

JSDF Grant Project for Enhancing Economic Opportunities for Rural Women

**Environmental Management Framework (EMF)
Manual on conducting environmental impact assessment
and Environmental Management Plan**

In accordance with national legislation of Uzbekistan and
Economic and Social Policy of the World Bank

Prepared for:

Project Management Unit within the State Committee on Family and Women's Affairs

Tashkent, 12 September 2022 (revisions to the Implementing Agency)

1. Introduction and Project Background

1. This document was prepared for the **JSDF Grant Project for the Economic Empowerment of Rural Women in Uzbekistan (Project)**. The Project is implemented by the State Committee on Family and Women's Affairs (hereinafter referred to as *SCFWA*) and is funded by the World Bank (WB). The purpose of the **Environmental Management Framework (EMF)** is to summarize the expected environmental risks and impacts of the Project and to provide a system for monitoring and managing such impacts during Project implementation. In addition, this Framework describes the institutional roles and responsibilities for **managing environmental risks** within the Project. Issues such as social risks and measures to prevent them, as well as feedback and grievance redress mechanisms through which citizens and other stakeholders can interact with the Project will be described in the Project Operations Manual.

2. **The Project development objective.** The JSDF Grant Project for Enhancing Economic Opportunities for Rural Women aims to increase economic opportunities for rural women in the Project areas through skills development and improved access to grant financing and markets.

3. **Three components** to achieve the development goal are as follows:

- **Component 1: Women's Livelihood Group Formation and Enterprise Support.** This Component will support through the technical assistance, training and capacity building of SCFWA staff, Mahalla Citizens Assembly (MCA) members, and Women's Livelihood Groups (**WLGs**) in the following areas, but not limited to; (i) gender sensitive community outreach, (ii) WLG formation, (iii) group savings and livelihoods skills training, and (iv) enterprise support. Group based approach provides efficiencies in mobilization, outreach and provision of necessary information, referral services and skills development support. Each WLG formed will consist of 5-8 women, and WLGs will serve as the institutional basis through which to enable women to overcome norms that constrain their economic activity, and acquire the skills, assets (beginning with group savings), and services needed to access financing and markets.
- **Component 2: Business development support services and micro entrepreneurship support grants.** This Component will support: (a) provision of micro entrepreneurship support grants that will support livelihood activities; and (b) technical assistance training and capacity building for business development. This component will provide the business development support tailored to individual level production activities, while utilizing the WLGs as platforms to provide the support needed. The grant mechanism will be designed to primarily support individual level activities, but the mechanism will remain flexible so that group-based enterprise proposal/grant application can be submitted by women who prefer to engage in a group-based enterprise. Within the framework of this component, it is planned to provide grants to individual entrepreneurs or groups of entrepreneurs to implement the following types of activities (the preliminary list may be expanded):
 - Small backyard greenhouses
 - Small cold storage for agro-produce
 - Small-scale processing of crop and livestock products, including dairy
 - Small intensive gardens, demonstration plots
 - Small textiles production
 - Bakeries
 - Horticulture

- Poultry production
- Apiculture
- Handicrafts
- Small-scale home based kindergarten
- Beauty salons
- Small private hotels to develop tourism
- Other types of retailing and business.

- **Component 3: Project Management, Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E), Knowledge Dissemination.** This Component will support (a) Project management activities, including overall coordination and supervision of Project implementation; hiring of consultants for the PMU; managing a grievance redress mechanism (GRM); Project audits; and financing of Incremental Operating Costs; (b) Project monitoring, evaluation and learning (ME&L) activities including Management and Information System (MIS) platform development for transparency, and citizen feedback; and (c) knowledge dissemination

4. **Location of the Project.** The Project will be open to beneficiaries located in two regions of Uzbekistan: **Jizzakh and Ferghana regions.**

5. **Potential environmental risks and impacts of the Project.** The implementation of the Project will provide socio-economic benefits through the creation and maintenance of the necessary infrastructure. However, some activities may lead to adverse impacts, which will require the Project to implement essential systems of preliminary environmental and social assessment, mitigation and monitoring. **Environmental adverse impacts are mainly expected from activities under Component 2** and this document aims to provide a preliminary analysis and identification of environmental risk management tools specifically. The social assessment system will be included into the Project Operations Manual and managed through other tools.

