, objectives and targets, including Goal 4 of "Improving Physical Infrastructure, Preserving the Environment and Building Resilience to Climate Change," which seeks to preserve the country's delicate environment and mitigate the effects of climate change. One specific target is to protect 20 percent of its near shore marine and coastal resources by 2020, though progress towards this goal is unclear. SVG undertook analyses and drafted plans for coastal

<sup>2</sup> Approximately seven percent of the total labour force is engaged directly or indirectly in the fishing industry, which creates employment for an estimated 2,500 fishers and more than 500 others in supporting services.
 Approximately 1.8 million pounds of fish are landed annually, of which 200,000 pounds are exported.
 <sup>3</sup> SVG's National Economic and Social Development Plan (NESDP) 2013–25

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> https://www.iwnsvg.com/2021/02/07/svg-tourism-could-expect-an-uptick-by-2023/

http://finance.gov.vc/finance/index.php/economic-planning-industry-and-social-development/national-economic-a-socialdevelopment-plan

and marine zoning<sup>4</sup> to accomplish this goal, though much remains on paper and has not been operationalized. For example, these analyses and plans were used to approve the National Oceans Policy and Strategic Action Plan (NOPSAP) on July 18, 2018. The overall goal of the NOPSAP is to optimize the economic contribution and environmental benefits of ocean resources, through a sustainable, coordinated, and integrated national governance framework. The NOPSAP lays out the Government's vision and framework for optimizing the economic contribution of coastal and marine resources and developing a sustainable blue economy<sup>5</sup>. The NOPSAP has 12 policy principles to achieve the overall goal and a National Oceans Coordinating Committee (NOCC) has been appointed by Cabinet to advise the Government on the implementation of the NOPSAP and broader aspects of ocean governance in SVG. While the necessary administrative provisions have been made to enable the Sustainable Development Unit (SDU) in the Ministry of Tourism, Civil Aviation, Sustainable Development and Culture to serve as the Secretariat to the NOCC, the NOCC itself is not yet fully operational, meaning that the vision of the NOPSAP is not effectively coordinated or implemented.

Operationalization of SVG's commitments under the NOPSAP, including the establishment of the NOCC, is critical to change the current trajectory towards the effective coordination of policy and activities for the sustainable management of coastal and marine resources. SVG's regulatory framework for coastal and marine management remains fragmented and inadequate for achieving the vision outlined in the NOPSAP. Analysis and reconciliation of overlapping, contradictory, or lacking policies is needed for several relevant issues, including for example tourism development without appropriate measures taken to mitigate negative environmental impacts; unregulated and illegal harvesting of already-threatened species of both marine flora and fauna; and land-based pollution. In addition to a weak regulatory environment, there are overlapping responsibilities for coastal and marine management and the NOCC is not yet fully functional as an intersectoral coordinating mechanism. These gaps mean that there are several institutions and agencies functioning separately that are responsible for various activities and enforcement of fragmented laws related to coastal and marine management. These gaps in the regulatory and institutional framework, coupled with rapid urbanization and intense use of coastal and marine resources, have resulted in degradation of these ecosystems, including through overfishing, industrial and agricultural runoff, solid waste, wastewater run-off, dredging, and dumping. Effective and coordinated spatial planning and enforcement of environmental and oceans policies can mitigate degradation of coastal and marine areas while maximizing their economic potential through sustainable approaches.

These challenges are compounded by the lack and limited use of coastal and marine environmental data. Currently, although some coastal and marine environmental data exist, they are scattered, underutilized or outdated. The information collected and the studies conducted by different agencies and projects are not stored systematically in a central data recording system. There is an urgent need to: (i) collate existing datasets into an updatable, spatially explicit database managed by the agency responsible for coastal zone management; (ii) conduct the necessary geophysical and ecological assessments to develop a robust baseline which will enable timely detection of environmental changes or risks, and the identification of appropriate mitigation actions; and (iii) develop a program for ongoing data collection, analysis and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> <u>https://marineplanning.org/projects/carribean/st-vincent-the-grenadines/</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> This aligns with NESDP Goal 1 (objectives 1.1, 1.3) and Goal 4 (Objective 4.7).

production of national statistics on the state of the marine environment and resources. By implementing these approaches and making data publicly accessible, SVG can not only build their capacity to generate and manage coastal and marine data, but also utilize this data to inform decision making, policies, and medium- and long-term planning.

# 1.2 Project Description and List of Components

The project is funded by a GEF Trust Fund grant of USD \$3.65 million, and it will be implemented over a 5-year period. It aims to apply a multi-pronged approach designed to support the ecosystem-based adaptation in coastal and marine environment of SVG. The Project Development Objective is to strengthen the management of coastal and marine ecosystems of St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

The project comprises four components as follows:

#### Component 1. Institutionalizing Coastal and Marine Ecosystem Management (US\$0.66 million).

The objective of this component is to support the operationalization of the NOPSAP, including the strengthening of the NOCC, primarily by further developing the institutional capacity for mainstreaming coastal and marine policies and management for the key sectors that rely on and impact these resources. Specifically, this component will engage a consultancy to analyze and improve the institutional and legal framework for coastal and marine management. The consultancy will support the NOCC and the operationalization of aspects of the NOPSAP and will include outputs related to:

- assessing the roles and responsibilities, laws, mandates, permits, enforcement, and capacity of key institutions in the coastal and marine sector to ensure complementarity, reduce duplication, and align efforts with the NOPSAP;
- (ii) development of the NOCC Operations Guidance Manual;
- (iii) supporting the revision or update of necessary policies, strategies and regulations, including mapping of coastal and marine management zones;
- (iv) improving capacity for surveillance, monitoring, and enforcement; and
- (v) analysis of the current and potential market-based instruments for sustainable coastal and marine use and development of a long-term investment and revenue-generation strategy to finance coastal and marine management from the private sector and through public-private-community partnerships.

In addition, this component will include recruitment of a local Policy and Institutional Development Specialist, who will support the SDU in implementation of the above consultancy outputs and capacity building of the different stakeholders. This component will include support to the NOCC through regular meetings and strengthening the technical capacity for coastal and marine management for relevant ministries and stakeholders.

# Component 2. Piloting participatory planning and nature-based solutions in selected sites (US\$2.1 million).

The objective of Component 2 is to demonstrate spatial planning, participatory conservation, and innovative financing arrangements through on-the-ground investments in four target coastal and marine

pilot sites. This component will complement Component 1 through a continuous feedback loop by incorporating outcomes of analyses and policies in pilot site activities to ensure these approaches are consistent and subsequently, feeding lessons learned from what is tested in the pilots into policies and NOCC management and coordination of coastal and marine resources. Furthermore, the outcomes of pilot site activities will be reflected in Component 3 through the NEDIP and communications and knowledge management efforts to scale-up adaptive management and good practices. The identified pilot sites (see Annex 3 for more information) include:

- (i) St. Vincent Southeast Landscape/Seascape: Milligan Cay, Brighton, Diamond and Stubbs beaches;
- (ii) Grenadines Landscape/Seascape: Union Island and Tobago Cays Marine Park;
- (iii) Leeward Coast: Richmond Beach, Chateaubelair Bay, Petit Bordel Bay and Troumaca Bay; and
- (iv) Windward Coast: Colonaire Beach.

These pilots will be undertaken through:

- a) Technical assessments to identify the current knowledge, capacity, and implementation gaps and good practices for integrated coastal and marine spatial planning given the unique characteristics of the sites;
- b) Enhancing capacity building, training and public-private-community partnerships for promotion of new models for participatory management of inshore areas, sustainable fisheries, and nature-based tourism benefit sharing; and
- c) Pilot a number of interventions to test approaches to integrated coastal and marine spatial planning with a focus on improving local livelihood opportunities for nature-based tourism and biodiversity conservation. The activities that will be piloted through on-the-ground investments will be finalized through the technical assessments conducted for each site. However, an indicative list of pilot interventions based on government priority, stakeholder interest and demonstration conservation potential has been identified in Annex 3. The assessment and planning of the integrated activities at the pilot site level would be undertaken by qualified regional or local Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO) or firms (that have demonstrated expertise and track record) through a contractual agreement at the early stage of project implementation. The implementation arrangement of the piloting will be finalized based on the assessment at the early stage of the project implementation. The piloting activities will promote approaches to strengthen the role and participation of women in the relevant coastal and marine productivity sectors.

# Component 3: Managing knowledge and data management, and mainstreaming gender (US\$0.72 million)

The objective of this component is to improve the quality and availability of coastal and marine data to inform policy and decision-making processes in SVG. This will be primarily accomplished through the development of the NEDIP, which will be a publicly available resource that consolidates existing data from relevant Government entities and eventually could include data from NGOs, private sector, and

communities. The NEDIP will initially focus on existing coastal and marine related data, though the GoSVG has stated its ambition to evolve the NEDIP to act as a hub for all environmental information also including an analytical, reporting, management, and facilitation roles to support the government in its own programs and initiatives as well as its engagements regionally and internationally.

This component will specifically support the analysis of existing data to be hosted in the NEDIP, the establishment of the system, and protocols for its management and functions. Gender data gaps will be identified and addressed through this component to enhance the understanding and improvement of gender inclusion in coastal and marine management and benefits. This component will also support the GoSVG in improving its capacity and outreach for communicating and managing knowledge on coastal and marine issues. The GoSVG has identified communications and knowledge management as a key gap that hinders the broad up-take of sustainable coastal and marine management. Therefore, this component will specifically support a Communications and Knowledge Management Specialist, the development of a Communications and Knowledge Management Plan for Coastal and Marine Management, dissemination of relevant information and lessons learned, engagement of stakeholders through publications and events, and targeted messaging guided by the outcomes of a Knowledge, Attitudes and Practices (KAP) survey. The project has also developed a gender analysis and gender action plan that includes measures to engage women and men effectively and equitably in coastal and marine management. This component will support capacity building for project stakeholders, including government, NGOs, private sector, and communities to understand and address gender dimensions in the sector as well as the implementation of the gender action plan.

#### Component 4: Project Coordination and Management (US\$0.17 million)

The objective of the component is to ensure effective project implementation through wider sectoral coordination and supporting the project fiduciary, environmental, and social management systems. This component will support a full-time Administrative Officer, and part of operational and incremental staff costs for project coordination and management. Since a variety of government agencies and other stakeholders are involved in coastal and marine ecosystem management, the project will support regular coordination and communication between stakeholders. The project management will cover the cost of financial management and procurement, environmental and social risk management compliance including establishment of an appropriate grievance redress mechanism, production of progress reports, operational travel, and other operating costs necessary for project implementation and reporting. The government will assign staff for the project coordination and management as additional responsibilities and salaries of these staff will be paid from the regular government budget. The government will also provide the office space, cost of utility and other relevant administrative cost.

# 2 Policy, Legal and Regulatory Framework

This chapter presents and reviews the national policy, legal, and regulatory framework relevant to the recovery process. In addition, WB Environmental and Social Framework and Standards, Environmental, Health and Safety Guidelines are also discussed.

The legislations that are identified thus far to be relevant to this project include:

- National Parks, Rivers, and Beaches Authority
- Ministry of Health, Wellness and the Environment
- Ministry of Transport, Works, Land and Surveys, and Physical Planning
- Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Fisheries, Rural Transformation, Industry and Labour
   Labour Department Occupational Health and Safety
- National Trust
- Central Water and Sewage Authority
- Ministry of Finance, Economic Planning, and Information Technology
- National Emergency Management Organisation
- Ministry of Tourism, Civil Aviation, Sustainable Development and Culture
  - o Sustainable Development Unit

An overview of these legislations is detailed in the sections that follows.

# 2.1 National Regulation

The main pieces of existing legislation relevant to the project are highlighted below:

#### • Fisheries Act (1986)

This Act covers fisheries access agreements, local and foreign fishing licensing, fish processing establishments, fisheries research, fisheries enforcement and the registration of fishing vessels. The legislation also specifies conservation measures such as prohibition of the use of explosives, poisons or other noxious substances for the purpose of killing, stunning, disabling or catching fish, closed seasons, gear restrictions, and the creation of marine reserves. The legislation also gives the Minister with responsibility for fisheries the authority to create new regulations for the management of fisheries when necessary.

#### • Town and Country Planning Act (1976)

The Act to enable the orderly and progressive development of land and the proper planning of town and country areas, to make provision for the control of development. The Act outlines the process for applying for such permission. This Act may be relevant to the rehabilitation and retrofitting of existing training centres. This act may be relevant to the rehabilitation and retrofitting of existing centres.

#### • The Maritime Areas Act (1993)

This Act declares and establishes the marine areas of SVG. This enables the State to define the following areas: internal waters; archipelagos waters; territorial sea; contiguous zone; EEZ; continental shelf; territorial extent; and, safety zone.

#### • Marine Parks Act (1997)

This Act provides for the establishment of marine parks and regulates the activities which can be conducted in areas designated as such. The Tobago Cays Marine Park (TCMP) was established under this Act; one of the proposed pilot sites falls under the management of the TCMP.

#### • National Parks Act (2002)

This Act established the National Parks, Rivers and Beaches Authority to make provide for the preservation, protection, management and development of the natural, physical and ecological resources, and the historical and cultural heritage of SVG. This would include the pilot sites.

#### <u>Forestry Resource Conservation Act (1992)</u>

To provide for the conservation, management and proper use of the forest and watersheds, declaration of forest reserves, cooperative forest and conservation areas. This would include the protection of mangroves and other coastal forests which may exist in the pilot areas.

#### • Wildlife Protection Act (1987)

This Act establishes the parameters for the protection and conservation of the wildlife in St Vincent and the Grenadines including establishing wildlife reserves and closed seasons for the hunting of wildlife.

#### • Tobago Cays Marine Parks Act (1999)

This Act established the Tobago Cays Marine Part, the lone marine protected area in SVG, and covers critical habitat management therein.

#### • Public Health Act (1977)

This Act provides for the management of environmental health issues in SVG.

#### • Public Health (Amendment) Act (2020)

This Act revises and strengthens the powers of health officers as it regards communicable diseases and remedies to be enacted in the case of non-compliance.

#### • Waste Management Act (2000)

This Act contains rules for the public management and disposal of solid waste as defined in section 2 and including hazardous waste as defined in Schedule 1 to this Act, and provides for appointment, functions, etc. of the National Solid Waste Management Authority. This act may be relevant to the rehabilitation and retrofitting of existing training centres.

#### • Environmental Health Services Act (1991)

This Act makes provision for the conservation and maintenance of the environment in the interest of health generally and in particular in relation to places frequented by the public. It contains, *inter alia*: prohibitions and obligations in the interest of the environment; certificates of approval for certain matters; and, notification of emission or discharge etc. of contaminant or pollutant.

#### Factories Act (1955)

This Act addresses health, safety, welfare and provides special protective measures for workers.

#### • Accidents and Occupational Diseases (Notification) Act (1952)

This Act places a legal obligation on the employer to inform the Labour Commissioner in writing about any accident involving any worker that arises out of and in the course of employment and which causes loss of life or serious bodily injury or disables a worker.

#### • Trade Unions Act (1950)

This Act provides for the establishment and regulation of trade unions and addresses other matters such as registration, rules, use of funds and accounts.

#### • Trade Disputes (Arbitration and Inquiry) Act (1940)

This Act provides for the establishment of an arbitration tribunal and a board of inquiry in connection with trade disputes and to make provision or the settlement of such disputes, and for the purpose of enquiring into economic and industrial conditions in SVG.

#### • Protection of Employment Act (2003)

This Act provides for the maintenance and promotion of good employment relationships between employers and employees. It also addresses matters of severance and settlement of disputes.

#### • Equal Pay Act (1994)

This Act provides for the removal and prevention of discrimination, based on the sex of the employee, in the rates of remuneration for males and females in paid employment, and for all incidental mattes.

#### • The Employers and Servants Act (1977)

This Act requires wages to be paid by the employers to the worker only in money and the payment of wages is to be made at intervals not exceeding fourteen (14) days.

#### • Employment of Foreign Nationals and Commonwealth Citizens Act (1973)

This Act regulates the employment of foreign nationals and Commonwealth citizens in SVG.

#### • <u>Central Water and Sewerage Authority Act (1992)</u>

This Act makes provision for the conservation, control, apportionment and use of the water resources of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines. It outlines arrangements for regulating and controlling the use of water

from any source of supply and the discharge of wastes. This Act may be relevant in cases where infrastructure construction will result in need for connection to the water mains or discharge of effluents.

## • National Emergency and Disaster Management Act (2006)

This Act provides for prevention, preparedness, response, mitigation and recovery in relation to hazards, disasters and emergencies. It also enables the National Emergency Management Organisation (NEMO) to designate especially vulnerable areas.

## • Saint Vincent and the Grenadines National Trust Act (1969) and Amendment Act (2007)

This Act, which establishes the National Trust, gives it the power to conserve, acquire and hold lands, buildings and other property; to locate, restore and conserve areas of beauty including marine zones within the territorial waters of SVG and to conserve the natural life therein; to locate, restore and conserve buildings and objects of archaeological, architectural, artistic, historic, scientific and traditional interests, *inter alia*.

#### • National Ocean Policy and Strategic Action Plan (2019)

This policy outlines the policy framework, including guiding principles and associated strategic actions, for managing the ocean space of the SVG.

# • National Fisheries and Aquaculture Policy (2018)

This Policy outlines the overall goal, specific policy goals, and the general undertakings with the aim of achieving a well-managed fisheries and aquaculture sector which is fully integrated into the wider economic development, securing optimum benefit for the people of SVG.

# • <u>National Climate Change Policy (2019) and National Climate Change Strategy and</u> <u>Implementation Plan (2019)</u>

The National Climate Change Policy sets out the goal of the GoSVG which is to achieve low carbon, resilient development using an integrated, cross-sectoral and inclusive approach to climate change adaption and mitigation. It also identifies the priority areas/sectors for climate change mitigation and adaptation respectively, and the issues which cross-cut both, as well as the objective of each sector. The Strategy and Implementation Plan elaborates on these objectives and identifies sub-objectives and the strategic activities and time frame – i.e., short, medium or long term – by which these actions should be completed.

# Phasing out of coastal sand mining (2019)

As part of a World Bank funded initiative, the GoSVG approved an action plan for the phasing out of coast sand mining following several studies which concluded that the rate of extraction exceeded the rate of natural accretion.

# • <u>General Guidelines for Organisations: Safe Working During the COVID-19 Pandemic (SVGNS</u> <u>85:2020)</u>

The Guidelines provide practical recommendations to organisations and workers on how to manage the risks related to COVID-19 in order protect work-related health, safety and well-being. It also provides guidance relating to the protection of workers of all types, including employees, volunteers, contractors, those on zero-hour contracts, freelancers, and the self-employed, and other relevant interested parties.

# 2.2 World Bank Environmental and Social Framework

The World Bank Environmental and Social Framework (ESF) for Investment Project Financing sets out the requirements for projects it supports through Investment Project Financing. The Environmental and Social Standards in the ESF set out the requirements for Borrowers relating to the identification and assessment of environmental and social (E&S) risks and impacts associated with projects supported by the Bank through Investment Project Financing. The Bank believes that the application of these standards, by focusing on the identification and management of E&S risks, will support Borrowers in their goal to reduce poverty and increase prosperity in a sustainable manner for the benefit of the environment and their citizens. The standards aim to support Borrowers in achieving good international practice relating to E&S sustainability; assist Borrowers in fulfilling their national and international E&S obligations; enhance non-discrimination, transparency, participation, accountability and governance; and, enhance the sustainable development outcomes of projects through ongoing stakeholder engagement.

The ESF comprises ten (10) Environmental and Social Standards (ESSs). A summary of the key objectives of these ESSs and their relevance to the Coastal and Marine Ecosystems Management Strengthening Project are provided in Table 1. Relevant ESSs set out the obligations of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines (SVG) in identifying and addressing environmental and social risks and impacts that may require particular attention. These ESSs establish objectives and requirements to avoid, minimize, reduce and mitigate risks and impacts, and where significant residual impacts remain, to compensate for or offset such impacts.

#### Table 1. Summary of Environmental and Social Standards

Table 2-1: Summary of Environmental and Social Standards

Environmental and Social	Relevance to the Project	Relevant National Legislation	Gaps and mitigation
Standards (ESS)			
ESS1: Assessment and Management of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts ESS2: Labour and Working Conditions	The standard is relevant to the project. Although the proposed project is likely to reap positive environmental and social benefits, there are potential environmental and social risks and impacts deriving from the activities proposed in Component 2. This standard is relevant given that the project will hire direct, contracted and	<ul> <li>Town and Country Planning Act, 1976</li> <li>Public Health Act, 1977</li> <li>Environmental Health Services Act, 1991</li> <li>Public Health Act, 1977</li> <li>Environmental Health Services Act, 1977</li> </ul>	Although the Town and Country Planning Act mentions the requirement for Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs) there is no specific guidance for same; draft EIA Regulations are with the Attorney General's Chambers. International best practices and the Banks's guidelines are used to mitigate this gap. Refer to ESS1 for detailed instructions for the ESCP, EHSGs, Environmental and Social Audits, and outlines for a mitigation plan A Labour Management Procedures (LMP) has been prepared including a Grievance Redress
	community workers that will be engaged directly by the PIU to work specifically in relation to the project. Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) issues throughout the entire project (preparation and implementation) will be covered.	<ul> <li>Environmental Health Services Act, 1991</li> <li>Public Health (Amendment) Act, 2020</li> <li>National Emergency and Disaster Management Act, 2006</li> <li>Employment of Women, Young Persons and Children Act, 1935</li> <li>Factories Act, 1955</li> <li>Accidents and Occupational Diseases (Notification) Act, 1952</li> <li>Wages Councils Act (1953).</li> <li>Equal Pay Act (1994)</li> </ul>	Mechanism (GRM) for workers, that will set the requirements under ESS2. The legal minimum age of employment is 14 but local practice is no employees younger than 16 (which is the mandatory school age). A child under the age of 18 cannot be employed or engaged in connection with the project
ESS3: Resource Efficiency and Pollution Prevention and Management	The standard is relevant. The project seeks to avoid, minimize, and/or manage project-related non-hazardous and hazardous waste. The project will	<ul> <li>Public Health Act, 1977</li> <li>Environmental Health Services Act, 1991</li> <li>Waste Management Act, 2000</li> </ul>	No gap identified. Ensure adherence to the relevant national laws and guidelines. Incorporate resource efficiency measures wherever possible. The

Environmental and Social	Relevance to the Project	Relevant National Legislation	Gaps and mitigation
Standards (ESS)			
	also promote the sustainable use of resources during project implementation as necessary.	<ul> <li>Central Water and Sewerage Authority Act, 1992</li> <li>Fisheries Act (1986), &amp; later amendments (1986, 1989)</li> <li>National Fisheries and Aquaculture Policy (2018)</li> <li>Agricultural Small Tenancies Act (1957)</li> <li>Agriculture Ordinance (1951)</li> <li>Marine Parks Authority Act (2002)</li> <li>Wildlife Protection Act (1987) &amp; later amendments (1988, 1991)</li> <li>Wildlife Conservation Act (1991)</li> <li>Forest Resource Conservation Act (1992)</li> <li>Litter Act (1991)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>following are a few resource efficiency measures:</li> <li>Use local products</li> <li>reuse and recycle whenever possible and safe</li> <li>reduce the usage of raw and construction materials as much as possible by only ordering and using what is needed</li> <li>minimize carbon and water footprints</li> </ul>
ESS4: Community Health and Safety	The standard is relevant. Some of the associated activities in Component 2 may present some risks to the communities in the vicinity.	<ul> <li>Public Health Act, 1977</li> <li>Environmental Health Services Act, 1991</li> <li>Waste Management Act, 2000</li> <li>Public Health (Amendment) Act, 2020</li> <li>Town and Country Planning Act (1992)</li> <li>Noise Control Act (1988)</li> <li>Central Water and Sewerage Act (1978), amended in 1992</li> <li>Central Water and Sewerage Authority Act (1991)</li> </ul>	Legislation exists which speaks to the health and safety of the community environment but not the health and safety of the individuals in the community. This gap will be mitigated by using international best practices and Bank guidelines and standards. Mitigation measures are specified in the ESMF.

