REPUBLIC OF CONGO/ Ministry of Planning, Statistics and Regional Integration

CENTRAL AFRICA REGIONAL WATERWAYS PROJECT (P175235)

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL COMMITMENT PLAN (ESCP)

for negotiations

May xx ,2023

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL COMMITMENT PLAN

- 1. The Republic of Congo (the Recipient) will implement the Central Africa Regional Waterways Project (P175235) (the Project), with the involvement of the Ministry of Planning, Statistics, and Regional Integration (MPSIR), as set out in the Financing Agreement. The International Development Association (the Association), has agreed to provide financing for the Project, as set out in the referred agreement(s).
- 2. The Recipient shall ensure that the Project is carried out in accordance with the Environmental and Social Standards (ESSs) and this Environmental and Social Commitment Plan (ESCP), in a manner acceptable to the Association. The ESCP is a part of the Financing Agreement. Unless otherwise defined in this ESCP, capitalized terms used in this ESCP have the meanings ascribed to them in the referred agreement(s).
- 3. Without limitation to the foregoing, this ESCP sets out material measures and actions that the Recipient shall carry out or cause to be carried out, including, as applicable, the timeframes of the actions and measures, institutional, staffing, training, monitoring and reporting arrangements, and grievance management. The ESCP also sets out the environmental and social (E&S) instruments that shall be adopted and implemented under the Project, all of which shall be subject to prior consultation and disclosure, consistent with the ESS, and in form and substance, and in a manner acceptable to the Association. Once adopted, said E&S instruments may be revised from time to time with prior written agreement by the Association.
- 4. As agreed by the Association and the Recipient, this ESCP will be revised from time to time if necessary, during Project implementation, to reflect adaptive management of Project changes and unforeseen circumstances or in response to Project performance. In such circumstances, the Recipient through the Ministry of Budget and the Ministry of Planning, Statistics, and Regional Integration (MPSIR) and the Association agree to update the ESCP to reflect these changes through an exchange of letters signed between the Association and the Ministry of Planning, Statistics, and Regional Integration (MPSIR). The Recipient shall promptly disclose the updated ESCP.

MATE	RIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS	TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENT	TITY
MON	TORING AND REPORTING			
A	REGULAR REPORTING Prepare and submit to the Association regular monitoring reports on the environmental, social, health and safety (ESHS) performance of the Project, including but not limited to the implementation of the ESCP, status of preparation and implementation of E&S instruments required under the ESCP, stakeholder engagement activities, and functioning of the grievance mechanism(s) (GM).	Submit quarterly reports to the Association throughout Project implementation, commencing after the Effective Date. Submit each report to the Association no later than 15 days after the end of each reporting period.	Implementation (MPSIR - PCU)	Unit
В	Promptly notify the Association of any incident or accident related to the Project which has, or is likely to have, a significant adverse effect on the environment, the affected communities, the public or workers, including, inter alia, cases of sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA), sexual harassment (SH), and accidents that result in death, serious or multiple injury [e.g., road accident, or work accident]. Provide sufficient detail regarding the scope, severity, and possible causes of the incident or accident, indicating immediate measures taken or that are planned to be taken to address it, and any information provided by any contractor and/or supervising firm, as appropriate. Subsequently, at the Association's request, prepare a report on the incident or accident and propose any measures to address it and prevent its recurrence. For incidents related to gender-based violence (GBV) or SEA/SH, the survivor should be immediately referred to services according to a survivor-centered protocol that shall be developed in the GM adapted to be able to address the above-mentioned SEA/SH or GBV (see Action 10.2).	Notify the Association no later than 48 hours after learning of the incident or accident and within 24 hours in cases of SEA/SH and fatality. Provide subsequent report to the Association within a timeframe acceptable to the Association.	Implementation (MPSIR - PCU)	Unit

