

**CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC/ Ministry of
Economy, Planning and International
Cooperation (MEPCI)**

**Central African Republic Contingent
Emergency Response Project (CERP)
(P517211)**

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

Appraisal Version

June 5, 2026

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL COMMITMENT PLAN

1. The Government of Central African Republic "the Beneficiary" will implement the Contingent Emergency Response Project (CERP- P517211), through the Ministry of Economy, Planning and International Cooperation (MEPCI), 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(s). This ESCP supersedes previous versions of the ESCP for the Project and shall apply both to the original and the additional financing for Project referred to above.
2. The Beneficiary 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(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 under the Project, consistent with the ESSs, in form and substance acceptable to the Association. Said E&S documents may be revised from time to time with prior written agreement by the Association. As provided for under the referred Agreement, the Recipient shall ensure that there are sufficient funds available to cover the costs of implementing the ESCP.
4. As agreed by the Association and the Recipient, this ESCP will be revised from time to time, if necessary, to reflect adaptive management of Project changes or unforeseen circumstances or in response to Project performance. In such circumstances, the Association and the Recipient agree to update the ESCP to reflect these changes through an exchange of letters signed between the Association and the Recipient's Representative specified in the Agreement[s] or Minister of the Ministry of Urban development, Land Reform and Housing (MURFVH). The Recipient shall promptly disclose the updated ESCP.
5. The subsection on "Indicators for Implementation Readiness" below identifies the actions and measures to be monitored to assess Project readiness to begin implementation in accordance with this ESCP. Nevertheless, all actions and measures in this ESCP shall be implemented as set out in the "Timeframe" column below irrespective of whether they are listed in the referred subsection.

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMELINE	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
<u>IMPLEMENTATION AND CAPACITY SUPPORT ARRANGEMENTS</u>			
A	<u>ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE</u> a. Establish and maintain a CERP Project Implementation Unit (CERP-PIU) staffed with qualified staff and adequate resources to support the management of environmental, social, social, health and safety (E&S) risks and impacts of the Project, including an environmental specialist, a social development specialist, a security risk management specialist, and a SEA/SH Specialist.	a. The project will be implemented by existing project (the inclusive and Resilient Cities Project-PROVIR (P178774) which is well staffed with an environment specialist, a social development specialist, security risk management, and a SEA/SH Specialist. At the end of this project planned for August 31, 2029, another PIU shall be set up to finalize the implementation of the CERP including at least an Environment Specialist, a social development Specialist, security risk management, and a SEA/SH Specialist who will be identified/established before the CERP closure. b. The CERP-PIU shall be maintained throughout Project implementation.	MEPCI CERP-PIU: PROVIR

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMELINE	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
B	<u>CAPACITY-BUILDING PLAN/MEASURES</u> Prepare and implement a plan or the following capacity-building measures: ▪ Training for CERP-PIU staff on all relevant standards, environmental, health and safety guidelines and other environmental, civic engagement, CERP supervision and social measures managed by the Project. ▪ Capacity building for all actors involved in the implementation of the Project in the following areas: ➤ Managing the environmental, social, civic engagement, health and safety risks and impacts associated with emergency response projects. ➤ Monitoring, reporting and evaluating the implementation of E&S measures in the context of emergency response. ➤ Awareness-raising, information and training on the risks and impacts of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA), Sexual Harassment (SH) and Violence Against Children (VAC) in the context of the Contingent Emergency Response Project. ➤ Training in management, operationalization, reporting and evaluation of the complaints management mechanism in an emergency context. ➤ Specific training in the management of health and safety requirements for all project stakeholders.	Throughout project implementation.	CERP-PIU
MONITORING AND REPORTING			
C	<u>REGULAR REPORTS</u> Prepare and submit to the Bank regular monitoring reports on the environmental, social, health and safety (ESHS) performance of the Project. The reports shall include: • the status of preparation and implementation of the environmental and social instruments required under the ESCP; • Summary of stakeholder engagement activities conducted in accordance with the Stakeholder Engagement Plan; • Complaints submitted to the grievance mechanism(s), grievance log, and progress made in resolving grievances; • Environmental, social, health, and safety (ESHS) performance of contractors and subcontractors as presented in contractors, suppliers and supervision firms quarterly reports. Number and resolution status of incidents and accidents reported under action E below.	Submit quarterly reports to the Bank throughout the implementation of the Project, starting from the CERP activation date. Submit each report to the Bank no later than 15 days after the end of each reporting period.	CERP-PIU