Environmental and Social	Relevance to the Project	<b>Relevant National Legislation</b>	Gaps and mitigation
Standards (ESS)			
ESS5: Land Acquisition, Restrictions on Land Use and Involuntary Resettlement ESS6: Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Management of	The standard is currently relevant. There is a potential for the activities in Component to temporarily restrict access to some sites. The standard is currently relevant. Project activities under Component 2	<ul> <li>Land Acquisition Act (1947)</li> <li>Town and Country Planning Act (1992)</li> <li>Saint Vincent and the Grenadines National Trust Act, 1969 and Amendment Act (2007)</li> <li>Fisheries Act, 1986</li> <li>Forestry Resource Conservation Act,</li> </ul>	A Process Framework setting out measures and actions to minimize, avoid or mitigate risks will be developed within 90 days of Project effective date and before activities begin. The Process Framework will provide details of steps to be followed if restriction of access as defined in ESS5 occurs. . Ensure adherence to the relevant national laws and guidelines. Perform
Living Natural Resources	can occur near natural or critical habitats. The project will seek to avoid these areas to the extent possible. The ESMF will indicate how and which mitigation measures should be implemented following the mitigation hierarchy. The site specific ESMPs will address specific measures.	<ul> <li>1992</li> <li>Marine Parks Act, 1997</li> <li>National Parks Act, 2002</li> <li>United Nations Conventions <ul> <li>UNCBD</li> <li>UNCCD</li> <li>UNFCCC</li> <li>Cartagena Convention – LBS</li> <li>Protocol</li> <li>National Climate Change Policy (2019) and National Climate</li> <li>Change Strategy and</li> <li>Implementation Plan (2019)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Biodiversity Impact Assessments when dealing with at-risk species and vulnerable ecosystems
ESS7: Indigenous Peoples/Sub-	The standard is not currently relevant.	Not applicable	Not applicable.
Saharan African Historically			
Underserved Traditional Local			
Communities			The surviver to the state of th
ESS8: Cultural Heritage	Although the project does not envisage any impacts on physical, cultural, and/or archaeological sites, the standard is considered relevant.	<ul> <li>St Vincent and the Grenadines National Trust Act, 1969, and Amendment, 2007</li> <li>Town and Country Planning Act (1992)</li> </ul>	The project will rely on a chance find procedure contained as a precaution in the project's ESMPs and as part of any contracts to be awarded under the project. All project

Environmental and Social	Relevance to the Project	Relevant National Legislation	Gaps and mitigation
Standards (ESS)			
		•	workers will be trained on the implementation
			of the Chance Find Procedures.
ESS9: Financial Intermediaries	The standard is currently not relevant.	Not applicable	Not applicable
ESS10: Stakeholder Engagement	The standard is relevant. The Project	• . Freedom of Information Act (2003)	The GOSVG have prepared a Stakeholder
and Information Disclosure	will engage with relevant national and	• Environmental Impact Assessment	Engagement Plan (SEP) and a project-wide
	local stakeholders throughout project	Regulations (Draft, 2009)	Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM). This
	implementation.	Environmental Management Act (2009)	document and other safeguards instruments
			(LMP, PF, ESMF) will be disclosed and
			consultations with the relevant stakeholders
			have been held. SEP developed for this project
			will be implemented to close this gap.
			Consultations will also be ongoing throughout
			project implementation.

# 2.3 Environmental and Social Management Capacities

Preliminary findings of the overview of the capacity assessment indicate that the governance structure is weak to implement the related E&S tasks since there is fragmentation of responsibilities with regard to coastal and marine issues which could lead to confusion or inefficiency, lack of clarity in terms of the responsibilities to carry out the tasks, as well as weak communication and coordination mechanisms among the institutions involved.

Capacity building will be important for the implementation and monitoring of the ESF-related instruments and national policies and regulations described above which will be required at different levels of the institutional set-up for the project. The recommendations are to: train PIU staff, key stakeholders and project contractors and/or workers on the application of the ESF; provide continued technical support in implementation of sub-activities to ensure the application of the ESSs, implementation and monitoring; and, network and frequent knowledge exchange.

The GOSVG will establish the Project Implementation Unit (PIU) with responsibility for implementation and monitoring of the ESMF and related instruments, including training. The PSIPMU will be responsible for the implementation and monitoring of the ESMF and all other E&S instruments, including training and sensitization of PIU staff on World Bank ESF requirements (Environmental Specialist and Social Specialist) from the PSIPMU.

The capacity building in ESF will cover three aspects.

- **Project E&S Staffing**: The PSIPMU will provide Environmental and Social Safeguards support for the project. The tasks will include: (i) participation in meetings that will be held at different stages throughout project effectiveness; (ii) participation in the monitoring of ESMF compliance; and, (iii) taking the role of the focal point for the grievance redress mechanism (GRM) and responsible for data entry into the GRM database on complaints and complaints resolution.
- Familiarization Meetings and Training: Based on this ESMF, two types of training programs on safeguards (environmental and social) will need to be developed:
  - Familiarization meetings to all staff within the PIU on the project's approach to management of environmental and social issues, the LMP and the SEP.
  - Training for the project contractors/consultants and workers which covers the same topics as the overall introduction, but with much more detail to make the participants fully conversant with the approach to management of environmental and social issues through the ESMF.
  - Ensure that the ESMF is implemented in compliance with National Legislations and the World Bank Group Environmental and Social Standards (ESSs) requirements.
  - Ensure that the necessary environmental authorizations and permits are obtained.
  - Carry out screening applying the exclusion list to the potential sub-projects.
  - Determine the scope of environmental work i.e., identify the magnitude, sensitivity and risk category of the sub-projects.

- Develop or hire consultants to develop the site-specific instruments such as Environmental and Social Management Plans (ESMPs);
- Conduct consultations for the sub-projects, documenting the consultations results and taking appropriate actions based on the consultations.
- Consult and disclose the E&S instruments of the sub-projects.
- Undertake socialization, implementation, monitoring and reporting of the Project-level Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM).
- Include the requirements and mitigation measures from ESMPs and LMP into bidding documents and contractor contracts.
- Review all Terms of Reference for analytical work (such as drafting of policies, strategies and feasibility studies) to ensure E&S aspects are incorporated.
- Supervise and monitor on the ground implementation of sub-projects.
- Ensure timely implementation of the actions agreed in the Environmental and Social Commitment Plan.
- Send sub-project screening documents and site specific ESMPs to World Bank for approval.

# 3 Environmental and Social Baseline

## 3.1 Demographics

According to the National 2012 Census, St. Vincent and the Grenadines' population was estimated at of 110, 210 persons, with approximately 91% living on the main island St. Vincent. With an HDI value of 0.751 in 2021, the

country is categorized in the high human development category and positioned at 89 out of 191 countries and territories.

# 3.2 Physical Environment

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, is a multi-island country lying within the Lesser Antilles, in the eastern Caribbean Sea. It consists of the island of Saint Vincent and the Grenadine Islands, which stretch southward toward Grenada. The island of Saint Vincent lies about 20 miles (32 km) southwest of Saint Lucia and 100 miles (160 km) west of Barbados. It is 18 miles (30 km) long and has a maximum width of 11 miles (18 km). The larger islands of the Grenadines associated with Saint Vincent are Bequia, Canouan, Mayreau, Mustique, Prune (Palm) Island, Petit Saint Vincent Island, and Union Island. The Tobago Cays, just to the east of Mayreau, have been designated a wildlife reserve.



Figure 3-1: Map Showing Location of St. Vincent and the Grenadines within the Caribbean Basin

The island of Saint Vincent has thickly wooded volcanic mountains running north-south and many short swift streams. Though numerous, the streams are small except after heavy rains. There are no navigable rivers. As an island state, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines is highly vulnerable to climate change and natural hazards – particularly hurricanes, drought and excess rainfall. The island's two highest peaks are both on the volcano La Soufrière (4,048 feet [1,234 metres] and 3,864 feet [1,178 metres]), located in the north, which erupted disastrously in 1812 and 1902, seriously affecting the country's agriculture and temporarily displacing residents of communities around the foothills of the volcano. The 1902 eruption coincided with that of Mount Pelée on Martinique. The La Soufrière volcano became active again in 1979, repeating the cycle of agricultural damage and massive evacuation. The volcanic ash, which spread as far as Barbados, is said to have enhanced the fertility of the soil. In April of 2021 La Soufrière erupted, resulting in

the relocation of many communities on both the Eastern and Western slopes of the main island of Saint Vincent. Other noteworthy peaks on the island include Grand Bonhomme and Mount St. Andrew. The Grenadines islands are of older volcanic origin and are less mountainous, and more gently sloping. The Grenadines have been much celebrated for their beaches of fine white sand and clear waters.

St. Vincent and the Grenadines' total land area is 390 km<sup>2</sup> (Figure 2). The country's Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) spans approximately 35,843 km<sup>2</sup>, of which only 1.5% is < 30m depth (546 km<sup>2</sup>). Given the large marine space available to SVG - over 90 times its available land space, and the opportunities for developing a robust Blue Economy, the government has identified Oceans (Coastal and Marine) Resources as one of the primary focuses for sustainable development going forward, based on the concept of the Blue Economy<sup>6</sup>.



Figure 3-2: Saint Vincent and the Grenadines Exclusive Economic Zone (<u>WWW.MARINEREGIONS.ORG</u>)

The country is a member of the Alliance of Small Island States within the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). Accordingly, the Government has been putting in place investments in resilience, disaster preparedness and activities that would reduce the vulnerability of the population. The country is taking deliberate action to reduce the budget volatility from natural disasters and is putting in place disaster risk financing strategies and exante disaster risk financing instruments. These include the purchase of catastrophic hurricanes, excess rainfall and earthquake parametric insurance policies from the Caribbean Catastrophe Risk Insurance Facility Segregated Portfolio Company (CCRIF SPC), as well as the setting up of a Contingencies Fund and in collaboration with the World Bank the establishment of a Catastrophe Deferred Drawdown Option (Cat DDO).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> National Ocean Policy and Strategic Action Plan.

## 3.3 Biological Resources

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines boasts a diverse collection of biological resources. St. Vincent is rugged and mountainous with steep slopes and fertile yellow earth, volcanic ash and alluvial soils. The country has about 12,700 ha of tropical forests, including primary and secondary rainforest, palm brakes, elfin woodland, littoral woodland, dry scrub woodlands and mangrove forest. The significant tropical forests provide natural habitat for wildlife including the St. Vincent Parrot and other endemic species. The Grenadines, in contrast, consists of low dry islands surrounded by extensive coral reefs and sea grass beds. Details of the biological resources found at the pilot sites under component 2 are given in the following sub-sections. There are 35 protected areas in St Vincent and the Grenadines established under different legislation including the Forest Resources Conservation Act (1992), the Wildlife Protection Act (1987), and the Fisheries Act (1986).

#### Forest Reserves

- Cumberland Forest Reserve
- Kings Hill Forest Reserve
- Tobago Cays Forest Reserve

#### Wildlife Reserves

- All Awash Island Wildlife Reserve
- Battowia Island Wildlife Reserve
- Big Cay Wildlife Reserve
- The Botanic Garden Wildlife Reserve
- Catholic Island Wildlife Reserve
- Catholic Rock Wildlife Reserve
- Chateaubelair Islet Wildlife Reserve
- Falls of Baleine Wildlife Reserve
- Frigate Island Wildlife Reserve
- Isle de Quatre Wildlife Reserve
- Kingshill Wildlife Reserve
- Lapaz Rock Wildlife Reserve
- Milligan Cay Wildlife Reserve
- Northern Bequia Wildlife Reserve
- Palm Island Wildlife Reserve
- Petit Canouan Wildlife Reserve
- Petit St. Vincent Wildlife Reserve
- Pigeon Island Wildlife Reserve
- Sail Rock Wildlife Reserve
- Savan Island Wildlife Reserve

- St. Vincent Parrot Wildlife Reserve
- Tobago Cays Wildlife Reserve
- West Cay Wildlife Reserve
- Young Island Wildlife Reserve

#### Marine Parks, Reserves and Conservation Areas

- Tobago Cays Marine Park and Marine Reserve
- Bequia Marine Conservation Area
- Canouan Marine Conservation Area
- Isle de Quatre Marine Conservation Area
- Mustique Marine Conservation Area
- Petit St. Vincent Marine Conservation Area
- Union Island/Palm Island Marine Conservation Area

## 3.3.1 St. Vincent Southeast Landscape: Milligan Cay, Brighton, Diamond and Stubbs beaches

Milligan Cay, Brighton, Diamond and Stubbs beaches are located on the south-eastern shoreline along the windward coast of the island of St. Vincent. Together with the Kings Hill Reserve, they can be considered one the richest biological diverse corridors in St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

Stubbs Beach is cited as one of the nesting beaches on the windward coast for hawksbill and leatherback turtles (UNEP 1993). However, there is no concrete data on the nesting incidences. The coastal shrubs constitute mainly Coccoloaba uvifera (sea grapes) and Cocos nicifera (coconut trees).



Figure 3: South Landscape: Milligan cay, Brighton, Diamond and Stubbs beaches

Brighton and Diamond Beaches are located a few miles southwestwards from the Stubbs bay and were once connected to the Kings Hill Forest Reserve, a coastal forest located on a sugarloaf hill in the community of Diamond. However due to the increase in informal settlers in the area and later a government housing development in the 1990s, the once continuous forest from coast to crest, has become fragmented. Therefore, leaving Kings Hill isolated from the vegetation corridor, losing its connectivity to the coast and the associated beaches. In 2010, the USAID – COTs project entitled "Sand Mining in St. Vincent Beaches" reported the following coastal plant species in the area:

- Tabuia pallida (White Cedar),
- Terminalia catappa (Wild Almond),
- Coccoloaba uvifera (Sea grapes)
- Andira inermis (Angeline)
- Citharexylum spinosum (Fiddlewood)
- Pithecellobium dulce (bread and cheese)
- Morinda citrifolia (Noni)
- Cocos nicifera (coconut).
- No mangrove species were observed associated with the Diamond River

Anecdotal accounts suggested that mangroves once occupied the riverine and coastal areas of Brighton Bay. This is further substantiated by the fact that stands of mangroves still exist at Brighton Salt pond, located a couple hundred metres southwestward from Brighton Bay.

Brighton and Diamond beaches are separated by the Diamond landfill, perched on the cliff-face of the promontory and are designated beaches for commercial sand mining according to the Beach Protection Act (No. 10) of 1981. Coincidentally however Brighton Bay is also considered predominantly a nesting beach for leatherback and hawksbill turtles (UNEP, 1993). Diamond Bay is also a turtle nesting site and poaching has been reported on that beach (Pers. Comm. Fisheries Division).

While sand mining was authorized and regulated at these beaches, years of over-extraction have resulted in deforestation of the coastal forest, removing of sand dunes that once protected both beaches, accelerating erosion of the sand and destroying beach habitat. According to an Environmental Impact Assessment conducted in Brighton and Diamond Beaches in 1992, there were sand dunes present on the Brighton Beach area ranging in height from 2 to 15 meters (JEMS Progressive Community Organisation, 1992). In 2010 however, the only dunes left are further south and were being mined based on the USAID- COTS 2010 Sanding Mining Report. According to the report, sand extraction at both beaches exceeded the natural accretion rates significantly. Findings indicated that Brighton Beach has lost 3.4 ha (8.5 acres) of beach and the beach has

receded inland approximately 50 meters (164 feet). That averaged out to 986 square meters (0.25 acres) per year over the past 35 years.

The topographic data indicates that Diamond has lost 2.8 ha (7 acres) of beach area, averaging 793 square meters (0.2 acres) per year. From the information collected and available, it is estimated that approximately 933 cubic yards of sand are lost from the beach per year from the mining operation and beach erosion (USAID, 2010). Mining operations have since ceased at both sites to facilitate renourishment and rehabilitation of the beaches.

# 3.3.1.1 Kings Hill Forest Reserve

The protected area of King's Hill Forest Reserve is located approximately 1.2 km to the southwest of the Argyle International Airport and situated about 220 metres above sea level. It is covered by mainly dry woodland and climax forest and was established in 1791, the first Reserve in SVG also being one of the oldest of the Western hemisphere. King's Hill was declared a Wildlife Reserve under the Wildlife Protection Act, 1987 and is managed by the Forestry Department.

Biodiversity Inventory King's Hill Forest Reserve (OECS, 2019) - Ten (10) species of birds were recorded in the reserve during this inventory, while no migrant species were record. Nine of the species were native while the Lesser Antillean Bullfinch (Loxigilla noctis) is a Lesser Antillean endemic species (OECS, 2019). The other species included:

- Broad-winged hawk (Buteo platypterus)
- Mangrove cuckoo (Coccyzus minor)
- Bananaquit (Coereba flaveola)
- Caribbean elaenia (Elaenia martinica)
- Antillean crested hummingbird (Orthorhyncus cristatus)
- Black-faced grassquit (Tiaris bicolor)
- House wren (Troglodytes aedon)
- Gray kingbird (Tyrannus dominicensis)
- Broad wing hawk (Buteo platypterus)

Other faunal diversity included Mesofauna like the funnel web spider (Ischnothele caudata), Spider (Gasteracantha cancriformis); Moth (Maduca sp), Orange butterfly (Agraulis vanilla); Herpetofuana like the Tree lizard (Anolis trinitatis) and Gecko (Hemidactylus mabouia) and mammal such as the Mongoose (Herpestes auropunctatus). No grass snakes (Chironius vincenti) or iguanas were sighted, although there are known to be present in the reserve based on accounts by forestry officers (OECS, 2019).

A total of 54 floral species have been identified in King's Hill Forest Reserve during the 2019 biological inventory. These species are represented in 33 families. Twenty-one tree species were observed.

The majority these tree species observed were Native, Greater Caribbean or Tropical American, except for mango and coconut trees, which can be considered as naturalized. Two tree species, Aiphanes vincentiana and Tabebuia pallida are endemic to the Lesser Antilles. No island endemics were observed in the reserve. Other herbaceous and shrub species, as well as lianas and vines were also documented.

## 3.3.1.2 Milligan Cay

Milligan Cay is a small rocky island located some 2.6 km straight-line distance to the southwest of the southern runway edge of the AIA and east of the Brighton Beach. The islet measures about 30 metres above sea level and was declared as a Bird Sanctuary in 1947 and a Wildlife Reserve under the Wildlife Protection Act of 1987. Due to its shape Milligan Cay is locally known as 'Turtle Island', measures about 260 metres in length and 150 metres in width, covering a total area of 2.4 hectares. The island is uninhabited and largely covered by pipe-organ cacti. As the cliffs are steep and the sea around it is rough, the island can only be approached by boat from the north western side (GOSVG- IADC, 2018).

A study of the birds on Milligan Cay was conducted for the Environmental Impact Assessment of the Argyle International Airport (International Airport Development Company, 2008). The island is an important foraging, roosting and breeding habitat for a number of resident and migratory birds (including terrestrial, water and sea birds), and hosts a number of regionally important species at certain periods of the year.

Fourteen (14) species were identified, included (Kocks, 2008, cited in Annex 3):

Seven (7) water bird species:

- Yellow-crowned Night Heron,
- American Oystercatcher,
- Sooty Tern
- Brown Noddy
- Cattle Egret
- Little Blue Heron
- Royal Tern

Two (2) seabird species:

- Magnificent Frigatebird
- Brown Booby

Five (5) terrestrial species:

- Antillean-crested Hummingbird,
- Peregrine Falcon

- Common Ground Dove
- Scaly-naped Pigeon
- Eared Dove

Ten (10) of those species were identified as resident. At least 4 of the 14 species were identified as migratory birds. The bird population increase during the migratory period (primarily between November and May.

# 3.3.2 Grenadines Landscape: Union Island and TCMP/Mayreau

Union Island is situated south of the island of Mayreau and is home to the highest point in the Grenadine archipelago, Mount Taboi (304 m) (locally known as Mount Tibre) and the largest bay in the Saint Vincent Grenadines (Ashton Harbour). The island is also known for having the greatest range of environmental habitats in the archipelagic state. These include the largest mangroves in the Grenadines, seagrass beds rich in lobster and lambi, coral reefs of fringing, patch, and barrier reef types, and an offshore island (Frigate) that was an important bird habitat (Price et al, 1994). The site is important for congregatory seabirds and many Neotropical Migratory Birds (NMB) including six species that are Birds of Conservation Concern1 (Brown Pelican, Peregrine Falcon, Wilson's Plover, Lesser Yellowlegs, Roseate Tern, Whimbrel), as well as six Lesser Antilles restricted range species such as the Sandpipers, Willets, Magnificent Frigatebird, Warblers, Caribbean Coot and Laughing Gull.



Figure 4: Grenadines Landscape: Union Island and TCMP/Mayreau

Ashton lagoon was protected within Union-Palm Island Marine Conservation Area under Schedule 11, Regulation 20, The Fisheries Act, 1986. This Marine Conservation Area covers an area of 1359.6 hectares and includes Frigate Island and Palm Island. The Marine Conservation Area supports four species of mangroves (Avicennia germinans, Rhizophora mangle,

Languncularia racemosa and Conocarpus erectus) within a 61.78-acre (25-hectare) of mangrove forest.

The Ashton Lagoon was also designated an Important Bird Area (IBA) by BirdLife International in 2008, due to its significance for more than 30 species of resident and migratory birds.

The Belmont salt pond is also a particularly significant ecosystem that supports the 2nd largest mangrove forest in Union Island and home to many waterbirds found on the island. Recently a Flamingo was sighted in and around the pond. This salt pond also holds a mayor place in the cultural heritage, as well as the livelihoods of islanders. Locals harvest salt from the pond around the dry season and the salt is sold as a gourmet product.

Union Island, although small in size (3.5 Sq. Miles/8.4km2) has a diversity of species that are not only unique to Union Island and the Grenada Bank but also endemic to this arid wind-swept island. Surprisingly these resilient species survived the many multinational occupancy and agricultural changes over the decades. Presently, Union has a human population of about 3,000 and much of the natural vegetation remains relatively undisturbed, especially above Chatham Bay and on the slopes of Mt. Taboi.