6. **Environmental risks and impacts** are mainly related to the **small-scale construction and/or renovation** phase of the planned sub-projects under Component 2. These can include waste generation, noise, dust and air pollution, water and soil pollution, exposure to possible pesticide use, risks to the health and safety of the public and workers. Other environmental risks associated with the Project implementation relate to the handling of hazardous materials and waste. It is possible that the Project activities will include the demolition of existing buildings with asbestos-containing roofs. To mitigate this impact, a template for a Special Asbestos-Containing Materials Management Plan is provided in the EMF (**Annex 7**). The specific requirements for pesticides management for the Project activities in demonstration plots and gardens are also reflected in the Pest Management Plan presented in **Annex 6**. All impacts are expected to be typical of small-scale construction/restoration work, temporary in nature and site-specific, and can be mitigated by applying best construction practices and appropriate mitigation measures.

2. **The Scale and Objectives of the Environmental Management Framework (EMF)**

7. The EMF provides guidelines for the development of appropriate measures to mitigate environmental impacts and compensate for the negative impacts caused by project activities. This document summarizes the background/context, policy and regulatory framework, and the environmental and social impacts of possible sub-projects. This includes procedures and guidelines for Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), institutional arrangements, consultations and disclosure procedures.

8. The EMF will determine the EIA process and cover the following:
 - (i) rules and procedures for the environmental and social preliminary assessment of project activities and sub-projects to be supported under the Project;
 - (ii) guidelines for conducting sub-project EIA and/or preparing a simple EMP or an EMP Checklist that would include monitoring plans;
 - (iii) measures to mitigate possible impacts of the proposed sub-projects;
 - (iv) safety measures for the use of pesticides, as well as the Template for the Pest Management Plan (PMP);
 - (v) institutional implementation and monitoring mechanisms for EIA/EMP within the SCFWA and its regional divisions;
 - (vi) training programme on environmental issues under Component 2, in particular in the areas of sustainable water and land use; integrated pest management; environmental risk and impact management in the livestock sector, etc.

3. National Requirements to Environmental Assessment

9. The Project is subject to the requirements of environmental assessment of both the Republic of Uzbekistan and the World Bank. This section briefly describes the requirements of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

10. The national EIA procedure is regulated by the Law “On Environmental Expertise” and the Regulation “On State Environmental Expertise” (SEE), approved by the Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers No 541 from September 7, 2020. The Resolution formulates the legal requirements for EIA in Uzbekistan. According to the Resolution, SEE is a type of environmental expertise carried out by specialized professional units in order to establish the compliance of the planned activities with environmental requirements and the definitions of the admissibility of the implementation of the object of environmental expertise.

11. The state environmental expertise is carried out by the following specialized professional units of the State Committee on Ecology and Environmental Protection:

- The Center for State Environmental Expertise under the State Committee on Ecology, hereinafter referred to as the “Center for State Environmental Expertise”;
- Centers for State Environmental Expertise of the Republic of Karakalpakstan, regions and the city of Tashkent, hereinafter referred to as “Territorial Centers for State Environmental Expertise”.

12. The Center for State Environmental Expertise carries out the state environmental expertise of the EIA of economic activities objects belonging to the Category I and II of environmental impact (**high and substantial risk**);

13. Territorial Centers of the State Ecological Expertise carry out environmental expertise of the EIA of economic activities objects of belonging to the Category III and IV of environmental impact (**moderate and low risk**).

4. World Bank Environmental and Social Standards and their requirements

14. The World Bank is committed to supporting Borrowers in the design and implementation

of projects that are environmentally and socially sustainable, and to strengthening 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 specific Environmental and Social Standards (ESS) that are designed to prevent, minimize, reduce or mitigate adverse environmental and social risks and impacts of projects.

15. Ten Environmental and Social Standards (ESS) are the following:

- ESS 1. Assessment and Management of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts;
- 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 (not applicable in the current Project);
- ESS 6. Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Management of Living Natural Resources (not applicable in the current Project);
- ESS 7. Indigenous Peoples/Sub-Saharan African Historically Underserved Traditional Local Communities (not applicable in the current Project);
- ESS 8. Cultural Heritage (not applicable in the current Project);
- ESS 9. Financial Intermediaries (not applicable in the current Project);
- ESS 10. Stakeholder Engagement and Information Disclosure.

