

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL COMMITMENT PLAN (ESCP)

Lebanese Republic

Lebanon Digital Acceleration Project (P506791)

Grant under the Grant Facility for Project Preparation

Final

June 24, 2025

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL COMMITMENT PLAN

1. The Lebanese Republic (the “Recipient”) is planning to implement the proposed Lebanon Digital Acceleration Project (the “Project”) through the Office of the Minister of State for Administrative Reform (OMSAR), in close collaboration with key ministries, including the Office of the Ministry of State for Technology and Artificial Intelligence (OMSTAI), the Ministry of Interior and Municipalities (MOIM), and the Ministry of Industry (MOI), for which it has requested a grant under the Grant Facility for Project Preparation (GFPP), as set out in the GFPP letter agreement. The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (hereinafter the “Bank”), has agreed to provide the GFPP grant to finance activities (the “Activities”) related to the preparation of the Project, as set out in the referred agreement.
2. The Recipient shall ensure that the Activities are 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 GFPP letter 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 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 for the Activities, 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 GFPP letter 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, during the implementation of the Activities, to reflect adaptive management of changes and unforeseen circumstances related to the Activities or in response to assessment of performance of the Activities. 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 GFPP letter agreement. The Recipient shall promptly disclose the updated ESCP.

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS			
A	<p>ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE</p> <p>Establish and maintain a Technical Unit (TU) with qualified staff and adequate resources to support the management of environmental, social, health and safety (ESHS) risks and impacts of the Activities, including the appointment of an environmental and social (E&S) specialist.</p>	<p>Establish a TU and appoint an E&S specialist by the Effective Date of the GFPP letter agreement, and thereafter maintain the TU and this position throughout the implementation of the Activities.</p>	OMSAR
MONITORING AND REPORTING			
B	<p>REGULAR REPORTING</p> <p>If requested by the Bank, prepare and submit monitoring reports on the E&S performance of the Activities, including but not limited to progress on the implementation of the ESCP; status of E&S instruments under preparation; stakeholder engagement activities; and a log and status update of any grievances or complaints received.</p>	<p>Submit semiannual reports to the Bank throughout the implementation of the Activities, commencing after the Effective Date. Each report shall be submitted no later than 15 days after the end of the respective reporting period, covering the timeframe specified by the Bank.</p>	OMSAR
C	<p>INCIDENTS AND ACCIDENTS</p> <p>Notify the Bank of any incident or accident related to the Activities that has, or is likely to have, a significant adverse effect on the environment, affected communities, the public, or workers. This includes, but is not limited to, fatalities or significant injuries to workers or the public; acts of violence, discrimination or protest; unforeseen impacts to cultural heritage or biodiversity; environmental pollution; forced or child labor; displacement without due process (forced eviction); allegations of sexual exploitation or abuse/sexual harassment (SEA/SH); and disease outbreaks. Provide available details of the incident or accident to the Bank upon request. Conduct an appropriate investigation to identify the immediate, underlying, and root causes of the incident or accident. Prepare, agree upon with the Bank, and implement a corrective action plan detailing measures to address the issue and prevent recurrence.</p>	<p>Notify the Bank no later than 48 hours of becoming aware of any incident or accident and provide available details upon request.</p> <p>Submit a review report and corrective action plan to the Bank within 30 days of the initial notification, unless an alternative timeframe is agreed upon in writing by the Bank.</p>	OMSAR

ESS 1: ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RISKS AND IMPACTS			
1.1	<p>TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE</p> <p>Ensure that all consultancies, studies (including feasibility studies, if applicable), capacity building, and training under the Activities are conducted in accordance with the terms of reference agreed with the Bank and consistent with the ESSs. Additionally, ensure that the outputs of these activities comply with the terms of reference.</p>	Throughout the implementation of the Activities.	OMSAR
ESS 2: LABOR AND WORKING CONDITIONS			
2	<p>LABOR MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES</p> <p>Ensure that all workers are engaged in the implementation of the Activities in a manner consistent with ESS2.</p> <p>To this end, ensure that the following measures are implemented:</p> <p>a) Provide workers with clear and understandable information and documentation regarding their terms and conditions of employment through written contracts setting out their rights, including, <i>inter alia</i>, rights related to hours of work, wages, overtime, compensation and benefits, written notice of termination, and details of severance payments, as applicable. In addition, establish, maintain, and operate a grievance mechanism for all workers, in accordance with ESS2. The mechanism shall be easily accessible, transparent, and provide a timely, confidential, and effective channel for addressing workplace concerns, including those raised anonymously and without fear of retaliation;</p> <p>b) Implement occupational health and safety measures—including provision of personal protective equipment, emergency preparedness, and response—in accordance with the General Environmental, Health and Safety Guidelines (EHSGs), other relevant Good International Industry Practice (GIIP), and, where applicable, industry-specific EHSGs and other GIIP;</p>	Carry out the measures throughout the implementation of the Activities	OMSAR

	<p>c) Implement measures, as applicable, to, inter alia: (i) prevent the use of all forms of forced labor and child labor; and (ii) enable workers to benefit from, inter alia, access to grievance and redress mechanisms without fear of retaliation, and effective freedom to form and join workers' organizations or alternative mechanisms to express their concerns and protect their rights related to labor and working conditions;</p> <p>d) Develop a code of conduct for workers that includes measures to prevent and respond to SEA/SH cases;</p> <p>e) Incorporate the relevant requirements above in the E&S specifications of procurement documents and contracts with third parties engaging workers in the implementation of the Activities.</p>		
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ESS 3 to ESS9

3	Relevant aspects of these standards shall be considered in the technical assistance activities under Action 1.1 above, as applicable.	Same timeframe as for Action 1.2.	OMSAR
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ESS 10: STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION DISCLOSURE

10.1	<p>STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION DISCLOSURE</p> <p>Incorporate stakeholder engagement and information disclosure measures in the implementation of the Activities, in a manner consistent with ESS10.</p> <p>To this end, ensure the following measures are implemented:</p> <p>a) Provide stakeholders with timely, understandable, accessible, and appropriate information about the environmental and social risks and impacts of the Activities, including but not limited to any environmental and social instruments prepared as part of the Activities. Such information shall be made available on the government website;</p> <p>b) Consult stakeholders in a culturally appropriate manner that is free of manipulation, interference, coercion, discrimination and intimidation, including with regards to any environmental and social instruments prepared under the Activities;</p> <p>c) Document stakeholder engagement activities, including: (i) stakeholder mapping; (ii) description of consultations and participation mechanisms utilized, and records of meetings held; (ii)</p>	<p>Carry out stakeholder engagement and information disclosure measures throughout the implementation of the Activities</p>	OMSAR
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	feedback received and responses provided; and (iv) measures to engage stakeholders who may be disadvantaged or vulnerable due to their particular circumstances.		
10.2	<p>GRIEVANCE MANAGEMENT</p> <p>Receive and promptly facilitate the resolution of concerns and grievances related to the Activities in a transparent, culturally appropriate, and easily accessible manner to all parties affected by the Activities. Ensure this process is free of charge and without risk of retribution, including for anonymous submissions, in accordance with ESS 10.</p>	<p>Throughout the implementation of the Activities.</p>	OMSAR