

**Palestinian Liberation Organization (for the benefit of the
Palestinian Authority**

**West Bank and Gaza Resilient Municipal Services Project
(P178723)**

And Additional Financing - Resilient Municipal Services
Project (P181678)

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

**April 21, 2024
Appraisal version**

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL COMMITMENT PLAN

1. The Palestine Liberation Organization (for the benefit of the Palestinian Authority) , (the Recipient) will implement West Bank and Gaza Resilient Municipal Services Project (P178723) as part of the “Municipal Development Program- Phase 4 (MDP4)” Project (the Project) and Additional Financing-Resilient Municipal Services Project (P181678), with the involvement of the Ministry of Finance, the Municipal Development and Lending Fund (MDLF) on behalf of the Ministry of Local Government, as set out in the Grant Agreement and the Project Agreement. The International Development Association, acting as the administrator of the Palestinian Umbrella for Resilience Support to the Economy Trust Fund, has agreed to provide for the Project. This ESCP supersedes previous versions of the ESCP for the Project and shall apply both to the original and the additional financing for the Projects referred to above.
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 Grant 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 agreements.
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 and the Association agree to update the ESCP to reflect these changes through an exchange of letters signed between the Association and the Recipient, General Manager of the Municipal Development and Lending fund. The Recipient shall promptly disclose the updated ESCP.

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
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 E&S instruments required under the ESCP, namely the Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF), Land Acquisition and Livelihood Framework (LALF), Labor Management Procedures (LMP) and stakeholder engagement activities, and functioning of the grievance mechanism(s) in accordance with the Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) as relevant.</p>	Submit semi-annual reports to the Association throughout Project implementation, commencing after the Effective Date. Submit each report to the World Bank no later than 15 days after the end of each reporting period.	MDLF
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, road and traffic accidents, COVID 19 and other communicable diseases and civil works of different infrastructure projects. The anticipated risk of these activities that may cause incidents or accidents is considered low to moderate and will be proper mitigated though including mitigation measures, proportionate to the level of risk, in the E&S instruments and implement it during project implementation.</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 Association no later than 48 hours after learning of the incident or accident.</p> <p>Provide subsequent report to the Association within a timeframe acceptable to the Association</p>	MDLF
C	<p>MUNICIPALITIES/ CONTRACTORS RESPORTS</p> <p>Require municipalities and/or municipalities contractors and supervising firms to provide monitoring reports for ESHS performance in accordance with the timeframe and metrics specified in the respective bidding documents and contracts and/or as specified in the project operation manual. And to submit such reports to the Association upon request.</p>	Submit such reports to the Association upon request as annexes to the reports to be submitted under action A above.	MDLF
ESS 1: ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RISKS AND IMPACTS			
1.1	<p>ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE</p>	Maintain the qualified staff and resources throughout Project implementation.	MDLF

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
	The Municipal Development and Lending Fund (MDLF) shall maintain qualified staff and resources to support management of ESHS risks and impacts of the Project, including one Environmental Specialist and one Social Specialist in the West Bank office and one Environmental Specialist and One Social Specialist in the Gaza office, the 3 environmental and 3 social consultants in West-Bank, and one E&S liaison consultant		
1.2	<p>ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL INSTRUMENTS</p> <p>1. adopt and implement the ESMF consistent with the relevant ESSs.</p> <p>2. Prepare, consult, disclose and cause Municipalities in West Bank and Gaza to adopt and implement subproject site-specific Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA)/ Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP)/OR Environmental and Social (E&S) Management Checklists, as set out in the ESMF. The subprojects activities included in the exclusion list set out in the ESMF shall be ineligible to receive financing under the Project.</p> <p>3. Conduct a standalone annual E&S audit for the project, consistent with the relevant ESSs. The findings and Corrective Action Plan (if any), reviewed and cleared by the Association, shall be implemented.</p>	<p>1. The ESMF for the parent project disclosed on December 23, 2022 shall be adopted, and thereafter implemented for the parent project and the AF activities throughout Project implementation.</p> <p>2. The subproject site-specific ESIA/ESMP/E&S Management Checklists will be prepared, reviewed, cleared and disclosed as defined in the Project Operational Manual (POM), and adopted by the concerned municipalities before launching the bidding process for the respective subproject and prior to the carrying out of subproject that requires the adoption of such ESMP/E&S Management Checklists. Once adopted, implement the respective ESMP/E&S Management Checklists throughout Project implementation.</p> <p>3. E&S audit will be conducted on an annual basis during the implementation of the project and the AF, Corrective Action Plan (if any) will be implemented throughout Project implementation.</p>	MDLF
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 (CoC), 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>	As part of the preparation of procurement documents and respective contracts. Supervise contractors throughout Project implementation.	MDLF

