



Lao People's Democratic Republic  
Peace Independence Democracy Unity Prosperity

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Ministry of Public Works and Transport

# Environmental and Social Commitment Plan (ESCP)

Preparation of Environmental and Social Framework Instruments  
for the Lao PDR Climate Resilient Road Connectivity Improvement Project  
(CRRCIP)

Prepared by:

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17<sup>th</sup> May 2024\_ Revised Draft

1. Lao PDR (herein after the (Borrower) will implement the Lao PDR Climate Resilient Road Connectivity Improvement Project (CRRCIP) (“the **Project**”), with the involvement of the Ministry of Public Works and Transport (MPWT) through the Department of Road and Department of Planning and Finance (DPF) as set out in the Loan Agreement. The World Bank agreed to provide financing for the Project.
2. The Borrower shall ensure that the Project is carried out in accordance with the relevant Environmental and Social Standards (ESSs) of the World Bank and this Environmental and Social Commitment Plan (ESCP), in a manner acceptable to the World Bank. The ESCP is a part of the Loan Agreement and the Project 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 Borrower 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 World Bank. Once adopted, said E&S instruments may be revised from time to time with prior written agreement by the World Bank.
4. As agreed by the World Bank and the Borrower, 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 Borrower through Ministry of Public Works and Transport (MPWT) and the World Bank agree to update the ESCP to reflect these changes through an exchange of letters signed between the World Bank and the Borrower [name position of designated official, e.g. minister, director] of Ministry of Public Works and Transport (MPWT). The Borrower shall promptly disclose the updated ESCP.

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
MONITORING AND REPORTING			
A	<p><b>REGULAR REPORTING</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As a part of its regular project reporting, prepare and submit to the World Bank 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 environmental and social E&amp;S documents required under the ESCP, stakeholder engagement activities, functioning of the grievance mechanism (GRM).</li> </ul>	<p>Submit bi-annual and annual reports to the World Bank throughout project implementation.</p> <p>Submit each report to the WB no later than 10 business days after the end of each reporting period.</p>	MPWT - PMU
B	<p><b>INCIDENTS AND ACCIDENTS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promptly notify the World Bank 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, road traffic related accidents on the project roads, inter alia, cases of sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA), sexual harassment (SH), and accidents that result in death, serious or multiple injury and other incidents occurred in the project construction sites or related to project financed civil works and activities.</li> <li>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.</li> <li>Subsequently, at the World Bank's request, prepare a report on the incident or accident and propose any measures to address it and prevent its recurrence in accordance with the World Bank's Environmental and Social Incident Reporting Tool (ESIRT).</li> </ul>	<p>Notify the World Bank within 48 hours after learning of the incident or accident.</p> <p>Provide subsequent reports to the World Bank within a timeframe acceptable to the World Bank in accordance with ESIRT</p>	MPWT - PMU
C	<p><b>CONTRACTORS' MONTHLY REPORTS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Require contractors and supervising firms to provide a monthly summary on ESHS performance in the monthly progress reports in accordance with the metrics specified in the respective bidding documents and contracts, and submit such reports to the World Bank.</li> <li></li> </ul>	<p>Submit a monthly summary on ESHS performance in the monthly progress reports and quarterly reports on ESHS performance to the World Bank upon request as annexes to the reports to be submitted under action A above.</p>	Contractors and supervising firms through MPWT - PMU

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
D	<p><b>NOTIFICATIONS RELATING TO DAAB COMPLIANCE REVIEW OF CONTRACTOR COMPLIANCE WITH SEA/SH PREVENTION AND RESPONSE OBLIGATIONS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Notify the World Bank of any referral submitted to the Dispute 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 works contract with such contractor; and, in the event of any such referral, notify the World Bank 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 full arbitration proceeding in relation to the DAAB's decision; and (iv) the resulting emergency arbitration order and/or full arbitration order, if any.</li> </ul>	No later than 7 days after the issuance or receipt, as 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).	MPWT - PMU
ESS 1: ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RISKS AND IMPACTS			
1.1	<p><b>ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establish and maintain one (1) focal person to handle E&amp;S concerns at the PMU of MPWT; and 1 focal person to handle E&amp;S concerns at the PIU of DWPTs in the 3 provinces to support management of ESHS risks and impacts of the Project.</li> <li>Recruit and mobilize one (1) qualified senior Environmental and Social Consultant (SESC) as a part time, one (1) Environmental and Social Consultant (ESC) on a full-time basis.</li> </ul>	<p>One E&amp;S focal point at MPWT-PMU and one E&amp;S focal point at PIUs/DWPTs will be established within 30 days of project effectiveness.</p> <p>One ESC at MPWT-PMU and E&amp;S Officer at PIUs/DWPTs in the 3 provinces will be established within 90 days of project effectiveness.</p> <p>Recruit one qualified senior SESC as a part time, one ESC (full time) within 90 days of project effectiveness.</p> <p>The organizational structure will be maintained throughout the project implementation.</p>	<p>MPWT - PMU</p> <p>DWPTs - PIU</p>