16. The requirements of these ESSs and their implications for the current Project are presented in the Table below.

Environmental and Social Standards (ESS)	Relevance Rate	Main Requirements	Implications for the current Project
ESS 1. Assessment and Management of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts	Relevant	<p>ESS 1 sets out the Borrower's responsibilities for assessing, managing and monitoring environmental and social risks and impacts associated with the project.</p> <p>In accordance with the requirements of this standard, the ESIA should be conducted on the basis of current information, including the description and definition of the project and any relevant aspects, as well as baseline data on the environment and social level at an appropriate level of detail sufficient to inform the characterization and identification of risks and impacts and mitigation</p>	<p>Environmental risks and impacts are mainly related to the construction/renovation phase of the planned sub-projects. They may include waste generation, noise, dust and air pollution, water and soil pollution, impacts from possible pesticide use, and risks to the health and safety of the public and workers. Other environmental risks associated with the Project are related to the handling of hazardous materials and waste. It is possible that the Project activities will include the demolition of existing buildings with asbestos-containing roofs. To mitigate this impact, a template for a Special Asbestos-Containing Material Management Plan is provided in the EMF. The specific requirements for pesticides management for Project activities in demonstration</p>

		measures.	areas and gardens are also reflected in the Pest Management Plan provided in the Annexes. All impacts are expected to be typical of small-scale construction/restoration work, temporary in nature and site-specific, and can be mitigated by applying best construction practices and appropriate mitigation measures.
ESS 2. Labor and Working Conditions	Relevant	<p>ESS 2 recognizes the importance of job places creation and income generation in the pursuit of poverty reduction and inclusive economic growth.</p> <p>ESS 2 is applied to project workers, including full-time, part-time, temporary, seasonal, and migrant workers.</p> <p>Taking into account the specified requirements, the Borrower shall develop and implement written labor management procedures applicable to the project. These procedures shall set out the way in which project workers will be managed, in accordance with the requirements of national legislation and the current ESS.</p>	<p>The Project involves direct workers (employees of the State Committee on Family and Women’s Affairs (SCFWA)), as well as contract workers (employees of contractors). Primary suppliers are likely to include suppliers of manufacturing materials and other equipment.</p> <p>Primary suppliers are likely to include suppliers of materials for seed production and various resources for farmers. The SCFWA PMU is responsible for raising awareness about these provisions among relevant stakeholders (e.g. local khokimiyats and communities) and monitoring of compliance therewith. For this purpose, the PMU has prepared Labor Management Procedures (LMP) under Project’s Operations Manual (POM) for the Project, that describes the types of employees, the key elements of the national labor policy and rules, and the gaps in the ESS 2, as well as the human resources management tools to be adopted during the Project.</p>
ESS 3. Resource Efficiency and Pollution Prevention and Management	Relevant	<p>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 services and the environment at the local, regional, and global levels. More efficient and effective resource use, pollution prevention and GHG emission avoidance, and mitigation technologies and practices have become more accessible and achievable.</p> <p>This ESS sets out the requirements to address resource efficiency and</p>	<p>The EMF includes sections on pollution prevention and management, with a focus on issues that may arise during civil works for the construction or reconstruction of the objects. The assessment of the construction risks and impacts of the civil works and the proposed mitigation measures related to the relevant ESS 3 requirements, including raw materials, water use, air pollution, hazardous materials and hazardous waste, were included in the relevant EMP.</p> <p>In addition, the training program for the Component 2 activities focuses on, among other things, resource efficiency (water, agrochemical, land, energy, etc.).</p>