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS	TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
As indicated above, the Recipient shall provide sufficier details about the incident or accident and indicate the immediat measures taken to address it. Note that for GBV incident confidentiality must be ensured for both the survivor and the alleged perpetrator without providing any identifying information (i.e. include Nature of the case, project-related (Y/N), age and/of sex (if available), and Whether the survivor was referred the services. A report of the incident should be submitted by the Recipient, detailing the summary findings and the root cause analysis. A record of incidents shall be kept at the PCU		
C CONTRACTORS' MONTHLY REPORTS Require contractors and supervising firms to provide monthly monitoring reports on ESHS performance in accordance with the metrics specified in the respective bidding documents and contracts and submit such reports to the Association.	under action A above.	Implementation Unit (MPSIR - PCU)
D NOTIFICATIONS RELATING TO DAAB COMPLIANCE REVIEW OF CONTRACTOR COMPLIANCE WITH SEA/SH PREVENTION AN RESPONSE OBLIGATIONS Notify the Association of any referral submitted to the Disput Avoidance and Adjudication Board (DAAB) to initiate a process of compliance review in relation to a contractor's obligations to prevent and respond to sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA and/or sexual harassment (SH) specified in the respective work contract with such contractor; and, in the event of any such referral, notify the Association of: (i) the DAAB's decision on such referral; (ii) the contractor's Notice of Dissatisfaction, if any, with such DAAB decision; (iii) any notification received on the commencement of an emergency arbitration proceeding or further resulting emergency arbitration order and/or full arbitration order, if any.	applicable, of the relevant document (i.e., referral to the DAAB, issuance of DAAB decision, Notice of Dissatisfaction, notice of commencement of emergency/full arbitration, emergency/full arbitration order, as applicable).	Implementation Unit (MPSIR - PCU)

MATERIAL ME	ASURES AND ACTIONS	TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
Establi suppo includi enviro Specia stakeh one (1	ish and maintain a PCU with qualified staff and resources to rt management of ESHS risks and impacts of the Project ing one (1) Environmental specialist with competencies in anmental health and safety management; one (1) Social list with a background in indigenous peoples (IPs), nolder and community engagement, and resettlement; and 1) Gender and GBV/SEA/SH Specialist, all with terms of nce satisfactory to the Association.	Establish and maintain a PCU as set out in the Financing Agreement. One (1) Environmental Specialist, one (1) Social Specialist, and one (1) Gender and GBV/SEA/SH specialist shall be hired or appointed no later than 2 months after the Effective Date and thereafter maintain these positions throughout Project implementation.	Implementation Unit (MPSIR - PCU)
1.2 ENVIR 1.	Prepare, disclose, consult upon, adopt and implement an Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) for the Project, consistent with the relevant ESSs. The ESMF contains site-specific screening and monitoring form for environmental and social risks and impacts. The ESMF also includes Integrated, GBV risk assessment and detailed screening of Project activities for biodiversity impacts. Prepare, disclose, consult upon, adopt and implement the subproject Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP), as set out in the ESMF and consistent with ESSs. Prepare, disclose, consult upon, adopt and implement a standalone Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) including GM, all consistent with ESS10.	 An ESMF has been prepared and will be disclosed, consulted upon, and adopted prior to appraisal. Thereafter implement the ESMF throughout Project implementation. Adopt the ESMP prior to the carrying out of project activity that requires the adoption of such ESMP. Once adopted, implement the respective ESMP throughout Project implementation A SEP has been prepared and will be disclosed, consulted upon and adopted prior to appraisal. Thereafter, implement the SEP throughout Project implementation. A IPPF has been prepared and will be disclosed, consulted upon and adopted upon prior to appraisal. Thereafter implement it throughout Project implementation. Subsequent IPP, as relevant, shall be prepared, disclosed, consulted upon, adopted and implemented during implementation prior to the carrying out of any activity that requires the preparation of such IPP. 	Implementation Unit (MPSIR - PCU)

