

Georgia

**Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from
Occupied Territories, Labor, Health and
Social Affairs**

**Georgia: Enhancing Early Warning Systems
by using Genomic Surveillance and
One Health Approach Project (P511731)**

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

Appraisal Version (draft)

July 2026

1. Georgia (“the Recipient”) will implement Georgia: Enhancing Early Warning Systems by Using Genomic Surveillance and One Health Approach Project (the “Project”) with the involvement of the Ministry of Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Labor, Health and Social Affairs of Georgia (MoILHSA), and with participation of the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture (MEPA), the National Center for Disease Control (NCDC), the State Laboratory of Agriculture (SLA), and the National Food Agency (NFA), as set out in the Grant Agreement (the “Agreement”). The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (the Bank), acting as the implementing entity of the Pandemic Prevention, Preparedness, and Response Trust Fund, has agreed to provide financing for the Project, as set out in the Agreement.
2. The Recipient shall ensure that the Project is carried out in accordance with the Environmental and Social Standards (ESSs) and this Environmental and Social Commitment Plan (ESCP), in a manner acceptable to the Bank. The ESCP is a part of the Agreement. Unless otherwise defined in this ESCP, capitalized terms used in this ESCP have the meanings ascribed to them in the Agreement.
3. Without limitation to the foregoing, this ESCP sets out material measures and actions that the Recipient shall carry out or cause to be carried out, including, as applicable, their respective timeframes; institutional, staffing, training, monitoring and reporting arrangements; and grievance management. The ESCP also sets out the environmental and social (E&S) documents that shall be prepared or updated, consulted, disclosed and implemented under the Project, consistent with the ESSs, in form and substance acceptable to the Bank. Said E&S documents may be revised from time to time with prior written agreement by the Bank. As provided for under the referred Agreement, the Recipient shall ensure that there are sufficient funds available to cover the costs of implementing the ESCP.
4. As agreed by the Bank and the Recipient, this ESCP will be revised from time to time, if necessary, to reflect adaptive management of Project changes or unforeseen circumstances or in response to Project performance. In such circumstances, the Bank and the Recipient agree to update the ESCP to reflect these changes through an exchange of letters signed between the Bank and the Recipient’s Representative specified in the Agreement. The Recipient shall promptly disclose the updated ESCP.
5. The subsection on “Indicators for Implementation Readiness” below identifies the actions and measures to be monitored to assess Project readiness to begin implementation in accordance with this ESCP. Nevertheless, all actions and measures in this ESCP shall be implemented as set out in the “Timeframe” column below irrespective of whether they are listed in the referred subsection.

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS AND CAPACITY SUPPORT			
A	ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE Maintain a Project Implementation Unit (PIU) within MoIHLSA and enhance its capacity for the management of environmental, social, health and safety (E&S) risks and impacts of the Project by hiring and retaining a qualified E&S specialist. Coordinate E&S aspects of Project implementation with NCDC, SLA and NFA, including for the operation and maintenance of Project-financed laboratory equipment and vehicles.	Hire an E&S Specialist within 45 days from Grant Effective Date and maintain thereafter throughout Project implementation. Throughout Project implementation.	MoIHLSA
B	CAPACITY BUILDING PLAN/MEASURES Prepare and implement the following capacity building measures: • Training for the staff of Project beneficiary institutions – NCDC, SLA and NFA– on occupational health and safety and on Standard Operating Procedures for biochemical laboratories.	Within 120 days from Grant Effective Date.	MoIHLSA MEPA
MONITORING AND REPORTING			
C	REGULAR REPORTING Prepare and submit to the Bank regular monitoring reports on E&S performance of the Project as part of the general Project progress reporting. The reports shall include: • Status of preparation and implementation of E&S documents required under the ESCP. • Summary of stakeholder engagement activities. • Complaints submitted to the grievance mechanism(s), the grievance log, and progress made in resolving them. • Number and status of resolution of incidents and accidents reported under action D below.	Quarterly reporting commencing from Grant Effective Date. Submit each report to the Bank no later than 30 days after the end of each reporting period.	MoIHLSA
D	INCIDENTS AND ACCIDENTS Notify the Bank of any incident or accident relating 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 those resulting in death or significant injury to workers or the public; acts of violence, discrimination or protest; unforeseen impacts to cultural heritage or biodiversity resources; pollution of the environment; dam failure; forced or child labor; displacement without due process (forced eviction); allegations of sexual exploitation or abuse (SEA), or sexual harassment (SH); or disease outbreaks. Provide available details of the incident or accident to the Bank upon request. Arrange for an appropriate review of the incident or accident to establish its immediate, underlying and root causes. Prepare, agree with the Bank, and implement a Corrective Action Plan that sets out the measures and actions to be taken to address the incident or accident and prevent its recurrence.	Notify the Bank no later than 48 hours after learning of the incident or accident. Provide available details upon request.	MoIHLSA with inputs from MEPA