		pollution prevention and management throughout the project life cycle consistent with good international industry practice.	
ESS 4. Community Health and Safety	Relevant	<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>To address environmental risks and impacts that may affect public health and safety, the EMF includes work-related health risks assessment; work and road safety; excessive noise and dust levels, site safety awareness and access restrictions; and labor influx. All of these issues should have been included in the EMP and required that fencing be installed around all construction sites and areas where there is a risk to public health and safety.</p> <p>The PMU of the SCFWA, as well as all contractors, will have developed and adhere to the Codes of Conduct, including requirements for respectful behavior and interaction with local communities and in the workplace, prohibition of participation in illegal activities, sexual exploitation and abuse or sexual harassment (SEA/SH), forced or child labor. Additional actions to prevent and mitigate the risks of SEA/SH to be carried out by the SCFWA include the establishment of a grievance redress mechanism related to SEA, training and awareness-raising for staff, contractors and local communities.</p>
ESS 5. Land Acquisition, Restrictions on Land Use and Involuntary Resettlement	Not applicable	-	According to the preliminary assessment, no new land acquisition or land use restrictions are expected as all civil works or installation of new equipment will take place on existing private plots.
ESS 6, 7, 8, 9	Not applicable	-	According to the preliminary assessment, the standards of the ESS 6 (Biodiversity), ESS 7 (Indigenous Peoples), ESS 8 (Cultural Heritage) and ESS 9 (Financial Intermediaries) will not be brought up during the project implementation.
ESS 10. Stakeholder Engagement and Information	Relevant	This ESS recognizes the importance of open and transparent engagement between the Borrower and	The parties affected by the Project include rural entrepreneurs (e.g. homestead owners, other activities), and the general public in the communities in which the

Disclosure		<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>Project activities will be carried out. Persons who are directly affected by the Project will be considered those whose activities may directly depend on the Project. Other stakeholders include local authorities, representatives of the agro-industrial sector, and central-level authorities, including: the Ministry of Agriculture; Council of Farmers, Dehkan Farms and Homesteads; State Inspection on Plant Quarantine; Agricultural Inspection; Research Institutes and others.</p>
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5. Preliminary review of sub-project activities and identification of environmental assessment tools.

17. Before making a decision on the inclusion of a sub-project in the program, a safeguards (environmental) expert from the PMU of the SCFWA will check the acceptability of the sub-project in relation to the IFIs’ list of exceptions (Annex 1). There should be a general register of funded sub-projects maintained by their environmental risk categories.

18. After that, the environmental category of the project should be determined in accordance with Resolution of the CoM No. 541 on the State Environmental Expertize and the World Bank classification, as per the following comparative system:

WB (High risk, Substantial risk, Moderate risk, and Low risk)	Uzbekistan (I-IV)
High risk	Category I
Substantial risk	Category II
Moderate risk	Category III-IV
Low risk	IV or Not listed in Annex 1 of the Resolution of the CoM №541 from 2020

19. This stage will represent a preliminary environmental assessment and the Preliminary Environmental Checklist (Annex 2) will be filled in.

20. If the sub-project is classified as HR (WB) category, equivalent to Category I (Uzbekistan), and/or SR (WB category, equivalent to Category II (Uzbekistan), it should be excluded from the Project. It is expected that supported sub-projects will not be associated with the above-mentioned circumstances and, accordingly, will not have significant environmental and social impacts.

21. Potential impact of a project depends not only on the type of activity, but also on the location of the sub-project. Thus, there are several types of location which should be considered when making a decision [upgrading project's risk category](#):

- ✓ in sensitive and valuable ecosystems or near wetlands, virgin lands and habitats of endangered species,
- ✓ in or near areas with archaeological and/or historical sites or existing cultural and social institutions,
- ✓ in densely populated areas where relocation might be needed or where a potential pollution impacts and other disturbances may significantly affect communities,
- ✓ in regions subject to heavy development activities or where there are conflicts in the distribution of natural resources; along watercourses, in recharge zones of aquifers or in catchment areas used to supply drinking water; and on lands or waters containing valuable resources (such as fisheries, minerals, medicinal plants, primary agricultural soils).

22. After the preliminary assessment process confirms ([Preliminary Environmental Checklist is filled](#)) that the proposed sub-project is eligible for inclusion in the Program, the environmental expert of the PMU will identify the necessary tools for Environmental Assessment. As mentioned above, only sub-projects of the [MR and LR](#) categories can create some [environmental impacts](#) that can be eliminated by applying certain mitigation measures.

23. There are some differences in project classification and required actions between the WB ESS 1 and national environmental legislation. In accordance with the national legislation environmental assessment and no further action is required for existing facilities, if: (i) planned reconstruction/repair of some objects will be carried out without expanding the territory of objects to be built, and (ii) during operation stage consumption of natural resources and generation of wastes, discharges and emissions will not increase. The legislation does not require preparation of a separate EMP or any other environmental documents/plans/checklists.

