REPUBLIC OF TAJIKISTAN

Ministry of Energy and Water Resources of the Republic of Tajikistan

State Unitary Enterprise "Khojagii Manziliyu Kommunali

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK

Water Supply and Sanitation Investment Project – WSIP-1

May 30, 2023

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ARAP	Abbreviated Resettlement Action Plan
CEP	Committee on Environmental Protection
Chl.	Chlorine
CO	Community Organizations
DEIS	Draft Environmental Impact Statements
DWSO	Drinking Water Supply Organizations
EA	Environmental Assessment
EEW	Electronic and other electrical waste
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
ESM	Environmental and Social Matrix
ESMF	Environment and Social Management Framework
ESMP	Environment and Social Management Plan
ESS	Environmental and Social Standard
FS	Feasibility Study
GIIP	Good International Industry Practice
GOST	State standard
GoT	Government of Republic of Tajikistan
GR	Groundwater Resources
GRC	Grievance Redress Committee
GRM	Grievance Redress Mechanism
GRS	Grievance Redress System
HH	Household
IDA	International Development Association
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
Masl	Meters above sea level
MEWR	Ministry of Energy and Water Resources
Mln.	Million
NDS	National Development Strategy
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NSP	Total Number of Suspended Particles
NWSRP	National Water Sector Reform Program
O&M	Operation and Maintenance

OHS	Occupational Health and Safety
OHSEP	Occupational Health and Safety and Environmental Protection
PDO	Project Development Objective
PMU	Project Management Unit
PPE	Personal Protective Equipment
PS	Pumping Station
SCEP	State Committee on Environmental Protection
SEE	State Environmental Expertise
SES	State Sanitary and Epidemiological Surveillance Service
SPNA	Specially Protected Natural Areas
SR	Service Reservoir
SUE KMK	State Unitary Enterprise "Khojagii Manziliyu Kommunali"
VMC	Vakhsh Main Canal
WASH	Water Supply, Sanitation and Hygiene
WS	Water supply
WSIP-1	Water Supply and Sanitation Investment Program - Phase 1
WSS	Water and Sewage System
WW	Wastewater
WWTP	Wastewater Treatment Plant

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The project development objective (PDO) is to improve access to safely managed water supply services in selected districts and to strengthen the capacity of institutions in the water supply and sanitation sector for improved service delivery.

The proposed project area covers the replacement of the main bulk water supply pipeline leading to expansion of the water supply coverage for the selected settlements of Balkhi and Dusti districts, which in the past received drinking water from the Vakhsh bulk transmission system. The existing water systems (the Vakhsh main water supply system and others) have deteriorated during last 50-60 years and have exceeded their technical and economic design life span. As a result, currently, the coverage on average is estimated at less than 20 percent of the population, and the quality of services and water supplied is extremely poor. Most pipes are steel and cast iron with a small percentage of asbestos cement. The network has a lot of leakages that the services provider tries to repair on an ad hoc basis. Villages with deteriorating infrastructure slowly shifted to the use of informal sources, such as irrigation canals, ditches, shallow groundwater tubewells, and dug wells. The small irrigation canals can be used only from March to November. In some areas, people rely on water tankers to fill storage tanks using concrete or metal storage containers in the yards.

The World Bank-funded Water Supply and Sanitation Investment Program – Phase 1 (WSIP-1) provides funding for capital investments to improve access to basic and safe water services in selected districts of Tajikistan, and to build sector capacity to improve policy development processes, sector planning and regulation, operational and financial performance of service providers. WSIP-1 will be implemented by the Ministry of Energy and Water Resources (MEWR) and the State Unitary Enterprise "Khojagii Manziliyu Kommunali" (SUE KMK), aiming to improve access to safe water in Khatlon region and make priority investments in the infrastructure of the Vakhsh bulk transmission system, which covers peri-urban areas and rural districts, improve overall governance and regulatory framework of the sector, and strengthen capacity of subordinate structures of SUE KMK or their legal successors to ensure sustainability of services for the population of project districts. WSIP-1 provides funding for: a) institutional strengthening activities and capacity-building of water sector institutions (Component 1), b) investment in water infrastructure in target rural districts/villages (Subcomponent 2A), c) investment in sanitation in social institutions (Subcomponent 2B), d) social mobilization and behavior change campaigns in water, sanitation, and hygiene (Subcomponent 2B), and e) project management and implementation support (Component 3). Contingent Emergency Response Component (Component 4, CERC) will improve the ability of the Government of Tajikistan to respond effectively in the event of an emergency in line with the World Bank procedures on disaster prevention and preparedness.

Beneficiaries of the WSIP-1 are: (i) MEWR and SUE KMK, (ii) Executive state authorities of Khatlon region and Balkhi and Dusti districts, (iii) regional and district water supply structures, (iv) public institutions, (v) social institutions (schools and health centers), rural households, including female-headed households. The main project activities related to the implementation of construction works will focus on the pilot districts: Balkhi and Dusti known as a region with very hot summers and moderately mild winters. Upon completion of the first phase of investments under the ongoing WB-financed Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Project, the Vakhsh Inter-District Water Supply System will provide drinking water to more than 200 thousand people in some villages of Kushoniyon and Vakhsh districts. Under WSIP-1 (new project) - an additional 250,000 people will be covered. The WSIP-1 does not contain works or actions that may lead to changes in the existing scheme of water use and will not lead through its modification or expansion to other schemes of water use. The withdrawal capacity of the water intake, modernization of which is included in the scope of the WB-financed RWSSP, will remain unchanged and will be utilized further through the expansion

of the network, which either did not previously exist or was fully deteriorated. A steel bulk pipeline of d=1200mm is replaced with the PE pipeline of d=900mm under the RWSSP to minimize the level of NRW through piped metered connections and improved management of bulk-interdistrict water supply infrastructure. In general, the project activities are expected to have a long-term positive environmental and social impacts: improved access to safely managed drinking water, reduced risk of water-borne diseases; increased environmental and occupational health and safety awareness of all personnel and community members and increased preparedness for possible environmental emergencies; optimized environmental management through a formalized system; reduction of water losses; and others. The project also targets improvement in monitoring of safety and environmental compliance through improved self-reporting and accountability of service providers in selected areas. A water supply and wastewater Monitoring Information System to be established under the project will provide the planning and regulatory agencies – MoEWR, MoHSP, CoEP with tools for strategic planning, protection and monitoring of safety and rational use of water in the project area and provide target service providers with the required knowledge and instruments for monitoring their environmental and social impacts. However, the civil works and other project operations may cause some serious risks and impacts, which should be considered and mitigated through the mechanisms proposed in this ESMF. Some potential risks and impacts include destruction of wells, air, soil and water pollution, temporary risks and impacts associated with construction such as dusts, noise and vibration from construction equipment, cutting trees, disturbance and contamination of natural habitats and soils, generation of construction waste, including hazardous ACM (Asbestos-containing material), possible impact on cultural and historical heritage, temporary disruption of access to roads, land plots, property, and other services; health and safety risks for workers and public, lack of social acceptance, including disputes due to misperceptions of water access and distribution. Risks associated with Sexual Exploitation and Abuse/Sexual Harassment (SEA/SH), risks of spread of infectious diseases, including COVID-19, involuntary resettlement and economic displacement are considered low due to the scale of the infrastructure investments. There may be potential stakeholder engagement risks associated with cutting off illegal connections, introduction of tariffs, application of volumetric measurement of water resulting in an increased water service bill which will need to be managed carefully through stakeholder engagement and community consultations in line with the project's Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP).

The ESMF generally describes these risks and possible impacts and, in accordance with the World Bank's Environmental and Social Framework (ESF), propose mechanisms for their prevention and mitigation, and for sustainability of the project positive environmental and social results. The ESMF covers the assessment and management of environmental and social risks and impacts relevant to the following Environmental and Social Standards (ESSs): ESS 1 "Environmental and Social Assessment", ESS 2 "Labor and Working Conditions," ESS 3 "Resource Efficiency and Pollution Prevention and Management," ESS 4 "Community Health and Safety," ESS 5 "Land Acquisition, Restrictions on Land Use and Involuntary Resettlement", ESS 6 "Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Management of Living Natural Resources", ESS8 "Cultural Heritage", and ESS 10 "Stakeholder Engagement and Information Disclosure." It also reflects the legal and regulatory framework of the Republic of Tajikistan. The ESMF lays the overall framework for environmental and social management under the project. In conjunction, other environmental and social management instruments that are applicable to the project to guide management of specific risks include: Labor Management Procedures (LMP); Resettlement Planning Framework (RPF); and Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP).

The project's ESMF will be implemented by the PMU currently implementing the RWSSP (based on the subsidiary agreement signed between the SUE KMK and the PMU) and the

WSS Group of the MoEWR. The World Bank will supervise the overall ESMF implementation as part of its periodic implementation support missions. For this purpose, the PMU will hire an Environmental Engineer and a Social Development Specialist and the MEWR WSS Group will hire an Environmental and Social Specialist. In addition, international and national consultants (individuals or firms) will assist PMU in developing necessary environmental and social documents at the sub-project level, monitoring and evaluation, and assessment of the environmental and social effectiveness and sustainability of the Project. All the detailed Engineering Designs for the project will include the ESMPs and/or ESMP checklists depending on the nature and scale of potential risks and impacts. These management plans shall be developed by the consulting firm responsible for the engineering designs and reviewed and validated by the PMU and WSS Group environmental and social specialists, and subsequently incorporated as part of the bidding documents. Selected contractors shall be responsible to prepare and implement sub-project ESMPs and report on their implementation.

The ESMF covers the following sections: a description of the project area (baseline socio-economic, biophysical, and climatic conditions and resources), planned activities, overview of environmental and social legislative framework in Republic of Tajikistan, overview, and analysis of applicable ESSs, relevant risks and impacts, proposed measures, and tools for mitigating possible negative impacts and risks. The ESMF also describes the procedures of E&S screening, monitoring, and reporting, responsibilities of different stakeholders in the scope of E&S planning, management, and performance, OHS management, GRM and public communication strategy. Annexes provided include the forms and outlines for site-specific ESMPs and ESMP checklists, criteria for E&S screening and eligibility, forms for GRM records, COVID-19 prevention measures and response, which may be applicable to future unforeseen pandemics (as a pre-cautionary measure), recommended OHS activities for particular civil works and waste management.

To manage the risks that may arise in relation to project workers, the LMP defines the main aspects of planning and managing labor relations. The LMP will guide the Implementing Agencies, including the PMU and MEWR WSS Group in determining the preliminary level of resources needed to address personnel issues, identifying the types of labor that will be involved in the project, establishing basic personnel requirements, identifying labor risks associated with the project, and reflecting IAs internal policies, procedures, and practices to prevent and manage labor risks.

A RPF has been developed to manage the risks and adverse impacts on local communities that may arise land acquisition and restrictions on land use. While economic and physical displacement associated with the project are not envisaged, the RPF has been prepared as a pre-cautionary measure in the event that involuntary land acquisition is envisaged under the project. To the extent feasible, the water infrastructure investments will follow the existing footprints i.e., on land that is on the books of the local state water management organization and is used as operational areas for repair and maintenance work. Nevertheless, in the event of that re-alignment and/or additional land is required for ancillary facilities, the provisions outlined in the RPF will apply to compensate any economic losses borne by project affected people.

A project-level SEP has been prepared to guide relevant stakeholder engagment activities and community consultations to promote social acceptance and development outcomes in the target communties and throughout the life cycle of the project. Stakeholder engagement activities are expected to create an atmosphere of understanding in which target beneficiaries and other stakeholders can express their views and concerns regarding potential socio-environmental risks and impacts that may arise during project implementation and how they will be managed. The SEP includes identification of a range of stakeholders, their interests, and responsibilities in addressing social and environmental issues, as well as mechanisms for

engagement with different groups, and outlines methods for consultation and disclosure. The SEP also includes engagement approaches that minimize risks of COVID-19 and other unforeseen pandemics.

The project's Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) is an integrated part of the ESMF and all the package of the ESF documents. The Project will implement a GRM and other types of mechanisms for processing appeals for different categories of individuals and legal entities affected by the Project, including a separate GRM for the project's workers including PIU staff, as well as workers hired by contractors and/or other entities/organizations under the project (as part of the LMP). The GRM serves as one of the main tools to identify potential emerging issues on the ground and hence, may be useful to prevent future disputes, and/or conflicts associated with the project activities. These mechanisms are designed to ensure that the beneficiaries of the Project have the opportunity, at all stages of project implementation, to submit their appeals in the form of complaints, their feedback/wishes to improve project activities or proposals to eliminate problems without any cost and with a guarantee of their timely resolution.

The budget for the implementation of the ESMF, SEP, LMP and RF will be based on the regular semi-annual and annual plans proposed by the Project E&S team, approved by the PMU director and the head of the WSS Group included in the project budget and procurement plan (as needed) agreed with the World Bank. These plans will include (but not be limited to) the following measures: hiring relevant project staff, consultants, training, site visits for screening and monitoring, transportation, organization of public consultations and other seminars, development of required documents, etc. Most of these expenses, except for consulting services requiring external expertise in development of E&S instruments, assessments and tools will be covered as part of the operating costs under the Component 3.

The public consultations on the above environment and social instruments were held on July 1, 2021, in Dushanbe with key stakeholders. These documents were also shared with the local hukumats in the project districts and district committees for environmental protection for collating comments and feedback. In J. Balkhi and Dusti districts, public consultations were held on April 28, 2022. The public consultations had very productive discussions, and the comments have been accepted in the final versions of the ESMF package.

1. INTRODUCTION

The World Bank-financed Water Supply and Sanitation Investment Program is conceived as a series of projects to implement ambitious water and sanitation infrastructure investments and reforms, building on the World Bank's support to the sector over the past decade. The program aspires to extend the achievements of the Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Project (RWSSP), currently under implementation for provision of water to seven districts of Khatlon region. Based on the progress made in implementation of the RWSSP during the past year, this program is expected to deliver improved level of water supply targeting better service to all consumers, especially the most vulnerable for better public health outcomes and improved sector performance. The new Tajikistan Water Supply and Sanitation Investment Project (WSIP-1) will focus on providing essential water supply services in the selected rural and peri-urban areas of South-western Khatlon region. Areas targeted under the project mainly include rural areas of Balkhi and Dusti districts, vulnerable to the expected climate change impacts, particularly increasing temperatures in summer and unreliable precipitation s. In this way, the project intends to make the targeted communities more resilient to the climate change–exacerbated risk of floods, droughts, and rising temperatures.

The project area under WSIP-1 is characterized by high density of rural population, low coverage with safely managed water supply services, high reliance on unimproved water sources, relatively high poverty rates and lack of investments from other donors. The project will expand investments in prioritized water supply infrastructure within the areas serviced through the Vakhsh transmission pipeline and adjacent areas. Infrastructure investments will cover peri-urban and rural settlements and target improvements in ensuring sustainability of services to population. As part of the proposed funding for WSIP-1, it is planned to continue replacing the water pipeline from the distribution chamber 1 (RK-1) to Dusti district (consisting of two sections of 25.5 and 16.5 km to Balkhi and Dusti districts respectively) and to rehabilitate and expand the water supply systems in the rural settlements of Balkhi, and Dusti districts. These districts are characterized by low level of access to piped water supply services, with the baseline study demonstrating that in Balkhi and Dusti districts (out of 930 households) 94 percent of respondents rely on the main source of water for drinking and cooking as well. At the same time residents of these districts reported predominantly relying on surface water (from canals, streams, and rivers), assuming high correlation between water for drinking and surface water.

The purpose of this Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) is to summarize the expected environmental and social risks and impacts associated with the Project and identify measures to manage adverse environmental and social impacts throughout the project cycle. The document analyses the applicable environmental and social standards of the World Bank (ESS) and the national legislation of the Republic of Tajikistan, identifies institutional arrangements and capacity for implementation of the framework document, describes approaches for stakeholders' engagement, identifies grievance redress mechanisms, covers monitoring and reporting requirements for environmental and social performance of the project.

This ESMF is designed to: (i) meet the requirements of the World Bank's Environmental and Social Framework simultaneously with Tajikistan's regulations and legislation, (ii) identify measures to prevent, minimize and/or mitigate potential adverse environmental and social impacts that may arise from project implementation and enhance development outcomes, (iii) recommend mitigation measures for project activities, including site-specific Environmental and Social Management Plans (ESMPs) for individual sub-projects, (iv) propose approaches to monitor the effectiveness and sustainability of environmental and social mitigation measures. The document also covers environmental and social assessment procedures and

guidelines, tools to implement relevant policies, institutional arrangements, consultations, and information disclosure procedures. The ESMF is a tool to guide the IA in the risk assessment and development of mitigation measures to ensure that all sub-projects and activities are properly implemented in line with the World Bank environmental and social standards and are fully compliant with environmental and social laws and regulations of the Republic of Tajikistan.

The ESMF includes:

1. *General description of the location of the project activities and assessment of the current condition of the natural resources and social environment.*
2. *General description of the proposed works and their impact on the natural resources and social environment.*
3. *Identification of potential social and environmental risks, negative and positive impacts of civil works, including construction and rehabilitation activities.*
4. *Analysis and assessment of the identified risks and impacts.*
5. *Description of methods and mechanisms for environmental and social assessment and follow-up of specific subprojects.*
6. *Planning of measures to avoid/prevent, minimize risks and negative impacts of project activities and mitigate residual impacts, as well as monitoring activities.*

In conjunction with the ESMF, the following instruments have also been prepared to manage specific risks associated with the project activities. These include:

Labor Management Procedures (LMP): An LMP has been prepared to assess and manage potential risks that may arise in relation to project workers. The LMP defines the main aspects of planning and managing labor relations. This document will guide the Implementing Agencies and PMU in determining the preliminary level of resources needed to address personnel issues, identifying the types of labor that will be involved in the project, establishing basic personnel requirements, identifying labor risks associated with the project, and reflecting PMU internal policies, procedures, and practices to prevent and manage labor risks. LMP is developed in accordance with the World Bank's Environmental and Social Standard 2 "Labor and Working Conditions" (ESS2) and the regulatory and legal documents of the Republic of Tajikistan, regulating labor relations. The document also reflects the Grievance Redress Mechanism for project workers, which will be based on the existing national mechanism and will function at two levels: central - for PMU workers, contractors, and consulting organizations. More details are provided in the subsequent section of the ESMF, and the full description is given in the LMP document.

Resettlement Planning Framework (RPF): An RPF has been developed to manage the risks and adverse impacts on local communities that may arise from economic and physical displacement associated with the project. This document is prepared in accordance with the ESS5 "Land Acquisition, Restrictions on Land Use and Involuntary Resettlement" and covers the provisions of the legislation of the Republic of Tajikistan. Project activities will not force land acquisition or resettlement, as all activities will be carried out on existing facilities, i.e., on land that is on the books of the local state water management organization and is used as operational areas for repair and maintenance work. Rehabilitation of existing water infrastructure facilities is planned. In identifying risks at the stage of design of sub-projects, sites where there is a risk of land acquisition, restrictions on their use, or the risk of involuntary resettlement will not be accepted for consideration and further development. Nevertheless, in the event of unforeseen circumstances during the implementation of project activities that result in economic losses to the local community or individual, the provisions outlined in the RF will apply.

Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP): An SEP has been prepared to guide relevant stakeholder engagement and consultations, at all levels of stakeholders. Key to the success of every project is the establishment of stakeholder engagement (SE), building constructive relationships throughout the life cycle of the project, starting at the earliest stage - development. The document covers the requirements of the World Bank's Environmental and Social Standard (ES) 10 "Stakeholder Engagement and Information Disclosure" and is consistent with the legal and regulatory provisions of the Republic of Tajikistan. Stakeholder engagement activities are expected to create an atmosphere of understanding in which project-affected people and other stakeholders can express their views and concerns regarding potential socio-environmental risks and impacts that may arise during project implementation and how they will be managed. The document identifies a range of stakeholders, their interests, and responsibilities in addressing social and environmental issues, develops mechanisms for engagement with different groups, and outlines methods for consultation and disclosure. The SEP also defines methods of interaction that adhere to public health protocols, based on lessons-learnt during the period of COVID-19. The SEP will be updated as the project evolves and will remain publicly available on the implementing agencies' websites. More details are provided in a subsequent section of the ESMF, and the full description is provided in the SEP document.

Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM). A component of all the above documents is informing and incorporating the views of project-affected communities and individuals. As required under ESS10, the Project will implement a GRM and other types of appeals for different categories of individuals and legal entities affected by the Project, including a separate GRM for Project employees, as well as employees involved in project implementation by contractors or other involved entities/organizations. GRM serves as one of the main tools to prevent social risks/conflicts. These mechanisms are designed to ensure that the beneficiaries of the Project have the opportunity, at all stages of project implementation, to submit their appeals in the form of complaints, wishes to improve project activities or proposals to eliminate problems without any cost and with a guarantee of their timely resolution (description of GRM is given in Chapter 11).

Public Consultation and Information Disclosure. Initial consultations to identify priority sub-projects for WSIP-1, and preliminary discussions on environmental and social risks with key stakeholders in the project areas and in order to incorporate the opinions of all stakeholders were held on 1-2 July 2021 in Dushanbe city during the meeting of the Advisory Council of the RWSSP. This event was organized for key stakeholders who represented the project beneficiaries, including national ministries, relevant institutions, regional and state authorities, and NGO representatives. Prior to this, public consultations were held on April 28, 2022, as part of the design and survey work to develop the concept of the concept for the rehabilitation of the Vakhsh inter-district water supply system in 2021, as well as directly in the districts of Dusti and Balkhi.

At regional level this ESMF has been discussed during public consultations held in J.Balkhi and Dusti districts and disclosed on the MID PMU website (www.obirusto.tj), (https://obirusto.tj/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/)/ The ESMF is a living document, so any updates will be also publicly discussed and disclosed.

At the sub-project level, fit-for-purpose Environmental and Social Management Plans (ESMPs) shall be prepared during project implementation, following identification of specific investments.

ESMPs will be applied as a key instrument of the ESMF implementation for specific sub-projects during project implementation, focusing on civil works. The ESMPs shall be fit-for-purpose and their level of rigor shall be commensurate with the level and complexity of potential risks. The overall objective of the ESMPs is to define mitigation, monitoring and institutional strengthening measures to be implemented during project implementation to avoid or reduce the negative environmental and/or social impacts and maximizes development outcomes. ESMP includes a list of mitigating measures, the timing of their implementation, the amount and sources of funding, and a list of officials responsible for their implementation.

The ESMPs will be developed for specific sub-projects by the Design Consultant (Firm) working on the detailed engineering design of sub-projects. The ESMP will be based on the results of site-specific socio-environmental screening of sub-projects, which should be carried out by the Design Consultant and PMU specialists (if necessary, with the involvement of specialists and stakeholders). The ESMP for sub-projects will be included in the bidding documents as well as (after agreement in details with contractor) in the construction contracts.

The requirements of this ESMF will be included in the Project Operational Manual, while the ESMP requirements will be included in the construction contracts for individual sub-projects, both in the specifications and bills of quantities, and contractors will be required to include the cost of ESMP implementation in their financial proposals. Compliance with **ESMF** requirements in general, and **ESMP** requirements for specific sub-projects in particular, at all stages of project implementation will be supervised by the PMU with the assistance of specially hired international consulting company (CC) responsible for construction supervision, as well as for environmental and social guidelines.

ESMF Implementation Arrangements. The PMU, which will hire additional environmental and social specialists, is responsible for the implementation and overall supervision of the ESMF and ESMP (for specific sub-projects), monitoring and reporting. The PMU currently has an environmental specialist and a social specialist. Considering the scale of the projects being implemented - RWSSP and WSIP-1, the capacity of the PMU will be strengthened by hiring additional specialists in environmental and social issues. WSS Group of MEWR will be also assigned responsible for monitoring of E&S compliance under the Component 1 of the project. The PMU will be responsible for implementation of Components 2 activities. Costs associated with implementation of the ESMF are largely included in the Component 3 of the Project.

The PMU will ensure adequate oversight and implementation of the ESMF and site-specific ESMPs also with the assistance of international supervisory consulting company (CC) that will provide direct supervision and monitoring at construction sites on a day-to-day basis. The CC will provide periodic progress reports to the PMU on the implementation of the ESMF and the ESMPs for specific sub-projects, according to a form agreed upon by the parties. Contractors will be responsible for carrying out rehabilitation works in accordance with the environmental requirements specified in the bidding documents and ESMP.

The MEWR WSS Group is also responsible for the implementation and supervision of the implementation of the ESMF, for which a social and environmental specialist will be hired under Component 3 (ii) of the Project, and technical specialists will be involved to conduct trainings.

Information support. The project will organize an information and awareness campaign on environmental and social risk management among the population, focusing on methods and technologies for the rational use of drinking water, prevention of water and soil loss/contamination, public health and safety, and occupational safety measures during construction works. For this purpose, PMU will conduct socio-environmental monitoring of sub-projects during all phases of project implementation with the involvement of stakeholders, as well as with the involvement of consultants and NGOs if necessary.

Knowledge transfer activities and public consultations on disclosure of ESMF and ESMP content to stakeholders will be conducted directly by PMU specialists, as well as with the involvement of specialists if necessary.

The MEWR WSS Group will ensure consistent communication and support to inform the public about the process of reforms in the water sector, improving management policy and regulatory framework, strengthening institutional capacity, working with communities and utilities on rational use of water, behavior change, tariff policy, etc.

All the E&S documents, including their earlier versions, have been published o the websites of the MEWR and the PMU. The ESMPs for specific projects, as well as full information on the GRM to be established will be also published on the website and at the project implementation sites.

The Bank's environmental and social team will guide PMU staff in assessing and mitigating potential environmental and social risks and impacts, and support activities during project preparation and implementation.

2. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

2.1. Project Relevance

The proposed project area covers mainly the settlements of Balkhi and Dusti districts, which in the past received drinking water from the Vakhsh bulk transmission system. The project area was serviced by centralized water supply services during the Soviet period. The existing water systems (the Vakhsh main water supply system and others) have deteriorated and have exceeded their technical and economic design life span (often constructed in the 1960s and 1970s). As a result, currently, the coverage on average is estimated at less than 20 percent of the population, and the quality of services and water supplied is extremely poor. Recently completed baseline survey demonstrated that majority of households in this area rely on surface water (81%). During consultations, people and community representatives voiced their concerns regarding access to clean drinking water, referring to high incidents of waterborne diseases within their communities, and hardships associated with collecting water from standpipes, distribution trucks, and irrigation canals/drains—especially during the winter season when snow and freezing conditions are common (this task is typically borne by women and children). A high willingness by the people in the project area to pay for the services was observed. Sanitation issues in social public institutions were also seriously noted, where consumers face extremely poor or almost non-existent sanitary conditions for using latrines.

Most pipes are steel and cast iron with a small percentage of asbestos cement. The network where it exists, has a lot of leakages that the services provider tries to repair on an adhoc basis. The existing systems include either systems of several villages fed by the same source or decentralized systems fed by local groundwater or surface water sources. Villages with deteriorating infrastructure slowly shifted to the use of informal sources, such as irrigation canals, ditches, shallow groundwater tubewells, and dug wells. High reliance on surface water is associated with high exposure to risk of chemicals and agricultural pests sprayed over canals, or other water-borne diseases which are difficult to track in the areas with no sanitary protection of water sources enforced. Small irrigation canals can be used only from March to November. Also, in many rural villages, availability of water in these irrigation canals depends on the conditions of pumps, which are usually switched off during winter. Thus, during the winter period, as most of those canals are closed for maintenance, village people must walk for on average 2 km to fetch water from other sources, mainly large irrigation canals. In some areas, people rely on water tankers to fill storage tanks using concrete or metal storage containers in the yards.

To solve existing problems in the provision of quality water services to the population, the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan has requested the World Bank to provide funding to expand the coverage of the population in Khatlon region with water services and improve the sustainability of enterprises delivering these services.

2.2. Objective and Description of WSIP-1

The project development objective (PDO) is to improve access to safely managed water supply services in selected districts and to strengthen the capacity of institutions in the water supply and sanitation sector for improved service delivery.

The project will finance a) institutional strengthening activities, b) investments in water supply infrastructure in target rural districts/villages, c) investments in sanitation in social institutions, d) social mobilization and behavior change activities on water, sanitation and hygiene, and e) project management and implementation support.

Infrastructure investments will build on and expand early results of ongoing RWSSP, continuing expansion of prioritized water supply infrastructure within the Vakhsh inter-district water supply system and adjacent areas informed by the engineering designs and assessments completed under the RWSSP. WSIP-1 provides for the coverage of rural settlements within the J.Balkhi and Dusti districts with safe water services through connection to the main pipeline, where possible, and the introduction of decentralized water supply solutions for areas that depend on other sources. The target project area includes more than 137 villages of different sizes with a total population of around 265,000 people. The project is expected to rehabilitate existing limited water supply facilities and extend their coverage. Further details of the activities to be financed under each component are as follows:

2.3. Project Components

Component 1 - Institutional strengthening and capacity-building of water sector institutions. This Component will finance activities at the national and regional level (Khatlon region) designed to improve policy and regulatory frameworks and institutional capacity to advance the sector reform and promote sustainable service delivery. The Project will also provide support to the targeted utilities, to execute envisaged activities and improve their ability to operate and maintain, plan, implement and sustain expansion of safe water supply in the Khatlon region.

The proposed WSIP-1 will build on efforts to improve water supply and sanitation sector management across the spectrum of functions and the following will be continued:

- *Policy making, sector planning and monitoring* - in order to establish a structure within the MEWR, which would be responsible for policy development and sectoral planning functions in the water supply and wastewater sector within the framework of the Water Code.

- *Water quality regulation* - strengthening of the water quality testing capacity in Khatlon region through provision of lab equipment, development of required water quality testing protocols and risk assessment tools, provision of mobile labs and training to the staff of the State Epidemiology Service of the MoHSPP at the regional level and in target districts.

- *Economic regulation* - further support for the Agency for Antimonopoly Regulation in developing tariff models for targeted utilities, revising tariffs in terms of their social acceptability, and evaluating potential efficiency incentive mechanisms and implementing a regulatory accounting framework with the relevant regulatory agencies.

- *Service Delivery function* – optimization of a number and structure of existing branches of the SUE KMK in Khatlon region (Dusti and Balkhi district utilities, but also provide support to the bulk water operator to be established for operation of the VIDS under the RWSSP) is based on the technical and territorial basis to ensure effective management structure and increase their economic viability (based on the assessment undertaken under the RWSSP and additional assessments to be conducted).

The component will also fund preparatory feasibility studies for the next phases of investment **as needed**, including through development of a detailed Master Plan for Water supply and Wastewater services in Khatlon region. . First of all, for the areas covered by the Vakhsh inter-district water supply system, since within the framework of the ongoing WSWS Project, the concept of water supply for six districts of the Vakhsh valley (Kushoniyon, Vakhsh, Levakand, Balkhi, Dusti, Jaykhun districts) was developed and agreed upon, and a framework document was developed - Management system for social and environmental risks and impacts.

Component 2 – Water Supply and Sanitation Investments

Subcomponent 2A: Investments within the Vakhsh bulk transmission system.

The subcomponent will focus on improving access to basic and safely managed water services in Khatlon region with a current population of over three million.

WSIP-1 foresees continued investment in the modernization of the Vakhsh bulk transmission system, which in the past provided water from the Vakhsh water pipeline to six districts in the Vakhsh Valley. Investments under this Subcomponent will include replacement of the existing bulk water transmission pipeline from the RK-1 in Kushoniyon district through RK-2 in Balkhi district to pressure-regulating tanks (PRT) in Balkhi and Dusti (with the total estimated length of 25.5 km and 16.5 km respectively) and replacement/construction of water distribution system in selected settlements/ villages in Balkhi and Dusti districts. The subcomponent will include the rehabilitation/replacement and expansion of the existing water supply network in the villages, based on metered household connections.

Subcomponent 2B: Decentralized WASH solutions for schools and healthcare institutions.

The Subcomponent will support WASH improvements in selected social institutions (schools, kindergartens, rural health centers) within the project area targeted under the Subcomponent 2A. Activities under this subcomponent will include intensive WASH promotion programs to increase communities' awareness of improved WASH practices and behaviour change campaign. The project will focus on providing water to about 50 participating social institutions, connecting these facilities (and potentially many more) to the water supply network through piped metered connections. The project will finance rehabilitation and/or new construction of WASH in social institutions connected to centralized water supply network (indoor and outdoor toilets, small local septic tanks with filtration fields). The construction/rehabilitation of school sanitation and hygiene facilities will be accompanied by an educational program on WASH.

Component 3 - Project Management and Monitoring

This component will finance: (i) technical assistance to the IAs and partner organizations in coordinating and implementing the project; (ii) publication of outreach and communication materials and implementation of the project communication plan; (iii) monitoring and evaluation (M&E) of project activities, including implementation of baseline and end line surveys and regular beneficiary feedback surveys on project implementation and results; (iv) establishment of project grievance redress mechanism (GRM) allowing for integration of target utilities complaints registration system; v) preparation of annual project audits. Component 3 will be split between the WSS Group under the MEWR and the PMU.

Component 4 - Contingent Emergency Response Component (CERC).

This component will improve the GoT's ability to respond effectively in the event of an emergency in line with the World Bank procedures on disaster prevention and preparedness.

2.4. Country context: description of the project area and planned activities

About 80% of the population of the target districts rely on "surface water" for drinking water supply occasionally, and the share of households with access to improved water on the premises is about 20%. Historically, provision of improved safe water (access to piped water) was carried out through the existing Vakhsh bulk transmission system, which has exhausted almost two of its resource service life. The study and assessment of the existing water supply system confirmed that the system was largely obsolete, and moreover with the expansion of rural settlements in the service area was not able to provide adequate level of services. In the framework of WSIP-1 the use of polyethylene pipes was adopted in the design of water pipelines, which, along with improved hydraulic performance, will not be affected by the

aggressive nature of soils. The existing water supply scheme cannot be reasonably adjusted with consideration of future requirements, its operation is unprofitable and does not meet the established norms and standards of design and national sanitary requirements (SanPiN) - even if the structures will be partially rehabilitated, hence a replacement and modernization of the system was proposed.

Given the unreliability of drinking water supply, households rely on multiple sources throughout the year, while reliance on unimproved water sources as a secondary source (e.g., irrigation canals and drainage channels or water supplied by private trucks and carts) accounts for up to 27% of households. In 2020, baseline surveys of existing water supply systems, water supply method, water availability, water sources, etc. were undertaken at local level in jamoats to prepare a water supply master plan. According to the results of these surveys, only district administrative centers have a proper centralized water supply, but the quality of water does not meet the state standards (GOST) of the Republic of Tajikistan.

In villages having pipelines in proper condition, the water flows with a minimum pressure. These areas include villages located closer to the water pipeline in Balkhi district. In other villages of this area, as well as in Dusti district, almost all residents use water from water hand pumps, water from water trucks, water from canals, private wells, etc. The quality of this water is not controlled. In the VMC section at 6-8 km along the canal after the main downstream water intake, residents use water from the canal through makeshift water intakes. This water quality is good, but the water is not disinfected or filtered. Dusti district is supplied with water from canals without proper treatment, the water from the Vakhsh canal does not reach Dusti district.

The existing Vakhsh bulk transmission system is fed from the Vakhsh Main Canal (VMC), which in turn takes water from the Vakhsh River. The capacity of VMC is Q = 211 thousand m3/sec.

The project activities for rehabilitation of Vakhsh bulk transmission system will be implemented within the existing schemes, including some additions or changes requiring rehabilitation, construction works and other changes, which should not (will not) negatively affect the quality and volume of water flows used downstream and will not be adversely affected by the use of water resources by other riparian users. Estimated flow rates for water intake according to the Project:

- 1st stage – 140.0 thousand m3/day or 1.62 m3/sec (for 2025) - for 1.1 million people

- 2nd stage – 180.0 thousand m3/day or 2.08 m3/sec (for 2045) - for 1.4 million people

At present Vakhsh system provides drinking water to more than 220 thousand people, upon completion of works provided for in the RWSSP (Phase 1) - drinking water supply services will be provided to 157,119 people through existing networks. The project does not contain works or actions that may lead to changes in the existing scheme of water use, and will not lead through its modification or expansion to other schemes of water use. WSIP-1 (new project) - an additional 250,000 people will be covered.

