



GOBIERNO DE LA  
REPÚBLICA DE HONDURAS



# **Supporting Resilient Water Resources Management and Water Services Project**

**(P175896)**

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

**NOVEMBER 2021**

## ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL COMMITMENT PLAN

1. The Republic of Honduras (hereinafter, the **Recipient**), through the Inversión Estratégica de Honduras (INVEST-H), will implement the Supporting Resilient Water Resources Management and Water Services Project (hereinafter the **Project**). The International Development Association (hereinafter the **Association**), acting as administrator of the Climate Investment Fund (“CIF”) grant funds, has agreed to provide funding for the Project.
2. The Recipient, through INVEST-H, shall implement material measures and actions so that the Project is implemented in accordance with the Environmental and Social Standards (**ESSs**). This Environmental and Social Commitment Plan (ESCP) sets out all the material measures to be put into practice and their timing and refers to other specific documents or plans to be implemented.
3. The Recipient, through INVEST-H, shall also comply with the provisions of all other environmental and social documents required by virtue of the ESSs and mentioned in this ESCP, such as the Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF), Indigenous Peoples and Afro-descendant Planning Framework (IPPF), the Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP), the Resettlement Framework (RF), and the Labor Management Procedures (LMP) of the Water Security in the Dry Corridor Project (P169901) and Urban Water Supply Strengthening Project (P173125), as applicable, and the timelines specified in those E&S documents.
4. The Recipient is responsible to ensure compliance with all requirements of the ESCP to be carried out by INVEST-H or any other organization or unit referenced in 1 above. INVEST-H
5. Implementation of the material measures and actions set out in this ESCP shall be monitored and reported to the Association by the Recipient, through INVEST-H, as required by the ESCP and the conditions of the legal agreement, and the Association will monitor and assess progress and completion of the material measures and actions throughout implementation of the Project.
6. As agreed by the Association and the Recipient, this ESCP may be revised during Project implementation, to reflect adaptive management of Project changes and unforeseen circumstances or in response to assessment of Project performance conducted under the ESCP itself. Under such circumstances, the Recipient, through INVEST-H, shall agree to the changes with the Association and update the ESCP to reflect such changes. Agreement on changes to the ESCP will be documented through an exchange of letters signed between the Association and the Recipient, through INVEST-H. INVEST-H shall promptly disclose the updated ESCP.
7. Where there are Project changes, unforeseen circumstances, or where Project performance results in changes to the risks and impacts during Project implementation, the Recipient shall provide additional funds, if needed, to implement actions and measures to address such risks and impacts.

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
<b>MONITORING AND REPORTING</b>			
A	<p><b>REGULAR REPORTING</b></p> <p>Prepare and submit to the Association, as part of the six-monthly progress reports and final Report on the Project implementation, regular monitoring reports on the environmental, social, and health and safety (ESHS) performance of the Project, including but not limited to, implementation of the ESCP, occurrence of incidents and accidents, stakeholder engagement activities, and functioning of the grievance mechanism.</p>	Six-monthly reporting throughout Project implementation.	INVEST-H
B	<p><b>INCIDENTS AND ACCIDENTS</b></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, fatalities, incidents of sexual exploitation and abuse, and sexual harassment. Subsequently, as per the Association’s request, prepare a report on the incident or accident and propose any measures to prevent its recurrence.</p>	Within 48 hours after learning of any fatality or other incident or accident. The subsequent report shall be provided within a timeframe acceptable to the Association, as requested.	INVEST-H
<b>ESS 1: ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RISKS AND IMPACTS</b>			
1.1	<p><b>ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE</b></p> <p>The Project shall be implemented by the Project Management Unit (PMU) of the Water Security in the Dry Corridor Project (P169901), which shall work in coordination with the PMU of the Urban Water Supply Strengthening Project (P173125) for Part 2 of the Project.</p>	Throughout Project implementation.	INVEST-H