24. The WB ESS 1 requires the development of a separate EMP checklist for activities that have a low environmental impact. Taking into account that more stringent requirements need to be applied for this Project, for the sub-projects/activities that are not included in the list of mandatory SEE, but activities that have a low level of impact ([category MR and LR with localized impact](#)), the development of an EMP checklist is required.

25. In the case of sub-projects that do not require or require only minor construction work, or that will have no environmental or social impact at all (for example, the acquisition of vehicles or other equipment), the sub-project will qualify as an LR Category that does not require further ESA activities. The Table below shows the proposed project activities and suggests their environmental protection category along with the environmental and social assessment (ESA) tools that can be applied.

26. Templates of the applied ESA means/tools are provided in the Annexes to this document.

N	Project Components and Activities	WB	UZB	Required Action
1	Small-scale new construction, or renovation, repair, rehabilitation of existing buildings	MR	III or IV	<p>Filling in the Environmental Checklist (EC)</p> <p>New or existing buildings – draft EIS or EIS including EMP elements/EMP checklist elements (including information disclosure and public consultations)</p> <p>If no EIS required by local legislation, then EMP checklist (including information disclosure and public consultations)</p>
2	Minor renovation/reconstruction (both new and existing objects)	LR	IV or none	No further action after completing the Environmental Checklist (EC) upon conclusion that no or very minimal impacts
3	Provision of manufacturing facilities Provision of office equipment	LR	IV or none	<p>Filling in the Environmental Checklist (EC)- to determine possible environmental or health/safety impact</p> <p>EMP Checklist, if needed, otherwise no additional document</p>

27. The World Bank ESS 10 requires open and transparent engagement with project stakeholders as an important element of international best practices. During the course of the project, it is necessary to identify the range of stakeholders and determine the methods of working with them. To do this, a Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) will be developed. The principle of interaction with stakeholders should also be taken into account in the preparation of environmental documents. For this purpose, the requirement to disclose information about the sub-project and conduct public consultations with direct stakeholders will be included in the environmental documentation development stage (draft EIS, EIS or EMP). According to the national legislation, for projects with high (Category I) and significant (Category II) environmental impacts, public consultation meetings should be conducted. By the WB ESF, engagement with stakeholders shall be carried out meaningfully throughout the project cycle, commencing at project design stage. The nature, scope and frequency of stakeholder consultations will be proportionate to the nature and scale of the project and its potential risks and impacts. This EMF is guided by the most stringent requirements, hence for Moderate and Low risk subprojects, the SCFWA PMU and the Beneficiaries shall ensure that the public (affected parties, relevant stakeholders) has been notified of the activities/ planned works through appropriate communication in media and/or at publicly accessible places (including the site of the activities/ works)- in a proportionate manner, and meaningfully.

28. The initial implementing agency- Ministry for Mahalla support and Family Affairs disclosed the current document, along with Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) and conducted disclosure/stakeholder consultations in the project regions on January 28th and January 29th, 2021. Stakeholders such as regional departments for SCFWA, district staff, officials of the Regional Department of Ecology and Environmental Protection, regional federation of trade unions,

chairpersons and their deputies of mahalla assemblies, representatives of local NGOs participated in the meetings in both regions. The meeting collected important views of stakeholders with regards to project activities, pertinent types of entrepreneurship in focus regions, district representation, infrastructural issues, etc. The EMP document and its provisions were presented to the participants by the Environmental Expert of the previous Implementing Agency and didn't receive any objections.

29. Environmental expert of the PMU of the SCFWA will be responsible for including this activity and detailed information into the environmental assessment.

30. Environmental expert of the PMU of the SCFWA assists in the preparation of the necessary documents and submission of an application from beneficiaries to conduct environmental expertise in accordance with the Resolution of the CoM №541 (if needed).

31. If the submitted documents meet the established requirements, then specialized professional units of the State Committee of Ecology provide confirmation on payment for the services for environmental expertise. Such payments are paid within the project budget.

If the submitted documents do not meet the established requirements, the specialized professional units of the State Committee of Ecology make decision on additional documents to be provided and inform the applicant thereof.

32. In accordance with the paragraph 58 of the Regulations on State Environmental Expertise, the following payment amounts are established for conducting environmental expertise:

for Category I – 25 times the size of the base value;

for Category II – 15 times the size of the base value;

for Category III – 7.5 times the size of the base value;

for Category IV – 0.5 times the size of the base value.

