



People's Republic of Bangladesh

Bangladesh Land Port Authority (BLPA),
Roads and Highway Department (RHD),
National Board of Revenue (NBR),
Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority (BIWTA)

ACCELERATING TRANSPORT AND TRADE CONNECTIVITY IN EASTERN SOUTH ASIA PROGRAM
BANGLADESH PHASE 1- PART OF A MULTIPHASE PROGRAMMATIC APPROACH (P176549)

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL COMMITMENT PLAN (ESCP)

JUNE, 2026

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL COMMITMENT PLAN

1. The People's Republic of Bangladesh (the Borrower) will implement the Accelerating Transport and Trade Connectivity in Eastern South Asia (ACCESS program) - Bangladesh Phase 1 Project (the Project), with the involvement of the Bangladesh Land Port Authority (BLPA) under the Ministry of Shipping, Roads and Highways Department (RHD) under Ministry of Road Transports and Bridges, National Board of Revenue (NBR) under Ministry of Finance, and Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority (BIWTA) under the Ministry of Shipping as set out in the Financing Agreement.
2. The Borrower 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 World Bank. 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 Borrower 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, in form and substance, and in a manner acceptable to the World Bank. Once adopted, said E&S instruments may be revised from time to time with prior written agreement by the World Bank.
4. As agreed by the World Bank and the Borrower, 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 Borrower and the World Bank agree to update the ESCP to reflect these changes through an exchange of letters signed between the World Bank and the Borrower. The Borrower shall promptly disclose the updated ESCP.

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS AND CAPACITY SUPPORT ¹			
A	ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE Maintain four PIUs in BLPA, RHD, NBR and BIWTA with qualified staff and resources to support management of environmental, social, health and safety (E&S) risks and impacts of the Project, including maintaining the established and well-experienced , E&S Unit (ESU) with demonstrated capacity in implementing both the World Bank's Safeguard Policies and the Environmental and Social Framework (ESF) in the PIU of BIWTA to undertake implementation of outstanding E&S actions and commitments transferred from the Bangladesh Regional Waterways Transport Project (BRWTP), and hire additional consultants including for an independent review of the RAP.	Establish BIWTA as a PIU under ACCESS within 30 days of the Amendment Letter's effectiveness and thereafter maintain PIU throughout Project implementation. Maintain all four PIUs throughout Project implementation.	PIUs: BLPA, NBR, RHD, BIWTA

¹ For all actions, consult with the country lawyer to ensure consistency with the legal agreement in cases where some actions need to be completed before the project becomes effective (effectiveness condition) or before certain disbursements can occur (disbursement condition).

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
B	CAPACITY BUILDING PLAN/MEASURES The specialists of BIWTA's ESU, along with E&S specialists from the other implementing agencies under the ongoing ACCESS Project, have already received ESF training at different times through the WB's Capacity Building Program (CBP) delivered by the Learning Center at BUET. Further trainings on the following capacity building measures: • training for PIU staff and Project workers on E&S Risks management as per ESF requirements, focusing on: (a) land acquisition and resettlement; (b) occupational health and safety; (3) community health and safety; (4) SEA/SH risk management; (5) grievance management and, (6) stakeholder engagement • training on E&S due diligence under ESF to facilitate implementation of E&S actions and commitments contained in this ESCP for activities transferred from BRWTP previously under Safeguards Policies.	To be continued all through the project duration	PIUs: BLPA, NBR, RHD, BIWTA
MONITORING AND REPORTING			
C	REGULAR REPORTING Prepare and submit to the Bank quarterly monitoring reports on ESHS performance of the Project. The reports shall include: • Status of preparation and implementation of E&S documents required under the ESCP and the corresponding Annex to the ACCESS restructuring paper • Summary of stakeholder engagement activities carried out as per the updated Stakeholder Engagement Plan.	Quarterly throughout implementation.	PIUs: BLPA, NBR, RHD, BIWTA

