



Palestinian Water Authority (PWA)

## ENVIRONMENTAL and SOCIAL COMMITMENT PLAN (ESCP)

Water Security and Resilience Program (WSRP)-Phase 1  
(WSRP-1) P176025

Prepared by  
Palestinian Water Authority (PWA)

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## ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL COMMITMENT PLAN

1. The Palestinian Liberation Organization (for the benefit of the Palestinian Authority) (the Recipient) will implement the Water Security Development Program (WSDP) P176025 (the Project), with the involvement of the Palestinian Water Authority (PWA), the executing agency. The World Bank, acting as the administrator/accredited entity of Trust Fund for Gaza and West (TFGWB) and Palestinian Partnership for Infrastructure Development Multi-Donor Trust Fund (PID-MDTF), has agreed to provide US\$ 51.0 million (TFGWB: US\$25 million and PID-MDTF: US\$26 million) for the preparation of the first in Series of Projects (hereinafter SoP-1) of the Water Security and Resilience Program (WSRP).
2. The Recipient 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 SoP-1 of the Grant Agreement of the Water Security and Resilience Program. 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, 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 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 Recipient, 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 Recipient through the Palestinian Water Authority (PWA) and the World Bank agrees to update the ESCP to reflect these changes through an exchange of letters signed between the World Bank and the Palestinian Water Authority (PWA). The Recipient shall promptly disclose the updated ESCP.

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
<b>MONITORING AND REPORTING</b>			
A	<p><b>REGULAR REPORTING</b></p> <p>Prepare and submit to the World 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, status of preparation and implementation of E&amp;S instruments required under the ESCP, namely the Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF), Resettlement Framework (RF), Labor Management Procedures (LMP) and stakeholder engagement activities and functioning of the grievance mechanism(s) in accordance with the Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) as relevant.</p>	Starting from the Project Effectiveness Date, quarterly reports shall be submitted to the World Bank throughout Project implementation. Submit each report no later than 15 days after the end of each reporting period.	PWA
B	<p><b>INCIDENTS AND ACCIDENTS</b></p> <p>Promptly notify the World 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, inter alia, cases of sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA), sexual harassment (SH), and accidents that result in death, serious or multiple injuries (e.g. road and traffic accidents, cases of Covid-19 and other communicable diseases) during project related civil works, operation and maintenance of infrastructure, technical assistance (e.g. trainings) and other relevant project activities. The anticipated risk of such incidents and accidents is low to moderate and requisite mitigation measures, proportionate to the level of risk, will be included in E&amp;S instruments, as required, and implemented during the project.</p> <p>Subsequently, at the World Bank's request, prepare a report on the incident or accident and propose any measures to address it and prevent its recurrence.</p>	<p>Notify the World Bank no later than 48 hours after learning of the incident or accident.</p> <p>Fatalities will be reported within 24 hours after occurrence.</p> <p>Provide subsequent reports to the World Bank within a timeframe acceptable to the World Bank</p>	PWA
C	<p><b>CONTRACTORS' MONTHLY REPORTS</b></p> <p>Require contractors and supervising firms to provide monthly reports on ESHS performance in accordance with the metrics specified in the respective bidding documents and contracts and submit such reports to the World Bank.</p>	Submit the monthly reports to the World Bank as annexes to the reports to be submitted under action A above, and if required earlier, separately upon request.	PWA
<b>ESS 1: ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RISKS AND IMPACTS</b>			
1.1	<p><b>ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE</b></p> <p>The PWA will hire and maintain qualified staff and resources to support management of ESHS risks and impacts of the Project including one Environmental Specialist and one Social Specialist in the West Bank Project Coordination Unit (PCU), and one field Engineer for each sub-component in Hebron and Jenin who will be assigned responsibility for E&amp;S implementation.</p>	The Environmental Specialist and the Social Specialist in the PCU and the field Engineers hired not later than project effectiveness date; qualified staff maintained with resources throughout Project implementation.	PWA