33. There is also an additional payment of 30% of the established tariff by category for the examination of standard technical documentation. All costs regarding receiving the environmental expertise conclusions will be paid within the project budget.

N	Project Components and Activities	Types of Possible Works	Anticipated Social and Environmental Risks and Impacts	Proposed Measures for Prevention/ Mitigation of Negative Impacts
COMPONENT 2: Business development support services a micro entrepreneurship support grants				
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Small backyard greenhouses - Small cold storage for agro-produce - Small-scale facilities to process agro-produce, including dairy - Small intensive gardens, demonstration plots - Small textiles production - Bakeries - Horticulture - Poultry production - Apiculture - Handicrafts - Small-scale home based kindergarten - Beauty salons 	<p>Small-scale new construction, renovation, repair, rehabilitation of existing buildings</p>	<p>Waste generation; dust pollution; noise pollution; heavy traffic; blocked access; construction site accidents;</p> <p>Damage to existing underground infrastructure, such as electrical and communication cables, water and sewer systems, and other linear communications.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Prior to the start of restoration work in a building where asbestos-containing materials are present in the roof and thermal insulation, develop an Asbestos-Containing Materials Management Plan for each site in accordance with the Annex 7. ✓ Separate waste into recyclable and non-recyclable; ✓ Recyclable waste shall be transferred/sold to the relevant organizations; ✓ Non-recyclable waste shall be disposed of in municipal landfills; ✓ Avoid waste storage outside the territory of the object; ✓ Ensure timely disposal of all waste from the site of the object under construction (within 1 day). ✓ Spread water on the construction sites and roads within settlements during the dry season; ✓ Cover the transported bulk material;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Small private hotels to develop tourism - Other types of retailing and business. 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Limit the speed of vehicles when driving inside settlements – to no more than 40 km/h; ✓ In cases where construction/restoration works lead to the significant dust emissions that may cause inconvenience to the public – use a dust screen. ✓ Construction works that create noise should only be carried out from 7:00 to 19:00; ✓ Limit the speed for vehicles within settlements ✓ The contractor shall provide an alternative road to bypass the construction site, if any ✓ The contractor shall organize the works in such a way as not to block access to residential buildings, income-generating assets and public facilities. ✓ The contractor shall consider some mitigation measures to prevent or reduce safety risks, in particular, to ensure the use of personal protective equipment, safety training for workers, proper training for workers operating large equipment, proper licensing and inspection of construction equipment,
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				<p>availability of first aid kits and fire-fighting equipment on site, fencing of active work areas.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Use the utility survey map to identify existing underground utilities along the corridor prior to the start of excavation works to prevent damage and destruction of utility networks
2	See above	<p>Provision of manufacturing facilities (both new and existing)</p> <p>Provision of office equipment and essential supplies</p>	Waste of packaging materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Separate waste into recyclable and non-recyclable; ✓ Recyclable waste shall be transferred/sold to the relevant organizations; ✓ Properly store, handle and dispose of chemicals
3	<p>Small intensive gardens, demonstration plots</p> <p>Small backyard greenhouses</p>	<p>Laying out and maintenance</p> <p>Establishment and/or modernization of irrigation infrastructure</p>	<p>Risk of trees and vegetation loss when setting up or upgrading irrigation infrastructure</p> <p>Soil degradation</p> <p>Soil contamination due to the use of chemicals (pesticides and mineral fertilizers)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Avoid cutting down trees as much as possible. If felling of trees is unavoidable, compensate for losses in accordance with the Resolution of the CoM No290 from 2014; ✓ The top layer of soil with a depth of about 30 cm should be removed and stored separately during the excavation, and after the completion of the main construction,

				<p>the same soil should be placed on top, on unpaved areas;</p> <p>✓ Develop a Pest Management Plan for the use of pesticides and herbicides</p>
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6. Institutional Mechanisms to Implement EIA/EMP (EMF) Mechanisms and Training Plan (Study Program).

34. According to an internal Order of the SCFWA from June 24, 2022, a Working Group was established with the authority to prepare the Project activities. There were members of the Working Group also approved/appointed, including an environmental expert – safeguards specialist. The project will furthermore establish a PMU to implement the project, which will be staffed by full time consultants including environmental specialist and community mobilization/social safeguard specialist.

