

REPUBLIC OF THE GAMBIA

**Preparation of Proposed
Western Africa Regional Digital
Integration Program**

Project Preparation Advance (PPA)

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

December, 2021

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL COMMITMENT PLAN

1. The Republic of The Gambia (hereinafter "the Recipient") is planning to implement the Western Africa Regional Digital Integration Program (WARDIP) (P176932) (hereinafter "the Project") for which it has requested a Project Preparation Advance (PPA). The World Bank (hereinafter "the Association") has agreed to provide PPA to finance activities related to the preparation of the Project.
2. The Recipient shall carry out the PPA activities in accordance with the Environmental and Social Standards (**ESSs**). This Environmental and Social Commitment Plan (**ESCP**) sets out material measures and actions, to be carried out or caused to be carried out by the Recipient, including the timeframes of the actions and measures, institutional, staffing, training, monitoring and reporting arrangements, grievance management and the environmental and social assessments and instruments to be prepared or updated, consulted, disclosed or re-disclosed, adopted, and implemented, all in a manner acceptable to the Association.
3. As agreed by the World Bank and the Recipient, this ESCP may be revised from time to time during the implementation of PPA activities, to reflect adaptive management of changes and unforeseen circumstances related to PPA activities or in response to assessment of PPA performance conducted under the ESCP itself. In such circumstances, the Recipient shall agree to the changes with the World Bank and shall update the ESCP to reflect such changes. Agreement on changes to the ESCP shall be documented through the exchange of letters signed between the World Bank and the Recipient. The Recipient shall promptly disclose the updated ESCP.
4. Where changes, unforeseen circumstances, or performance assessment result in changes to the risks and impacts during the implementation of PPA activities, the Recipient shall provide additional funds, if needed, to implement actions and measures to address such risks and impacts, which may include environmental, social, health and safety risks.

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
MONITORING AND REPORTING			
A	<p>REGULAR REPORTING</p> <p>Prepare and submit to the Association regular monitoring reports on the environmental, social, health and safety (ESHS) performance of the PPA activities, including but not limited to the implementation of the ESCP, status of preparation and implementation of E&S documents to be prepared therein, stakeholder engagement activities (including gender considerations), status of any complaints received.</p>	Starting from the Effective Date of the Advance Agreement, quarterly during the implementation of the PPA	Ministry of Information and Communication Infrastructure (MOICI)
B	<p>INCIDENTS AND ACCIDENTS</p> <p>Promptly notify the Association of any incident or accident related to the PPA activities which has, or is likely to have, a significant adverse effect on the environment, the affected communities, the public or workers, including, inter alia, sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA), sexual harassment (SH), accidents that result in death, serious or multiple injury, transmission of COVID-19 .</p> <p>Provide sufficient detail 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.</p>	<p>Notify the Association of any incident or accident within 48 hours after becoming aware of the incident or accident, followed by a detailed report on the incident, if requested, within the timeframe established by the Association following the initial notification.</p> <p>This notification/reporting system shall be in place throughout the implementation of the PPA activities.</p>	MOICI
C	<p>CONTRACTORS MONTHLY REPORTS</p> <p>MOICI shall require contractors, including any supervising entities and consultants, to provide monthly reports on environmental, social, health and safety aspects to MOICI. Such monthly reports shall be submitted by MOICI to the Association, upon request.</p>	<i>Throughout the implementation of the PPA activities</i>	MOICI
ESS 1: ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RISKS AND IMPACTS			