The Chatham Forest ecosystem is home to the only known population of the endemic Gonatodes daudini, a rare gecko confined to this 50-hectare patch of forest on Union Island. This single population comprises an estimated 9,960 individuals, including juveniles. The species are protected under the St. Vincent and the Grenadines Wildlife Protection Act of 1987. The gecko was also recently categorized a critical endangered species under the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) in 2011.

Other notable species occurring on Union Island include the 'pink rhino' iguana, the white snake (Mastigodryas bruesi) and regionally endemic Congo Snake (Corallus grenadensis).

Other reptiles include the Grenadines Dwarf Gecko (Sphaerodactylus kirbyi), Earless Worm Lizard (Bachia heteropa), Smooth Worm Lizard (Gymnophthalmus underwoodi), Grenada Bank Skink (Mabuya sp.), Common House Gecko (Hemidactylus mabouia), Turnip-tailed Gecko (Thecadactylus rapicauda), Grenada Bank Anole/Tree Lizard (Anolis aeneus), Ground Lizard (Ameiva ameiva), Red-footed Tortoise (Chelonoidis carbonaria) and the Blind Snake (Typhlops sp.)

An Inventory of the Chatham Forest in 2019 revealed the presence of the following tree species (USAIDD 2010):

- Beef Wood (Guapira fragrans)
- Savonette (Lonchocarpus violaceus)
- Birch Gum (Bursera simaruba)

- Woman's tongue (Albizia)
- Mango (Mangifera indica)
- Bread and Cheese (Pithecelobium dulce)
- Broad-leaved Caper (Capparis hastate)
- Genipa (Genipa Americana)
- Acacia sp.
- Silk Cotton (Ceiba pentandra)
- Leucaena leucocephela
- Tamarind (Tamarindus indicus)

# 3.3.2.1 Palm Island

East and southeast of Union Island stand the small private resort of Palm Island. The resort has received numerous international tourism awards and recognitions and is known for it's luxury accommodations. Palm Island, known as Prune Island before its sale to resort developers, served as a leper colony for stricken inhabitants of Union Island from the late 1700s into the early 1800s (Allen, 2017). Palm Island was designated a Wildlife Reserve under the Wildlife Protection Act (1987). Though species information is not readily accessible, there is a population of the 'pink rhino' iguana on Palm Island and also neighbouring Petit St. Vincent.

## 3.3.2.2 The Tobago Cays Marine Park

East of Island of Mayreau lie the uninhabited, but noteworthy, Tobago Cays. This group of four islets, made up of a 50 sq. km sand-bottomed lagoon, which encompasses a series of beaches surrounding the Cays of Petit Rameau, Petit Bateau, Jamesby, and Baradal, plus a fifth outlier—Petit Tabac. The Marine Park also includes the island of Mayreau. Due to its rich ecological value and significance to the fisheries of the Grenadines, the Tobago Cays was designated a conservation area as part of the Fisheries Regulations of 1987. In 1998, the SVG government formally adopted marine park regulations.

Today, the Tobago Cays Marine Park provides a home to a wide variety of animals and plants that thrive on the Cays and in the protected waters of the marine park. The systems of coral reefs found in the TCMP contain many of the species native to this part of the Caribbean biogeographic region. Around the windward sides of Mayreau, Union Island and the Cays exists the most extensive and well-developed coral reef complexes in St Vincent and the Grenadines. The Grenadines contain the most extensive coral reef system in the Eastern Caribbean, with each island supporting fringing, patch, or barrier reefs, and a variety of ecologically important seagrass and mangrove habitats. The TCMP protects the two largest of these reefs, Horseshoe Reef and World's End Reef. (Mahon et al. 2004; DeGraff and Baldwin 2013). Mayreau is also reputed for an extensive coral reef formation on its western coast named the Mayreau Gardens.

In addition to its coral reefs, TCMP also features small systems of mangroves, a salt pond in Mayreau, and sea grass beds. Sea turtles, conchs, lobsters, and iguanas all take refuge in the protected area. The decision to include the entire neighboring, fisheries-dependent island of Mayreau in this protected area, however, continues to provoke controversy in the community (Hoggarth 2007).

The salt pond in Mayreau is an important ecosystem for shorebirds and waterbirds during the wet seasons. High numbers of Black-bellied Plovers have been observed at this site on several occasions. The salt pond forms part of the historic and contemporary cultural heritage of the people of Mayreau, with locals harvesting salt during the dry season.

## 3.3.3 Colonaire Beach

Colonaire Forest Reserve essentially encompasses the mid and upper reaches of the Colonaire watershed. The Colonaire River is the longest watercourse on St. Vincent and its watershed; the

second largest on the island has a drainage area of about 8.8 sq. miles (22.7 km<sup>2</sup>).

Within the upper parts (over 1000 ft/305 m) of the Reserve, slopes cut deeply into ash agglomerates, and basaltic bedrock creating an area of irregular, complex and steeply sloping landform units (Reid, Collins and Associates, 1994). The steepness of the terrain also causes high rates of erosion and landslide hazards. Much of the area is still covered with Primary Forest but encroachment is a major concern (Birdlife International 2020<sup>7</sup>).

The Reserve is a traditional stronghold for the St. Vincent Parrot, which numbered 142 individuals in 2004 (Forestry Department, 2004). The site supports the other Globally-threatened species, the Whistling Warbler, and thirteen (13) RRS. Other important species include the House Wren, Short-tailed Swift,



Scaly-naped Pigeon, Caribbean Elaenia and Black Hawk. Non-bird biodiversity: Endemic herpetofauna *A. griseus*, *C. vincenti*, *A. griseus* and *A. trinitatus;* endemic sub-species *M.* 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> BirdLife International (2020) Important Bird Areas factsheet: Colonaire Forest Reserve. Downloaded from <u>http://www.birdlife.org</u> on 29/10/2020

bruesi and endemic flora A. vincentiana, B. rotundifolia, P. cuneata, P. vincentiana, E. vincentinum, C. vincentiana and C. tenera (Birdlife International 2020).

Colonaire Beach is about a mile long and is considered an important turtle-nesting site on the island of St. Vincent. The beach extends from Colonaire, up to Gorse and ends at Byrea Village. According to the Sea Turtle Recovery Action Plan for St. Vincent and the Grenadines, prepared in 1993, Leatherback (*Dermochelys coriacea*), Hawksbill (*Eretmochelys imbricate*) nesting was reported to occur on Colonaire Beach with the former being the predominant species (UNEP – CEP, 1993). However, information regarding the number of species was not available in that report.

The beach is currently been monitored by the Fisheries Division and according to Fisheries data, 12 Leatherback turtles were sighted for the period of 2019 and 2020 on the Colonaire Beach. While these species are protected by law, many of these nesting beaches do not enjoy the same level of legal protection. Although beaches are connected to marine conservation areas, there are minimal stipulations for their protection. Except for those covered under the Beach Protection Act of 1981, (which focuses on regulating sand mining), most beaches are exploited for sand and gravel unregulated.

As a result, many turtle nesting beaches like Colonaire have been impacted significantly from illegal and unregulated sand mining activities for construction. This coupled with the aggressive wave environment on the north-eastern coast have resulted in acute erosion along the coastal fringe of Colonaire and Gorse respectively.

According to National Parks, Rivers and Beaches Authority a declaration order was prepared for Colonaire beach as a protected landscape/seascape under the National Parks Act. However, a cadastral map of the area is needed in order to finalize the declaration (Per. Comm. Lockhart, National Parks 2020).

# 3.3.4 Leeward Coast (Dark View to Richmond Beach; Chateaubelair, Petit Bordel Bay; Troumaca Bay)



Figure 7: Leeward Coast Intervention

Although no site-specific survey of the Leeward Coast coral framework is detailed, bathometric studies have identified the seafloor base of St Vincent, with the majority of coral assemblages for mainland St Vincent are found along the length of the Leeward Coast (UNDP, 2019). This section provides a summary from the Troumaca Bay to Richmond Beach.

The beaches on the Leeward Coast are characterized by black volcanic sand and are devoid of much sand-dwelling fauna except for the ghost crab (Ocypode) and the fiddler crab (Uca) just above the swash zone. One type of attached marine alga (Caulerpa) was found on intertidal rocks at

either end of the beach. The fauna found on these rocks included chitons, limpets, sea anemones and small gastropods (Smith Warner International, 2014). Beach vegetation comprises of potato slip (Imopea), succulent Sesuvium and Batis, marine grass Sporobolus, penguin (Pandanus), seagrape (Coccoloba uvifera) and behind these are Cocos Nucifera (coconuts).

Richmond Beach, Chateaubelair Bay, Petit Bordel Bay and Troumaca Bay considered predominantly hawksbill nesting beaches, (UNEP – CEP, 1993) Anecdotal evidence indicates that green turtle and leatherback turtle also nest on these beaches as well (Smith Warner International, 2014).

Chateaubelair Islet was declared a Wildlife Reserve by the Wildlife Protection Act (1987). Situated about 100 metres from Chateaubelair, the islet is a sanctuary for roosting and nesting local and migratory birds.

Richmond Beach is a black sand beach stretching from the Richmond River in the south bordering the famous Cavali Rock to the Wallibou River in the north. The river creates an estuarine ecosystem that forms part of our few remaining wetlands in St. Vincent. Richmond Beach is located to the north west of the island at the beginning of the North Leeward Highway 24 miles from Kingstown, one mile beyond the town of Chateaubelair, and the village of Fitz-Hughes which is on the outskirts of Chateaubelair (Caribbean Birding Trail, 2020).
Richmond is a site used for recreation fishing and sand mining of aggregate. Other popular activity includes the catching of tri-tri, a tiny fish captured in schools as they swim up the Richmond River. This forms one of the folklores of the area and constitute one of the local traditional livelihoods.

A natural stand of West Indian Almond (Terminalia catappa) which is estimated to be over 100 years old stretches the expanse of the beach recently broken up by storms of 2010 and 2013.

Among these trees many birds find refuge and numerous resident and migratory birds loiter and feed along the bay. According to Caribbean Birding Trail, it's a great spectacle to see the fisheating bats feed in flocks at dusk as the Tri-tri leaves the sea and enters the river.

# 3.4 Socio-Economic, Physical Cultural Resource, Human Settlement and Land Use

The country has a small open economy, with a Gross National Income per capita (2011 PPP) of \$10, 499. The population of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines in 2012 stood at 109,188 persons with an almost equal proportion of males (51% or 55,551) and females (49% or 53,637). (census, 2012). The country has a high Human Development Index (HDI) ranking (97 out of 189 Countries<sup>8</sup>). Saint Vincent and the Grenadines is considered a lower-middle income country with a Gross Domestic Product (GDP) per capita of US\$6,443.00. The overall labour force participation rate is 67% with men having a higher labour force participation rate (78.4%) than women (55.7%). The poverty rate is 30.2% (CPA< 2008) and likely to have been affected with the economic slowdown and impacts of COVID-19 pandemic.

The economy depends on agriculture, tourism, construction, remittances, and a small offshore banking sector. SVG traditionally depended on bananas as a major foreign exchange earner, which were sold to the European Union under its preferential arrangements<sup>1</sup>. In 1995, banana generated 23.3% of export earnings, but the loss of preferential markets in 2007, compounded by natural disasters and disease resulted in the crop only being able to generate 4.2% of exports in 2010. Accordingly, since then, the Government has been pursuing a policy of economic diversification with increased contribution from tourism, fisheries, maritime transport, and other ocean-related sectors.

The blue economy goes beyond viewing the ocean economy solely as a mechanism for economic growth. In the 'business-as-usual' model, the development of ocean economies through the exploitation of maritime and marine resources is pursued without consideration of the effects

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> 2020, Human Development UNDP

their activities have on the future health or productivity of those same resources<sup>9.</sup> Contrastingly, the blue economy model aims for improvement of human wellbeing and social equity, while significantly reducing environmental risks and ecological scarcities. It provides for an inclusive model in which coastal states, particularly SIDS, like SVG - which sometimes lack the capacity to manage their rich ocean resources - can begin to extend the benefit of those resources to all.

Socio-economic information specific to the pilot sites under component 2 is presented in the subsections below.

# 3.4.1 St. Vincent Southeast Landscape: Milligan Cay, Brighton, Diamond and Stubbs beaches

Milligan Cay, Brighton, Diamond and Stubbs beaches are located in the Calliaqua Census District. According to the National Census Report 2012, the District recorded 23,908 persons, accounting for the largest proportion of the country's population. Also, the largest proportion of the population enrolled in post-secondary education were residents of the Calliaqua census division. 21.9% of the country's population resides in the Calliaqua census division. The rate of unemployment in that district according to the census was 18.7%. The Calliaqua census division had the largest proportion with 12,003 (23.1%) of the economically active population.

This Census Division has the highest concentration of hotel and guest houses on mainland St, Vincent located mainly along the Villa coastal strip. The St. Vincent and the Grenadines Community College is also located in this Census Division along with several other notable educational institutions such as Medical Universities. Other economic activities include supermarkets, restaurants and bars, night clubs, clothing stores, fish markets, etc. There is also an athletic track and proposed new hotel development in Diamond.

# 3.4.2 Grenadines Landscape: Union Island and TCMP/Mayreau

The Southern Grenadines comprise the islands of Canouan, Mayreau, Union Island Palm Island and Petit St. Vincent. The island combo is a sailor's paradise with pristine waters, sheltered bays and safe harbours that beckon visitors to its shores year after year. According to the national census 2012, the Southern Grenadines Census District recorded a population of 4,050 and reported the lowest rate of unemployment (12.8%) nationally. However, COVID 19 has significantly impacted employment in the area. The following socio-economic activities were reported by CANARI in 2020:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> <u>http://thecommonwealth.org/blue-economy</u>

- The Grenadines support the most extensive coral reefs and related habitats in the south-eastern Caribbean. Livelihoods in the Grenadines are strongly tied to natural resources, with tourism and fishing being the most significant economic sectors.
- Fishing a decade ago would have been the main source of income for many. More recently, fishers have resorted to alternative livelihoods such as farming, bee keeping, seamoss cultivation and water taxis. There is a need to revive market access and the fishing cooperative to boost fisheries livelihoods in Union Island.
- The Ashton Lagoon restoration efforts, such as fill removal, culvert and rock placement, tree nursery, beach and watershed planting and channel improvements, have provided opportunities for community employment. Healthy mangroves and lagoons now provide increased nature-based economic opportunities including bird watching, kite surfing and black mangrove honey production.
- On Union Island, yacht services business and tourist day-chartering business provides jobs and there are hotels and guesthouses, as well as numerous small businesses including boutiques and supermarkets, bars and restaurants, internet cafes and a dive operator.

# 3.4.3 Colonaire Beach

Colonaire is a small rural community located on the North Eastern side of St. Vincent and is approximately 13.4 Sq. miles. It is located on the banks of the Colonaire River, According to UNISDR141, the vegetation along the riverbank consists mainly of shrubs and due to its steep topography and relatively high moisture content of the soil, erosion is common which threatens stability of the public road and presents medium risk to the community (UNDP, 2019)<sup>10</sup>.

Colonaire has a population of 6,849 (6.3 percent of the total population in SVG). According to the SVG Poverty Assessment of 2012, unemployment rate was recorded at 27.5% for Colonaire, which was higher than the national average of 21.5%. The main economic activity of the area is farming where persons cultivate bananas, citrus, ground provisions and vegetables.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Conserving biodiversity and reducing land degradation using a Ridge-to-Reef approach, UNDP 2019

#### 3.4.4 Leeward Coast (Dark View to Richmond Beach)

The 2012 census indicated that the Dark View area had a total population of 651 distributed as follows: 167 people in the Rose Bank/ Dark View areas (Including Chateaubelair and Richmond), and 484 people in Petit Bordel. These communities are located in the heart of the volcanic hazard zone as they are located on slope of the La Soufriere Volcano. The Dark View area falls within the Chateaubelair Census Division and has an unemployment rate of 26.4% which is higher than the national rate of 21.1% (2012 Census data). According to the Poverty Assessment Report of 2007/2008, the Georgetown, Sandy Bay, followed by Chateaubelair are the poorest census division in SVG.

A socio-economic study conducted by Smith Warner International in 2014<sup>11</sup> indicated that farming and fishing are the main livelihoods within the Dark View area. Many people farm vegetables and root crops. Root crops (sweet potatoes, eddoes, dasheen) are particularly significant in the Dark View area. Plantains and bananas are also grown for both domestic consumption and for external sale. Small shops, restaurants, and bars are also economic activities within the area.

Fishing is also a major activity in the area. On the Petit Bordel beach, the main fishing activity is seining for jack fish and a few other pelagic fish. There is however variation in fish catch largely related to impacts from sea swells during events coming from the north to north-west directional band at Dark View during the year, and storms and hurricanes during the hurricane season (June to November).

At Dark View, there was extensive erosion of the beach as well as severe damage to boats and other equipment resulting from Hurricane Lenny in 1999. Most of the former fishing activity has moved from Dark View to the Petit Bordel and Rose Bank beaches.

Critical facilities within the area include the Rose Bank Community Centre, the Theodore McKenzie Pre-School and the Petit Bordel Secondary School. The Leeward Highway runs through the entire area.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Final Coastal Study Report: Coastal study of Sandy Bay and Dark View, 2014

# 4 Environmental and Social Assessment of the project

The overall E&S risk classification for the project is Moderate under the World Bank's Environmental and Social Framework (ESF) given that project activities are mainly policy driven in nature. Any planned civil works will be minor and are not expected to create any major impacts within the designated communities. For the most part, the project is expected to have positive environmental impacts. The potential environmental risks relate to the design, implementation and sustainability of policies in relation to coastal and marine ecosystems as well as some of the pilot sub-project activities related to Component 2.

The identified social risks are as follows: a) Risk of restrictions to access thus impacting livelihoods. The revision or update of policies, strategies and regulations, including mapping of coastal and marine zones and the pilot sub-project activities could result in restrictions in access to some areas. b) Risk of exacerbating existing exclusion patterns if no careful attention is given to addressing exclusion in current fisheries, tourism and coastal management activates and practices. Participatory land use mapping will seek out poorer and/or artisanal/marginalized fisher folk, women, persons with disabilities and other groups. c) Risk of not recognizing and protecting cultural heritage use. d) Risk of tension and hence, attention will be paid to how to interact and consult with various socio-economic groups; e) some implications for community health and safety while the civil works are ongoing. These impacts are expected to be short-lived and fairly minor in scope.

# 4.1.1 Environmental and Social Impacts Identification

The identification and assessment of environmental and social risks and impacts are considered key as these will be the foundation for the proposal of the mitigation and remediation measures necessary to anticipate, minimize, reduce and/or compensate for the negative effects that the project may cause to the environment and the society. This chapter presents the main impacts identified considering the characteristics and conditions of the physical environment and socioeconomic areas of influence.

The main characteristics of the project are as follows:

- Enhanced access to relevant baseline environmental data on the linkages between ecosystem services, shoreline stability and protection and climate change adaptation;
- Appropriate institutional mechanisms and strengthened institutional capacity for coastal and marine ecosystem management;

- Conservation of beaches, near shore reefs and associated species and habitats;
- Promotion of an ecosystem-based approach to climate change adaptation; and
- Enhanced protection of public and private property, and contribute to overall safety and resilience.

Table 2: Risk categories

Risk Category	Screening Criteria		
	The resource/receptor would likely experience a large magnitude impact that		
	would endure for a long time, extend over a large area, exceed		
	national/international standards, endangers public health and safety, threatens a		
High	species or habitat of national or international significance, and/or exceeds a		
	community's resilience and ability to adapt to change. The Project may have		
	difficulty complying with the applicable ESF requirement, and significant		
	mitigation would likely be required.		
	The resource/receptor would experience a clear, evident change from baseline		
Substantial	conditions and approach but not exceed applicable standards. The Project would		
	comply with the applicable ESF requirement, but mitigation would be required.		
	The resource/receptor would experience a noticeable effect, but the magnitude		
Moderate	of the impact is sufficiently small (with or without mitigation) that the overall		
woderate	effect would remain well within applicable standards. The Project would comply		
	with the applicable ESF requirement, but mitigation may be required.		
	The resource/receptor will be unaffected, or the likely effect will be imperceptible		
Low.	or indistinguishable from natural background variation. The Project would comply		
LOW	with the applicable ESF requirement, and mitigation would typically not be		
	required.		

Component	Subcomponent	Activity	Preliminary Environmental Risk/Impact	Impact	Preliminary Social
			assessment	Level	Risk/Impact
					assessment/Mitigation
					measure
Component 1:	Subcomponent 1.1:	Defining roles and responsibilities of	This subcomponent will not generate		This subcomponent
Institutionalisation of Coastal	Development/strengthening of a	key institutions and development	impacts.		represents moderate risks/
and Marine Ecosystems	national coordination and multi-	sectors to ensure effective			regulations further
Management Program	sector planning platform	collaboration and complementarity of			exacerbate existing exclusion
		planning and management errorts in			patternsy implement the SEP.
		the coastal and marine sector.			
	Subcomponent 1.2: Development of	Aims to facilitate better understanding	This subcomponent represents a positive		This subcomponent
	an integrated coastal and marine	of the uniqueness of the coastal and	environmental impact as it will promote		represents moderate risks/
	zone management framework	marine resource system amongst	more effective management of coastal		Policies further exacerbate
		various stakeholders and diverse	and marine resources.		existing exclusion patterns/
		sectors.			implement the SEP.
	Subcomponent 1.3: Improving	Will support the improvement of	This subcomponent represents a positive		This subcomponent
	national and local capacity in coastal	management systems including	environmental impact as it will improve		represents moderate risks/
	and marine planning and	permitting, enforcement, monitoring,	management systems.		vulnerable people could be
	management	surveillance and compliance with			locked out of an increasingly
		legislation on environment			digitized economy and
		assessments, etc.			society/ implement the SEP.
	Subcomponent 1.4: Identifying	Intended to develop revenue streams	This subcomponent will not generate		This subcomponent
	appropriate market-based economic	and/or improve existing mechanisms in	impacts.		represents moderate risks/
	instruments and strengthen existing	order to maintain sustainability of			vulnerable people could be
	mechanisms	measures implemented.			locked out of an increasingly
					digitized economy and
					society/ implement the SEP.
Component 2: Applying a	Subcomponent 2.1: Technical		This subcomponent represents low risks/		This subcomponent
participatory ecosystem-based	assessments to determine current		will generate low to moderate impacts.		represents moderate risks/
framework to effectively plan,	gaps in knowledge and practice of				development priorities
manage, finance and monitor	integrated coastal and marine				further exacerbate existing
compliance in target	spatial planning.				exclusion patterns/
environmentally sensitive					implement the SEP, citizen
coastal and marine sites					engagement approach.