The main project activities related to the implementation of construction works will focus on the pilot districts: Balkhi, Dusti Jayhun (Fig.1).

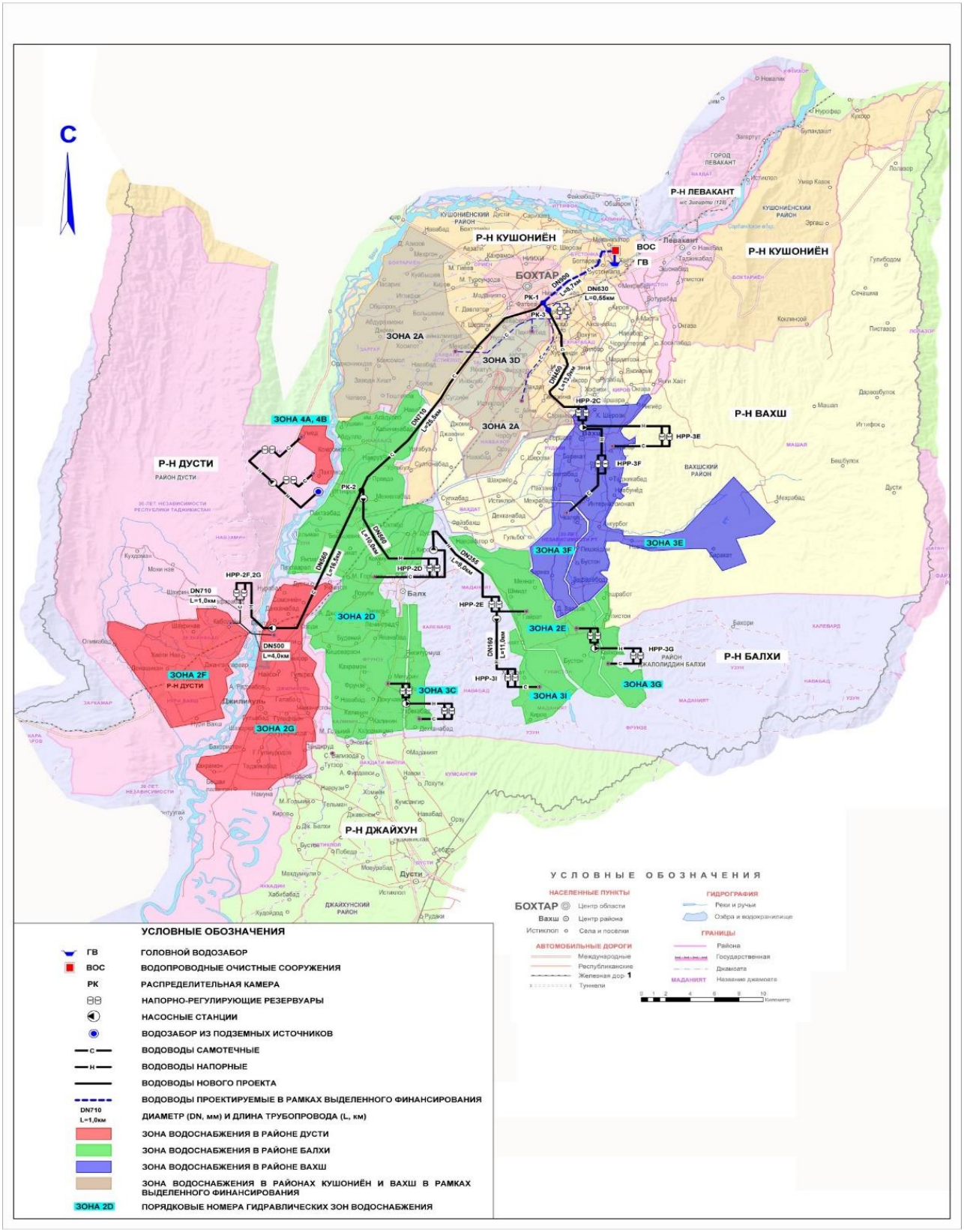

Figure 1. The project affected area

According to the figure, the envisaged project territories of the J.Balkhi and Dusti districts in order to optimize the water supply system are divided into project zones with the following envisaged water sources.

Table 1: Project zones

	Name of zones	No. of covered jamoats	Number of covered villages	Number of people	Source
1	Zone 2F	3	13	30 549	Vakhsh water pipeline
2	Zone 2G	3	38	56 176	Vakhsh water pipeline
3	Zones 2D	6	65	136 540	Vakhsh water pipeline
4	Zones 2E	2	15	25 821	Vakhsh water pipeline
5	Zones 3C	3	3	6368	Vakhsh water pipeline
6	Zones 3I	2	3	7 957	Vakhsh water pipeline
7	Zones 3G	1	3	8 337	Vakhsh water pipeline
8	Zone 4A	1	1	3 183	Existing Uzun Site
9	Zone 4B	1	1	3 394	Existing Uzun Site

Source: Project company as part of the RWSS project, Agency on Statistics, Khukumat of the district.

Through water distribution networks in 12 project sub-zones (9 sub-zones under WSIP-1 and 3 zones under RWSSP), it is expected that drinking water will be provided to about 480,000 people in the project districts. The works planned for rehabilitation, modernization and expansion of the water supply system include the following main types of works:

Table 2. Sub-projects included in the scope of the WSIP-1

	Engineering infrastructure for water supply system zones of WSIP-1	Type of work	DN, mm	Length, km
I	**Inter-district bulk water transmission pipeline**			
	- Pipeline from RK1 to RK2 (Balkhi)	Construction	710	25,5
	-Pipeline from RK2 to SR-2F, 2G (Dusti)	Construction	560	16,5
	-SR for zones 2F, 2G (Dusti)	Construction		
II	**Zones 2G and 2F (Balkhi)**			
	- Water pipeline from SR-2F,2G to zone 2G (Including zone 2F)	Construction	710	1,0
			500	4,0
	- Water distribution networks of zone 2F	Modernization		
	- Water distribution networks of zone 2G	Modernization		
III	**Zones 2D, 2E, 3C, 3I and 3G (Balkhi)**			
	-Water pipeline from RK2 to SR of zone 2D	Construction	560	10,0
	-Pumping station to supply water to SR of zone 2D (reconstruction of PS Uzun-2)	Modernization		
	-SR of zone 2D and PS for zone 2E	Construction		
	-Water pipeline from SR of zone 2D to SR to zone 2E	Construction	355	9,0
	-SR of zone 2E and PS for zone 3I	Construction		
	-Water pipeline from SR of zone 2E to SR of zone 3I	Construction	160	11,0
	-SR Zone 3I	Construction		
IV	**Zone 2D (Balkhi)**			
	-Water distribution network, including bulk water transmission pipeline from SR to Zone 2D	Modernization		
V	**Zone 2E (Balkhi)**			

	-Water distribution networks, including bulk water transmission pipeline from SR to Zone 2E	Modernization		
VI	**Zone 3I (Balkhi)**			
	-Water distribution network, including bulk water transmission pipeline from SR to Zone 3I	Modernization		
VII	**Zone 3G (Balkhi)**			
	-Bulk water transmission pipeline from Zone 2E to the PS, SR, PS for Zone 3G	Construction		
	-Water distribution networks, including bulk water transmission pipeline from SR to Zone 3G	Modernization		
IX	**Zone 4A and 4B (Dusti)**			
	-Groundwater intake site	Construction		
	-Water distribution networks, bulk water transmission pipelines and SR of Zone 4A	Modernization		
	-Water distribution networks, bulk water transmission pipelines and SR of zone 4B	Modernization		

Source: Detailed Engineering Designs within the framework of the RWSS project.

The project districts also envisage improvements in water supply, sanitation, and hygiene in selected social institutions of the project districts. The project will focus on providing water supply to about 50 participating social institutions, where the construction/rehabilitation of school sanitation and hygiene facilities is also envisaged.

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Table 3: Public institutions

No.	**District**	**Number of schools**		**Number of rural health centers**	
		Total	**Selected**	**Total**	**Selected**
1	J. Balkhi	70	30	17	9
3	Dusti	46	13	13	4

Source: Agency on Statistics, Khukumat of the district, Базы данных школ по оценке WASH.

2.5. Basic socio-economic characteristics

The population of the project districts is 18.6% of the total population of Khatlon region. The population of these districts, despite the presence of limited industrial and processing sector, is mainly engaged in agriculture and lives in rural areas (80%). About 60% of the population is of working age, with an equal distribution among males and females. It should be noted that due to employment problems, in the project areas, as well as in the region as a whole, there are dynamics of annual growth of migration (about 25 people per 1000 population). Moreover, the actual number of employees is 181,300 people, of which 150 000 work in services and trade, while the number of employees is 486,200 people (including temporary employment, hiring, etc.), with a working-age population of over 800 000 people.

Table 4: Quantitative indicators of employment in the project areas

No.	**Districts**	**Volume of industrial production, million somoni**	**Volume of agricultural production,**	**Payroll number of employees,**	**Actual number of employees,**	**Average monthly salary, somoni**

			million somoni	thousand people	thousand people	
	Khatlon region	**10203,3**	**20694,5**	**486,2**	**181,3**	**1174,5**
1	J. Balkhi	202,8	1206,0	28,7	9,9	920,2
3	Dusti	230,9	1043,1	19,6	5,0	978,8

Source: The table below provides data on the population and households in the project area of the districts (source: relevant departments of the Agency for Statistics under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan, as of 01.01.2020

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Table 5: The number of public institutions as of 01.01.2020

District	Population	Number of households	Average size of households
J. Balkhi	186 700	29 630	6,3
Dusti	106 241	22 806	4,7

Source: Agency on Statistics, Khukumat of the district for 01/01/2020.

Half of the population in the project districts are women. Participation in the labor market among women in the region was significantly lower (49%) compared to men (69.7%), but due to the high level of migration among men from rural areas to other countries or to other regions of Tajikistan, the number of women working in agriculture has increased. In addition, women bear the main burden in the household on all water related issues including its delivery, storage and usefor household and consumption needs). The Baseline Assessment undertaken for the project (implemented by contracted survey firm – Zerkalo under the RWSSP) further confirms that with women taking a significantly active part in the survey than men and accounted for a total of 62% of respondents in rural communities while the proportion of women in urban settings was 85%.

Table 6: Quantitative indicators in the project areas.

No.	District	Area thousand km2	Population thousand people	Density, people per 1km2	Number of employees, thousand people	Number of urban type settlements	Number of jamoats
1	J. Balkhi	0,905	186,7	218,4	26,9	2	8
3	Dusti	1,2	106,2	94,9	19,8	1	5

Source: Relevant departments of the Agency for Statistics under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan for 01/01/2020.

Most of the households in the project area are large families with more than 5 members (80%), with the smaller size families more prevalent in urban settlements which are not included in the project area. The majority of male respondents presented themselves as the head of household (84%) or the son of the head of household (14%). Only 30% of female respondents were also heads of households. In most cases (57%), it was the wife of the head of the family, but despite this, female members of households are the caregivers and take responsibility for water fetching, storing and treatment. In 73 percent of the households, women were reported to make decision on the water treatment method. The same assessment reveals that almost

every other household has a member with disabilities or special needs. Almost half of households with people with disabilities have no problem accessing water for drinking while the rest of the respondents reported difficulties arise, varying on the location of the source of water and the distance: An inconvenient location and/or its design features significantly limit their access for use.

Residents of the project area have a mixed understanding of water sources safe for drinking, and report paying for water in general, even it does not comply with the national drinking water standards. Only 16.8% reported not paying for water, out of which half reporting that they use water from their own tube wells, or fetch water, or use other water sources. At the same time of household who reported paying for water services, they were largely referring to all the water sources with 32% of respondents paying to public utilities company and 34% reporting payments to WUAs, while the rest of respondents not able to identify the name of service provider.

Ninety-five percent of households in the project area reported having dry pit latrines with 98 percent of all the toilet facilities located in the territory, but not within their house premises. In terms to access to toilets, toilets in rural areas appear to be more adaptive for persons with disabilities than those in urban settings. Half of the respondents amongst these rural households consider the toilet is accessible to them without difficulty due to minor improvements made by households like a wider entrance and or/an adapted seat. Households in urban settings appear to have limitations on making improvements alike thus limiting the disabled members ability to gain access to the toilet on their own. At the same time, around 38 percent of rural households with members with disabilities reported some or major difficulties in accessing toilet facilities.

Women are also main caregivers in case of sickness of kids. At least 13.8% of households with kids below 5 years old reported that their children suffered from stomachache. 59% of all the households in the project area associate stomachache with the main symptoms of diarrhea. 45 percent of respondents associate poor quality of water with the main causes of diarrhea.

2.6.Biophysical conditions and natural resources

The topography of the project districts is a combination of zones of lowlands, flatlands, foothills, and mountains.

Balkhi district is located in the Vakhsh river valley, in the southwestern part of Khatlon region at an altitude of 1,280 m above sea level, borders on the northern part with Kushoniyon and Vakhsh districts, on the western part with Dusti district, on the southern part with Jayhun and Pyanj districts, on the eastern part with Farkhor district. Climate: Mainly cold semiarid climate. The average annual temperature is 16.8 ° C. The warmest month is July with an average temperature of 29.2 °C and the coldest month is January with an average temperature of 3.1 °C. The average annual rainfall is 279.4 mm, averaging 70 days of precipitation. The wettest month is March with an average rainfall of 67.1 mm and the driest month is August with an average rainfall of 0.1 mm.

Dusti district is located in the Vakhsh river valley, in the southwestern part of Khatlon region. It borders Rudaki and Khuroson districts to the north and northeast, Balkhi district to the east, Kubodiyon district to the west, and Kalai-Zal district of Kunduz province of Afghanistan to the south. Climate: mostly cold semiarid climate. The average annual temperature is 17.1 °C. The warmest month is July with an average temperature of 30.2 °C, and the coldest month is January with an average temperature of 3.0 °C. The average annual rainfall is 275.2 mm,

averaging 68 days of precipitation. The wettest month is March with an average rainfall of 65.1 mm and the driest month is August with an average rainfall of 0.11 mm.

Geological and hydrogeological characteristics

The basic geological conditions for the project districts are almost identical. It may be noted that there is a belt of hills (adyrs) in the foothills, which forms a transitional band from flatlands to ridges. These hilly tablelands often form a specific plateau.

The main hydro-geological conditions for the Vakhsh valley can be characterized in accordance with the hydro-geological zoning, i.e., groundwater of the studied area is included in the Kafirnigan-Vakhsh artesian basin (G-II). Ground waters are located in alluvial upper-modern Quaternary deposits of high thickness (aQIII-IY). Depth of groundwater occurrence varies in 5-10 m. Groundwater salinity in most areas ranges from 1 to 2.5 g/l. Chemical composition of water is predominantly of sulfate type and rarely of hydrocarbonate type.

Water resources

One of the largest rivers of Tajikistan, the Vakhsh River, flows through the territory of the project districts. It is characterized by a rapid flow, the speed reaches up to 2.5-3.0 m/sec. The river originates from the Alay ranges. Numerous large and small rivers, as well as irrigation canals take in the considered territories before falling into the Amudarya. The rivers Pyandj and Vakhsh flow in the project area.

The Vakhsh River during rains and snowmelt becomes a rapid and high-water stream. The main source of feeding of the Vakhsh River is the snow and glaciers of the mountains, which explains the changes in water discharge depending on the season. The maximum water discharge occurs in the spring-summer months of May-June-July, and the minimum discharge in January-February. All canals of the district and groundwater supply depend on the Vakhsh River.

Water intake for the inter-district water supply system is located on the territory of Kushoniyon district at the CH+46, this location is downstream of the HPP Sarband and withdrawal point of the water intake for Vakhsh Main Canal. The intake point is currently under rehabilitation under the RWSSP and will not be expanded for the purposes of WSIP-1. Current design capacity of the water intake is retained at the original design level of ____ m3/sec. With replacement of the inter-district main pipeline from the WTP to RK-1 (a steel bulk pipeline of d=1200mm is being replaced) with the PE pipeline of d=900mm under the RWSSP to minimize the level of NRW through piped metered connections and improved management of bulk-interdistrict infrastructure; and further replacement of the pipeline from RK-1 to Balkhi district 710mm and further down to Dusti under WSIP-1, capacity of the pipelines should be sufficient for delivery of water to the target population,

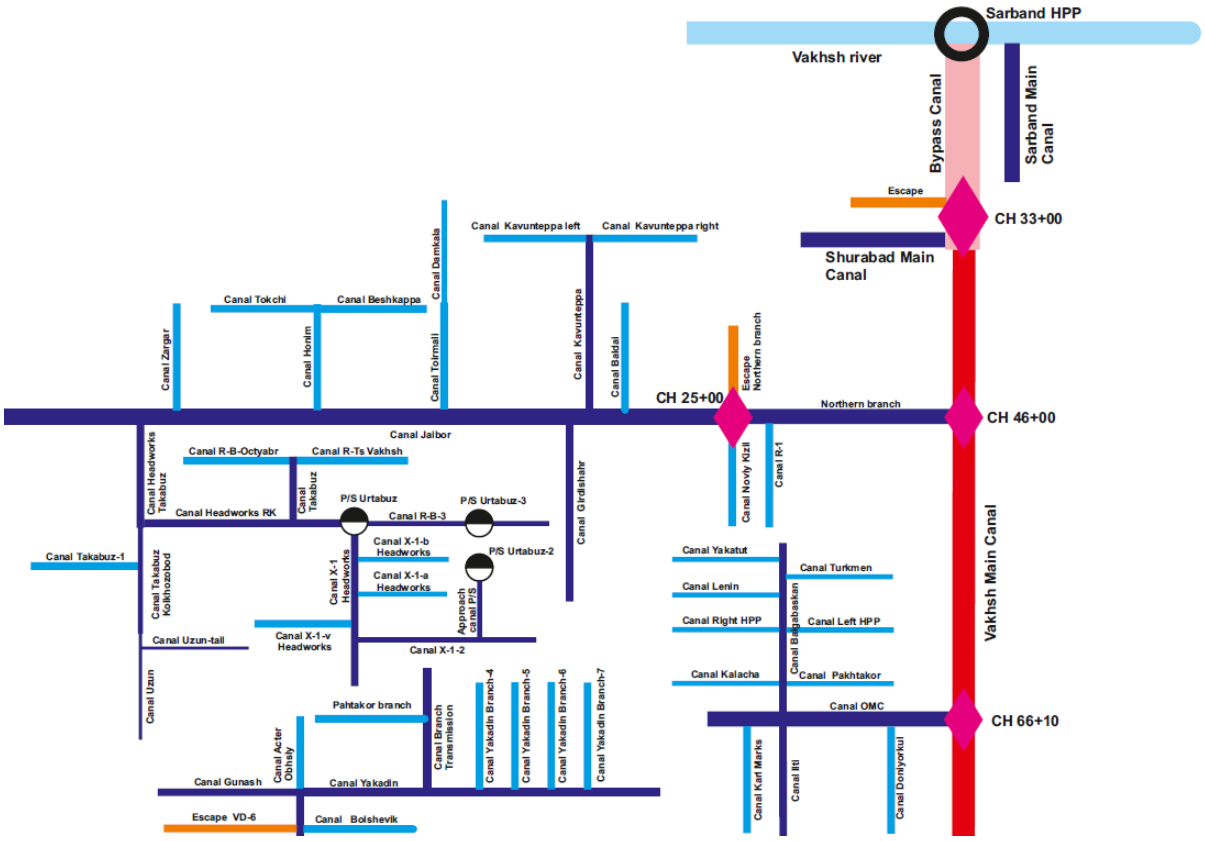


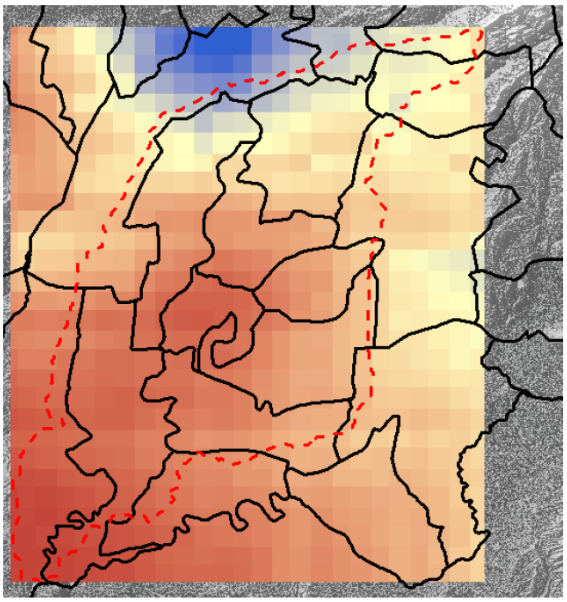
Figure 2. Schematics of the irrigation canals and location of the water intake (reconstructed under RWSSP)

Climate

By the climatic zoning of Tajikistan, the climate of the Vakhsh valley is characterized as a sub-region with very warm summers and moderately mild winters. Average annual air temperature is 16-17 0C. Average monthly temperature of the coldest month - January is positive (2.1). Absolute minimums (from 10°C to 14°C) in some cold years may fall to 24°C - 25°C. Average relative humidity in the coldest month - 79%, the same month at 15h - 68%. Prevailing wind direction in January is northerly (c).

Balkhi and Dusti districts, which are located in the Lower Vakhsh basin, are areas that are known to experience low precipitation levels, particularly during certain seasons and years, which is further compounded by increasing variability. According to a study conducted by the Asian Development Bank, the annual average precipitation in the Lower Vakhsh basin is between 200 and 500 mm, which is considered to be low compared to other regions.

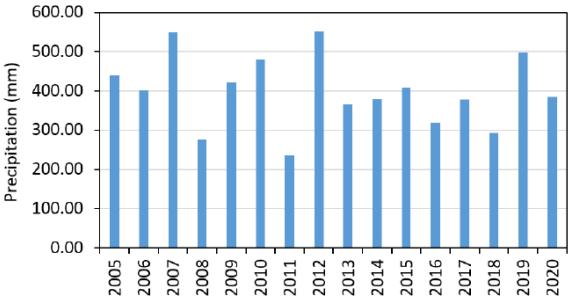
Precipitation Lower Vakhsh Basin



Mean annual precipitation 2005-2020*
(CHIRPS precipitation estimates)

*Hydrological year: Oct 1 – Sep 30

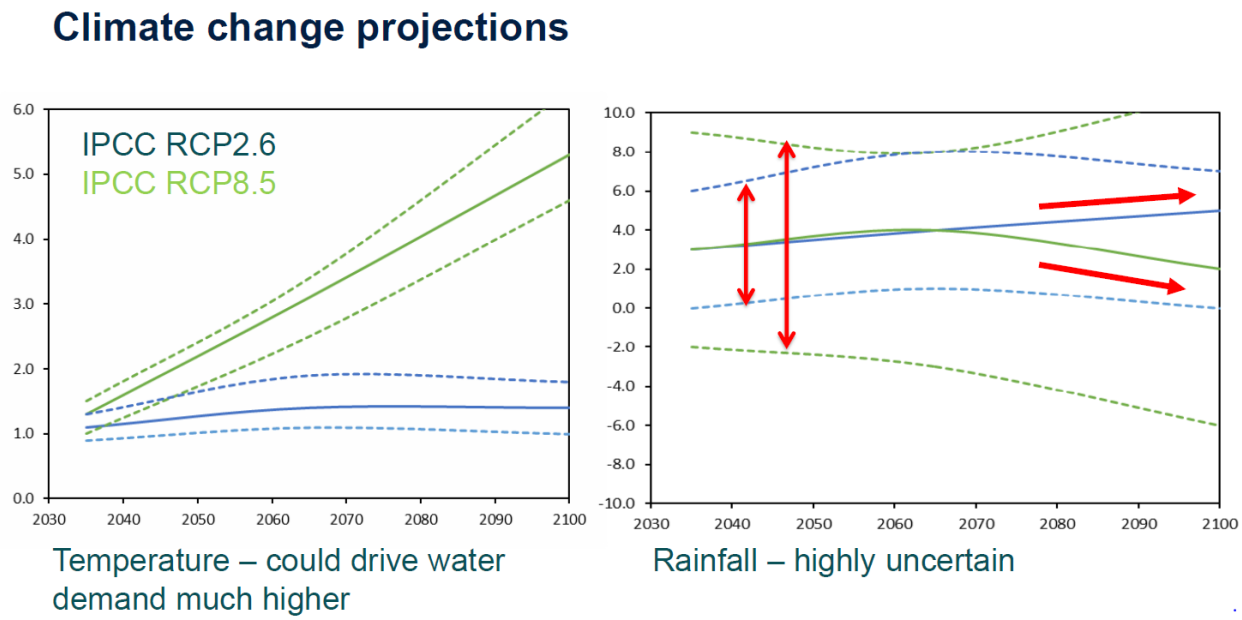
Annual precipitation Lower Vakhsh Basin*



This low level of precipitation has a significant impact on the availability of water resources in the area, particularly during the dry season. As a result, the demand for water in these districts often exceeds the available supply. The expansion of the water network in these districts, which did not previously exist or was fully deteriorated, will help to improve the availability and reliability of water resources for local communities, particularly for agricultural purposes.

For instance, the rehabilitation of the Rudaki canal in the Balkhi district, which was previously dilapidated, has helped to increase the area under irrigation and improve crop yields. Similarly, the construction of new water supply infrastructure in the Dusti district has helped to increase the availability of water for domestic use, particularly during the dry season.

Overall, the expansion of the water network in Balkhi and Dusti districts is critical for addressing the challenges posed by low precipitation levels, particularly in light of increasing variability. By improving the availability and reliability of water resources, the expansion of the water network will help to support the livelihoods of local communities and contribute to economic development in the area.



Biological environment and protected areas

Protected natural areas and biological environment (conservation areas) include: state nature reserves, including biosphere reserves; national parks; nature parks (recreational); state nature reserves; natural monuments; dendrological parks and botanical gardens; health and recreation areas and resorts. There are two officially protected national/international nature reserves adjacent to the WSIP-1 project areas:

- Tigrovaya Balka Reserve, on both sides of the Vakhsh River, covering over 58,000 hectares in the southern part of Dusti District; and

- Ramsar Reserve, located in the lower part of the Pyanj River.

Flora and fauna

In the mountains and valleys of the Khatlon region, there are more than 5 thousand plant species. A distinctive feature of the flora is the predominance of herbs, semi-shrubs, shrubs of the steppes, deserts and highlands.

Among the plants, along with local species - saxaul, pistachio, juniper, wormwood, and saltwort - there are Mediterranean plants - Pontic hawthorn, walnut, fig, plane tree.

Plants in the project area are well adapted to the desert and mountain conditions of existence and spread over the "high-rise floors". The leaves of some desert plants are small, with needles, contribute to less evaporation, the roots are long, branched, allow to get water from the deep layers of the earth.

The location of the project areas in the desert zone, arid climate and mountainous terrain determined the features of its soil cover. It is dominated by serozems - the main zonal type. These soils are formed under conditions of high temperatures on loesses of valleys and low foothills.

The fauna of the Khatlon region is diverse. Animals living here have adapted to the peculiarities of the relief and climate. Representatives of typical northern animals are found here - a brown bear, a hare, a badger, an ermine, a gopher, a Siberian ibex. Many Central Asian and Indo-Tibetan species are the Asian leopard, the Himalayan snowcock, the Tibetan wolf. From Indian species of animals there are porcupine, swallow, oriole, from Afghan species - mouflon, starling-myna, cobra, monitor lizard, mosquitoes, termites. Natural conditions favor the development of mammals: predators, ungulates (70 species) and reptiles

(46 species). There are a lot of various insects (more than 10 thousand species), over 350 species of birds. A distinctive feature is the relative poverty of the ichthyofauna (about 40 species), which is explained by the relative youth of rivers and lakes.

Natural disasters

Regarding the risks of natural disasters, the most dangerous for the project areas are earthquakes, rockfalls, landslides, mudflows, rapid glacier shifts and soil erosion. All these phenomena, which can be called the general term "geological hazards", take place in the Khatlon region.

The most destructive, unpredictable, unmanageable natural disasters are earthquakes.

An earthquake refers to a sudden onset and rapidly spreading natural disaster. During this time, it is impossible to carry out preparatory and evacuation measures, so the consequences of earthquakes are associated with huge economic losses and numerous human casualties.

Landslides are a sliding displacement of rock masses down a slope, arising from an imbalance caused by various reasons.

Mudflows are floods with a very high concentration of mineral particles, stones, and rock fragments (from 15 to 75% of the flow volume) that occur in the basins of small mountain rivers and dry ravines and are usually caused by heavy rainfall, less often by intense snowmelt, and also by a breakthrough of obstructed lakes, a collapse, a landslide, an earthquake.

Climate-related disasters impact human populations in many areas including agricultural production, food security, water management and public health. The level of impacts and coping strategies of the population depends heavily on their socioeconomic status, socio-cultural norms, access to resources, poverty, as well as gender. disaster effects are not gender neutral, as women and children are among the highest risk groups. Key factors that account for the differences between women's and men's vulnerability to disaster and climate change risks include gender-based differences in time use, access to assets and credit, treatment by formal institutions which can constrain women's opportunities, limited access to policy discussions and decision making, (World Bank Group (2016). *Gender Equality, Poverty Reduction, and Inclusive Growth*

3. ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL LEGISLATIVE, REGULATORY AND INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK

This section describes the regulatory framework of the Republic of Tajikistan that applies to environmental and social aspects with respect to this Project. The environmental and social issues management is based on the requirements of Tajikistan legislation and the new WB environmental and social principles. The legislation of the Republic of Tajikistan in relation to the environmental management consists of a significant number of legislative and regulatory acts, including articles of the Constitution, laws, by-laws, resolutions of the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan (GoT) and international environmental conventions ratified by the Parliament of the Republic of Tajikistan.

3.1.Overview of Environmental Legislative Framework in Republic of Tajikistan

Constitution of the Republic of Tajikistan

- Guarantees an exclusive state ownership of land, subsoil, water, airspace, flora and fauna and other natural resources, and their effective use in the interest of all people (Article 13).
- Proclaims the freedom of economic and entrepreneurial activity and the legal protection of all types of activity, including private activity (Article 12).
- Guarantees the health protection of all citizens and adoption of measures to improve the environment health (Article 38).
- Places on every citizen and legal entity an obligation to protect the environment, historical and cultural monuments (Article 44).

Law on Environmental Protection of the Republic of Tajikistan

The Law on Environment Protection is the primary law governing the protection of the environment. The Parliament adopted the law on June 22, 2011 (No. 485), replacing the then effective Law on Nature Protection (No. 905 of 12/27/1993) with amendments (No. 30 of 10/2002; No. 75 of 12/2/2002; No. 58 of 4/15/2004):

- Provides economic mechanisms for environmental protection, including the obligations of enterprises to restore the affected environment to the proper conditions (Article 78) and approves a system of payments for the use of natural resources and pollution (Article 20).
- Creates a basis for the development of environmental standards for maximum permissible concentrations of pollutants, as well as permits and standards for maximum permissible emissions.
- Identifies a procedure to compensate for environmental adverse impact caused by the enterprises and individuals.
- Comprises provisions for environmental impact assessment for all types of economic activities potentially hazardous to the environment.
- Provides that the environmental policy of the Republic of Tajikistan prioritize the environmental protection activities based on scientifically proven principles in order to combine economic and other activities that may have an impact on the environment with application of environmental protection measures and sustainable use of resources.
- Identifies relevant legal principles, protected sites as well as the roles and responsibilities of the Government, the Committee on Environmental Protection under the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan, local authorities, public organizations, and individuals. Provides for measures to ensure public and private rights to safe and

favorable environment and requires a combination of state environmental screening and environmental impact assessment of any decisions that can cause environmental damage.

- The Law also introduces the definition of environmental emergencies and environmental disaster zones and prescribes the procedure of actions in such situations, defines the responsibilities of public authorities and enterprises to prevent and eliminate their consequences, as well as the responsibilities of individuals and legal entities liable of causing damage to the environment or breaking this law.
- The law establishes different levels of control over the compliance with the environmental legislation: government control, institutional control, enterprise-level control, and public control.

The detailed steps on implementation of the legal provisions are set forth in the following laws and other legislative acts.

Law on State Environmental Expertise (No. 818, 16/4/2012)

This law replaced the previous version of the law No. 20 of April 22, 2003. According to the law, all national and local projects, programs, and mechanisms implementation of which requires the natural resources use and/or may adversely affect the environment are subject to state environmental expertise. The current Law:

- Identifies the general principles of the environmental expertise.
- Identifies mandates of environmental experts and types of environmental expertise, including the state and public environmental expertise.
- Includes a list of types of economic activities subject to a mandatory environmental expertise. Projects of the national and local level that may have a negative impact on the environment are subject to the state environmental expertise.
- Identifies the procedure for submitting documents for the environmental expertise and the mandates of the environmental expertise authority.
- Identifies the timeframe for the environmental expertise. According to the new law, the decision should be taken within 30 days after the official receipt of the documents by the authorized state environmental expertise body. For complex projects, the review period may be extended up to 60 days.
- Includes provisions for the public environmental expertise that may be initiated by the stakeholders. The opinion of the public environmental expertise is nonbinding; the state environmental expertise body retains the right of the final decision-making.

Law on Environmental Impact Assessment of the Republic of Tajikistan (No.1448, 18 July 2017)

This law establishes the legal and institutional basis for environmental impact assessment, its relationship with the state environmental expertise, as well as the procedure for accounting and classification of the environmental impact assessment objects. The environmental impact assessment in Tajikistan is regulated by the Law on Environmental Impact Assessment of July 18, 2017, No.1448. The law requires a classification of the economic and other planned activities depending on the level and types of potential environmental impacts into the following categories: “A”, “B”, “C” and “D”.

a. Facilities that have a significant negative impact on the environment and are associated with the areas of application of the best available technologies, and subject to the presence of harmful (polluting) substances discharged and emitted into the environment as well as substances of hazard class 1 and (or) 2 (according to sanitary standards) are classified as category “A” facilities.
b. Facilities which have a moderate negative impact on the environment and subject to the presence of substances of hazard class 3 in discharges and emissions of harmful (polluting) substances into the environment are classified as category “B” facilities.

c. Facilities which have an insignificant negative impact on the environment and under condition of presence in discharges and emissions of harmful (polluting) substances in the environment of hazard class 4 and (or) 5, are classified as category "C" category facilities.
d. Facilities that have a minor negative impact on the environment and under condition of insignificant emissions and discharges are classified as category "D" facilities.

An environmental expertise for categories "A", "B", "C" facilities shall be assigned to the national authorized body, and the assessment for category "D" facilities shall be assigned to the regional authorities on environmental protection. An environmental impact assessment is required for the projects of categories "A" and "B". Activities not included in categories "A" or "B" require a statement on environmental impact assessment and a declaration of commitments to implement the established and proposed environmental protection measures from the client of an activity.

Environmental Impact Assessment Process in Tajikistan.

The Law on State Environmental Expertise includes provisions about the process of Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) in Tajikistan. Detailed procedures for the implementation of these provisions are provided in Resolution No. 532 on the Procedure for Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) of the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan dated November 1, 2018. The document defines general approaches to the organization and implementation of an environmental impact assessment, taking into account the legislative and regulatory framework of the Republic of Tajikistan.