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
1.2	<p><b>ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL INSTRUMENTS</b></p> <p>(1) Update, adopt and implement, in a manner acceptable to the World Bank, the E&amp;S documents as follows: (i) Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) which includes considerations of ethnic groups; (ii) Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) and (iii) Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF).</p> <p>(2) Prepare and implement site-specific Environmental and Social Management Plan (SS-ESMP) of each subproject (rural road) as set out in the ESMF. The proposed subprojects described in the exclusion list set out in the ESMF shall be ineligible to receive financing under the Project.</p>	<p>(1) Adopt the ESMF within 90 days of project effectiveness and thereafter implement the ESMF throughout Project implementation.</p> <p>(2) Adopt and disclose the SS-ESMP prior to the start of site-specific project activities or subprojects, and thereafter implement the SS-ESMP throughout Project implementation.</p>	MPWT - PMU
1.3	<p><b>MANAGEMENT OF CONTRACTORS</b></p> <p>(1) Incorporate the relevant aspects of the ESCP, including, inter alia, the relevant E&amp;S instruments and such as SEP, RPF and ESMF into the SS-ESMPs and include the SS-ESMPs as ESHS requirements in 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.</p> <p>(2) Require all contractors at their own costs to prepare, submit and implement the site specific Contractor's ESMPs (C-ESMPs) in compliance with the approved SS-ESMPs.</p>	<p>(1) As part of the preparation of procurement documents and respective contracts.</p> <p>(2) Contractor's submit C-ESMPs to MPWT-PMU for review and approval within 30 days upon the contract awarded and thereafter implement the C-ESMPs throughout Project implementation.</p> <p>(3) Supervise contractors throughout Project implementation.</p>	MPWT - PMU Contractors
1.4	<p><b>TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE</b></p> <p>Ensure that the consultancies, studies including feasibility studies, capacity building, training, and any other technical assistance activities under the Project are carried out in accordance with terms of reference acceptable to the World Bank, that are consistent with the ESSs. Thereafter ensure that the outputs of such activities comply with the terms of reference.</p>	Throughout Project implementation.	MPWT - PMU

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
1.5	<p><b>CONTINGENT EMERGENCY RESPONSE FINANCING</b></p> <p>(1) Ensure that the Contingent Emergency Response Component of the Project (CERC) Manual includes a description of the ESHS assessment and management arrangements. The CERC manual will be included as an addendum to the ESMF for the implementation of Component 3 in accordance with the ESSs.</p> <p>(2) Adopt any environmental and social (E&amp;S) instruments which may be required for activities under Component 4 of the Project, in accordance with the CERC-ESMF Addendum and the ESSs, and thereafter implement the measures and actions required under said E&amp;S instruments, within the timeframes specified in said E&amp;S instruments.</p>	<p>(1) The adoption of the CERC Manual in form and substance acceptable to the World Bank is a withdrawal condition under Section [XX] of Schedule 2 of the [name of legal agreement] for the Project.</p> <p>(2) Adopt any required E&amp;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&amp;S instrument is required. Implement the E&amp;S instruments in accordance with their terms, throughout Project implementation.</p>	MPWT - PMU
ESS 2: LABOR AND WORKING CONDITIONS			
2.1	<p><b>LABOR MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adopt and implement the Labor Management Procedures (LMP) for the Project, including, inter alia, provisions on working conditions, management of workers relationships, occupational health and safety (including personal protective equipment, and emergency preparedness and response), code of conduct (including that relating to SEA and SH), forced labor, child labor, grievance redress arrangements for Project workers, and applicable requirements for contractors, subcontractors, and supervising firms in accordance with the ESS2 and National Law on Labors (2013).</li> </ul>	Adopt the LMP upon the of project effectiveness, and thereafter implement the LMP throughout Project implementation.	MPWT - PMU DPWTS - PIU Contractors Supervising firms