## Table 3: Preliminary Environmental and Social Impact Risk Assessment by Components/Scope

Component	Subcomponent	Activity	Preliminary Environmental Risk/Impact	Impact	Preliminary Social
			assessment	Level	Risk/Impact
					assessment/Mitigation
					measure
	Subcomponent 2.2: Enhancing	To promote of new models for	This subcomponent will not generate		This subcomponent
	capacity building, training and	community management of in-shore	impacts		represents moderate risks/
	private-community partnerships.	areas, sustainable fisheries, and eco-			development priorities
		tourism benefit-sharing			further exacerbate existing
					exclusion patterns/
					implement the SEP, citizen
					engagement approach.
	Subcomponent 2.3: Piloting	The outcomes of this subcomponent			This subcomponent
	interventions to demonstrate	will feed into the formalisation of the			represents moderate risks/
	integrated planning and natural	institutional framework mechanisms			that can cause temporary
	capital management	proposed under Component 1.			economic displacement /
					implement the PF, RAP, LMP
					and SEP.
	Subcomponent 3.1: Establishment	NEDIP will define a simplified,	This subcomponent represents a positive		This subcomponent
Component 3: Knowledge and	of a National Environmental Data	standardised and dedicated	environmental impact as it will improve		represents moderate risks/
data management, gender	and Information Platform (NEDIP)	information collection parameter and	management of environmental data.		the identification process
mainstreaming, monitoring		supporting cross-sector and cross-			further exacerbate existing
and evaluation,		agency efforts to collect and share			exclusion patterns/
documentation and		information. The NEDIP will be			implement the SEP citizen
dissemination of best		integrated into an existing national			engagement, gender
practices, and replication		institution/agency and dedicated to			approach.
		building long-term coastal and marine			
		data records.			
	Subcomponent 3.2: Document best		This subcomponent represents a positive		This subcomponent
	practices and lessons learned for		environmental impact as dissemination of		represents low risks/
	knowledge management and		best practices and lessons learned should		implement the SEP, citizen
	dissemination		improve management		engagement and gender
					approach.
	Subcomponent 3.3: Conduct a	Undertake KAP survey to guide	This subcomponent represents a positive		This subcomponent
	Knowledge, Attitudes, Practices	targeted messages and inform the	environmental impact as knowledge		represents low risks/
	(KAP) survey	development of knowledge	products will be tailored to suit the target		implement the SEP, citizen
	(,	management products	audience using the information obtained		engagement and gender
			from the KAP survey		approach.
					The second

Component	Subcomponent	Activity	Preliminary Environmental Risk/Impact	Impact	Preliminary Social
			assessment	Level	Risk/Impact
					assessment/Mitigation
					measure
Component 4: Project		This component will support the	This subcomponent will not generate		This subcomponent
Coordination and		Project Implementation Units (PIU)	impacts.		represents moderate risks/ /
Management		with management and implementation			relatively weak governance
		of the project and associated activities.			structure, and risk reflected
					in the LMP/ implement the
					LMP and capacity building
					related activities that are in
					the ESCP.

## 4.1.2 Environmental and Social Impact Assessment

The purpose of an environmental impact assessment is to identify any potential effects of the project so as to identify adequate methods to eliminate and/or minimize them. The impact assessment was based on an analysis of the impacts of the Project on the existing environment. A description of the existing conditions for each valued aspect was provided as a basis for the evaluation of impacts. A valued aspect is the way the project activity impacts the environment.

#### 4.1.3 Selection of Valued Aspects

The aspects considered for this impact assessment are the ones that have been previously identified as activities that will generate environmental and social risks and impacts during project implementation. These aspects are related to the rehabilitation of coastal areas in Component 2. During implementation, these aspects are not expected to generate significant negative environmental or social impacts.

The activities identified for the project are:

- Strengthening national coordination
- Development of an Integrated Coastal Zone Management Framework
- Improving national capacity in coastal and marine planning and management
- Enhancing capacity and partnerships for community inshore areas, sustainable fisheries and ecotourism benefit—sharing
- Pilot interventions
- Establishment of a National Environment Data and Information Platform
- Knowledge management

Based on the project specifics, the key environmental and social aspects that are considered for the impact assessment are the following:

#### **Physical and Natural Environment**

- Effects on the pilot sites from new ecotourism initiatives
- Effects on the pilot sites from engineering measures
- Effects on coastal and marine habitats in pilot areas from uncontrolled solid and liquid wastes
- Effects on environmental quality by increased noise levels during pilot site interventions
- Effects on environmental quality by increased noise levels due to increased vehicular and pedestrian traffic

#### Social and Economic Environment

- Effects and changes on community demographics
- Effects and changes on job generation and employment
- Changes in quality of life due to the increased economic activities
- Changes in quality of life due to the increased jobs in the communities
- Labour conflicts due to job expectations
- Effects on health and safety in the stakeholder's communities due to changes in lifestyles
- Effects and changes with respect to gender
- Effects to current social/inclusion patterns, particularly for vulnerable groups (e.g, persons with disabilities).

#### 4.1.4 Methodology of the Impact Assessment

The evaluation methodology used in this project followed two stages:

- 1. Relevant environmental and social impacts are identified based on their effects on the environment and social aspects and context of the project.
- 2. Once those impacts are identified, these are then ranked, rated and measured on regards to their effects, severity and persistence in time.

The key environmental and social impacts evaluated for the project, per their occurrence in the physical, biological and socioeconomic environments are as follows:

#### Physical and Natural Environment

- Shoreline deterioration
- Contamination of near-shore coastal/marine waters
- Noise and dust from minor civil works
- Increased vehicular and pedestrian traffic

#### **Social and Economic Environment**

- Increased expectation for new jobs
- Exclusion of vulnerable groups from decision-making processes and participation in project benefits.
- Restrictions to access to natural resources.
- Effects on cultural heritage
- Effects on everyday life

- Effects on livelihoods
- Increase occurrence of labour accidents
- Changes in traffic patterns
- Increase economical activities and practices
- Increase request for services and equipment
- Changes in land values
- Effects on gender, including gender-based violence.

# 5 Environmental and Social Mitigation Measures

The environmental and social risks and impacts of the project are related to the strengthening of coastal and marine ecosystems management through institutional strengthening, practical application at selected pilot sites and improved data management. The link between the predicted environmental and social impacts, the needed mitigation measures identified during the screening and assessment process, provisions for budgeting the costs of such measures, and the roles of those responsible for ensuring that the mitigation measures that will be carried out will be summarized in the site-specific Environmental and Social Management Plans (ESMPs).

#### 5.1.1 Mitigation measures

These are specific actions recommended to address the potential impacts of projects; mitigation can be defined as "structural and non-structural measures undertaken to limit the adverse impact of natural hazards, environmental degradation and technological hazards" to reduce, mitigate and or compensate the negative social and environmental impacts identified in the impact assessment of the project proposed activities.

As a result of the analysis, it is evident that the most imminent potential impacts are associated with labour and community health and safety, and solid and e-waste management. These types of impacts would require additional assessment and analysis to design the appropriate mitigation measures as soon as the detailed project actions are identified. A screening process that shall be used to identify the type and scope of risks and impacts of all sub-projects is described in detail in Section 9 and Annex 1 of this ESMF.

Additional mitigation measures would be derived from any conditions imposed by any statutory agency who reviewed the sub-projects and provided recommendations or conditionalities. These could also be converted to contract clauses as necessary.

# 5.1.2 General Considerations

This section of the report is related to the identification of appropriate measures that need to be considered in order to minimize or eliminate negative impacts and to enhance positive impacts. In any event, the application of good implementing activities and management practices is of paramount importance. Public consultation is also necessary. The affected persons should be informed of the potential problems and mitigation measures. Their concerns and suggestions should also be given due consideration. Wherever possible, employment should be considered for the local people. This will enhance cooperation and support for the project. Although most of

the negative impacts are minor, the following mitigation measures are necessary because of their significance.

Mitigation	Measures
Hierarchy (ESS1)	
Avoid	<ul> <li>Identify socially underprivileged groups and ensure their inclusion and active presence in the planning, implementation and operation process</li> <li>Carry out separate meetings for women and vulnerable groups</li> <li>Provision of transportation or transportation costs particularly for the disabled, marginalized and the elderly ones including women</li> </ul>
	• Engagement of local NGO's and CBO's who work with vulnerable people at the community level to help disseminate information and organize consultations
Minimize	<ul> <li>Consult vulnerable groups, reflect their concern in the project design, planning and implementation</li> <li>Influence local level implementers to treat all affected people equally while recruiting in project activities regardless of their administrative attachment, sex, religious identity, and political alignment</li> </ul>
Mitigate	<ul> <li>Labor management procedure (LMP) by addressing equity and justice is being prepared and relevant aspects will be included in the Project Bidding Document.</li> <li>Prepare a roadmap to involve vulnerable groups in various stages of the project</li> <li>Ensure that the plan promises to establish a women-friendly workspace</li> </ul>
Compensate/ Offset	<ul> <li>Provide livelihood training</li> <li>Provide additional compensation, livelihood restoration and relocation</li> </ul>

#### Risk of exclusion of vulnerable groups

#### 5.1.3 Specific Considerations - Depreciation of the Natural Environment

A general issue for any activity of the project is the generation of wastes and/or leftover substances and materials. As such, all materials and substances such as oil, grease, toxic substances, and liquid wastes are not disposed-off in open soils, streams, rivers or places where they can eventually run-off into the surface and underground water system. Also, in order to prevent soil loss and erosion, indiscriminate land clearing and excavation will not be permitted.

#### Direct and indirect impacts from other natural hazards

Mitigation Hierarchy (ESS4)	Measures
Avoid	<ul> <li>Do not let residents to return to their houses unless it is deemed safe and capable of withstanding average natural disasters (e.g., hurricane)</li> <li>Avoid overcrowding disaster shelters if possible</li> </ul>
Minimize	<ul> <li>Prioritize building/rebuilding of resources those are necessary for increasing disaster resiliency, such as hospitals, fire stations, safe water sources, access to food and so on.</li> </ul>
Mitigate	<ul> <li>Allocate funds for other disaster use</li> <li>Regularly monitor weather and volcano conditions</li> <li>Create/update hurricane plans to account for the current status of the country and people (as there is a change in baseline)</li> <li>Create/update evacuation plans to reflect the current conditions</li> <li>Ensure the disaster shelters are well maintained and properly supplied</li> </ul>
Compensate/ Offset	<ul> <li>Provide financial support to residents so they can return to their houses sooner to avoid overcrowding of the disaster shelters in case of future disasters</li> </ul>

#### 5.1.4 Labour and Working Conditions

For the prevention and mitigation of potential risks and impacts for labour and working conditions, an instrument has to be prepared to meet the requirements of the Environmental and Social Standard of the World Bank (ESS2). This standard is relevant for this project, given the fact that the project has the potential for hiring specialized personnel and labourers for different aspects and phases of its implementation. Worker categories under this standard, that may be relevant for the project includes direct, contracted, community and government workers. To comply with the ESS2 and national laws, a project-level Labour Management Procedures (LMP) has been prepared that identifies the different types of project workers that are likely to be involved in the project, as well as workers management procedures. The LMP contains measures to address potential risks and impacts that may arise from the interaction between project workers and local communities and includes a Code of Conduct for project workers.

It is important that the project complies with the WBG policies: not hiring children, promoting transparency in terms and conditions of employment, non-discrimination, no sexual exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment (SEA/SH) and equal opportunity. In order to comply with these requirements a Labour Management Procedures has been prepared which includes a GRM specifically for project workers to ensure they have a mechanism in place for complaints and grievances. The GM for project workers also includes guidelines about how any complaints

related to SEA/SH should be handled. Project workers must sign, receive training on and adhere to a Code of Conduct that will be included in their contracts. The project will also adhere to proper OHS guidelines which include detailed COVID–19 transmission prevention protocols in accordance with WHO guidance and the World Bank technical note "ESF/SAFEGUARDS INTERIM NOTE: COVID-19 CONSIDERATIONS IN CONSTRUCTION/CIVIL WORKS PROJECTS (April 1, 2020)".

#### Mitigation Measures Hierarchy (ESS2) Avoid • Do not start work without first creating a Labour Management Procedure/Plan (LMP) • The LMP must adhere to ESS2 and national regulatory requirements • Educate the workers on their rights before starting work • Worker's treatment requirements part of the bidding document for hiring Contractors Minimize • Establish and manage a grievance redress mechanism (GRM). • Place complaint boxes to allow workers to report any concerns • Have a team in place to monitor and solve worker complaints Mitigate • Regular monitoring of the working conditions and reviewing of reports by external supervisors • Work together with the local authorities to improve worker rights in the region Compensate/ • Any unjust treatment of workers must be investigated and compensated Offset based on the severity

#### Working conditions

#### Worker accommodations

Mitigation	Measures
Hierarchy (ESS2)	
Avoid	• Inspect worker accommodations and ensure they meet national and
	international standards before placing workers in them
Minimize	Hire cleaners to regularly clean the facilities
	Create a system for workers who live off-site to request for cleaning
	supplies if they require it
Mitigate	<ul> <li>Create penalty system for workers who intentionally damage the</li> </ul>
	property or do not follow regulations
	• Create a method of reporting violations – such as anonymous reporting
	using complaint boxes or taking to supervisors
Compensate/ Offset	• N/A

#### Child labour

Mitigation	Measures
Hierarchy (ESS2)	
Avoid	<ul> <li>Do not hire without checking government issued identity</li> </ul>
	• Require mitigating child labour measurements as part of the bidding
	document for Contractors
	<ul> <li>DO NOT hire under 18 years of age</li> </ul>
Minimize	Review employee documents and perform employee reviews
	(quarterly) to ensure compliance
Mitigate	<ul> <li>Work with local authorities to increase child and youth literacy</li> </ul>
Compensate/	• Employ vulnerable households so that they have earning to run their
Offset	families and send their children to school.

#### 5.1.5 Mitigation specifications

There are always impacts associated with the implementation of projects activities. Most of the negative impacts associated with the sub-components for this project, are expected to occur during the construction/installation phase. While these impacts are not expected to be major, the careful implementation of mitigation measures will allow for the reduction or avoidance of any adverse effects. These general impacts have been identified in chapter 5 and Table below indicates the list of all potential mitigation measures related to these activities. The measures are presented in a manner that makes them easy to be incorporated into an Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) and, with appropriate adjusting, can become contract clauses for the contractor who will undertake the civil works. This also allows for ease of monitoring activities throughout the project cycle. Pesticides (e.g., for termite treatments of building foundations, or for extermination) use is also included in the standard ESMP below (note that the use or purchase of significant amounts of pesticides is not eligible under the Project).

#### Table 4: Impact and General Mitigations measures

IMPACTS	GENERAL MITIGATION	SPECIFIC MITIGATION	RESPONSIBLE
	MEASURES	MEASURES	
Noise	Noise generating sources	(a) Work activities will occur	Contractor
	must be located away from	within specified daylight hours	
	residential or noise sensitive	(as established by local	
	receptors to meet the noise	legislatures)	
	emission levels provided by	(b) Community / public to be	
	local legislation or those as	informed in advance of any	
	are indicated in World Bank	work activities to occur outside	
	IFC's General EHS Guidelines.	of normal working hours or on	
		weekends.	
	Working hours will be	(c) Sites should be hoarded	
	restricted to those	wherever possible.	
	prescribed in local	(e) There will be no excessive	
	legislation.	idling of vehicles at sites.	
Non-Hazardous	Waste Management	(a) Develop and implement	Contractor
waste	(general)	waste management plan in	
		consultation with the local solid	
		waste authorities.	
		(b) Abide by all pertinent waste	
		management and public health	
		laws.	
		(c) Waste collection and	
		disposal pathways and sites will	
		be identified for all major	
		waste types expected from	
		project activities.	
		(d) All waste will be collected	
		and disposed of properly in	
		approved landfills by licensed	
		collectors. The records of waste	
		disposal will be maintained as	
		proof for proper management	
		as designed.	
		(f) Whenever feasible, reuse	
		and recycle appropriate and	
		viable materials (except	
		hazardous material)	

IMPACTS	GENERAL MITIGATION	SPECIFIC MITIGATION	RESPONSIBLE
	MEASURES	MEASURES	
Biodiversity	Develop Biodiversity	Ensure that project activities	Contractor
	Management Plans, where	take into consideration	
	applicable. Encroachment on	proximity to natural or critical	
	protected, sensitive /fragile	habitats or areas of high	
	ecosystems should be	ecosystem value.	
	avoided for any activity of	Create ecosystem	
	the project.	management plan using the	
		new baseline conditions	
		Improve disaster resilience of	
		ecosystems by increasing	
		biodiversity, decreasing habitat	
		fragmentation, and other	
		scientifically proven methods	
Energy Efficiency	Energy consumption and	(a) Project activities will	Contractor
	efficiency	promote the use of energy	
		efficiency and where possible	
	Energy efficiency measures	the project will promote	
	will be considered for all	consumption of renewable	
	project activities	energy.	
Water efficiency	Water consumption and	(a) Project activities will	Contractor
	efficiency	promote the use of water	
		efficiency measures such as	
	Water-efficiency measures	low-flow fixtures, sensors, use	
	will be considered for all	of non-potable water for non-	
	project activities	drinking applications.	
Occupational	Occupational Health and	(a) Contractors must ensure	Contractor
Health and Safety	Safety	that an Occupational Health	
		and Safety Plan is in place to	
		guide work activities and	
		provide a safe environment for	
		workers.	
		(b) Contractors must ensure	
		that all workers have received	
		regular training to perform	
		their job, as well as daily	
		inductions prior to work	
		activities have taken place.	

IMPACTS	GENERAL MITIGATION	SPECIFIC MITIGATION	RESPONSIBLE
	MEASURES	MEASURES	
		(c) Contractors must ensure	
		that all workers operate within	
		a safe environment. All	
		relevant Labour and	
		Occupational Health and Safety	
		regulations must be adhered to	
		ensure worker safety.	
		c) Workers must be provided	
		with necessary equipment as	
		well as protective gear as per	
		their specific tasks such as hard	
		hats, overalls, gloves, goggles,	
		boots, etc.	
		(d) Sanitary facilities must be	
		provided for all workers on site.	
		Contractors must ensure that	
		there are basic medical	
		facilities on site and that there	
		are staff trained in basic first	
		aid.	
		(e) Appropriate posting of	
		information within the site	
		must be done to inform	
		workers of key rules and	
		regulations to follow.	
		• Conduct audits of the sites,	
		identify unsafe conditions	
		and acts, and engage	
		leadership to ensure	
		compliance	
		• The audits should be done	
		by independent reviewers	
		Educate and train the workers	
		on the OHS standards	
Cultural heritage	Accidental destruction of	(a) Contractors must ensure	Contractor
	cultural heritage (Chance-	that provisions (Chance Find	
	finds)	Procedures) are put in place so	
		that artefacts or other possible	
		"chance finds" encountered in	

IMPACTS	GENERAL MITIGATION	SPECIFIC MITIGATION	RESPONSIBLE
	MEASURES	MEASURES	
	MEASURES	MEASURES excavation or construction are noted and registered, and responsible authorities contacted, and works activities delayed or modified to account for such finds. All project workers will receive training on the Chance Find Procedures of the project. (b) No item believed to be an artefact must be removed or disturbed before cleared by	
		responsible authorities.	
Slope stability and debris flow	Avoid rebuilding on unstable slopes, without first performing a survey of the area and determining the slope stabilization measures that must be taken to prevent landslides in the future	<ul> <li>Perform surveys of the area, identify unstable slopes, then stabilize them first prior to any development. Regularly monitor slopes that were stabilized and have human settlement nearby.</li> <li>Developing household, community, and government planning efforts should consider mutual or cumulative benefits for risk reduction across different hazard scenarios.</li> </ul>	Contractor
Traffic management and Road safety	<ul> <li>Conduct road condition surveys before starting work</li> </ul>		

#### 5.1.6 Environmental and Social Screening Procedures

#### 5.1.6.1 Screening Process

The Environmental and social screening is intended to ensure that proposed country level subprojects projects are subject to the appropriate extent and type of environmental and social assessment (ESA) needed. The first step of the screening procedure will be the preparation/provision of a screening form designed to capture the necessary information about potential environmental and social impacts associated with the proposed activities. The subproject Screening Procedures have been included in Annex 1. The various consultants will do the screening at each site to determine the possible social and environmental impact.

If, through the use of "Form A, Sub Projects Screening Procedures" the subproject analyzed is found to have no impacts on the environment and social aspects, no further action will be required. However, if impacts are identified, whether they may be mitigated or not, the sub-project screening results are to be brought to the attention of the PSIPMU.

Depending on the results of the completed checklist, the Environmental and Social specialists of the PSIPMU will guide the subproject level project to either complete a Simple Environmental and Social Assessment (ESA) (Form C) or a Limited Environmental and Social Assessment (LEAS) (Form D). Limited Environmental and Social Assessment applies if the sub-project may create minor environmental and social problems that require frequent monitoring or sub-project design modifications to minimize or eliminate the impacts. In accordance with normal procedure, copies of the above will then be submitted to the relevant environmental and social official/authority by the PIU for review also.

#### 5.1.6.2 Permitting

The PIU will be required to consult the relevant authority with legislated responsibility for granting planning permits or approvals for project related activities. For all World Bank projects all laws and regulations, and guidelines pertaining to planning and environmental protection in SVG must be followed and obtained.

The evaluation, screening and scoping of activities and projects by the relevant Planning authority may conclude that certain projects or activities require that an ESIA be conducted. In such cases, then any mitigation requirements or conditions from that ESIA should be included in the relevant contracting language to ensure that they are carried out.

#### 5.1.7 Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP)

Based on the E&S screening and E&S impacts assessment, (if warranted), a site-specific Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) will be developed for each pilot site. The ESMP will include the general mitigation measures included in this ESMF and specific mitigation measures developed to respond to the E&S impacts of the specific activities in the pilot. A template of a generic ESMP for the project has been included below. The number, scope, and type of plans, procedures, programs, to be included in each ESMP is not limited, and it should be developed according to the project needs. The ESMP includes environmental and social impact mitigation and control measures, as well as its predicted costs, and also the time and length for those measures to be implemented, and the responsible parties for it. The responsibility to prepare the ESMP plans rely on the environmental and social specialists at the Project Implementation Unit (PIU).

#### 5.1.7.1 Risks, Strategies and Mitigation Opportunities for Subprojects

In order to ensure good practices and attention to those identified risks and impacts, and in accordance to the mitigating recommended, a list of strategies is presented for the subproject ESMP's preparation. These will be included in the Terms of Reference (TORs) of the future contractors to be hired; this will ensure that a specific ESMP for each relevant subproject action will be prepared and fully implemented. Table 5 presents the risks, strategies and mitigation for this project.

Media	Risk and Impacts	Mitigation opportunities
Environ/	Risks to shoreline from	Ensure application of appropriate measures
Natural	interventions	
	Effects by increase in	A plan and procedure will be prepared to control and organize
	vehicular and pedestrian	traffic in and around the project pilot sites during
	traffic	implementation; this will also include accident prevention
		(routing and signalling)
	Labour and working	An Occupational Health and Safety plan would be prepared
	accidents	specifically for all project implementation locations where
		applicable
	Dust and Noise	Use of water spray to minimise dust from pilot sites where
	generation	applicable. Use of face masks and filters for workers in dusty
		areas.
		For noise control, adjust working schedule to those hours
		allowed by local legislation.