An environmental impact assessment includes the following phases:

Phase 1 – review and assessment of the environment of the facility, it is carried out in order to justify the optimum selection of the appropriate land plot for the location of a facility.
Phase 2 – preliminary environmental impact assessment, simultaneously accompanied by a feasibility study of the project and formalized in the form of an application for environmental impact assessment.
Phase 3 – environmental impact assessment, conducted in order to analyze the potential impacts of the project implementation in a comprehensive manner, justify alternatives, and develop an environmental management plan (program). The environmental impact assessment report shall contain a description of the technical solution to prevent negative impacts on the environment. At this stage, standards for emissions to air and discharges to water bodies, generation, storage, and disposal of solid and liquid waste are developed.
Phase 4 – post-project analysis carried out one year after commissioning of a facility (beginning of economic or other activities) to confirm safety for the environment and to adjust the environmental management plan (program).

Review and approval of the EIA – is carried out by the State Environmental Expertise. The review of the environmental impact assessment documents, in accordance with the category of assessed facilities shall be conducted for up to 60 days. The decision on selecting a proper procedure of the state environmental impact assessment shall be made by the authorized state agency within no more than 10 calendar days after registration of acceptance of the submitted materials. The opinion of the state environmental expertise related to the documents on environmental impact assessment shall be binding on the client as part of the planned economic and other activities.

Requirements for the EIA report – Law on Environmental Impact Assessment dated July 18, 2017, sets out a detailed list of requirements for the EIA report, such as justification of the need for the project; description of project activities and processes; impact on abiotic and biotic components of the environment, public health and socio-economic conditions; mitigation and monitoring; design standards for emissions (discharge) of pollutants and waste disposal;

information disclosure to the public.

Disclosure of information to the public in the EIA process – Law on EIA of 2017 provides that the authorized state agency shall develop a procedure for informing citizens at the appropriate stages of the environmental impact assessment of projects classified as categories "A" and "B". At the same time, it provides for the possibility of consultation and review of public opinions.
The procedure for information disclosure to the public includes as follows:

- Indication of places for obtaining information and consultations.
- Indication of a method of informing the public (including through websites, mail, mass media, organization of public consultations, use of figures, tables, diagrams, etc.).
- Identification of methods for the public consultation (including in the form of discussion of written submissions, findings of public surveys).
- Establishment of deadlines for the relevant phases of an environmental impact assessment. All the information, including reports, expert opinions, project feasibility studies, modifications in projects, findings of studies related to the facilities subject to an environmental impact assessment shall be posted on the website of the authorized state agency.
- In making a decision to grant or deny a project permit, the authorized state agency shall provide the following information to the public:
    - The content of the decision.
    - The basic facts and considerations that are fundamental to the decision.
    - A description of the main actions to prevent, mitigate, and, if possible, eliminate adverse environmental impacts during the course of the project implementation.

Law on Environmental Monitoring.

The law establishes the institutional, economic, and social framework for an environmental monitoring in the country. It identifies the goals, objectives, responsible parties, and principles of environmental monitoring in Tajikistan. It introduces a unified system of environmental monitoring in the country and a framework for the use of information resources. It identifies the responsible agencies and a framework for the public participation.

Law on Atmospheric Air Protection

The Law was adopted by the Parliament in December 2012 and replaced the previous version of the law of February 1, 1996. The current Law:

- Provides the legislative basis for the protection of atmospheric air in Tajikistan.
- Identifies the goals, objectives, and basic principles of atmospheric air protection.
- Identifies objects and subjects of atmospheric air protection and general principles for classification of sources of air pollution and pollutants.
- Identifies responsibility for the regulation and atmospheric air protection management at various levels of government.
- Introduces economic mechanisms for air protection, including mandatory payments for air pollutant emissions and incentives for air protection measures. Charges for volumes of pollutants exceeding established limits are increased fivefold.
- Provides legal requirements for the introduction of evidence-based air quality standards, including Maximum Permissible Concentrations (MPCs), permits to emit pollutants into the atmosphere and development of requirements to protect the atmosphere under various conditions. Any facility that has an adverse impact on the air quality is required to obtain a special permit to emit pollutants into the atmosphere.
- Includes provisions for the protection of the ozone layer and transboundary air pollution control.
- Introduces requirements for statistical accounting, inventory and reporting of air pollutant emissions, and monitoring of air pollution activities. Any business with permanent or mobile

sources of air emissions to submit a special report for approval of maximum permits (emission limits) as a result of business operations, based on an inventory of emission sources and calculations of the amount of expected pollutants. The normative document issued in the former Soviet Union for calculation of norms of pollutants titles "Complex norms of air quality I and II (Dushanbe, 1991)" is still valid in Tajikistan. According to Article 18 of the Law, the planning of any construction activities for facilities involving possible air pollution shall take into account the best available information provided by the relevant authority on: (i) background pollution levels; (ii) current quality and emission standards. The design and construction of facilities that may have a significant adverse impact on air quality is prohibited. The Law prescribes that all individuals and legal entities shall have the obligation to take the necessary steps to prevent adverse impacts, noise, electromagnetic radiation vibration and other sources of potential impacts on the environment. There is no requirement to obtain a permit for the emission of pollutants for this project.

Law on Environmental Audit

The Law on Environmental Audit includes provisions for environmental audits of businesses and other organizations. An environmental audit is defined as an analysis and assessment of an enterprise's compliance with environmental laws and regulations. The law defines the objectives, tasks, objects, and principles of an environmental audit. An environmental audit can be initiated by the relevant state agency. The audit initiated by a state agency is mandatory. There is no information about additional by-laws related to this law.

Law on Industrial and Household Waste Management

The Law under No. 109 was adopted by Parliament on July 25, 2005, and it replaced the previous version of Law No. 44. The law charges the waste generators with the responsibility for proper waste management and requires careful control of waste generation activities as well as relevant waste storage, removal, or disposal. During the design, construction and operation of plants, structures or other facilities, individuals and legal entities are responsible for complying with established rules and regulations.

Water Code

This legislative instrument establishes policies for water management, permitting, dispute resolution, water use planning, and cadaster. The code encourages a sustainable use and conservation of water resources by all users and identifies the water use types and roles of the regional and local authorities in the distribution of water resources to various users, fee collection, water use planning, the rights of water users, and dispute resolution.

Land Code

The current Land Code (adopted in 1992) identifies the land use types, the roles of various levels of government in land management, principles of land taxation, land use planning, rules for land use rights mortgages and resolving land disputes. The Code defines the rights of land users and lessees and regulates the land use of the special land fund for the purpose of farmland restructuring. The Code regulates land transactions and aims to encourage sustainable land use and protect land resources and soil productivity. Only sustainable land use is allowed, the determination and control of which is delegated to the local land use authorities under the Code. The Code also includes mechanisms allowing the withdrawal of land use certificates from farmers in a number of cases, including situations where land use leads to land degradation.

Table 7: Legislation and other regulations on water supply, water quality, water service, sanitation

Legislation
Water Code, 2000. Amended in 2006, 2008, 2009 and 2011, 2012
Law on Drinking Water and Drinking Water Supply, 29 December 2010, No. 670
Health Code of the Republic of Tajikistan
Law of RT on Permit System
Law of RT on Water Users Association (2006)
Rules on Use of Public Water Supply and Sewerage Systems in the RT, 30 April 2011, No. 234
Order on state control and supervision over drinking water supply, 31 December 2011, No. 679
Order on accounting in the sphere of drinking water supply 31st December 2011, No. 680
Government Decree of 31 July 2001 No. 357 on SUE Housing and Communal Services (Khojagii Manziliyu Kommunali)
Sanitary Regulations and Norms "Zones of sanitary protection of water supply sources and water pipelines for household and drinking needs" (SanPiN 2.1.5.006-07) of 28.02.2007 No. 75
Sanitary Regulations and Norms for Drinking Water. Hygienic requirements for quality of water for centralized systems of drinking water supply. Quality control.

Liability for Environmental Legislation Violations

The administrative and criminal codes of Tajikistan include a wide range of liabilities and penalties for violations of environmental legislation. Penalties range from relatively small fines (up to 300 minimum wages) to life imprisonment for those found guilty of ecocide by a court. Inspectors can directly impose fines and/or compensation for an adverse impact on the environment, or the penalties can be imposed through the courts.

3.2. Overview of Social Legislative Framework in Republic of Tajikistan

Law on protection and use of historical and cultural heritage of the Republic of Tajikistan (2012, amended in 2017) regulates social relations in the field of protection, use, conservation, and promotion of historical and cultural heritage. Article 5 prohibits the construction of new facilities on the territory of historical and cultural heritage sites without an authorized permit, and Article 21 addresses the measures to be taken to restore historical sites and cultural heritage and their preparation for restoration works.

Law on Freedom of Information of the Republic of Tajikistan is based on Article 25 of the Constitution, which states that state bodies, public associations and officials are obliged to ensure everyone the opportunity to receive and become familiar with documents related to their rights and interests, except in cases stipulated by law. The law applies to affairs related to access to information contained in the official documents and not classified as restricted information in the interests of national security in accordance with the legislation on state secrets and other normative and legal acts regulating relations in the field of protection of state secrets.

Law On Appeals of Individuals and Legal Entities of Republic of Tajikistan (2016) contains legal provisions on established information channels for citizens to file their complaints, requests, and grievances. Article 14 of the Law sets the timeframes for handling grievances, which is 15

days from the date of receipt that do not require additional study and research, and 30 days for the appeals that need additional study. These legal provisions will be taken into account by the project-based Grievance mechanism.

Law on Local Public Authorities of Republic of Tajikistan (2004) gives the governor of a district or city administration the authority to manage natural resources, construction and reconstruction of environmental facilities, supervision of local structures in waste management, sanitary and epidemiological supervision, health, and social protection of the population within the boundaries of an administrative and territorial unit. The public assemblies are allowed only if the local authority (district hukumat) is notified in advance.

Civil Code establishes the procedure for exercising property rights and other property rights, rights to the results of intellectual activity, regulates contractual and other obligations, as well as other property and related personal non-property relations, based on equality, independence of will and property independence of their participants. Family, labor affairs, relations on the use of natural resources and environmental protection shall be regulated by the civil legislation, unless otherwise stipulated by the laws on family, labor, land, and other special legislation.

Labor Code of the Republic of Tajikistan (2016) is a fundamental legislative act aimed at regulating all labor issues arising in the Republic of Tajikistan. This Code regulates labor affairs and other actions directly related to the protection of rights and freedoms of parties to labor affairs, the establishment of minimum guarantees of rights and freedoms in the field of labor. Article 7 of the Code prohibits discrimination and guarantees equal labor rights for all citizens; any discrimination in labor affairs is prohibited. Articles 18-19 Section II. "Labor relations" define the basic rights and obligations of both the employee and the employer. Article 22 of the Labor Code of the Republic of Tajikistan establishes the principle of equal treatment of all workers. Article 8 prohibits forced labor. Article 74 "Duration of working time" sets the minimum age of 15, but in some instances of vocational training light work may be allowed for those aged 14. Tajikistan's legal and regulatory framework provides an adequate and appropriate enabling environment for the key activities that this Project will support. Chapter 14 of the Labor Code, Articles 198-206 regulate labor disputes between the employer and the employee. Section 5 of the Labor Code describes the roles and responsibilities of employers and employees related to occupational health and safety. Article 216 describes types of jobs where women's labor is prohibited, i.e. it is prohibited to employ women for heavy work, underground work, and work in hazardous working conditions. The list of jobs where women's labor is prohibited and the maximum permissible norms of loads for them when lifting and moving weights manually are approved by the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan.

According to the ***Law on Public Associations***, public associations may be established in one of the following institutional and legal forms: public organization, public movement, or public amateur organization. Article 4 of the law establishes the right of citizens to form associations for the purpose of protecting common interests and achieving common goals. The article outlines the voluntary nature of associations and defines the rights of citizens not to join such organizations, as well as to withdraw from them. Amendments to the law in August 2015 require NGOs to notify the Ministry of Justice of all funds received from international sources before such funds are used.

Law on Public Assemblies, Marches and Rallies of 2014 (Article 10) prohibits the organization of assemblies by persons who have committed administrative offences (i.e., non-criminal violations) under Articles 106, 460, 479 and 480 of the Code of Administrative Offences. Article 12 of the Law stipulates that organizer of a mass gathering must obtain permission from a local administration fifteen days prior to organizing a mass gathering.

International Conventions

Tajikistan has acceded to and ratified the following International Environmental Conventions:

a. UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), 1997
b. UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, 1998
c. Ramsar Convention (joined in 2000)
d. Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (joined in 2001).
e. Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (ratified in 2007)
f. Aarhus Convention (joined in 2001)

The international treaties prevail over the national legislation; hence, the above-mentioned Conventions also constitute the legal basis for relevant aspects of environmental protection in the country.

List of international treaties and conventions on social affairs ratified by Tajikistan:

a. Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (2006)
b. International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
c. Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women
d. Convention concerning Minimum Age for Admission to Employment (1993)
e. Worst Forms of Child Labor Convention (2005)
f. Abolition of Forced Labor Convention (1999)
g. Employment Policy Convention (1993)
h. Labor Inspection Convention (2009)
i. Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) (1993)
j. Tripartite Consultation (International Labor Standards) Convention (2014) and
k. Occupational Safety and Health Convention (2009)
l. The International Bill of Human Rights, which includes the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (1966); the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948); and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (1966)

Administrative System of Environmental Protection in Tajikistan

The main state authority that oversees the environmental issues is the Committee for Environmental Protection (CEP) under the Government of Tajikistan. The CEP is structured into several departments. During the project implementation, close interaction with a number of agencies may be required, including Department of State Environmental Expertise (review of project documentation, obtaining permits to perform actions to implement project activities), Department (Inspectorate) of Water Resources Protection, Department of Atmospheric Air Protection and Department of Waste Management (a permit for household waste disposal may be required). At the local level, the District Executive Authorities (Hukumats) have Environmental Protection Departments, which are subordinate bodies of the Committee for Environmental Protection responsible for the above-mentioned issues at the local level.

The Tajikistan state authority responsible for the social sector is the *Ministry of Labor, Migration and Employment*, which regulates employment and the development of social and labor relations, remuneration, labor protection and working conditions, labor market regulation, population migration, etc. The Ministry of Health and Social Protection of Tajikistan ensures proper control over the resolution of health and social protection issues.

The Federation of Independent Trade Unions of Tajikistan is a public organization that protects the interests of labor, social and economic rights of workers, supervises and controls the creation of healthy and safe working conditions, proper on-the-job working conditions, elimination of environmentally harmful and hazardous factors affecting the health of people and the environment.

3.3. Overview of World Bank's Environmental and Social Standards

The socio-environmental guidelines of WSIP-1, including this ESMF, are based on the World Bank's Environmental and Social Framework (ESF),. The World Bank's ESF reflects a continued commitment to sustainable development through the adoption of policy measures and a set of Bank Environmental and Social Standards (ESSs) designed to support projects to eradicate extreme poverty and promote the common welfare.

The World Bank will support Borrowers in developing and implementing projects that are environmentally and socially sustainable and enhance the capacity of Borrowers' environmental and social structures to assess and manage the environmental and social risks and impacts of projects. To this end, the Bank has identified ten ESSs that are designed to prevent, minimize, reduce, or mitigate adverse environmental and social risks and impacts of projects.

These ESSs are as follows:

- **ESS 1: Assessment and Management of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts:**

sets out the Borrower's responsibilities for assessing, managing, and monitoring environmental and social risks and impacts associated with each stage of a project supported by the Bank through Investment Project Financing (IPF), in order to achieve environmental and social outcomes consistent with the Environmental and Social Standards (ESSs).

- **ESS 2: Labor and Working Conditions:**

recognizes the importance of employment creation and income generation in the pursuit of poverty reduction and inclusive economic growth. Borrowers can promote sound worker-management relationships and enhance the development benefits of a project by treating workers in the project fairly and providing safe and healthy working conditions.

- **ESS 3: Resource Efficiency and Pollution Prevention and Management:**

recognizes that economic activity and urbanization often generate pollution to air, water, and land, and consume finite resources that may threaten people, ecosystem services and the environment at the local, regional, and global levels. This ESS sets out the requirements to address resource efficiency and pollution prevention and management throughout the project life cycle.

- **ESS 4: Community Health and Safety:**

addresses the health, safety, and security risks and impacts on project-affected communities and the corresponding responsibility of Borrowers to avoid or minimize such risks and impacts, with particular attention to people who, because of their particular circumstances, may be vulnerable.

- **ESS 5: Land Acquisition, Restrictions on Land Use and Involuntary Resettlement:**

considers the risks of involuntary resettlement, land acquisition, or land use restrictions that must be avoided. Where involuntary resettlement is unavoidable, it will be minimized and appropriate measures to mitigate adverse impacts on displaced persons (and on host communities receiving displaced persons) will be carefully planned and implemented.

- **ESS 6: Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Management of Living Natural Resources:**

recognizes that protecting and conserving biodiversity and sustainably managing living natural resources are fundamental to sustainable development and it recognizes the importance of maintaining core ecological functions of habitats, including forests, and the biodiversity they support.

- **ESS 7: Indigenous Peoples/Sub-Saharan African Historically Underserved Traditional Local Communities:**

ensures that the development process fosters full respect for the human rights, dignity, aspirations, identity, culture, and natural resource-based livelihoods of Indigenous Peoples/Sub-Saharan African Historically Underserved Traditional Local Communities. This ESS is not applicable to the project.

- **ESS 8: Cultural Heritage:**

recognizes that cultural heritage provides continuity in tangible and intangible forms between the past, present, and future. ESS8 sets out measures designed to protect cultural heritage throughout the project life cycle.

- **ESS 9: Financial Intermediaries (FIs):**

recognizes that strong domestic capital and financial markets and access to finance are important for economic development, growth, and poverty reduction. FIs are required to monitor and manage the environmental and social risks and impacts of their portfolio and FI subprojects, and monitor portfolio risk, as appropriate to the nature of intermediated financing. This ESS is not applicable to the project.

- **ESS 10: Stakeholder Engagement and Information Disclosure:**

recognizes the importance of open and transparent engagement between the Borrower and project stakeholders as an essential element of good international practice. Effective stakeholder engagement can improve the environmental and social sustainability of projects, enhance project acceptance, and make a significant contribution to successful project design and implementation., describes the national legislative framework and the World Bank's socio-environmental policies on the issue and the interaction order.

3.4. Gap analysis of the requirements of national legislation and the procedures of the World Bank on certain social and environmental risks.

Regarding the comparison of the National legislation and the procedures of the World Bank for the management of certain social or environmental risks and impacts, the following should be noted.

Despite the fact that the main provisions of the rules and procedures for the management (prevention or minimization) of certain types of social and environmental risks and impacts are basically similar to the WB requirements, however, there are a number of differences. These differences mainly concern the following:

- on environmental protection - the use of ACM (asbestos-containing materials). According to the WB procedures, the use of ACM is strictly prohibited, however, the regulatory legal acts of the Republic of Tajikistan allow the use of ACM in some cases.
- social parameters - alienation of land, resettlement. According to the current land legislation of the Republic of Tajikistan, if the user of the land plot does not have title documents for the land plot used by him, then in case of alienation of the land plot, resettlement, etc., compensation is not provided. Although the WB procedures provide for mandatory compensation for losses, despite the lack of title documents.
- socio-ecological parameter - water quality. Requirements for the quality of drinking water in accordance with the WB procedures and regulatory documents of the Republic of Tajikistan, including those regarding chemical and bacteriological indicators of drinking water quality, have slight differences in terms of the level of some indicators.

The Project will utilize national environmental and social institutions, systems, laws, regulations and procedures in the assessment, development, and implementation of projects, whenever appropriate.

However, for all the above differences in the course of the Project implementation in terms of the implementation of social and environmental requirements related either to national legislation or to the Bank ESSs, the principle of choosing a more “stringent version” of procedures or requirements will be applied.

4. ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RISKS AND IMPACTS

4.1.Positive Impact of WSIP-1 Implementation.

In general, the project activities (modernization, construction, reconstruction of water supply infrastructure, construction of bulk water transmission pipelines and intra-settlement distribution networks, assembly and installation of water meters, creation of a billing system, ensuring effective technical and financial management and operation, the purchase of specialized equipment) are expected to have a long-term positive impact. The civil works (modernization and rehabilitation of water-supply infrastructure and sanitation facilities) of the project are expected to have positive environmental and social impacts:

- Improved access to safe drinking water for large numbers of people in the densely populated Kurgan-Tyube zone of Khatlon region.
- Reduced risk of water-borne diseases and exposure to chemicals and agricultural pesticides in the area predominantly reliant on irrigation canals and open water streams as water sources.
- Reduced likelihood of conflicts – (i) increased understanding of service provider's responsibility over the quality and reliability of safe water supply services and effective introduction of accountability mechanisms; (ii) installation of water meters resulting in adequate measurement of actual water consumption and reduced likelihood of conflicts between neighbors who share a water source, as well as between consumers and the service provider;
- Increased environmental and occupational health and safety awareness of all personnel and increased preparedness for possible environmental emergencies.
- Improved quality of life – expected increase in demand for reliable water supply services on premises through installation of kitchens, showers, washing machines, etc.
- Optimized environmental management through a formalized system.
- Monitoring and evaluation of operations with potential / actual environmental impact.
- Compliance with legal requirements for all activities with the possibility of environmental impact, including through better informed decisions on issuance of water sue permits, accounting of water demand in river basin plans and river water balances.
- Reduction of water losses and optimized design of water supply infrastructure.
- Improving employment opportunities, i.e., providing employment and income levels of the population - the use of local goods and services during construction activities and operation stage.
- Reducing poverty in the rural districts of the project area, as shown in the WB PD WASH study (2017) access to water supply services is not associated with income level, but more with the geographical location of households. However, access to WASH is the one of the factors of multidimensional poverty level. The baseline survey conducted in the project districts demonstrated that only 3 percent of households reported having access to centralized water supply network.
- Use of decentralized water supply systems through rehabilitation and modernization of water intake facilities using groundwater sources.
- Improvement / modernization of WASH conditions in social educational and health care institutions in target districts by connecting these institutions to the water supply network

and upgrading their toilet facilities to ensure sewage collection, treatment and safe disposal, at the same time ensuring fecal sludge management.

4.2. General description of social and environmental risks

This section describes the environmental and social risks and potential impacts that may arise from the Project and proposes mitigation measures for all phases of project activities, during construction and further operation. Ultimately, all proposed preventive or mitigation measures related to construction and operation will be included in the bidding or contract documents, thus becoming mandatory elements of the contracts for construction works and construction supervision. Potential risks and adverse impacts that may arise during the implementation of project activities are listed below.

Table 8: Direct Adverse Risks and Impacts (CONSTRUCTION PERIOD)

Risks and impacts	**Subcomponents**	
	2A	**2B**
Environmental Risks:		
-An overloading of local hydrogeological resources; Destruction of wells, poor construction of new wells;	**V**	**V**
-Temporary pollution of environment air – gas emissions, odor, dust, noise and vibration from construction equipment;	**V**	**V**
-Possible disturbances in the functioning of construction camps;	**V**	**V**
-Local impacts to vegetation and gardens due to clearing for infrastructure construction;	**V**	**V**
-Damage to natural habitats;	**V**	**V**
-Disturbance of soil during trenching and gravel extraction	**V**	**V**
-Generation and improper disposal of hazardous construction waste, including ACM (Asbestos-containing material);	**V**	**V**
-Improper restoration of construction sites, including cleaning and closing of old outdoor unhygienic pits upon completion of works;	**V**	**V**
-Impact on local fauna;	**V**	**V**
-Contamination of soil and water resources (surface and/or groundwater) including operational or accidental spills of fuel and lubricants from the construction machinery	**V**	**V**
-Temporary interruption of water supply and wastewater discharge during rehabilitation works	**V**	**V**
-Temporary deterioration of the quality of drinking water in existing water supply systems;	**V**	**V**
-Potential impact on the objects of cultural and historical heritage.	**V**	**V**
-Impact (accident) on existing sewage networks, discharge and irrigation networks, drainage channel system;	**V**	**V**
- Temporary restriction of access to sanitation facilities.	**V**	**V**
Social risks:		
-Temporary disruption of access to roads, access to services;	**V**	**V**
-Discontent in local communities: workplace activities, labor influx, under-representation of women's opinions, grievances;	**V**	**V**
-Occupational health and safety, risks;	**V**	**V**
-Community health and safety;	**V**	**V**
-Inflow of outside labor and disadvantage to local community on employment opportunities;	**V**	**V**
-The possible use of child labor and forced labor;	**V**	**V**
-The risks related to insecurity caused by employment without formal contractual obligations;	**V**	**V**
-Possible risks to the health and safety of workers and the local population during the construction work;	**V**	**V**
-The emergence of disputes and misunderstandings;	**V**	**V**
-Risk associated with the transmission and spread of infectious diseases among PMU personnel, the contractor and its workforce, and the local population located in the project area.	**V**	**V**
-Temporary disruption of access to property and land;	**V**	**V**

-Possible involuntary resettlement (land acquisition [temporary and permanent], loss of buildings, trees, crops, limited access to services, impact on livelihoods);	**V**	**V**
-Risk of material damage;	**V**	**V**
-Inability of poor households to pay the costs of connection to the WS.,especially of of low-income and vulnerable households leading to problems with the organization of connection to the WS system with the Managing Company/Special Contractor;	**V**	**V**
-Limited opportunities for ethnic minorities to access the benefits of the project;	**V**	**V**
-Limited opportunities for rural women and other vulnerable groups to benefit from project activities, discrimination in remuneration;	**V**	**V**
-Lack of transparency y and misallocation of grant funds, limited access to grant funds by vulnerable groups;	**V**	**V**
-Risk of dissatisfaction and misunderstanding among water users due to changes in water tariffs.	**V**	**V**
-Risks related to SEA/SH		

Table 9: Direct Adverse Risks and Impacts (OPERATION PERIOD)

Risks and impacts	**Subcomponents**	
	2A	**2B**
Environmental Risks:		
-Excessive increase in use of groundwater/surface water sources resulting in permanent damage to groundwater sources or ecosystems;	**V**	**-**
-Inadequate and unsafe water quality / water deficiency in new and existing water supply schemes;	**V**	**V**
-Improper management of an increased wastewater discharge, including increased release of "grey" wastewater due to improved water availability;	**V**	**V**
-Waste generation;	**V**	**V**
-Air pollution - exhaust emissions, odor from wastewater treatment plants, destruction of the ozone layer;	**V**	**V**
-Excessive noise pollution;	**V**	**V**
-Pollution of soil and water resources (surface water / Groundwater resources).	**V**	**V**
-Water loss caused by network leaks/overuse of water by consumers;	**V**	**V**
-Higher water consumption;	**V**	**V**
-Inappropriate operation.	**V**	**V**
Social risks:		
-Conflicts of the local communities over the use of land and water resources;	**V**	**V**
-Increase in hygiene and sanitation related diseases, water related diseases;	**V**	**V**
-Health risks to consumers/workers/operators;	**V**	**V**
-Inadequate facilities for administrative and operational personnel and equipment.	**V**	**V**
-Water loss due to network leaks/overuse of water by consumers.	**V**	**V**
-Water loss caused by network leaks/overuse of water by consumers;	**V**	**V**
-Exclusion of poor households due to inability to pay for WS services and connections to the Water Supply System;	**V**	**V**
-Unwillingness to pay for Water Supply services, illegal connections that might lead to exclusion;	**V**	**V**
-Unwillingness to pay for the Operator's services with consequences for exclusion	**V**	**V**

Risks and environmental impacts as part of the implementation of subcomponents

Adverse environmental impacts when implementing subcomponents include (i) generation of dust, noise, vibration, and gas emissions due to the operation and movement of construction vehicles and machinery; (ii) improper disposal of construction waste and asbestos (if present), or minor operational or accidental spills of fuel and lubricants from the construction machinery; (iii) community and worker health and safety; and (iv) improper restoration of construction sites, including cleaning and closing of old outdoor unhygienic pits upon completion of works.

Protection of water quality of the existing water supply schemes and uninterrupted water supply to the existing users during rehabilitation works will also be potential environmental issues. The key risks related to the operation due to poor maintenance include (i) provision of unsafe drinking water and (ii) improper management of an increased quantity of greywater resulting from an improved water supply. These impacts are largely site-specific and reversible and could be prevented by ensuring robust design and oversight and remedied by applying appropriate mitigation measures.

Other potential downstream risks were also assessed and require careful considerations as part of the technical planning, including siting of water intake and future operations and maintenance. These include:

Additional water use/increased water use and additional wastewater generated: The project works will not result in any additional water usage (assessment is not clear/complete) and to what extent will new wastewater be generated – an elaborate description of the expected increase of water consumption was added. The recommended water consumption per person per day in rural areas is generally between 50-100 liters, depending on factors such as climate, activity levels, and health conditions. In many rural areas, households rely on surface water sources, such as rivers or streams, for their drinking and cooking water needs. The amount of water used for drinking and cooking in these households is typically much lower than the total daily water consumption rate, as water is often used sparingly and only when needed. Therefore, a water consumption rate of 75 liters per day per person in rural areas is considered reasonable and within the recommended range and should not significantly increase water consumption. Furthermore, in areas where water scarcity is an issue, households may already be practicing water conservation measures to ensure that their needs are met, as they try to minimize the amount of water treated, as treatment is associated with additional expenses. Overall, a water consumption rate of 75 liters per day per person in rural areas is not much different from what rural households would typically use for drinking and cooking using surface water sources, with the metered piped household connections, volumetric measurement based and billing based on actual consumption. Households are likely to rationalize the use of safe water.

With regard to sewage/wastewater management under sub-components 2A and 2B, the following should be noted. The Project will support decentralized wastewater collection, treatment, disposal and/or reuse studies to inform preparation of the next project in a series. The WSIP-1 will address the issues of the sector fragmentation and weak capacity in sector planning, regulation and monitoring as the issues requiring immediate attention for development of the sector institutional set-up and coordination of sanitation policies developed by the MoHSP with development of menu of options for decentralized wastewater collection, treatment, and disposal options in rural settings. The SoP-2 and SoP-3 would expand to other geographical areas in the country with the objective to provide water supply services to population in the most vulnerable and exposed to climate change districts and include investments in wastewater collection, treatment and disposal or reuse. Until a solution can be implemented, short-term wastewater management solutions are expected to include regulated disposal at permitted sites (sludge management) to reduce uncontrolled pollution.

It should be noted that all the households in the project area already use water and in rural setting their water disposal practices will be optimized in order to realign with the household water use practices that may emerge due to improved level of water supply service (piped water supply connections).Based on the foregoing, within the framework of sub-component 2A, in order to manage the increasing volumes of wastewater, which is expected largely on the side of "gray" wastewater, it is planned to use the small-scale and household-based methods that were recommended for widespread use within the framework of the ongoing Project (RWSSP) in the

Vose district. This includes the use by households of Absorption Filter Wells (AFW), which act as a kind of natural multi-layer filter, retain dirt, debris, and other particles, and pass purified water into the soil. As the most economical and effective method, they were included in the Instruction for Consumers and were distributed to households (Appendix No. 14). Also, as effective from the technical and economic side, they were recommended to households where yard areas and bio-ponds allow.

Under sub-component 2B: Decentralized WASH solutions for schools and health facilities, it is planned to introduce infrastructure solutions for water supply, sanitation, and hygiene, including safe drinking water taps, as well as pilot decentralized wastewater and fecal effluent collection systems for targeted public institutions, further cleaning, and disposal. The latter will reduce the degree of pollution of water bodies (and water sources) in the event of floods, thereby increasing the resilience of communities to floods. Within the framework of the current Project (RWSSP) in the Vose district, an integrated method "septic tank + filtration field" is used to manage wastewater and faecal effluents in selected social institutions (schools, medical centers). The filtration field is necessary at the final stage of processing for post-treatment. With proper design and arrangement of filtration fields, such post-treatment of wastewater is effective both economically and in terms of operation. Moreover, post-treatment can bring some dividends in the form of natural fertilizer and water for household needs. A wastewater and fecal effluent treatment scheme for a developed (scalable)subproject as an example for secondary school No.55 in Vose district (Appendix No 15). The implementation of the Subcomponent 2B implies intensive collaboration with the Ministry of Health and Social Protection of the Population and the Ministry of Education and Science in planning the necessary activities in schools and medical institutions to ensure that the WASH infrastructure meets the basic requirements of security, privacy and human dignity.

4.3. Environmental impacts, potential risks, and measures for their mitigation

Pollution of surface and ground water. Earthworks, oil storage facilities, and hazardous material storage facilities will be sources of contamination of river or artesian water if the water source is adjacent. Oil spills, hazardous materials, waste, and household waste can lead to chemical contamination. All fuel and chemical storage facilities (if any) should be located on impermeable foundations within a bunded area and protected by a fence. The storage area should be located away from any source of water. The discharge of lubricating oils and other potentially hazardous liquids into the ground or into water bodies should be prevented.

In the event of an accidental spill, immediate cleanup should be performed. All cleaning materials should be stored in a safe place at a site where hazardous waste can be disposed of. A surface water or groundwater treatment plan must be carefully planned during the feasibility study to meet the discharge water quality standard. The sedimentation basin, neutralization tank, and reserve tank must be made ready for flooding. This plan is included in site-specific environmental management plans.

Also, the Project has the potential to generate some short-term and minor adverse effects on water quality, including construction materials such as gravel, sand and embankment will leach into local waterways and rivers during rainfall events; hydrocarbon leaks and/or spills at storage and mixing units; wastewater and sewage discharge from construction camp sites into local waterways and rivers, or seepage through leakage and contamination of the water surface.

The main potential types and sources of water pollution include:

- Washout products, fuel and oil leaks from vehicles, storage tanks and machinery.
- Temporarily deposited sediments retrieved during excavation activities in the water catchments; flushing water from the use of drilling and crushing units.
- Human waste from construction camps and non-compliance with sanitation standards and regulations; Indiscriminate dumping of household and construction waste.

- Unauthorized discharge and spillage of liquid sewage. Flushing water containing oil or detergents used to clean equipment. Sludge extracted during demolishing of old WASH facilities may be seen as a major factor of risk and should be managed safely.

Interference with the natural flow of rivers, streams, or springs within, or adjacent to, work sites, and the prevention of water intake and pollution of water resources at project sites will not be permitted.

Waste generation will occur during the construction phase and during the construction/renovation works on engineering infrastructures, as well as other types of project activities. Waste generation - the project activities are expected to generate two types of waste: non-hazardous and hazardous. Non-hazardous waste will be represented by the construction waste that will be generated during the construction/renovation works. The storage of such waste in areas close to settlements and delayed or improper disposal can affect the air quality, dust generation, acceleration of the erosion process, disturbance of the natural habitat, and affect the neighboring communities. In addition to this waste, used welding electrodes, packaging materials and wood will also be generated. Generally, most of the waste that will be generated at this stage is recyclable waste, and their timely and correct disposal will ensure minimal environmental impact. Construction waste, as well as other waste (paper, glass, plastic, etc.) should be sorted into separate containers. Waste disposal sites at the construction site should be thoroughly selected, and the waste sorting and recycling rules should be prepared in the Environmental Management Plans. In addition, the waste generated as a result of the project implementation can be divided into the following categories:

Inert construction materials; household waste; hazardous and toxic waste. Inert construction materials include soil surplus (waste piles), as well as and other construction materials. Surpluses and stocks of the construction materials can be subject to erosion, especially during the rainy periods, and dust dispersal during the dry periods. Inert natural materials (such as soil, stones) may be disposed of in the project area at the discretion of the contractor. In such cases, the materials to be disposed and should not cause any adverse environmental impacts. Disposal or storage of solid materials is not permitted within or near the following areas: villages and residential areas, cemeteries, river/stream beds, banks, or slopes directly above the river/stream beds; cultivated lands; pastures; local fauna, including trees, shrubs, and meadows. Surplus materials generated after earthworks must be disposed of properly without adverse impact on the landscape and nature. The fertile soil layer should be piled up and, after the completion of work, used at the place of removal or, in the case of a surplus, should be transferred to its intended purpose at the discretion of local authorities and farms.

