

**African Union Commission  
Africa Regional Resilience Program -SOP2  
P180171**

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

**November, 2023**

## ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL COMMITMENT PLAN

1. The African Union Commission -Directorate of Sustainable Environment and Blue Economy- SEBE (the AUC-SEBE) will implement the Africa Regional Climate Resilience Program-SOP2 (the Project), with the involvement of the African Union Commission (AUC), as set out in the Financing Agreement. The World Bank acting as the administrator of Fund, has agreed to provide financing (P180171) for the Project, as set out in the referred agreement.
2. The African Union Commission -Directorate of Sustainable Environment and Blue Economy- SEBE (the AUC-SEBE) 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 World Bank. 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 African Union Commission -Directorate of Sustainable Environment and Blue Economy- SEBE (the AUC- SEBE) 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 African Union Commission -Directorate of Sustainable Environment and Blue Economy- SEBE (the AUC- SEBE), 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 African Union Commission -Directorate of Sustainable Environment and Blue Economy- SEBE (the AUC- SEBE) 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 African Union Commission -Directorate of Sustainable Environment and Blue Economy- SEBE (the AUC- SEBE) Director Harsen Nyambe Nyambe of African Union Commission -Directorate of Sustainable Environment and Blue Economy. The African Union Commission -Directorate of Sustainable Environment and Blue Economy- SEBE (the AUC- SEBE) shall promptly disclose the updated ESCP.

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
<b>MONITORING AND REPORTING</b>			
A	<p><b>REGULAR REPORTING</b></p> <p>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 E&amp;S instruments required under the ESCP, stakeholder engagement activities, and functioning of the grievance mechanism(s) [specify other aspects that the reporting would need to consider, as relevant.</p>	<p>Submit bi-annual reports to the World Bank throughout Project implementation, commencing after the Effective Date.</p> <p>Submit each report to the World Bank no later than 15 days after the end of each reporting period.</p>	AUC- SEBE
B	<p><b>INCIDENTS AND ACCIDENTS</b></p> <p>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, inter alia, cases of sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA), sexual harassment (SH), and accidents that result in death, serious or multiple injury. 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.</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>Notify the World Bank no later than 48 hours after learning of the incident or accident.</p> <p>Provide subsequent report to the World Bank within a timeframe acceptable to the Bank.</p>	AUC- SEBE
D	<p><b>NOTIFICATIONS RELATING TO DAAB COMPLIANCE REVIEW OF CONTRACTOR COMPLIANCE WITH SEA/SH PREVENTION AND RESPONSE OBLIGATIONS</b></p> <p>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.</p>	<p>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).</p>	AUC -SEBE
<b>ESS 1: ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RISKS AND IMPACTS</b>			

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
1.1	<p><b>ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE</b></p> <p>Establish and maintain a ESHS within the African Union Commission -Directorate of Sustainable Environment and Blue Economy- SEBE (the AUC- SEBE) with an environmental and social focal person and resources to support management of ESHS risks and impacts of the Project.</p>	Appoint/assign an environmental and social focal person as part of the Project PIU prior to project Effective date, and thereafter maintain the position throughout Project implementation.	AUC -SEBE
1.2	<p><b>ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL INSTRUMENTS</b></p> <p>Adopt and implement a Labor Management Procedures (LMP) and Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) for the Project, consistent with the relevant ESSs.</p>	Adopt the LMP and SEP before Project appraisal and thereafter implement the SEP and LMP throughout Project implementation.	AUC- SEBE
1.4	<p><b>TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE</b></p> <p>Ensure that the consultancies, studies related to climate finance, water-related disasters, storage infrastructure; 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.	AUC-SEBE
<b>ESS 2: LABOR AND WORKING CONDITIONS</b>			
2.1	<p><b>LABOR MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES</b></p> <p>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 relating to SEA and SH), forced labor, child labor, grievance arrangements for Project workers, and applicable requirements for consultants and supervising firms.</p> <p>AUC shall ensure a non-discriminatory, decent work environment consistent with ESS2 and African Union Commission (AUC) Staff Rules and Regulations; including ensuring that the Project staff and Consultants adhere to the AUC Core Values developed as part of the Staff Rules and Regulations and that such rules are included in all Project contracts.</p>	Adopt the LMP before Project Appraisal, and thereafter implement the LMP throughout Project implementation.	AUC- SEBE
2.2	<p><b>GRIEVANCE MECHANISM FOR PROJECT WORKERS</b></p> <p>Establish and operate a grievance mechanism for Project workers, as described in the LMP and consistent with ESS2.</p>	Establish grievance mechanism prior engaging Project workers and thereafter maintain and operate it throughout Project implementation.	AUC- SEBE
<b>ESS 3: RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT</b>			