MATE	RIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS	TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
	 Prepare, disclose, consult upon, adopt and implement Labor Management Procedures (LMP) including a workers' Grievance Mechanism (GM) and to include Codes of Conduct that address Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA) and Sexual Harassment (SH) risks, all consistent with ESS2. Prepare, disclose, consult upon, adopt, and implement an GBV/SEA/SH Risk Assessment and Action Plan, including Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM), consistent with the relevant ESSs. Prepare, disclose, consult upon, adopt and implement a standalone Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF), and a subsequent Resettlement Action Plan (RAP) as relevant, all consistent with ESS5. Cause contractors to adopt and implement the site-specific ESIA/ESMPs, as set out in the ESMF. The proposed activities described in the exclusion list set out in the ESMF shall be ineligible to receive financing under the Project. 	 A LMP has been prepared and will be disclosed, consulted upon, and adopted prior to appraisal. Thereafter, implement the LMP throughout Project implementation A GBV/SEA/SH Action Plan has been prepared and will be disclosed, consulted upon, and adopted prior to appraisal. Thereafter, implement the GBV/SEA/SH Action Plan throughout Project implementation. A RPF has been prepared and will be disclosed, consulted upon and adopted prior to appraisal and thereafter implement it throughout Project implementation. Subsequent RAPs, as relevant, shall be prepared, disclosed, consulted upon, adopted and implemented during implementation before taking possession of the land and related assets. Adopt the site-specific ESIA/ESMP prior to the carrying out of Project activity that requires the adoption of such ESIA/ESMP. Once adopted, implement the respective ESIA/ESMP throughout Project implementation. 	
1.3	MANAGEMENT OF CONTRACTORS Incorporate the relevant aspects of the ESCP, including, inter alia, the relevant E&S instruments, the Labor Management Procedures, and code of conduct, into the ESHS specifications of the procurement documents and contracts with contractors and supervising firms. Thereafter ensure that the contractors and supervising firms comply and cause subcontractors to comply with the ESHS specifications of their respective contracts.	As part of the preparation of procurement documents and respective contracts. Supervise contractors throughout Project implementation	Implementation Unit (MPSIR - PCU)

MATE	RIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS	TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
1.4	TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE Ensure that the consultancies, studies (including feasibility studies), capacity building, training, and any other technical assistance activities under the Project, including, inter alia, the environmental and social instruments to be supported under the TA, are carried out in accordance with terms of reference acceptable to the Association, that are consistent with the ESSs. Thereafter ensure that the outputs of such activities comply with the terms of reference.	Throughout Project implementation.	Implementation Unit (MPSIR - PCU)
1.5	a) Ensure that the CERC Manual includes a description of the ESHS assessment and management arrangements including, CERC-ESMF/ESMF Addendum that will be included or referred to in the CERC Manual for the implementation of CERC Component, in accordance with the ESSs. b) Adopt any environmental and social (E&S) instruments which may be required for activities under CERC Part of the Project, in accordance with the [CERC Manual and, CERC-ESMF or CERC-ESMF Addendum] and the ESSs, and thereafter implement the measures and actions required under said E&S instruments, within the timeframes specified in said E&S instruments.	a) The adoption of the CERC manual and, CERC-ESMF/ESMF Addendum in form and substance acceptable to the Association is a withdrawal condition under Section [I.] of Schedule 2 of the Financing Agreement for the Project. b) Adopt any required E&S instrument and include it as part of the respective bidding process, if applicable, and in any case, before the carrying out of the relevant Project activities for which the E&S instrument is required. Implement the E&S instruments in accordance with their terms, throughout Project implementation.	Implementation Unit (MPSIR - PCU)
1.6	PERMITS, APPROVALS AND AUTHORIZATIONS Obtain, as appropriate, permits, consents and authorizations applicable to the Project under applicable legislation from the relevant national authorities.	Prior to launching works	Implementation Unit (MPSIR - PCU)
1.7	 EXCLUSIONS: Exclude the following types of activities as ineligible for funding under the project in accordance with the exclusion list of the ESMF: 1. Activities that may result in long-term, permanent and/or irreversible negative impacts (e.g. loss of major natural habitat), 	During the above assessment process under Action 1.2.	Implementation Unit (MPSIR - PCU)