The operation of construction camps and other facilities can lead to the formation of significant volumes of liquid and solid household waste. Improper handling and disposal of household waste can cause health problems, odors, air and water pollution. The Contractor shall, on his own or under contract with a service organization, provide a sufficient number of clearly marked containers or buckets for the collection of waste in the construction camps and construction sites. Household and construction waste must be regularly removed from the construction site and disposed of in a licensed sanitary landfill, or an equivalent landfill approved by the local authorities on environmental protection.

Air pollution. Impacts on the air quality will be of a short-term nature in certain locations, as the proposed construction and renovation works under the project are only temporary. These sites are mostly located in the area where they can have the least impact on human and environmental receptors. Conditions in these areas should be such that the dust does not carry long distances and that it settles quickly, thereby affecting only localized areas. In addition, dust generation will occur during most construction/rehabilitation works associated with earthworks, transport traffic, building rehabilitation, etc. In particular, the risk of dust pollution will increase in the windy weather. The magnitude of the impact will increase with construction/rehabilitation works in close proximity to settlements. Significant impacts will only occur if stationary point sources such as stocks of materials, crushing and concrete mixing plants are located near sensitive areas and if

large volumes of construction materials are transported or equipment is continuously operated in close proximity to sensitive areas. At the same time, during the construction and rehabilitation of water supply infrastructures, the trucks and heavy machinery can disturb the top layer of soil, which can contribute to dust problems for workers and residents in nearby settlements.

Special care must be taken when coming into contact with the toxic asbestos dust (see the section on ACM handling below), which may occur when dismantling thermal insulation or roofs containing asbestos gaskets. Personnel must wear protective masks. Adverse impacts can be prevented by applying the best construction practices and appropriate measures for mitigation of the impacts. During construction work, technically sound construction equipment should also be used to minimize greenhouse gas emissions.

Noise can occur mainly during the operation of equipment and the movement of trucks. Noise levels are not expected to exceed the specified limits during the project activities. Noise can be mitigated through the use of recommended measures. Given the nature of the project, vibration is not expected to affect the human health and structural integrity as there will be no activity that generates significant vibration. To ensure acceptable noise levels in residential areas in Tajikistan, the "Sanitary Regulations and Standards" under No. 2.2.4.016-14 dated 2017 are applied and in accordance with the World Bank Group's Environmental, Health and Safety Guidelines, the sensitive receptors, such as areas of residential buildings, institutional and educational establishments should have a noise level of 55 dB (A) from 7 am to 10 pm (during the daytime) and no more than 45 dB (A) from 10 pm to 7 am (at night time). The use of construction machinery and vehicles should be limited to a reasonable time when they have the least adverse impact. The speed of construction vehicles near and inside the villages will be limited to <20 km/h.

Pollution of surface and underground water sources by greywater and sewage water.

Population growth and a significant increase in domestic sewage, due to the increase in water supply, will be one of the main sources of pollution of surface and groundwater sources by pathogenic bacteria and helminths. Synthetic detergents widely used in the home pollute water bodies to an even greater extent. In "gray" wastewater usually about 60% of substances of organic origin, the same category of organic includes biological (bacteria, viruses, fungi, algae). The main cause of pollution of water sources is the accidental discharge of sewage domestic sewage, as well as the uncontrolled discharge of waste "gray" water of households.

Timely elimination of accidents in existing sewer networks, as well as the prevention of unauthorized discharges of waste graywater. Given the fact that the existing sewerage networks are mostly worn out and moreover are not designed for the inflow of additional discharges, it is necessary to provide protective sanitary zones, as well as measures to protect water sources.

Soil pollution. Leakage of fuel, lubricants, debris, and pit latrines can cause soil pollution. A possible source of soil pollution should not be near farmers' fields or water sources. Surface runoff from the construction site must be removed. All ground tanks with fuels and lubricants will be equipped above the ground, and the integrity of their walls will be constantly monitored. Rules for the registration, handling and storage of hazardous materials, a Soil Pollution Prevention Plan and a Fire Safety Plan should be prepared within the ESMP.

Asbestos dust pollution - asbestos dust generated during the dismantling of old roofs of restored/reconstructed buildings, buildings of pumping stations, water pipes can cause a serious health hazard to people living in houses next to or near the construction sites. In such cases, prior to construction work, the contractor shall develop a specific Asbestos-Containing Materials Management Plan based on a model, the recommendations are provided in Annex 6 below. The Asbestos-Containing Materials Management Plan (ACMMP) describes and assesses the risk that contractors (and other entities) will encounter asbestos-containing material (ACM) at Project construction sites during the project implementation phase; and it provides a procedure for quickly and safely dealing with any ACM that can be found. WB's ESS 3: Recourse and Efficiency,

Pollution Prevention and Management requires the World Bank-funded Projects to apply pollution prevention and control technologies, as well as the occupational health and safety measures in line with the international best practice, as reflected in the international standards, such as the General Environmental, Health, and Safety Guidelines of the IFC/World Bank (2007) and the Law of the Republic of Tajikistan "On industrial and household waste" dated May 10, 2002 under No. 44.

Vegetation loss - since the program does not provide funding for sub-projects requiring land acquisition and resettlement, i.e., all project activities will be carried out within the existing facilities, no significant impact on flora is expected. However, for some sub-projects related to the modernization of water supply infrastructure, there is a certain risk of loss of trees and other valuable vegetation. The construction works will directly cause minor degradation of the local ecology due to the clearing of small areas of vegetation (soil cover) in the main and ancillary working areas. Contractors will be responsible for supplying appropriate fuel to the construction camps in order to prevent collection of fuelwoods. In addition, compensatory tree planting will be investigated and planned on a case-by-case basis in consultation with local authorities and supervisory bodies if the removal of woody vegetation along the pipelines is necessary. Where appropriate, the relevant amounts of compensatory planting and habitat conservation will be included in the bill of quantities.

Biodiversity Impacts.

During their long existence, colonies of rare animals, bird nests, and rare plants could form along the water supply systems and wastewater treatment plants. In order to prevent damage to biodiversity during the screening phase, a thorough study will be carried out to detect habitats of rare animals, nesting birds, rare plants and, if found, mitigation or avoidance measures or alternative protection measures will be envisaged.

Specially Protected Natural Areas

The designed sites are located outside the Tajikistan Specially Protected Natural Areas (SPNAs). The project areas include the Tigrovaya Balka Nature Reserve with an area of 49786 ha located in the south-western part of Khatlon region of Tajikistan in the districts of Dusti, Jayhun and Kabodiyan. The reserve stretches along the Vakhsh River for40 km to the border with nistan and the confluence of the Pyanj and Vakhsh rivers. Approximately 4000 hectares of the reserve are reservoirs and lakes; there are more than 20 lakes in the reserve, many of which are connected by collectors. The reserve was established in 1938. The main task of the reserve is to preserve the unique riparian plant complex, floodplain forests of the dry subtropics zone. Riparian forests occupy an area of 24.1 thousand hectares. The territory of the reserve is exposed to negative anthropogenic impact: unregulated hunting and fishing, illegal logging, poaching, settlement, development for agricultural land, grazing. All this has led to a decrease in the number of many species of animals.

The sub-component activities of the Project do not affect the SPNAs, moreover they are at a sufficient distance, i.e., there will be no direct impact on the natural habitats or any species inhabiting the Tigrovaya Balka and Ramsar reserves. However, possible indirect impacts (through water, atmosphere etc.) will be assessed and monitored as part of the development of the sub-project specific ESMP. The subproject proposals, which may negatively affect protected areas and their biodiversity, will be considered as ineligible within this project.

Risks of impact on objects of cultural heritage. Procedures of chance findings.

It is assumed that during the construction, rehabilitation, and renovation activities of the project at existing facilities the earthworks, land mass movements will be involved, or other changes in the physical environment that may unexpectedly reveal tangible objects of cultural heritage. To address this issue, all ESMPs of such subprojects will have specific provisions in all construction contracts under the "Procedures of chance findings" that will specify how the chance findings

associated with the subproject will be handled. They will state the following: (a) do not interfere with any accidental discovery until such time as an assessment by competent experts has been made and actions have been determined; (b) notify the relevant authorities of discovered objects or sites by cultural heritage experts; (c) fence off the area of chance findings or site to avoid further infringements; (d) evaluate the discovery objects or sites by cultural heritage experts; (e) identify and implement the actions in line with the requirements of ESS 8 on the cultural heritage and the national legislation; and (f) if necessary, prepare the project personnel and project workers for the procedures of chance findings. For detail procedure for Chance Find procedure refer to Annex-7 of this ESMF.

Workers and Community Health and Safety

For workers - the main risk in the field of occupational health and safety for project workers is associated with the mechanized works on on the construction and reconstruction of water supply systems, the COVID-19 pandemic, and non-compliance with sanitary rules in places of food, accommodation, and recreation. Failure to comply with occupational health and safety requirements can create a risk for construction workers in the form of illness, injury and mutilation. Contractors must comply with Occupational Health and Safety regulations, including strict adherence to established occupational health and safety policies and procedures, which depend on the type of work performed, the use of PPE, training activities and monitoring. In addition, all workers should be familiar with the hazardous materials handling practices (such as asbestos materials, etc.). Contractors must provide workers with adequate living conditions: safe water supply, laundry facilities, rest rooms, etc. Construction sites are potentially dangerous, thus serious accidents often occur there, especially if safety measures are not provided. Construction and rehabilitation of water supply infrastructures will include a number of activities that carry a particularly high risk, such as the use of heavy machinery, earthworks on steep and potentially unstable slopes, and the movement of construction equipment. This is of particular concern due to the remoteness of some of the construction sites from the hospital. The construction phase can lead to a range of adverse impacts on health and safety of people. The main adverse impacts on health and safety are associated with (i) risks during construction works (noise, risk of injury), (ii) transmission of infectious diseases; (iii) contamination of local water supplies; (iv) consumption of contaminated or poor-quality food, and (v) issues of road traffic safety. The Contractor will comply with the requirements of the laws of the Republic of Tajikistan on occupational health and safety. The contract must include specifications and terms based on international standards. The Contractor shall be liable for any safety risk to the public and will be required to compensate for any damage caused as a result of his negligence towards the health and safety of any member of the society. The Contractor shall ensure and be responsible for the proper training of all employees in the safe use of equipment and machinery. The Action Plan for occupational health and safety (or H&S management plans) will be prepared by the Contractor to ensure the safety of workers.

Public health risks associated with COVID-19 during construction are assessed as low. The ESMF includes relevant protocols as a pre-cautionary measure for unforeseen pandemics. However, there may be other public health risks, such as water-borne diseases if sanitation infrastructure does not meet the required standards and/or poorly maintained. Such risks are expected to be addressed as part of technical design processes, combined with robust supervision during construction and technical support for operations and maintenance.

Risks associated with the local community living near the project areas. Inadequate lighting and fencing of construction sites inside the settlements can be dangerous for pedestrians and vehicles, especially at night. The increase in traffic due to the movement of trucks and vehicles to construction sites can also cause inconvenience to the local population. In addition, some construction/restoration works will result in temporary blocking of access to the households. Untimely and inefficient disposal of solid waste and inadequate sanitation by construction workers at construction sites and labor camps can cause environmental pollution and affect the health of

the local population. In addition, the movement of heavy equipment can destroy or worsen the condition of roads inside the settlements. Traffic safety on bridges and roads constructed in the framework of the project will be improved. Conflicts between different modes of transport will be reduced by widening the roadsides and improving the system of traffic signals at intersections and bridges. Road accidents, such as fuel or toxic chemical spills, can have serious impacts for local villages as well as villages located in the project areas.

Traffic safety risks are assessed as low since the project does not involve major infrastructure and/or mobilization of heavy machineries. Although livestock are more visible and more likely to avoid traffic accidents during the daytime, stray animals will be less visible at night. On unlit roads, livestock poses an additional danger to road users. It is also a significant economic asset for its owners and communities. Design construction and restoration works will be carried out only during the daytime. The equipment must work during the established hours from 8:00 am to 6:00 pm. At night, no work will be carried out. For the PMU, the WSS Group and construction supervision staff should comply to the general road safety rules and ensure that a separate manual on travelling by car during the business hours is developed describing procedures for staff.

Measures to mitigate the impact.

The impacts associated with this can also lead to accidents for drivers/passengers of vehicles. Injury or loss of life, especially children, has serious social and economic impacts for affected families and communities. Therefore, all practicable measures must be taken to minimize the road traffic deaths and injuries. Suggested measures include: control of the speed and reduction of the traffic intensity, such as speed bumps on the territory of the villages; control of the speed and guide signs, barriers, etc. on dangerous sections of the roads, for example, bends, bridges, etc.; safety barriers and widening of the roadsides on some sections of the roads; measures are needed to minimize the road crash casualties, including the livestock (and local animal species); proposed speed limits in the areas where animals graze; warning signs for the cattle crossing;

Response to emergencies, accidents, and incidents

Construction works can cause accidents that can in turn lead to environmental and social problems. The main project activities are aimed at rehabilitation of the water supply infrastructure, which will not lead to serious incidents, but at the same time, the contractor's irresponsible attitude to safety standards and requirements can lead to emergencies and incidents at the construction site and work sites. As part of the project, the relevant requirements and recommendations for the prevention and management of emergency situations will be developed. Emergency response documentation should contain the contact information in case of emergency situations for each workplace, displayed prominently and accessible to all staff. Contact information for emergency situations should include phone numbers and ways to notify the local authorities and services of what to do in the event of a fire, traffic accident, health emergency, release of hazardous materials, etc.

Preparedness to manage accidental emissions of pollutants should be planned in advance. The Contractor will be responsible for taking all reasonable and precautionary measures to ensure that fires do not occur as a result of the construction of the facility. Open fires at the construction site will be prohibited and the Contractor shall ensure that basic fire-fighting equipment is available at the construction site. The detailed design and construction and rehabilitation of any infrastructure should take due account of natural disaster risks.

The PMU will ensure that the Bank's requirements on response to emergencies are met by all stakeholders (refer section 6.4).

Social impacts and potential risks.
Labor influx risks are assessed as low since workers will be recruited locally. Social risks associated with labor includes access to employment opportunities generated by this project, particularly amongst women and ethnic minorities. There may also be potential risks associated

with employment discriminations (i.e., wages, terms, and conditions of employment, etc.). To prevent such risks, selected contractors will be required to hire their workers through formal process and relevant outreach shall be provided to all community groups to ensure access to information about job opportunities. Each worker must sign a contract with their respective employer, indicating the rights and obligations of the parties, ensuring safe working conditions and timely payment of wages. On a regular basis the PMU Construction Supervision Engineers, Environmental Engineer, Social Development specialist, Monitoring and Evaluation Specialists, under the overall supervision of the Project Manager/Coordinator, will monitor the Contractor's compliance with workers' rights and working conditions. Overall wellbeing of project workers will be monitored, including their safety at work. Before starting construction works, the contractor shall be guided by the opinion and recommendations of local representatives of jamoats and mahalla councils. When creating jobs, preference shall be given to hiring the local labor force with special attention to attract persons from the socially vulnerable segments of the population and national minorities living in the sub-project area. The principle of equal access to Project benefits and non-discrimination must be respected. The Contractor shall pay special attention to gender aspects, i.e., involvement of rural women in Project work and adhere to provisions of the Code of conduct to create an environment built on trust and equal treatment with special attention to traditionally accepted treatment of women with respect at workplace.

Labor risks at the level of the PMU and the WSS Group are rated as moderate as they are regulated by the Constitution and regulatory legal provisions of the Republic of Tajikistan in the field of labor, guaranteeing the right to work, the right to rest, health protection and social security. Control over the fulfillment of the labor rights of employees, compliance with contractual obligations and safe working conditions, on a semi-annual basis, is carried out by the State Service for Supervision in the Sphere of Labor and Social Protection of the Population. The labor relations with the main employees are regulated by contractual relations indicating the terms, wages, and bilateral obligations

Sexual Exploitation and Abuse/Sexual Harassment (SEA/SH) risks are also rated as moderate, mainly due to the status of national legislation, rural gender norms based on respect for local rules and traditions. It is necessary to take into account the fact that construction activities will be carried out in rural areas and most of the workers will be hired locally. Local contractors/subcontractors will most likely be involved in the construction and rehabilitation works of the Project. The relationship between an employer and his employee is likely to be based on the mutual respect inherent in rural areas. Any form of harassment shall be immediately reported to the Supervisory Engineer, Contractor, the PMU with sufficient information about the incident or accident, indicating the Root Cause Analysis (RCA) and immediate actions taken or planned to be carried out, including a Corrective Action Plan (CAP) to address them, as well as any information provided by any contractor and supervisor, as appropriate. All incidents must be reported to the World Bank no later than 48 hours after they occur. While safety and confidentiality of survivors will be insured.

Risks associated with forced labor and child labor. The contractor will be contractually obligated to commit against child/forced labor, as well the use of underage children as specified in the LMP, and the PMU staff, the contractor's supervisory engineers, and environmental and social specialists will monitor and report on any violations. No child, forced, involuntary or unpaid labor will be used in any construction work or contract work directly related to the Project. Article 8 of the Labor Code of the Republic of Tajikistan prohibits the use of forced labor and Article 4 "Principles of the legislation of the Republic of Tajikistan on labor" states the prohibition of discrimination, forced labor and the use of female labor and the labor of minors in heavy, underground, and work in harmful working conditions. The minimum age of employment under the project has been established in the LMP and an age verification mechanism will be established by each contractor as part of their hiring process. Given the nature of works and a wide distribution of the sub-projects in the area which may restrict capacity of the PMU to actually monitor and

validate the age of hired workers due to a large number of contractors and sub-contractors involved almost at once, employment under the project should be restricted to workers above 18 years of age with an age verification mechanism to be established by the selected contractors.

Resettlement and Land Acquisition. The project will finance construction and rehabilitation of water supply infrastructure that may result in land acquisition, involuntary resettlement and/or livelihood impacts. The physical investments include rehabilitation and replacement of the existing transmission pipelines and extension of networks, and provision of decentralized sanitation solutions for schools and healthcare institutions. To increase the efficiency of existing infrastructure, rehabilitation works may cause minor changes in existing alignment, so they may require minor amounts of additional land and have impacts on livelihoods or sources of income for communities. The new construction will invariably require 'land', but it will be limited to a few facilities. While the project is expecting that the Government will make land available, due diligence will be required to ensure that there are no resultant physical and/ or economic displacements. Project activities may also involve temporary restrictions in access to communities and public facilities, as the majority of water networks are laid along the roads. At this stage the exact location of the physical footprint of the subprojects is not known, therefore a Resettlement Framework has been prepared to prevent, avoid, and mitigate those impacts.

Illegal connections, irrational use of water supply and sanitation services, use of unsafe wells for drinking purposes, payment for services. The Project will be financing infrastructure for water supply (through water meters) to households in rural settlements of the project areas, where almost every household has adjoining territories with a backyard garden and vegetable garden, and also has poultry or livestock. In this regard, there are risks of illegal connection to the centralized water supply network, as well as the use of various water sources, including unsafe wells, problems of refusing to pay for services, and so on. As part of the implementation of the Project, it is envisaged to carry out extensive work in communities, among the population to change behavior. In addition, in order to prevent or minimize these risks, it is envisaged to organize periodic audits by the managing organizations of water conduits and distribution networks, to monitor the quality of the supplied water on an ongoing basis (under the current Project, the relevant mobile laboratories were transferred to the managing organizations of the project areas). Together with stakeholders, conduct a thorough inventory of existing water sources, including wells, with the development of proposals for their further use or conservation. The listed risks during construction and operation will be temporary and permanent. Logically the risks and impacts will naturally be temporary during construction and permanent during operation. For water supply systems according to zoning schemes, the priority of modernization and rehabilitation works will be determined by detailed engineering design. This procedure also includes assessment of energy and water losses and alternatives to reduce such risks as well as improvements in water supply.

However, in the preliminary assessment of possible impacts, environmental and social risks are assessed as significant and are covered under ESS 1, ESS 2, ESS 3, ESS 4, ESS 5, ESS 6, ESS 8 and ESS 10. The assessment and established environmental and social risk rating of the project is determined by the scale of this project, covering the project areas of three districts of Khatlon region, are associated with: modernization and rehabilitation of water infrastructure, including waste management; risks associated with indirect disturbance of existing ecosystems and established habitats; risks associated with possible contamination of water and soil.

The risks and possible negative impacts of the project are discussed in detail below.

Table 11: The WB Environmental and Social Standards relevant to the Project

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL STANDARDS	Applicable (Y/N)	MAIN REQUIREMENTS	ADDRESSING ESSs
ESS 1: Assessment and Management of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts	**Yes**	ESS 1 sets out the Borrower's responsibilities for assessing, managing, and monitoring environmental and social risks and impacts associated with each stage of a project supported by the Bank through Investment Project Financing, in order to achieve environmental and social outcomes consistent with the Environmental and Social Standards (ESSs). As required by this standard, the ESIA should be conducted based on current information, including a description and delineation of the project and any associated aspects, and environmental and social baseline data at an appropriate level of detail sufficient to inform characterization and identification of risks and impacts and mitigation measures. The assessment evaluates the project's potential environmental and social risks and impacts, with a particular attention to those that may fall disproportionally on disadvantaged and/or vulnerable social groups; examine project alternatives; identify ways of improving project selection, siting, planning, design and implementation in order to apply the mitigation hierarchy for adverse environmental and social impacts and seek opportunities to enhance the positive impacts of the project.	For the most part, long-term positive impacts are expected from the project activities; negative impacts are temporary and related to construction activities. Risks and adverse environmental impacts may be associated with construction and rehabilitation activities of engineering water supply systems, pumping stations, pipelines, headworks water intake structures, which may cause a number of direct and indirect environmental risks in case of incompliance with technical and safety policies, such as: increased environmental pollution with waste, noise, dust, air, surface water, soil pollution, erosion, loss of vegetation and destruction of natural habitats. Health hazards (including COVID-19) and occupational safety issues due to construction activities are also among the socio-environmental risks. Social risks may occur in the allocation of grant funds and job creation. Environmental and social risks associated with the project will for the most part be manageable and mitigation measures will be detailed in the ESMP. Since the detailed engineering design is not fully completed, a framework approach is adopted and each project district is described separately. The Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) is prepared in accordance with the requirements of ESS 1, which sets out the rules and procedures for the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment of activities and subprojects to prepare site-specific Environmental and Social Management Plans (site- specific ESMPs). To manage risks throughout all phases of the project, the relevant labor management and stakeholder engagement plans will be developed. A grievance redress mechanism will be established at the national level, a specific GRM for the project employees including feedback mechanisms, and small grant

			management program will be developed including a targeted and equitable allocation mechanism. Social risks associated with potential exclusion of households from coverage with piped water supply services due to their unwillingness to pay for household connections, future water supply service tariffs and potentially a disagreement to replace more conventional water sources used by those households with modernized piped connections to water supply services. These social issues are associated with activities under the Component 1 and 2, and require a socially equitable and fair system to be developed by the counterparts encouraging connections fees for enhance coverage indicators. At the same time, behavior change campaign at the community level will be important mitigation measure to create consent and agreement to the proposed project approaches.
ESS 2. Labor and Working Conditions	**Yes**	ESS 2 recognizes the importance of employment creation and income generation in the pursuit of poverty reduction and inclusive economic growth. Borrowers can promote sound worker- management relationships and enhance the development benefits of a project by treating workers in the project fairly and providing safe and healthy working conditions. ESS 2 applies to project workers including fulltime, part-time, temporary, seasonal, and migrant workers. Considering specified requirements, the Borrower must develop and implement written labor management procedures applicable to the project. These procedures should set out the way in which project workers will be managed, in accordance with the requirements of national law and this ESS. The procedures should address the way in which this ESS will apply to different categories of project workers including direct workers, and the way in which the Borrower will require third parties to manage their workers in accordance with ESS 2.	The project will engage core workers directly hired by the PMU and the WSS Group to perform project-related tasks and contract workers hired by a contractor or other third party. The bulk of the contractor's workers will likely be locally hired under the Component 2. The category of core supplier workers will not be applied as the project does not include the services of a single regular supplier. The category of core workers will include in-house specialists and consultants whose relations will be regulated on the basis of the signed contract and terms of reference. The categories of contract workers will be represented by employees of consulting companies, including design firms and employees of contractors and subcontractors. The core central office workers will generally need to be full-time, and for all periods of the project. Consultant workers may be employed for the duration of the project or for a specific period of time. The contract workers employed for civil works will be employed for a period of 12 to 18 months. For small-scale rehabilitation works, the terms of employment may be between 2 and 3 months, depending on the scope of the work. Contracting procedures will be transparent, publicly available, non-discriminatory, and open. The labor relations with employees of the Project will be formalized by agreements in accordance with the provisions of the Labor Code of Tajikistan and the WB. In order to manage the risks that may arise in relation to Project employees, the Labor Management Procedures (LMP) are developed.

			The employees at all levels will be required to comply with workplace and leisure area safety regulations, and employers will be required to conduct regular the OHS instructions and ensure that they are strictly enforced.
ESS 3. Resource Efficiency and Pollution Prevention and Management	**Yes**	ESS 3 recognizes that economic activity and urbanization often generate pollution to air, water, and land, and consume finite resources that may threaten people, ecosystem sendees and the environment at the local, regional, and global levels. This ESS sets out the requirements to address resource efficiency and pollution 1 prevention and management throughout the project life cycle consistent with Good International Industry Practice (GIIP).	The Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) includes sections describing Pollution Prevention and Management with a focus on those issues which might arise while conducting civil works for facilities construction and rehabilitation activities as well as indirect impacts. Assessment of associated with civil works risks and impacts and proposed mitigation measures related to relevant requirements of ESS 3, including raw materials, water use, air pollution (including preventing or minimizing short-term and permanent emissions of air pollutants, including greenhouse gases), hazardous materials, organic and hazardous waste included in subproject-specific ESMPs as relevant The ESMF is in coherence with the overall project objective to improve access to safe and effective management of water supply services. Component 1 will support policy and regulatory frameworks to promote sustainable service delivery, including operational and financial management. Water supply and wastewater unit/department is expected to be established in the Ministry of Energy and Water to ensure coordination with the stakeholders' agencies. Component 2 will aim on the increasing the efficiency of water resources, especially drinking water, through direct investments in the rehabilitation and replacement of the old and damaged water-supply pipelines and other facilities, installation of water-meters, improvement of drinking water quality, wastewater management and sanitary facilities in social institutes. The newly established pipeline section will improve supply of water to customers and reduce water loss in drought-vulnerable areas. A public outreach water conservation campaign will contribute to a lower water demand and lower the current water stress level, thereby making the communities more resilient to the expected rising incidence of local water shortages and droughts. A Master Plan that is expected to be developed under the Project's Component 1 will look into potential water sources and ways for wastewater management for settlements in Khatlon region, at the level of the prefeasibility assessment. The Masterplan will need to take into account a simple water stress and climate projections to ensure development of a

			list of prioritized climate-smart investments in water supply/wastewater infrastructure within the current internationally agreed allocation of water resources and allocation of water under the respective river basin plans existing in the country. The main source of water resources for the implementation of the Project is the Vakhsh Main Canal (VMC), fed from the Vakhsh River. The Vakhsh Interdistrict Water Supply System Rehabilitation Project will be implemented within existing schemes, including some additions or modifications requiring rehabilitation, civil works and other changes that should not (will not) adversely affect the quality and volume of water flows used downstream and will not be adversely affected by the use of water resources by other coastal users. Aspects of resource efficiency and management have been identified within the RWSSP.
ESS 4. Community Health and Safety	**Yes**	ESS 4 recognizes that project activities, equipment, and infrastructure can increase community exposure to risks and impacts. In addition, communities that are already subjected to impacts from climate change may also experience an acceleration or intensification of impacts due to project activities. ESS 4 addresses the health, safety, and security risks and impacts on project-affected communities and the corresponding responsibility of Borrowers to avoid or minimize such risks and impacts, with particular attention to people who, because of their particular circumstances, may be vulnerable.	The main risk related to community health and safety is associated with physical labor, machinery operations in the rehabilitation of existing infrastructures and the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as the spread of other infectious diseases. To prevent environmental and social risks and impacts that may affect public health and safety, each subproject will develop a site-specific ESMP and Action Plan to prevent the penetration of COVID-19 and other pathogens into PMU offices and construction sites, reflecting preventive measures. The ESMP will reflect safety measures for the local population living near the project sites, including distribution and installation of posters and special signs, booklets warning local residents about the hazards, conduct appropriate fencing in the work areas. The PMU and the WSS Group, and all contractors are required to adhere to the Project-specific Codes of Conduct, including requirements for respectful behavior and interaction with local communities and in the workplaces, prohibition of involvement in illegal activities, forced or child labor, and sexual harassment in the workplace. Additional risk prevention and mitigation actions to be undertaken by the PMU and WSS Group of the MEWR include the establishment of a grievance redress mechanism, training and awareness raising for staff, contractors, and local communities (adjoining areas to construction sites).

ESS 5. Land Acquisition, Restrictions on Land Use and Involuntary Resettlement	**Yes**	ESS 5 recognizes that project-related land acquisition and restrictions on land use can have adverse impacts on communities and persons. Project-related land acquisition or restrictions on land use may cause physical displacement (relocation, loss of residential land or loss of shelter), economic displacement (loss of land, assets or access to assets, leading to loss of income sources or other means of livelihood), or both. The term "involuntary resettlement" refers to these impacts. Experience and research indicate that physical and economic displacement, if unmitigated, may give rise to severe economic, social and environmental risks: production systems may be dismantled; people face impoverishment if their productive resources or other income sources are lost; people may be relocated to environments where their productive skills are less applicable and the competition for resources greater; community institutions and social networks may be weakened; kin groups may be dispersed; and cultural identity, traditional authority, and the potential for mutual help maybe diminished or lost.	The project will finance construction and rehabilitation of water supply infrastructure that may result in land acquisition, involuntary resettlement and/or livelihood impacts. The physical investments include rehabilitation and replacement of the existing transmission pipelines and extension of networks, and provision of decentralized sanitation solutions for schools and healthcare institutions. To increase the efficiency of existing infrastructure, rehabilitation works may cause minor changes in existing alignment, so they may require minor amounts of additional land and have impacts on livelihoods or sources of income for communities. The new construction will invariably require 'land', but it will be limited to a few facilities. While the project is expecting that the Government will make land available, due diligence will be required to ensure that there are no resultant physical and/ or economic displacements. Project activities may also involve temporary restrictions in access to communities and public facilities, as the majority of water networks are laid along the roads. At this stage the exact location of the physical footprint of the subprojects is not known, therefore a Resettlement Framework has been prepared to prevent, avoid and mitigate those impacts.
ESS 6. Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Management of Living Natural Resources	**Yes**	ESS 6 recognizes that protecting and conserving biodiversity and sustainably managing living natural resources are fundamental to sustainable development. Impacts on biodiversity can therefore often adversely affect the delivery of ecosystem services. This standard aims to safeguard natural habitats and their biodiversity; avoid significant conversion or degradation of critical natural habitats, and to ensure sustainability of services and products which natural habitats provide to human society.	The activities envisaged by the project will be implemented on the existing water supply systems. It is assumed that the facilities to be rehabilitated will not have any impact on protected areas, as they are located at a considerable distance and will not cause any risk for sustainable management of biodiversity and living natural resources. At the same time, along the bulk water transmission pipelines and engineering structures (sedimentation basins) during their long-term existence colonies of rare animals, nesting birds, rare plants may emerge. In order to prevent damage to biodiversity, a detailed study will be conducted at the screening stage to detect such habitats and species, and if they are found,

			measures to mitigate or prevent negative impacts, or alternative protective measures, will be elaborated.
ESS 7. Indigenous Peoples/Sub-Saharan African Historically Underserved Traditional Local Communities	**No**	ESS7 recognizes that indigenous peoples/historically unprotected traditional local communities in sub-Saharan Africa have distinctive characteristics and aspirations that distinguish them from mainstream groups in national communities, and they are often disadvantaged under traditional development models. ESS7 contributes to poverty reduction and sustainable development for this category.	ESS 7 is not relevant to the Project, as the there are no indeginous people as per ESS7 definition in Tajikistan.
ESS 8. Cultural heritage protection measures throughout the project cycle	**Yes**	ESS8 establishes general provisions on the risks and impacts on cultural heritage resulting from project activities. It aims to protect cultural heritage from the negative impacts of project activities and promote its preservation; to address cultural heritage issues inextricably linked to sustainable development; to facilitate consultation with stakeholders on cultural heritage issues; and to promote the equitable sharing of benefits from the use of cultural heritage sites. The term "cultural heritage" encompasses tangible and intangible heritage that can be recognized and valued locally, regionally, nationally, or globally.	The project areas, according to the data provided by the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Tajikistan, include 37 objects of historical and cultural heritage to be preserved, including: in Balkhi district - 12, Dusti district - 17. The detailed engineering design will take into account the preservation of cultural and historically valuable objects, rehabilitation or new construction of infrastructure will be planned in such a way that there will be no conflicts with the protection of cultural heritage. According to the conceptual engineering design, which has been agreed with all relevant district sectoral structures and services, implementation of the Project should have no impact on objects of historical and cultural heritage. Regardless, objects of cultural and historical heritage will be specified in detail, including the mapped location after detailed engineering design in phased Environmental and Social Management Plans (ESMP), taking into account the establishment of chance finds commissions.
ESS 9. Financial Intermediaries (FIs)	**No**	ESS9 applies to Financial Intermediaries (FIs) that receive financial support from the Bank. FIs include public and private financial service providers, including national and regional development banks, which channel financial resources to various economic activities in different sectors of the economy.	Involvement of FIs is not foreseen as part of the WSIP-1 implementation.

ESS 10. Stakeholder Engagement and Information	**Yes**	This ESS recognizes the importance of open and transparent engagement between the Borrower and project stakeholders as an essential element of good international practice. Effective stakeholder engagement can improve the environmental and social sustainability of projects, enhance project acceptance, and make a significant contribution to successful project design and implementation. The client will engage with stakeholders throughout the project life cycle, commencing such engagement as early as possible in the project development process and in a timeframe that enables meaningful consultations with stakeholders on project design. The nature, scope and frequency of stakeholder engagement will be proportionate to the nature and scale of the project and its potential risks and impacts.	The project will engage diverse stakeholders at the national, regional, district and community levels. The project beneficiaries will be: (i) Ministry of Energy and Water Resources and SUE KMK, (ii) Executive state authorities of Khatlon region and Balkhi, Dusti districts, (iii) regional and district water supply structures, (iv) public institutions, (v) social institutions, businesses, and rural households, including female-headed households. In order to identify, establish and maintain effective stakeholder engagement for successful and sustainable management of environmental and social risks throughout the project implementation, the PMU has developed a Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP). The SEP identifies all stakeholders, their needs, and describes engagement methods. The methods of engagement also focus on vulnerable groups and women participation in the project activities. Individuals and groups likely to be affected (direct beneficiaries) have been identified. They include rural water users, beneficiary communities, key water supply and wastewater service providers, rural health centers and secondary schools, students of secondary schools to be covered by roll-out of WASH-in-School campaign, puberty-age girls, mothers, and caregivers and local community members either temporarily or permanently adversely affected by the project activities. The SEP describes the expectations and concerns of the project beneficiaries and sets out a program of engagement. The SEP describes the national legislative framework and the WB environmental and social policy on this issue. In order to provide timely information about the project to all stakeholders, in particular affected communities, the SEP provides for public meetings in the affected areas, publication of project materials in the media, including the MEWR, SUE KMK and PMU websites, public consultations and roundtables both during the project preparation and implementation

4.4. Environmental and Social Management Tools

In accordance with the ESF recommendations as well as with lessons learned and experience collected during the implementation of the RWSSP, the following tools for social and environmental assessment of subprojects, recommended measures and actions to prevent and reduce risks will be applied in this Project:

Socio-environmental screening – carried out in order to identify the risks of subprojects, their potential impact on the natural and social environment, classify the subproject to any of the risk or hazard categories in accordance with the ESF and/or national legislation, to determine the appropriate and necessary procedures, documents, and tools. The general checklist for screening procedure is provided as a part of the ESMP checklist in Annex 2.