#### Table 5: Risks and Mitigation Opportunities

Media	Risk and Impacts	Mitigation opportunities	
	Solid waste without	For this purpose, a solid waste management plan will be	
	treatment	prepared. This must include waste separation/classification.	
	Water usages during	A water rationale use must be implemented to reduce and	
	project implementation	avoid excessive and uncontrolled uses of water. Revisions of	
		temporary infrastructure must be performed frequently to	
		prevent leakages.	
	Stagnant residual waters	All puddles and stagnant waters must be eliminated in pilot	
	and potential	sites during project implementation phase.	
	proliferation of vectors		
	and diseases		
	Unnecessary uses and	Promote and make an efficient use of equipment and	
	abuse of electricity and	machinery, using them only when needed. Turn off equipment	
	or fuel consumption	not in use, such as: lights, refrigeration (AC), etc.	
	during project		
	implementation		
	Biodiversity impacts	Necessary technical assessment will be undertaken to avoid	
		negative impacts to flora, fauna, and habitats during project	
		implementation to ensure the sustainability of the project.	
	Effects on the land scape	Work debris and other solid wastes and materials used during	
	and surroundings	project implementation will be covered with liners and be	
		stored in places to avoid being dragged away by rain runoff.	
		Debris must be removed from premises every 5 days	
	Inadequate uses of water	Install adequate infrastructure to supply water for general use,	
	and production of	also potable water for human consumption.	
	residual waters	Install adequate infrastructure to store and appropriately	
		dispose of residual waters during construction and operational	
		phases, in accordance with the local legislation mandates in	
		these matters	
	Improvement in working	Prepare and implement Labour Management Procedures for	
	conditions to ensure	the project's different implementation sites	
	better environmental		
	practices		
	Risks of electrical current	Implement tension and voltage stabilizing equipment to	
	tension/voltage	prevent alteration on the electrical installations.	
	alteration that could		
	cause fires		
Social	Labour conflicts due to	Ensure expectations are realistic and set early.	
	Job expectations	Clear guidelines in the SEP and LIVIP	
		Ensure workers have access to a grievance mechanism.	
		Ensure workers have signed and received training on Code of	
		Ensure workers have signed and received training on Code of	
		conduct.	

Media	Risk and Impacts	Mitigation opportunities	
	Improve the access	Include measures that improve access in this project and others	
	standards to ensure	in the future.	
	vulnerable groups	The PSIPMU shall engage and involve all stakeholders in	
		the planning, design and implementation process.	
		Meaningful Consultations apply to those affected and	
		project beneficiaries irrespective of group status	
	Restrictions on access to	Develop a PF and follow guidelines established in the document	
	natural resources	to ensure that potentially affected stakeholders are effectively	
		consulted and part of the process.	
	Risks of insufficient	Initially reinforcement with consultant expertise. Initiate	
	trained personnel	training processes for local individuals.	
	Potential conflicts	Follow guidelines for stakeholder engagement and	
	between project workers	consultations outlined in the project's Stakeholder Engagement	
	and communities	Plan (SEP).	
		Ensure that community members have access to the project-	
		level grievance redress mechanism.	
		Ensure that workers have signed and received training on Code	
		of Conduct.	

# 5.1.8 Guidelines for the Preparation of the Environmental and Social Management Plans (ESMPs)

These site specific ESMPs will be prepared based on the technical norms and local legislations that are pertinent to the project design and implementing process during the construction, implementation and closing phases. The following plans have been identified for the project based on the activities to be financed.

#### 5.1.8.1 Environmental and Social Management Plan

An ESMP must include the following items, as indicated in the above-mentioned sections:

- <u>Objective</u>
- **<u>Pilot description.</u>** This section should describe the E&S characteristics of the pilot site.
- <u>Legal Framework</u>. National legislation, regulations, resolutions, norms, international treaties, and other legally binding instruments that apply to the pilot.
- <u>Institutional Framework</u>. Institutions involved in the project administration, management and operations. These will be identified and their roles and responsibilities during project phases will be defined.

- <u>Implementation Plan</u>. Description of all pilot activities using a double entry matrix where activities are set against execution time, with estimative starting and finishing dates for the pilot implementation.
- Environmental and Social Risks Assessment: Mitigation Measures Adopted. Include the assessment of specific E&S risks and impacts related to the activities of the specific pilot, including those regarding violence and gender issues. Include prevention, avoidance and mitigation measures for the risks identified.
- **<u>Specific plans needed</u>** e.g., emergency preparedness plan.
- <u>Budget and Costs</u> for the implementation of the mitigation measures and stakeholder engagement processes.
- Public Consultation Mechanism. The information provided to the project participants and workers, as well as the communities and stakeholders must be early and appropriate. For public consultation of pilot activities, potential E&S risks and impacts and mitigation measures must be preform before the project implementation, at the design level. This activity is a mandate of ESS10 and demands the local stakeholder's active participation and will be continuous throughout all the pilot phases. The results of the consultations will be included in the ESMP.
- <u>Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM).</u> The procedures for the GRM are based on the ESS10 of the WB, this process will follow a format as presented in Section 10 of this ESMF.
- **<u>COVID-19 guidelines.</u>** A COVID-19 contingency plan should be developed based on ESSs 2 and 4 of the WB (see Annex 5).
- <u>Monitoring and Evaluation</u>. The mechanisms for follow-up and evaluation must be design and implemented throughout the project phases, to have controls of all actions, by measuring its efficiency and effectiveness and compliance. This will assist in preparing evaluation reports that will address the improvement or actions required. This mechanism will include project supervision from the Project Implementation Unit, contracted supervision and World Bank supervision. It will require reporting, inclusive of daily logs, verification and technical, environmental and engineering reports as agreed.

#### 5.1.8.2 Waste management during project implementation (WMP)

The following guidelines are included in order to develop the Waste Management Plan (WMP) during the implementation phase. The WMP must follow and comply with the ESS1 and ESS3 of the Environmental and Social Framework, and its extent of application will depend on the project activities that will be performed at each project site. It will include the integral management of solid and liquid wastes. It shall include measures to manage implementing activities (paper, office materials, paints, etc.), replacement of electrical equipment (computers, servers, cables, etc.).

This plan must comply with the existing country legislation and regulations. The basic content should include:

- Objective of the managerial waste plan
- Legal frame
- Institutional frame
- Site and surroundings diagnostics and characteristics
- Possible environmental and social impacts
- Evaluation of the environmental and social impacts
- Measurements for waste management during construction and operational phase of the project
- Arrangements for permits for final disposal of the different types of wastes that the plan entitles
- Implementation plan
- Budget and costs
- Stakeholders Consultation plan
- Grievance Redress Mechanism
- Follow up and evaluation
- Adaptive management arrangements

#### **Objective of Waste Management Plan**

Based on ESS1 and ESS3, the plan must stablish responsibilities in relation with the risk and impact levels during the different project phases. Thus, the generation of waste must be considered from the very beginning; during the predesign contracting and implementing phases. In all cases previsions shall be taken in order to minimize the production of waste, and those that can be minimized must follow an integrated management plan to properly reduce, manage, and dispose all types of waste that could be generated by all the different project activities. By doing so, the project will avoid a negative affectation to stakeholders and livelihood, biodiversity and habitats nearby and surroundings of the project site and activities.

#### 5.1.8.3 Traffic Management Plan (TMP)

Following the mandates in the Environmental and Social Framework: ESS1, ESS2 and ESS4, and taken into consideration each project phase and that all the locations of the project activities will have different landscape configuration, roads, access, etc., this plan will provide specific measures to be implemented to ensure a proper traffic management while minimizing security

risks and impacts to the affected communities. This plan must consider the following: amount of vehicular traffic, pedestrians, the universal principle of open access to sites, the usage of signs, and control mechanisms to allow the free and orderly movement, safe and predictable, guided and a warning to school, hospitals, neighbours and stakeholders nearby the project installations during operational hours. The basic content of a traffic management plan should include:

- Objective of Traffic Management Plan
- Legal frame
- Institutional frame
- Site and surroundings diagnostics and characteristics
- Possible environmental and social impacts
- Evaluation of the environmental and social impacts
- Measurements for traffic management during construction and operational phase of the project
- Implementation plan
- Budget and costs
- Stakeholders Consultation plan
- Grievance Redressal Mechanism
- Follow up and evaluation
- Adaptive management arrangements

# **Objective of Traffic Management Plan**

These objectives are based on the guidelines of the Environmental and Social Framework of the WB: ESS1, ESS2 and ESS4, and determine the responsibilities in relation of the evaluation, management and follow-up of the environmental and social impacts associated to the project implementation phases. In the case of Traffic Management Plan (TMP), this must include the predesign and implementation phases, with recommended actions to avoid, reduce and minimize those potential impacts generated by traffic and increase traffic in and around the project site, during construction and operation. This plan will avoid all major disturbance of existing traffic, prevent blockages, and permits free flow of vehicles in the community where the projects are installed.

#### 5.1.8.4 Labour Management Procedures (LMP)

This procedure seeks to ensure the inclusion of measures, to manage risks associated with employment under the project, and to help determine the resources needed for planning and management. It sets out the approach to meet the national requirements, as well as the objectives of the World Banks's Environmental and Social Framework, specifically the objectives

of ESS2: Labour and Working Conditions and Occupational Health and Safety. Based on the Project's Environmental and Social Assessment, for this project, risks are considered minimal in regard to labour and working conditions, as well as occupational health and safety. During operations the Plan will ensure that project management will be committed on a continuous basis throughout the life of the project, to evaluate risks and impacts and to have in place adequate measures and procedures to manage adverse impacts. The Code of Conduct will also be adopted throughout project implementation (Annex 4). It is important to note the LMP is a live document and can be updated to meet the demands of the project. The basic contents of a Labour Management Procedures include:

- Objective of Labour Management Procedure
- Legal frame
- Institutional frame
- Standard code of conducts for workers
- Implementation plan
- Budget and costs
- Stakeholders Consultation plan
- Grievance Redress Mechanism
- Follow up and evaluation
- Adaptive management arrangements

#### **Objective of Labour Management Procedures**

These are based to comply with the ESS1, ESS2 and ESS4 (Environmental and Social Standard of the World Bank), in relation with the evaluation and level of the project site, implementation phase and the risks that it imposes, for the safety and health of workers, nearby communities and stakeholders. This activity and its codes of conduct are designed in phases and in joint and inclusive effort. All workers must adhere to this procedure and ensure to fulfil their contracted duties and assignments, obeyance and respect to gender and ranks, care and well behaviour and good practice at work and with natural surroundings and biodiversity. A stand-alone LMP has been developed for the project and can be found at <a href="http://www.gov.vc/index.php/coastal-and-marine-ecosystems-management-strengthening-project">http://www.gov.vc/index.php/coastal-and-marine-ecosystems-management-strengthening-project</a>.

#### 5.1.8.5 Occupational Health and Safety Plan (OHSP)

During project implementation and with the implications that involve, creates the need of an Occupational Health and Safety, measures to be developed to prevent harm and ensure the health and safe working conditions and security to the personnel involved in the project activities. Occupational Health and Safety measures are reflected in the LMP.

The Incident Protocol is outlined in Annex 2.

#### **Objective of Occupational Health and Safety Plan**

This specific instrument is based on those mandates of ESS1 and ESS2, that establish the mechanism for the Occupational Health and Safety Plan (OHSP) and ensure that is in line with the World Bank Group EHS Guidelines and its specific Occupational Health and Safety (OHS), to ensure health and safety of workers during construction activities during a project implementation, with the purpose to avoid, minimize and mitigate those potential impacts that the activity could cause, and to avoid harm or any danger to peoples. Occupational, Health and Safety Guidelines are outlined in the LMP.

#### 5.1.8.6 Code of Conduct

The guideline for preparing the Standard Code of Conduct aimed at workers who participate in various stages of the project: pre-investment, preparation and implementation. This guidance follows the objectives of Environmental and Social Standard of the WB: ESS1, ESS2, and ESS4 and the content of it will depend upon the specific characteristics of each subproject. The code of conduct applies to workers classified as direct, hired and community or voluntary. For the project, this code of conduct will specifically apply to direct workers, PIU workers.

The Code of Conduct can be found in the LMP.

#### 5.1.8.7 Chance Finds Procedures (CFP) at the project sites

This guidance follows the objectives of the Environmental and Social Standard of the WB: ESS1 ESS2, ESS5, ESS8. During project activities that involve remodelling, upgrading or constructing infrastructures, some of these actions can produce unexpected events such as findings of important scientific, cultural or social structures or artifacts that could be considered of national, cultural or historical values. Thus, a specific procedure must be implemented where responsibilities and actions must be in place to deal with these chance finds events. Most countries have specific legislation to comply with on these matters. A specific Chance Finds Clause must be included in all contracts for the project implementation activities. The basic procedure to follow in the Plan must be required: i) stop all activities in and nearby the findings, ii) inform the local pertinent national authority, iii) place barriers and security to guard and protect from vandalism, iv) await instructions and clearance by local pertinent authorities before proceeding and continuation of works. The basic content of a Chance Find Procedure should include:

• Objective for the Chance Finds Procedure

- Description of the Project and site characteristics
- Legal Frame
- Institutional frame
- Potential environmental and social impacts
- Values and compensation for losses
- Measures to protect and guard chance finds
- Permits arrangements
- Standard code of conducts for workers
- Implementation plan
- Budget and costs
- Stakeholders Consultation plan
- Grievance Redress Mechanism
- Follow up and evaluation
- Adaptive management arrangements

#### **Objective of Chance Find Procedure**

This specific instrument is based on those mandates of ESS8-WB, that establish the mechanism to follow in the case of a Chance Find event during a project implementation, with the purpose to avoid, minimize and mitigate those potential impacts that the activity could cause, and to avoid harm or any danger to people's cultural heritage.

# 2.1.1 Cultural Heritage Management Plan (CHMP)

The following guidelines are presented in order to elaborate the Cultural Heritage Management Plan (CHMP). This are conceived to be implemented during different phases of a project: preinvestment, design and construction phases. These guidelines follow the mandates of the Environmental and Social Standards (ESS-WB), ESS1, ESS2, and ESS8. Its applicability will be depending on project site location and national legislation. This plan's purpose is to avoid any negative impact or potential risks to the national, cultural or natural heritage of a nation where a project is implemented. The basic contents of a Cultural Heritage Management Plan should include:

- Objective for the Cultural Heritage Management Plan
- Description of the Project and site characteristics
- Legal Frame
- Institutional frame
- Potential environmental and social impacts
- Values and compensation for losses

- Measures to protect and guard National, Cultural and Natural Heritages
- Permits arrangements
- Standard code of conduct for workers
- Implementation plan
- Budget and costs
- Stakeholders Consultation plan
- Grievance Redress Mechanism
- Follow up and evaluation
- Adaptive management arrangements

#### **Objective of Cultural Heritage Management Plan**

This specific instrument is based on those mandates of ESS8-WB, that establish the mechanism to protect cultural heritage during project implementation, with the purpose to avoid, minimize and mitigate those potential impacts that the activity could cause, and to avoid harm or any danger to beliefs, knowledge and traditions.

#### 5.1.8.8 Emergency Readiness Plan

The following guidelines are presented in order to elaborate an emergency readiness plan that could be implemented during the implementation process of project activities. These guidelines follow the mandates of ESS1, and its conditions will be dependent upon each activity phase and site. The risk and hazards to confront can be from natural or anthropic origin, quakes, hurricanes, contamination, fires; in all cases the plan is designed to avoid and prevent these events or in case of unavoidable events, to react and reduce its effect and harm in the community, workers and infrastructures. The basic contents of an Emergency Readiness Plan should include:

- Objective for the Emergency Readiness Plan
- Description of the Project and site characteristics
- Legal Frame
- Institutional frame
- Potential environmental and social impacts
- Values and compensation for losses
- Permits arrangements
- Standard code of conducts for workers
- Implementation plan
- Budget and costs
- Stakeholders Consultation plan
- Grievance Redressal Mechanism
- Follow up and evaluation

• Adaptive management arrangements

#### **Objective of Emergency Readiness Plan**

These objectives must be conceived to comply with ESS1, in regard to the evaluation, management and follow-up of risks and environmental impacts for the project phases. In the case of the Emergency Readiness Plan must be conceived since early stages of the project, preconstruction, construction and operational phases, in order to ensure minimal effects and damage by catastrophically and or accidental events.

# 6 Institutional Arrangements for implementing the Environmental and Social Framework

This chapter of the report describes the roles of those responsible for ensuring that the mitigation measures are carried out and explains the capacity of the implementation agencies and any strengthening needs.

#### 6.1.1 Structure of Management and Supervision Teams

The GOSVG is familiar with the World Bank environmental and social policy requirements. The Environmental Safeguards Specialist and the Social Safeguards Specialist from the PSIPMU will be responsible for the environmental and social management of the project and sub-projects. . This will ensure that the contractor(s) follow the environmental and social requirements under the contracts and implement applicable ESMPs for the duration of their work.

#### 6.1.2 Roles and Responsibilities

Implementation and monitoring of the Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) and all other Environmental and Social Standards (ESS) instruments will be the responsibility of GOSVG/SDU for project activities. Coordination with stakeholders will be builtin to each contract implemented by the PIU, and the PSIPMU will be responsible for monitoring adherence to ESS instruments for the activities. For example, consultants conducting legislative reviews will be required to consult with relevant stakeholders and also provide support to the national legislative drafting units to transpose recommendations to national legislation, while adhering to the requirements of applicable ESS instruments identified by the PIU. Table 10 provides details on the roles and responsibilities for the ESMF.

Role/Position Title	Responsibilities		
Project Coordinator	• Dissemination of project information pertaining to implementation of project activities.		
Environmental Specialist	<ul> <li>Manage, monitor and enforce World Bank Environmental and Social Standards and the relevant national legislation pertaining to, health and safety, environmental and social performance throughout the implementation of the project.</li> </ul>		
Social Specialists	<ul> <li>Manage, monitor and enforce World Bank Environmental and Social Standards and the relevant national legislation pertaining to labour, health and</li> </ul>		

#### Table 6: ESMF Roles and responsibilities

Role/Position Title	Responsibilities
	safety, grievance redress mechanism, environmental
	and social performance throughout the implementation
	of the project.

## 6.1.3 Supervision, Monitoring and Reporting

The Coastal and Marine Ecosystem Management Strengthening Project will be supervised by Sustainable Development Unit and other relevant government agencies.

Monitoring during project implementation provides information about key environmental and social aspects of the project, particularly the environmental and social impacts of the project and the effectiveness of mitigation measures. Monitoring of environmental and social standards will occur as a regular periodic activity, and will include compliance monitoring, process reviews, semi-annual reporting as well as monitoring carried out on the basis of the impacts, indicators and mitigation measures as prescribed in the ESMPs. This allows the Project to evaluate the success of mitigation as part of project supervision and allows corrective action to be taken when needed.

The PSIPMU will prepare a report on implementation of E&S measures of the project based on the commitments set forth in the ESCP. It will also inform on the implementation of the other E&S instruments, including the ESMPs. The reports will be submitted to the Bank at least every 6 month as part of the project reporting.

#### 6.1.4 Budget and Resources

The table below summarizes the estimated costs and schedules for the items associated with the implementation of the ESMF. These will be updated by the PIU and subject to clearance by the World Bank.

Item	Schedule	Cost/annual
Revise ESMF and ESMPs based	First year of project implementation	\$40,000,00
on final design	Thist year of project implementation	\$40,000.00
Implement ESMF	Throughout project implementation	\$300,000.00
•		
Assign Environmental and Social	Full-time throughout project	\$600.000.00
Specialist (s)	implementation \$800,000.00	Ş000,000.00

#### Table 7: ESMF estimated Cost and schedule

(within 3 months of the Effective		
Date of the Project)		
Prepare and Implement ESMPs Throughout project implementation	\$ 60,000.00	

The updating of the ESMPs will take place once details become available during the design phase. The costs associated with the implementation of the ESMPs are not likely to change because of the nature of the project but updating of the ESMPs and WMPs may be required.

# 6.1.5 Orientation, Training and Capacity Building

The Project will support interventions to strengthen the M&E capacity of the implementing agencies, and the MoFEP will coordinate regular reporting. The Project will finance M&E-related training as part of capacity-building exercises, including capacity building in data analysis to improve monitoring and reporting. Development of the MIS for the implementing agencies will also facilitate improved monitoring of service delivery to the Project beneficiaries.

It is recommended to conduct a training program on ESS2 and OHS Management system for the staff (including EHS, procurement and technical) to understand the requirements of ESS2 and linkages with other ESSs and to manage construction projects. A brief description of the training is included below:

Introduction: An occupational health and safety (OHS) program is a proven way to plan, implement and manage an organization's efforts to prevent injuries and illnesses in the workplace. When developing an OHS program, people often ask: "Where do we start?" This training can guide where to start and how to build an effective program. Staff will discover whom to involve in implementing and continuously improving an OHS program.

What this Training can cover: This training is for anyone who is just starting to develop an OHS program or wishes to improve an existing one. Staff will learn about the basic elements that every organization should have in its program and will receive tips on promoting a health and safety culture. It is also helpful for people on a program planning team.

Objectives: After the training, staff will be able to:

- Describe at least four benefits of an effective OHS program.
- List the basic elements of an OHS program.
- Take the essential first steps in developing a program.
- Explain how managers, supervisors, and front-line employees participate in the program.
- Create an action plan to maintain an ongoing OHS program.
# 7 Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM)

The project and its associated activities may have some short term and reversible impacts. In order to ensure the implementation of the Project in a timely manner and effectively address any anticipated and unanticipated risks that would be encountered during implementation, including the development of the necessary actions of mitigation and avoidance, a robust Grievance Redressal Mechanism (GRM) was developed. The GRM will enable the Project Authorities to address any grievances against the Project. It must be noted that this GRM covers grievances that relate to the impacts that the project may have on its stakeholders as listed in the Stakeholder Engagement Plan. Grievances that relate to project workers will be handled by a separate mechanism which is included as part of the project's LMP.

A grievance refers to an issue, concern, problem or claim, whether actual or perceived that affects the physical, social or economic conditions of individuals and or communities in the project are of influence. They can occur at different stages of the project cycle. The project activity often determines the nature of the grievance. Grievances can occur at various stages in the project cycle:

- Inception complaints about the perceived impact (social, economic, environmental)
- **Implementation** complaints about construction noise or dust, displacement or land acquisition, compensation, etc.
- **Close** non-fulfilment of project activities

#### 7.1.1 Objectives of the Grievance Redress Mechanism

The objectives of the Grievance Redress Mechanism are as follows:

- 1. Ensure that the Government of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines' regulations and the World Bank Environmental and Social Standards are adhered to in all project activities;
- 2. Address any negative environmental and social impacts of all project activities;
- 3. Resolve all grievances emanating from the project activities in a timely manner;
- 4. Establish relationships of trust between project staff and stakeholders;
- 5. Create transparency among stakeholders including affected persons through an established communication system;
- 6. Bolster the relationship trust amongst the project staff and the affected parties.

#### 7.1.2 Responsibility for Grievance Redressal

The Project Coordinator (PC) and the Environmental and Social Specialists assigned to the project will be designated as the key officers in charge of Grievance Redressal. They will be tasked with the following:

- Establish the Grievance Redressal Mechanism (GRM) before the commencement of any project activities;
- Act as the Focal Point on Grievance Redressal issues and facilitate access at the level of the PIU;
- Create awareness of the GRM amongst all stakeholders through awareness activities;
- Receive and examine grievances;
- Assist and examine grievances;
- Assist in redressal of all grievances by coordinating with the concerned parties;
- Maintain a database/information of grievances and redressal;
- Regularly contact all points of receipt of complaints; and,
- Prepare monthly/quarterly progress reports on grievances received.