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
1.2.	<p><b>TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE</b></p> <p>a) The detailed TORs for the Environmental and Social Impact Assessments (ESIAs) and corresponding Environmental and Social Management Plans (ESMPs), and technical studies on the four <i>Sistemas Integrados de Agua Segura (SIAS)</i> to be carried out under Part 1 and those corresponding to the technical assistance provided under Part 2, shall be approved by the Association prior to initiation of relevant procurement processes.</p> <p>b) The studies, advisory services and outputs of any technical assistance provided under the Project, including, but not limited to, the development of environmental and social impact assessments, shall be prepared in a manner acceptable to the Association and shall duly incorporate and take into consideration the requirements of the Environmental and Social Standards, as appropriate.</p>	<p>Prior to launching of procurement process.</p> <p>Throughout the Project implementation</p>	INVEST-H

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
1.3	<p><b>MANAGEMENT TOOLS AND INSTRUMENTS</b></p> <p>a) All activities under Part 1 of the Project shall be carried out in accordance with the approved Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) for the Water Security in the Dry Corridor Project, as applicable, which was approved and disclosed by the Association as well as by INVEST-H at <a href="http://www.investhonduras.hn/seguridad-hidrica/">http://www.investhonduras.hn/seguridad-hidrica/</a> since April 17,2020.</p> <p>b) All activities under Part 2 of the Project shall be carried out in accordance with the approved ESMF for the Urban Water Supply Strengthening Project, as applicable, which was approved and disclosed by the Association as well as by INVEST-H at <a href="http://www.investhonduras.hn/agua-potable/">http://www.investhonduras.hn/agua-potable/</a> since May 12, 2020.</p>	<p>The ESMFs shall be applicable throughout Project implementation</p>	<p>INVEST-H</p>
<b>ESS 2: LABOR AND WORKING CONDITIONS</b>			

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
2.1	<p><b>LABOR MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES</b></p> <p>a) The Labor Management Procedures (LMP) developed for the Water Security in the Dry Corridor Project, which were approved and disclosed by the Association as well as by INVEST-H at: <a href="http://www.investhonduras.hn/seguridad-hidrica/">http://www.investhonduras.hn/seguridad-hidrica/</a>, shall be applicable to Project workers engaged in activities undertaken under Parts 1 and 3a.</p> <p>b) The LMP developed for the Urban Water Supply Strengthening Project, which were approved and disclosed by the Association as well as by INVEST-H at <a href="http://www.investhonduras.hn/agua-potable/">http://www.investhonduras.hn/agua-potable/</a>, shall be applicable to Project workers engaged in activities undertaken under Part 2 and 3b.</p> <p>c) The Project shall not employ persons under the age of 18 years old.</p> <p>d) Project workers, including consulting firms retained under the project, shall sign a code of conduct as part of their contracts, including Gender Based Violence provisions. INVEST-H shall monitor the firms' compliance with these provisions.</p> <p>e) Bidding documents and Project-financed contracts with consultancy firms shall include appropriate clauses to reflect relevant ESS2 requirements.</p>	<p>a) The LMP shall be implemented throughout Project implementation and subject to review in case necessary.</p> <p>b) The LMP shall be implemented throughout Project implementation and subject to review in case necessary.</p> <p>c) throughout Project implementation</p> <p>d) throughout Project implementation</p> <p>e) throughout Project implementation</p>	INVEST-H
2.2	<p><b>GRIEVANCE MECHANISM FOR PROJECT WORKERS</b></p> <p>INVEST-H establish, maintain, and operate a grievance mechanism for all Project workers, or require the operation of a grievance mechanism (in the case of consultancy firms), as applicable, and as further described in the LMPs referenced in 2.1.</p>	Throughout Project implementation.	INVEST-H
<b>ESS 3: RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT</b>			