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
2.2	<p><b>LABOR MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establish, maintain, and operate a grievance mechanism for Project workers, as described in the LMP and consistent with ESS2, and National Law on Grievance Handling (2014). The government will manage grievances from direct workers as described in the LMP and ensure that contractors designate relevant staff to manage their workers' GRM.</li> </ul>	Establish grievance mechanism prior engaging Project workers and thereafter maintain and operate it throughout Project implementation.	MPWT - PMU DPWTs - PIU Contractors Supervising firms
ESS 3: RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT			
3.1	<p><b>WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adopt and implement a Waste Management Plan (WMP) as part of SS-ESMP and Contractor's CEMP, to manage hazardous and non-hazardous wastes, consistent with ESS3.</li> </ul>	Same timeframe as for the preparation and implementation of the SS-ESMPs and CEMPs	MPWT - PMU DPWTs - PIU Contractors Supervising firms
3.2	<p><b>RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Resource efficiency and pollution prevention and management measures will be covered under the SS-ESMPs and CEMPs to be prepared under action 1.2 &amp; 1.3 above.</li> </ul>	Same timeframe as for the preparation and implementation of the SS-ESMPs and CEMPs	MPWT - PMU DPWTs - PIU Contractors Supervising firms
ESS 4: COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY			
4.1	<p><b>TRAFFIC AND ROAD SAFETY</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Incorporate measures to manage traffic and road safety risks as required in the SS-ESMP and C-ESMP to be prepared under action 1.2 and 1.3 above.</li> </ul>	Same timeframe as for the preparation and implementation of the SS-ESMPs and C-ESMPs.	MPWT - PMU DPWTs - PIU Contractors Supervising firms
4.2	<b>COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY:</b>	Same timeframe as for the	MPWT - PMU

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assess and manage specific risks and impacts on the community arising from Subproject activities including, inter alia, behavior of Project workers, risks of labor influx, response to emergency situations, and include mitigation measures in the SS-ESMPs and C-ESMPs to be prepared in accordance with the ESMF.</li> </ul>	preparation and implementation of the SS-ESMP and C-ESMPs.	DPWTS - PIU Contractors Supervising firms
4.3	<p><b>SEXUAL EXPLOITATION AND ABUSE AND SEXUAL HARRASSMENT (SEA/SH) RISKS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adopt and implement Code of Conduct on SEA/SH as part of the SS-ESMPs and C-ESMPs, to assess and manage the risks of SEA and SH.</li> </ul>	Same timeframe as for the preparation and implementation of the SS-ESMPs and C-ESMPs.	MPWT - PMU DPWTS - PIU Contractors Supervising firms
<b>ESS 5: LAND ACQUISITION, RESTRICTIONS ON LAND USE AND INVOLUNTARY RESETTLEMENT</b>			
5.1	<p><b>RESETTLEMENT POLICY FRAMEWORK</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adopt and implement a Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF) for the Project, consistent with ESS5.</li> </ul>	Adopt the RPF prior to commencement of civil works, and thereafter implement the RPF throughout Project implementation.	MPWT - PMU DPWTS - PIU
5.2	<p><b>RESETTLEMENT PLANS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prepare, disclose, adopt and implement a resettlement action plan and abbreviated resettlement action plan (RAP/ARAP) for each activity or road section under the Project for which the RPF requires such RAP/ARAP, as set out in the RPF, consistent with ESS5 and national legislation before carrying out the associated activities, in a manner acceptable to the World Bank. Full compensation will be paid to affected households/ persons before any civil works is implemented and/or displacement takes place. All land acquisition and resettlement related costs will be financed through Borrower's funding.</li> </ul>	Adopt and implement the respective RAP/ARAP, 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 prior to commencement of civil works.	MPWT - PMU DPWTS - PIU
5.3	<p><b>GRIEVANCE MECHANISM</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Project, via the DWPTS in the provinces, will ensure that the RAPs/ARAPs include details</li> </ul>	Prior to civil works and/or any land acquisition and throughout	MPWT - PMU