Environmental and social impact assessment (ESIA) is an instrument to identify and assess the potential environmental and social impacts of a proposed project, evaluate alternatives, and design appropriate mitigation, management, and monitoring measures. ESIAs will be required for sub-projects classified as substantial risks where robust understanding of potential risks and impacts and relevant mitigation measures will need to be understood to inform design, planning and implementation of sub-project activities.

Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) – is a tool that details (a) the measures to be taken at a specific facility during the implementation and operation of the Project to eliminate or compensate adverse environmental and social impacts or reduce them to an acceptable level; (b) the actions necessary to implement those measures. An example of an ESMP structure is provided in Annex 1. The ESMP is prepared by the Design Consultant and is an integral part of the tender documentation and the contract with contractors for any construction and repair work.

ESMP Checklist - a simplified ESMP, which is usually used for construction and rehabilitation works with typical and relatively minor impacts. An example of an ESMP checklist is provided in Annex 2.

4.5.Tools in accordance with the national legislation of the Republic of Tajikistan

In addition to the above, the framework of the National Environmental Impact Assessment/EIA (reflected in the national legislation) requires the development of the National Environmental Documentation. The approaches of the environmental legislation of the Republic of Tajikistan are essentially similar to the approaches and principles of the World Bank but differ in detail. For example, national procedures do not involve social risk assessments, but only environmental risks and potential negative impacts. Therefore, these two procedures (based on the Bank's and on national recommendations) will be applied in parallel. An initial socio-environmental screening will establish whether or not EIA is required by law and hence, will need to be prepared prior to procurement of civil works. When planning and performing work, the contractor will have to be guided by both documents, and in case of conflict, apply those that set out more stringent requirements on specific issues. The content of the national environmental documentation is described below.

Key phases of national EIA procedure

Taking into account the requirements of the Environmental Assessment specified in the national law of the Republic of Tajikistan "On Environmental Impact Assessment", the EIA process is carried out by the following entities:

- authorized state body (responsible for timely, detailed, and objective review of the environmental impact assessment report (application), pre-project and project documents containing the results of the environmental impact assessment)
- client of economic and other planned activities (responsible for arranging and conducting the environmental impact assessment procedure, development of a complete and credible environmental impact assessment report, taking into account the environmental and related impacts of project implementation)
- designer (contractor) of pre-project and project documentation (responsible for following the stages of the environmental impact assessment, development of the environmental impact assessment report, completeness, reliability, and quality of the results obtained therein)
- organizations and specialists (subcontractors) involved in the environmental impact assessment (responsible for completeness, reliability, and quality of works they perform in accordance with contracts).

The EIA process for selected subprojects includes the following phases:

- review and assessment of the environment of the facility, it is carried out in order to justify the optimum selection of the appropriate land plot for the location of a facility.
- preliminary environmental impact assessment, simultaneously accompanied by a feasibility study of the project and formalized in the form of an application for environmental impact assessment.
- environmental impact assessment, conducted in order to provide a full and comprehensive analysis of the potential impacts of the project implementation, justify alternatives, and develop an environmental management plan (program). The environmental impact assessment report shall contain a description of the technical solution to prevent negative impacts on the environment. At this stage, standards for emissions to air and discharges to water bodies, generation, storage, and disposal of solid and liquid waste are developed.
- post-project analysis carried out one year after commissioning of a facility (beginning of economic or other activities) to confirm safety for the environment and to adjust the environmental management plan (program).

All facilities that have a negative impact on the environment, depending on the level of such impact, according to paragraph 1 of Article 12 of the Law on Environmental Impact Assessment of the Republic of Tajikistan are divided into 4 categories.

- Facilities that have a significant negative impact on the environment and are associated with the areas of application of the best available technologies, and subject to the presence of harmful (polluting) substances discharged and emitted into the environment as well as substances of hazard class 1 and (or) 2 (according to sanitary standards) are classified as category “А” facilities.
- Facilities which have a moderate negative impact on the environment and subject to the presence of substances of hazard class 3 in discharges and emissions of harmful (polluting) substances into the environment are classified as category “Б” facilities.
- Facilities which have an insignificant negative impact on the environment and under condition of presence in discharges and emissions of harmful (polluting) substances in the environment of hazard class 4 and (or) 5, are classified as category “В” category facilities.
- Facilities that have a minor negative impact on the environment and under condition of insignificant emissions and discharges are classified as category “Г” facilities.

Projects related to category “А” or “Б” require an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA). Activities that are not included in category “А” or “Б” require an environmental impact

assessment statement and a declaration of commitment to implement the established and proposed environmental protection actions. An environmental impact assessment statement shall also be submitted when the planned activity has no adverse impact on the environment or has a positive impact on the environment.

Phase 1 - Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS). This document must be prepared by the Client of this activity, which determines the content of the DEIS. An environmental impact assessment statement is also submitted when the planned activity has not a negative impact on the environment or has a positive impact on it. The content of the DEIS for projects of category "В" and "Г" is more simplified than for projects of categories "А", "Б". The full DEIS must specify a wide range of environmental and social issues based on the subproject feasibility study, and in particular the following: Activities classified as Category A facilities must meet one of the following criteria:

- the object of assessment has a negative and large-scale impact on the environment and (or) sanitary and hygienic well-being of the population.
- the object of assessment has a direct impact on specially protected natural areas protected by environmental conventions and other international agreements or having a different international status.
- the object of assessment has a direct impact on the facilities of historical and cultural heritage.
- the object of assessment has a transboundary impact.

Facilities of assessment belonging to category “A” are subject to a full-scale assessment of the impact on the environment. An environmental impact assessment report as part of Project documentation must be submitted by the Client to the state environmental expertise in accordance with the legislation of the Republic of Tajikistan. Technical regulation of the issues of ensuring the environmental safety of facilities of assessment belonging to category “A” is carried out in accordance with the principles:

- the obligation to assess the impact on the environment when making decisions on the implementation of economic and other activities, including the adoption of decisions on the abandonment of economic and other planned activities.
- the admissibility of the negative impact of economic and other planned activities on the environment, based on the regulatory requirements for ensuring environmental safety established in the technical regulations.
- ensuring the reduction of the negative impact of economic and other planned activities based on the use of the best available technologies, taking into account the economic feasibility of their implementation, rational use of natural resources and compliance with technical regulations in the field of environmental protection.

Category "Б" facilities include economic and other planned activities that have a predictable impact on the environment, and this is confirmed by the results of earlier examinations. When assessing the impact on the environment of facilities belonging to category “Б”, the following are taken into account:

- the main indicators of economic and other activities (information on the volume of output or capacity, the presence of long-term cumulative effects, the volume of use of natural resources, the generation of waste, pollution and risks to the environment).
- the location of the object, taking into account the presence and degree of vulnerability of riverbank zones, nature reserves and other protected areas and facilities of historical and cultural heritage, the significance of the environmental impact, its geographical distribution, duration and reverse.

Category “B” facilities include economic and other planned activities that have a foreseeable impact on the environment and the degree of that impact has been confirmed by previous expert assessments. The documentation accompanying the statement on the impact on the environment of facilities of category "B" contains an assessment of the types of environmental impact (emissions into the atmosphere and discharges into water sources, the formation and disposal of solid and liquid waste, noise, and other types of influence) characteristic of this economic and other activities.

The facilities of category “Г” include economic and other planned activities that have an insignificant negative impact on the environment and the issues of reducing this impact have been resolved by engineering and technical measures. A prerequisite for facilities of assessment of category “Г” is the compliance of the profile of activity with the purpose of the general plan of the territory.

The DEIS must be reviewed and approved at the national level by the State Ecological Expertise (SEE) for Projects that belong to Category “A”, “Б” “B” or at the regional level for Projects that belong to Category “Г” by the regional department for environmental protection. For sub-projects categorized as "B", "Г", an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) will be prepared by the Client, as required by national legislation, and the final report will be submitted to the State Environmental Expertise for approval. The EIS will contain information on environmental mitigation measures, but, in contrast to the ESMP prepared in accordance with Bank requirements, will not contain details on their costs and the institutions appointed to implement them, or a detailed monitoring plan, nor will it contain a social risk assessment. The SEE will confirm the category of the project and identify the main questions on what the project beneficiary should focus on during the next stages of the Environmental Assessment process and during project implementation (construction or rehabilitation works).

Phase 2 – development of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) by the Client. This step must be implemented if required by the Environmental Conclusion issued by the DEIS. Typically, such documents are developed to fulfill the information provided in the DEIS or to conduct research on specified parameters. The EIS needs to be developed prior to commencement of construction works.

Phase 3 – development on the part of the designer of the pre-project and project documentation of the environmental impact statement for subprojects under Category “B” and “Г” will need to be developed before the selected subprojects start operating. For sub-Projects not included in the list with activities that are the subject of a national EIA, there is no need to conduct an impact assessment.

4.6. Environmental and Social Management Approach for Policy Development and Capacity Building (applicable to Component 1)

WSIP-1 will finance activities at the national and regional level (Khatlon region) to improve policy and regulatory frameworks and institutional capacity to advance sector reform and promote sustainable service delivery, duly accounting for current and expected climate change impacts. While potential environmental and social risks are assessed as low under this component, there could be potential downstream environmental and social implications that need to be understood and hence, managed. Under this component, environment and social risk management can use the following approach:

a. **Supporting the formulation of policies and regulations or legal frameworks:** Policies and regulations supported by the project may have potential downstream environmental and social implications when enforced during the project implementation and in the future beyond the project. As part of policy formulation and regulation, responsible implementing agencies shall:

- Integrate environmental and social objectives into policy and regulatory development process. Relevant TOR and/or assessments shall include analysis of downstream environmental and social implications performed by qualified experts and in consultations with potentially affected stakeholders. This also includes systematic and comprehensive analysis of alternatives where there are potential significant environmental and social trade-offs.
- Promote transparency through stakeholder participation and information disclosure as part of policy and regulatory development and enforcement processes. Incorporate provisions of stakeholder engagement and transparency as part of the regulatory products.
- Promote environmental and social capacity building as further elaborated below.

b. Capacity Building

While capacity building activities themselves have minimal or no direct anticipated social or environmental impacts, such activities may involve providing support to agencies and institutions in carrying out or overseeing activities that may potentially have social and environmental implications. Capacity building support may provide an opportunity to build institutional capacity by integrating environmental and social concerns into relevant roles and responsibilities. This could be achieved through training, support for operations, technical standards setting and legal framework, monitoring, and reporting, etc. to the responsible agencies and their counterparts.

c. Technical Assistance for Feasibility Studies and Master Plan Development

Under Component 1, the project will also finance preparatory feasibility studies in anticipation for the next phases of investment as needed. This may include development of a detailed Master Plan for Water supply and Wastewater services in Khatlon region. In line with the ESS1, the terms of reference, workplans and other documents defining the scope and outputs of technical assistance (TA) activities under the project will be drafted so that the advice and other support provided is consistent with applicable ESSs. TA outputs generated shall be grounded with a thorough understanding of its potential environmental and social ramifications through assessments and stakeholder consultations and shall incorporate recommendations for addressing potential impacts consistent with applicable ESSs. These may include preliminary environmental and social impact assessments (ESIAs) and management plans as appropriate. Further, development of feasibility studies and master plan shall be consulted with relevant stakeholders. As appropriate, the terms of reference shall include focus group discussions, citizen consultations, expert panels, public hearings, etc. at critical phases of the TA implementation.

The quality of the assessments as well as other outputs pertaining to environmental and social aspects shall be satisfactory to the World Bank. Unless the government requests the project to finance investments as a result of the TA outputs, the World Bank's responsibility will not extend to ensuring that other activities of the government – whether subsequent or parallel to the implementation of the TA – are consistent with the ESF. In the event that future financing will be sought by the government to implement the TA outputs as a separate operation and/or as an additional financing of the same operation, the ESMF and relevant environmental and social instruments will be updated accordingly.

4.7. Environmental and Social Assessment Process for WSIP-1 Civil Works (applicable to Component 2)

Considering the stages of environmental assessment conducted in accordance with the legislation of the Republic of Tajikistan, the environmental and social assessment of subprojects within the framework of this Project will be carried out in the following sequence:

Phase 1: Preliminary screening (in accordance with the requirements of the Bank and the national legislation of the Republic of Tajikistan)

During this initial phase of Project implementation, the PIU will conduct a preliminary review of subprojects, including reconfirmation the level of socio-economic risk in accordance with the requirements of the WB, as well as assigning those to environmental categories А, Б, В and Г in accordance with the requirements of national legislation.

In line with the experience of the PMU in implementing previous Projects in the field of water supply, all proposed sub-projects under this Project are expected to have significant, moderate, or low risks according to the Bank's classification, and according to the national classification - categorized as “B” or “Г” environmental risks. If the screening results show that the subproject has a high risk (according to the World Bank’s environmental and social framework – refer **Table 11**) or category “A” (according to national legislation)[1], then it will be excluded from the financing. An approximate form of the Matrix of social and environmental screening is given in Appendix No. 2.

Table 11: Environmental and Social Risk Classification Guideline

Risk Classification	Description	Instrument(s)
High*	Wide range of significant adverse risks and impacts on human populations or the environment including i) long term, permanent and/or irreversible and impossible to avoid entirely due to the nature of the project; ii) high in magnitude and/or in spatial extent; iii) significant adverse cumulative impacts or transboundary impacts; and iv) a high probability of serious adverse effects to human health and/or the environment (e.g., due to accidents, toxic waste disposal, etc.) Some of the significant adverse ES risk and impacts of the Project cannot be mitigated or specific mitigation measures require complex and/or unproven mitigation, compensatory measures or technology, or sophisticated social analysis and implementation.	Not applicable Note: High risk sub-projects will not be permitted under the project. **Examples:** - Wastewater treatment facility - Industrial water infrastructure
Substantial	The Project may not be as complex as High-Risk Projects, its environmental and social scale and impact may be smaller (large to medium) and the location may not be in such a highly sensitive area, and some risks and impacts may	Site-specific environmental and social assessments and management plans (or their equivalents as per the

[1] Resolution of the GoT “On the procedure of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)”, No. 532 dated November 1, 2018,

	be significant. This would take into account whether the potential risks and impacts have the majority or all of the following characteristics: i) mostly temporary, predictable and/or reversible and the nature of the project does not preclude the possibility of avoiding or reversing them; ii) adverse social impacts may give rise to a limited degree of social conflict, harm or risk to human security; iii) medium in magnitude and/or spatial extent; iv) there is medium to low probability of serious adverse effects to human health and/or the environment (e.g., due to accidents, toxic waste disposal, etc.), and there are known and reliable mechanisms available to prevent or minimize such incidents. Mitigatory and/or compensatory measures may be designed more readily and be more reliable than those of High-Risk Projects.	national law i.e., EIA with additional measures to address applicable ESS provisions commensurate to potential risks and impacts. **Examples:** - Replacement of the existing bulk water transmission pipelines and expansion of the residential water infrastructure networks
Moderate	Potential adverse risks and impacts on human populations and/or the environment are not likely to be significant. This is because the Project is not complex and/or large, does not involve activities that have a high potential for harming people or the environment, and is located away from environmentally or socially sensitive areas. As such, the potential risks and impacts and issues are likely to have the following characteristics: i) predictable and expected to be temporary and/or reversible; ii) low in magnitude; iii) site-specific, without likelihood of impacts beyond the actual footprint of the Project; and iv) low probability of serious adverse effects to human health and/or the environment (e.g., do not involve use or disposal of toxic materials, routine safety precautions are expected to be sufficient to prevent accidents, etc.). The Project's risks and impacts can be easily mitigated in a predictable manner.	If there are context specific risks warranting separate assessment(s) and management plan(s), site-specific environmental and social assessments and ESMPs may be required. Otherwise, ESMP checklists may be used. **Examples**: - Small-scale WASH infrastructure at schools and healthcare institutions
Low	Potential adverse risks to and impacts on human populations and/or the environment are likely to be minimal or negligible. These activities, with few or no adverse risks and impacts and issues, do not require further ES assessment following the initial screening.	No E&S instruments may not be required. Minor repairs may follow ESMP checklists **Examples**: - minor repairs of water and WASH infrastructure - capacity building, awareness raising activities

For Projects that will not be excluded from the financing, the following framework approaches are applied during the screening phase:

The socio-environmental screening will be conducted by the relevant PMU specialists with the involvement of stakeholders (representatives of local public authorities, local self-government bodies, project organizations, etc.). For the screening, the PMU will develop criteria (social and environmental aspects) in an appropriate form (format) which will be an integral part of the ESIA and/or ESMP for the sub-projects and which are subsequently approved by the Bank (the PMU can involve relevant stakeholders and/or experts to conduct the social and environmental screening).

Based on the screening results, a report is drawn up by the environmental and social specialists of the PMU, in which for each of the subprojects accepted for financing, the environmental category (according to the legislation of the Republic of Tajikistan) and the risk level (according to the World Bank ESS 1), a list of the main environmental and social risks identified at the preliminary stage, and recommendations on the tools to be used and the necessary documentation that needs to be prepared, will be indicated.

Going forward, the procedure described above is applied to comply with national procedures, and the following framework approaches are applied to comply with the requirements of the Bank. When assigning a risk category and selecting appropriate tools, relevant factors described in the ESIA such as the type of subproject, location, sensitivity, and size of the subproject are taken into account; the nature and extent of potential environmental and social risks and impacts; as well as the material and technical base of the potential Contractor and its ability to manage social and environmental risks and impacts identified at the screening stage. Depending on the nature of the subproject and the context in which it is being developed, other risk factors may also jeopardize the implementation of environmental and social mitigation measures. These may include legal and institutional aspects; the nature of the proposed measures and technologies; governance structures and legislation; and factors related to stability, conflict, or security. Eventually:

for subprojects with a significant (in some case also moderate) risk or impact on the natural and social environment - it is proposed to develop an ESIA report and then, on its basis, develop a full site-specific ESMP

for smaller and standard subprojects with moderate risk (for example, construction of WASH facilities in schools and health centers), the Project will use a standardized ESMP tool in the form of a checklist; in this case, the social and environmental requirements are integrated into the table of this checklist.

for low-risk subprojects and activities, specific ESMPs are not developed, however, these subprojects are assessed in the screening report in terms of the potential for increased direct or indirect risks during the course of the subproject, and these subprojects are included in the regular environmental and social monitoring plan so that if the risk category increases, then appropriate measures should be taken in time and the necessary documents developed.

The more detailed recommendations for selection of environmental and social instruments and necessary actions for project activities are provided in the table below.

Table 12: Guidance on Environment and Social Management Approach

#	PROJECT COMPONENTS AND ACTIVITIES	WB (ESF risk classification)	Tajikistan (environmental risk rating)	NOTES (brief risk description)	EXAMPLES OF ACTIONS REQUIRED
Component 1. Institutional strengthening and capacity-building (ISCB) of water sector institutions					
1.	Institutional arrangements for service delivery in Vosse and Vakhsh zone. Operational and financial management performance of three restructured utilities through provision of trainings, corporate support services, improvement of labor conditions, installation of financial, billing, and other IT systems.	L	NA	Poor training on environmental and social requirements, and labor conditions	Development of adequate training modules
2	Support to the Department of Geology in digitalization of the registry of wells used for water supply purposes as part of the water cadaster.	L	NA	Missing water quality standards and indicators	Development of water quality requirements for the registry of wells
3	Strengthening of the water quality testing and monitoring capacity through provision of lab equipment, development of required water quality testing protocols and risk assessment tools, provision of mobile labs, and training	L	NA	Low quality of lab equipment, poor training, limited testing protocols	Hiring skilled and qualified consultant
4	Rehabilitation of office buildings for target utilities and provision of required furniture and IT equipment and carrying out a comprehensive training program for the target utilities, including on climate adaptation actions.	M	Г or B	Rehabilitation civil works with standard risks (noise, air, soil and water pollution, H&S safety), see line 8 below	Site-specific ESIA and ESMP checklist, ES monitoring planning
5	Gender assessment of the sector to diagnose the barriers to female employment in water institutions and develop a set of actions to increase representation of women in technical and decision-making roles in the water sector, as well as finetune a set of existing proposed actions in the project to create a pipeline of female professionals to enter the utility workforce.	L	NA		Hired skilled and qualified consultant

#	PROJECT COMPONENTS AND ACTIVITIES	WB (ESF risk classification)	Tajikistan (environmental risk rating)	NOTES (brief risk description)	EXAMPLES OF ACTIONS REQUIRED
6	Feasibility studies for the next stage of investments under the WSIP-2 will detail priority investments to be included in the investment plan of the National Water Supply and Sanitation Program 2030 (NWSSP) with the focus on the districts with low climate change adaptation capacity. The studies will consider conjunctive use of water, involving the coordinated, optimal use of both surface water and groundwater, both intra- and inter-annually. The studies will include a more in-depth assessment of different types of wastewater collection and treatment models for different types of settlements, duly considering the expected impacts of climate change on local water resources and their quality.	L	NA	Missing detailed E&S requirements for identifying priorities	Hiring skilled and qualified consultant
COMPONENT 2. Water Supply and Sanitation Investments					
7.	**Subcomponent 2A: Investments within the Vakhsh bulk transmission system**				
8	Replacement of the existing bulk water transmission pipeline from the RK-1 in Kushoniyon district through RK-2 in Balkhi district to a pressure-regulating tank in Dusti (with the total estimated length of 25.5 km and 16.5 km respectively),	S	Б or B	Adverse environmental impacts and risks will be associated with construction-related activities, such as (i) generation of dust, noise, vibration and gas emissions; (ii) improper disposal of construction	ESIA (or EIA equivalent) or site-specific environmental and social assessment addressing applicable ESSs for the full length of the pipeline works and full site-specific ESMPs for each lot/contractor,

#	PROJECT COMPONENTS AND ACTIVITIES	WB (ESF risk classification)	Tajikistan (environmental risk rating)	NOTES (brief risk description)	EXAMPLES OF ACTIONS REQUIRED
				waste and asbestos (if present), minor operational or accidental spills of fuel and lubricants from the construction machinery; (iii) community and worker health and safety; (iv) damage of soil and vegetation; (v) improper restoration of construction sites	ES monitoring planning
9	Construction of the pressure-regulating tank and replacement/expansion of water distribution system in selected settlements/ villages in Balkhi and Dusti districts relying on the bulk transmission pipeline	S	Б or B		ESIA (or EIA equivalent) or site-specific environment and social assessment addressing applicable ESSs and full site-specific ESMPs for each lot/contractor, ES monitoring planning
10	Rehabilitation/replacement and expansion of the existing water network in villages based on metered house connections and public standpipes.	L	Г	Minor disturbances to soil and vegetation, community and worker health and safety	ESMP checklist for each village
11	Rental/procurement of machinery (excavators, bulldozers)	L	NA	Poor quality of equipment leading to extra noise, spills of fuel and lubricants	Special requirements for selecting contractors. Technical supervision and control at the project sites
12	Public awareness and communication campaign for the target population on: (i) connection to water supply systems and payment for water supply services; (ii) safe storage of water; (iii) water conservation in the context of climate change; and (iv) on-site grey-water collection, treatment, and disposal	M	NA	Insufficient knowledge about: (i) provision of safe drinking water and water saving technologies, (ii) proper management of an increased quantity of greywater, (iii) cleaning and closing of old outdoor unhygienic pits	Hiring skilled and qualified consultant
13	Provision of training and involvement of women in public awareness and communication	L	NA		Hiring reputable NGO

#	PROJECT COMPONENTS AND ACTIVITIES	WB (ESF risk classification)	Tajikistan (environmental risk rating)	NOTES (brief risk description)	EXAMPLES OF ACTIONS REQUIRED
	activities to improve WASH practices.				
	Subcomponent 2B: Decentralized WASH solutions for schools and healthcare institutions				
14.	Implementation of infrastructure solutions for water, sanitation and hygiene, including standposts of safe drinking water	M	Г	Small civil works with standard risks (noise, air, water pollution, H&S safety), see line 8	ESMP checklist for each village. Hygienic certificate for purchased sanitary equipment. Testing drinking water quality
15	Piloting of decentralized wastewater collection systems for target social institutions	M	Г	Small civil works with standard risks (noise, air, water pollution, H&S safety), see line 8. Improper installation of collection systems and relevant sanitation risks	ESMP checklist for each village. Hygienic certificate for purchased sanitary equipment. Monitoring wastewater treatment and disposal at the operational phase
16	intensive WASH promotion programs to increase communities' awareness of improved WASH practices (including prevention of water source contamination, self-reporting based on rapid water quality tests). The package includes a set of materials on MHM targeting puberty-age girls, mothers, and caregivers	L	NA	Insufficient knowledge about: (i) provision of safe drinking water and water saving technologies, (ii) proper management of an increased quantity of greywater	Hiring skilled and qualified consultant
	Component 3 - Project Management and Monitoring				
	E&S monitoring and audit	M	NA	Low skills of E&S specialists	Hiring skilled and qualified consultant. Capacity building planning on the E&S management

#	PROJECT COMPONENTS AND ACTIVITIES	WB (ESF risk classification)	Tajikistan (environmental risk rating)	NOTES (brief risk description)	EXAMPLES OF ACTIONS REQUIRED
	Assessment of the E&S sustainability	L	NA	Poor knowledge about maintenance operations and activities	Regular monitoring of completed subprojects. Development of sufficient indicators of E&S sustainability. Hiring skilled and qualified consultant.
	Publication of outreach and communication materials, as well as implementation of the project communication plan. Monitoring and evaluation of project activities, and regular beneficiary feedback surveys on project implementation and results. Implement the project Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM), which is part of the SEP	L	NA	Lack of effective and targeted surveys on E&S performance. Missing or insufficient outreach of E&S issues in the communication materials Will provide with channels that allows stakeholders to raise issues and respond to them in an appropriate way	Hiring skilled and qualified consultant/NGO Relevant capacity building program for social mobilizers. PIU Social Development consultant in collaboration with the NGO and contractor
	Component 4 - Contingent Emergency Response Component (CERC).	-	NA	In case of triggering the CERC the Guidelines as an addendum to the ESMF will be developed to ensure the environmental and social sustainability of the project by defining the tasks and responsibilities of the Client and contractors, as well as other stakeholders for the duration of the project. The Guidelines will describe types of environmental and social measures at all stages of the project, aimed at: (i) Identifying the potential environmental and social impact of the proposed activity. (ii) Development of action plans to mitigate environmental impacts and their inclusion in tender documents, construction and reconstruction projects for the Project facilities,	

#	PROJECT COMPONENTS AND ACTIVITIES	WB (ESF risk classification)	Tajikistan (environmental risk rating)	NOTES (brief risk description)	EXAMPLES OF ACTIONS REQUIRED
				relevant Bill of quantities (BoQ) of sub-projects to minimize environmental impact. (iii) Determining monitoring requirements that guarantee the implementation of measures to mitigate and minimize environmental and social impacts. (iv) Determining and assessing social risks to preserve the health and safety of the local community during the implementation of the project, mitigate impact, and ensure gender equality. The Guidelines also shall include approval procedures, functions, responsibilities, reporting, and monitoring of project activities.	

Phase 2: Preparation of documentation. For each sub-project, in accordance with the recommendations made by the PMU during the screening phase, the Design Consultant (Consultant) prepares the necessary separate or combined (if relevant) documents (ESIA, ESMP or ESMP check-list, depending on the risk category), conducts approval with the implementing agency and PMU who further coordinates with the World Bank and government authorities, and after completion of their drafts, discloses these documents before the public consultation process. The preparation of these documents shall take into account environmental and social requirements in the design of the subprojects.

In addition to risk mitigation measures, the PMU will integrate relevant measures on universal design (covering safe design elements for women and adolescents on WASH), climate resilience and disaster risk considerations into relevant technical assessments and design development (DEDs).

Phase 3: Public Consultations. After the environmental and social assessment and preparation of the ESIA/ESMP, all documents (prepared in accordance with the principles of the World Bank and in accordance with the legislation of the Republic of Tajikistan) are subject to public consultations. During the consultations with the public, the document will be distributed among all stakeholders and the local population by posting it on the PMU and IAs websites and presenting to the local councils, or in another way available for wide discussion. The minutes of public meetings will be included in the final ESIA/ESMP. During the consultation the PMU, collaboratively with regional specialists, will represent a draft ESIA/ESMP, which should contain information about the project, its location and implementation schedule, an overview of the ESIA process, as well as any conclusions about the impacts, proposed mitigation measures and benefits. This data should be defined as preliminary or intermediate, indicating that benchmark data from the participants can still be applied to the project planning. The participants will be invited to directly submit comments and corrections to what is presented.

Through these consultations, the project will explore entry points to promote access and

opportunities for women, children, and other vulnerable groups and how they can benefit from the project.

The consultations with the public on the ESIA/ESMP disclosure of the specific subproject will include an announcement of the PMU meetings on the project website no later than two weeks before the beginning of the session with a brief description of the project, its location and specific contact details (including phone numbers). In addition, the PMU with the assistance of the consulting environmental and social company, will notify the local, regional state authorities about conducting the consultations with the public by providing an invitation and a brief booklet. Documentation for conducting the consultation should be submitted by the PMU as part of the subproject file. Versions of the ESIA/ESMP in Tajik and/or Russian languages and the minutes of the consultations with the public should be disclosed on the websites of the IA.

Phase 4: Approval of the tools for the protection of the natural and social environment. After the consultations with the public, the ESIA/ESMP documents will be prior reviewed by relevant specialists at the PMU and the WSS Group prior to submission to the World Bank. The DEIS/EIS in turn, undergoes the procedure of the SEE and is agreed with the authorized republican or regional/local authorities. For all approved subprojects, the PMU will ensure that hard copies and electronic copies of the final ESIA/ESMP in the local language are available in a public place. The PMU will post the final documents on the website of the IAs. The World Bank will regularly assess the PMU's capacity to assess the quality of these documents and will determine if such review and clearance can be delegated to the PMU.

Phase 5: Integration of ESMP requirements into the project documentation. All bid documents for subprojects must include a requirement to implement the ESMP. Relevant requirements as identified in the ESMPs and/or site-specific environmental and social assessments shall be integrated into the procurement bidding documents for civil works. This also includes required qualifications by potential bidders to implement the required environmental and social measures, environmental and social performance metrics, as well as relevant contract clauses. These documents must be attached to the bid documents and then to the construction contracts. The potential contractor must demonstrate at the bidding phase that the requirements of the ESMP are reflected in its proposal and included in the scope of work. Final text of the site-specific ESMP should be agreed with the selected Contractor and pass the procedure of public consultation in case of any significant changes occur at the stage of the final endorsement. All bids and contracts will include standard ES terms and conditions consistent with WB standard procurement documents for construction works. The Construction Contractor shall prepare a Contractor's ESMP (per the ESCP) as well as integrated or separate related plans such as Materials and Waste Management Plan, Hazardous Waste Management Plan, Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) Plan, the Labor Management Plan, Traffic Management Plan, environmental and social monitoring plan, etc. to be submitted to and reviewed by the supervision Engineers and approved by the PMU/WSS Group and the World Bank.

The PMU shall also facilitate collaboration with the environmental and social team under the project with the technical and engineering team in order to ensure that relevant environmental and social considerations, including alternative designs and measures to enhance development opportunities (i.e., universal design, climate change resilience, disaster risk, etc.) can be fully streamlined as part of designs.

Phase 6: Monitoring of environmental and social risks. The PMU with the assistance of consulting company (CC) will regularly monitor the subprojects during the construction and operation phases to ensure proper implementation of the ESMP. If any problems in implementation are noted during the monitoring, they will inform the relevant contractor and jointly take the corrective actions. The PMU will present its findings to the World Bank in the

project progress report at least twice a year and, if necessary, bring matters to the attention of the World Bank. The World Bank project group will also visit the subproject sites as part of the project supervision, if appropriate and expedient. The Bank has the right to request additional materials during the monitoring to clarify the state of facilities and risks. Based on the review of reporting documentation and field visits, the Bank may require changes to the risk category and related project documentation, including the ESMP, Project Operational Manual, this ESMF document, etc.

Phase 7. Monitoring environmental and social sustainability (operational phase). The PMU with the assistance of consulting company (CC) will develop criteria for E&S sustainability and perform a regular survey for the completed subprojects and activities. The relevant analytical reports shall be submitted to the Bank and Client to identify the E&S effectiveness, lessons learned, gaps, and recommendations for the further project and WASH2 activities. The survey will be provided in close cooperation (basing on the agreement) with the Contractor's and Beneficiary's representatives to determine possible gaps and undertake relevant activities during guarantee and post-guarantee period. Technical assistance and roles of different parties in the environmental due diligence, ESIA processes and monitoring of ESMP implementation

This subsection describes the responsibilities of all parties involved in the ESIA process, as well as the documents that must be prepared and by whom they must be prepared.

For sub-projects, it is necessary to complete Form 1 of the environmental screening checklist (Annex №3) to identify possible environmental and social impacts of the proposed activities. Form 1 is preliminary and will be updated by the PMU prior to the screening with the addition of possible additional criteria depending on the type and location of the subproject. In completing these forms, sub-project applicants will use the information obtained from the field survey and analysis of stock materials, as well as the information provided in the DEIS, which will be submitted to the SEE and approved by this body. They are also responsible for obtaining the appropriate permits and approvals that may be required to fund activities and are issued by local authorities responsible for environmental aspects. The Design Company (Consultant) will develop a site-specific EIA (as required by legislation of the RT) and/or an ESMP according to the WB standards, as required.

During Project implementation, the PMU, with the assistance of the consulting company (CC), will also regularly monitor the compliance of the Project activities with the requirements of the ESMF/ESMPs; provide advice to a regional specialist on specific issues. PMU environmental engineer and social development specialist will assist Contractors in completing the relevant reporting forms; check the availability of all necessary environmental and social documents and required permits. Contractors will submit the entire package of environmental documents to the PMU. The Environment engineer and Social Development Specialist will review the completeness of these packages and submit their overall conclusion to the PMU director.

The consultancies, studies (including feasibility studies, if applicable), capacity building, training, and any other technical assistance activities under the Project, will be carried out in accordance with terms of reference acceptable to the Bank, that are consistent with the ESSs. The PMU will ensure that the outputs of such activities comply with the terms of reference and are consistent with the ESSs.

5. INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL MITIGATION MEASURES

Project Implementing Agency.

The overall responsibility is assigned to the KMK and MEWR, with responsibility for project implementation to be vested in the existing MIDP PMU and WSS Group within the MEWR respectively split based on the planned activities under the project components and will include construction works and related procurement and financial management (FM), enforcement of environmental and social activities, and monitoring and evaluation (M&E) for the Project.

The Ministry of Energy and Water Resources (MEWR) - the Ministry was established by Government Decree No. 12 of November 19, 2013, according to which MEWR is responsible for policy and management in accordance with the guiding principles of water sector reform. MEWR is also responsible for the coordination of activities related to the implementation of the Water Sector Reform Program 2016-2025 and is also guided in its activities by the Ministry's Charter adopted in 2014.

SUE KMK (State Unitary Enterprise "Khojagii Manziliyu Kommunali") was established by the Resolution of the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan No.235 of June 6, 2001. The main functions of SUE KMK are to provide drinking water and sewage services to the population of the republic; to conduct a unified policy in the field of housing and communal services; to operate and protect the housing stock (public) in cities, settlements and district centers, landscaping, sanitation, greenery and irrigation; heat supply; and others.

