



## **Enhancing Systematic Land Registration Project (P169669)**

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

*Prepared by:*

**Department of Land**

**Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources**

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**Vientiane, Lao PDR**

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## ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL COMMITMENT PLAN

1. The Lao People's Democratic Republic (hereinafter the Recipient) will implement the Enhancing Systematic Land Registration Project (the Project), with the key responsible agency being the Ministry of Natural Resources and the Environment (MONRE) through its Department of Land (DOL), and collaborating agencies such as the Ministry of Planning and Investment (MPI), Ministry of Finance (MOF), National Geographic Department (NGD) and Department of Forestry (DOF) under the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MAF) and others. The International Development Association (hereinafter the Association) has agreed to provide co-financing for the Project. This environmental and social commitment plan (ESCP) also applies the Swiss co-financing.
2. The Recipient will implement material measures and actions so that the Project is implemented in accordance with the Environmental and Social Standards (**ESSs**). This Environmental and Social Commitment Plan (**ESCP**) sets out material measures and actions, any specific documents, or plans, as well as the timing for each of these.
3. The Recipient will also comply with the provisions of any other E&S documents required under the ESF and referred to in this ESCP, such as Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF), Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF) incorporated into the ESMF, Ethnic Groups Development Framework (EGDF), Labor Management Procedures (LMP), and Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP), and the timelines specified in those E&S documents.
4. The Recipient is responsible for compliance with all requirements of the ESCP even when implementation of specific measures and actions will be conducted by the Ministries, agencies or units referenced in 1. above.
5. Implementation of the material measures and actions set out in this ESCP will be monitored and reported to the Association by the Recipient as required by the ESCP and the conditions of the legal agreement, and the Association will monitor and assess progress and completion of the material measures and actions throughout implementation of the Project.
6. As agreed by the Association and the Recipient, this ESCP may be revised from time to time during Project implementation, to reflect adaptive management of Project changes and unforeseen circumstances or in response to assessment of Project performance conducted under the ESCP itself. In such circumstances, the Recipient, through MONRE, will agree to the changes with the Association and will update the ESCP to reflect such changes. Agreement on changes to the ESCP will be documented through the exchange of letters signed between the Association and the Recipient, through MONRE. The Recipient, through MONRE will promptly disclose the updated ESCP.
7. Where Project changes, unforeseen circumstances, or Project performance result in changes to the risks and impacts during Project implementation, the Recipient shall provide additional funds, if needed, to implement actions and measures to address such risks and impacts, which may include impacts on project workers, impacts on natural resources and the environment, community health and safety impacts, impacts on land users, impacts on ethnic groups, and impacts on cultural heritage.

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
<b>MONITORING AND REPORTING</b>			
A	<p><b>REGULAR REPORTING</b></p> <p>Prepare and submit to the Association regular monitoring reports on the environmental, social, health and safety (ESHS) performance of the Project, including but not limited to the implementation of the ESCP, status of preparation and implementation of E&amp;S documents required under the ESCP, stakeholder engagement activities, functioning of the grievance redress mechanism (GRM).</p>	Six-monthly starting six months after the Effective Date and throughout Project implementation	MONRE
B	<p><b>INCIDENTS AND ACCIDENTS</b></p> <p>Promptly notify the Association of any incident or accident related to the Project which has, or is likely to have, a significant adverse effect on the environment, the affected communities, the public or workers (for example: accident resulting in death or hospitalization of project workers; landmines and explosive remnants of war (ERW) incident; significant chance find of cultural heritage; civil disturbances at or relating to a project site). Provide sufficient details regarding the incident or accident, indicating immediate measures taken or that are planned to be taken to address it, and any information provided by any contractor and supervising entity, as appropriate. Subsequently, as per the Association's request, prepare a report on the incident or accident and propose any measures to prevent its recurrence. See also notification of operational health and safety (OHS) requirements in the Labour Management Procedures (LMP).</p>	Notify the Association no later than 48 hours after taking notice of the incident or accident; promptly furnish report upon the Association's request.	MONRE
C	<p><b>CONTRACTORS MONTHLY REPORTS</b></p> <p>Progress of construction/ refurbishment activities including summaries of contractor's monthly monitoring reports are provided within the context of the regular reporting (item A). Upon request by the Association, contractor's monthly reports will be submitted.</p>	Reporting biannually (year 1-3), annually (year 4-5); Contractor's monthly reports furnished promptly upon the Association's request	Contractors (and by MONRE to the Association upon request)