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
	on the Project Grievance Redressal Mechanism (GRM), which will also be available to receive any Project related resettlement or compensation complaint and feedback. The MPWT-PMU will maintain operational GRMs throughout the lifetime of the Project as outlined in the RPF. The government will ensure the designation of relevant staff to manage the GRM as described in the RPF.	implementation	DPWTs - PIU
ESS 6: BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF LIVING NATURAL RESOURCES			
6.1	<p><b>BIODIVERSITY RISKS AND IMPACTS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adopt and implement a Biodiversity Management Plan (BMP) as part of SS-ESMPs and CESMPs, in consistent with ESMF and ESS6.</li> <li>The project will not finance road improvement that could provide access to critical habitats such as wildlife sanctuary and protected areas or may cause deforestation.</li> </ul>	Adopt the BMP six months after Project effectiveness, prior to construction of structure that may affect biodiversity and thereafter implement the BMP throughout Project implementation.	MPWT - PMU DPWTs - PIU Contractors Supervising firms
ESS 7: INDIGENOUS PEOPLES/SUB-SAHARAN AFRICAN HISTORICALLY UNDERSERVED TRADITIONAL LOCAL COMMUNITIES			
7.1	<p><b>INDIGENOUS PEOPLES PLANNING FRAMEWORK</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adopt and implement Ethnic Group (EG) requirements for the Project as part of Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP), consistent with ESS7.</li> </ul>	Adopt the EG requirements as part of SEP and SS-ESMPs prior to the carrying out of any subprojects and thereafter implement the EG requirements as part of SEP throughout Project implementation.	MPWT - PMU
7.3	<p><b>GRIEVANCE MECHANISM</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establish and implement the grievance mechanism to address complaints submitted by EG as described in the SEP.</li> </ul>	Based on the SEP and implement throughout the project implementation	MPWT - PMU DPWTs - PIU Contractors Supervising firms
ESS 8: CULTURAL HERITAGE			
8.1	<p><b>CULTURAL HERITAGE RISKS AND IMPACTS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adopt and implement a Chance Find Procedure as part of the SS-ESMPs and C-ESMPs, in</li> </ul>	Adopt the Chance Find Procedure	MPWT - PMU

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
	consistent with ESMF and ESS8.	prior to the carrying out of any subprojects and thereafter implement the C-HMP throughout Project implementation.	DPWTs - PIU Contractors Supervising firms
ESS 10: STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION DISCLOSURE			
10.1	<p><b>STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN PREPARATION AND IMPLEMENTATION</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adopt and implement a Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) which includes ethnic considerations for the Project, consistent with ESS10, which shall include measures to, inter alia, provide stakeholders with timely, relevant, understandable and accessible information, and consult with them in a culturally appropriate manner, which is free of manipulation, interference, coercion, discrimination and intimidation.</li> </ul>	Adopt the SEP prior to the carrying out of any subprojects and thereafter implement the SEP throughout Project implementation.	MPWT - PMU DPWTs - PIU Contractors Supervising firms
10.2	<p><b>PROJECT GRIEVANCE MECHANISM</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establish, publicize, maintain, and operate an accessible grievance mechanism, to receive and facilitate resolution of concerns and grievances in relation to the Project, promptly and effectively, in a transparent manner that is culturally appropriate and readily accessible to all Project-affected parties, at no cost and without retribution, including concerns and grievances filed anonymously, in a manner consistent with ESS10.</li> <li>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.</li> </ul>	Establish the grievance mechanism prior to the carrying out of any subprojects and thereafter maintain and operate the mechanism throughout Project implementation	MPWT - PMU DPWTs - PIU Contractors Supervising firms
CAPACITY SUPPORT (TRAINING)			
CS1	<p>Implement the capacity building outlined in section 5.5 of the ESMF including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ESMF and approach</li> <li>Preparation of SS-ESMPs, SS-BMPs and ARAP (if needed) in accordance with the ESCP, ESMF, RPF and SEP</li> <li>Preparation, implementation, monitoring and reporting of Contractor's ESMP (C-ESMP)</li> </ul>	At least one month before starting the civil works and throughout implementation of road works.	World Bank and ESF consultants MPWT - PMU DPWTs - PIU

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
	<p>in accordance with the approved SS-ESMP, SS-BMP and SEP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Biodiversity impacts, mitigation &amp; monitoring</li> <li>• E&amp;S compliance monitoring and reporting</li> <li>• Incident and accident reporting</li> <li>• Application of LMP, including OHS, CHS, Worker Code of Conduct, incident reporting (ESIRT), SEA/SH, COVID-19 and also other types of (air, water and waste) born communicable diseases and possible outbreak</li> <li>• UXO Management</li> <li>• Application of SEP and the grievance/beneficiary feedback mechanism</li> </ul>		<p>Contractors</p> <p>Supervising firms</p>