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMELINE	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
D	CONTRACTORS' MONTHLY REPORTS Require contractors and supervising firms to produce monthly monitoring reports on environmental, social, health, and safety (ESHS) performance based on indicators specified in the bidding documents and contracts and to submit such reports to the Bank.	Submit the monthly reports to the Bank as an annex to the reports due under Action C above.	CERP-PIU

E	<u>INCIDENTS AND ACCIDENTS</u> Notify the Bank of any incident or accident relating 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 those resulting in death or significant injury to workers or the public; acts of violence, discrimination or protest; unforeseen impacts to cultural heritage or biodiversity resources; pollution of the environment; dam failure; forced or child labor; displacement without due process (forced eviction); allegations of sexual exploitation or abuse (SEA), or sexual harassment (SH); or disease outbreaks. Provide available details of the incident or accident to the Bank upon request. Arrange for an appropriate investigation of the incident or accident to establish its immediate, underlying and root causes. Prepare, agree with the Bank, and implement a Corrective Action Plan that sets out the measures and actions to be taken to address the incident or accident and prevent its recurrence. Specifically for the health sector, prepare an emergency plan that can prevent the incident from happening again. In addition, the Project will inform the Bank of any other emergency handled by CERP.	Notify the Bank no later than 48 hours after learning of the incident or accident. Provide available details available upon request. Provide investigation report and Corrective Action Plan to the Bank no later than 10 days following the submission of the initial notice, unless a different timeframe is agreed to in writing by the Bank.	CERP-PIU
F	<u>LIST OF POTENTIAL ACTIVITIES ELIGIBLE UNDER CERP CAR</u> 1. Emergency Support for Household Livelihoods Direct emergency financial assistance to households through conditional or unconditional cash transfers. 2. Provision of Essential Services, Goods, and Equipment for Emergency Interventions	Throughout project implementation.	MEPCI CERP-PIU