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
		Provide review report and Corrective Action Plan to the Bank no later than 10 days following the submission of the initial notice, unless a different timeframe is agreed to in writing by the Bank.	
ESS 1: ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RISKS AND IMPACTS			
1.1	ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL ASSESSMENTS AND/OR PLANS Ensure that the E&S risks and impacts of the Project are managed in accordance with this ESCP and the Recipient's E&S Framework, which comprises, inter alia, the country's relevant policy, legal and institutional systems, including its national, regional and local implementing institutions and applicable laws, regulations, procedures as well as implementation capacity. Ensure that NCDC, SLA, and NFA strictly follow laboratory protocols mandatory for adherence by these entities as well as labor safety and vehicle operation and maintenance requirements set forth in the national legislation.	Throughout Project implementation.	MoILHSA MEPA
1.2	USE OF RECIPIENT'S ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL FRAMEWORK Promptly notify the Bank of any changes to the Recipient's E&S Framework that may materially adversely affect the Recipient's ability to manage the E&S risks and impacts of the Project in line with the ESSs and the immediate measures taken or that are planned to be taken to address said changes and the risks and potential impacts of the Project. If, in the opinion of the Bank, such changes adversely affect relevant E&S risk management aspects of the Project, implement measures and actions agreed with the Bank to address them in a manner acceptable to the Bank and update present ESCP, as agreed with the Bank, to reflect such actions.	Notify the Bank immediately after taking notice of the change to the national E&S Framework. Reflect subsequent actions, if requested by the Bank, in an updated ESCP within a reasonable timeframe agreed with the Bank.	MoILHSA
ESS 2: LABOR AND WORKING CONDITIONS			

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
2.1	LABOR MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES Ensure that Project workers are engaged in the implementation of the Project in accordance with ESS2. To this end, implement the following measures: • Provide staff of MoILHSA PIU, NCDC, SLA, and NFA engaged in Project implementation with information and documentation that is clear and understandable regarding their terms and conditions of employment through written contracts setting out their rights, including, inter alia, rights related to hours of work, wages, overtime, compensation, and benefits, as well as written notice of termination of employment, and details of severance payments, as applicable; • Implement occupational health and safety (including personal protective equipment, and emergency preparedness and response) measures, taking into account the General Environmental, Health and Safety Guidelines of the World Bank Group, the industry-specific EHSs and other Good International Industry Practice (GIIP), as relevant; and • Implement measures, as applicable, to, inter alia: (i) prevent the use of all forms of forced labor and child labor; (ii) enable workers to benefit from, inter alia, access to grievance mechanisms without fear of retaliation; and (iii) provide effective freedom to form and join workers organizations or alternative mechanisms for expressing their concerns and protect their rights related to labor and working conditions. • Develop a code of conduct for Project workers which includes measures to prevent and respond to sexual exploitation and abuse, and sexual harassment (SEA/SH) cases. • Incorporate the relevant requirements above in the E&S specifications of the procurement documents.	Throughout Project implementation.	MoILHSA MEPA
ESS 3: RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT			
3.1	WASTE MANAGEMENT Obligate NCDC, SLA and NFA to strictly adhere to the requirements of ESS3 and the law of Georgia on Waste Management Code of Georgia and its supporting regulations on the management and disposal of household and medical wastes, and recycling of used batteries, lubricants, and vehicle tires through the available schemes of Extended Producer Responsibility currently operating in Georgia.	Throughout Project implementation.	MoILHSA MEPA
3.2	RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT Incorporate relevant aspects of energy efficiency into technical specifications for vehicles and equipment to be procured under the Project in a manner consistent with ESS3.	During preparation of documents for procurement of goods.	MoILHSA
ESS 4: COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY			
Not currently relevant.			
ESS 5: LAND ACQUISITION, RESTRICTIONS ON LAND USE AND INVOLUNTARY RESETTLEMENT			
Not currently relevant.			
ESS 6: BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF LIVING NATURAL RESOURCES			

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
Not currently relevant.			
ESS 7: INDIGENOUS PEOPLES/SUB-SAHARAN AFRICAN HISTORICALLY UNDERSERVED TRADITIONAL LOCAL COMMUNITIES			
Not currently relevant.			
ESS 8: CULTURAL HERITAGE			
Not currently relevant.			
ESS 9: FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES			
Not currently relevant.			
ESS 10: STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION DISCLOSURE			
10.1	Incorporate stakeholder engagement and information disclosure measures in Project implementation in a manner consistent with ESS10. To this end, implement the following measures: - Identify relevant stakeholders, including vulnerable groups, and conduct awareness-raising activities to ensure accessibility of the Project beneficiaries. - Provide stakeholders with information about the environmental and social risks and impacts of the Project in a timely, understandable, accessible and appropriate manner and format. - Consult stakeholders in a culturally appropriate manner, which is free of manipulation, interference, coercion, discrimination and intimidation. - Document and report the stakeholder engagement activities under the regular reports, as relevant, including: (i) stakeholder identification and/or mapping; (ii) information disclosed; (iii) description of consultations and participation mechanisms utilized, and records of meetings held; (iv) feedback received and responses to said feedback; and (iv) measures to engage stakeholders who, because of their particular circumstances, may be disadvantaged or vulnerable. - 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.	Throughout Project implementation.	MoiLHSA MEPA

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
10.2	PROJECT GRIEVANCE MECHANISM 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. 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.	Throughout Project implementation	MoiLHSA MEPA
INDICATORS FOR IMPLEMENTATION READINESS			
The following actions are indicators for implementation readiness: Terms of Reference for the E&S Specialist of MoiLHSA PIU developed and agreed with the Bank.			