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
3.1	<p><b>WATER BALANCES</b></p> <p>Develop water balances as part of the ESIA's for the Integrated Systems for Water Security (SIAS) under Part 1 in accordance with the ESMF for the Water Security in the Dry Corridor Project, including consideration of potential cumulative impacts on water resources. Based on the results, incorporate measures to promote the conservation of water resources into the corresponding ESIA's and ESMPs for both construction and operational phases.</p>	As part of the development of the SIAS's ESIA's and ESMPs under Part 1 of the Project.	INVEST-H
3.2	<p><b>WATER QUALITY</b></p> <p>Carry out water quality studies as part of the ESIA's for each SIAS under Part 1.</p>	As part of the development of the SIAS's ESIA's and ESMPs under Part 1 of the Project.	INVEST-H
3.3	<p><b>PEST MANAGEMENT</b></p> <p>For each SIAS aimed at providing water for agricultural applications, analyze the risks associated with pesticides and other chemicals which may result from the investment as part of the respective ESIA, and develop, within the corresponding ESMP, measures to promote an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) approach and minimize the use of pesticides or other dangerous agricultural chemicals.</p>	As part of the development of the SIAS ESIA's and ESMPs under Part 1.	INVEST-H
<b>ESS 4: COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY</b>			
4.1	<p>Relevant aspects of this standard shall be considered, as needed, under actions 1.2 and 1.3 above and as part of corresponding activities under the Project, including, inter alia, measures to: minimize the potential for community exposure to communicable diseases, including COVID-19; ensure that individuals or groups who, because of their particular circumstances, may be disadvantaged or vulnerable, have access to the development benefits resulting from the Project; address risks related to security personnel; and prevent and respond to sexual exploitation and abuse, and sexual harassment.</p>	Throughout Project implementation	INVEST-H

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
4.2	<p><b>DAM SAFETY</b></p> <p>Technical assistance activities for each SIAS under Part 1 of this Project shall include a dam failure risk analysis (according to the requirements applicable to Annex 1 of ESS 4), and development of emergency prevention and response plans in case of a failure/rupture of the systems, and any other applicable requirements as set out in the Environmental and Social Commitment Plan for the Water Security in the Dry Corridor Project.</p>	As part of the development of the SIAS technical and ESIA studies under Part 1 of the Project.	INVEST-H
<b>ESS 5: LAND ACQUISITION, RESTRICTIONS ON LAND USE AND INVOLUNTARY RESETTLEMENT</b>			
5.1	<p>Technical assistance activities for future implementation of the SIAS investments shall be the subject of detailed planning under Part 1 of this Project. The planning studies shall be carried out in accordance with the Resettlement Framework (RF) for the Water Security in the Dry Corridor Project (P169901), which is disclosed at the external site of the Association, and at: <a href="http://www.investhonduras.hn/seguridad-hidrica/">http://www.investhonduras.hn/seguridad-hidrica/</a> since February 2, 2020.</p>	As part of the development of the SIAS ESIA and ESMPs under Part 1 of the Project.	INVEST-H
<b>ESS 6: BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF LIVING NATURAL RESOURCES</b>			
6.1	<p>Technical assistance activities under the project shall not generate risks or impacts covered under ESS6; however, the ESIA for the four SIAS to be carried out under Part 1 shall confirm this and, if necessary, Biodiversity Management Plan(s) (BMP) shall be developed as part of corresponding ESMPs, in accordance with ESS6 and applicable national standards and in a manner acceptable to the Association.</p>	As part of the development of the SIAS ESIA and ESMPs under Part 1b.	INVEST-H



MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
<b>ESS 7: INDIGENOUS PEOPLES/SUB-SAHARAN AFRICAN HISTORICALLY UNDERSERVED TRADITIONAL LOCAL COMMUNITIES</b>			
7.1	<p><b>INDIGENOUS PEOPLES PLAN</b></p> <p>As part of technical assistance activities under Part 1, and as relevant, INVEST-H shall develop, consult and disclose an Indigenous Peoples Plan (IPP), in line with the Indigenous Peoples Planning Framework (IPPF) for the Water Security in the Dry Corridor Project, which was approved and disclosed by the Association and at: <a href="http://www.investhonduras.hn/seguridad-hidrica/">http://www.investhonduras.hn/seguridad-hidrica/</a> since May 2, 2020. The IPP shall include a Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) to ensure cultural appropriateness for indigenous peoples, as required in the IPPF.</p>	<p>IPPs shall be approved by the Bank prior to initiating the bidding process under the Water Security in the Dry Corridor Project of any activities which require the preparation of an IPP, in accordance with the requirements of the IPPF.</p>	INVEST-H
7.2	<p><b>GRIEVANCE MECHANISM</b></p> <p>Adjust, consult, adopt, and implement measures under the Project Grievance Redress Mechanism for the Water Security in the Dry Corridor Project, to ensure cultural appropriateness for indigenous peoples, as required in the IPPF.</p>	<p>Throughout Project implementation</p>	INVEST-H
<b>ESS 8: CULTURAL HERITAGE</b>			
8.1	<p>Under Part 1, the environmental and social assessments will be carried out and plans shall be developed in accordance with the ESMF prepared for the Water Security in the Dry Corridor Project, which includes (a) provisions for subproject-level screening and assessment of any known sites of cultural or historic importance which may be impacted locally, as well as identification of any sites of cultural/social importance for local communities; (b) chance find procedures; and (c) generic mitigation measures.</p>	<p>As part of the development of the SIAS, ESIA's and ESMPs under Part 1 of this Project.</p>	INVEST-H
<b>ESS 9: FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES</b>			
<p>Not relevant for the Project.</p>			