MATER	RIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS	TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
	 Activities that have a high probability of causing serious adverse effects on human health and / or the environment, 		
	 Activities that may have significant negative social impacts and may give rise to significant social conflicts, 		
	 Any activity or subprojects with significant risks and/or adverse impacts on critical habitat and the biodiversity that it supports and those that would need clearing of 		
	any type of critical habitats or forests in protected areas		
	shall be excluded from receiving financing,	/	
	5. Negative list of activities (if activation of CERC).		
ESS 2:	LABOR AND WORKING CONDITIONS		
2.1	LABOR MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES	A LMP has been prepared and will be disclosed, consulted upon, and adopted prior to appraisal.	Implementation Unit (MPSIR - PCU)
	Adopt and implement the Labor Management Procedures (LMP)	Thereafter, implement LMP throughout Project.	
	for the Project, including, inter alia, provisions on working		
	conditions, management of workers relationships, occupational		
	health and safety (including personal protective equipment, and emergency preparedness and response), code of conduct		
	(including clauses relating to SEA and SH), forced labor, child		
	labor, grievance arrangements for Project workers, and		
	applicable requirements for contractors, subcontractors, and		
	supervising firms.		

MATE	RIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS	TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
	These procedures will also include clauses for the use of national		
	and foreign workers (skilled and unskilled) in accordance with the		
	Labor Code and ESS2. These clauses require suppliers and		
	subcontractors to behave in a way that does not create or		
	exacerbate the risks of SEA/SH by signing the code of conduct and		
	following regular training on GBV, and SEA/SH risks and	/	
	consequences, prohibited conduct and applicable sanctions, and		
	reporting incidents under GRM sensitive to SEA/SH. A labor influx	/	
	management plan shall be prepared which prescribe transparent		
	procedures for recruitment of temporary local employees to		
	reduce risk of social unrest.		
2.2	GRIEVANCE MECHANISM FOR PROJECT WORKERS	Establish grievance mechanism prior engaging	Implementation Unit
	Establish and operate a grievance mechanism for Project workers,	Project workers and thereafter maintain and operate	(MPSIR - PCU)
	as described in the LMP and consistent with ESS2.	it throughout Project implementation.	
2.3	OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY PLAN (OHSP)	OHS Plan to be prepared by Contractors	Implementation Unit
	Require contractors to adopt and implement an Occupational	validated at national level and shared with the	(MPSIR - PCU)
	Health and Safety Plan (OHSP) following the World Bank Group	Association for its approval prior to commencement	
	Environmental Health and Safety Guidelines (for construction	of works Under components. 1 and 3 of the Project,	
	activities) and Industry Sector Guidelines for Construction	and thereafter implemented throughout Project	
	Materials Extraction.	implementation.	
	RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANA		
3.1	RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND	Same timeframe as for the adoption and	Implementation Unit
	MANAGEMENT	implementation of the ESMP under action 1.2.	(MPSIR - PCU)
	Incorporate resource efficiency and pollution prevention and		
	management measures in the ESMP to be prepared under action		
	1.2 above.		
	COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY		
4.1	COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY	Same timeframe as for the adoption and	Implementation Unit
	Assess and manage specific risks and impacts to the community	implementation of the ESMPs.	(MPSIR - PCU)
	arising from Project activities, including, inter alia, behavior of		
	Project workers, risks of labor influx, response to emergency		
	situations, and include mitigation measures in the ESMPs to be		
	prepared in accordance with the ESMF.		