	• Cleaning services for affected infrastructure, including debris collection and transport where applicable. • Procurement of basic food commodities (millet, maize, rice, cowpeas, oil, sugar, salt, etc.), subject to compliance with applicable World Bank requirements on eligibility of food expenditures. • Procurement of water supply and sanitation equipment such as: bottled water, mobile water treatment stations, water bladders, portable water filters, water purification tablets, slab latrines, community mobile toilets, and plastic sheeting. • Purchase of pharmaceuticals, medicines, medical supplies, including oral rehydration salt sachets, and essential medical equipment such as ventilators, personal protective equipment, and various diagnostic tools, excluding any equipment containing radioactive materials. • Procurement of veterinary products, including animal first aid kits, medicines, vaccines, and medical supplies. • Purchase, temporary storage, and transport of material to respond to emergencies and of agricultural inputs and materials such as seeds, tool kits, livestock feed, essential fertilizers, excluding the purchase of pesticides. • Procurement of essential response equipment to address the logistical needs of affected persons, such as tents, shelters, sleeping bags, tarpaulins, buckets, mats, personal hygiene kits, household kits, etc. • Rental of light equipment to restore access and for CERP implementation, including water pumps, hand tools such as spades, shovels, hoes, wheelbarrows, heavy machinery such as bulldozers or dump trucks; emergency generators, including fuel supply for their operation. • Purchase of green cookstoves for low-income households intended for community kitchens in the context of crisis responses affecting access to cooking fuels. • Acquisition of electric rolling stock for essential services related to emergency response and the functioning of the State and local authorities. • Purchase of fuel to support emergency interventions aimed at ensuring continuity of essential services and the protection of vulnerable households. This may include: • (i) LPG for cooking when it is the primary cooking fuel for low-income households and a supply interruption creates an immediate welfare and safety emergency; • (ii) diesel for backup electricity generation in hospitals and health facilities, including maintenance of the cold chain for vaccines and essential medicines; • (iii) fuel for water pumping and treatment when electrical or diesel systems provide the primary supply of municipal or peri-urban drinking water; and		
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	• (iv) diesel and heavy fuel oil for public sector electricity generation when liquid fuel is the primary or sole source of production and a supply disruption would directly cause or prolong load shedding affecting health, water, and public safety services. • Support for payment of electricity supply linked to an eligible crisis or disaster situation to ensure continuity of essential services and support to vulnerable populations. • Purchase of energy to cover needs arising from an eligible crisis or disaster to ensure continuity of essential services and support to vulnerable populations. 3. Coordination and Management of Emergency Interventions • Financing the scale-up of response, repair, and evacuation teams, excluding military personnel and law enforcement representatives. • Financing rapid emergency situation assessments, monitoring and evaluation reports, and audit costs of emergency activities under the CERP. • Financing very short-term training of local teams to increase rapid response capacities. • Management of temporary shelters: shelter administration, including payments for shelter management activities such as temporary office rentals, staff salaries, and procurement of goods necessary for shelter operations. It does not include accommodation operations such as land agreements and compensation, or the provision of sanitation and waste management services. • Financing technical assistance, including international and local specialized expertise (consulting services) to support emergency response operations, provide just-in-time technical assistance, and prepare technical procurement documents. • Daily subsistence allowances (per diem) and other travel and logistics costs such as fuel, for staff conducting field missions related to emergency interventions. • Coverage of increased electricity bills for the public sector and rental of light and critical machinery (i.e., generators for emergency and shelter operations, equipment for debris removal, etc.). • Financing environmental and social (E&S) measures identified in the Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) and the ESCP, as well as costs related to monitoring and evaluation of the CERP and operational costs for the implementation of activities following CERP activation. • Financing audit, monitoring, and evaluation reports, as well as the final reports required in the event of CERP activation.		
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ESS 1: ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RISKS AND IMPACTS			
1.1	<u>ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL ASSESSMENTS AND/OR MANAGEMENT PLANS</u> Prepare and implement the project's Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP), in accordance with the relevant Environmental and Social Standards (ESS). Screen project activities against the positive list of activities, in order to avoid any activity requiring site-specific assessment of environmental and social risks and/or impacts. Prepare and implement environmental and social requirements for each of the activities on the positive list. Apply, where appropriate, E&S instruments already approved by the Bank in other sectors if required by the disaster (e.g., Dam Safety Management Plan, Biodiversity Management Plan, etc.).	The ESMP has been prepared, and shall be disclosed prior appraisal. It will be implemented throughout Project implementation. Screen activities prior to implementation.	CERP-PIU
1.2	<u>MANAGEMENT OF CONTRACTORS</u> Incorporate relevant aspects of the ESCP, including, inter alia, relevant E&S instruments, Labor Management Procedures (LMP), and Code of Conduct, into the E&S specifications of procurement documents and contracts with contractors and supervising firms. Thereafter, ensure that contractors, sub-contractors and supervising firms comply, and they require their subcontractors to comply with the E&S specifications of their respective contracts. Provide the Bank with copies of the relevant contracts of the contractors/subcontractors and the supervising firms.	As part of the preparation of bidding documents and relevant contracts. Supervise contractors/subcontractors throughout Project implementation. Copies of the relevant contracts shall be made available to the Bank at the Bank's request.	CERP-PIU
1.3	<u>TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE</u> Carry out consultations, studies (including feasibility studies, if any), capacity building, training and any other technical assistance activities under the Project, including, inter alia, E&S instruments or plans to be prepared under the technical assistance in accordance with terms of reference acceptable to the Bank, that are consistent with the ESSs. Thereafter, prepare and finalize the outputs of these activities in compliance with the terms of reference.	Throughout project implementation.	CERP-PIU
EES 2: LABOR AND WORKING CONDITIONS			

2.1	<u>LABOR MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES</u> Prepare and implement the Labor Management Plan (LMP) for the Project as part of the Environmental and Social Management Plan.	Same timeframe as ESMP and implemented throughout the life of the project.	CERP-PIU
2.2	<u>OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY MANAGEMENT PLAN</u> Prepare and implement an Occupational Health and Safety Management Plan to assess and manage the risks and impacts of the Project related to occupational health and safety. Require contractors to prepare and implement occupational health and safety management measures or plans in accordance with the Bank's Environmental, Health, and Safety Guidelines from which the contractors have used to develop the measures or plans.	Implement an OHS management framework as part of the ESMP prepared, in accordance with point 1.1, throughout the implementation of the Project.	CERP-PIU
2.3	<u>GRIEVANCE MECHANISM FOR PROJECT WORKERS</u> Establish and make operational a grievance mechanism for Project workers, as described in the LMP included in the ESMP in accordance with ESS2.	Establish the grievance mechanism prior to the recruitment of workers for the Project and thereafter maintain and operate throughout Project implementation.	CERP-PIU
ESS 3: RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT			
3.1	<u>WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN</u> Prepare and implement a Waste Management Plan (WMP), as part of the ESMP prepared for the Project, to manage hazardous and non-hazardous waste, in accordance with ESS 3.	Same timeframe as ESMP Implement the Waste Management Plan throughout Project implementation.	CERP-PIU
3.2	<u>RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT</u> Resource efficiency and pollution prevention and management measures will be set out in the ESMP to be prepared under action 1.1 above.	Same timeframe as for ESMP preparation and thereafter implement the ESMP throughout Project implementation.	CERP-PIU