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS	TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
<p>1.2 <b>ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL INSTRUMENTS</b></p> <p>1. Disclose, adopt and implement an Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) for the Project, consistent with the relevant ESSs, and in a manner acceptable to the World Bank.</p> <p>2. Prepare, adopt and implement Environmental and Social Impact Assessments/Environmental and Social Management Plans (ESIAs/ESMPs), for Subcomponent 1.1 – Bulk Water System in Jenin, and Sub-component 1.2 – Northeast Villages Water Distribution Systems.</p> <p>3. Subcomponent 1.3 – operation and maintenance of the Hebron wastewater treatment plant (WWTP).</p> <p>a. Prepare, adopt, and implement an Environmental and Social Report for the performance of the Hebron WWTP facility, after the commissioning and operation of the facility, to ensure compliance with all provisions of the Environmental, Social, and Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment (ESCHIA) 2020 of the WWTP.</p> <p>b. Review, update, and maintain the ESMP for the operation phase of the Hebron Wastewater treatment plant prepared under the ESCHIA 2020, including any remedies identified in the E&amp;S Report prepared under 3.a. above, and management plans such as Pest Management Plan, Occupational Health and Safety Plan (OHS) plan, and Emergency Response Plan (ERP)</p>	<p>1. ESMF disclosed by Project appraisal (January 15, 2023) and thereafter adopted and implemented throughout Project implementation.</p> <p>2. The ESIAs/ESMPs will be reviewed and cleared by the Bank and disclosed prior to the commencement of the bidding process. Thereafter implement the ESIAs/ESMPs throughout Project implementation.</p> <p>3.a The ES Report should be furnished once the E&amp;S Measures are implemented and the WWTP is operational as per the standards, and the report should be reviewed and cleared by the World Bank .</p> <p>3.b The updated ESMP shall be submitted to the World Bank not later than 3 months after commissioning the operation of the WWTP , then reviewed and cleared by the Bank, and further adopted and implemented throughout project implementation.</p>	PWA
<p>1.3 <b>MANAGEMENT OF CONTRACTORS</b></p> <p>Incorporate the relevant aspects of the ESCP, including, inter alia, the relevant E&amp;S instruments, the LMP, and code of conduct (CoC), into the ESHS specifications of the bidding/procurement documents and contracts with contractors and supervising firms. Thereafter ensure that the contractors and supervising firms comply and cause subcontractors to comply with the ESHS specifications of their respective contracts.</p>	<p>As part of the preparation of bidding/procurement documents and respective contracts. Supervise the contractors throughout Project implementation.</p>	PWA
<p>1.4 <b>TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE</b></p> <p>Ensure that the technical assistance (e.g. consultancies and studies such as feasibility studies, assessments, technical design etc.) and capacity building activities (e.g. trainings) to address</p>	Throughout Project implementation.	PWA

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
	<p>sector challenges and sector reform and support improved social accountability of service providers are carried out in accordance with ESF Guidelines for Technical Assistance (TA) including for example (but not limited to):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- for capacity building, training etc.: terms of reference acceptable to the World Bank that are consistent with the ESSs and thereby ensure that the outputs of such activities comply with the terms of reference.</li> <li>- for detailed technical designs: relevant ESF instruments, as required for the relevant ESSs, to be prepared and reviewed and cleared by the Bank.</li> </ul>		
1.5	<p><b>CONTINGENT [EMERGENCY] [EARLY] RESPONSE FINANCING</b></p> <p>a) Prepare and ensure that the Contingency Emergency Response Component (CERC) Manual as specified in the legal agreement includes a description of the ESHS assessment and management arrangements including, for the implementation of Component 4: Contingent Emergency Response Component, in accordance with the ESSs.</p> <p>b) Prepare and adopt any environmental and social (E&amp;S) instruments which may be required for activities under the CERC component of the Project, in accordance with the CERC Manual and the ESSs, and thereafter implement the measures and actions required under said E&amp;S instruments, within the timeframes specified in said E&amp;S instruments.</p>	<p>a) The preparation and adoption of the CERC manual in form and substance acceptable to the World Bank prior to implementing activities under component 4.</p> <p>b) Adopt any required E&amp;S instrument and include it as part of the respective bidding process, if applicable, and in any case, before the carrying out of the relevant Project activities for which the E&amp;S instrument is required. Implement the E&amp;S instruments in accordance with their terms, throughout Project implementation.</p>	PWA
<b>ESS 2: LABOR AND WORKING CONDITIONS</b>			
2.1	<p><b>LABOR MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES</b></p> <p>Prepare, adopt and implement a Labor Management Procedures (LMP) for the Project, including, inter alia, provisions on working conditions, management of workers relationships, occupational health and safety (including personal protective equipment, and emergency preparedness and response), code of conduct (including relating to SEA and SH), forced labor, child labor, grievance arrangements for Project workers, and applicable requirements for contractors, subcontractors, and supervising firms.</p>	Prepare and adopt the LMP one month before project approval and before hiring any contracted workers.	PWA
2.2	<p><b>GRIEVANCE MECHANISM FOR PROJECT WORKERS</b></p> <p>Establish and operate a grievance mechanism for Project workers, as described in the LMP and consistent with ESS2.</p>	Establish workers' grievance mechanism prior to engaging Project workers and	PWA