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
1.1	<p>ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE</p> <p>The Project Implementation Unit (PIU) that exist under the Gambia Social Safety Net Project (P167260), under National Nutrition Agency (NNA), shall be maintained to support MOICI with the procurement, financial management and safeguards responsibility for the implementation of the PPA activities.</p> <p>The PPA activities include, among others, supporting the establishment of the specific PIU for the Project, namely, an organizational structure with qualified staff and adequate resources, including an environmental specialist and a social specialist, to be established and maintained to ensure the management of the Project's E&S risks and the E&S risks associated with the implementation of the PPA activities.</p>	<p>The environmental and social specialists shall be contracted prior to the Project Effective Date.</p> <p>The organizational structure shall be maintained throughout the implementation of PPA activities.</p>	MOICI
1.2	<p>TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE</p> <p>Ensure that the consultancies, studies (including feasibility studies), capacity building, training and any other technical assistance activities under the PPA, including any environmental and social assessments and related environmental and social instruments, are carried out in accordance with terms of reference acceptable to the Association and duly incorporate and take into consideration the requirements of the ESSs.</p> <p>The environmental and social instruments that will be prepared as part of the PPA activities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Environmental and Social Commitment Plan (ESCP) of the Project. - The Project's Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) including the Grievance Mechanism (GM) - Framework instruments for the Project: Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) and Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF). - The Project Labor Management Procedures (LMP) - Environmental and social impact studies for Project intervention sites <p>Ensure that any outputs from the technical assistance activities, including, inter alia, any environmental and social assessment and related environmental and social instruments, are consistent with the ESSs.</p>	<i>Throughout the implementation of the PPA activities</i>	MOICI

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
ESS 2: LABOR AND WORKING CONDITIONS			
2.1	<p>LABOR MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES</p> <p>(a) Ensure that the relevant aspects of ESS2 apply to workers engaged in the implementation of the PPA activities.</p> <p>(b) Develop and adopt a Labor Management Procedures for the Project including a Grievance Mechanism, codes of conduct and contracts for Project workers.</p>	<p>(a) Throughout the implementation of PPA activities.</p> <p>(b) Submit a draft LMP for the World Bank's review and approval before Project appraisal.</p>	MOICI
ESS 3: RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT			
3.1	The requirements of ESS3 shall be taken into account as relevant as part of action 1.2 above.		
ESS 4: COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY			
The requirements of ESS4 shall be taken into account as relevant as part of action 1.2 above.			
ESS 5: LAND ACQUISITION, RESTRICTIONS ON LAND USE AND INVOLUNTARY RESETTLEMENT			
The requirements of ESS5 shall be taken into account as relevant as part of action 1.2 above.			
ESS 6: BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF LIVING NATURAL RESOURCES			
The requirements of ESS6 shall be taken into account as relevant as part of action 1.2 above.			
ESS 7: INDIGENOUS PEOPLES/SUB-SAHARAN AFRICAN HISTORICALLY UNDERSERVED TRADITIONAL LOCAL COMMUNITIES			
The requirements of ESS7 shall be taken into account as relevant as part of action 1.2 above.			
ESS 8: CULTURAL HERITAGE			
The requirements of ESS8 shall be taken into account as relevant as part of action 1.2 above.			
ESS 9: FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES			
Not relevant.			
ESS 10: STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION DISCLOSURE			

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
10.1	<p>STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN PREPARATION AND IMPLEMENTATION:</p> <p>(a) Prepare, disclose, consult, update, adopt and implement a Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) for the implementation of PPA activities, including regarding any environmental and social assessments and related environmental and social instruments supported by the PPA as appropriate, consistent with ESS10 and in a manner acceptable to the Association.</p> <p>(b) Develop a draft of the SEP for the Project, including 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>	<p>(a) The SEP/PPA shall be developed, updated, adopted, disclosed prior to PPA approval and implemented during the PPA.</p> <p>(b) Submit a draft SEP for the Project for the World Bank's review and approval before Project appraisal.</p>	MOICI
10.2	<p>GRIEVANCE MECHANISM ARRANGEMENTS:</p> <p>Receive and resolve any complaints submitted in relation to the PPA activities, in accordance with ESS10</p> <p>Support the establishment, strengthening and operation of a Grievance Mechanism (GM) for the Project. Details for the operationalization of this GM will be reflected in the final version of the SEP.</p>	Throughout the implementation of PPA activities.	MOICI
CAPACITY SUPPORT (TRAINING)			
CS1	As part of the PPA funds, training shall be provided to MOICI and relevant ministries or agencies staff and contractors on environmental and social risks and impacts management, the GM and its implementation. Training will integrate specific aspects of the environmental and social risks assessment including occupational health and safety (OHS), SEA/SH, and COVID transmission for workers, and the effects on local populations.	Throughout the implementation of the PPA activities	MOICI