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
3.1	<p><b>WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN</b></p> <p>Incorporate relevant aspects of ESS3 into the technical assistance activities under the Project in accordance with terms of reference acceptable to the Association that are consistent with ESS3. Thereafter, ensure that the outputs of such activities comply with the terms of reference.</p>	Incorporate relevant aspects of ESS3 into technical assistance activities throughout Project implementation.	AUC- SEBE
<b>ESS 4: COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY</b>			
4.1	<p><b>COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY</b></p> <p>Ensure that relevant aspects of ESS4 are included in any TOR and outputs for capacity building and TA activities and will be prepared in accordance with action 1.4 above., including in the context of providing any security personnel for enabling the undertaking of TA activities. Thereafter ensure that the outputs of such activities comply with the Terms of Reference.</p>	throughout Project implementation	AUC-SEBE
<b>ESS 5: LAND ACQUISITION, RESTRICTIONS ON LAND USE AND INVOLUNTARY- This standard is not Relevant</b>			
<b>ESS 6: BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF LIVING NATURAL RESOURCES</b>			
6.1	<p><b>BIODIVERSITY RISKS AND IMPACTS</b></p> <p>The technical assistance activities including studies to be conducted on disaster risk management and climate financing will be implemented in compliance with the Technical Assistance Advisory Note and the ESS6 so that potential downstream risks to the biodiversity can be avoided or minimized.</p>	throughout Project implementation	AUC- SEBE
<b>ESS 7: INDIGENOUS PEOPLES/SUB-SAHARAN AFRICAN HISTORICALLY UNDERSERVED TRADITIONAL LOCAL COMMUNITIES</b>			
7.1	<p><b>INDIGENOUS PEOPLES PLANNING FRAMEWORK</b></p> <p>The ToR and outputs for any consultancies, studies, capacity building, training and any other technical assistance activities under the Program will need to be undertaken in line with ESS7 to ensure that the needs of these groups are considered.</p>	throughout Project implementation.	AUC- SEBE
<b>ESS 8: CULTURAL HERITAGE - This standard is not relevant.</b>			
<b>ESS 9: FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES- This standard is not relevant.</b>			
<b>ESS 10: STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION DISCLOSURE</b>			
10.1	<p><b>STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN PREPARATION AND IMPLEMENTATION</b></p> <p>Adopt and implement a Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) 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.</p>	Adopt the SEP before Project Appraisal and thereafter implement the SEP throughout Project implementation.	AUC- SEBE

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
10.2	<p><b>PROJECT GRIEVANCE MECHANISM</b></p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>Establish the grievance mechanism no later than 180 days after the Project effectiveness date, and thereafter maintain and operate the mechanism throughout Project implementation.</p>	AUC -SEBE
<b>CAPACITY SUPPORT</b>			
CS1	<p>Training of PIU staff, stakeholders Project workers on: Provide a refresher training on existing AUC policy and WB ESF, including on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• stakeholder mapping and engagement</li> <li>• specific aspects of environmental and social assessment</li> <li>• emergency preparedness and response.</li> <li>• Occupational health and safety.</li> <li>• Grievance Redress Mechanism.</li> <li>• E&amp;S screening, ESIA, ESMP, ESMF, GBV/SEA/SH.</li> </ul>	<p>During the first year of the project, after completion of the recruitment of Project Staff and continue as necessary.</p>	AUC- SEBE