ESS 4: COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY			
4.1	<u>TRAFFIC AND ROAD SAFETY</u> Include and implement traffic and road safety risk management measures in the ESMP to be developed under action 1.1 above. The Project will ensure that these measures include training and awareness-raising for drivers and other field workers.	Implement the road safety management plan as part of the ESMP, in accordance with action 1.1, and then throughout Project implementation.	CERP-PIU
4.2	<u>COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY</u> Assess and manage specific risks and impacts on communities arising from Project activities, including, inter alia, any risks that may need to be managed, such as behavior of Project workers, labor influx, STI-HIV/AIDS risks, emergency response, etc. Measures to prevent and mitigate these risks will be included in the Contractor- ESMPs(C-ESMP) to be developed in accordance with the ESMPs.	Same timeframe as for ESMP preparation and implementation	CERP-PIU
4.3	<u>SEA/SH RISKS</u> Conduct SEA/SH assessment and prepare and implement a SEA/SH Action Plan to assess and manage SEA/SH risks.	Prepare the SEA/SH Action Plan, before activation of CERP activities and thereafter implement the SEA/SH Action Plan throughout Project implementation.	CERP-PIU
4.4	<u>SECURITY MANAGEMENT</u> Assess 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 security risk assessment (SRA) and the Security Management Plan (SMP)	Prepare and adopt SRA/SMP before the activation of CERP activities and then implement the SMP throughout Project implementation.	CERP-PIU
ESS 5: LAND ACQUISITION, LAND USE RESTRICTIONS AND INVOLUNTARY RESETTLEMENT			
5.1	This standard is not relevant.	N/A	N/A
ESS 6: BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF LIVING NATURAL RESOURCES			
6.1	This standard is not relevant.	N/A	N/A

ESS 7: INDIGENOUS PEOPLES/SUB-SAHARAN AFRICAN HISTORICALLY UNDERSERVED TRADITIONAL LOCAL COMMUNITIES			
7.1	Prepare and adopt IP social assessment as part of ESMP, consistent with ESS7. Prepare, consult, adopt and implement and measures to mitigate risks to Indigenous Peoples in Operational Manual consistent with ESS7.	Same timeframe as ESMP. Same timeframe as preparation and adoption of the operations manual and implement required actions throughout Project implementation.	CERP-PIU
ESS 8: CULTURAL HERITAGE			
8.1	This standard is not currently considered to be relevant as no civil works are envisaged and there is no proposed use of intangible cultural heritage as part of the project. However, this will be monitored throughout project implementation in case the nature of the emergency results in potential identification of or impacts to cultural heritage.	N/A currently	N/A
ESS 9: FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES			
9.1	This standard is not relevant as there will be no financial intermediaries.	N/A	N/A
ESS 10: STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION DISCLOSURE			
10.1	<u>STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN</u> Prepare 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.	The SEP will be prepared and disclosed by appraisal. It will be implemented throughout Project implementation.	CERP-PIU
10.2	<u>PROJECT GRIEVANCE MECHANISM</u>		CERP-PIU

	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. 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 (GBV) providers, all in a safe, confidential, and survivor-centered manner.	Establish the grievance mechanism two (2) months after the CERP Approval, but prior to the commencement of Project activities, and thereafter maintain and operate the grievance mechanism throughout Project implementation.	
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IMPLEMENTATION READINESS INDICATORS

The following actions are indicators of readiness for implementation:

- A full-time Environment Specialist, SEA/SH Specialist, Security risk management, and Social Development Specialist have been assigned/recruited by the Project to support the management of CERP's environmental, social, health and safety (E&S) risks and impacts.
- The Project's ESMP is finalized and compliant with all relevant environmental and social standards.
- The grievance mechanism established under CERP is fully operational to receive and resolve concerns and complaints related to the Project promptly, transparently, and in a culturally appropriate manner. It is easily accessible to all affected parties, free of charge, and ensures protection against retribution.
- The final SEP and ESMP comply with the relevant ESS and are ready by the Project's effective date.