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
	- Complaints submitted to the updated grievance mechanisms, the grievance log, and progress made in resolving them. - E&S performance of contractors and subcontractors as reported through monthly contractors' reports and supervising firms' reports. - Number and status of resolution of incidents and accidents reported under action E		
D	CONTRACTORS' MONTHLY REPORTS Require contractors and supervising firms to provide monthly monitoring reports on E&S performance in accordance with the metrics specified in the respective bidding documents and contracts and submit such reports to the Bank.	Monthly	Contractors, Supervision consultants
E	INCIDENTS AND ACCIDENTS 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 review of the incident or accident to establish its immediate, underlying and root causes. Prepare, agree with the Bank, and implement	Notify the Bank no later than 48 hours after learning of the incident or accident. Provide available details upon request. Provide review 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.	PIUs: BLPA, NBR, RHD, BIWTA

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
	a Corrective Action Plan that sets out the measures and actions to be taken to address the incident or accident and prevent its recurrence.		
ESS 1: ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RISKS AND IMPACTS			
1.1	ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL ASSESSMENTS AND/OR PLANS a) Update and implement the ACCESS Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) and Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) documents consistent with the relevant ESSs and, adopt and implement site-specific ESIA/ESMPs for all activities under the restructured Project. b) adopt and implement Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) and Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) documents for RHD, BLPA, NBR, and BIWTA consistent with the relevant ESSs.	a) Within 30 days of the Amendment Letter's effectiveness. b) Prior to the start of bidding process of relevant civil works. Ensure compliance with the site-specific ESMP applicable to each respective subproject. Implement the respective plan throughout sub-project implementation. In case of BIWTA, within 30 days of the Amendment Letter's effectiveness.	PIUs: BLPA, NBR, RHD, BIWTA

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
	c) Require contractors and subcontractors that would need to prepare C-ESMPs to prepare and implement site-specific ESIAs/ ESMPs. Activities described in the exclusion list shall be ineligible to receive financing under the Project.	c) Prepare site-specific ESIAs/ESMPs and incorporate the ESMP as part of the respective bidding documents for the respective activities prior to the carrying out of activities that require the preparation of such site-specific ESMPs. Once updated and finalized, implement the respective site-specific ESMPs throughout Project implementation.	
1.2	MANAGEMENT OF CONTRACTORS Incorporate the relevant aspects of the ESCP, including, inter alia, site-specific ESIA/ESMP, the Labor Management Procedures, occupational health and safety plan, and code of conduct, into the E&S specifications of the procurement documents and contracts with contractors and supervising firms. For ongoing contracts and outstanding activities transferred from BRWTP the Borrower shall undertake to formally integrate contract-level ES clauses into transferred work packages.	As part of the preparation of procurement documents and respective contracts. The relevant Environmental, Social, Health and Safety (ESHS) clauses and the corresponding Bill of Quantities (BoQ) provisions to be incorporated into the bidding documents and the subsequent contracts for each respective subproject.	PIUs: BLPA, NBR, RHD, BIWTA

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
	Thereafter ensure that the contractors and supervising firms comply and that they require their subcontractors to comply with the E&S specifications of their respective contracts. Provide copies of the relevant contracts with contractors/subcontractors and supervision firms to the Bank.	Supervise contractors throughout Project implementation. Copies of relevant contracts provided to the Bank upon request.	
1.3	TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE Carry out the consultancies, studies (including feasibility studies, if applicable), capacity building, training, and any other technical assistance activities under the Project in accordance with terms of reference acceptable to the Bank, that are consistent with the ESSs. Thereafter prepare and finalize the outputs of such activities in compliance with the terms of reference.	Throughout Project implementation.	PIUs: BLPA, NBR, RHD, BIWTA
1.4	CONTINGENT EMERGENCY RESPONSE FINANCING 1. Ensure that the CERC Manual as specified the legal agreement includes a description of the E&S assessment and management arrangements including, if applicable, of any CERC-ESMF/ESMF Addendum that will be included or referred to in the CERC Manual for the implementation of the CERC component, in accordance with the ESSs.	1. The preparation of the CERC manual and, if applicable, other E&S documents, as relevant in form and substance acceptable to the Bank is a withdrawal condition under relevant section of legal agreement.	PIUs: BLPA, NBR, RHD, BIWTA

