Statistical Innovation and Capacity Building in the Pacific Islands Project 2 (PacStat2)

P518516

Republic of Kiribati; Kingdom of Tonga; Tuvalu; and Pacific Community (SPC)

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL COMMITMENT PLAN (ESCP)

Negotiated Version

November 3, 2026

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1. The Republic of Kiribati, Kingdom of Tonga, Tuvalu, and Pacific Community (SPC) (the Recipients) will implement the Statistical Innovation and Capacity Building in the Pacific Islands Project 2 (PacStat2) (the Project), with the involvement of their respective Implementing Agencies, namely the Statistics for Development Division (SDD) within SPC, the Kiribati National Statistics Office within the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development of Kiribati, the Tuvalu Central Statistics Division within the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development of Tuvalu, and the Tonga Statistics Department and the Ministry of Finance of Tonga, as set out in the respective Financing Agreements (the Agreements). The International Development Association (the Association) has agreed to provide financing for the Project, as set out in the Agreements.

2. The Recipients 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 Agreements. Unless otherwise defined in this ESCP, capitalized terms used in this ESCP have the meanings ascribed to them in the Agreements.

3. Without limitation to the foregoing, this ESCP sets out material measures and actions that the Recipients 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 Agreements, the Recipients shall ensure that there are sufficient funds available to cover the costs of implementing the ESCP.

4. As agreed by the Association and the Recipients, 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 Recipients agree to update the ESCP to reflect these changes through an exchange of letters signed between the Association and the Recipients' Representatives specified in the Agreements. The Recipients 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.

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MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS AND CAPACITY SUPPORT			
A	**ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE** 1. Within each of the Recipients' Implementing Agencies (IAs), recruit or appoint qualified E&S focal points and with sufficient resources with E&S oversight responsible for supporting the management of the Project's environmental, social, health, and safety (ESHS) risks and impacts. The Project has the following Implementing Agencies (IAs): • Pacific Community — Statistics for Development Division • Tonga Statistics Department • Kiribati National Statistics Office within the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development of Kiribati • Tuvalu Central Statistics Division within the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development of Tuvalu Each Recipient shall cause its respective Implementing Agency to appoint a qualified country-level E&S focal point to implement activity-level E&S risk management procedures and mitigation measures before carrying out the relevant Project activities, and thereafter maintain these positions throughout Project implementation. 2. Establish and maintain suitable and effective cooperation arrangements among all PIUs, as set out in the Project Operations Manual (POM), to manage the environmental and social risks and impacts of the regional Project.	1. Appoint or recruit E&S focal points within the respective PIU with E&S oversight no later than 60 days after the Effective Date of the respective Agreements, and thereafter maintain the PIUs and these positions throughout Project implementation. 2. No later than 30 days after the Effective Date and throughout Project implementation	SPC; Tonga Statistics Department; Kiribati National Statistics Office within the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development; and Tuvalu Central Statistics Division (collectively, the "Participating Countries' Implementing Agencies")