The MEWR WSS Group is responsible for:

- timely implementation of the Component 1 related to development of policy, sectoral planning, and monitoring instruments in the water supply and wastewater sector.
- improving the policy and regulatory framework and institutional capacity to promote sector reform and promote sustainable service delivery.
- provide support to target utilities, implement planned activities and improve their ability to operate and maintain, plan, implement and maintain safe water supply expansion.
- Responsibility for the component 3(i), part of which includes coordination of E&S requirements under the project.

MID PMU (PMU) was established by the Resolution of the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan No. 408 of October 1, 2004. PMU is the Implementing Agency of the Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Project. The main objectives of the PMU activities are:

- timely and effective implementation of investment projects, including World Bank Projects.
- ensuring targeted and effective use of grants and loans, allocated for implementation of the Projects.

The PMU and MEWR WSS Group implement project activities in accordance with the provisions and procedures set forth in the Project Operations Manual (POM). The PMU and MEWR WSS Group has responsibility for project management and procurement and has responsibility for disbursement and financial management of the project, within their Components. In addition, provides regular progress reports on project implementation and is responsible for information sharing and monitoring and evaluation of Project activities. The PMU has necessary capacity for the implementation of WB projects, staffed with appropriate personnel, including environmental and social measures specialists, and introduced appropriate

control mechanisms and procedures. In addition, the PMU will hire environmental and social specialists responsible for all environmental and social issues, including environmental and social assessment, overall supervision of the preparation and implementation of the Framework Document and site-specific ESMPs, monitoring and reporting. The PMU will work closely with the CEP, local hukumats, jamoats, mahalla councils and water users of all categories.

The MEWR WSS Group will be provided with qualified personnel and resources to manage the risks and impacts of the Project, including an environmental and social specialist with terms of reference, experience and qualifications acceptable to the Association, who will have clear responsibilities for fulfilling all obligations set out in the environmental and social documents of the Project.

The PMU will organize an awareness-raising campaign among the population on the management of environmental and social risks, with a focus on methods and technologies for saving water and energy, preventing loss/pollution of water and soil, health and safety of the population, as well as labor protection measures in carrying out of construction work.

Contractors will be responsible for carrying out rehabilitation works in accordance with the environmental requirements specified in the tender documents and the ESMP.

The Bank's Environmental and Social Team will guide PMU and MEWR WSS Group staff in assessing and mitigating potential environmental and social risks and impacts and will support activities during the Project preparation and implementation.

The main responsibilities of specialists in the field of environmental protection and social aspects.

Environmental Specialist: fulfillment of environmental obligations, implementation of all aspects of the Project's founding documents in the field of environmental protection, including the ESMF, ESMP and monitoring of the implementation of the ESMP, supervision, ensuring control and support of contractors in the performance of their duties. Ensuring that contractors prepare an environmental and social management plan that depends on local conditions and obtain approval before starting physical work, conducting frequent site visits and monitoring, identifying and preparing environmental training materials, training calendar and conducting/managing training for PMU staff and contractor staff. Response and documentation of environmental incidents/accidents based on field reports; Providing and assisting contractors and supervisory consultant in documenting and maintaining records (written, photographic) for environmental safeguards, including industrial and community accidents during project implementation; Preparation of quarterly progress reports for presentation to the World Bank and other stakeholders. Facilitate the establishment of a public complaints mechanism and maintain a register of complaints.

Social Specialist: Participates in social screening procedures for all infrastructure subprojects, participates in identifying required social studies, preparing social mitigation instruments, and implementing relevant project measures, including gender mainstreaming, benefit sharing, and other social development issues. Reviews all social studies, tools and project measures prepared for all sub-projects of infrastructure, agreements on contractors and partnerships, Resettlement Action Plans in cases of resettlement impacts on residents from the Project area at specific sites. Leads the implementation of the processes of mobilization of the population and local potential, in cooperation with the Consultant on social mobilization and communications, participates in the development and implementation of educational activities for the local population. Maintains the complaints mechanism and develops information campaigns. Conducts field visits as needed to project sites to monitor the implementation of project activities, ensure alignment with project objectives, and identify risks and opportunities for social development.

Additional expertise and/or qualifications to support the project implementation and how it will address ESS requirements, such as Occupational Health and Safety (OHS), social inclusion, outreach, etc. may be required on a need basis during project implementation.

6. MONITORING AND REPORTING

6.1.General Requirements for Environmental and Social Monitoring and Reporting

Environmental and social monitoring during the implementation of subprojects should contain the information on the key environmental and social aspects of subprojects, their impact on the environment, the social consequences of the impact and the effectiveness of measures taken to mitigate the consequences. This information allows the PMU to monitor the commitments of the contractors (project beneficiaries) to implement the measures for the environmental protection, assess the effectiveness of mitigation measures, and ensure timely implementation of the corrective actions to be taken, how often, where and by whom monitoring is carried out.

Table 13: The ESIA process and the responsibility for its implementation and monitoring*

Responsible person/institute **Stages and functions**	PMU environmental and social specialists	International consulting company	Design engineer	Contractor	Local Government	District Environmental Protection Inspector	District Labor Protection Inspector
Screening	+		+		+	+	+
Preparation of the EIA/EIS	+		+				
Preparation of the ESMP	+	+	+				
Incorporation of environmental and social requirements into project documents	+	+	+				
Incorporation of ESMP into the bidding documents and contracts	+	+					
Incorporation and costing of ESMP into civil work proposals				+			
Implementation Construction ESMP and/or applicable environmental and social risk mitigation				+			

measures for civil works							
Monitoring of ESMP implementation	+	+		+	+	+	+

*This is a preliminary form, which will be updated by the PMU prior to the screening with the addition of possible additional criteria depending on the type and location of the subproject

Monitoring of the implementation of environmental protection measures is carried out by the PMU Environmental engineer with the assistance of consulting companies (CCs), as well as a specialist in social and environmental issues of the MEWR WSS Group, as part of the implementation of the relevant Project Components. Representatives of the State Committee for Environmental Protection will also carry out monitoring and control according to their own plan or may be involved in joint monitoring as part of this project. The purpose is to check the main points of compliance with the ESMF/ESMPs, the progress of implementation, the scope of consultations and the participation of local communities. The standard checklist for monitoring assessment studies will be used for the report on the monitoring results (to be prepared during the ESMP development stage). In the medium term of the project implementation and at the end of the project, an independent audit in the field of environment, social, health and safety will be carried out by PMU environmental engineer and a specialist in social and environmental issues of the MEWR WSS Group with the involvement of specialists. Audits are necessary to ensure that (i) the ESMF is correctly implemented and (ii) mitigation measures are identified and implemented appropriately. The audit will be able to identify any adjustments to the ESMF approach to improve its effectiveness.

Monitoring of the social part will be carried out by the PMU Social Development specialist with the assistance of consulting companies (CCs), , as well as a specialist in social and environmental issues of the MEWR WSS Group, as part of the implementation of the relevant Project Components, to ensure that there are no unforeseen unfavorable social impacts during the construction, rehabilitation and renovation works, illegal users, livelihoods of people, as well as other general social aspects. Monitoring will also cover the issues of health and labor. If some problems are identified, the mitigation measures will be proposed in the progress reports or the separate corrective action plans.

6.2. Types and Goals of Environmental and Social Monitoring

In order to ensure the implementation of the environmental measures specified in the ESMP, monitoring should be carried out as follows:

- *Visual monitoring* - at the construction stage of sub-projects. PMU specialists should constantly monitor the implementation of the ESMP by contractors. This will be achieved through monthly inspections of Projects for construction/repair and rehabilitation of water supply infrastructure by specialists throughout the entire period of the Project. PMU specialist submits a report to PMU management to suspend work if the contractor (sub-borrower) violates any obligation to implement the ESMP. For monitoring, it is recommended to use special checklists, which can be compiled on the basis of the ESMP with attachment of photos from the monitoring site. Note: A consulting firm will be hired to supervise the construction work, with a staff of environmental, health and safety and social experts who will perform these functions in real time.
- *For effective facilities.* The Environmental Specialist shall verify the timeliness of the Contractor's reporting on discharges to water bodies, air emissions and solid waste, which Contractors shall periodically submit to the regional bodies of the Committee for

Environmental Protection (CEP).

- *Instrumental monitoring of environmental quality such as air and water quality.* Taking into account the types of activities that will be implemented within the framework of this Project, instrumental monitoring may not be carried out. However, in case of grievances of violations or inconvenience by the local population, instrumental measurements of air, water and soil quality should be carried out by a contracting organization through the hiring of independent certified laboratory. In case of exceeding national standards, the contractor is obliged to take additional measures to reduce the detected excesses in order to comply with the standards.

The sub-projects will be monitored on a regular basis by monitoring the implementation of the ESMP by contractors during the construction phase. Environmental and social issues included in the mitigation framework are overseen by environmental and social specialists through the PMU jointly with CC specialists. Although environmental and social impacts are expected to be minor, potential negative environmental impacts are planned to be prevented or mitigated during the construction and operation phases. Monitoring is based on impact/mitigation/monitoring issues as identified in the ESMP checklists and/or sub-project ESMPs. Surveillance monitoring will be carried out through weekly environmental performance audits by contractors throughout the project life cycle. The PMU has the right to issue instructions to correct deficiencies, and in extreme cases, to suspend work or payment if the Contractor violates any of its obligations to implement the ESMP.

In addition, World Bank experts will also visit certain sites annually to monitor compliance. As mentioned above, in the event of non-compliance, the PMU's environmental and social specialists will investigate the nature and cause(s) of the non-compliance and, if necessary, make recommendations to the Project management on what is needed to achieve compliance with the sub-project, or work should be suspended.

6.3. Environmental and social reporting

The implementation of environmental protection measures, including monitoring, should be properly documented, and described. In accordance with national legislation for facilities under construction, each contractor must keep a log with information on the training of workers and another log for recording accidents/incidents during construction work. In the case of instrumental monitoring, the original records of the results of the required environmental instrumental monitoring (air, water and soil quality) should also be kept in a separate record file.

For construction/rehabilitation related subprojects, a checklist form for on-site inspection will be developed by the PMU in order to optimize the environmental and social supervision and monitoring process and to summarize the report on the implementation of site-specific ESMP. This checklist will be filled on regular basis (at least monthly) by all contractors and submitted to the PMU. The checklist will include the information about environmental and social mitigation measures at construction sites, the status of their implementation, and other details about the implementation process, as needed and specified in relevant ESMP. Analytical reports about monitoring results at construction sites will be submitted to the PMU on a quarterly basis. Based on these reports, the PMU will summarize main results on the implementation of the ESMF and ESMPs by the contractors in semi-annual and annual reports, which will be included in the progress reports to be submitted to the World Bank. The monitoring reports during Project implementation will provide information on the main environmental and social aspects of Project activities, especially about environmental and social impacts, and the effectiveness of mitigation measures under all components. Such information will allow the PMU and the World Bank to assess the success of the mitigation

measures under Project supervision and propose corrective actions to be taken as needed.

The environmental and social monitoring system starts from the sub-project preparation phase and operates until the operational phase inclusive to prevent negative impacts of the Project and monitor the effectiveness of mitigation measures. The monitoring system provides technical assistance and oversight when needed, early identification of conditions associated with mitigation measures, monitors mitigation results and provides information on the Project progress. The monitoring plan defines the monitoring objectives and defines the type of monitoring and their relationship to impacts and mitigation measures. In particular, the monitoring section of the ESMP contains: (a) a specific description and technical details of the monitoring measures, including parameters measured, methods used, sampling sites, frequency of measurements; and (b) monitoring and reporting procedures to: (i) ensure early identification of conditions that require special mitigation measures, and (ii) provide information on the progress and results of mitigation.

If monitoring reveals any negative impacts, they should be mitigated immediately. In case of adverse impact on land, production assets, illegal users, people's livelihood, asset valuation, etc. the construction works should be stopped and the PMU should be notified immediately. A corrective action plan (CAP) should be developed. The CAP should contain information on the sub-project, the status of construction works, assessment of environmental and social impact and remaining risks, and proposed mitigation measures. The CAP shall be prepared by the sub-project implementer and approved by the PMU. All unforeseen impacts within the sub-project that occurred outside the Project Task (PT) shall be compensated/mitigated by the Contractor. This statement should be clearly reflected in the tender documents.

The PMU is responsible for the overall analysis of progress and results in the ESMF and ESMPs implementation, and reporting. The semi- annual and annual E&S reports will include (but not limited to): community assessment tables on Project implementation and success, social audit meetings, and feedback and grievances received. Measures and indicators for evaluation of the results will be defined in the Project Operations Manual (POM). The PMU will be responsible for preparing the completion report.

Note: The MEW WSS Group, within the framework of Component 1 of the ongoing Project, will carry out environmental and social reporting according to the above algorithm for the PMU and will submit reports to the PMU for the preparation of a consolidated Report to the WB.

6.4. Incident Reporting

The OHS issues should be covered in all supervision and monitoring activities. This means, in particular, monitoring whether the contracting organization is following the appropriate practices of the OHS, checking whether all employees have received training on the OHS, whether any incidents have occurred, checking the registration logs, and the availability and use of protective and preventive equipment. Accordingly, the sections for protective measures of all progress reports contain statements indicating that the PMU has reviewed the occupational health and safety issues and existing procedures in this regard and ascertained whether there have been any serious incidents or cases of loss of life. Likewise, the PMU will ensure that the project launch workshop and the operation manual contain the appropriate provisions on the occupational health and safety.

Any incidents and occurrences occurring at the project sites and/or as part of the project supported activities should be reported immediately, for example, by the contractor to the employer and then to the PMU. The incidents will be reported to the WB 48 hours of the PMU becoming aware of such an incident. Detailed information of any incidents that have occurred or not will be provided in the regular progress reports to the PMU and the World Bank.Similar requirement is to be translated into Particular Conditions of works

contracts. The PMU will take immediate measures to address the incident or accident and to prevent any recurrence, in accordance with Tajik law and the ESMF, which already refers to the WBG EHSG – General and Water and Sanitation.

An "incident" is defined as an accident, incident, or negative event caused by non-compliance with established protective measures or conditions that occurs due to the risks or impacts that are unexpected or unanticipated by the protective measures during the project implementation. Examples of such incidents include (but not limited to): fatal cases, serious accidents and injuries; social impacts due to the labor influx; sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA) or other forms of gender-based violence (GBV); serious environmental pollution; child labor; loss of biodiversity or critical habitats; loss of tangible objects of cultural heritage; loss of access to the community resources; etc. In most cases, an incident is an accident or adverse impact that occurs in case when the contractor fails to comply with the WB's safety policy or unforeseen events occur during the implementation of the Project.

The WB Environmental and Social Incident Response Toolkit (ESIRT) can serve as a basic document for the development of the Project's procedure for incident management and reporting. It includes the following six phases:

Phase 1. Initial informing about the incident. The Contractor, Consultant, local officer / state inspector informs the PMU, local authorities, WB, the public, providing emergency medical assistance and providing the necessary security measures for employees. All measures must be taken immediately. At the same time, all the necessary data about the incident is collected - its scale, severity, danger to public health and the environment, place, cause of occurrence, duration, what decisions the Performer will make, what actions should be taken next, etc.

Phase 2. Assessment of the severity of the incident. The IA/PMU must timely provide the WB with information about the incident and its severity.

Phase 3. Notification. The IA/PMU prepares an incident notification for the World Bank. The filing of notification in the event of an incident shall be determined at the time of signing the contract with the Contractor.

Phase 4. Incident investigation. The IA/PMU provides any information requested by the WB and does not interfere with visiting the scene of the incident. The IA/PMU is also obliged, with the assistance of the Contractor, to analyze the causes of the incident and to document the information received. The IA/PMU may need to involve external experts to investigate the incident. The term of the investigation should not exceed 10 days after the incident. The results of the investigation should be used by the IA/PMU and the Contractor to develop the corrective actions and compile a corrective action plan (CAP) in order to avoid a repetition of what happened in the future. In addition, the conclusions must be submitted to the WB.

Phase 5. Corrective Action Plan (CAP). The IA/PMU develops a CAP with specific actions, responsibilities, implementation deadlines and a monitoring program and discusses it with the WB. In case of serious incidents, the WB and the IA/PMU agree on a set of measures to eliminate the main causes of the sources of such incidents. The CAP specifies the actions, responsibilities and deadlines to be fulfilled by the IA/PMU and the Contractor. The IA/PMU is responsible for the implementation of the CAP. The CAP may include the development or modernization of technical measures for the environmental protection and prevention of further pollution, the provision of training, including on the provision of emergency medical assistance, compensation for insured events of injury or death. The IA/PMU reserve the rights to withhold payments to the contractors until satisfactory measures are in place and implemented based on CAPs.

If the WB considers that the CAP measures are ineffective, and/or the IA/PMU has shown unwillingness or inability to take corrective measures, the World Bank may consider a decision to fully or partially suspend the loan disbursements until such measures are taken, or, in some cases, may consider canceling all or part of the Project after its suspension. Such decisions of the World Bank are submitted to the IA/PMU to determine the appropriate actions of the World Bank.

Phase 6. Control over the implementation of the CAP. The IA/PMU implements the CAP, controls the implementation of individual items of the CAP and provides the report on the implementation to the WB.

All project participants will be required to report the major occupational health and safety incidents (by the contractors - to the employer, by the project implementing agency - to the World Bank). It is required that the World Bank be notified of each major incident/accident within 48 hours.

With regards to any reporting on SEA/SH allegations, the social team of the PMU, once hired, will prepare a protocol on SEA/SH reporting and case referrals to competent service providers, based on an assessment of these service providers in the project's sites. Measures shall be ascertained to ensure confidentiality and safety of the survivors and/or parties filing complaints to ensure do no harms and retaliation.

6.5.Integration of ESMF and ESMP into Project Documentation

The ESMF requirements will be included in the Project Operational Manual and the ESMP requirements will be included in the construction contracts for all subprojects, both in the specification and in the bill of quantities, and the contractors will be required to include the costs of implementing the ESMP in their financial proposals. Based on the ESMF, the roles and responsibilities of all involved parties in the process of the ESA will be outlined. Finally, based on the requirements of the ESMF and ESMP, monitoring and evaluation of the mitigation/prevention measures identified in the site-specific review and ESMP will become an integral part of the subproject implementation, including binding and contracting procedures, and the contractors will be required to comply with the environmental and social obligations during the construction works. In addition, all contractors will be required to use the environmentally and socially sound technical standards and procedures when carrying out the work. In addition, the terms of the contract must include the requirements for compliance with all national construction, sanitary, protective procedures and regulations, as well as environmental protection.

The provisions of the ESMF will be used for the following:

(i) Including the requirements of the ESMF in the Project Operations Manual.

(ii) Including the Guidelines on environmental and social management, ESMP in the construction contracts for individual subprojects, both in the specification and in the bill of quantities; Contractors will be required to include the cost of implementation of environmental and social mitigation measures in their financial proposals.

(iii) Indication of mitigation and prevention measures during the implementation of selected subprojects in the ESMP.

(iv) Monitoring and evaluation of mitigation/prevention measures identified in the site-specific review and ESMP. Necessary mitigation measures will be an integral part of the subproject implementation, including the contracts obliging the contractors to comply with environmental and social obligations during the construction work.

All contractors will be required to use environmentally sound technical standards and procedures during the conduct of works. In addition, the contractual provisions must specify the requirements for compliance with all national building standards, health protection, protective procedures and regulations, as well as environmental protection.

7. CAPACITY BUILDING

To ensure proper implementation of the various environmental and social interventions (preventive/mitigation measures, monitoring and evaluation) recommended in the site-specific ESMPs, the PMU will undertake capacity building activities for the structures involved in the water sector of SUE KMK, MEWR, Tojikobidehot and support the necessary institutional capacity building of regional CEP units, SES, Hukumat specialists and rural jamoats in the project areas. Such institutional strengthening will include training, conducting the necessary public information and educational campaigns to raise awareness at the regional and national levels (workshops, conferences, etc.). These activities are planned under Component 1 of the Project and will be organized by the WSS Group under MEWR. The training programme will strengthen the capacity of the above units through specialized training aimed at improving skills and practices in environmental assessment, management, and monitoring. Specific training modules will be developed and trainers will be trained on relevant issues. Component 1 is expected to provide training on the use and implementation of water saving technologies at all levels, from ministry staff to operators and users, with a special focus on water and soil pollution prevention and health and safety measures during construction works.

Awareness and information campaigns on environmentally sustainable water and land use will be organized during meetings with the Project beneficiaries, also through the distribution of information materials (brochures, leaflets, posters, and banners) and round tables. For this purpose, within the framework of the Project (Component 1) consulting company with relevant experience in conducting capacity building and information dissemination activities will be engaged. The target audience will include both men and women.

8. GRIEVANCE REDRESS MECHANISM (GRM)

An integral part of the strategy of each Project is to inform and consider the opinions of communities and persons affected by the project. During the implementation of the Project, the beneficiaries may have issues of an economic, social, environmental, and other nature that need to be considered within the framework of the Project.

In accordance with the requirements of the World Bank's ESS No. 10, the Project will implement the GRM for collecting and reviewing complaints and other types of appeals, recommendations, and feedback notes. A GRM will be implemented as one of the main tools for the prevention of social and environmental risks/conflicts. These tools are necessary to ensure that the beneficiaries (benefit recipients) of the Project have the opportunity, at all stages of the project implementation, to submit their appeals in the form of complaints, suggestions for improving the project activities or suggestions for eliminating problems at no cost and with a guarantee of their timely resolution. Effectively implemented GRM will help avoid litigation.

The project envisages a three-level implementation of the GRM, including national, regional (oblast) and local levels, which will be based on the existing MEWR and SUE KMK mechanisms. The participation of consumers in the evaluation of operators' performance is expected to increase transparency and accountability in the sector. The details of the mechanisms at national and regional levels will be determined at the project inception phase, information about which will be available on the websites of the implementing agencies (IA).

Main objective: obtaining prompt and objective information, consideration of appeals and their evaluation at all stages of the project implementation, which come from the beneficiaries for further improvement of work.

Types of appeals: complaint/claim, suggestion, request, positive feedback/gratitude.

Appeals directly related to the implementation of the project are subject to consideration, where their compliance with the eligibility criteria will be determined. Each complaint must be tracked and evaluated, even if it was submitted anonymously. As an indicator for measuring the success of the project, a parameter called "number of complaints filed and resolved" can be included.

Channels for submission of appeals:

- ➔ Boxes for complaints and suggestions (at the jamoat/at the project facility);
- ➔ Through contact phone numbers of the project representatives indicated on the complaints box;
- ➔ Oral or written appeals received during on-site working meetings;
- ➔ Incoming correspondence to the reception or by e-mail of the PMU;
- ➔ Websites of the MEWR and SUE KMK.

Appeals can be both individual and collective. The review of complaints and suggestions is carried out free of charge. All appeals will be recorded in the log-register of complaints and suggestions, categorized and registered in the Information system Project monitoring management (ISPMM). Complaints and feedback may be submitted anonymously, and confidentiality will be ensured in all cases, including when the person making the complaint/feedback is known. Information on the project and implementation of the GRM will be posted on the websites of the implementing agencies of SUE KMK and MEWR, including the quantitative data of received and resolved complaints.

For broader awareness, the project will hire a consulting company for the entire period of the project implementation, which will conduct campaigns to transfer knowledge and raise awareness of the population, implement the GRM and record the appeals related to the project activities. In addition, their task will include familiarizing beneficiaries with the procedure for filing appeals, issuing informational brochures, booklets and posters in Tajik, Russian and Uzbek languages, placing informational materials on stands/boards installed in each project jamoat. This technique is used for wider coverage and awareness of the local population about the work carried out by the project. Boxes for filing complaints, suggestions and other types of appeals will be installed.

The contact information is provided below, through which the project beneficiaries can appeal.

Contact information for filing appeals to the central office of the IA

Ministry of Energy and Water Resources of the Republic of Tajikistan:
5/1 Shamsi Str., Dushanbe, 734064,
e-mail: **info@mewr.tj,** Telephone: 235 35 66, 236 03 04, Fax: 236 03 04.

SUE KMK (SUE " Khojagii Manziliyu Kommunali")
56 N. Karabaev str., Dushanbe, 734018
e-mail: kvd.hmk@mail.ru, Telephone +(992) 372 233 49 8, +(992) 372 221 77 98
Website: www.khmk.tj

Contact information for filing appeals to IA
MID Project Management Unit:
56 N. Karabaev str., Dushanbe, 734018
e-mail: rwssp@midp.tj, Telephone +(992) 372 233 92 85,
Website: www.obirusto.tj

World Bank Grievance Redress Service

A complaint can be sent directly to the Bank through the WB's Grievance Redress Service at the following link: **https://www.worldbank.org/en/projects-operations/products-and-services/grievance-redress-service**, or to the World Bank Tajikistan Country Office in Dushanbe Address: 48 Ayni Str., Business Center "Sozidaniye", 3rd floor, phone: 992 48 701-5810, e-mail: **tajikistan@worldbank.org**

Grievance and suggestion review process

It should be noted that in the Republic of Tajikistan, the process (mechanism) of receiving and considering appeals from individuals and legal entities is regulated by the "Procedure for maintaining and statistical registration of appeals from individuals and legal entities", approved by the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan as of June 1, 2017, No. 276. At the same time this aspect is regulated by the Law of the Republic of Tajikistan "On Appeals of Individuals and Legal Entities", adopted on July 23, 2016, No. 1339.

The process of consideration of appeals of individuals and legal entities reflects the following stages:

1. Appeals of individuals and legal entities will be sent in written, oral and electronic form.
2. Incoming appeals - must be centrally registered on the registration and control cards (Annex 8) and in the statistical log (Annexes 9, 10 and 11). Oral appeals, which require additional verification, during personal reception shall be registered as written appeals. Electronic appeals are considered in accordance with the procedure and terms established by law.
3. In the case of a small number (up to 100 per year) of incoming appeals, registration and control cards are not kept, registration shall be made in the log. Envelopes to them shall be kept in those cases where only by them it is possible to establish the address of the sender or when the date of postmark is necessary to confirm the time of sending and receipt of appeal, as well as in other necessary cases. During personal reception of an individual and a representative of a legal entity, their written and oral appeals are also subject to centralized registration in the relevant registers or on registration and control cards. Registration index of the reference shall be indicated in the registration stamp, the place and form of which are determined by the state standard of the Republic of Tajikistan. The registration index consists of the initial letter of the author's surname and the serial number of the received reference (for example: A-117). Registration index may be complemented by other symbols, providing systematization, search, analysis and preservation of citizens' appeals.
4. Repeated appeals of individuals and legal entities, when they are received, shall be assigned another registration index, and in the appropriate column of the registration and control card shall be indicated the registration index of the first appeal. In the upper right corner of repeated appeals and on registration and control cards a mark "repeatedly" shall be made and all preceding correspondence on them shall be gathered. Appeals from the same person on the same subject should be considered as repeated, if since the time of filing the first appeal has expired established by law term of consideration, or the applicant is not satisfied with his response. Appeals of the same person on the same subject sent to different addressees and received for consideration by the same relevant body and organization shall be considered under the reference number of the first reference with an addition of a serial number written through a slash (e.g., A-117/1, A-117/2). While considering repeated references an official or an authorized person has a right to terminate correspondence with an applicant in case of unreasonableness of the next appeal if the mentioned appeal and the previous appeal

are given to one and the same appropriate body and organization with one and the same question content and if there is a result of full consideration. The applicant shall be notified about the result of termination of consideration of the repeated appeal.

5. The number of copies of registration and control cards is determined based on the need to ensure accounting of reference work, control over the execution of instructions on appeals and their analysis. Card index may be formed according to the alphabetical order of the individuals' names or names of the legal entities from which the appeals were received.
6. Appeals of individuals and legal entities, sent to the relevant authority (before completion of this Project and transfer of facilities to the operating enterprise, the relevant authority will be PMU, further after completion of the Project, this duty will be transferred to the operating enterprise) at the specified address, requiring to report the results of consideration of appeals, shall be taken on a special control. In this case, on all copies of registration and control cards and appeals in the place, established by the state standard of the Republic of Tajikistan, is stamped "control" or sign "C". Appeals, to which intermediate answers are given, shall not be withdrawn from the control. The control is completed only after making a decision and taking exhaustive measures to resolve an appeal. The decision to remove from control appeals of individuals and legal entities shall be taken by the Director and other relevant (authorized) persons of the PMU, responsible for timely and proper consideration of appeals of citizens. Issues, applications, complaints and proposals for Component No. 1 are considered by the MEWR WSS Group and the results of the consideration are submitted to the PMU for centralized accounting (control) and further for the preparation of a consolidated report.
7. Responses to appeals from individuals and legal entities shall be formally provided by the Director and other appropriate (authorized) persons of PMU. Responses may be given in writing, electronically, by telephone (mobile) or orally. In the case of an oral or electronic response, an appropriate record shall be made on the registration and control card. The response index consists of a registration index and a case number (according to the nomenclature) in which the correspondence on this issue is filed. Appeals of individuals and legal entities shall be considered resolved if all the issues raised in them are considered, the necessary measures are taken and comprehensive answers are provided in accordance with the legislation of the Republic of Tajikistan. A summary of the response on appeals, as well as its date and number are recorded in the log and registration and control card. Considered appeals together with the relevant correspondence shall be stored in the prescribed manner.
8. The Director and other relevant (authorized) persons of the PMU must systematically analyze and summarize the appeals of individuals and legal entities and the practical comments contained therein in order to timely identify and eliminate the causes of violations of the rights and legally protected interests of citizens, as well as to improve the work of the relevant bodies and organizations. Materials for analysis and generalization shall be prepared by the PMU specialist on mobilization and public relations, which shall be prepared in the form of analytical reports and submitted to the WB.
9. PMU shall keep and use appeals for reference and other purposes. The PMU is responsible for the preservation of documents on appeals of individuals and legal entities.

10. The director of the PMU is charged with timely review and resolution of appeals from individuals and legal entities and must ensure that appeals are reviewed in a timely, correct, and complete manner and that decisions are implemented.

As part of the community consultations during the project implementation, community views and concerns are expected to be captured. In addition, the project supervision consultants shall proactively capture grievances from the stakeholders and record them in the project's database.

9. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION STRATEGY DURING PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

Informing and communication with the public within the framework of the RWSS project is based on the developed concept of "Oilai Zamonavi"

The concept of "Oilai Zamonavi", which means "Modern Family". The meaning of "modern" implies a civilized life, a new look, a better life, urban behavior, comfortable conditions, social status, and a decent life. The Modern Family concept aims to show contemporary WASH behaviors that will motivate the villager to practice positive examples of WASH and MHM related activities in order to be more literate and modern. All the work, efforts, and improvements that a person makes are aimed at the prosperity and well-being of the family. In addition, all decisions related to important aspects of life are decided in the family.

Based on the chosen central idea related to the creation of amenities, conditions of modern life and a special status, the message "Зиндаги дар шароити замонавӣ", which means "Life in modern conditions". The message conveys the central idea of the modern family, the correct behavior of its members, which is associated with life in urban (comfortable) conditions, namely, that the house is connected to a drinking water supply system, improved sanitary conditions, family members use hygiene products, know the value of clean drinking water, and understand that these amenities come with a cost. Behavioral change is motivated by family health, time to develop and raise children, and care for older family members, a sense of human dignity and respect in society.

Creating conditions saves the time of the older generation for raising children and self-development.

Public communication as part of an investment project in the sector of water supply and sanitation will be carried out throughout the life cycle of the project, during planning, implementation and completion. A public awareness and communication strategy, earlier implemented in the previous projects, based on the WB information dissemination policy, which will be expanded to include public awareness of the ongoing reforms in the water sector, including water supply sector, is proposed for the project implementation phase.

The objectives of the strategy are to provide all stakeholders with wide access to information about the project, sources of financing, implementation arrangements and procedures, reforms, opportunities for participation in the project, establishment, and maintenance of a feedback mechanism.

The public awareness and communication activities will be carried out by the PMU with the support of a consulting firm. At the initial stage of project implementation, the PMU will hold meetings dedicated to the project launch for all stakeholders. A consulting firm will develop a strategy for preparing and disseminating public information about the project in coordination with all stakeholders involved and will develop action plans for the implementation of the Strategy. Activities related to reform processes, tariff regulation, water quality, preparation of a plan in the water sector will be carried out by the MEWR WSS Group.

The following information dissemination approaches will be used:

- ✓ Information meetings and consultations, workshops, conferences
- ✓ Publications in the print and electronic media
- ✓ Communication on television and radio programs
- ✓ Disclosure of information on the websites of the implementing agencies
- ✓ Development and dissemination of communication materials

In addition, all the information related to the project will be posted on information boards that will be installed in public places in each project jamoat.

The project achievements in the mid-term reviews and achievements in the closing period will be widely covered on the IA websites, television and social networks. The videos will be produced about project accomplishments.

Disclosure and consultation will use a range of methods appropriate to the specific type of stakeholder, such as:

- ✓ Local community - communication materials (brochures, booklets), visual media
- ✓ (posters, announcements on stands, etc.), limited group and individual meetings (using personal protective equipment and in open spaces according to the season)
- ✓ Authorities, decision makers and key stakeholders - meetings, interviews, written communication
- ✓ Other stakeholders – meetings, written communications, project promotional materials, and other documents as needed

The PMU jointly with the MEWR WSS Group will coordinate disclosure and consultation activities with the stakeholders and maintain records of all consultations conducted.

It should be noted that the public relations activities indicated in this section during the implementation of the Project are fully consistent with the Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) and are presented in more detail in the SEP.

10. ESMF BUDGET

The budget for the implementation of the ESMF, SEP, LMP and RPF will be based on the regular semi-annual and annual plans proposed by the Project E&S team, approved by the PMU director, and included in the Project procurement plan (PP) agreed with the Bank.

These plans will include:

- hiring relevant project staff (Environmental Engineer, Social Development Specialist,
- hiring consultants,
- training,
- site visits for screening and monitoring,
- transportation,
- organization of public consultations and other seminars,
- development of required documents, etc.

Table of the indicative semi-annual budget for the implementation of the ESMF (the allocation will be revisited from time to time depending on needs and required supervision):

Table 14: ESMF Budget Allocation (Indicative)

№	Events	Estimated yearly budget	For the period of the Project implementation
1	Hiring relevant project staff (Environmental Specialist, Social Development Specialist and Social and Environmental Specialist)	7200 $	≈ 36 000 $
2	Hiring consultants	7200 $	≈ 36 000 $
3	Training	3000 $	≈ 15 000 $
4	Site visits for screening and monitoring	500 $	≈ 2 500 $
5	Transportation	600 $	≈ 3 000 $
6	Organization of public consultations and other seminars	1000 $	≈ 5 000 $
7	Development of required documents, etc.	500 $	≈ 2 500 $
8	Other unrecorded activities	300 $	≈ 1 500 $
	Total		**~ 101500**

Note: Details for each position will be determined at the ESMP development stage.

11. INFORMATION DISCLOSURE AND PUBLIC CONSULTATIONS

During the project design phase, meetings were held with key stakeholders in the proposed project regions in order to inform them about the project activities, review the needs of potential beneficiaries, and jointly identify the social and environmental risks and impacts that may arise during the implementation of project activities.

Impact of the Project on disadvantaged/vulnerable individuals or groups who often do not have a voice to express their concerns or understand the impact of the Project. At the initial stage, meetings will be held with vulnerable groups and individuals to ensure their active participation in project consultations. To this end, consultations will be held in the areas of residence of these categories of the population in order to avoid inaccessibility for the disabled. During the implementation of project information activities for vulnerable groups, activities will be carried out in close coordination with the leaders of mahallas, community health teams and the company responsible for public mobilization and engagement. In some cases, vulnerable groups will be provided with transport/travel expenses and, if necessary, translation/interpretation in a language they can understand.

The public consultations were held at the national level, on July 1, 2021 in Dushanbe for key stakeholders, i.e. representatives of ministries, their substructures, representatives of regional public authorities and NGO representatives. In addition, for wider coverage of the project activities and seeking feedback, the project materials developed for discussion were shared with the local hukumats in the project districts and district committees for environmental protection.