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
1.4	<p>TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE</p> <p>Ensure that the consultancies, studies (including feasibility studies, technical design, capacity building, training, and any other technical assistance activities if applicable) under the Project, including, inter alia, the environmental and social assessment to be supported under the TA are carried out in accordance with terms of reference acceptable to the Association, that are consistent with ESSs. Thereafter ensure that the outputs of such activities comply with the terms of reference. .</p>	Throughout Project implementation.	MDLF
1.5	<p>CONTINGENT EMERGENCY RESPONSE FINANCING</p> <p>a) Ensure that the CERC Manual as specified the legal agreement includes a description of the ESHS assessment and management arrangements including, if applicable, 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) 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 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 and, if applicable, other instruments, as relevant in form and substance acceptable to the Association is a withdrawal condition under Section [I] of Schedule 2 of the grant agreement for the Project.</p> <p>b) Adopt any required E&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&S instrument is required. Implement the E&S instruments in accordance with their terms, throughout Project implementation.</p>	MDLF
1.6	<p>ASSOCIATED FACILITIES</p> <p>Cause the identified operator of the associated facility, if any, to ensure that the activities in the identified associated facilities are carried out in accordance with the applicable requirements of this ESCP and the ESSs, including, inter alia, the ESIA, ESMP, LMP, management of contractors, RP, SEP, etc.</p>	Before launching the bidding process for the respective subproject and prior to the carrying out of subprojects that require the adoption of E&S instruments. Once adopted, implement the respective E&S instruments throughout Project implementation.	MDLF
ESS 2: LABOR AND WORKING CONDITIONS			
2.1	<p>LABOR MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES 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>	Adopt the LMP of the parent project disclosed on December 23 2022, for the parent project and the AF activities and thereafter implemented throughout Project implementation.	MDLF

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
2.2	<p>GRIEVANCE MECHANISM FOR PROJECT WORKERS</p> <p>Maintain and operate a grievance mechanism for Project workers, as described in the LMP and consistent with ESS2.</p>	Maintain and operate the established workers' grievance mechanism prior to engaging Project workers and thereafter maintain and operate it throughout Project implementation.	MDLF
ESS 3: RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT			
3.1	<p>WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN</p> <p>1. Adopt and implement a waste management measures to manage hazardous and nonhazardous waste in the ESMP to be prepared under action 1.2 above consistent with ESS3.</p> <p>2. Adapt and implement e-waste management measures under the ESMF to manage e-waste, consistent with ESS3</p>	<p>1. Adopt the Waste Management Measures as part of ESMP prior to launching the bidding process for the respective subproject and thereafter implement the waste management measures throughout Project implementation.</p> <p>2. For e-waste management measures, timeframe as for the adoption and implementation of the ESMF and thereafter implement throughout Project implementation</p>	MDLF
3.2	<p>RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT</p> <p>1. Incorporate resource efficiency and pollution prevention and management measures in the ESMP to be prepared under action 1.2 above.</p> <p>2. Adapt and implement integrated pest management plan under the ESMF to manage pest control consistent with ESS3.</p>	<p>1. Same timeframe as for the adoption and implementation of the ESMP and thereafter implement throughout Project implementation</p> <p>2. Same timeframe as for the adoption and implementation of the ESMF. Measures included as part of ESMP prior to launching the bidding process for the respective subproject and thereafter implement throughout Project implementation</p>	MDLF
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 ESMF/ESMP/E&S Management Checklists to be prepared under action 1.2 above.</p>	Same timeframe as for the preparation, adoption and implementation of the ESMF/ESMP/E&S Management Checklists and thereafter implemented throughout Project implementation	MDLF