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MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
B	**CAPACITY BUILDING PLAN/MEASURES** Prepare and implement training and capacity-building measures for PIUs staff, relevant Implementing Agency staff, contractors, and supervising consultants on the Project's approach to environmental and social risk management, stakeholder engagement, worker and community health and safety, fieldwork protocols, labor management, sexual exploitation or abuse and sexual harassment (SEA/SH), and the worker and project grievance mechanisms. The SPC SDD will take lead to prepare, implement and oversee a capacity building plan for E&S risk management with the following milestones for all recipients: • All Project staff have received training on the ESCP, SEP, LMP and other Instruments • Grievance mechanism established and operating effectively • E&S risk management measures integrated into Project activity designs • E&S risk management measures integrated into bidding and contracting documents • Contractors and suppliers demonstrate understanding of, and can implement, their E&S obligations	Capacity building measures to commence within six months after the Effective Date of the Agreements, whichever comes last and thereafter continue throughout the Project implementation.	SPC SDD and Participating Countries' Implementing Agencies
MONITORING AND REPORTING			
C	**REGULAR REPORTING** 1. SPC SDD will prepare and submit to the Association consolidated regular monitoring reports on the environmental, social, health and safety (ESHS) performance of the Project. The reports shall include: • Status of preparation and implementation of E&S documents required under the ESCP. • Summary of stakeholder engagement activities carried out as per the Stakeholder Engagement Plan. • Complaints submitted to the grievance mechanisms, the grievance log, and progress made in resolving them. • E&S performance of contractors as reported through monthly contractors' reports. • Number of trainings delivered and topics covered. • Number and status of resolution of incidents and accidents reported under action E below. • Timebound action plan with assigned responsible persons for next six months of the project. 2. Establish in the POM suitable and effective reporting and coordination arrangements among SPC and participating country PIUs for the management of environmental and social risks and impacts of the regional Project, including quarterly environmental and social performance reporting by participating country PIUs to SPC.	1. Submit six-monthly reports to the Association throughout Project implementation, commencing after the Effective Date of the Agreements, whichever comes last. Submit each report to the Association no later than 60 days after the end of each reporting period. 2. No later than the Effective Date of the respective Agreements, and submit quarterly reports to SPC SDD throughout Project implementation	SPC SDD and Participating Countries' Implementing Agencies

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MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
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 Association.	Submit the reports to the Association as annexes to the reports to be submitted under action C above	SPC SDD and Participating Countries' Implementing Agencies
E	**INCIDENTS AND ACCIDENTS** Notify the Association 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 Association upon request. Arrange for an appropriate review of the incident or accident to establish its immediate, underlying and root causes. Prepare, agree with the Association, 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.	Notify the Association 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 Association no later than 10 days following the submission of the initial notice, unless a different timeframe is agreed to in writing by the Association.	SPC SDD and Participating Countries' Implementing Agencies
ESS 1: ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RISKS AND IMPACTS			
1.1	**ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL ASSESSMENTS AND/OR PLANS** 1. Update and implement the Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) and Labor Management Procedures (LMP) for the Project, consistent with the relevant ESSs. 2. Incorporate the Stakeholders Engagement Plan (SEP) and Labor Management Procedures (LMP) in the Project Operational Manual (POM). 3. Implement and require contractors/all types of project workers to implement the E&S risk management measures outlined in the Stakeholders Engagement Plan (SEP) and Labor Management Procedures (LMP) in the Project Operational Manual (POM).	1. No later than 60 days from the Effective Date of the Agreements, whichever comes last and throughout Project implementation 2. No later than the Effective Date of the Agreements, whichever comes last.	SPC SDD and Participating Countries' Implementing Agencies

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MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
	4. SPC SDD to prepare the site specific ESMP for the extension work under component 2, consistent with relevant ESSs. 5. Obtain and maintain all permits, licenses, consents and approvals required under applicable national and local requirements for the SPC office extension works.	3. Throughout Project implementation 4. Prepare the ESMP prior to launching the bidding process, and thereafter implement the ESMP throughout Project implementation. 5. Before commencement of the activities for which they are required, and maintain them throughout implementation, as applicable	
1.2	**MANAGEMENT OF CONTRACTORS** Incorporate the relevant aspects of the ESCP, including, inter alia, the Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP), the Labor Management Procedures (LMP), and code of conduct, into the E&S specifications of the procurement documents and contracts with contractors and supervising firms. 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 and supervision firms to the Association.	As part of the preparation of procurement documents and respective contracts. Supervise contractors throughout Project implementation. Copies of relevant contracts provided to the Association upon request.	SPC SDD and Participating Countries' Implementing Agencies
1.3	**TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE** 1. Prepare and then integrate into POM, procedures on (a) drafting and approval process (including clearance by Association) of Terms of Reference (ToR), work plans of technical assistance activities under the Project and (b) review and finalization of outputs of such TA so that the advice and other support provided is consistent with ESSs 1-10.	1. (a) Prepare the procedures prior to signing any contract included in the Procurement Plan and integrate the procedures into the POM no later than the Effective Date of the Agreements, whichever comes last. (b) Throughout Project implementation	SPC SDD and Participating Countries' Implementing Agencies