In addition, for wider coverage of the project activities and seeking feedback, the project materials developed for discussion were shared with the local hukumats in the project districts and district committees for environmental protection.

Before the meeting, the PMU prepared and disclosed on your website the following package of the drafted ESF documents to collect comments and feedback from the stakeholders:

1. Brief summary about the Project
2. Environment and Social Management Environment (ESMF)
3. Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP)
4. Resettlement Framework (RPF)
5. Labor Management Procedures (LMP)

During the public consultations the project objectives, planned activities, expected environmental and social impacts, as well as mitigation measures, compensatory measures in case of any impacts and grievance redress mechanism were presented to the participants. The public consultations had very lively discussions with participants commenting on the presentations and providing their feedback. At the end of the public consultations, the participants were invited to provide their comments, in written format, which have been accepted in the final versions of the ESMF package. The minutes of the public consultations are enclosed in Annex №13.

After approval and agreement by the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan (GoT) and the World Bank (WB), the final version of the ESF documents will be made available on the websites of the implementing agencies SUE KMK and MEWR and the WB website.

12. ANNEXES

ANNEX 1.

Indicative Outline of ESMP

The ESMP consists of a set of mitigation, monitoring and institutional measures to be taken during the project implementation and operation to eliminate adverse environmental and social risks and impacts, and to compensate for them or minimize them to acceptable levels. ESMP also includes arrangements and actions required to implement these measures. The Borrower will (a) identify a set of responses to potentially adverse impacts; (b) identify the requirements to ensure that these responses are made in an effective and timely manner; and (c) describe the means to meet these requirements.

Depending on the project, an ESMP may be prepared as a separate document. The ESMP content will include the following:

(a) Mitigation measures
ESMP identifies the measures and actions, according to the mitigation hierarchy, that minimize potentially adverse environmental and social impacts to acceptable levels.

In particular, ESMP:

(i) describes each mitigation measure with technical detail, including the type of impact to which it is applicable and the conditions that require it (for example, permanently or in case of unforeseen circumstances), along with structures, equipment descriptions and operating procedures, as appropriate;

This may be particularly relevant where the Borrower engages contractors and requirements that contractors must follow are outlined in ESMP. In this case, ESMP should be included as part of the contract between the Borrower and the Contractor, with appropriate provisions for monitoring and enforcement.

(ii) assesses any potential environmental and social consequences of these measures; and

(iii) takes into account and is consistent with other mitigation plans required for the project.

(b) Monitoring
ESMP identifies monitoring objectives and defines the type of monitoring with reference to the impacts evaluated in the environmental and social assessment and the mitigation measures described in ESMP.

In particular, the ESMP monitoring section contains (a) a specific description and technical details of monitoring measures, including measured parameters, methods used, sampling sites, frequency of measurement, detection limits (where appropriate), and identification of thresholds that would signal the need for corrective action; and (b) monitoring and reporting procedures to

(i) ensure early identification of conditions that require specific mitigation measures and (ii) provide information on the progress and results of mitigation.

(c) Capacity building and training

- to support the timely and effective implementation of the environmental and social project components and mitigation measures, ESMP draws on an environmental and social assessment of the existence, role and capacity of responsible parties in the field

or at departmental and ministerial levels.

- in particular, ESMP provides a specific description of institutional arrangements to identify which party is responsible for conducting mitigation measures and monitoring the measure (e.g., operation, oversight, eligibility, implementation monitoring, corrective actions, funding, reporting and staff training).
- to build environmental and social management capacity in the agencies responsible for implementation, ESMP recommends the creation or expansion of responsible parties, staff training and any additional measures that may be required to support the implementation of mitigation measures and any other recommendations for environmental and social assessment.

(d) Implementation schedule and cost estimate

For all three aspects (mitigation, monitoring and capacity building), ESMP provides (a) an implementation schedule to be carried out under the project, showing phasing and coordination with the overall project implementation plans; and (b) capital and operating costs of the assessment and funding sources for ESMP implementation. These figures will also be included in the total project cost tables.

(e) Integration of ESMP with the Project

The Borrower's decision to proceed with the project and the Bank's decision to support it are partly based on the expectation that ESMP will be effectively implemented. Consequently, each of the measures and actions required to be implemented will be clearly defined, including the individual mitigation and monitoring measures and actions, as well as the institutional responsibilities associated with each of them, and the costs of these will be integrated into the overall planning, design, budget and implementation of the project.

ESMP should fully reflect/include the Environmental and Social Commitment Plan (ESCP) for the specific subproject. ESCP provides an accurate overview of key measures and actions to manage the project's potential socio-environmental risks and impacts, in accordance with the risk and impact mitigation scheme. It underlies the monitoring of the project's socio-environmental performance. All timing requirements and conditions should be clearly outlined to avoid any ambiguity about compliance.

Depending on the specific subproject, ESCP may include the provision of funding to complete a particular measure or action, as well as other points related to such completion.

ESMP/ESCP should also include a process that enables adaptive management of proposed changes or unforeseen circumstances within the project. It should show how such changes or circumstances will be managed and reported, and how necessary changes will be made to ESMP/ESCP and associated management tools.

ESMP/ESCP should also provide a brief overview of the organizational structure that the Borrower plans to establish and maintain to carry out coordinated activities, i.e., to take into account the different roles and responsibilities of the Borrower, and the organizations and individuals responsible for the project implementation, and to define the scope and powers of key personnel.

ESMP must provide a brief overview of the training that the Borrower will conduct to ensure implementation of the outlined specific actions. This overview must identify the training participants and the required resources.

The content of ESMP/ESCP may differ from subproject to subproject. In some projects, ESMP may reflect all relevant obligations and will not include requirements for the development of additional plans. In other cases, ESMP may refer to other plans, already existing or under preparation, which will formulate the subproject detailed requirements (e.g., resettlement plan, hazardous waste management plan, transportation management plan, etc.). In such cases, ESMP should contain a brief description of the main aspects of such plans. If the plans have

yet to be developed, the deadlines should be specified.

The Contractor and PMU shall jointly ensure that the persons directly responsible for the implementation of ESMP/ESCP have sufficient qualifications and training, as well as that they have the necessary knowledge and skills.

The Contractor shall notify IA and PMU in a timely manner, which in turn notify the Bank of any proposed changes in the project's scope, design, implementation, or management that could materially exacerbate the environmental or social risks or impacts of the project. If necessary, the PMU conducts additional assessment and consultations with the stakeholders in accordance with the ESMF and proposes changes to the ESMP and related management arrangements for Bank's approval, if deemed appropriate based on the results of such assessments and consultations. An updated ESMP is disclosed to the public.

ANNEX 2.

ESMP Checklist (example for drafting site-specific document)

(For small-scale construction/rehabilitation subprojects)

Part 1. Project background

INSTITUTIONAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS				
Country				
Project title				
Project scope and activities				
Institutional arrangements (names and contact persons)	WB (Task Team Leader)	Project management	Local partner and/or beneficiary	
Implementation arrangements (names and contact persons)	Safeguards monitoring	Local partner oversight	Local supervisory inspection	Contractor
SITE DESCRIPTION				
Name of site				
Describe site location			*Attachment 1*: Site map [ ]Yes / [ ]No	
Who owns the land?				
Description of geographic context				
LEGISLATION				
Identify national and local legislation and permits that apply to project activity				
PUBLIC CONSULTATION				
Identify when/where the public consultation process took place				
INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY BUILDING				
Will there be any capacity building? (Yes/No)	[ ], if Yes, *Attachment 2* includes the capacity building program			

ENVIRONMENTAL /SOCIAL SCREENING			
Beneficiary:	***Sign:***	***Date***	
Will the site activity include/involve any of the following:	**Activity**	**Status**	**Additional references**
	A. Building rehabilitation	[ ] Yes [ ] No	See Section **B** below
	B. New construction	[ ] Yes [ ] No	See Section **B** below
	C. Individual wastewater treatment system	[ ] Yes [ ] No	See Section **C** below
	D. Historic building(s) and districts	[ ] Yes [ ] No	See Section **D** below
	E. Acquisition of land [2]	[ ] Yes [ ] No	See Section **E** below
	F. Hazardous or toxic materials[3]	[ ] Yes [ ] No	See Section **F** below
	G. Impacts on forests and/or protected areas	[ ] Yes [ ] No	See Section **G** below
	H. Handling / management of medical waste	[ ] Yes [ ] No	See Section **H** below
	I. Traffic and Pedestrian Safety	[ ] Yes [ ] No	See Section **I** below
ACTIVITY	**PARAMETER**	**MITIGATION MEASURES CHECKLIST**	
A. General Conditions	Notification and Worker Safety	(a) The local construction and environment inspectorates and communities have been notified of upcoming activities (b) The public has been notified of the works through appropriate notification in the media and/or at publicly accessible sites (including the site of the works) (c) All legally required permits have been acquired for construction and/or rehabilitation (d) All work will be carried out in a safe and disciplined manner designed to minimize impacts on neighboring residents and environment. (e) Workers will comply with international good practice (always hardhats, as needed masks and safety glasses, harnesses and safety boots) (f) Appropriate signposting of the sites will inform workers of key rules and regulations to follow.	

[2] The project will support the construction of new buildings only when land acquisition is not required and there are no resettlement issues; in such cases, the investor must own the land title and must also prove that the land is not occupied or used, even illegally, at the time the subprojects are implemented

[3] Toxic/hazardous material includes but is not limited to asbestos, toxic paint, lead paint removal, etc.

B. General Rehabilitation and /or Construction Activities	Air Quality	(a) During interior demolition use debris-chutes above the first floor (b) Keep demolition debris in controlled area and spray with water mist to reduce debris dust (c) Suppress dust during pneumatic drilling/wall destruction by ongoing water spraying and/or installing dust screen enclosures at site (d) Keep surrounding environment (sidewalks, roads) free of debris to minimize dust (e) There will be no open burning of construction / waste material at the site (f) There should be no excessive idling of construction machines on sites
	Noise	(a) Construction noise will be limited to restricted times agreed to in the permit (b) During operations the engine covers of generators, air compressors and other powered mechanical equipment should be closed, and equipment placed as far away from residential areas as possible
	Water Quality	(a) h) The site will establish appropriate erosion and sediment control measures such as e.g. hay bales and / or silt fences to prevent sediment from moving off site and causing excessive turbidity in nearby streams and rivers.
	Waste management	(a) Waste collection and disposal pathways and sites will be identified for all major waste types expected from demolition and construction activities. (b) Mineral construction and demolition wastes will be separated from general refuse, organic, liquid and chemical wastes by on-site sorting and stored in appropriate containers. (c) Construction waste will be collected and disposed properly by licensed collectors (d) The records of waste disposal will be maintained as proof for proper management as designed. (e) Whenever feasible the contractor will reuse and recycle appropriate and viable materials (except asbestos)
C. Individual wastewater Treatment systems	Water Quality	(a) The approach to handling sanitary wastes and wastewater from building sites (installation or reconstruction) must be approved by the local authorities (b) f) Before being discharged into receiving waters, effluents from individual wastewater systems, g) treated in order to meet the minimal quality criteria set out by national guidelines on effluent quality and wastewater treatment (c) Monitoring of new wastewater systems (before/after) will be carried out

D. Historic building(s)	Cultural Heritage	(a) If the building is a designated historic structure, very close to such a structure, or located in a designated historic district, notify and obtain approval/permits from local authorities and address all construction activities in line with local and national legislation (b) Ensure that provisions are put in place so that artifacts or other possible "chance finds" encountered in excavation or construction are noted, officials contacted, and works activities delayed or modified to account for such finds.
E. Social risk management	Community consultations, stakeholder engagement	(a) Appoint a local communications representative responsible for liaising with and receiving requests / complaints from the local community. (b) Consult with local communities to identify and actively manage potential conflicts between the external workforce and the local population. (c) Raise community awareness of sexually transmitted disease risks associated with the presence of external labor and engage local communities in awareness raising campaigns (d) Planned activities taking into account the seasonality of agricultural work as much as possible in order to avoid/minimize maintenance. Inform local communities of construction and work schedules, service interruptions, detour routes and temporary bus routes, blasting and demolition, as appropriate. (e) Limit construction work at night. If necessary, thoroughly schedule night work and notify the affected community in advance. (f) Properly mark and fence the work site (g) Temporary storage of construction materials and waste shall not occur on cultivated land or private property of any type. (h) Designate places for temporary storage of construction materials and waste so as not to interfere with the free movement of traffic and pedestrians
F. Acquisition of land	Land Allocation Plan/Scheme	(i) If alienation of land was not expected but required, or if loss of access to income of legal or illegal land users was not expected but which may occur, then the Bank Team Leader should be contacted immediately. (j) The approved Resettlement Plan (if required by the project) should be implemented and all PAPs are compensated before the start of construction works.

G. Toxic Materials	Asbestos management	(a) If asbestos is located at a project site, it must be clearly marked as hazardous material (b) Whenever possible, asbestos should be properly contained and sealed to minimize exposure (c) Before removal (if removal is required), asbestos shall be treated with a wetting agent to minimize asbestos dust (d) Asbestos must be handled and disposed of by qualified and experienced professionals (e) If asbestos is to be stored temporarily, the waste must be securely stored inside closed protective containers and labeled accordingly (f) Removed asbestos must not be reused
	Toxic / hazardous waste management	(a) Temporarily storage on site of all hazardous or toxic substances will be in safe containers labeled with details of composition, properties and handling information (b) The containers of hazardous substances should be placed in an leak-proof container to prevent spillage and leaching (c) The wastes are transported by specially licensed carriers and disposed in a licensed facility. (d) Paints with toxic ingredients or solvents or lead-based paints will not be used
H. Affects forests and/or protected areas	Protection	(a) All recognized natural habitats, wetlands and protected areas in the immediate vicinity of these activities must not be damaged or exploited, all employees will be strictly prohibited from hunting, foraging, logging or other destructive activities. (b) Large trees shall be marked and protected with fencing, and their root systems shall be protected to avoid any damage to the trees (c) Adjacent wetlands and streams shall be protected from construction site runoff with appropriate erosion and sediment control, by means including but not limited to hay bales and silt barriers (d) No unlicensed quarries or dumps shall be used in adjacent areas, especially in protected areas.
		(a)

J. Traffic and Pedestrian Safety	Direct or indirect hazards to public traffic and pedestrians by construction activity	(b) According to national regulations, the contractor must ensure proper construction site safety and regulation of construction-related traffic. This includes, but is not limited to ▪ Signposts, warning signs, barriers and diversion signs: the site shall be clearly visible and the public warned of all potential hazards. ▪ Traffic control system and staff training, especially for site access and heavy traffic in the surrounding area. Providing safe passageways and crosswalks for pedestrians where traffic interferes. ▪ Adjusting operating hours to local traffic conditions, such as avoiding major traffic activities during rush hours or during cattle traffic ▪ Actively managing traffic by trained and visible on-site workers if necessary for safe and convenient passage for the public. (c) Providing safe and continuous access to office facilities, shops, and residences during renovations if buildings remain open to the public.

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL MONITORING PLAN

Phase	**What** (Is the parameter to be monitored?)	**Where** (Is the parameter to be monitored?)	**How** (Is the parameter to be monitored?)	**When** (Is the parameter to be monitored?)	**Why** (Is the parameter to be monitored?)	**Cost** (Is the parameter to be monitored?)	**Who** (Is the parameter to be monitored?)
Preparation (initial)							
Implementation							
Operational							

ANNEX 3.

Examples of possible environmental and social criteria for selection (eligibility) of subprojects:

- When selecting water supply schemes, preference will be given mainly to laying water pipelines and distribution networks on the existing schemes.
- When selecting the construction of engineering structures of the water supply system, preference will also be given to the design and construction of these structures mainly on the site of existing buildings and structures;
- For pumping stations, minimum energy costs, stability of power supply and expected economic viability, including additional profits, will be taken into account. Also, preference will be given to those pumping stations that are of socio-economic importance, i.e. covering more population.
- When selecting wells, preference will be given to those that have sufficient debit, satisfactory chemical and bacteriological indicators.
- The project does not support facilities with resettlement and land acquisition issues;
- The project may be implemented in areas close to protected areas. Works in SPNAs must be prohibited, and works in adjacent areas without a risk assessment for protected species and ecosystems must be prohibited;
- Since the project includes an operational policy on international waters, and is likely to fall under the Bank's exemption for this policy since no new systems will be constructed, subprojects that change the balance of waters entering international rivers or their quality will be excluded.

ANNEX 4.

Indicative Action Plan for a Contractor on prevention of not spreading and in case of COVID-19 at construction sites

No.	Activity	Timeline	Responsibility
1.	Contractors shall organize the prompt purchase of means of prevention: non-contact temperature meters, personal respiratory protection, soap, disposable paper towels, gloves, hand sanitizers, surface and room disinfectants in sufficient quantities to provide all employees and the implementation of these activities.		
Activities to organize the delivery of workers.			
2.	– To arrange transportation of workers from their dwelling to the site and back, ensuring a distance inside the vehicle of at least 1-2 meters and the use of personal protective equipment; – To disinfect the vehicle twice a week.		
Activities to ensure access to the construction site. Workflow organization.			
3.	– To introduce a permit regime at the construction site; – To restrict access to the construction site for persons not involved in construction work and maintenance of construction; – To revise the schedule to avoid the mass accumulation and crowding of workers; – To ensure the organization of the workflow to isolate work teams from each other when performing work, to ensure minimal contact between workers; – To cancel temporarily optional work requiring physical contact of workers. Where it is necessary to perform work that requires physical contact, wear gloves and personal respiratory protection; – To arrange the disinfection of reusable work tools before they are used by another worker; – To organize the regime for the use of locker rooms, showers, drying rooms by the workers, which does not allow the accumulation of people; – To arrange regular emptying of trash cans with used disposable hand towels and to utilize them.		
Activities to monitor the workers' health status.			
	– Employer shall establish contact with local health facility representatives and local CES representatives to conduct necessary consultations and arrange for emergency measures in the event of workers' illness symptoms; – To ensure that workers' body temperature is measured when they enter a construction site and at the end of their shift; – To measure the body temperature on a daily basis, preferably using the non-contact		

	measuring device. When measuring the body temperature with contact method, ensure that the thermometer is disinfected before handing it over to another person; – To ensure that a log on the workers' health status is kept; – If an employee (who lives near workers) has an elevated body temperature (37.0 degrees Celsius or higher) and/or signs of respiratory illness, to disallow the employee from work and take the employee home to be self-isolated for a period of 14 days. To notify the employee of the need to immediately call for medical assistance at home. Otherwise, to ensure that separate rooms are available to isolate workers until an ambulance arrives; – To require employees to conduct self-monitoring of their state of health. To forbid employees to go to work if they themselves detect elevated body temperature (37.0 degrees Celsius or higher) and (or) respiratory symptoms. In this case, the employee must be isolated for a period of 14 days, and immediately ask for medical help at home; – The employer must ensure that benefits are paid during the period of illness.		
Activities to ensure personal hygiene of employees			
	– To instruct employees on how to prevent the spread of a new coronavirus infection (COVID-19); – To post information materials on stands/leaflets about symptoms of new coronavirus infection (COVID-19) and measures to prevent infection; – To provide employees with personal protective equipment (masks, gloves, etc.); – To arrange places for hand washing and disinfection when entering the construction site, in eating areas, toilets and common areas; – To require workers to wash or disinfect their hands when entering and exiting the construction site, before eating, before and after using the toilet, and after touching items that have been in use by others; – To prohibit the workers from shaking hands, hugging, and other forms of contact.		
Disinfection of premises, transport and construction equipment			
	– To organize disinfection of the workplace and common areas with the use of sanitizers; – To arrange regular cleaning of contact surfaces using sanitizers; – To ensure regular (every 2 hours) ventilation of the workplace and common areas; – To arrange disinfection of the inner cabin of vehicles and construction equipment between the use of different workers.		
Activities related to the organization of nutrition for employees			
	– To organize a feeding regime for employees that does not allow crowding of people in		

	the eating room. To change the eating schedule and ensure a distance of 1 to 2 meters; – To make disinfection of the tables after each use by employees.		

ANNEX 5. Recommended H&S activities

Recommended actions and measures for occupational health and safety to perform mechanized construction and rehabilitation works

If hazardous working conditions arise on the construction site, people are immediately evacuated and dangerous areas are fenced off.

When approaching buried lines; excavation work is carried out under supervision of the work manager or foreman, and in the immediate vicinity of energized cables, moreover, under the supervision of electricians.

For excavations with slopes steeper than the natural ones of the given soil, maximum distance of the excavated soil from the edges must be specified by calculating.

During mechanized management of excavation work, it is necessary to check the serviceability of vehicles and machinery, availability of protective barriers and safety devices. It is not allowed to work with defective machinery.

To avoid injuries, members of the mechanized crews must clearly know and strictly adhere to safety rules when working with excavators, as well as during maintenance and repair.

Workers maintaining and operating the machinery must be provided with an instruction manual that includes:

- rules of operating the machine and maintaining the workplace;
- safety requirements;
- signal system instructions;
- maximum loads and machine speeds;
- measures to be taken by the worker in case of an accident or machine malfunction.

Persons who have received special training and have valid driving licenses are allowed to operate the machines.

Before starting work, the machine operator must check:

- condition of working site;
- serviceability of the engine and mechanisms;
- cable stock and serviceability;
- operating elements status;
- availability of firefighting equipment and first aid kit.

Oil pump hydraulic system and hoses are checked on hydraulically controlled machines, and serviceability of reels, friction clutch couplings or winch brake belts is checked on cable-controlled machines.

Before starting work, the operator must correctly set the ignition timing to match the conditions for starting the engine. Early ignition generally kicks back the engine crankshaft and handle, which can injure the driver's hand. Before starting the engine, the operator must make sure there are no foreign objects on the rotating parts (fan, water pump, etc.).

When starting the engine with the crank, it is not allowed to grasp the crank: all fingers must be on one side of the crank, and the thumb must be pressed against the index finger. Avoid turning the crank in a circular motion. The starter motor shaft must be turned in short jerks. It is not permitted to start an overheated engine, as this could cause a backfire.

During start-up the mechanisms are switched on only after 2-3 minutes of engine idling. Faults detected in this case shall be eliminated immediately.

All rotating parts of the digging machine such as spur gears, chain and timing gears, fans, flywheels, etc. must be covered with enclosures. It is forbidden to operate mechanisms when the shields are removed.

Inspection, adjustment, bolt tightening, lubrication and preventive maintenance of excavating machines during operation is prohibited.

It is forbidden to carry out any other work or have people in the path of the excavating machines in the area where they are operating. If large stones, stumps or other objects are found in the excavated soil, the machine must be stopped and everything that can cause an accident must be removed.

It is forbidden to activate the undercarriage when the digging machines travel on steep, downhill or uphill slopes. It is prohibited to move the machines on slopes steeper than allowed. Workers maintaining the machines and mechanisms must wear clothes without dangling ends.
Excavators are installed and secured in a stable position that prevents them from tipping over or spontaneous displacement, both by their own weight and by the engine.
When not in use, as well as during cleaning and repair work, the digging machines must be in a position that makes it impossible for unauthorized persons to start them, so the starting devices must be protected against unauthorized access.
The excavator operator is prohibited from:

- leaving the workplace or letting another person operate the machine while it is running or moving; allowing other people or auxiliary workers to start the engine; sitting on the tracks; or placing clothes or other objects on them;
- stopping the digging machine under the overhead power lines or closer than 15 m to the power lines. The operation and movement of excavating machines near power lines shall be carried out under the direct supervision of engineering and technical personnel. Engineering personnel must always be present with the digging machines during operation and when moving the units.

When operating excavators, the following fire prevention and fire suppression measures must be observed:

- fire extinguishers must be kept in good working order at all times in the excavator operator's cabins;
- it is prohibited to store petrol, kerosene and other flammable materials in machinery cabs. Fuel and lubricants should be stored in specially equipped places at a distance of at least 20 m from the machines;
- it is not permitted to use an open flame (torches, fires, blast lamps, etc.) when refueling machines with fuel and lubricants, during inspection of fuel tanks, and for heating internal combustion engines in winter;
- it is prohibited to open gasoline barrels by hitting the cork with a metal object;
- in case of fuel ignition, it is only necessary to extinguish the flames with fire extinguisher foam, sand, tarpaulin or clothes. It is forbidden to pour water on the fire;
- when refueling machines it is not allowed to smoke and to bring a fire close; the engine is refueled in the daytime, avoiding refueling in the light. After refueling carefully wipe down the tanks. To start the engine in winter, heated water is poured into the radiator and heated oil into the crankcase. It is forbidden to heat the engine with a torch.

Excavators must be placed on a leveled area during operation and secured with portable mountings to prevent accidental movement. It is prohibited to put planks, logs, stones or other things under the crawler belts or track rollers to prevent the excavator from shifting during operation.
If the work is temporarily interrupted or the excavator is repaired, it must be moved at least 2 meters from the slope edge.
During the movement of the single-bucket excavator, its shovel boom is set strictly in the direction of motion, and the bucket is lifted from the ground by 0.5-0.7 m.
The excavator operator is strictly forbidden:

- to change the boom angle when the bucket is lifted;
- to turn on the swivel mechanism until the bucket is filled and detached from the ground;
- to use the excavator rotation and movement mechanisms to cut the ground.

During the transverse excavation of the canal, the berm width between the canal edge and waste-pile toe (earth-deposits) should be equal to half the width of the crawler movement to the cabin tail radius and plus 1 m, and in case of excavator movement on top of the dam, its width should be equal to the width of the crawler movement plus 2 m.
It is not allowed to move soil with the bulldozer on uphill or downhill slopes more than 30 degrees. To avoid overturning and sliding, when working on steep slopes, high embankments and when spoil disposal is buried, one should not turn the bulldozer sharply.

Bulldozer operation within the range of the hoisting devices is not allowed. The bulldozer operator can start working near the excavator once the excavator bucket has been lowered to the ground and when the crane arm has been turned to the opposite side in relation to the area where the work is to be carried out. When stopping the bulldozer, the blade must be lowered to the ground.
Assembly and disassembly of the bulldozer device on the tractor should be carried out under the supervision of a mechanic.
When operating the hydraulically controlled bulldozer, oil temperature in the hydraulic system should not rise by more than 60 degrees Celsius, and the oil should be absolutely clean.
The pressure relief valve of the hydraulic system must be adjusted by a mechanic using a pressure gauge to the highest pressure value and then sealed.
During operation, the bulldozer operator continuously monitors the blade; if the blades hit an obstacle, it is required to stop.
If the bulldozer stops for a short time, the clutch should be activated, the diesel engine should be switched to low speed, and the change-gear levers should be put in neutral position. The bulldozer should be driven downhill only on the first speed. When stopping on a slope, the bulldozer should be braked.
When operating the cable-controlled bulldozer, the serviceability of the winch and cable system must be checked regularly. During operation, the winch is monitored to prevent overheating of its drums, brake belts and frictions.
It is forbidden to work without winch drum protective shroud and protective shroud (pipe) for cable, as well as if 10% or more of the total number of broken wires per 1 m rope are available.
Lubrication, adjustment and repair of the bulldozer is performed with the engine off and the blade lowered.

Recommended actions, occupational health and safety measures to carry out manual excavation work

A. General safety requirements:

1. Excavation work should be carried out only taking into account the safety requirements. When approaching communication lines, excavation work must be carried out under the supervision of the contractor or foreman, and in the protection zone of existing lines of communication the work is to be carried out under the supervision of representatives of the organizations that operate these structures.
2. All organizations having facilities located in the work area must be notified in writing no later than 5 days before the start of excavation work and their representatives must be summoned to the site the day before to clarify the location of their facilities and agree on measures to avoid damage to the facilities.
3. When excavating on the roadway or street, the organization that carries out the work must draw up and coordinate with the State Automobile Inspectorate authorities a layout of road barriers and placement of road signs.
4. Persons under 18 years of age who have been instructed, trained in safe work methods, tested for safety rules in accordance with the Regulation on the procedure for training and testing knowledge of the occupational safety of managers, professionals and workers of enterprises, institutions and communication organizations are allowed to work in the excavation.
5. Employees must be instructed in the workplace. Results of the briefing, name, date and signature of the instructed employee are recorded in a special log.
6. The work is performed by a team of at least two people.
7. The following hazardous and harmful production factors can occur during soil excavation:
   Danger of being buried by soil;
   Electrocution;
   Adverse weather conditions (low temperature, high humidity).
8. Each employee must be warned of the need to adhere to the rules of internal code of conduct.
9. The workers must be provided with protective clothing, personal protective equipment at

their own expense.

10. Employees must be trained in the first aid techniques.
11. Safety requirements before starting work:
    1. To receive a job assignment from a foreman or supervisor.
12. Contractor conducts briefings at the workplace, taking into account the special nature of the work to be done (The foreman of the site conducts briefings).

B. Safety requirements during work:
   1. When excavating, workers should know and remember that digging in vertical walled excavations without anchoring is allowed to a depth of not more than, m:
   1 - in bulk sandy and coarse clastic rocks;
   1,25 - in sandy loams;
   1,5 - in loams and clays.
   2. Excavations should be carried out in layers, it is not allowed to carry out these works "digging", with the formation of "canopies".

C. Safety requirements in emergency situations:
   1. In situations that could lead to accidents, the following should be done:
   To stop work immediately and notify his/her supervisor;
   To take prompt action to eliminate the causes of the accident or causes that could lead to accidents.
   2. In the case of detection of buried communication lines not marked on the drawings, excavation work must be stopped until the nature of the discovered lines is clarified and permission to continue the work is obtained from the relevant organizations.
   3. In the case of detection of ammunition and other explosive materials, it is necessary to immediately report to the local authorities of the Ministry of Internal Affairs.
   4. In the event of accidental damage to any underground facility, the worker must immediately stop working, take measures to ensure the safety of workers, and report the incident to his supervisor and the emergency service of the relevant organization.
   5. If the excavation slopes show signs of soil sliding or slipping, the workers must immediately stop the work and leave the danger zone until measures to ensure the stability of the slopes are taken.
   6. It is necessary to notify the direct supervisor of the area or the head of the organization about the injured persons, to report to the medical station and take urgent measures to provide the necessary first aid.

D. Safety requirements at the end of work:
   1. To clean and put in order the workplace.
   2. To clean the tools, equipment and other devices used in the work from the soil and deliver them to the main place of work.
   3. Upon arrival at the main place of work, to take off protective clothing, footwear and other personal protective equipment, clean it and put it away in a place designed for their storage.
   4. To report any shortcomings or malfunctions during the work to the foreman or supervisor.

ANNEX 6.

Collection, storage, transportation and delivery of asbestos containing waste material.

Transportation of asbestos containing materials will be carried out in accordance with the legislation of the Republic of Tajikistan, building standards, occupational safety requirements; requirements for the release of harmful substances into the air and disposal of harmful waste. The maximum proportion of dust particles in the air is 0.1 fiber/cm3; Also, the use of Notes from recommended standards: Asbestos: Workplace and Community Health Issues; the World Bank. Asbestos containing materials are subject to immediate disposal/burial in special conditions and according to the Law of the Republic of Tajikistan "On industrial and household waste" No. 44 dated May 10, 2002 disposal of asbestos containing materials should be carried out as follows.

Hazardous waste management processes (waste life cycle) include the following stages: generation, accumulation (collection, temporary storage, stockpiling), transportation, neutralization, recycling, use as secondary raw materials, burial.

If asbestos is found in the project area, it must be clearly marked as hazardous material. Asbestos containing materials should not be broken or cut. Dust is created by doing so. Regarding reconstruction work, the workers should avoid crushing/destruction of asbestos waste and should dispose them in an organized manner at construction sites, with subsequent removal to designated sites or to landfill.

If asbestos material is to be stored temporarily, its waste must be securely isolated in closed containers and labeled as hazardous material. Safety measures should be taken against its unauthorized removal from the site.

Collection and temporary storage of waste.

Asbestos waste generation should be minimized by using the most efficient production technologies.

Asbestos will be handled and disposed by qualified and experienced specialists using proper protective equipment (masks, gloves and overalls). It is permitted to store waste in the waste collection area in quantities not exceeding the applicable standards. It is not allowed to obstruct industrial waste collection sites and their access points.

During work with asbestos waste, the builders are required to wear special protective clothing, gloves and respirators. Asbestos will be treated with a wetting agent before removal (if removal is necessary) to minimize asbestos dust formation. Removed asbestos must not be reused.

No foreign objects, personal clothing, overalls, personal protective equipment, or food are allowed to store in the industrial waste collection areas.

Hazardous waste movement and transportation

The requirements for loading and unloading operations and general safety requirements must be adhered to when performing loading and unloading operations. The work should be carried out in a mechanized manner with the help of small lifting and transport means of mechanization.

Hazardous waste is transported to landfills by specially equipped company's own vehicles or specialized transport companies.

The design and operating conditions of specialized transport should exclude the possibility of accidents, losses and environmental pollution on the way and during the reloading of waste from one type of transport to another. All types of work associated with the loading, transportation and unloading of waste at the main and auxiliary production facilities should be mechanized and sealed. Evaporation of hazardous waste during its transportation is not allowed.

An independent device or a container with grasping jaws for unloading by crane trucks is required to transport solid and dusty waste.

It is not allowed to transport unpacked asbestos in open cars and on railway platforms.

During loading and unloading operations, the use of hooks and other sharp devices is not allowed.

The presence of unauthorized persons is not allowed, except for the driver and personnel of the industrial enterprise accompanying the cargo during the transportation of hazardous waste. The driver of a vehicle transporting asbestos containing waste must be instructed on the rules for transporting cargo.

The works related to the loading and transportation, unloading and burial of waste must be mechanized. Transportation of waste should exclude the possibility of losses along the route and environmental pollution.

Asbestos containing waste material burial

The burial of asbestos containing waste material should be carried out in accordance with the requirements of the Law of the Republic of Tajikistan "On industrial and household waste" No.44 dated May 10, 2002, and Resolution of the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan "On approval of the procedure, terms and conditions for the collection, use, disinfection, transportation, storage and disposal of industrial and household waste in the Republic of Tajikistan" No. 279 dated June 2, 2011.

Annex No.8

Form of Complaint registration and control card

(instructions for completion are attached)

0229140 registration and control card

_____

Applicant _____
(Name, address, telephone number)
Previous appeals No._____ from No._____
Type of appeal, number of sheets _____
Author, date, index of the cover letter _____
_____
_____
_____
Date, index of receipt
_____

Summary of content _____

Responsible officer _____
Resolution
Resolution author
Period for performance _____
Format
_____
PROGRESS OF EXECUTION
_____

Date of forwarding for execution	Executor	Note on the interme-diate response or additional request	Reference notes

_____
_____
_____
Date, index of the executor (response)_____
_____
Addressee _____
Content_____
_____
Withdraw from the control: Controller's signature
_____

Case	Vol.	Sheets	inventory files

_____
_____

Annex No.9
Log of the statistical record of individuals' written appeals

Serial number	Reference number and date	Surname, first name, patronymic	Address of residence	Subject matter of the appeal	To whom (executor) and to which department is sent for review	Consideration result and execution date	Mark of the re-appeal

Annex No.10

Log of statistical records on written appeals of legal entities

Serial number	Reference number and date	Full name	Location address	Date and outgoing number	Subject matter of the appeal	To whom (executor) and to which department is sent for review	Consideration result	Mark of the re-appeal

Annex No.11
Log of statistical records on e-appeals

Serial number	Reference number and date	Full name of the individual and full name of the legal entity	Email address of applicants	Subject matter of the appeal	To whom (executor) and to which department is sent for review	Consideration result	Date, outgoing email number	Mark of the re-appeal

Annex № 12

Grievances and appeals of citizens is regulated by the Law of the Republic of Tajikistan "On Appeals of Individuals and Legal Entities", adopted on July 23, 2016 No. 1339, for example:

1. Obligations of Individuals and Legal Entities in Submitting Appeals.

Individuals and legal entities are obliged to:

- Submit texts of written appeals and attached documents in a readable form;
- To treat officials and other authorized persons with due respect, not to use rude and insulting expressions, threats to life, health and property of the person who considers an appeal or members of his family;
- to inform in a timely manner the body and organization that considers the appeal of a change of residence, address of residence, telephone numbers, e-mail address;
- fulfill other obligations stipulated by this Law and the legislation of the Republic of Tajikistan (Article 8 of the Law of the Republic of Tajikistan "On Appeals of Individuals and Legal Entities").