#### 7.1.3 Types of Grievances

Aggrieved persons can file different types of complaints depending on the specific issue or concern of the project beneficiaries. These may include, but are not limited to:

- Land acquisition
- Temporary access
- Lack of access
- Disruption of services
- Inadequate care
- Noise
- Dust or chemical pollution
- Waste management issues (solid or liquid)
- Lack of information

Non-fulfilment of contracts, level of compensation, or seizure of assets without compensation shall be made in writing, and addressed to the Grievance Redress Committee (GRC). Copies of the complaint shall be sent to the PM.

#### 7.1.4 Grievance Redressal Process

1. Receive grievance

All complaints should be received by the Project Coordinator (PC). Through the consultation process in each participating country, stakeholders will be formed of various avenues through which the mechanism can be accessed.

#### Mode of receiving grievances

Complaints can be made in person, writing, verbally over the phone, by fax, emails or any other media.

All grievances relating to the development of this project
are to be directed to:
[Project Grievance Officer]
[Project Name]
[Ministry of officer}
Location:
Telephone: 784 485 6992
Email –
cc. <u>cenplan@svgcpd.com</u>

#### Sample Notification to the Public on how to submit grievance

This sample notification can be place at strategic points at each facility.

#### 2. Acknowledge grievance

All grievances will be acknowledged by telephone or in writing by the PC using the Grievance Acknowledgment Form (Annex 3) within 48 hours of receipt and the complainant informed of the approximate timeline for addressing the complaint, if it can't be addressed immediately. The PC will work with the safeguard team to ensure the speedy resolution of the grievance. If the complaint cannot be resolved at this level it is taken to the next level.

#### 3. Register/Log

After receiving and recording the grievance on the GIF, it will be registered in the Grievance Redressal Registration.

#### 4. Screen

The concerned reviews the complaint and assign a grievance owner. The complaint will be forwarded to the grievance owner who will be responsible investigating the claim and liaising with both the aggrieved party and project technical team in order to come to a mutually acceptable resolution. The aggrieved will be given a specific timeline for resolving the claim. Meetings with grievant/complainant will be held, if necessary, in an attempt to resolve the matter. All meeting should be recorded.

#### 5. Investigate

The grievance owner will investigate the complaint. This investigation will include, but is not limited to, meetings with the grievant/complainant, site exists, meetings/interviews with project staff and collection of relevant documentation and other forms of evidence. For meetings, the deliberations and decision will be recorded on the Meeting Record Form included as Annex 4. Community representatives or representatives of the complainant will be allowed to sit in on these meetings.

6. Classification of Grievance

Level 1	When an answer can be provided immediately and/or the safeguards team is already working on a resolution	SET Team & Project Coordinator
Level 2	One off event	SET Team & Project Coordinator
Level 3	Complaint is repeated. Any complaint that indicates breach of law or applicable policy/regulation High-profile grievances that if not resolved promptly may represent significant risks to the environment or community.	Grievance Redress Committee

#### 7. Resolution

The resolution at the first tier should normally be completed within 15 working days of receipt of grievance and notified to the concerned party through the Disclosure Form.

If the grievance is not being resolved within this period, it can be referred to the next level of the Grievance Redressal System. However, once it is determined that progress is being made towards a resolution, the grievance will be retained at this first level. The complainant will be informed of this decision and an estimated time for the resolution of the matter will be given either verbally or in writing. If the issue cannot be resolved within 25 working days, it will be transferred to the next level. Once a resolution has been agreed and accepted, the complainant's acceptance will be obtained on the Disclosure Form. If the proposed resolution is not accepted the grievance will be escalated to level **2**.

Step	Process	Timeframe
1	Receive grievance & log	Within 1 day
2	Acknowledge grievance	Within 1 day
3	Screen	Within 1 day
4.	Investigate	Within 10-15 days
5	Resolution	Within 25 days
6	GRC	30 days
7	Close grievance	

#### Table 7-1: GRM Timeframe

The GRM for the project is summarised as follows:

- 1. Signage on the GRM will be strategically placed at all project locations.
- 2. Grievances will be received in writing, by telephone or by email. All grievances in writing can be addressed to the Project Grievance Officer.
- 3. All grievances shall be registered in the grievance log. Contact with the aggrieved must be within 10 days.

#### 7.1.5 Sexual Exploitation and Abuse and Sexual Harassment (SEA/SH)

The Social Specialist will be responsible for dealing with complaints in relation to Sexual Exploitation and Abuse and Sexual Harassment (SEA/SH). He/she will be trained to deal with these grievances. A list of SH/SEA service providers will be kept available by the project (Annex 4). The GM should assist SH/SEA survivors by referring them to SH/SEA Services Provider(s) for support immediately after receiving a complaint directly from a survivor.

The GM can receive SEA/SH grievances, keeping the survivor information confidential. Specifically, the GRM will only record the following information related to the GBV complaint:

- The nature of the complaint (what the complainant says in her/his own words without direct questioning)
- If, to the best of their knowledge, the perpetrator was associated with the project
- If possible, the age and sex of the survivor.

Any cases of SEA/SH brought through the GRM will be documented but remain closed/sealed to maintain the confidentiality of the survivor. Here, the GRM will primarily serve to:

- Refer complainants to the GBV Services Provider; and
- Record the resolution of the complaint

The GRM will also immediately notify both the Implementing Agency and the World Bank of any GBV complaints **WITH THE CONSENT OF THE SURVIVOR**.

#### 7.1.6 Building Grievance Redress Mechanism Awareness

The Project Coordinator/Social Specialist will initially brief all project staff, including consultants, the on the GRM of the Project and explain the procedures and formats to be used including the reporting procedures.

The Project Coordinator or the Environmental/Social Specialist will brief all project stakeholders on the GRM of the project and explain the procedures and formats to be used, including reporting procedures. Awareness campaigns would be conducted targeting project stakeholders to inform them on the availability of the mechanism; various media will be used – as detailed in the SEP. The GRM will also be published on the GOSVG website and/or Facebook page, if available. Contact information for the GRM will be posted/disseminated within beneficiary communities.

#### 7.1.7 Monitoring and Reporting

The Environmental Specialist and/or Social Specialist will prepare the monthly/quarterly reports on the Grievance Redress issues of the project. The GRC may review the nature of grievances that have been represented and if grievances are repeated, recommend suitable changes.

#### 7.1.8 Periodic Review by Grievance Redress Committee

The GRC may review the nature of grievances that have been represented and if grievances are repeated, recommend suitable changes in implementation procedures and forward these to the PSC for implementation.

### 7.2 Disclosure and Public Consultation

This ESMF document is being shared with the relevant stakeholders in order to inform them of project activities, identify any additional relevant concerns or issues, and thereby improve the quality and usefulness of the Final ESMF document.

Finally, a Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP), Labour Management Procedures (LMP), Process Framework (PF), and Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) have also been prepared to address potential project related concerns and claims from workers and the general public. All these documents were disclosed on the Government's website in draft form as part of the consultation process.

#### 7.2.1 Consultation of the project and E&S instruments during Project Preparation.

Considering current COVID-19 situation, the following methods will also be considered for future consultations: i) Make a short video (that can be uploaded to various social media platforms) which should present the objectives of the project and the main risks and benefits; ii) Share the link from where the documents are available on the Client website; iii) Distribute a feedback form on participants' opinions on the main risks and benefits - from the perspective of the stakeholders. [Copy of the Transcript of the short video can be shared]; iv) Conduct feedback collection directly over the phone - especially for people who do not have Internet access; and, v) Prepare the summary of the comments received and actions taken to address the comments.

Evidence of meetings includes public attendance record sheets, meeting minutes, photographs, presentations, publication of ESMF requesting public comment, notification in newspapers, and/or e-mails to key organizations or individuals.

A virtual public consultation was convened 22 July, 2021 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Stakeholders from the communities surrounding the proposed pilot sites identified under Component 2 of the project were invited and were in attendance. A presentation was made identifying the proposed sites and detailing the assessed threats and proposed solutions to be implemented under the projects and stakeholders were given a brief synopsis of the environmental and social guidelines that would be in place for the duration of the project with pledge to give a more in–depth briefing once the pilot sites and interventions were finalised. A summary of the consultation can be found in Annex 6.

#### 7.2.2 Revision/Disclosure of Final ESMF

The draft ESMF will be revised to incorporate relevant stakeholder comments generated from consultation meetings. The final versions of the ESMF will be published at http://www.gov.vc/index.php/coastal-and-marine-ecosystems-management-strengthening-project as well as on the World Bank website.

#### 9. ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES

#### 9.1 Objectives of ESMP

The basic objective of the ESMP is to manage adverse impacts and risks of proposed project interventions in a way that minimizes the impact and risk on the environment, workers, and community during construction and operation stages of the project. The specific objectives of the ESMP are to:

- Facilitate the implementation of the mitigation and control measures discussed earlier in the document.
- Maximize potential project benefits, mitigate negative impacts and control risks;
- Address occupational and community health and safety hazards and corresponding control measures during construction and operation stages;
- Draw responsibilities for implementing agencies (MoFEP), contractors, consultants, and other members of the project team for the environmental, health, safety, and social management of the Project;
- Define a monitoring and supervision mechanism and identify monitoring and inspection parameters in order to:
  - Ensure the complete implementation of all mitigation and control measures,
  - Ensure the effectiveness of the mitigation and control measures;
- Assess environmental, health, and safety training requirements for different stakeholders at various levels.

#### 9.2 Subproject specific document review process

Based on the Environmental and Social impact and risk, site-specific Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) will be developed during the time of subproject assessment and updated later on when subproject design is finalized for both construction and operation phases for the sustainability of the subprojects. The ESMP will include the general mitigation measures included in this ESMF and specific mitigation measures developed to respond to the E&S impacts and risks of the sitespecific activities of the subproject. The ESMP will be submitted to both PSIPMU and the bank for their review and approval.

#### 9.3 Contractors Certifications

It is recommended all contractors procured under the Project be compliant with ISO 9001 Quality Management, ISO 14001 Environmental Management and ISO45001 Occupational Health and Safety Management. These will be done by the clients imposing the requirements of ISO certifications during prequalification or technical evaluation of contractors. In addition, all subcontractors under the major contractors will also be subject to ISO 14001 and ISO45001 audit provisions by the main Contractor during the course of the project.

#### 9.4 Various mitigation measures and Preventive Actions

The ESMP includes different types of mitigation and control measures and sub plans for significant impacts and risks: (i) general and non-site-specific measures in the form of environmental and social codes of practices (ESCPs) presented in **Annex 8-1** to address general construction and operation matters identified as medium and minor/low in significance prior to mitigation and prevention in Table 7.5 and Table 7.10; (ii) project specific and to the extent possible, site-specific mitigation measures discussed in Chapter 7 and summarized in Table 7-4; (iii) construction environmental and social action plan (CESAP) with site-specific and contract-specific management plans to be prepared by the Contractors; (iv) OHS Management System Processes and Standard Operating Procedures to be

prepared by the Contractors; and (v) proposed ESMP Sub-plans to address significant and cumulative impacts.

#### 9.5.1 Environmental and Social Code of Practices for Construction

The environmental and social codes of practice (ECPs) are generic, non-site-specific guidelines for the construction phase. The ECPs consist of environmental and social management guidelines and OHS practices to be followed by the contractors for sustainable management of all environmental, social, health and safety issues. The ECPs are listed below and details are presented in **Annex 8-1**.

- ECP 1: Waste Management
- ECP 2: Fuels and Hazardous Goods Management
- ECP 3: Water Resources Management
- ECP 4: Drainage Management
- ECP 5: Soil Quality Management
- ECP 6: Erosion and Sediment Control
- ECP 7: Top Soil Management
- ECP 8: Topography and Landscaping
- ECP 9: Quarry Areas Development and Operation
- ECP 10: Air Quality Management
- ECP 11: Noise and Vibration Management
- ECP 12: Protection of Flora
- ECP 13: Protection of Fauna
- ECP 14: Road Transport and Road Traffic Management
- ECP 15: Construction Camp Management
- ECP 16: Cultural and Religious Issues
- ECP 17: Workers Health and Safety
- ECP 18: Construction and Operation Phase Security

#### 9.5.2 Construction Environmental and Social Action Plan

The Contractor will prepare a 'Construction Environmental and Social Action Plan' (CESAP) demonstrating the manner in which they will comply with the requirements of Site Specific Management Plans, ESCPs and the mitigation measures proposed in the ESMP of this ESIA Report. The CESAP will be submitted within 90 days of Contractor's mobilization and be approved by the Engineer. The CESAP will form part of the contract documents and will be used as a monitoring tool for compliance. Violation of the compliance requirements will be treated as non-compliance leading to the corrections or otherwise imposing a penalty on the contractor.

#### 9.5.3 Occupational Health and Safety Plan

The Contractor will also prepare an occupational health and safety plan devising the general guidelines for the identified hazards and control measures along with the OHS Management Processes and Standard Operating Procedures presented in Chapter 5 of this ESIA. World Bank General Environmental Health and Safety Guidelines, Chapter 2: Occupational Health and Safety, 2007; Factories Act 1995 and Employment Act, 2003 (Act No. 20 of 2003); and ILO Code of Practices 1992, Safety and Health in Construction Industry; and Safety and Health in Building and Civil Engineering Work, ILO Codes of Practices. If the guidelines stated before cannot address a specific OHS management in the project, Good International Industry Practices will be applied, as for example, OSHA, etc. Review and update of the OHS plan will be done (a) when there is a change in the scope of the project, (b) there is a change in construction methodology/technique based on site condition, (c) following significant OHS hazard or a major accident, and (d) at the end of the Project (to allow for improvements in subsequent projects). OHS Plan should contain general guidance for all identified hazards under each work activity. It also contains management system processes and standard operating practices. Processes and SOPs should be presented in three discrete headings, (a) Contractor's Standards on the identified hazard management, (b) Expected Site specific OHS hazard and risks during construction, and (c) Control Measures proposed by the Contractor.

#### 9.5.4 Labor Management Procedure (ESS2)

A standalone Labor Management Procedure has been prepared and provided in the Annex 2 along with this ESIA. In consideration and recognition of the inevitability of in-migration for project related construction intervention and works, a Labor Management is be required to address and manage the construction-related labor impacts pro-actively. The LMP based on the national legal framework, e.g., the Factories Act 1995 and Employment Act, 2003 (Act No. 20 of 2003), and the World Bank- ESS2/Labor and Working Conditions and the relevant Guidance Note in addressing labor-related issues, impacts, rights, and mitigation. In case of any policy gaps, the WB/ESS2 will get precedence. Special attention is taken in regards to age of employment, term and conditions of work, and how national legislation applies to different categories of workers identified concerning, wages, deductions, benefits and other matters of concerns in workplace.

In sum, this LMP establishes guidelines for responding to the risks to local communities posed by the influx of in-migrants during construction activities. It outlines the approach to the management of the associated impacts and defines the steps to be taken into consideration by the project management, contractors, management consultants and other stakeholders during operation and construction periods.

#### Approaches and Strategies

The strategies under this plan comprises the following set of actions

- Stakeholders' engagement and awareness raising about the issue of the migrant laborers and highlights the social dynamics brought about by the in-migrants as a new stakeholder group.
- Better Labor-community understanding with a view to minimize the risks and conflict situations.
- Management of construction and labor camps/housing, health and safety issues
- Provisions for improvements in public utilities (e.g., water supply, sanitation, electricity in the project areas) through community development plan to enhance the carrying capacity for project management and local administration.
- Improvements in law and order to ensure uninterrupted implementation of the project.

In summary, the purpose of the plan is to facilitate in building an integrated local community to facilitate better project management and help to improve the migrant laborers-host community relationships. The LMP also includes a "Code of Conduct" for the civil and construction workers – both locals and inmigrants. It aims to help and facilitate a positive environment in the project area and thus build a "community" of mutual trust and respect for project construction.

#### 9.5.5 Community Health and Safety Plan

The Contractor will prepare a community health and safety (CHS) plan based on the guidance presented in Chapter 6 of this ESMF and ESS4. CHS plan will be built on the following objectives:

• Present actions required to implement the construction-related management and preventive measures outlined in the Environment Assessment document and required by

the World Bank's Environmental and Social Standard 4 (ESS4), Community Health and Safety and Guidance Note 4 (Community Health and Safety).

- Elaborate the processes and standard operating procedures required to conduct subproject activities related.
- State additional measures required to implement Good International Industry Practice (GIIP)
- Facilitate the addition and/or modification of control measures as new data become available via monitoring activities, health centers and community-based sources.
- Outline the roles and responsibilities of the positions in charge of implementing the CHS Plan, including monitoring and evaluation.
- Devise a training plan for all workforces and community members who are directly exposed to the health and safety hazards of the Project.
- Define the processes for recording and reporting non-conformances, as well as measurement and reporting of key performance indicators (KPI).
- Include an SEA/SH Action Plan in the CHS Plan.

#### 9.5.6 Prevention and Response Action Plan for SEA/SH

Influx of workers, particularly in impoverished communities, may increase the likelihood of exploitive and coercive sexual relations with community members, particularly minors in exchange for goods or money. Close proximity without appropriate supervisory and preventative measures may increase the risk of sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA) by project workers and female domestic workers and vendors. Female laborers working alongside male laborers, without separate latrine and other sanitation facilities for males and females; and lacking of specific mechanisms for females to share concerns about their working environments can increase the risk of sexual harassment (SH). Contractor shall be responsible for the following:

- Develop a SEA/SH Action Plan as part of their CHS Plan where SEA/SH Prevention and Response Action Plan will be clearly mentioned.
- Include a sample Code of Conduct (CoC) that will be used in the project keeping the provision for addressing SEA and SH risks and also the prohibitions against any illegal sexual activity with anyone.
- Establish workers' camps separated from local communities with strict protocols for interaction with local communities in order to avoid project impacts from labor influx.
- Conduct extensive training for awareness raising which explains how workers and local communities will be sensitized to SEA and SH risks, and the worker's responsibilities under the CoC.

#### 9.5.7 Chance finds procedures

This guidance is prepared based on ESS1, ESS2, ESS5, ESS8. During project activities that involve rehabilitation, upgrading or constructing infrastructures with new footprint during reconstruction, some of these actions can produce unexpected events such as findings of important scientific, cultural or social structures or artifacts that could be considered of national, cultural or historical values. Thus, a specific procedure must be developed where responsibilities and actions must be in place to deal with

the chance finds events. Most countries have specific legislation to comply with this matter. A specific Chance Finds Clause will be included in the bidding documents of all contractors. The basic steps to follow in the procedure are: i) stop all activities in and nearby the findings, ii) inform the local pertinent national authority, iii) place barriers and security to guard and protect from vandalism, iv) await instructions and clearance by local pertinent authorities before proceeding and continuation of works. The basic content of a Chance Find Procedure should include:

- Objective for the Chance Finds Procedure
- Description of the Project and site characteristics
- Legal and Institutional Framework
- Values and compensation for losses
- Measures to protect and guard chance finds
- Permits arrangements
- Standard code of conducts for workers
- Implementation plan
- Budget and costs
- Stakeholders Consultation plan
- Grievance Redress Mechanism
- Follow up and evaluation
- Adaptive management arrangements

#### 9.5.8 Requirements to develop a Cultural Heritage Management Plan (CHMP)

This guideline is presented in order to elaborate the Cultural Heritage Management Plan (CHMP). The plan is conceived to be implemented during different phases of subproject: pre-investment, design and construction phases. The guidelines follow the mandates of the Environmental and Social Framework and Standards particularly ESS1, ESS2, and ESS8. Its applicability will be depending on subproject location and national legislation. The main purpose is to avoid any negative impact or potential risks to the national, cultural or natural heritage of the island where subprojects are implemented. The basic contents of a Cultural Heritage Management Plan should include but not limited to the following:

- Objective for the Cultural Heritage Management Plan
- Description of the Project and site characteristics
- Legal and Institutional Framework
- Potential environmental and social impacts
- Values and compensation for losses
- Measures to protect and guard National, Cultural and Natural Heritages
- Permits arrangements
- Standard code of conduct for workers
- Implementation plan
- Budget and costs
- Stakeholders Consultation plan

- Grievance Redress Mechanism
- Follow up and evaluation
- Adaptive management arrangements

#### 9.6 Job Hazard Analysis

Job hazard analysis (JHA) will be conducted for each construction component focusing on job tasks as a way to identify hazards before they occur. It will focus on the relationship between the worker, the task, the tools, and the work environment. Ideally, after identifying uncontrolled hazards, steps should be taken to utilize hierarchy of control: elimination, substitution, engineering controls, administrative controls and personal protective equipment, to minimize them to an acceptable risk level. Many workers are injured and killed at the worksite every day. The JHA should be one of the major components of the larger commitment of the Contractor's health and safety management system. The JHA should be conducted on many jobs in the worksite. Priority should be given to the following types of jobs:

- Jobs with the highest injury or illness rates;
- Jobs with the potential to cause severe or disabling injuries or illness, even if there is no history of previous accidents;
- Jobs in which one simple human error could lead to a severe accident or injury;
- Jobs that are new or complex to the construction or have undergone changes in construction processes and procedures; and
- Jobs complex enough to require written instructions.

#### 9.7 EHS in Method Statement

The Contractor will include an EHS Chapter in each Method Statement. This EHS section will be based on the JHA and environmental issues of the site and specific to construction methods to be followed by the Contractor. This section will be reviewed by the EHS Specialists of the Engineer/Construction Supervision Consultant (PSIPMU) and confer approval along with other technical parameters to be reviewed by the engineering team of the PSIPMU. Each revision of the method statement should also be reviewed by the EHS Specialists and their concurrence will be required to get them approved.

#### 9.8 Request/Availability for Inspection

Poor temporary structures such as scaffold, stairs, and ladders are one of the major causes of the accidents in the construction industry. For technical verifications of the temporary structures, specifications in the bidding documents define the material, stability, strength and deflections of each temporary structure. However, this clause is often ignored in the construction industry as the main focus is the permanent structures. Therefore, Request for Inspection (RFI) for temporary structures will be required, as a prerequisite for the readiness of site. Along with the technical requirements (e.g., complete drawings, calculations relating to stability, strength, and deflections), health and safety parameters will also be inspected for all temporary structures. During these RFI, both technical and EHS personnel of the PSIPMU will inspect the requirements and certify the technical quality and the readiness of the site to commence the work.

#### 9.9 Field Engineer's EHS Oversight

There will be limited supervision staff available in EHS to cover all project sites and project shifts in the project. Therefore, it will become impossible to supervise and monitor EHS parameters in every site on a continuous basis. Therefore, site engineers can be delegated certain EHS oversight. Engineers

monitoring forms including RFI and Daily Monitoring Forms (DMF) and checklists will be designed to include EHS aspects. EHS should be made also a key responsibility of site engineers.