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MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
	2. Ensure that the consultancies, studies (including feasibility studies, if applicable), capacity building, training, and any other technical assistance activities under the Project are carried out in accordance with ToRs acceptable to the Association, that are consistent with the ESSs. Thereafter, prepare and finalize the outputs of such activities in compliance with the terms of reference.	2. Throughout Project implementation.	
1.4	**USE OF RECIPIENT'S ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL FRAMEWORK** Ensure that, for the purposes of ESS2 and ESS10, as applicable, the E&S risks and impacts of the Project are managed in accordance with this ESCP and only the specific aspects of the Recipient's E&S Framework identified in the ESRS, including the relevant national, and local policies, laws, regulations, procedures, implementing institutions, and implementation capacity applicable to those Standards. Promptly notify the Association of any changes to the Recipient's E&S Framework that may materially adversely affect the Recipient's ability to manage the E&S risks and impacts of the Project in line with the ESSs and the immediate measures taken or that are planned to be taken to address said changes and the ensuing potential risks and impacts of the Project. If, in the opinion of the Association, such changes adversely affect relevant ESHS risk management aspects of the Project, the Recipient shall agree to implement measures and actions to address them in a manner acceptable to the Association. The ESCP shall be updated to reflect such agreed actions.	Throughout Project implementation. Notify the Association immediately after taking notice of the change to the Recipient's E&S Framework. Subsequent actions, if requested by the Association, shall be reflected in an updated ESCP as indicated in paragraph 4 of the Initial Section of this ESCP.	SPC SDD and Participating Countries' Implementing Agencies
ESS 2: LABOR AND WORKING CONDITIONS			
2.1	**LABOR MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES** Update and implement the Labor Management Procedures (LMP) for the Project in accordance with ESS2.	Update, consult upon, disclose no later than 60 days from the Effective Date of the Agreements, whichever comes last, and thereafter implement the LMP throughout Project implementation.	SPC SDD and Participating Countries' Implementing Agencies
2.2	**OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY MANAGEMENT PLAN** 1. Prepare and implement OHS management measures to assess and manage the OHS risks and impacts of the Project.		

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MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
	2. Require contractors to prepare and implement OHS Management Plan in accordance with the LMP and the site-specific ESMP of the office extension.	1. As part of the preparation of procurement documents and respective contracts, and throughout Project implementation. 2. As part of the preparation of procurement documents and respective contract, and throughout Project implementation. Contractor to prepare and obtain clearance from SPC SDD prior to construction and thereafter implement the measures	SPC SDD, contractor and Participating Countries' Implementing Agencies
2.3	**GRIEVANCE MECHANISM FOR PROJECT WORKERS** Establish and operate a grievance mechanism for Project workers, as described in the LMP and consistent with ESS2.	Establish the mechanism with same timeframe as Action 2.1 and prior to engaging project workers and thereafter maintain and operate it throughout Project implementation	SPC and Participating Countries' Implementing Agencies, with support from SPC human resources, procurement, legal and safeguards expertise
ESS 3: RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT			
3.1	**WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN, RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT**	1. No later than the Effective Date of the Agreements, whichever comes last and thereafter implement throughout Project implementation	SPC SDD and& Participating Countries' Implementing Agencies