2. Rights of individuals and legal entities in considering appeals.

Individuals and legal entities that have submitted an appeal shall have the right:

- directly participate in consideration of an appeal;
- Personally state arguments to an official or an authorized person considering an appeal;
- Submit additional documents and materials in support of their appeal or request for their retrieval;
- To familiarize themselves with the collected material if it does not violate the rights, freedoms and legitimate interests of other persons, and if the above documents do not contain information constituting state or other secrets protected by law;
- to receive information on the progress of consideration of an appeal;
- To receive a written reply on the substance of the questions in the appeal, except for the cases listed in paragraph 1 of Article 19 of this Law, notice of transfer of appeal to other bodies and organizations whose competence includes addressing the issues raised in the appeal
- to apply with a request to withdraw the appeal prior to its consideration on the merits;
- to demand compensation for damages from guilty persons in accordance with the procedure established by the legislation of the Republic of Tajikistan;
- to appeal the result of consideration of the complaint or action (inaction) of persons considering the complaint to higher authorities and (or) the court in the manner prescribed by the legislation of the Republic of Tajikistan;
- exercise other rights stipulated by this Law and the legislation of the Republic of Tajikistan (Article 16 of the Law of the Republic of Tajikistan "On Appeals of Individuals and Legal Entities").

3. Time for consideration of appeals of individuals and legal entities

- Appeals submitted to the relevant authorities and organizations shall be considered within thirty days, appeals not requiring additional study and investigation shall be considered within fifteen days from the date of registration;
- In exceptional cases as well as in cases provided in paragraph 2 of article 20 of this Law the head of a respective body and organization has the right to extend the term of consideration of the appeal not more than thirty days and inform the applicant within three days (Article 18 of the Law of the Republic of Tajikistan "On Appeals of Individuals and Legal Entities") etc.

Annex No.13

The minutes of the public consultations

ПРОТОКОЛ

Общественных Консультаций по Проекту «Программа Инвестиций в Сектор Водоснабжения и Санитарии – Фаза 1» (ПИСВС-1), Реабилитация и модернизация Вахшской межрайонной системы водоснабжения в районе Дж.Балхи

дата: « 28 » апреля 2022 года, 11-00 часов

место проведения: Хатлонская область, район Дж.Балхи, зал заседаний Исполнительного органа государственной власти района

Присутствовали:

представители ЦУП РМИ:

- Специалист по мониторингу ЦУП;
- Специалист по социальным вопросам ЦУП;
- Специалист по мобилизации ЦУП;
- Инженер-эколог ЦУП.

представители Консультанта (дизайнерской группы):

- директор Консорциума «Накукор – Аква Мундо»;
- ГИП проекта (Главный инженер проекта).

представители эксплуатирующей организации:

- заведующий отделом водоснабжения ГУП «ХМК»;
- директор предприятия Водоканал района Дж.Балхи;
- директор предприятия «Оби дехот» района Дж.Балхи.

представители исполнительного органа государственной власти, соответствующих районных структур и служб, председатели джамоатов и органов местного самоуправления (председатели махаллей):

- заместитель Председателя района, курирующий коммунальную сферу;
- зав отделом по архитектуре и строительству района Дж.Балхи;
- председатель Комитета по управлению земли района Дж.Балхи;
- заведующий отделом по охране окружающей среды района Дж.Балхи;
- начальник Центра санитарно-эпидемиологического надзора (СЭС);
- заведующий отделом образования района Дж.Балхи;
- отдел здравоохранения района Дж.Балхи;
- руководитель ЦЗОЖ района Дж.Балхи;
- заведующий отделом социальной защиты населения района Дж.Балхи;
- председатель комитета женщин района Дж.Балхи;
- председатель Джамоата «Калинин» (и председатели 5 махаллей данного джамоата), председатель Джамоата «Халеварда» (и председатели 15 махаллей джамоата), председатель Джамоата «Маданият» (и председатели 13 махаллей данного джамоата), председатель Джамоата «Узун» (и председатели 14 махаллей данного джамоата), председатель Джамоата «Навобод» (и председатели 11 махаллей данного джамоата), председатель Джамоата «Фрунзе» (и председатели 12 махаллей джамоата) председатель Джамоата «Гулистон» (и председатели 4 махаллей данного джамоата).

Повестка Общественных консультаций:

Ознакомление заинтересованных сторон в целом с инженерно-техническими аспектами Проекта «Программа Инвестиций в Сектор Водоснабжения и Санитарии – Фаза 1» (ПИСВС-1) в районе Дж.Балхи, и в частности ознакомление заинтересованных сторон с Рамочным Документом по Управлению Окружающей и Социальной Средой (РДУОСС), предусмотренного к реализации в проектных зонах района Дж.Балхи.

Выступили:

1. Заместитель Председателя района, который в общем ознакомил участников общественных консультаций сложившейся острой ситуацией по водоснабжению района, отметил наиболее остронуждающиеся населенные пункты и необходимости скорейшей реализации Проекта в районе. Также от своего имени и от имени Исполнительного органа государственной власти района и соответствующих районных структур и служб отметил, что будут оказывать всемерную поддержку и содействие в успешную реализацию Проекта.

2. Директор «Накукор – Аква Мундо» и ГИП Проекта в ходе своего выступления подробно ознакомили участников Общественных консультаций с технико-экономическими и инженерными показателями Проекта в части района Дж.Балхи, ориентировочными сроками реализации, характеристиками сооружений и другими аспектами Проекта.

3. Далее выступили представители ЦУП РМИ, в целом о реализации Проекта, его главных целей и задач, а также непосредственно о мероприятиях, направленных на минимизацию и предотвращения воздействия Проекта на социальные и экологические аспекты жизни населения проектных джамоатов и сел. Были отмечены основные социально-экологические риски и воздействия реализации Проекта на местное население, на местную экосистему, окружающую среду, социальные отношения, экономическое благосостояние населения, флору и фауну, доступ к коммунальным и социальным услугам.

В ходе Консультаций, в том числе было указано, что будущая деятельность по реализации Проекта, в том числе строительство инженерной инфраструктуры водоснабжения, магистральных и распределительных трубопроводов и сетей, а также других объектов системы водоснабжения и санитарии, может привести к некоторым потенциальным негативным последствиям для проектных зон, в том числе:

- загрязнение воздуха;
- шум строительной техники;
- проблемы с качеством воды;
- производство и утилизация строительных материалов (в основном неиспользуемых труб) и других твердо-бытовых отходов (из рабочих и стройплощадок);

- управление рабочими площадками (поселками), которое будет временными с незначительными и локализованными негативными последствиями;
- временная недоступность улицы / домов, дорог во время строительства;
- управление движением;
- отключение воды без предварительного объявления или продолжительное нарушение водоснабжения во время строительства;
- возможное использование или изъятие земли (постоянное или временное);
- влияние на имущество и средства к существованию;
- влияние притока рабочей силы на соседние общины.

По каждому из указанных потенциальных воздействий участники общественных консультаций были проинформированы о предусмотренных мероприятиях для предотвращения или минимизации в рамках настоящего РДУОСС, а также ПУОСС (План управления окружающей и социальной средой), которые будут разработаны для каждого под-проекта.

Также присутствующие были ознакомлены о предусмотренных мероприятиях по информационной поддержке изменения социального поведения по вопросам ВСГ, включая аспекты МГ, строительство санитарных объектов ВСГ в социальных учреждениях, сотрудничество с лидерами махалли и формирования Координационного комитета по ВСГ для координации мероприятий по водоснабжению, формирования общественных команд здоровья и сотрудничество с сельскими медицинскими центрами для пропаганды правильных практик ежедневной гигиены сообщества, сотрудничество с преподавателями школ для эффективной реализации пакета внеклассных уроков по вопросам ВСГ и МГ в школах. Кроме этого присутствующие были проинформированы относительно вопроса обращений, жалоб и предложений по указанным рискам и воздействиям, а также в целом по вопросам реализации Проекта. Участники консультаций были ознакомлены с Механизмом рассмотрения жалоб и созданию горячей линии для обращений граждан, которая будет действовать в рамках реализации Проекта и на начальных этапах будет координироваться со стороны специалистов ЦУП.

В конце консультаций участники были проинформированы о необходимости строгого соблюдения санитарно-гигиенических мер по предотвращению острых инфекционных заболеваний, в том числе коронавирусной инфекции COVID-19, и необходимости выполнения элементарных гигиенических условий жизнедеятельности.

Также присутствующие были ознакомлены с основными положительными воздействиями от реализации Проекта, в том числе обеспечения широкого доступа населения к безопасной качественной питьевой воде, улучшения услуг санитарии, улучшения санитарно-гигиенических условий и соответственно уменьшения инфекционных болезней, улучшение социально-экономических условий и другое.

В ходе Общественных Консультаций были заданы следующие вопросы. на которые были даны исчерпывающие ответы, в том числе:

- Проинформированы ли руководители органов местного самоуправления, в частности, и население проектных сел в целом о реализации Проекта.

Все участники Консультаций единогласно ответили, что проинформированы. Несмотря на это участники Консультаций были дополнительно и досконально проинформированы о реализации Проекта в целом (цели и задачи, а также аспекты реализации Проекта).

- Проинформированы ли руководители органов местного самоуправления, в частности, и население проектных сел в целом о видах строительных работ в пределах населенных пунктов (сел), в том числе по прокладке водоводов и распределительных сетей в рамках реализации Проекта?

Председатели махаллей (сел) отметили, что проинформированы, однако были заданы вопросы по предполагаемым трассам водоводов и распределительных сетей, их размерам, срокам прокладки трубопроводов, на которые получили соответствующие ответы от представителей проектной организации и ЦУП.

- Попадают ли в зоне влияния Проекта жилые здания, домохозяйства, сады и огороды?

В ходе проектных работ одним из основных условий было предотвращение или максимальная минимизация влияния Проекта на жилые здания, домохозяйства, сады и огороды. На данный момент можно констатировать, что возможно на некоторых участках временное использование (1-2 месяца) земли согласно соответствующим соглашениям сервитут. Более конкретно будет известно в ходе социально-экологического скрининга под-проектов.

- Какие неудобства или воздействия могут быть при реализации Проекта, то есть при строительных работах?

Еще раз проинформировали, что при реализации Проекта могут возникнуть следующие проблемы, в том числе загрязнение воздуха, шум строительной техники, проблемы с качеством воды, производство и утилизация строительных материалов (в основном неиспользуемых труб) и других твердо-бытовых отходов (из рабочих и стройплощадок), управление рабочими площадками (поселками), которое будет временными с незначительными и локализованными негативными последствиями поблизости или в ваших населенных пунктах, временная недоступность улицы / домов во время строительства, проблемы при управлении движением, отключение воды без предварительного объявления или продолжительное нарушение водоснабжения во время строительства, влияние притока рабочей силы на соседние общины. Но Настоящий Рамочный документ, а также в последующем ПУОСС предусматривают минимизацию или не допущение вышеуказанных проблем.

- Какое воздействие окажет прокладка водовода поблизости жилых домов и какие меры будут приняты, чтобы минимизировать воздействия?

В ходе Консультаций участники были досконально проинформированы относительно предусмотренных мер для минимизации воздействия, в том

числе организации подрядными предприятиями временных мостов, ограждений, запрещающих, информационных знаков и дорожно-строительных знаков. Кроме того, прокладка водоводов будет осуществляться согласно нормативных правил и требований на расстоянии не менее 5,0 метров от фундамента строений. Вместе с тем, участники Консультаций были призваны оказать всемерное содействие в агитационно-просветительских и воспитательных работах по данному вопросу среди детей и подростков по безопасности.

- Куда можно обращаться с вопросами, жалобами и предложениями по реализации Проекта?

По любым вопросам можете обращаться в Комиссию по рассмотрению жалоб и предложений при областном Хукумате, в Хукумат района, в джамоат, а также можете обращаться непосредственно в ЦУП (дополнительно продиктованы контакты).

- Когда начнутся строительные работы?

О сроках начала строительных работ будет дополнительно доведено до сведения участников Общественных консультаций.

- Возможно ли устроиться на какую-либо работу во время реализации Проекта, в том числе и в строительстве?

По данному вопросу ни каких препятствий не имеется и зависит от квалификации и специализации и можно будет обращаться непосредственно к подрядным организациям.

- Какая будет стоимость питьевой воды (тариф)?

Стоимость (тариф) на питьевую воду будет установлена после реализации Проекта в соответствии с существующим законодательством Республики Таджикистан.

В конце еще раз было отмечено, чтобы со стороны органов местного самоуправления, необходимо на постоянной основе проводить разъяснительные работы среди жителей проектных сел и джамоатов относительно воспитательной работы среди детей и подростков по правилам безопасности и удалений от строительных площадок.

СПИСОК участников Общественных Консультаций

№	Ф И О	должность	подпись
1	Турсунова Замира	Раиси маҳалла	
2	[illegible] Давлатбий	раиси ҷ.ш. Гулистон	
3	Зиёбуризода Бахриддин	Раиси Ҷ.Д. Маданият	
4	Кодиридинзода Ф.К.	раиси ҶД Калинобод	
5	Тиров Насирхон	раиси ҶД [illegible]	
6	Валихонзода Гулонхон	Раиси ҶД Золи зар	
7	Зиёбуданов И.	раиси м. Абдули	
8	Камолзода С.К.	раиси ҶД Навобод	

9	Тавалкулов М.	раиси маҳалла	[illegible]
10	Хушнудов Б	раиси маҳалла	[illegible]
11	Сафаров Ф	раиси маҳалла	[illegible]
12	Муродов Н.	раиси маҳалла	[illegible]
13	Назаров Х	р. маҳалла	[illegible]
14	Боронов Л	р. маҳалла	[illegible]
15	Саббарзода С.Д.	Раиси ҶШ Балх	[illegible]
16	Мухаббатов Н	раиси муҳтора	[illegible]
17	Закиров М	раиси маҳа	[illegible]
18	Турсов С	Сардори ЦФБЗО	[illegible]
19	Азизов А	Раиси маҳ шаҳ	[illegible]
20	Фозилов Ч	Раиси В Хатл	[illegible]
21	Рахмонов С	МД „Саркассоб Тоҷикобод"	[illegible]
22	Чаффаров З.	сард КИОН Б н Ҷ.Балхи	[illegible]
23	Иргашев Б	сармухандис	[illegible]
24	Ҷураҷонов Б	мосека ЧСК, Нахушкор	[illegible]
25		Директор ЦФИИ	[illegible]
26	—	НАҚУКОР	[illegible]
27	Ресулов Р.	сардори [illegible]	[illegible]
28	Нобуров К.С	раиси [illegible]	[illegible]
29	Курбонов	командири МИД	[illegible]
30	Неъматӣ Я	ронанда	[illegible]
31	Каримов Р	Роҳбари „Оксорина"	[illegible]
32	Кирпбоқизода М	Сардори Экологсоз	[illegible]
33	Ахзода С	намояндаи С.ЭС	[illegible]
34	Махмадмуродов С	Архитектор	[illegible]
35	Юсуфзода А	Сардори Маориф	[illegible]
36	Хасов А	КАТС	[illegible]
37	Гурезов С	Водхоз Сардор	[illegible]
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ПРОТОКОЛ

Общественных Консультаций по Проекту «Программа Инвестиций в Сектор Водоснабжения и Санитарии – Фаза 1» (ПИСВС-1), Реабилитация и модернизация Вахшской межрайонной системы водоснабжения в районе Дусти

дата: « 28 » апреля 2022 года, 17-00 часов

место проведения: Хатлонская область, район Дусти, зал заседаний Исполнительного органа государственной власти р. Дусти

Присутствовали:

представители ЦУП РМИ:

- Специалист по мониторингу ЦУП;
- Специалист по социальным вопросам ЦУП;
- Специалист по мобилизации ЦУП;
- Инженер-эколог ЦУП.

представители Консультанта (дизайнерской группы):

- директор Консорциума «Накукор – Аква Мундо»;
- ГИП проекта (Главный инженер проекта).

представители эксплуатирующей организации:

- заведующий отделом водоснабжения ГУП «ХМК»;
- директор предприятия Водоканал района Дусти;
- директор предприятия «Оби дехот» района Дусти.

представители исполнительного органа государственной власти, соответствующих районных структур и служб, председатели джамоатов и органов местного самоуправления (председатели махаллей):

- Председатель района Дусти;
- заместитель Председателя района, курирующий коммунальную сферу;
- зав отделом по архитектуре и строительству района Дусти;
- председатель Комитета по управлению земли района Дусти;
- заведующий отделом по охране окружающей среды района Дусти;
- начальник Центра санитарно-эпидемиологического надзора (СЭС);
- заведующий отделом образования района Дусти;
- отдел здравоохранения района Дусти;
- руководитель ЦЗОЖ района Дусти;
- заведующий отделом социальной защиты населения района Дусти;
- председатель комитета женщин района Дусти;
- председатель Джамоата «Дехконобод» (и председатели 13 махаллей данного джамоата), председатель Джамоата «Гулмуродов» (и председатели 13 махаллей джамоата), председатель Джамоата «20 солагии Истиклилияти Чумхурии Точикистон» (и председатели 7 махаллей данного джамоата), председатель Джамоата «Нури Вахш» (и председатели 6 махаллей данного джамоата), председатель Поселка городского типа (ПГТ) «Джиликуль» (и председатели 16 махаллей данного ПГТ).

Повестка Общественных консультаций:

Ознакомление заинтересованных сторон в целом с инженерно-техническими аспектами Проекта «Программа Инвестиций в Сектор Водоснабжения и Санитарии – Фаза 1» (ПИСВС-1) в районе Дусти, и в частности ознакомление заинтересованных сторон с Рамочным Документом по Управлению Окружающей и Социальной Средой (РДУОСС), предусмотренного к реализации в проектных зонах района Дусти.

Выступили:

1. Председатель района, который в общем ознакомил участников общественных консультаций сложившейся острой ситуацией по водоснабжению района, отметил наиболее остронуждающиеся населенные пункты и необходимости скорейшей реализации Проекта в районе. Также от своего имени и от имени Исполнительного органа государственной власти района и соответствующих районных структур и служб отметил, что будут оказывать всемерную поддержку и содействие в успешную реализацию Проекта.

2. Директор «Накукор – Аква Мундо» и ГИП Проекта в ходе своего выступления подробно ознакомили участников Общественных консультаций с технико-экономическими и инженерными показателями Проекта в части района Дусти, ориентировочными сроками реализации, характеристиками сооружений и другими аспектами Проекта.

3. Далее выступили представители ЦУП РМИ, в целом о реализации Проекта, его главных целей и задач, а также непосредственно о мероприятиях, направленных на минимизацию и предотвращения воздействия Проекта на социальные и экологические аспекты жизни населения проектных джамоатов и сел. Были отмечены основные социально-экологические риски и воздействия реализации Проекта на местное население, на местную экосистему, окружающую среду, социальные отношения, экономическое благосостояние населения, флору и фауну, доступ к коммунальным и социальным услугам.

В ходе Консультаций, в том числе было указано, что будущая деятельность по реализации Проекта, в том числе строительство инженерной инфраструктуры водоснабжения, магистральных и распределительных трубопроводов и сетей, а также других объектов системы водоснабжения и санитарии, может привести к некоторым потенциальным негативным последствиям для проектных зон, в том числе:

- загрязнение воздуха;
- шум строительной техники;
- проблемы с качеством воды;
- производство и утилизация строительных материалов (в основном

неиспользуемых труб) и других твердо-бытовых отходов (из рабочих и стройплощадок);
- управление рабочими площадками (поселками), которое будет временными с незначительными и локализованными негативными последствиями;
- временная недоступность улицы / домов, дорог во время строительства;
- управление движением;
- отключение воды без предварительного объявления или продолжительное нарушение водоснабжения во время строительства;
- возможное использование или изъятие земли (постоянное или временное);
- влияние на имущество и средства к существованию;
- влияние притока рабочей силы на соседние общины.

По каждому из указанных потенциальных воздействий участники общественных консультаций были проинформированы о предусмотренных мероприятиях для предотвращения или минимизации в рамках настоящего РДУОСС, а также ПУОСС (План управления окружающей и социальной средой), которые будут разработаны для каждого под-проекта.

Также присутствующие были ознакомлены о предусмотренных мероприятиях по информационной поддержке изменения социального поведения по вопросам ВСГ, включая аспекты МГ, строительство санитарных объектов ВСГ в социальных учреждениях, сотрудничество с лидерами махалли и формирования Координационного комитета по ВСГ для координации мероприятий по водоснабжению, формирования общественных команд здоровья и сотрудничество с сельскими медицинскими центрами для пропаганды правильных практик ежедневной гигиены сообщества, сотрудничество с преподавателями школ для эффективной реализации пакета внеклассных уроков по вопросам ВСГ и МГ в школах. Кроме этого присутствующие были проинформированы относительно вопроса обращений, жалоб и предложений по указанным рискам и воздействиям, а также в целом по вопросам реализации Проекта. Участники консультаций были ознакомлены с Механизмом рассмотрения жалоб и созданию горячей линии для обращений граждан, которая будет действовать в рамках реализации Проекта и на начальных этапах будет координироваться со стороны специалистов ЦУП.

В конце консультаций участники были проинформированы о необходимости строгого соблюдения санитарно-гигиенических мер по предотвращению острых инфекционных заболеваний, в том числе корона вирусной инфекции COVID-19, и необходимости выполнения элементарных гигиенических условий жизнедеятельности.

Также присутствующие были ознакомлены с основными положительными воздействиями от реализации Проекта, в том числе обеспечения широкого доступа населения к безопасной качественной питьевой воде, улучшения услуг санитарии, улучшения санитарно-гигиенических условий и

соответственно уменьшения инфекционных болезней, улучшение социально-экономических условий и другое.

В ходе Общественных Консультаций были заданы следующие вопросы. на которые были даны исчерпывающие ответы, в том числе:

- Проинформированы ли руководители органов местного самоуправления, в частности, и население проектных сел в целом о реализации Проекта.

Все участники Консультаций единогласно ответили, что проинформированы. Несмотря на это участники Консультаций были дополнительно и досконально проинформированы о реализации Проекта в целом (цели и задачи, а также аспекты реализации Проекта).

- Проинформированы ли руководители органов местного самоуправления, в частности, и население проектных сел в целом о видах строительных работ в пределах населенных пунктов (сел), в том числе по прокладке водоводов и распределительных сетей в рамках реализации Проекта?

Председатели махаллей (сел) отметили, что проинформированы, однако были заданы вопросы по предполагаемым трассам водоводов и распределительных сетей, их размерам, срокам прокладки трубопроводов, на которые получили соответствующие ответы от представителей проектной организации и ЦУП.

- Попадают ли в зоне влияния Проекта жилые здания, домохозяйства, сады и огороды?

В ходе проектных работ одним из основных условий было предотвращение или максимальная минимизация влияния Проекта на жилые здания, домохозяйства, сады и огороды. На данный момент можно констатировать, что возможно на некоторых участках временное использование (1-2 месяца) земли согласно соответствующим соглашениям сервитут. Более конкретно будет известно в ходе социально-экологического скрининга под-проектов.

- Какие неудобства или воздействия могут быть при реализации Проекта, то есть при строительных работах?

Еще раз проинформировали, что при реализации Проекта могут возникнуть следующие проблемы, в том числе загрязнение воздуха, шум строительной техники, проблемы с качеством воды, производство и утилизация строительных материалов (в основном неиспользуемых труб) и других твердо-бытовых отходов (из рабочих и стройплощадок), управление рабочими площадками (поселками), которое будет временными с незначительными и локализованными негативными последствиями поблизости или в ваших населенных пунктах, временная недоступность улицы / домов во время строительства, проблемы при управлении движением, отключение воды без предварительного объявления или продолжительное нарушение водоснабжения во время строительства, влияние притока рабочей силы на соседние общины. Но Настоящий Рамочный документ, а также в последующем ПУОСС предусматривают минимизацию или не допущение вышеуказанных проблем.

- Какое воздействие окажет прокладка водовода поблизости жилых домов и какие меры будут приняты, чтобы минимизировать воздействия?

В ходе Консультаций участники были досконально проинформированы относительно предусмотренных мер для минимизации воздействия, в том

числе организации подрядными предприятиями временных мостов, ограждений, запрещающих, информационных знаков и дорожно-строительных знаков. Кроме того, прокладка водоводов будет осуществляться согласно нормативных правил и требований на расстоянии не менее 5,0 метров от фундамента строений. Вместе с тем, участники Консультаций были призваны оказать всемерное содействие в агитационно-просветительских и воспитательных работах по данному вопросу среди детей и подростков по безопасности.

- Куда можно обращаться с вопросами, жалобами и предложениями по реализации Проекта?

По любым вопросам можете обращаться в Комиссию по рассмотрению жалоб и предложений при областном Хукумате, в Хукумат района, в джамоат, а также можете обращаться непосредственно в ЦУП (дополнительно продиктованы контакты).

- Когда начнутся строительные работы?

О сроках начала строительных работ будет дополнительно доведено до сведения участников Общественных консультаций.

- Возможно ли устроиться на какую-либо работу во время реализации Проекта, в том числе и в строительстве?

По данному вопросу ни каких препятствий не имеется и зависит от квалификации и специализации и можно будет обращаться непосредственно к подрядным организациям.

- Какая будет стоимость питьевой воды (тариф)?

Стоимость (тариф) на питьевую воду будет установлена после реализации Проекта в соответствии с существующим законодательством Республики Таджикистан.

В конце еще раз было отмечено, чтобы со стороны органов местного самоуправления, необходимо на постоянной основе проводить разъяснительные работы среди жителей проектных сел и джамоатов относительно воспитательной работы среди детей и подростков по правилам безопасности и удалении от строительных площадок.

СПИСОК участников Общественных Консультаций

№	Ф И О	должность	подпись
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9	Бобокулова Махри	[illegible]	[illegible]
10	Устоизода Рузигул	Директори ДКТК	[illegible]
11	[illegible]	[illegible] Б/С	[illegible]
12	Юнусова Айгул	Т.Турсунзода Б/С	[illegible]
13	Джумаева З	Б/с Мехргон	[illegible]
14	[illegible] Ч	Б/с [illegible]	[illegible]
15	Зумаева М.	М/Б/с Т Наб	[illegible]
16	Кадирова М	Т/с Боги мехрон	[illegible]
17	Мухаммадова Т	Б/С Нурпоф	[illegible]
18	Шайтмарданова А	Б/С [illegible]	[illegible]
19	Шарова М	Б/С Акка тол	[illegible]
20	Зокирова З	Б/с Гулистон	[illegible]
21	Одинаева Оиша	Б/с Розинобод	[illegible]
22	Усмонова [illegible]	мактаби [illegible]	[illegible]
23	Рахмонов Дустмурод	3/9. [illegible]	[illegible]
24	[illegible]	3/с Нури Ватан	[illegible]
25	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
26	Мамасаидова С	Раиси МаХал	[illegible]
27	Рустамов Ф	Муд. бах. [illegible]	[illegible]
28	[illegible] С	Раиси Ч/д Навбахор	[illegible]
29	[illegible] А	[illegible]	[illegible]
30	[illegible]	[illegible] Нур [illegible]	[illegible]
31	[illegible] Ф.	Дехконобод	[illegible]
32	[illegible] Р	3/ва 20 сол ИСТ	[illegible]
33	Умаров Файзиддин	Мухити зист.	[illegible]
34	Халимов Абдусалом	СЭС	[illegible]
35	Мохмадсаидзода Ш	Муд. маориф	[illegible]
36	Шарипов Бозор	КЯТС.	[illegible]
37	Алинов Амирхамза	Водхоз	[illegible]
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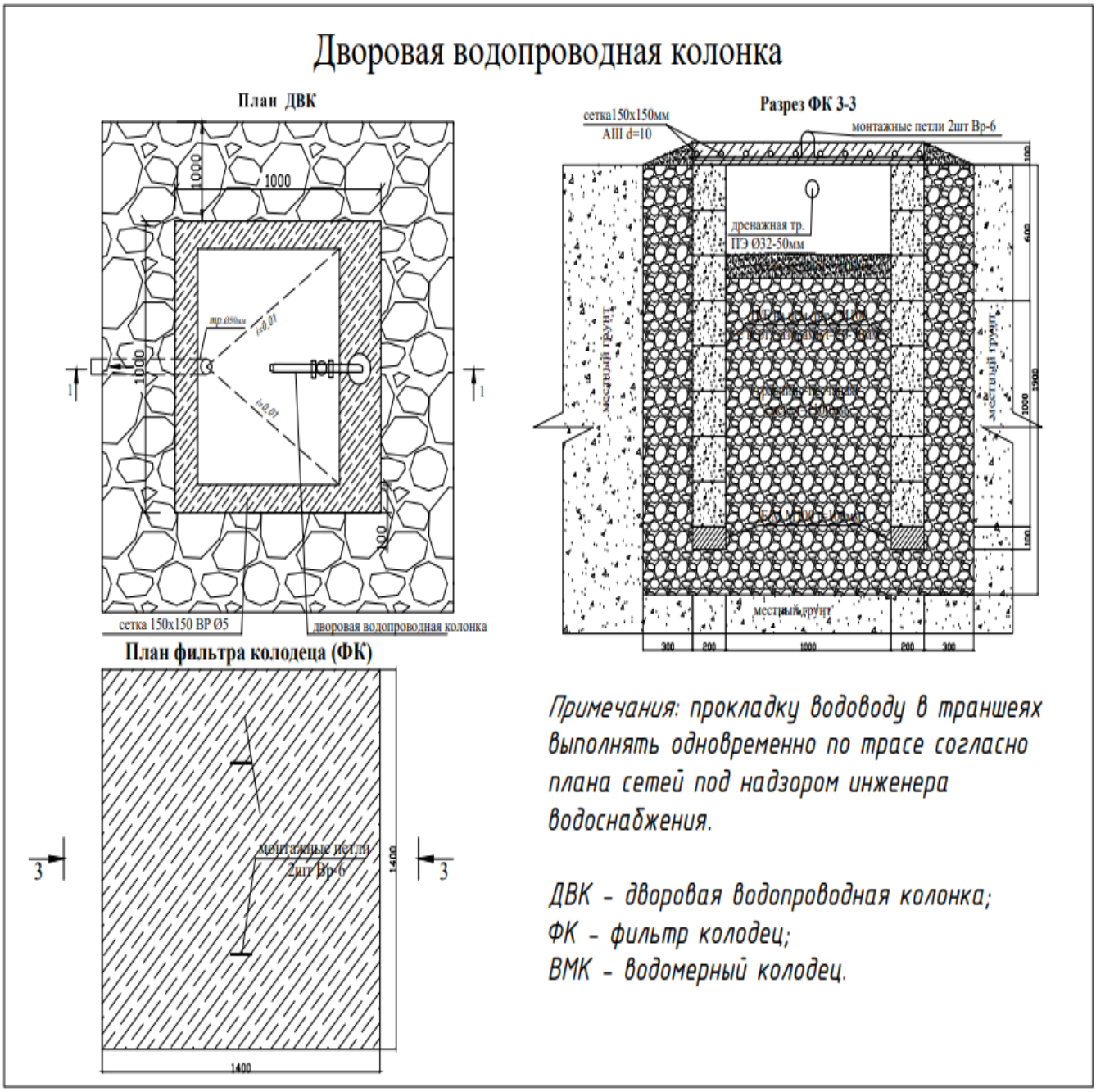
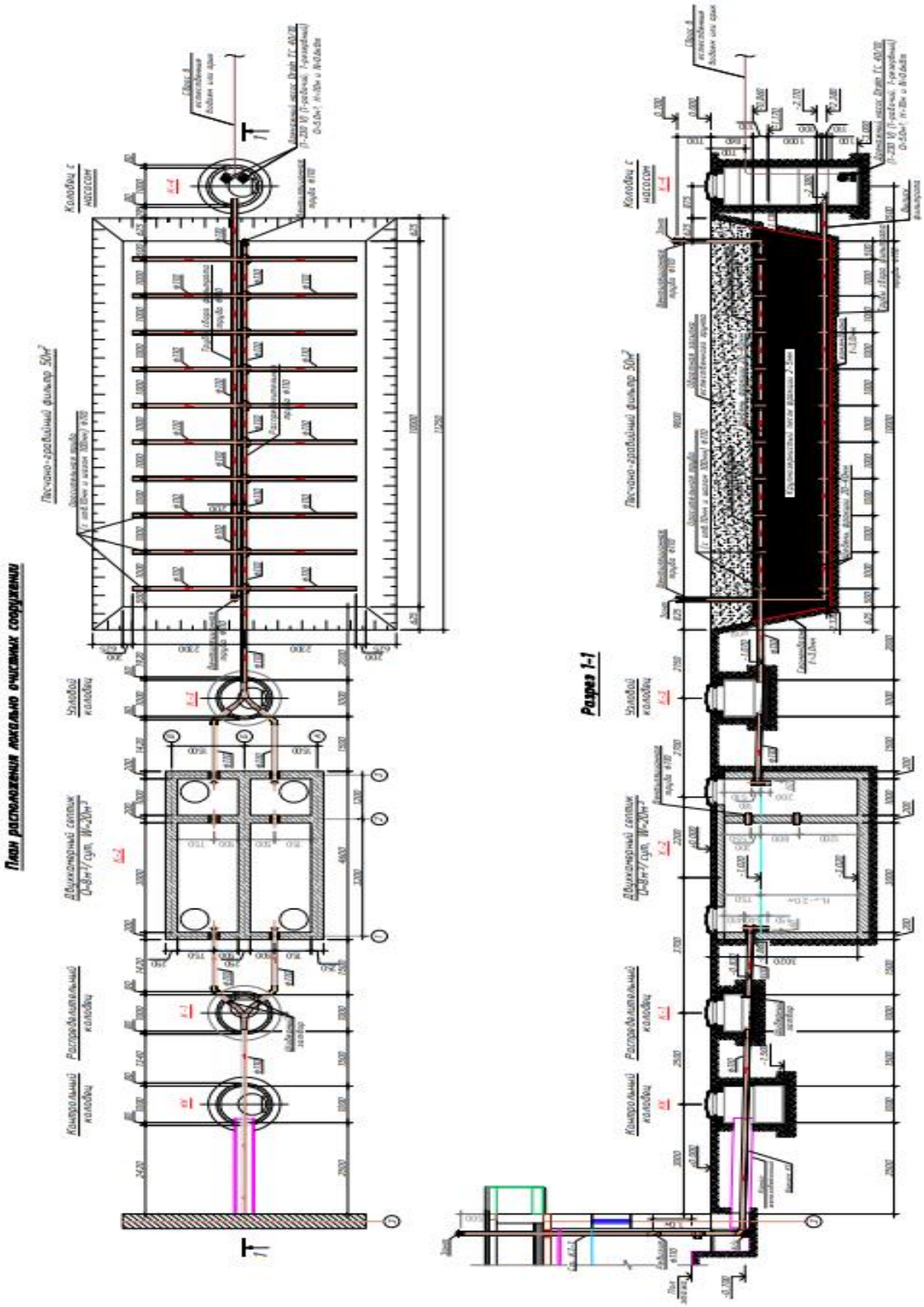
ANNEX 14. Yard water column, with an absorption filter well



ANNEX 15. The layout of the local treatment facilities of the school No. 55 of the Vose district



ANNEX 16. Scheme - section of the existing PRT (pressure-regulating tank) Toskala in the Vose district