<b>ESS 1: ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RISKS AND IMPACTS</b>			
1.1	<p><b>ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE</b></p> <p>Establish and maintain an organizational structure with qualified staff and resources to support management of environmental and social (E&amp;S) risks of the Project, including the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MONRE, to create an ESF team under the Project Management Unit established under DOL including:</li> <li>• at least two Focal Points for environmental and social risk management.</li> <li>• two experienced senior ESF consultants (one international, one national) to support the PMU to coordinate and implement the E&amp;S activities at the national level and to contribute to building up local institutional capacities applying a learning by doing approach.</li> <li>• MONRE to hire junior ESF consultants to support the implementation of the social and environmental aspects of the project at the provincial and district levels. A number to be determined (at least one for each province).</li> </ul>	<p>Create ESF Team under PMU with at least two Focal Points appointed, before the commencement of Project activities.</p> <p>Recruitment of consultants to be completed within 90 days after the Effective Date. All E&amp;S staff specified in action 1.1 to be maintained throughout Project implementation.</p> <p>Recruitment of junior ESF consultants to support province and district before the commencement of Project activities.</p>	<p>MONRE PONRE, DONRE</p>
1.2	<p><b>ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK</b></p> <p>Prepare, disclose, consult, adopt, update as necessary, and implement, in a manner acceptable to the Association, an Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) for the Project.</p>	<p>Before Project appraisal and implemented and updated as necessary throughout Project implementation.</p>	<p>MONRE</p>
1.3	<p><b>MANAGEMENT TOOLS AND INSTRUMENTS</b></p> <p>Carry out screening and assessment of environmental and social risks and impacts of Project activities and prepare, adopt, update as necessary and implement site-specific Environmental and Social Management Plans (ESMPs) or ECOPs, and other E&amp;S instruments as relevant in accordance with the ESMF and in a manner acceptable to the Association. Submit plans to the Association for review and no-objection and disclose such plans on the Project website and to the Project affected communities and consult the affected communities in accordance with the ESMF.</p> <p>Prepare, disclose, consult and carry out a Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA) for policy and legal framework-related technical assistance activities under the Project in a manner consistent with the ESSs and acceptable to the Association, and in accordance with the ESMF.</p>	<p>Prepare, disclose, consult and adopt site-specific E&amp;S instruments, and obtain the Association's no-objection before commencement of site specific subprojects or activities. Implement such E&amp;S instruments throughout the Project implementation period.</p> <p>During the preparation and implementation of technical assistance activities, and before the finalization and adoption of related policy or legal framework documents.</p>	<p>MONRE PONRE, DONRE</p>

1.4	<p><b>MANAGEMENT OF CONTRACTORS</b></p> <p>Incorporate the relevant E&amp;S documents and plans, and the Labor Management Procedures (LMP), into the ESHS specifications of the procurement documents and works contracts.</p> <p>Thereafter ensure that contractors comply with the ESHS specifications of their respective contracts.</p>	<p>During the procurement process for the relevant Project activities, and thereafter complied with throughout the carrying out of such activities</p>	<p>MONRE</p>
1.5.	<p><b>CONTINGENT EMERGENCY RESPONSE FINANCING</b></p> <p>a. Ensure that the <i>CERC Manual as specified the financing agreement</i>] includes a description of the ESHS assessment and management arrangements including <i>CERC-ESMF/ESMF Addendum that has been included or referred to in the CERC Manual</i> for the implementation of <i>CERC component</i>, in accordance with the ESSs.</p> <p>b. Prepare, disclose, consult and adopt any environmental and social (E&amp;S) management plans or instruments which may be required for activities under CERC component 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&amp;S management plans or instruments, within the timeframes specified in said E&amp;S management plans or instruments.</p>	<p>a) The adoption of the CERC manual in form and substance acceptable to the Bank is a withdrawal condition under Section E of Schedule 2 of the Financing Agreement for the Project.</p> <p>b) The E&amp;S management plans or instruments shall be prepared, disclosed, consulted, and thereafter adopted before the carrying out of the relevant Project activities under CERC component. The E&amp;S management plans or instruments shall be implemented in accordance with their terms, throughout Project implementation.</p>	<p>MONRE PONRE, DONRE</p>
<b>ESS 2: LABOR AND WORKING CONDITIONS</b>			
2.1	<p><b>LABOR MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES</b></p> <p>Adopt, implement, and as needed, update the Labor Management Procedures (LMP).</p>	<p>Update and adopt no later than ninety (90) days after the Effective Date.</p> <p>Implement throughout the Project Implementation</p>	<p>MONRE PONRE, DONRE</p>
2.2	<p><b>GRIEVANCE MECHANISM FOR PROJECT WORKERS</b></p> <p>Establish, maintain, and operate a grievance mechanism for Project workers, as described in the LMP and consistent with ESS2.</p>	<p>Update and adopt no later than ninety (90) days after the Effective Date.</p> <p>Implement throughout the Project Implementation</p>	<p>MONRE Contractors</p>