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
	2. Implement the E&S provisions of the CERC Manual including, if applicable, the CERC-ESMF/ESMF Addendum, and any assessments and plans required therein.	2. In accordance with the timeframes specified in the CERC Manual including, if applicable, the CERC-ESMF/ESMF Addendum, and any assessments and plans required therein.	
1.5	ASSOCIATED FACILITIES Not relevant		
1.6	USE OF BORROWER/RECIPIENT'S ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL FRAMEWORK Not relevant		
1.7	COMMON APPROACH Not relevant		
1.8	ACTIVITIES SUBJECT TO RETROACTIVE FINANCING Not relevant		
ESS 2: LABOR AND WORKING CONDITIONS			

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
2.1	LABOR MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES Update and implement the Project Labor Management Procedures (LMP) to cover all workers associated with the ACCESS Project including those project workers currently engaged under activities to be transferred from BRWTP to ACCESS.	Update the LMP within 30 days of the Amendment Letter's effectiveness, and thereafter implement the LMP throughout project implementation.	PIUs: BLPA, NBR, RHD, BIWTA
2.2	OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY MANAGEMENT PLAN Implement OHS measures as per the updated ESMP, including specific protocols for marine/waterway construction and dredging. AND Require contractors and subcontractors to prepare and implement OHS Management Measures or Plan in accordance with the E&S document that informs the contractor's measures or plans. The relevant OHS clauses and corresponding BoQ provisions to be incorporated into the bidding and contract documents for each subproject, and require contractors to comply with all applicable construction related OHS requirements throughout implementation	During all construction and maintenance activities.	PIUs: BLPA, NBR, RHD, BIWTA

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
2.3	GRIEVANCE MECHANISM FOR PROJECT WORKERS Establish and operate a grievance mechanism for Project workers, as described in the updated LMP and consistent with ESS2.	For BIWTA, establish and operationalize a grievance mechanism consistent with the ESF requirements within 30 days of the Amendment Letter's effectiveness. Throughout project implementation.	PIUs: BLPA, NBR, RHD, BIWTA
ESS 3: RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT			
3.1	WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN Implement the Waste Management Plans, including for ongoing and outstanding activities transferred from BRWTP, consistent with ESS3. The WMP shall include specific measures for dredged material disposal. Dredged material management is already addressed through the environmental instruments prepared under BRWTP, including the Dredging Management and Monitoring Plan (DMMP). Accordingly, BIWTA will continue implementing the existing DMMP for the transferred activities under ACCESS, rather than preparing a new standalone DMMP.	Throughout project implementation. For BIWTA, within 30 days of the Amendment Letter's effectiveness.	PIUs: BLPA, NBR, RHD, BIWTA
ESS 4: COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY			

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
4.1	TRAFFIC AND ROAD SAFETY Prepare and implement traffic management plans including for BIWTA, vessel/waterway traffic safety protocols. Prepare and implement site-specific Traffic and Road Safety Plans for all constructions (for all agencies) and dredging activities (BIWTA). Ensure that the relevant traffic and road safety requirements are incorporated into the bidding and contract documents.	For BIWTA, review and update the existing plans, where necessary, within 30 days of the Amendment Letter's effectiveness. Throughout project implementation	PIUs: BLPA, NBR, RHD, BIWTA
4.2	COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY Manage risks of labor influx, Community health and safety (CHS) and emergency situations in project-affected areas.	Throughout project implementation.	PIUs: BLPA, NBR, RHD, BIWTA
4.3	SEA AND SH RISKS Implement the current SEA/SH Action Plan of ACCESS across all implementing agencies including BIWTA. The current SEA/SH Plan of ACCESS will be updated to include BIWTA and will replace the existing retrofitted GBV Plan of BRWTP.	Throughout project implementation.	PIUs: BLPA, NBR, RHD, BIWTA
4.4	SECURITY MANAGEMENT²		

² Depending on security risks and details of the project, the Borrower may retain or engage public security personnel, including military, to provide security for the project. Such cases may require a specific security management assessment and/or security management plan and setting out specific measures and actions in the ESCP. See Annex to the "Tip Sheet: Drafting the Environmental and Social Commitment Plan" for further guidance.

