

The Islamic Republic of Mauritania

Ministry of Digital Transformation, Innovation and Modernization of Administration

Western Africa Regional Digital Integration Program – Series of Projects 1 (WARDIP) (P176932)

Negotiated

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL COMMITMENT PLAN (ESCP)

October 10, 2023

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL COMMITMENT PLAN

1. The Islamic Republic of Mauritania (the “Recipient”) shall implement the “Western Africa Regional Digital Integration Program – Series of Projects 1 (WARDIP) (P176932)” (the Project), with the involvement of the Ministry of Digital Transformation, Innovation and Modernization of Administration (MTNIMA), as set out in the Financing Agreement. The International Development Association (The Association), has agreed to provide financing for the Project, as set out in the referred 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 Association. 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.
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, 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 Association. Once adopted, said E&S instruments may be revised from time to time with prior written agreement by the Association.
4. As agreed by the Association and the Recipient, 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 Recipient through MTNIMA and the Association agree to update the ESCP to reflect these changes through an exchange of letters signed between the Association and the Recipient's designated official representative of the MTNIMA. The Recipient shall promptly disclose the updated ESCP.

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 project, including but not limited to the implementation of the ESCP, status of preparation and implementation of environmental and social (E&S) instruments required under the ESCP, stakeholder engagement activities, functioning of the grievance mechanism (s) including those related to the resettlement and cases of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse, Sexual Harassment (SEA/SH) and Violence against Children (VAC)</p>	<p>Submit quarterly reports based on project activities to the Association. Throughout project implementation, starting with the Project Effective Date. Submit each report to the Association no later than 7 days after the end of each reporting period.</p>	<p>MTNIMA (Project Implementation Unit (PIU))</p>
B	<p>INCIDENTS AND ACCIDENTS</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, including, inter alia, cases of sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA), sexual harassment (SH), and accidents that result in death, serious or multiple injury.</p> <p>The Recipient shall 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 Association’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 Association no later than 48 hours after learning of the incident or accident and 24 hours for any fatalities or incidents related to SEA/SH.</p> <p>Provide subsequent report to the Association within a timeframe acceptable to the Association.</p> <p>This systematic notification system shall be in effect throughout the implementation of the Project.</p>	<p>PIU</p>

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
C	<p>CONTRACTORS' MONTHLY REPORTS</p> <p>Require contractors and supervising firms to provide monthly monitoring reports on ESHS performance in accordance with the metrics specified in the respective bidding documents, contracts and submit such reports to the Association.</p>	<p>Submit the monthly reports from the signing of the suppliers/contractor's contracts to the Association upon request as annexes to the reports to be submitted under action A above.</p>	<p>PIU</p>
<p>ESS 1: ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RISKS AND IMPACTS</p>			
1.1	<p>ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE</p> <p>Establish and maintain a Project Implementation Unit (PIU) with qualified staff and resources to support management of ESHS risks and impacts of the Project including one (1) environmental specialist, one (1) social specialist and one (1) Gender/GBV specialist.</p>	<p>Establish and maintain a PIU as set out in the Financing Agreement. Hire one (1) environmental specialist, one (1) social specialist and one (1) Gender/GBV specialist no later than three months after the project Effective Date, and thereafter maintain these positions throughout Project implementation.</p>	<p>MTNIMA</p>

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
1.2	<p>ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL INSTRUMENTS</p> <p>1. Prepare, consult on, disclose, adopt and implement an Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) for the Project, consistent with the relevant ESSs.</p> <p>2. Prepare, consult on, disclose, adopt and implement the subproject/site-specific Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) and Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP), for works or part of the Project for which the ESIA/ESMP is required, as set out in the ESMF and consistent with the relevant ESSs</p>	<p>1. The ESMF was prepared, consult on, disclose on in the country on May 24th, 2023, and the Bank external website on July 24, 2023, and thereafter shall be implemented throughout Project.</p> <p>2. Prepare, consult on, disclose, adopt the ESIA/ESMP before launching the bidding process for the respective Project activity that requires the adoption of such ESIA/ESMP. Once adopted, implement the respective ESMP throughout Project implementation.</p>	PIU
1.3	<p>MANAGEMENT OF CONTRACTORS</p> <p>Incorporate the relevant aspects of the ESCP, including, inter alia, the relevant E&S instruments, the LMP, and code of conduct, into the ESHS specifications of 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>As part of the preparation of procurement documents and respective contracts.</p> <p>Supervise contractors throughout Project implementation.</p>	PIU