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS	TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
<b>ESS 10: STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION DISCLOSURE</b>		
<p>10.1 <b>STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN</b></p> <p>a) For Part 1.a of the Project: Information shall be disclosed in advance regarding Project activities in locations accessible to affected and other interested parties, including but not limited to: governmental institutions (central and sector institutions), municipal and traditional authorities, local leadership and beneficiaries of the 4 municipalities which will benefit from the <i>Sistemas Integrales de Agua Segura</i> (SIAS) in La Venta, Curarén, La Paz, and Intibuca. Information shall be socialized through the channels deemed effective for each context, including but not limited to email, phone calls, radio and INVEST-H's website.</p> <p>b) Part 1.b of the Project: Consultations shall be carried out with affected and other interested parties, and feedback shall be documented and integrated into feasibility studies, ESIA's and required ESMPs. Engagement shall also be carried out in accordance with the Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) of the Water Security in the Dry Corridor Project which was approved and disclosed by the Association as well as by INVEST-H at <a href="http://www.investhonduras.hn/seguridad-hidrica/">http://www.investhonduras.hn/seguridad-hidrica/</a></p> <p>c) Part 2 of the Project: Key stakeholders are ring-fenced water service providers, municipalities, the national Ente Regulador de los Servicios de Agua Potable y Saneamiento (ERSAPS), Municipal Councils for Water and Sanitation (Spanish acronym: COMAS), and Local Supervision and Control Units (Spanish acronym: USCLs). Outreach to municipalities and engagement with these stakeholders regarding the activities under Part 2 shall be carried out in accordance with the Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) for the Urban Water Supply Strengthening Project (P173125) which was approved and disclosed by the Association as well as by INVEST-H at <a href="http://www.investhonduras.hn/agua-potable/">http://www.investhonduras.hn/agua-potable/</a>.</p>	<p>a) Prior to start Project activities on site</p> <p>b) During implementation Part 1b activities.</p> <p>c) During implementation of Part 2 activities.</p>	<p>INVEST-H</p>

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
	<p>d) Consultations carried out during Project implementation shall follow the Government of Honduras guidelines for in-person gatherings to prevent COVID-19, and shall be in line with the WB’s Technical Note “Public Consultations and Stakeholder Engagement in WB-supported operations when there are constraints on conducting public meetings, March 20, 2020”. If in-person engagement in a COVID-19 context takes place during implementation, written authorization of local authorities shall be obtained, WHO guidance to prevent COVID-19 shall be followed and compliance shall be documented.</p>	d) Throughout Project implementation.	
10.2	<p><b>PROJECT GRIEVANCE MECHANISM</b></p> <p>a) The SEP for the Water Security in the Dry Corridor Project includes a GRM that shall be applied to the implementation of Part 1 of this Project.</p> <p>b) The SEP for the Urban Water Supply Strengthening Project includes a GRM that shall be applied to the implementation of Part 2 of this Project.</p> <p>Due to the technical nature of this Project, available channels will be: (i) in person; (ii) phone; (iii) email; and (iv) in person during consultations with stakeholders.</p>	<p>The grievance mechanisms shall be operated since effectiveness and throughout Project implementation. Regular reports under action A above shall provide information on their functioning.</p>	INVEST-H
<b>CAPACITY SUPPORT (TRAINING)</b>			
CS1	<p>Sufficient training on how to comply with the ESSs that are relevant to this Project will be provided to the PMU staff.</p>	<p>Within 60 days from the Project’s Effective Date.</p>	<p>INVEST-H with support of the Association</p>