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MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
	1. Incorporate resource efficiency and pollution prevention and management measures in the POM. The Recipient shall ensure that ICT procurement under the Project incorporates resource efficiency and e-waste management measures consistent with Good International Industry Practice (GIIP), including requirements to requirements to prioritize energy-efficient equipment, minimize hazardous materials and implement appropriate take-back, buy-back, handling, and disposal arrangements for end-of-life electronic equipment in accordance with applicable national and relevant international regulations. 2. Prepare and implement the waste management measures included as part of the ESMP of the office extension, to manage hazardous and non-hazardous wastes, consistent with ESS3.	2. Prepare the ESMP prior to launching the bidding process, and thereafter implement the ESMP throughout Project implementation.	
ESS 4: COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY			
4.1	**SEA AND SH RISKS** Prepare and implement the following SEA and SH risks mitigation measures, to assess and manage the risks of SEA and SH: (1) Develop and adopt strict Codes of Conduct (CoC) for all project workers, including contractors, consultants, and trainers, explicitly prohibiting SEA/SH. (2) Incorporate SEA/SH clauses into all contractor and consultant contracts, making compliance with SEA/SH prevention and response measures a contractual obligation. (3) Establish accessible, confidential, and survivor-centered grievance mechanisms (GM) that are culturally appropriate and widely publicized within project-affected communities and among workers. (4) Monitor and report on SEA/SH measures including Number of CoC signed by project workers, and Number of SEA/SH incidents reported and closed.	Prepare and adopt the SEA/SH mitigation measures 60 days from the Effective Date of the Agreements, whichever comes last, and thereafter implement the SEA/SH mitigation measures throughout Project implementation.	SPC and Participating Countries' Implementing Agencies
4.2	**COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY** Assess and manage community health and safety risks associated with office extension works. Incorporate proportionate measures in the site-specific ESMP, consistent with ESS4.	Prepare the ESMP prior to launching the bidding process, and thereafter implement the ESMP throughout Project implementation.	SPC SDD and the contractor for the office extension works
ESS 10: STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION DISCLOSURE			
10.1	**STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN**		SPC SDD and Participating Countries' Implementing Agencies

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
	Update and implement the 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 shall include country-specific engagement considerations, as relevant, including arrangements for vulnerable and disadvantaged groups, Indigenous Peoples/ESS7 considerations where applicable, language accessibility, community-level consultation channels, and engagement arrangements to be confirmed before data collection or field activities commence in each participating country.	Update, consult upon, adopt, and disclose the Project SEP within 60 days after the Effective Date of the Agreements, whichever comes last, and thereafter implement it throughout Project implementation.	
10.2	**PROJECT GRIEVANCE MECHANISM** 1 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 service providers, all in a safe, confidential, and survivor-centered manner. 2. The grievance mechanism arrangements, including any country-specific provisions, shall be reviewed and, as needed, updated before the commencement of data collection or field activities in each participating country to reflect confirmed community-based reception points, local language materials, community liaison contacts, and SEA/SH referral channel details, as these are operationalized by country focal points under SPC PIU oversight.	1. The GM shall be established no later than 60 days after the Effective Date of the Agreements, whichever comes last and maintained and operated throughout Project implementation. 2. Country-specific grievance mechanism arrangements shall be confirmed and operationalized before the commencement of data collection or field activities in each participating country	SPC SDD and Participating Countries' Implementing Agencies
INDICATORS FOR IMPLEMENTATION READINESS			
The following actions are indicators for implementation readiness: A. Establishment of the regional PIU, and appointment of an SPC Project Manager responsible for overall project implementation and environmental and social oversight. B. Update, consult upon, disclose, adopt, and implement the Project SEP, consistent with ESS10. C. Incorporate E&S requirements into the Project Operational Manuals (POM). D. Prepare, consult upon, disclose, adopt, and implement the Project Labor Management Procedures (LMP), consistent with ESS2.			

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS	TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
E. Establish, publicize, maintain, and operate the Project grievance mechanism, consistent with ESS10 and Action 10.2 of this ESCP, prior to the commencement of Project activities. Country-specific grievance mechanism arrangements shall be confirmed and operationalized before data collection or field activities commence in each participating country.		