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
1.4	<p>TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE</p> <p>Ensure that the consultancies, 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 Association and that are consistent with the ESSs. Thereafter ensure that the outputs of such activities comply with the terms of reference.</p>	Throughout Project implementation	PIU
1.5	<p>CONTINGENT EMERGENCY RESPONSE FINANCING</p> <p>a) Ensure that the Contingent Emergency Response Component (CERC) Operational Manual as specified in the legal agreement includes a description of the ESHS assessment and management arrangements including, if applicable, CERC-ESMF/ESMF Addendum that will be included or referred to in the CERC Manual for the implementation of CERC component, in accordance with the ESSs.</p> <p>b) Prepare, consult on, disclose, adopt any environmental and social (E&S) instruments which may be required for activities under CERC component of the Project, in accordance with the CERC Manual and, if applicable, CERC-ESMF or CERC-ESMF Addendum and the ESSs, and thereafter implement the measures and actions required under said E&S instruments, within the timeframes specified in said E&S instruments.</p>	<p>a. The adoption of the CERC manual in form and substance acceptable to the Association is a withdrawal condition under Section of Schedule 2 of Financing Agreement of the Project.</p> <p>b. Prepare, consult on, disclose, adopt any required E&S instrument and include it as part of the respective bidding process, if applicable, and in any case, before the commencement of the relevant Project activities for which the E&S instrument is required. Implement the E&S instruments in accordance with their terms, throughout Project implementation.</p>	<p>PIU Designated entity for the implementation of the CERC component</p>
ESS 2: LABOR AND WORKING CONDITIONS			

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
2.1	<p>LABOR MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES</p> <p>Prepare, consult on, disclose, adopt and implement the 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 contractors, subcontractors, and supervising firms.</p>	<p>The LMP was prepared, consult on, disclosed in the country on May 24th, 2023, and on the bank website on July 24, 2023 and shall thereafter be implemented throughout Project implementation.</p>	<p>PIU, Suppliers and Contractors</p>
2.2	<p>GRIEVANCE MECHANISM FOR PROJECT WORKERS</p> <p>Establish, operationalize and maintain a grievance mechanism for Project workers, as described in the LMP and consistent with ESS2.</p>	<p>Establish grievance mechanism prior to engaging Project workers and thereafter maintain and operate it throughout Project implementation.</p>	<p>PIU Suppliers/Contractors and subcontractors</p>
ESS 3: RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT			
3.1	<p>WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN</p> <p>Prepare, consult on, disclose, adopt and implement a Waste Management Plan (WMP), required by the specific ESMP to be prepared under action 1.2 above, to manage hazardous and non-hazardous wastes, consistent with ESS3.</p>	<p>Prepare, consult on, disclose, adopt a WMP on the timeframe specified in 1.2 above for the ESMF/ESMP, and thereafter implement the WMP throughout Project implementation.</p>	<p>PIU / Suppliers and/or service providers</p>

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
3.2	<p>RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT:</p> <p>Incorporate resource efficiency and pollution prevention and management measures in the ESMP to be prepared under action 1.2 above.</p>	Same timeframe as for the adoption and implementation of the ESMP.	PIU
ESS 4: COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY			
4.1	<p>TRAFFIC AND ROAD SAFETY:</p> <p>Incorporate measures to manage traffic and road safety risks as required in the ESIA/ESMP to be prepared under action 1.2 above.</p>	Same timeframe as the adoption and implementation of the ESIA/ESMP and C-ESMPs	PIU /contractors and subcontractors
4.2	<p>COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY</p> <p>Assess and manage specific risks and impacts to the community arising from Project activities, including, inter alia, behavior of Project workers, risks of labor influx, response to emergency situations, and include mitigation measures in the ESMPs to be prepared in accordance with the ESMF.</p>	Same timeframe as the adoption and implementation of the ESMP	PIU
4.3	<p>SEA AND SH RISKS</p> <p>Prepare, consult on, disclose, adopt and implement a SEA/SH Action Plan as part of the ESMF, to assess and manage the risks of SEA and SH.</p>	Same timeframe as the ESMF and thereafter implement the SEA/SH Action Plan throughout Project implementation.	MTNIMA/PIU

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
4.4	<p>SECURITY MANAGEMENT</p> <p>Assess, develop, and implement measures to manage the security risks of the Project, including the risks of engaging security personnel to safeguard project workers, sites, assets, and activities, as set out in the ESMF/ESIA, C-ESMP or the Security Management Plan (if needed), guided by the principles of proportionality and GIIP, and by applicable law, in relation to hiring, rules of conduct, training, equipping, and monitoring of such personnel.</p>	<p>Same timeline as for the preparation of the ESMF/ESIA, C-ESMP, and before engaging security personnel under the Project and thereafter implement security measures throughout Project implementation.</p> <p>A Security Management Plan (SMP) shall be prepared, if need be and according to the security risk rating during project implementation, and before starting activities in the concerned zone, and thereafter implemented throughout project implementation.</p>	<p>PIU Security consultant</p>
ESS 5: LAND ACQUISITION, RESTRICTIONS ON LAND USE AND INVOLUNTARY RESETTLEMENT			
5.1	<p>RESETTLEMENT POLICY FRAMEWORK</p> <p>Prepare, consult on, disclose, adopt and implement a Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF) for the Project, consistent with ESS5 and ESS10</p>	<p>The RPF was prepared, consult on, disclosed in the country on May 24th, 2023, and on the Bank website on July 24, 2023, and thereafter shall be implemented and maintained throughout Project.</p>	<p>PIU</p>

