

**United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
World Health Organization (WHO)**

***(On behalf of the Palestinian Liberation
Organization for the benefit of the Palestinian
Authority)***

Gaza Health Emergency Response Project (P503036)

Draft for Negotiation

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL COMMITMENT PLAN (ESCP)

November 20, 2023

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL COMMITMENT PLAN

1. On behalf of the Palestine Liberation Organization (for the benefit of the Palestinian Authority), the United Nations Children's Fund and the World Health Organization (hereinafter UNICEF and WHO, or, together, the "**Recipients**") shall jointly implement the **Gaza Health Emergency Response Project (P503036)** (the "**Project**") with the involvement of selected implementing partners, i.e., local agencies that the Recipients may engage to facilitate implementation of the Project as set out in the Financing Agreements. The International Development Association, acting as administrator of the Health Emergency and preparedness Response Trust Fund (hereinafter the "**Bank**") has agreed to provide financing for the Project as set out in the referred 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 Bank. The ESCP is a part of the Grant Agreements with the respective Recipients. Unless otherwise defined in this ESCP, capitalized terms used in this ESCP have the meanings ascribed to them in the referred agreements.
3. Without limitation to the foregoing, this ESCP sets out material measures and actions that UNICEF and WHO 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, and in form and substance, and in a manner acceptable to the Bank. Once adopted, said E&S instruments may be revised from time to time with prior written agreement by the Bank.
4. As agreed by the Bank and Recipients, this **ESCP** may be revised from time to time during Project implementation, to reflect adaptive management of Project changes and unforeseen circumstances or in response to Project performance. In such circumstances, the Recipients (UNICEF and WHO) shall agree to the changes with the Bank and shall agree to update the **ESCP** to reflect these changes. Agreement on changes to the **ESCP** shall be documented through the exchange of letters signed between the Bank and the Recipients. The Recipients shall promptly disclose the updated **ESCP**.

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
MONITORING AND REPORTING			
A	<p>REGULAR REPORTING:</p> <p>Prepare and submit to the Bank regular monitoring reports on the environmental, social, health and safety (ESHS) performance of the Project, including but not limited to the implementation of the ESCP, the status of preparation and implementation of E&S documents required under the ESCP, stakeholder engagement activities, functioning of the grievance mechanism(s) (GM)¹. In addition to the summarized contractor report (Action C) and incorporated as part of the Project’s progress report starting from the Effective Date and to be maintained throughout the Project implementation</p>	<p>Every 6 months as part of the Project’s progress report starting from the Effective Date and to be maintained throughout the Project implementation.</p>	<p>UNICEF, WHO</p>
B	<p>INCIDENTS AND ACCIDENTS:</p> <p>The Recipients shall promptly notify the Bank 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 without limitation, explosions, spills, and any workplace accidents that result in death or serious injuries, any violent and exceptional labor incident or dispute involving the Recipients or security forces (if any) in the Project area, and local communities.</p> <p>Provide sufficient details regarding the incident or accident, indicating immediate measures taken or that are planned to be taken to address it, and any information provided by any contractor and supervising entity, as appropriate. Subsequently, as per the Bank’s request, prepare a report on the incident or accident and propose any measures to prevent its recurrence to the extent that the cause of Significant Event is within the scope of the Recipient’s control.</p> <p><i>The Recipients (UNICEF and WHO) shall notify the Bank of any Sexual Exploitation and Abuse/Sexual Harassment (SEA/SH) suffered by beneficiaries receiving support under Respective Parts of the Project. Subsequently, as per the Bank’s request, prepare a report on the incident or accident and propose any measures to prevent its recurrence to the</i></p>	<p>The Recipients (UNICEF and WHO) shall notify the Bank within 48 hours after learning of, and confirming the incident or accident, and provide a summary report within 15 days of that notification indicating possible root causes and corrective actions, as requested by the Bank. Throughout Project Implementation as per the timeline indicated by the Bank.</p> <p><i>Notification on SEA/SH within 48 Hours and provision of summary report within a timeframe agreed with the Bank. Timeframe SEA/SH incident reporting is to be confirmed during Project Negotiations.</i></p>	<p>UNICEF, WHO</p>

¹ UNICEF is using the term Community Feedback Mechanisms, but other terms used for the same or similar mechanisms are Complaints and Feedback Mechanisms (CFM); Grievance and Redress Mechanism (GRM).