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
		thereafter maintain and operate it throughout Project implementation	
<b>ESS 3: RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT</b>			
3.1	<b>WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN</b> a. For component 1.1 and 1.2: Prepare and implement a Waste Management Plan (WMP), to manage hazardous and non-hazardous wastes, as part of subcomponent site-specific ESIA/ESMPs described under 1.2 above.  b. For component 1.3: Review and update the Waste Management Plan (WMP) prepared under the ESCHIA Hebron wastewater treatment plant and part of the ESMP for the WWTP, to manage hazardous and non-hazardous wastes, as described under 1.2 above, consistent with ESS3.	a. To be included in the site-specific ESIA/ESMPs, and implemented throughout the Project implementation.  b. To be submitted to the Bank for clearance no later than three months after commissioning the operation of the WWTP and prior starting the plant operation and maintained throughout the operation of the WWTP.	PWA
3.2	<b>RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT</b> Incorporate resource efficiency and pollution prevention and management measures in the ESMF and ESIA/ESMPs to be prepared under action [1.2] above.	To be included in the the site-specific ESIA/ESMPs, and maintained throughout Project implementation.	
<b>ESS 4: COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY</b>			
4.1	<b>TRAFFIC AND ROAD SAFETY</b> Incorporate measures to manage traffic and road safety risks as required in the ESIA/ESMPs to be prepared under action [1.2] above.	Same timeframe as for the preparation of the ESIA/ESMPs and thereafter implemented throughout Project implementation	PWA
4.2	<b>COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY</b> a. Adopt and implement Community Health and Safety Measures included in the ESMF prepared under 1.2 above.  b. Assess and manage specific risks and impacts to the community arising from Project activities including, inter alia, behavior of Project workers, interruption of public services and facilities, response to emergency situations, and include mitigation measures, proportionate to the level of risk, in the ESMPs to be prepared in accordance with the ESMF.	a. Adopt and implement Community Health and Safety Measures throughout Project implementation b. Same timeframe as for the preparation of the ESIA/ESMPs and thereafter implemented throughout Project implementation	PWA
4.3	<b>SEA AND SH RISKS</b> Assess and manage the risks of SEA and SH arising from Project activities and include SEA/SH mitigation measures, proportionate to the level of risk, site-specific subproject ESIA/ESMPs and Grievance Mechanisms.	Same timeframe as for the preparation of the ESIA/ESMPs and thereafter implemented throughout Project implementation.	PWA
4.4	<b>SECURITY MANAGEMENT</b>	Prior to engaging security personnel and thereafter implemented throughout Project implementation.	PWA