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
5.2	<p>RESETTLEMENT PLANS</p> <p>Prepare, consult on, disclose, adopt and implement a resettlement action plan (RAP) for each activity under the Project for which the RPF requires such RAP as set out in the RPF, and consistent with ESS5.</p> <p>All RAPs shall be approved by the Association and disseminated at the national level and on the Association's and Recipient's websites.</p>	Prepare, consult on, disclose, adopt and implement the respective RAP, 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.	PIU
5.3	<p>GRIEVANCE MECHANISM</p> <p>The Grievance Mechanism (GM) linked to the land acquisition and involuntary resettlements is not different from the Grievance Mechanism included in the SEP.</p>	The GM shall be operational before start of the resettlement activities.	PICU
ESS 6: BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF LIVING NATURAL			
6.1	<p>BIODIVERSITY RISKS AND IMPACTS</p> <p>Develop, adopt, and implement measures and actions to avoid adverse impacts on local biodiversity and living natural resources through the application of a mitigation hierarchy in accordance with measures, guideline of the prepared ESMF, as well as ESIA/ESMPs to be prepared and consistent with ESS6.</p>	Same timeframe as for the adoption and implementation of the ESMF, ESIA/ESMPs, and thereafter implement throughout Project implementation.	PIU
ESS 7: INDIGENOUS PEOPLES/SUB-SAHARAN AFRICAN HISTORICALLY UNDERSERVED TRADITIONAL LOCAL (NOT RELEVANT)			
ESS 8: CULTURAL HERITAGE			
8.1	<p>CULTURAL HERITAGE RISKS AND IMPACTS</p> <p>Develop, adopt, and implement measures and actions to manage cultural heritage as per the ESMF/ESMP in accordance with the guidelines of the ESIA prepared for the Project, and consistent with ESS8.</p>	Same timeframe as for the adoption and implementation of the ESMF/ESMPs, and thereafter implement throughout Project implementation.	PIU

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
8.2	<p>CHANCE FINDS</p> <p>Describe and implement the chance finds procedures, as part of the ESMF/ESMP of the Project.</p>	Describe the chance find procedures in the ESMF/ESMP. Implement the procedures throughout Project implementation.	PIU
ESS 9: FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES (NOT RELEVANT)			
ESS 10: STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION DISCLOSURE			
10.1	<p>STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN PREPARATION AND IMPLEMENTATION</p> <p>Prepare, consult on, disclose, 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>	The SEP was prepared consulted upon and disclosed in the country and the Bank external website on August 1, 2023, and thereafter implement the SEP throughout Project implementation	PIU
10.2	<p>PROJECT GRIEVANCE MECHANISM</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 GM no later than three (3) months after Project's Effective Date and maintained throughout the implementation of the Project.</p> <p>Communication plan shall be available no later than three (3) months after the Project's Effective Date.</p>	PIU
CAPACITY SUPPORT			

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
	Specify Training to be provided and targeted groups	Timeframe	Entity responsible
CS.1	<p>capacity building themes for National Workshops shall among others include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Environmental and Social Assessment / Project cycles and environment → Selection of mitigation measures from checklists → National environmental legislation and procedures → World Bank Environmental and Social Framework (ESF) → Environmental and social monitoring → Monitoring of health and safety standards → Maintaining GRM and keeping GRM log 	From the first year of project implementation, and throughout project implementation	PIU
CS.2	<p>Capacity building themes for Regional workshops shall among others include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Environmental and Social Assessment / Project cycles and environment → Selection of mitigation measures from checklists → National environmental legislation and procedures → World Bank Environmental and Social Framework (ESF) → Environmental and social monitoring → Monitoring of health and safety standards → GM 	From the first year of project implementation, and throughout project implementation	PIU

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
CS.3	<p>Information and Awareness dissemination shall, among others, include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Information and awareness campaigns on the nature of the investments, the involvement of local actors and the environmental and social aspects, management of waste related to the works; → Raising awareness on security measures, complaints management, waste management, mobilization of stakeholders; → Dissemination of the GM and communication activities / sensitization of stakeholders at the level of the affected Wilayas → Dissemination of the SEA/SH GM and communication/sensitization activities for stakeholders, especially local communities, women's and youth associations (including vulnerable individuals and groups), and civil society organizations; → SEP 	<p>From the first year of project implementation, and throughout project implementation</p>	<p>PIU</p>
CS.4	<p>Capacity building is planned on the following themes:</p> <p>Environmental and social monitoring on similar projects: monitoring and control of the environmental and social component on fiber optic telecom network construction projects (preferred) this will allow him to better supervise the consideration of environmental aspects and social</p>	<p>- From the first year of project implementation, and throughout project implementation</p>	<p>PIU</p>