Training program will be devised by PSIPMU on engineers' oversight in EHS and will be offered by EHS specialists of PSIPMU to address EHS immediately when identified and raise it to EHS specialists if further action is required. The training on engineers' oversight should convey the following messages:

- Engineers would assume greater responsibility for overseeing the EHS as part of their daily routine work,
- Engineers would review and approve each site's readiness to commence the work as per the design specifications, certifying whether Contractors are meeting the requirements of the Method Statements, and withholding funds from them that are not complied with.
- Engineers would impose financial penalties on the Contractor with nonexistent or non-compliant EHS matters; and
- Engineers will assist workers in recognizing environment friendly and safe work measures and procedures necessary to protect the natural environment and occupational health and safety of workers and prevent illnesses, injuries and fatalities during construction.

#### 9.10 Inclusion of Relevant Components of ESMP in Contract Documents

The ESMP of the Project along with the ECPs and occupational hazards and risks will be included in the contractors' bid documents. The technical specifications of the bid documents will clearly state that the contractor will need to comply with the mitigation and control measures provided in the ESMP, ECPs, OHS Plan, World Bank Group EHS General Guidelines and NEQS.

#### 9.10.1 EHS BOQs in Bidding Documents

The following items will be included in the bills of quantities (BOQs) of bidding documents

- After the award of the contract and before mobilization, the Contractor will prepare and submit two separate plans, CESAP and OHS Plan in compliance with ESMP, WBG EHS Guidelines and NEQS. The preparation and their revisions and updates will also be quantified and presented as line items in the Contract.
- Quantities of personal protective equipment (PPE), first-aid boxes, ambulance, health care facility
  with Saint Vincent and Grenadines Medical Association licensed doctors and nurses.
- Provision of Environmental and OHS Staffs for the entire construction period. Detail staff requirements are presented in Chapter 14.
- Providing and maintenance of Dust Measurement Meters for spot measurements (5 number).
- Quarterly 24-hour Air Quality Monitoring PM10, NO2, SO2, CO2, CO.
- 15 minutes continuous noise monitoring at 4 pilot sites close proximity of settlements during the construction work.

#### 9.10.2 Payment Milestones

Payments to contractors will be linked to environmental, health and safety performance, measured by completion of the prescribed environmental and social mitigation measures in the CESAP and control measures described in the OHS plan. In addition, for any non-compliance causing damages or material harm to the natural environment, workers, public or private property or resources, the contractor will be required to either remediate / rectify any such damages in a timeframe specified by and agreed with the engineer (PSIPMU), or pay IAs for the cost (as assessed by Ias) of contracting a third party to carry out the remediation work. For repeated non-compliance the Contractor will be penalized. The penalty of non-compliance of the requirements of the CESAP and OHS Plan will be 3% of the total Civil Works in the Instruction of Payment Certificate (IPC). The penalty will be imposed after all contractual instruments are applied and a Non-compliance Report (NCR) is issued by the Engineer.

#### 9.11 Environmental and Social Management

#### 9.11.1 Construction Stage Site Specific Management Plans

Contractor will be required to prepare site specific management plans for each subproject, before contractor mobilization and commencement of construction works, for approval of PSIPMU and Supervision Consultant.

- Material Transportation Plan will be prepared by the contractor to prevent accidents during transportation by using motor-vehicles to the closest tower and grid stations, and then to the tower locations using other means. The plan should address specific details on the site conditions, given extremely mountainous terrain and complexity of transporting both construction and tower materials. Since, most of the cases transportation of materials will be done using manual labor, donkey, or cableways. Extreme precautions will be required in terms of safety and security.
- Spoil Management Plan will be prepared by the contractor on the management of excess spoils from various excavation activities, especially at the tower locations with very steep slope.
- Emergency Preparedness Plan will be prepared by the contractor after assessing potential risks and hazards that could be encountered during construction.
- Communication Plan to deal with the interaction of the community, complaints management, workers recruitment, notice of works and workers conduct with locals.

#### 9.11.2 Monthly Report

Contractor and consultant will submit monthly progress reports at the beginning of each following month to PSIPMU, presenting the records and issues with respect to each month in question. The contents of the Report shall include, but not limited to the following items and details:

- Record of major ESHS events in the execution of the Works including Temporary Works, together with progress quantities of ESHS items, inspection records, monitoring records, incident records, and monthly construction progress photographs.
- The Contractor's latest organization and change from previous month in E&S, if any.
- Schedule of current number of all EHS staff on Site for each category showing increase and decrease from the previous month.
- List of PPE currently owned on site showing increase and decrease from the previous month.
- Principal PPE distributed, ordered and being stocked on Site.
- Delivery or removal plan of equipment during the following month.
- Daily records of weather and river water level.

# ANNEXES

- Annex 1: Screening Process
- Annex 2: Response to Environmental, Social and Occupational Health and Safety Incidents
- Annex 3: Grievance Form
- Annex 4: Grievance Register
- Annex 5: Guidelines for civil works under COVID-19
- Annex 6: Stakeholder consultations

# Annex 1: Screening Process

The Environmental and Social Screening Form, included in Annex 4, should be used for performing environmental and social assessment of the subprojects of Component 2. The results of the screening will determine the degree of the detailed baseline information that is required. Baseline information can be developed using secondary sources and in the event the secondary sources are lacking or not specific to the subproject at hand, primary baseline information should be collected. Forms A and B must be completed.

Form A. General Criteria – This is the general information about the project, it has three parts, section A,

Section B: This section is divided in two areas, the first section provide the description of the subproject and the surrounding environment, the latter area evaluates the potential environmental and social impacts, if the response is no to all impact statement, no further action is needed. If at least one response is yes, then proceed to form C. Please remember to complete the part C section of the form.

**Form B:** For subprojects that include infrastructure activities, complete form B Verification List of actions for infrastructure projects

#### Form C: Simple Environmental and Social Assessment

#### Form D: Limited Environmental and Social Assessment

This Screening sheet must be completed for each of the proposed subproject and forwarded to the Environment and Social Specialist and in Respective PMU along with the following enclosures:

- 1. maps with the geographical location of the project pinned;
- 2. an appropriately scaled map clearly showing the project area and project sites with land use, existing buildings, infrastructure, vegetation, adjacent land use, utility lines, access roads and any planned construction;
- 3. any other information to describe the project, locations and possible impact as required;
- 4. Land details for the project sites, location, survey numbers;
- 5. extent available and required, land use classification, current use of the site;
- 6. land ownership, alienation/acquisition status, as required along with a certificate giving availability of sites required for the project by the borrower.

#### Form A. Sub Projects Screening Procedures

#### **Section A: General Criteria**

1. Name of subproject:

2. Parish:

3. Country:

4. Contractor information:

5. Name:

6. Address and email:

7. Information of the responsible for the screening process and filling the form

#### 8. Name:

9. Academic degree/Profession:

10. Phone number

11. Email:

12. Date:

13. Signature:

# Section B. Environmental and Social Description and preliminary assessment of situation and those potential environmental and social impacts

Description of Project site location: include coordinates and maps

Description of the natural surroundings and settings (i.e. topographical features, habitats, flora and vegetation, fauna)

Description of the social surroundings and settings, (i.e. urban/rural, violence, approx. population density, approx. Income level

#### **1.** Pollution and Contamination Risks

Description	Yes	No	Not
			known
Is there a possibility of pollution or contamination risks by discharges from latrines,			
industrial and dump sites, etc.?			

#### 2. Geology

Description	Yes	No	Not
			Known
Is there a possibility of soil instability and erosion?			
Is there a possibility of saltwater intrusion?			
Is there a possibility of flooding or interrupting natural drainages and or surface			
runoff?			

#### 3. Soil Erosion

Description	Yes	No	Not
			Known
Could the Project activities affect soil erosion processes			
Could the Project activities create indirect activities that could promote soil erosion			
processes?			
Will the Project modify slopes?			
Could the Project activities create processes that could modify slopes?			

In the event the project activities promote or creates activities that could lead to install		
infrastructures or activities in areas with slopes. In those instable slopes is there a		
probability for danger?		
Would it there be a need for consultation of a geology expert?		

#### 4. Water: Quality and Quantity

Description	Yes	No	Not
			Known
Is there any Surface waters or runoff evidence nearby the project implementation site?			
Will the Project increase the use and demand of freshwater resources?			
Will the Project generate or discharge waste liquid substances into natural surface			
waters, swamps or palustrine habitats			
Would the project produce negative impacts on the nearby surface waters?			
Would it there be a need for consultation of a water expert?			

#### 5. Groundwaters: Quality and Quantity

Description	Yes	No	Not
			known
Is there an exploitable groundwater resource by the project?			
Will the Project increase the groundwater uses?			
Will the Project discharge waste waters or any other liquid wastes unto the ground			
waters and aquifer?			
Could the Project deteriorate or alter the groundwaters?			
Would it there be a need for consultation of a hydrological expert?			

#### 6. Energy Source

Description	Yes	No	Not
			Known
Will the project increase the demand for energy consumption?			
Will the project create a demand for a different source of energy?			
Will the Project create a demand for different type of energy sources? If yes define			
type:			

#### 7. Uses of Natural Resources

Description	Yes	No	Not
			Known
Would the Project require and use considerable quantities of natural resources? (i.e.			
construction materials, water, soils, sand, gravels)			

#### 8. Maintenance and Upgrades

Description	Yes	No	Not
			known
Will the Project need frequent maintenance and upgrades during its operation?			

#### 9. Labor

Description	Yes	No	Not
			known
Will the Project increase employment in the zone?			
Will the Project eliminate job opportunities in the zone?			
Will the project increase income and means of sustenance?			
Will the project diminish income and means of sustenance?			

#### 10. Population: Risks and Impacts

Description	Yes	No	Not
			known
Would the adverse and negative risks and impacts will be evenly distributed amongst			
the area of influence of the project			

#### 11. Indigenous Peoples/Local Traditional Communities and Sub-Saharan

Description	Yes	No	Not
			known
Is the Project located or any of its activities are in land, or spaces where is a presence of			
communities as described in the ESS-7 of the WBG?			

#### 12. Cultural Heritage

Description	Yes	No	Not
			known
Will the Project activities could affect or be constructed in or within a patrimonial			
heritage site?			

#### 13. Land acquisition

Description	Yes	No	Not
			known
Is there a need of an involuntary land acquisition, home resettlement, loss of income or			
access that could be related to a reduce quality of life to peoples nearby or in the project			
influenced areas?			

#### Part C: Conclusion/ Next actions

Summary	More Requirements/Next action
If all answers were	No actions needed
NO	
If there at least	Proceed to a Simple Environmental and Social Revision (Form C); or a Limited
one YES	Environmental and Social Revision (Form D)
	For Projects that include infrastructures activities, complete Form B: List of Environmental and Social Verification

**Recommended Actions:** 

- No actions are recommended if there are no impacts identified. Only a Simple Environmental Review (SER), will be performed if there are easily mitigable impacts that could potentially create low level affectation
- □ Limited Environmental Revision (LER) would be required if the subproject could create minor and low-level impacts, that could be avoided by changing in the project design and engineering
- □ Any other recommendation (please explain)

This form has been completed by:	Approved by the Project Coordinator
name:	name:
title:	title:
date:	date:
signed:	signed:

#### **Form B** [to be further completed] Verification List of actions for infrastructure projects

Phase	Potential Negative Environmental Impact	Relevant (Y/N)	Mitigation Measures recommended	Responsible
Pre- construction	Steep erosional slopes, potential landslides and			
	erosional processes			
	Noise			
	Particular matter (PM)			
	Air quality			
	Water quality			
	Biodiversity			
	Waste management			
During construction	Cultural heritage			
	Community Health and Safety			
	Workers'			
	Health and			
	Safety			
	Grievance			
	management			
Post	Tools and			
construction	working			
	material			

This form has been completed by:	Approved by the Project Coordinator
name:	name:
title:	title:
date:	date:
signed:	signed:

Form C Simple Environmental and Social Assessment (SEA)

Expected Impacts	Impact	Proposed Mitigation Measures
	Description	(specific plans included)
Physical Media		
Increased soil erosion		
Increased sediment loads (discharged)		
Potential water pollution and/or contamination (surface		
waters, groundwaters, marine waters)		
Dust and noise generated during construction activities		
Biological/Environment		
Removal or affectation of vegetation and or fauna		
Project location inside, in buffer area or near a protected		
area or special management area		
Affectation or removal or habitats		
Social		
Affectation or removal or a heritage site or infrastructures		
Indigenous Peoples/Local Traditional Communities and		
Sub-Saharan		
Violent population and communities		
Aesthetical degradation of landscapes		
Risk to human's health and Environs by transport of		
dangerous or toxic materials and substances		

This form has been completed by:	Approved by the Project Coordinator
name:	name:
title:	title:
date:	date:
signed:	signed:

#### Form D Limited Environmental and Social Assessment

Name of subproject:	
Location (town, neighbourhood, parish):	
Subproject type:	
Numbers of persons the subproject benefits	
General description of the subproject Subproject objectives	
<u></u>	
Subproject components	
Base line description of the subproject affected areas and envelopment of the subproject affected areas areas and envelopment of the subproject affected areas areas and envelopment of the subproject areas a	<b>virons</b> zation of the area where the subproject
Biological and natural settings description (habitats and biodiventity the subproject will be installed)	ersity characterization of the area where

Social and economic description (land tenure, vulnerable groups, public health, demographics and infrastructures characterization of the area where the subproject will be installed)

Identification of Negative Environmental Impacts

Impacts in the Physical and Chemical surroundings

Impacts in the Biological and Natural surroundings

Impacts in the Social and Economical setting

**Mitigation Measures** 

Impact description

Mitigation Measures Description

This form has been completed by:	Approved by the Project Coordinator
name:	name:
title:	title:
date:	date:
signed:	signed:

# Annex 2: Response to Environmental, Social and Occupational Health and Safety Incidents

In the event of incidents and accidents, as established in section "B" of the ESCP, the PIU will inform the Bank no later than 48 hours after taking note of the incident. In its initial communication, the PIU will provide the following information:

- What was the incident? What happened? To what or to whom?
- Where and when did the incident occur?
- What is the source of the information? How did you find out about the incident?
- Are the basic facts of the incident clear and uncontested, or are there conflicting versions?
- What were the conditions or circumstances under which the incident occurred?
- Is the incident still ongoing or is it contained?
- Is loss of live or severe harm involved?
- How serious was the incident? How is it being addressed? How are you responding?
- What, if any, additional follow up action is required, and what are the associated timelines?

Further to information provided on the incident, a report on the incident must be prepared and shared with the Bank within a time acceptable to the Bank. The requirement to report should be defined in the Project's Operational Manual. As required by contracts, contractors/consultants should report incidents to the PIU – the PIU should ensure that reporting obligations on compliance with ESHS requirements are incorporated into works and other relevant contracts. The PIU should monitor the reports for incidents.

The PIU should ensure that all incidents are investigated to determine what happened and why, so that processes and measures can be put in place to avoid reoccurrences and so that appropriate remedies are applied.

The Root Cause Analysis (RCA) carried out by the contractor/consultant should be proportionate to the severity of the incident. Immediate corrective measures as well as additional follow-up actions, if any are required, should be identified along with their associated deadlines. If appropriate, a Corrective Action Plan (CAP) should be developed with the aim of preventing similar incidents in the future.

	Grievance No.:
Please use capitals:	IION OF GRIEVANCE
Name:	Contact No:
Address:	E-mail Address:
(Detail where to find you)	
Gender:	(Optional)
Age Group:	National ID No:
(5-19) (20-39) (40-59) (60 +)	(Optional)
Name of Project Site:	
As per the SEP of the Coastal and Marine, Ecosyst Redressal, I register my grievance as detailed:	tems Management Strengthening Project Grievance
(a) Outline reasons why and how you are affected	d by the project. (overleaf if necessary)
(b) If land or other properties are being affected e	e.g. (agriculture) include copies of relevant documentati
(b) If land or other properties are being affected e you have, to support your claim. List documents: A:	e.g. (agriculture) include copies of relevant documentati B:
(b) If land or other properties are being affected e you have, to support your claim. List documents: A:	e.g. (agriculture) include copies of relevant documentati B:
<ul> <li>(b) If land or other properties are being affected e you have, to support your claim.</li> <li>List documents:</li> <li>A:</li> <li>C:</li> </ul>	e.g. (agriculture) include copies of relevant documentati B: D:
<ul> <li>(b) If land or other properties are being affected erection of the support your claim.</li> <li>List documents:</li> <li>A:</li></ul>	e.g. (agriculture) include copies of relevant documentati B: D: vance and documentation enclosed are true and comple art of the Grievance or the documentation is found to be Government of St. Vincent and the Grenadines may deer
<ul> <li>(b) If land or other properties are being affected erection of the support your claim.</li> <li>List documents: <ul> <li>A:</li></ul></li></ul>	e.g. (agriculture) include copies of relevant documentati B: D: vance and documentation enclosed are true and comple art of the Grievance or the documentation is found to be Government of St. Vincent and the Grenadines may deer e of aggrieved person:
<ul> <li>(b) If land or other properties are being affected erection of the support your claim.</li> <li>List documents:</li> <li>A:</li></ul>	e.g. (agriculture) include copies of relevant documentati  B: D: vance and documentation enclosed are true and comple art of the Grievance or the documentation is found to be Government of St. Vincent and the Grenadines may deer e of aggrieved person: Signature:
(b) If land or other properties are being affected eregon have, to support your claim.   List documents:   A:	e.g. (agriculture) include copies of relevant documentati  B: D: vance and documentation enclosed are true and comple art of the Grievance or the documentation is found to be Government of St. Vincent and the Grenadines may deer e of aggrieved person: Signature:
(b) If land or other properties are being affected eregon have, to support your claim.   List documents:   A:	e.g. (agriculture) include copies of relevant documentati  B: D: vance and documentation enclosed are true and comple art of the Grievance or the documentation is found to be Government of St. Vincent and the Grenadines may deer e of aggrieved person:
(b) If land or other properties are being affected ere you have, to support your claim.   List documents:   A:	e.g. (agriculture) include copies of relevant documentati  B: D: vance and documentation enclosed are true and comple art of the Grievance or the documentation is found to be Government of St. Vincent and the Grenadines may deer e of aggrieved person:
(b) If land or other properties are being affected erection of the support your claim.   List documents:   A:	e.g. (agriculture) include copies of relevant documentati  B: D: vance and documentation enclosed are true and comple art of the Grievance or the documentation is found to be Government of St. Vincent and the Grenadines may deer e of aggrieved person:
(b) If land or other properties are being affected eregon have, to support your claim.   List documents:   A:	e.g. (agriculture) include copies of relevant documentati          B:
(b) If land or other properties are being affected erection of the support your claim.   List documents:   A:	e.g. (agriculture) include copies of relevant documentati  B: D: vance and documentation enclosed are true and compleart of the Grievance or the documentation is found to b Government of St. Vincent and the Grenadines may deer e of aggrieved person: Signature:
(b) If land or other properties are being affected of you have, to support your claim.   List documents:   A:	e.g. (agriculture) include copies of relevant documentat   B:

	Grievance No.:
Annex 4: Grievance Form	
REGI	STRATION OF LABOUR GRIEVANCE
Please use capitals: ( Note that using yo	our full name is optional)
Name:	Contact No:
Address:	E-mail Address:
National ID No:	NIS Number:
Gender:	
(I) Outline reasons why necessary)	and how you are affected by the Project. (overleaf if
(a) The frame of (b) Name of witnesses if any	/:
(III) Can you suggest any j necessary)	possible solution to address situation: (overleaf in
(IV) List documents: attach cor	
(1V) List documents, attach cor	bles (e.g) photo etc
<b>Undertaking:</b> I hereby certify that s are true and complete to the best of documentation is found to be false, Vincent and the Grenadines may de	statements made in my Grievance and documentation enclosed my knowledge. If at any time any part of the Grievance or the , I will be liable for any legal action that the Government of St eem necessary.
Undertaking: I hereby certify that s are true and complete to the best of documentation is found to be false, Vincent and the Grenadines may de Date: Name of recording Officer: (Please print)	statements made in my Grievance and documentation enclosed my knowledge. If at any time any part of the Grievance or the , I will be liable for any legal action that the Government of St eem necessary. (Signature of aggrieved person) (Signature of aggrieved person)
Undertaking: I hereby certify that s are true and complete to the best of documentation is found to be false, Vincent and the Grenadines may de Date: Name of recording Officer: (Please print)	statements made in my Grievance and documentation enclosed my knowledge. If at any time any part of the Grievance or the , I will be liable for any legal action that the Government of St eem necessary. (Signature of aggrieved person) (Signature of aggrieved person)

### Annex 4: Grievance Register

#### Notes:

Complainants should be provided with acknowledgement of grievance within 7 days from the date of receipt (the social specialist should insert 1 the number of days that the project has allocated for acknowledgement of grievance, which should vary from 2-7 days. For simple issues, complaints /queries should be responded to within this allocated number of days).

- 2 Expected time of redress should be entered in this register.
- 3 Records of Grievances should always be entered in the GR Register and updated as needed, until the grievance is settled.

4 Grievances should normally be settled within 4 weeks of initial receipt. If not, reasons for delay should be communicated to the complainant and entered in the Register. (The social specialist should insert the number of weeks allocated for settling grievances under the project, which should vary from 2 weeks to one month. The same approach as detailed above in Note 1 should be followed).

	Grievance Details										
			Name	Date of							
			& Contact	Acknowledgement							
			Information	of Receipt of							
			of Person	Complaint (Issue							
			Making	involved)							
			Complaint	(informing							
			(optional if	complainant of							
	Name of		the	response time) /	Actions						
	sub	Date	complainant	Response to	Taken to	How		If Not Resolved,	Status		Level of
Claim	project	Complaint	wishes to be	Complaint for	Resolve	Complaint		Date Sent for	of	Date	
Number	Site	Received	anonymous)	Simple Issues	Complaint	Resolved	Date Complaint Resolved	Appeal	Appeal	Resolved	Grievance

# Annex 5: Guidelines for civil works under COVID-19

Delivering civil works projects requires the assembly of a workforce, together with suppliers and supporting functions and services, and may lead to congregations of large numbers of people. The projects may have a workforce from international, national, regional, and/or local labor markets and require workers to live in site accommodation, lodge within communities close to work sites, and/or return to their homes after works. There may be the regular coming and going of support services, such as catering, cleaning services, equipment, material and supply deliveries, and the interaction with specialist sub-contractors bought in to deliver elements of the works.

The potential for the spread of infectious disease by projects is high. In addition, projects may experience large numbers of the workforce becoming ill and will need to consider how they will receive treatment, and whether this will impact on local healthcare services, particularly when projects are in remote places where local healthcare facilities could be easily overwhelmed. The presence of international workers, especially if they come from countries with high infection rates, may also cause social tension between the foreign workers and local populations.

#### Preparing for COVID-19

Task teams should work with the PIU to ensure that projects are taking adequate precautions to prepare for an outbreak of COVID-19. At each project where there is a workforce, the PIU should request details from the senior manager of that workforce (for example, a contractor's project manager) of the preparations being made on site, and as necessary assist the projects with these preparations. The senior manager should be taking the advice of their healthcare team and their health and safety specialists in preparing the site, although the PIU may also need to assist, for example with coordinating responses and/or connecting project sites with national/local healthcare specialists.