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 site specific ESMPs and/or Security Management Plan 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.		
<b>ESS 5: LAND ACQUISITION, RESTRICTIONS ON LAND USE AND INVOLUNTARY RESETTLEMENT</b>			
5.1	<b>RESETTLEMENT FRAMEWORK</b> Adopt and implement a Resettlement Framework (RF) for subprojects under Component 1, subcomponents 1.1 and 1.2, consistent with ESS5.	The RF to be disclosed by project appraisal, adopted and thereafter implemented throughout Project implementation.	PWA
5.2	<b>RESETTLEMENT PLANS</b> a. Prepare, consult, disclose, adopt and implement site-specific Resettlement Plans (RPs) for subprojects 1.1 and 1.2, if required, as set out in the RF and consistent with ESS5.	The site-specific subproject RPs will be prepared, reviewed and cleared by the Bank and disclosed and adopted prior to the commencement of the bidding process for the corresponding subprojects. RPs shall be implemented before taking possession of the concerned land and related assets and prior to handing over the site to the contractor and commencement of construction activities.	PWA
5.3	<b>GRIEVANCE MECHANISM</b> The GM to address resettlement related complaints will be described in the RF and SEP.	Adopt the GM as part of the RF and SEP.	PWA
<b>ESS 6: BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF LIVING NATURAL RESOURCES</b>			
6.1	<b>BIODIVERSITY RISKS AND IMPACTS</b> Where significant risk and adverse impacts on biodiversity, adopt and implement a Biodiversity Management Plan (BMP) as part of the ESIAs/ESMPs, in accordance with the guidelines of the ESMF to be prepared for the Project, and consistent with ESS6.	Adopt the BMP as part of the ESIAs/ESMPs, and thereafter implement the BMP throughout Project implementation.	PWA
<b>ESS 8: CULTURAL HERITAGE</b>			
8.1	<b>CHANCE FINDS</b> Describe and implement the chance finds procedures, as part of the ESMF/ESIAs/ESMPs of the Project.	Describe the chance find procedures in the ESMF/ESIAs/ESMPs. Implement the procedures throughout Project implementation.	PWA
<b>ESS 10: STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION DISCLOSURE</b>			

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
10.1	<p><b>STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN PREPARATION AND IMPLEMENTATION</b></p> <p>Adopt 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.</p>	The SEP disclosed by project appraisal will be adopted, and thereafter implemented throughout Project implementation.	PWA
10.2	<p><b>PROJECT GRIEVANCE MECHANISM</b></p> <p>Establish, publicize, maintain, and operate an accessible grievance mechanism, to receive and facilitate the 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 (PAP), at no cost and without retribution, including concerns and grievances filed anonymously, in a manner consistent with ESS10.</p> <p>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.</p>	Establish the grievance mechanism as part of the SEP, and thereafter maintain and operate the mechanism throughout Project implementation, upon project commencement.	PWA
<b>CAPACITY SUPPORT</b>			
CS1	<p>Qualified environmental and social consultants, PWA staff etc. will provide training for the PCU, Hebron and Jenin field Engineers, and Hebron Wastewater Treatment Plant staff; contractors; supervision consultants etc. as detailed in the project capacity development plan including (but not limited to):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Specific aspects of environmental and social assessment</li> <li>• Occupational Health and Safety management for construction works</li> <li>• Integrating Environmental and Social Requirements in the procurement documents and compliance of the same</li> <li>• Emergency Preparedness and Response</li> <li>• Community Health and Safety Plan and Measures</li> <li>• ESMP implementation, monitoring, and reporting</li> <li>• Works relevant ESHS</li> <li>• Grievance Mechanism, including Workers' Grievance Mechanism</li> <li>• Stakeholder Identification and Engagement</li> <li>• Citizen Engagement and Information Disclosure and Dissemination</li> <li>• Gender and Inclusion Issues (e.g. regarding vulnerable groups such as persons with disabilities, women-headed households, elderly, etc.)</li> <li>• Mitigation against SEA and SH</li> <li>• Labor Management</li> <li>• Code of Conduct for Workers</li> </ul>	An annual training program and calendar shall be prepared at the beginning of each year and shared with the World Bank and training shall be conducted based on the agreed annual training plan.	PWA and the World Bank



MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
CS2	Training for Project workers on (not limited to): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Occupational health and safety</li> <li>• Emergency prevention and preparedness and response arrangements to emergency situations.</li> <li>• Code of Conduct for Workers</li> <li>• SEA and SH issues</li> <li>• Grievance Mechanism for Workers</li> <li>• Community Health and Safety Issues</li> </ul>	Starts with Project commencement date and maintained throughout Project implementation	PWA and Contractor(s)