MATER	RIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS	TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
4.2	SEA AND SH RISKS Adopt and implement a SEA/SH Action Plan to assess and manage the risks of SEA and SH, consistent with ESS4.	Adopt the SEA/SH Action Plan prior to Appraisal and thereafter implement the SEA/SH Action Plan throughout Project implementation.	Implementation Unit (MPSIR - PCU)
ESS 5:	LAND ACQUISITION, RESTRICTIONS ON LAND USE AND INVOLUNT	ARY RESETTLEMENT	
5.1	Prepare, disclose, consult upon, adopt and implement a Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF) for the Project, consistent with ESS5.	A RPF has been already prepared and will be disclosed, consulted upon, and adopted upon prior to appraisal and thereafter implement it throughout Project implementation.	Implementation Unit (MPSIR - PCU)
5.2	Prepare, disclose, consult upon, adopt and implement a resettlement action plan (RAP) for each activity under the Project for which the RPF requires such RAP, as set out in the RPF, and consistent with ESS5.	Prepare, disclose, consult upon, adopt and implement the respective RAP, including ensuring that before taking possession of the land and related assets, full compensation has been provided and as applicable displaced people have been resettled and moving allowances have been provided. RAP should cover all types of land transactions (i.e., land donations, negotiated agreements, and expropriation), as well as livelihood restoration.	Implementation Unit (MPSIR - PCU)
5.3	GRIEVANCE MECHANISM Develop and implement the arrangements for the grievance mechanism for resettlement in accordance with the grievance mechanism under ESS10. The grievance mechanism (GM) to address resettlement related complaints should be described in the RPF, RAPs and SEP.	Prior to commencement of resettlement activities	Implementation Unit (MPSIR - PCU)
ESS 6:	BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT	OF LIVING NATURAL RESOURCES	
6.1	Adopt and implement a Biodiversity Management Plan (BMP), as part of the ESMF and ESMP, in accordance with the ESS6.	Same timeframe as for the adoption and implementation of the ESMPs under action 1.2., and thereafter implement the BMP throughout Project implementation.	Implementation Unit (MPSIR - PCU)
ESS 7 :	INDIGENOUS PEOPLES/SUB-SAHARAN AFRICAN HISTORICALLY UN	DERSERVED TRADITIONAL LOCAL COMMUNITIES	

MATER	RIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS	TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
7.1	INDIGENOUS PEOPLES PLANNING FRAMEWORK	A IPPF has been prepared and will be disclosed,	Implementation Unit
		consulted upon and adopted prior to appraisal.	(MPSIR - PCU)
	Prepare, disclose, consult upon, adopt and implement an	Thereafter implement it throughout Project	
	Indigenous Peoples Planning Framework (IPPF) for the Project,	implementation.	
	consistent with ESS7.		
7.2	INDIGENOUS PEOPLES PLAN	Prepare, disclose, consult upon, adopt the IPP prior	Implementation Unit
		to the carrying out of any activity that requires the	(MPSIR - PCU)
	Prepare, disclose, consult upon, adopt and implement an	preparation of such IPP. Once adopted, implement	
	Indigenous Peoples Plan (IPP) for each activity under the Project	the respective IPP throughout Project	
	for which the IPPF requires such IPP, as set out in the IPPF, and	implementation.	
7.3	consistent with ESS7. GRIEVANCE MECHANISM	The GM to redress complaints submitted by	Implementation Unit
7.5	Prepare, adopt, and implement the arrangements for a grievance	indigenous people shall be prepared prior to the	(MPSIR - PCU)
	redress mechanism (GRM) for indigenous people, as required	Effective Date. The IPP(s) shall be prepared as	(IVIF3IN - PCO)
	under the IPPF and further describe such arrangements in the	required before Project implementation activities in	
	respective IPPs.	areas where indigenous peoples are located.	
ESS 8:	CULTURAL HERITAGE	areas marganesse peoples are resulted.	
8.1	CULTURAL HERITAGE RISKS AND IMPACTS	Same timeframe as for the adoption and	Implementation Unit
	Adopt and implement a Cultural Heritage Management Plan	implementation of the ESMF under action 1.2.	(MPSIR - PCU)
	(CHMP) as part of the ESMF, in accordance with ESS8.	·	
8.2	CHANCE FINDS	Describe the chance find procedures in the ESMF.	Implementation Unit
	Describe and implement the chance finds procedures, as part of	Implement the procedures throughout Project	(MPSIR - PCU)
	the ESMF of the Project.	implementation.	
	FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES		
Not re			
	: STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION DISCLOSURE		
10.1	STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN PREPARATION AND	A draft SEP has been prepared and will be disclosed,	Implementation Unit
	IMPLEMENTATION	consulted upon and adopted prior to appraisal.	(MPSIR - PCU)
	Prepare, disclose, consult upon, adopt and implement a	Thereafter, implement SEP throughout Project	
	Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) for the Project, consistent	implementation.	
	with ESS10, which shall include measures to, inter alia, provide stakeholders with timely, relevant, understandable, and		
	accessible information, and consult with them in a culturally		
	accessible illioillation, and consult with them in a culturally		