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
	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 ESMP and 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. The site-specific ESIA/ESMPs along with restive bid document of ACCESS and BRWTP include assessment of security risks and protocol along with Code of Conduct for security personnel where/when deployed.	Implement it throughout the Project timeline	PIUs: BLPA, NBR, RHD, BIWTA
4.5	DAM SAFETY (FOR ANNEX A ESS4) Not relevant		
ESS 5: LAND ACQUISITION, RESTRICTIONS ON LAND USE AND INVOLUNTARY RESETTLEMENT			
5.1	RESETTLEMENT FRAMEWORK AND PLANS 1. Implement an updated Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF) for the Project, consistent with ESS5 including activities transferred from BW RTP. 2. Adopt and implement site-specific resettlement action plans (RAPs) as set out in the RPF and consistent with ESS5.	Update RPF, RAPs, and LIRP within 30 days of the Amendment Letter's effectiveness, thereafter, implement it throughout the Project timeline	PIUs: BLPA, NBR, RHD, BIWTA

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
	3. Continue to implement the site-specific RAPs and Livelihood Improvement and Restoration Program (LIRP) for the ongoing implementing agencies under ACCESS. For BIWTA, implement the existing site-specific RAPs and LIRP, which are considered materially consistent with the requirements of ESS5, including payment of livelihood restoration assistance, vulnerable support, and any applicable top-up compensation required to ensure compensation at full replacement cost, where applicable. 4. Set up Monitoring Committees as detailed in the RPF: (a) PIU level and (b) Field-level to guide and support RAP implementation, especially for the disbursement of fund provided in the RAP, payment of compensation to the PAPs, and liaise with various stakeholders including different governmental organizations and other relevant agencies. 5. Hire independent consultant and undertake an independent review of the updated RPF and RAPs.	Implement it throughout the Project timeline	
ESS 6: BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF LIVING NATURAL RESOURCES			
6.1	BIODIVERSITY RISKS AND IMPACTS BIWTA to continue biodiversity monitoring and management measures for BIWTA's transferred activities under ACCESS. BIWTA shall continue the engagement of the Biodiversity Management Plan consultant initiated under BRWTP and finalize, adopt, and implement.	Implement it throughout the Project timeline	PIUs: BIWTA
ESS 7: INDIGENOUS PEOPLES/SUB-SAHARAN AFRICAN HISTORICALLY UNDERSERVED TRADITIONAL LOCAL COMMUNITIES			

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
7.1	INDIGENOUS PEOPLES [FRAMEWORK] [PLAN] or [PLANS] Not relevant		
ESS 8: CULTURAL HERITAGE			
8.1	CULTURAL HERITAGE RISKS AND IMPACTS [Depending on the Project, it may be necessary for a Borrower to develop a Cultural Heritage Management Plan. See sample action below] Not relevant		
8.2	CHANCE FINDS Describe and implement the chance finds procedures as part of the updated ESMF, updated ESIA, updated ESMP of the Project.	Implement it throughout the Project timeline	PIUs: BLPA, NBR, RHD, BIWTA
ESS 9: FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES			
9.1	ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (ESMS) Not relevant		
ESS 10: STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION DISCLOSURE			

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
10.1	STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN Update, consult upon, disclose and implement a Stakeholder Engagement Plan for the Project, consistent with ESS 10, 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 current SEP shall be updated, consulted upon, and disclosed to include activities transferred from BRWTP to be implemented by BIWTA.	The existing SEP of ACCESS to be updated in view of activities transferred from BRWTP within 15 days of the Amendment Letter's effectiveness, thereafter the SEP shall be implement throughout Project implementation.	PIUs: BLPA, NBR, RHD, BIWTA
10.2	PROJECT GRIEVANCE MECHANISM BLPA, NBR, RHD shall maintain already established ESS10 compliant GM. BIWTA shall 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.	BLPA, NBR, RHD shall maintain and operate the existing mechanisms throughout Project implementation. BIWTA: within 30 days of the Amendment Letter's effectiveness.	

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
	All ACCESS Project GMs 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.		
INDICATORS FOR IMPLEMENTATION READINESS			
Not relevant			