Each project should put in place measures to minimize the chances and contain the spread of the virus as a result of the movement of workers, ensure their sites are prepared for an outbreak, and develop and practice contingency plans so that personnel know what to do if an outbreak occurs and how treatment will be provided. These preparation measures should be communicated not only to the workforce but also the local community, to reassure them that the movement of staff is controlled, and to ensure that stigma or discrimination is reduced in the event of an outbreak.

This note provides guidance on what preparations and arrangements should be considered. In most cases the changes are expected to be covered by the terms of the existing works contract. In some cases, if the measures involve a significant cost increase, there may be a need for an amendment to a contract annex. Further information on preparing a workplace for COVID-19 may also be found <u>here</u>.

#### Movement of Staff

Movement of staff can increase the risk of transmission of COVID-19 to a work site and the local community. Overseas, international and transient workers should adhere to national requirements and guidelines with respect to COVID-19 when travelling to or from worksites. Workers coming from or passing through countries/regions with cases of the virus should follow the guidance issued by the Ministry of Health, Wellness and the Environment (current information can be found on the Ministry's

#### http://www.health.gov.vc/health/, https://www.instagram.com/minofhealthsvg/)

All workers who have come to site in the 14days prior to the issue of this guidance either from or passing through a country reporting COVID-19 cases should be immediately moved to isolation facilities for assessment by the site medical staff. These workers may be required to remain in isolation until they have been asymptomatic for 14 days.

#### Self-Isolation arrangements:

For self-isolation, workers should be provided with a single room that is well-ventilated (i.e., with open windows and an open door). If a single room is not available for each worker, adequate space should be provided to maintain a distance of at least 2m and a curtain to separate workers sharing a room. Men and women should not share a room. A dedicated bathroom should be provided for the isolation facilities and there should be separate bathroom facilities for men and women.

Workers in isolation should limit their movements in areas which are also used by unaffected workers shared areas), and should avoid using these areas when unaffected workers are present. Where workers in isolation need to use shared spaces (such as kitchens/canteens), arrangements should be made for cleaning prior to and after their use of the facilities. The number of staff involved in caring for those in isolation, including providing food and water, should be kept to a minimum and appropriate PPE should be used by those staff.

At a minimum, isolation areas should be cleaned daily and healthcare professionals should visit workers in the isolation areas daily. Cleaners and healthcare professionals should wear appropriate PPE and ensure good hygiene when visiting workers in isolation. Further information is provided by WHO in <u>Home care for patients with suspected novel coronavirus (COVID-19)</u>.

Visitors should not be allowed until the worker has shown no signs and symptoms for 14 days.

#### Preparing for an Outbreak

Cleaners need to be provided with PPE and disinfectant. Minimum PPE to be used when cleaning areas that have been or suspected to have been contaminated with COVID-19 is:

- Gowns, aprons
- Medical masks
- Gloves
- Eye protection (goggles or face screens)
- Boots or closed work shoes

Cleaners should be trained in how to safely put on and use PPE by medical staff, in necessary hygiene (including hand washing) prior to, during and post cleaning duties, and in waste control (including for used PPE and cleaning materials). Management should run awareness campaigns, training and arrange for appropriate posters, signs and advisory notices to be posted on site to advise workers on how to minimize the spread of the disease, including:

- to self-isolate if they feel ill or think they may have had contact with the virus, and to alert medical staff;
- to regularly wash hands thoroughly with soap and water many times per day;
- how to avoid disease spread when coughing/sneezing (cough sneeze in crook of elbow or in a tissue that is immediately thrown away), and not to spit;

• to keep at least 3m or more away from colleagues;

Hand washing stations should be set up at key places throughout site, including at entrances/exits to work areas, wherever there is a toilet, canteen/food and drinking water, or sleeping accommodation, at waste stations, at stores and at communal facilities. Each should have a supply of clean water, liquid soap and paper towels (for hand drying), with a waste bin (for used paper towels) that is regularly emptied and taken to an approved waste facility (not just dumped). Where wash stations cannot be provided (for example at remote locations), alcohol-based hand rub should be provided.

Enhanced cleaning arrangements should be put in place, to include regular and deep cleaning using disinfectant of catering facilities/canteens/food/drink facilities, latrines/toilets/showers, communal areas, including door handles, floors and all surfaces that are touched regularly (ensure cleaning staff have adequate PPE when cleaning consultation rooms and facilities used to treat infected patients). Worker accommodation that meets or exceeds IFC/EBRD worker accommodation requirements (e.g. in terms of floor type, proximity/no of workers, no 'hot bedding', drinking water, washing, bathroom facilities etc.) will be in good state for keeping clean and hygienic, and for cleaning to minimize spread of infection.

Working methods should be reviewed and changed as necessary to reduce use of PPE, in case supplies of PPE become scarce or hard to obtain. For example, water sprinkling systems at crushers and stock piles should be in good working order, trucks covered, water suppression on site increased and speed limits on haul roads lowered to reduce the need for respiratory (N95) dust masks.

#### Contingency Planning for an Outbreak

The contingency plan to be developed at each site should set out what procedures will be put in place in the event of COVID-19 reaching the site. The contingency plan should be developed in consultation with national and local healthcare facilities, to ensure that arrangements are in place for the effective containment, care and treatment of workers who have contracted COVID-19. The contingency plan should also consider the response if a significant number of the workforce become ill, when it is likely that access to and from a site will be restricted to avoid spread. Contingencies should be developed and communicated to the workforce for:

- Isolation and testing procedures for workers (and those they have been in contact with) that display symptoms;
- Care and treatment of workers, including where and how this will be provided;
- Getting adequate supplies of water, food, medical supplies and cleaning equipment in the event of an outbreak on site, especially should access to the site become restricted or movements of supplies limited.

Specifically, the plan should set out what will be done if someone may become ill with COVID-19 at a worksite. The plan should:

- Set out arrangements for putting the person in a room or area where they are isolated from others in the workplace, limiting the number of people who have contact with the person and contacting the local health authorities;
- Consider how to identify persons who may be at risk (e.g., due to a pre-existing condition such as diabetes, heart and lung disease, or as a result of older age), and support them, without inviting stigma and discrimination into your workplace; and

• Consider contingency and business continuity arrangements if there is an outbreak in a neighbouring community.

Contingency plans should consider arrangements for the storage and disposal arrangements for medical waste, which may increase in volume and which can remain infectious for several days (depending upon the material). The support that site medical staff may need, as well as arrangements for transporting (without risk of cross infection) sick workers to intensive care facilities or into the care of national healthcare facilities should be discussed and agreed.

Contingency plans should also consider how to maintain worker and community safety on site should work be suspended or illness affect significant numbers of the workforce at any point. It is important that worksite safety measures are reviewed by a safety specialist and implemented prior to work areas being suspended.

In drawing up contingency plans, it is recommended that projects communicate with other projects/workforces in the area, to coordinate their responses and share knowledge. It is important that local healthcare providers are part of this co-ordination, to minimize the changes of the local providers being overwhelmed in the event of an outbreak and unable to serve the community.

#### *Communicating the plans*

In order to reduce the risk of stigma or discrimination, and to ensure that individuals roles and responsibilities are clear, the preparation measures and contingency plans should be communicated widely. Workers, sub-contractors, suppliers, adjacent communities, nearby projects/workforces, and local healthcare authorities should all be made aware of the preparations that have been made.

When communicating to the workforce, their roles and responsibilities should be outlined clearly, and the importance for their colleagues, the local communities and their families that the workers follow the plans should be stressed. Workers may need to be reassured that they there will be no retaliation or discrimination if they self-isolate as a result of feeling ill, and also with respect to the compensation or insurance arrangements that are in place.

Further guidance on preventing social stigma as a result of COVID-19 is available <u>here</u>.

# Annex 6: Stakeholder consultations

# Report on the Community Stakeholder Consultation for the GEF 7: SVG Coastal and Marine Ecosystems Strengthening Project

Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> July, 2021

5:30pm-7:30pm

Venue: Zoom Virtual Meeting Platform

#### 1. Introduction

Due to Covid-19 restrictions, the meeting was held virtually. However, attendance was satisfactory, with 39 people in attendance, representing all 4 pilot sites as well as a range of national civil society and public sector organisations. The list of participants is presented at the end of the document.

The consultation began with welcome remarks from the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Tourism, Civil Aviation, Sustainable Development and Culture, followed by three brief presentations on: the objectives of the project; the site selection process and proposed interventions; and the environmental and social safeguards framework.

Participants were allowed time to give general feedback on these presentations before separating into site-specific break-out groups to give specific feedback on the proposed interventions for each site and suggestions for improvement. Specifically, each group was asked to reflect on the following four questions before reporting back during the final plenary session:

- 1. What do you see as the main threats to coastal and marine ecosystems in your area?
- 2. How can the project best address these threats?
- 3. What are the potential economic benefits of the project (focusing on creation of new jobs and improved quality of life)?
- 4. Who are the key stakeholders/ who else should be involved in the implementation of this project?

Participant's Question/Comment	Facilitators' Response		
A representative from the Southern	• The project does not directly address the		
Grenadines noted that sargassum	issue of sargassum since it is almost		
seaweed influxes are having a significant	impossible to stop it from coming onto		
impact on the sea moss industry and	shore, but it may be necessary to look		
asked whether this was taken into	into uses for this sea weed in order to		
consideration in the project design.	incentivize clean-up and to generate		
• The representative from SusGren noted	economic benefits. May not be possible		
that her organization worked with the	under this project, but something to keep		
TNC to undertake spatial mapping of	in mind for future projects.		

#### 2. General Feedback/ Questions

Participant's Question/Comment	Facilitators' Response
<ul> <li>areas suitable for growing sea moss. She indicated that she asked the scientists to consider the impacts of sargassum in this mapping exercise in order to reduce its effect on the industry in the future. She also shared a report produced by the University of the West Indies on the Barbados Sargassum Adaptive Management Strategy, which may be useful for SVG<sup>12</sup>.</li> <li>The representative of the SVG Conservation Fund indicated that the organization would be interested in funding proposals from CSOs related to the issue of sargassum management. He shared that Antigua recently shipped sargassum to Finland for the production of biochemicals, highlighting that there are economic opportunities to be explored.</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>The representative of the National Fisherfolk Organisation stated that the organization is currently wrapping up an extensive public education campaign about the marine sources of pollution from fisheries. Since, this is something that they would like to see continue, he asked whether this is something the project would be able to support.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Facilitators explained that such communication/public awareness activities could possibly be supported under component 3 of the project.</li> </ul>

#### **3.** Site-specific Discussions/ Feedback

Group 1- Southern Grenadines

Questions	Responses
What do you see as the main threats to coastal and marine ecosystems in your area?	<ul> <li>Conflicts also exist among tourism stakeholders, seabathers, beach users (e.g. picnics) and sea moss growers. When the cruise lines return post-</li> </ul>

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https://www.cavehill.uwi.edu/cermes/projects/sargassum/docs/sams/draft\_vol\_01\_barbados\_sams\_12feb21.asp X
Questions	Responses
	<ul> <li>covid19, this may be a major challenge. Zoning is critical for addressing this.</li> <li>Not certain if sea moss farming has any impact on yachting industry. Needs to be ascertained because farms are being done horizontally, taking up more space and exaggerating the space-use conflicts.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Richmond beach: Sargassum has overwhelmed the coastline. This is a main location for teaching people to swim, for picnics etc.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>The bottles used for seamoss farming is unsightly. Conflicts with efforts by tourism board to turn it into a recreational site. Zoning critical!!</li> <li>Praedial larceny</li> <li>Pollution/Contamination of marine waters: This is affecting the quality of sea moss produced.</li> <li>Poor Quality control re. LBS Pollution and Processing Facilities</li> </ul>
How can the project best address these threats?	<ul> <li>Enforcement will be critical.</li> <li>Institute a Fishermen/farmers ID system where there is a defined process for application for licenses. Needs to be regulated.         <ul> <li>There is a key role for Fisheries/Ministry of Agri)</li> <li>Tobago Cays Marine Park rangers? (e.g., Giving them authority to enforce licenses in Mayreau)</li> <li>License fees could be used to support enforcement</li> </ul> </li> <li>Formation of an association and particular requirements/standards for licensing –Training is part of criteria for obtaining licenses</li> <li>Resource Governance issues:         <ul> <li>Moratorium on licenses at some point?</li> <li>Criteria for selection of licensees to be decided</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

Questions	Responses
	<ul> <li>Standards/Regulations: If regulations are not followed, can't operate/ licenses revoked</li> <li>Look at what works well in other sectors and see what can be applied</li> <li>Bureau of Standards / Public Health need to be involved- Testing and Monitoring of water quality and standards at facilities</li> </ul>
What are the potential economic benefits of the project (focusing on creation of new jobs and improved quality of life)?	<ul> <li>Risk: Will people leave the industry once the tourism industry reopens post- covid19?</li> <li>Other types of jobs in the sector: processing of by-products rather than just raw materials         <ul> <li>Capsules</li> <li>Shampoos, soaps, skin-care</li> <li>Higher value products/ added- value</li> <li>Marketing/ branding</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Who are the key stakeholders/ who else should be involved in the implementation of this project?	<ul> <li>SusGren</li> <li>Fisheries</li> <li>TCMP</li> <li>Tourism</li> <li>Bureau of Standards (Quality assurance? Water and air)</li> <li>Seamoss Growers</li> <li>Public Health</li> <li>National Parks, Rivers and Beaches Authority</li> <li>Consumer Affairs?</li> <li>Cooperatives/ Small Businesses- Chamber of Industry and Commerce?</li> </ul>

Group 2- South Eastern St. Vincent<sup>13</sup>

Question	Responses
What do you see as the main threats to coastal and marine ecosystems in your area?	<ul> <li>Stubbs Bay erosion for the construction of the AIA</li> <li>No consultation with community</li> <li>River mouth blockage</li> <li>Recreational area is gone/lost</li> <li>Lost Diamond Brighton bay – sand minding</li> </ul>
How can the project best address these threats?	<ul> <li>Fuel boat mooring for the airport (Oil spill risk)</li> <li>Sand re-establishing in the form of putting back</li> <li>Restoration of Stubbs Bay and creation of recreational facilities</li> </ul>
What are the potential economic benefits of the project (focusing on creation of new jobs and improved quality of life)?	<ul> <li>Turtles will return for nesting</li> <li>Point look-out can be developed</li> <li>Installation of bathroom facility</li> </ul>
Who are the key stakeholders/ who else should be involved in the implementation of this project?	<ul> <li>South East Development Inc. is very willing to work with us on project implementation.</li> </ul>

## Group 4- Colonaire

Questions	Responses
What do you see as the main threats to coastal and marine ecosystems in your area?	<ul> <li>High amounts of plastics/garbage being dumped upstream that ends up on the coast and garbage that is collected from the drains</li> <li>Debris (tree) from the upper watershed washing down during heavy rainfall</li> <li>Garbage washing up on shore from outside of SVG</li> <li>Coastal erosion</li> </ul>
How can the project best address these threats?	Public education and awareness

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> A follow-up consultation is required with South East Development Inc. because of technical difficulties experienced by the facilitator during breakout group session.

Questions	Responses
	<ul> <li>Community involvement in project implementation</li> <li>Better enforcement of the sand mining ban including more signage on the main road</li> <li>Give workers from National Parks more visibility and monitoring power</li> <li>Strengthen institutional arrangements of community groups</li> </ul>
What are the potential economic benefits of the project (focusing on creation of new jobs and improved quality of life)?	<ul> <li>Persons to be trained in turtle handling (gaining a certificate which is recognized throughout the region). They will be paid a stipend for monitoring duties.</li> <li>Camping under the stars as a potential eco-tourism activity</li> <li>Revenue earned by recycling plastics found on the beach</li> </ul>
Who are the key stakeholders/ who else should be involved in the implementation of this project?	<ul> <li>The area representative as the champion of the "Colonaire Turtle Sanctuary"</li> <li>National Parks, Rivers and Beaches Authority</li> <li>Colonaire Conservation Group</li> <li>Fisheries</li> <li>Forestry</li> <li>SVG Conservation Fund</li> <li>SVG Environment Fund</li> <li>Business owners in the area</li> <li>Schools in the area</li> <li>Residents</li> <li>Church groups</li> <li>Police</li> </ul>

### Group 3 – North Leeward\*

\*This group had a general discussion rather than answering the pre-set questions.

- RVA had done white mangrove reforestation in the site before but efforts were not successfully as they died. Animals ate some plants, but Forestry Department previously indicated that the area was not suitable for mangrove establishment.
- Troumaca Bay jetty should be reestablished so that yachties can also use the area. This will give rise to opportunities for tour guides that are already in the Rose Hall group to offer this

service. There is a trail that runs from Troumaca to rose hall that can be linked back to Chateaubelair. This Trail is not only physical but there are historic and cultural heritage to be shared.

- The Troumaca Bay area can also be developed further. Currently there are guest houses (2), that are on the site, if the site is open to yachts then more can be added. The site needs to be upgraded with trees, entertainment area etc but has potential for livelihood and sustainable tourism development.
- The North leeward tourism association was responsible for the bar and restaurant in the Richmond area. They have paraphernalia that they bought and wish to revamp the site. The project could assist with this.
- 'Community shared' activities is preferred and encouraged, as each community in the North
- Leeward area has different things that pertain to them and can offer, so the benefits/opportunities must by shared.
- A need for data was highlighted
- FADS are welcomed by the NFO as this should have been done many years ago. This will support the 'fish fry' festival nights.
- Participants were somewhat opposed to the processing plant/fisheries complex, as they would not like to see fish from the area exported when there is a deficiency of fresh fish on the local market. Access to local fish is preferred since many imported products aren't naturally grown or may be chemically contaminated etc. They explained that the former attempt at the fisheries complex died because of the political involvement in it and there didn't see to be equity.
- Stone picking (i.e. gravel/pumice harvesting) should be maintained at Richmond, but the activity should be zoned and confined to a particular area, so as not to interfered with tourism-related livelihoods.
- Educational programs need to be done extensively
- Community Tourism Management Plan will be needed to ensure that all communities are included and there is a management mechanism in place to avoid conflict and maximize benefits, minimizing duplication.
- Zoning plan for activities is required. Categories can include:
  - o terrestrial, cultural, marine, environmental and agro-tourism
- Tour bus packages can be done in a way that when the tourist takes a tour, there are stops along the way so that they get a bit from every community for a full experience

## 4. Conclusion

Stakeholders were generally pleased with the consultation and asked to be kept informed during project development. Whilst CBOs on mainland St. Vincent are generally weaker than those in the Grenadines, there was strong community representation and buy-in from the various pilot site communities. North Leeward has an established community organization, but there might be a need to work with several organisations in the area through a project steering committee for the pilot site, given the diverse set of interests represented.

South East Development Inc. seems to an active CBO that has a keen interest in the South East St. Vincent pilot and could be a possible partner for implementation. However, capacity building and implementation support may be necessary since it is an entirely voluntary organization with no full-time staff. Institutional assessment should ascertain needs and risks. The Brighton Salt Pond group led by My Elroy "Huffles" Arthum has been actively involved in beach clean-ups at the site and should also be included in activities. Given the technical issues faced by this group during the break-out session, a follow-up consultation should be planned.

The Colonarie Conservation group is a newly formed organization that is not yet registered. However, group members had some very good ideas about what they would like to see happen and should be given the necessary capacity building and institutional support to implement the project.

#### Participants' List

	Pilot Site/ Community	Name	Organisation Represented
	North Leeward		
1		Amos Glasgow	North Leeward Tourism
			Association
2		Cassie Pierre	Fisheries Division Data Collector
			for North Leeward
3		Jerome Dick	South East Development Inc.
4		Everal Ince	Social/ Community Activist
5		Selywn Patterson	Rosehall Cultural and
			Development Organisation
5		Stina Herberg	Richmond Vales Academy
7		Julita Edwards	NLTA
	Colonarie		
8		Roldston Pope	Colonarie Conservation Group
9		Harvey Pope	Colonarie Conservation Group
10		Semmone Adams	Colonarie Conservation Group
11		Janelle Pope	Colonarie Conservation Group
12		Mygnelle Adams-Forde	Colonarie Conservation Group
	St. Vincent South-East		
13		Albert Harry	South East Development Inc.
14		Jerome Dick	South East Development Inc.
15		Sharon Doyle	South East Development Inc.
16		Joeleen Doyle	South East Development Inc.
17		Elroy "Huffles" Arthum	Brighton Salt Pond Group
18		Ada Francois	South East Development Inc.

	Southern Grenadines		
19		Lesroy Noel	Tobago Cays Marine Park
20		Shennia Cato	Union Island Tourist Board
21		Stanton Gomes	Radio Grenadines/ Union Island Tourist Board / NPRBA
22		Deidre ?	(No mic, did not introduce themselves)
23		Orisha Joseph	Sustainable Grenadines Inc.
	National		
24		Janeel Miller-Findlay	Sustainable Development Unit
25		Yasa Belmar	
26		Tyshana Thomas	
27		Nyasha Hamilton	
28		Hayden Billingy	Environmental Consultant
29		Noretta John	Environmental Consultant
30		DeAnna Ralph	Social Safeguard
31		Chanelle Fingal	World Bank, Social Development Specialist
32		Claire Harry	
33		Michelle DeFreitas	SVG Environment Fund
34		Resa Noel McBarnett	Ministry of Tourism, etc.
36		Jeniffer Cruickshank-Howard	
36		Winsbert Harry	National Fisherfolk Organisation
37		Dwane Allen	Physical Planning Division
38		Andrew Lockhart	National Parks, Rivers and
			Beaches Authority
39		Vanburn Harry	SVG Conservation Fund

# Preliminary list of GBV services

Name	GBV Service	Contact	
Gender Affairs Division	Receives reports and provides direct social and psychological services to victims of IPV and adult victims of sexual abuse. Report can be made via telephone, email, mail or a visit to the Bureau's office Conducts capacity building and training of other GBV service providers. Implements public education programmes on GBV.	http://mobilization.gov.vc/mobilization/index.ph p/gender-affairs The Ministry of National Mobilisation, Social Development, Family, Gender Affairs, Youth, Housing and Informal Human Settlement Halifax Street Kingstown Saint Vincent Contact Tel: (784) 453-2061 email: office.socialdevelopment@mail.gov.vc	
The Crisis Centre	Counselling, Shelter services Small grants for reintegration and relocation if needed 24 Hour Hotline	Contact through the Gender Affairs Division Tel; 784-453-2061.	
Royal Saint Vincent Police Force	Emergency response, investigations, arrests, and providing evidence for prosecution. Also has a Anti- Trafficking Unit and a Sexual Offences Unit.	Criminal Investigation Division (CID) 1-784-456-1810	
Civil Society Organisations			
Marion House	Skills training for survivors Counselling services	Marion House Richmond Hill Tel: 784-456-2161 Fax: 784-456-1318	
National Council for Women SVG	Advocacy to encourage legislative changes to improve protection for women and ensure that DV cases are prosecuted. It also provides training on domestic violence prevention and response	https://www.facebook.com/pages/category/Non- Governmental-OrganizationNGO-/National- Council-of-Women-555847524550908/ Ms. Beverly Richards National Council of Women P.O. Box 1157 Kingstown St Vincent Tel: E-mail:.	