	<p><i>extent that the cause of Significant Event is within the scope of the Recipient's control.</i></p>		
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MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
C	<p>CONTRACTORS REGULAR REPORTS:</p> <p>Contractors (and implementing partners) shall be required to provide regular monitoring reports on the environmental, social, health and safety (ESHS) performance including but not limited to the implementation of the activity specific environmental and social management tool/ measures related to medical waste management, Labor and Occupational Health and Safety, community health and safety, GM implementation to the Recipients as part of their progress reports to the Recipient. Such reports shall be submitted to the Bank upon request.</p>	<p>Submit regular reports to the Bank during the project implementation period upon request under Action A.</p>	<p>UNICEF, WHO</p>
ESS 1: ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RISKS AND IMPACTS			
1.1	<p>ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE:</p> <p>The Recipients shall, through the Project Coordination Committee and their qualified staff, ensure adequate resources (from regional offices and/or in-country staff) to support management of ESHS risks and impacts of the Project including: (i) assigning and maintaining E&S staff including, Risk and ESS Manager, and Gender/GBV Specialists in the regional hub of each agency, and, (ii) once security conditions allows, assign qualified ESHS and GBV specialists in the Gaza Strip.</p> <p>Local implementing partners shall also use site engineers/consultants as needed to perform the monitoring and reporting functions.</p>	<p>For the Recipients adequate E&S staff shall be assigned/engaged prior to the start of the relevant activities and maintained throughout Project implementation to cover and support the management of ESHS risks and impacts.</p> <p>The Recipients may combine their efforts and share human resources where required to enhance efficiency.</p>	<p>UNICEF, WHO</p>
1.2	<p>ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL ASSESSMENT:</p> <p>a. The Recipient will develop, adopt, consult and disclose and implement Environmental and Social Management Tool including E&S risk and mitigation tools not limited to (template for E&S screening procedures, templates for activity specific Environmental and Social Management tools (i.e ESMP checklist), WMP, Medical Waste Management Plan, LMP, community health and safety management measures, SEA/SH Action Plan, life fire and safety) in accordance with the requirements of the relevant ESSs and acceptable to the Bank.</p> <p>b. The Recipients shall ensure that activity specific Environmental and Social Management Tools are consulted, cleared, disclosed and adopted and implemented prior to the carrying out of relevant activities in accordance with the activity specific Environmental and Social Management Tool templates, consistent</p>	<p>a. Within one month of the Project Effective Date and prior to carrying out any project activities and shall be implemented throughout the project.</p> <p>b. Prior to carrying out relevant activity /sub-project activities, and thereafter implemented throughout Project implementation.</p>	<p>UNICEF, WHO</p>

	with ESS1 and in a manner acceptable to the Bank.		
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1.3	<p>MANAGEMENT TOOLS AND INSTRUMENTS: The Recipient shall screen any proposed activity/sub-project in accordance with the respective Environmental and Social Screening procedures (under Action 1.2), <i>(and when is needed liaise with UNMASS to conduct UXO assessment of the site priori)</i> prepared for the Project, and, thereafter, prepare, consult upon, finalize with incorporation of relevant feedback, clear, disclose adopt, and implement an activity specific environmental and social management tool measures as required, in a manner acceptable to the Bank.</p>	<p>An activity specific environmental and social management tool shall be prepared, consulted upon, cleared, disclosed, and adopted before the carrying out of the relevant sub-Project activities, and thereafter implemented throughout Project implementation.</p>	<p>UNICEF, WHO</p>
1.4	<p>MANAGEMENT OF CONTRACTORS: Ensure that the relevant aspects of this ESCP, including, inter-alia, activity-specific environmental and social management tools and Labor Management Procedures requirements are included into the ESHS specifications of the bidding and procurement documents with all contractors and sub-contractors, including those that will be signed under the credit line for all sub-projects by contractors selected for the specific sub-projects.</p> <p>Ensure that contractors comply and cause sub-contractors to comply with the ESHS specifications of their respective contracts and report on them in line with the requirements of this ESCP.</p>	<p>The relevant ESHS measures shall be incorporated into the procurement documents before launching the procurement process for the relevant Project activities and shall thereafter comply with throughout the carrying out of such activities.</p>	<p>UNICEF, WHO</p>