2.3	<p><b>OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY (OHS) MEASURES FOR PROJECT WORKERS</b></p> <p>Adopt, implement, and as needed, update and re-disclose occupational, health and safety (OHS) measures as part of the ESMF</p> <p>Designate staff responsible for the implementation of OHS measures.</p> <p>Implement training of Project Workers designed to heighten awareness of OHS risks and the requirement included at the LMP (including workers' Code of Conduct to address social issues).</p>	<p>Update and adopt no later than ninety (90) days after the Effective Date;</p> <p>Implement throughout the Project implementation</p>	<p>MONRE PONRE, DONRE Contractors</p>
<b>ESS 3: RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT</b>			
3.1	<p><b>RESOURCE EFFICIENCY</b></p> <p>Develop, adopt, and implement the related management plans e.g. Standard Waste Management Plan, E-Waste management procedure and others as described at the Project's ESMF</p>	<p>Before Project appraisal and throughout the Project implementation.</p>	<p>MONRE PONRE, DONRE All mobile team members</p>
3.2	<p><b>POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT</b></p> <p>Develop and implement measures for resource efficiency and pollution prevention, as part of ESMPs for new construction activities.</p>	<p>Before implementation of civil work activity and throughout Project implementation.</p>	<p>MONRE PONRE, DONRE Contractors</p>
<b>ESS 4: COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY</b>			
4.1	<p><b>UNEXPLODED ORDNANCES (UXOs)</b></p> <p>All Project sites to be assessed for the presence of unexploded ordnances (UXOs) in line with the project's Procedure for Handling UXOs set out in the ESMF</p> <p>If a significant UXO risk is identified, MONRE will need to consult with National Regulatory Authority for the UXO/Mine Action Sector in the Lao PDR to avoid any impact from UXO to the Project activities.</p>	<p>UXO risk will be confirmed prior to commencement of on ground activity in the Project areas and Procedure followed throughout the Project implementation period.</p>	<p>MONRE PONRE, DONRE Contractors</p>
4.2	<p><b>ROAD SAFETY</b></p> <p>Develop and implement measures, including raising awareness and educate project staff and contractors about road safety, as described in the ESMF and LMP.</p>	<p>Before commencement of Project activity and throughout Project implementation</p>	<p>MONRE PONRE, DONRE Contractors</p>
4.3	<p><b>COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY</b></p> <p>Prepare, adopt, and implement measures and actions to assess and manage specific risks and impacts to the communities arising from Project activities including, inter alia, behavior of contractors' workers, risks of labor influx, response to emergency situations, as described in the project Community Health and Safety Plan (included as part of the ESMF) and LMP.</p>	<p>Throughout Project implementation</p>	<p>MONRE PONRE, DONRE Contractors</p>

4.4	<b>GENDER BASED VIOLENCE</b> Adopt, and implement a Gender-Based Violence Action Plan (GBV Action Plan) as required in the ESMF (to assess and manage the risks of gender-based violence (GBV) and sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA) and Violence Against Children (VAC).	During the procurement process, and throughout the Project implementation	MONRE PONRE, DONRE Contractors
<b>ESS 5: LAND ACQUISITION, RESTRICTIONS ON LAND USE AND INVOLUNTARY RESETTLEMENT</b>			
5.1	<b>RESETTLEMENT POLICY FRAMEWORK AND RESETTLEMENT PLANS</b> Prepare, disclose, consult, adopt, update as necessary, and implement the Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF) for the Project, as part of the ESMF In case land acquisition and involuntary resettlement is envisaged, prepare, disclose, consult, adopt, update as necessary and implement a Resettlement Plan (RP), including measures as described in the Project's Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF) in a manner acceptable to the Association.	RPF prepared, disclosed, consulted and adopted prior to Project appraisal as part of the ESMF, and implemented throughout Project implementation.  Prepare, disclose, consult, adopt and implement RPs prior to land acquisition and resettlement and throughout Project implementation, as specified in the RPF. Prior review and clearance from the Association will be required for the all RPs.	MONRE PONRE
5.2	<b>GRIEVANCE MECHANISM</b> As part of the RPF specified in 5.1. establish, maintain and operate a Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) for potentially affected people..	Establish GRM and provide training for responsible persons prior to RP preparation and land acquisition and resettlement, and throughout the Project implementation.	MONRE PONRE
<b>ESS 7: INDIGENOUS PEOPLES</b>			
7.1	<b>ETHNIC GROUP DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK</b> Prepare, disclose, consult, adopt, update as necessary, and implement the Ethnic Group Development Framework (EGDF) for the Project, including complete site-specific Ethnic Peoples Screening Forms and where Ethnic Peoples (EPs) or Ethnic Groups (EGs) are identified, prepare and implement Scoping Report, including, when required, the application of Free Prior Informed Consent (FPIC) in accordance with the (EGDF) and in a manner acceptable to the Association.	EGDF prepared, disclosed, consulted and adopted prior to Project appraisal, and implemented throughout Project implementation, including screen the presence of Ethnic People (EPs) in the Project areas and, when found, preparing Scoping Report prior to implementation of the relevant Project activities as required by the EGDF.	MONRE PONRE, DONRE
7.2	<b>GRIEVANCE MECHANISM</b> Prepare, disclose, consult, adopt, and implement the arrangements for the grievance mechanism for EGs and EPs, as required under the EGDF	Based on the EGDF, before the commencement of any Project activities affecting EGs and EPs, and implement throughout the Project period.	MONRE PONRE, DONRE