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
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, interruptions to public services and infrastructure, and proper mitigation measures, proportionate to the level of risk, will be included in the E&S instruments and implemented during project implementation.</p>	Same timeframe as for the preparation, adoption and implementation of the ESMF/ESMPs/E&S Management Checklists and thereafter implemented throughout Project implementation	MDLF
4.3	<p>SEA AND SH RISKS</p> <p>Assess and manage the risks of SEA and SH arising from Project activities and include SEA/SH mitigation measures, proportionate to the level of risk, in the ESMF and site-specific subproject ESMPs/E&S Management Checklists and Grievance Mechanism.</p>	Same timeframe as for the preparation, adoption and implementation of the ESMF/ESMPs/E&S Management Checklists and thereafter implemented throughout Project implementation	MDLF
ESS 5: LAND ACQUISITION, RESTRICTIONS ON LAND USE AND INVOLUNTARY RESETTLEMENT			
5.1	<p>Land Acquisition and Livelihood FRAMEWORK</p> <p>Adopt and implement the Land Acquisition and Livelihood Framework (LALF) for the Project, consistent with ESS5.</p>	LALF disclosed on December 23, 2022, will be adopted for the parent project and the AF activities, and thereafter the LALF will be implemented throughout Project implementation.	MDLF
5.2	<p>Land Acquisition and Livelihood PLANS</p> <p>a. Prepare, consult, disclose, and require concerned municipalities to adopt and implement site-specific subproject Land Acquisition and Livelihood Plan (LALP) for concerned sub-projects under the Project, as set out in the LALF, and consistent with ESS5.</p> <p>b. Include subprojects with LALPs in the E&S audits described in Section 1.2 above.</p>	<p>a. The site-specific subproject LALP, for concerned projects, will be prepared, reviewed and cleared and disclosed and adopted by concerned municipalities prior to the issue of bids for corresponding subprojects involving land acquisitions and or livelihood impacts. LALPs shall be implemented by the concerned municipalities before taking possession of the concerned land and related assets and prior to handing over the site to the contractor and commencement of construction activities.</p> <p>b. E&S audit will be conducted on an annual basis during the implementation of the Project and Corrective Action Plan (if any) will be implemented throughout Project implementation.</p>	MDLF
ESS 6: BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF LIVING NATURAL RESOURCES			

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
6.1	<p>BIODIVERSITY RISKS AND IMPACTS</p> <p>The mitigation hierarchy approach will be applied as needed under the site-specific ESIA/ESMPs in accordance with the guidelines of the ESMF prepared for the Project, and consistent with ESS6.</p>	Same timeframe as for the adoption and implementation of the ESMF/ESMP/ESIA and thereafter implement throughout Project implementation	MDLF
ESS 8: CULTURAL HERITAGE			
8.1	<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.	MDLF
ESS 10: STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION DISCLOSURE			
10.1	<p>STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN PREPARATION AND IMPLEMENTATION</p> <p>Update, and 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 disclosed on December 23, 2022 was updated and disclosed on April 19, 2024, and will be adopted, and thereafter the SEP shall be implemented throughout Project implementation.	MDLF
10.2	<p>PROJECT GRIEVANCE MECHANISM</p> <p>Use the current GM used under MDP3 for the Project and if the need arises during or in light of the experience of Project implementation, improve the current GM further during Project implementation. The GM will continue to operate as 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 is 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>	Maintain and operate the mechanism throughout Project implementation for both for the parent project and the AF project.	MDLF
CAPACITY SUPPORT			
CS1	<p>Training may be required for MDLF staff, municipalities, consultants and will be detailed in the project capacity building plan including (but not limited to):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specific aspects of environmental and social assessment • Occupational Health and Safety management for construction works • Integrating and compliance of the Environmental and Social Requirements in the procurement documents • Environmental and social monitoring using Geo Enabling Monitoring Tools • Community Health and Safety Measures 	Throughout project implementation	MDLF

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grievance Mechanism, including Workers’ Grievance Mechanism • Stakeholder and Community Engagement • Gender and Inclusion Issues (e.g. regarding vulnerable groups such as PWD, elderly etc.) • Mitigation against SEA and SH • Labor Management • Emergency Response Preparedness • Code of Conduct for Workers 		
CS2	<p>Training for Project workers on (not limited to):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Occupational health and safety • Emergency prevention and preparedness and response arrangements to emergency situations. • Code of Conduct for Workers • SEA and SH issues • Grievance Mechanism for Workers • Community Health and Safety Issues 	Throughout project implementation	MDLF/Municipalities