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
1.6	<p>THIRD PARTY MONITORING:</p> <p>Third Party Monitoring Agent(s) shall engage on the terms of reference satisfactory to the Bank, to provide independent review of Project implementation and verification of Project results and adherence to all Environmental & Social requirements addressed in the ESCP and all ESHS instruments, including through, inter alia: periodic site visits, assessment of local context and conditions, interviews, awareness raising, training and preparation of reports.</p> <p>Each monitoring report prepared by the Third-Party Monitoring Agent(s) shall cover a period of three (3) months</p>	<p>Third-Party Monitoring Agent(s) are maintained throughout its Project implementation.</p> <p>Throughout the Project implementation.</p>	UNICEF, WHO
1.7	<p>ACTIVITIES SUBJECT TO RETROACTIVE FINANCING</p> <p>If the retroactive is applicable for any of the project activities, the Recipients should ensure that all activities identified under retroactive financing are implemented in compliance with the World Bank ESSs and the WBG Health and Safety Guidelines for WBG EHS guidelines for healthcare facilities for sources of good international industry practices). If needed, proportionate corrective action measures, as appropriate and agreed with the Bank, and implemented</p>	Within one month of the project effective date	UNICEF, WHO
ESS 2: LABOR AND WORKING CONDITIONS			

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2.1.	<p>LABOR MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES: UNICEF and WHO shall prepare, as part of the project Environmental and Social Management Tool, consult, clear, disclose, adopt and implement Labor Management Procedures (LMP) for all Project workers, aligned with the requirements of WB ESS2 and in a manner acceptable to the Bank.</p> <p>The Project shall be carried out in accordance with the applicable requirements of WB ESS2, in a manner acceptable to the Bank, including through, among others, implementing adequate occupational health and safety measures (including emergency preparedness and response measures), prohibiting forced labor, and employment of children under the age of 18 on any aspect of the Project, setting out grievance arrangements that are accessible for Project workers, and incorporating labor requirements into the ESHS specifications of the procurement documents and contracts with contractors.</p> <p>Include in the LMP and implement the requirement that relevant Project workers, as defined in paragraph 3 of ESS 2, sign a code of conduct (CoC) to uphold ethical standards and relevant E&S obligations and national legislation, prior to carrying out activities under the Project. Include procedures for operating the sub-projects sites and conducting the activities in accordance with Communicable Diseases Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations.</p>	<p>Same timeline as 1.2 above and to be implemented thereafter throughout Project implementation.</p> <p>Throughout Project implementation.</p>	UNICEF and WHO
2.2	<p>GRIEVANCE MECHANISM FOR PROJECT WORKERS WHO and UNICEF Grievance Mechanisms (GM) shall be accessible for Project workers as described in the Project SEP and LMP. The grievance mechanisms will be maintained and remain available and functional to receive and facilitate resolution of concerns and grievances in relation to the Project labor management. As per WB ESS10, the same actions shall be applied, and the communication details shall be distributed for workers at the sub-Project sites.</p>	GM for each Recipient shall be operational prior to engaging Project workers. GM shall be maintained throughout the Project implementation.	UNICEF, WHO
2.3	<p>OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY (OHS) MEASURES: Include in the site-specific environmental and social management tools and the bidding documents and</p>	Throughout the Project implementation.	UNICEF, WHO

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	implement occupational health and safety (OHS) measures as per applicable national laws and regulations, ESS2, and the relevant World Bank Group’s Environmental Health and Safety Guidelines (EHSGs).		
ESS 3: RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT			
3.1	<p>WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN: Adopt and implement waste management procedures to manage hazardous and non-hazardous waste consistent with the requirements of WB ESS3 under the Environmental and Social Management Tool, and shall be included in the activity specific environmental and social management tool, and implemented thereafter in a manner acceptable to the Bank.</p>	Same timeline as per Action1.3. Hereinafter implemented throughout the Project implementation.	UNICEF, WHO
3.2	<p>RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT: Resource efficiency and pollution prevention and management measures will be covered under the activity-specific environmental and social management tools, including, inter alia, measures to manage waste and to use resources.</p> <p>A Medical Waste Management Plan (MWMP) shall be prepared, as part of the Environmental and Social Management Tool, reviewed, cleared, disclosed as part of the Project Environmental and Social Management Tool, adopted and implemented by the Recipients in accordance with implementing agencies’ rules and regulations and consistent with ESS3, relevant World Bank Group’s Environmental, Health and Safety Guidelines (WBG EHS Guidelines), and relevant sources of Good International Industry Practices (as defined in WB ESS3)</p>	<p>Same timeline as per Action 1.3. Hereinafter implemented throughout the Project implementation.</p> <p>Same timeline as Action 1.2 above and hereinafter implemented throughout the Project implementation.</p>	UNICEF, WHO
ESS 4: COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY			