<b>ESS 8: CULTURAL HERITAGE</b>			
8.1	<b>CULTURAL HERITAGE FRAMEWORK</b> Prepare, disclose, consult, adopt, adopt, update as necessary, and implement the project's Cultural Heritage Framework (CHF), as part of the ESMF.	Prepare, disclose, consult, adopt and update as necessary the CHF prior to Project appraisal as part of the ESMF, and implement throughout Project implementation.	MONRE PONRE, DONRE Contractors
<b>ESS 10: STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION DISCLOSURE</b>			
10.1	<b>STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN PREPARATION AND IMPLEMENTATION</b> Prepare, disclose, adopt, update as necessary, and implement the Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP)	Prepared, disclose, consult and adopt draft SEP before Project appraisal. Implement and update as necessary throughout Project implementation.	MONRE PONRE, DONRE
10.2	<b>PROJECT GRIEVANCE MECHANISM</b> MONRE will establish, maintain, and operate a grievance mechanism for the Project, in accordance with the SEP.	Project GRM to be established and disseminated to stakeholders before the commencement of Project activities, and to be maintained and operated throughout Project implementation	MONRE PONRE, DONRE
<b>CAPACITY SUPPORT (TRAINING)</b>			

<p><b>CS1</b></p>	<p><b>E&amp;S RISK MANAGEMENT CAPCITY BUILDING PLAN</b></p> <p>Implement the capacity building plan for E&amp;S risk management described in the ESMF, with the following outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduction to the Environmental and Social Framework, including RPF, EGDF, negative list</li> <li>• Stakeholder engagement and grievance mechanisms in compliance with the ESF's ESS10</li> <li>• Labor Management Procedures/Plan, including Code of Conduct, Grievance Redress Mechanism for project workers.</li> <li>• Development and implementation of ESMP for new construction civil work</li> <li>• Provisions on SEA, GBV and VAC prevention</li> <li>• Training at district and provincial levels to make sure that a victim-centered approach is applied for this project in line with the World Bank's Guidelines on SEA, GBV and VAC aspects.</li> <li>• Guideline for Community Health and Safety (including Road and Traffic Safety)</li> <li>• Training for the Community (awareness raising)</li> <li>• Training on ESS5 project related issues (land acquisition, restriction on land use and involuntary resettlement)</li> <li>• Training on ESS7 Project related issues including FPIC.</li> <li>• Application of Environmental Code of Practice for renovation civil work</li> <li>• Standard Waste Management Plan</li> <li>• Cultural Heritage Framework</li> <li>• Code of Conduct (including the list of Do's and Don'ts for preventing staff from involving in wildlife trade and consumption)</li> <li>• Strategic Environment and Social Assessment (SESA)</li> </ul>	<p>Training for Project staff and consultants on E&amp;S risk management instruments to be completed within six months after Project effectiveness, with refresher courses at least once a year and adapted training based upon implementation experience of Project.</p> <p>Training materials for all topics to be developed in first year of Project effectiveness.</p> <p>Trainings to contractors, suppliers, and Project beneficiaries to be conducted before site-specific Project activities and throughout Project implementation, as needed.</p>	<p>MONRE PONRE, DONRE Contractors</p>
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