MATER	RIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS	TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
	appropriate manner, which is free of manipulation, interference,		
	coercion, discrimination, and intimidation.		
10.2	PROJECT GRIEVANCE MECHANISM		Implementation Unit
	Establish, publicize, maintain, and operate an accessible	Establish the grievance mechanism prior to the	(MPSIR - PCU)
	grievance mechanism, to receive and facilitate resolution of	Effective Date and thereafter maintain and operate	
	concerns and grievances in relation to the Project, promptly and	the mechanism throughout Project implementation.	
	effectively, in a transparent manner that is culturally appropriate		
	and readily accessible to all Project-affected parties, at no cost		
	and without retribution, including concerns and grievances filed		
	anonymously, in a manner consistent with ESS10.		
	The grievance mechanism shall be equipped to receive, register,		
	and facilitate the resolution of SEA/SH complaints, including		
	through the referral of survivors to relevant gender-based		
	violence service providers, all in a safe, confidential, and survivor-		
	centered manner.		
CAPAC	ITY SUPPORT		
CS1	Training to the PCU including E&S Unit of MPSIR, service providers	ESF briefing, Training on COVID-19 Prevention and	Implementation Unit
	and some Contractors shall be required in the following areas:	Response measures, ESCP and SEP: Within 1 (one)	(MPSIR - PCU)
		month after Effective Date	
	 ESF briefing session during the kick-off workshop, 	Table 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1	
	 COVID-19 Prevention and response measures 	Training on other subjects: as soon as possible after effectiveness and throughout project	
	 Implementation and monitoring of the Environmental 	effectiveness and throughout project implementation	
	and Social Commitment Plan (ESCP)	implementation	
	• Implementation of the Stakeholder Engagement Plan		
	(SEP) and its monitoring & evaluation framework		
	Development and implementation of Labor Management		
	Procedures (LMP)		
	 Mitigation, prevention and response on SEA/SH 		
	assessment, development and implementation of the		
	SEA/SH Action Plan		
, ,	Health and safety and security risks, in project zones		

MATE	RIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS	TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
	 The Project Grievance Mechanism Development and implementation of security risks assessment and security management plan Child and forced labor prohibition awareness Compensation arrangements in cases of physical and economic displacement Livelihoods restauration HIV/AIDS, STIs and Hepatitis B control Waste management 		
CS2	Training sessions shall be organized for contractors, laborers and other employees working on project sites, inspectorates' officials and workers (from Environment, Social Affairs, etc.), and the GRM committees that shall be responsible for field level implementation of the project. In addition, sensitization programs shall be organized for PAPs on the following aspects: • Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) • Work-site risk management • Occupational accident prevention • Hygiene, safety and environment (HSE) regulations, including COVID-19 prevention and response measures • Solid and liquid waste management and hazardous waste • STI/HIV AIDS sensitization • GBV/SEA/SH sensitization, Codes of Conduct, GM, SEA/SH services available and other mitigation measures put in place by the project both for workers and the community.	As soon as possible after project effectiveness and throughout project implementation.	Implementation Unit (MPSIR - PCU)