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
4.2	<p>COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY: WHO and UNICEF shall ensure that specific risks and impacts to the community arising from Project activities are assessed and managed, including, inter alia, to minimize the potential for community and workers exposure to hazardous materials, activities that present risk of injuries; minimize the potential for community exposure to communicable diseases; life and fire safety, endeavor to ensure that individuals or groups who, because of their particular circumstances, may be disadvantaged or vulnerable (including physical and non-physical accessibility for persons with disabilities and other vulnerable groups), have access to the development benefits resulting from the Project. Community Health and Safety Management measures will be included in the Project Environmental and Social Management Tool and adopted and implemented as appropriate for the project.</p>	Same timeline as per Action1.2. Herein after implemented throughout the Project implementation.	UNICEF, WHO
4.3	<p>GBV AND SEA RISKS: WHO and UNICEF shall adopt and implement a Gender-Based Violence Action Plan (GBV), as part of the Environmental and Social Management Tool, in accordance with WB ESS4 and relevant WB good practice notes on GBV, and in line with existing inter-agency frameworks and agreements, to assess and manage GBVrisks related to the Project and prevent and respond to sexual exploitation and abuse, and sexual harassment. The plan shall include, but is not limited to, site-specific actions to prevent and mitigate risks of sexual exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment (SEA/SH) and enforce their implementation; development and adherence to Code of Conduct; GBV-sensitized grievance mechanisms; awareness raising of Project workers and community members on GBV risks and mitigation measures.</p>	The GBV Action Plan will be prepared, agreed with the Bank, included in the Environmental and Social Management Tool and adopted in time for carrying out of relevant activities and shall be implemented throughout Project implementation.	UNICEF, WHO
ESS 5: LAND ACQUISITION, RESTRICTIONS ON LAND USE AND INVOLUNTARY RESETTLEMENT			
	Not relevant		
ESS 6: BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF LIVING NATURAL RESOURCES			
	Not relevant		

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
ESS 7: INDIGENOUS PEOPLES/SUB-SAHARAN AFRICAN HISTORICALLY UNDERSERVED TRADITIONAL LOCAL COMMUNITIES			
	Not relevant		
ESS 8: CULTURAL HERITAGE			
	Not relevant		
ESS 9: FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES			
	Not relevant		
ESS 10: STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION DISCLOSURE			
10.1	<p>STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN PREPARATION AND IMPLEMENTATION: Prepare, consult upon, adopt, disclose and implement the joint Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) consistent with WB ESS10 and in a manner acceptable to the Bank.</p> <p>Conduct inclusive stakeholder engagement activities, including female stakeholders and vulnerable groups, and document the summary of consultations. Consultations in Gaza (virtual and/or face-to-face) will be conducted depending on the security situation and availability of reliable telecommunication services in the targeted intervention areas.</p>	<p>The joint Stakeholder Engagement Plan was prepared and disclosed on November 20, 2023 and shall be implemented throughout Project implementation.</p> <p>Consultations in Gaza shall be conducted, if and as required and when conditions allow, prior to commencing implementation of activities and continued during implementation as required and as conditions allow.</p>	UNICEF, WHO
10.2	<p>PROJECT GRIEVANCE MECHANISMS: WHO and UNICEF shall utilize, expand (if necessary), publicize, maintain, and operate their existing 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.</p>	<p>WHO and UNICEF GMs are operational and shall be enhanced (if required) and maintained throughout Project implementation.</p>	UNICEF, WHO

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY/AUTHORITY
	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.		
CAPACITY SUPPORT (TRAINING)			
CS1	Each Recipient will provide orientation/sensitization and training to targeted groups, including project workers and staff, involved in Project implementation, about ESCP related relevant topics but not limited to SEA/SH, health and safety, waste management, stakeholder engagement, grievance redress, community health and safety).	Throughout Project implementation.	UNICEF, WHO