35. The Working Group is the main coordinating body of the Project and according to the Order, its main responsibilities are to:

- develop documentation for the Project preparation and implementation;
- solve technical and organizational issues;
- ensure timely and high-quality Project execution;
- conduct Project procurement and tenders;
- perform other organizational matters.

36. The Project will be implemented at the central and local levels, through regional units that will work closely with the Project beneficiaries as well as local governments.

37. The main responsibilities of the environmental expert - safeguards specialist of the Working Group include environmental and social assessment of potential sub-projects, determination of the necessary environmental permits, monitoring of the implementation of environmental measures during construction and reconstruction, preparation of reports.

38. **Training Plan (Study Program).** The implementation of the EMF requires special knowledge from the beneficiaries and all Project participants at each stage of the Project. To ensure effective implementation of the Project and clear understanding of the Project safeguards requirements, the Project offers a capacity-building training program.

39. The program includes training in both the general principles of the World Bank environmental policy, relevant national legislation, and some specific aspects relevant to this Project. It is planned to provide training and information on topics such as the EMF implementation, EMF/EMP reporting, and on specific topics such as pesticides use in agriculture, integrated pest management, processing, storage and disposal of chemicals.

40. For these purposes, the PMU may hire particular professional consultants (local or international), contact relevant professional organizations or institutions, or conduct training seminars on its own.

41. The environmental expert – safeguards specialist of the Working Group shall in a timely manner prepare a capacity-building plan with a preliminary budget according to the following template and approve the Plan with the Project Manager:

	Training Topic	Time/Date and Expected Duration of Training	Target Group	Organizer	Cost Estimate

7. ANNEXES

Annex 1. Exclusion list

The Exclusion List defines the types of projects that WB does not finance.

The WB does not finance the following projects:

- Production or trade in any product or activity deemed illegal under host country laws or regulations or international conventions and agreements, or subject to international bans, such as pharmaceuticals, pesticides/herbicides, ozone depleting substances, PCBs, wildlife or products regulated under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species.
- Production or trade in weapons and munitions.
- Production or trade in alcoholic beverages (excluding beer and wine).
- Production or trade in tobacco.
- Gambling, casinos and equivalent enterprises.
- Production or trade in radioactive materials. This does not apply to the purchase of medical equipment, quality control (measurement) equipment and any equipment where IFC considers the radioactive source to be trivial and/or adequately shielded.
- Production or trade in unbonded asbestos fibers. This does not apply to purchase and use of bonded asbestos cement sheeting where the asbestos content is less than 20%.
- Drift net fishing in the marine environment using nets in excess of 2.5 km. in length.

A reasonableness check will be applied when the activities of the project company would have a significant development impact, but circumstances of the country require adjustment to the Exclusion List.

Annex 2. Preliminary Environmental Checklist

(to be filled by environmental specialist - safeguard expert from the PMU of the State Committee on Family and Women's Affairs or his/her authorized person based on the application of the beneficiary and the results of preliminary environmental assessment)

1. Environmental Category of the sub-project (HR (I), SR (II), MR (III-IV) or LR (IV or none)) _____
(if the project is classified as HR and/or SR, there is no need to fill in the following items - the sub-project cannot be included in the Project)

To determine the project category in accordance with the WB scoring, use the below table (Screening Classification):

WB Category	Category (Uzbekistan) (CoM Resolution #541 (2020), Annex 2)
High Risk (HR)	I, II
Substantial Risk(SR)	II
Moderate Risk (MR)	III-IV
Low Risk(LR)	IV or Not included in Annex 2 of the CoM Resolution #541 (2020)

2. Will the implementation of the Project be conducted:

- in sensitive and valuable ecosystems or near wetlands, virgin lands and habitats of endangered species - ____ (Yes or No)
- in or near areas with archaeological and/or historical sites or existing cultural and social institutions - ____ (Yes or No)
- in densely populated areas where relocation might be needed or where a potential pollution impacts and other disturbances may significantly affect communities ____ (Yes or No)
- in regions subject to heavy development activities or where there are conflicts in the distribution of natural resources; along watercourses, in recharge zones of aquifers or in catchment areas used to supply drinking water; and on lands or waters containing valuable resources (such as fisheries, minerals, medicinal plants, primary agricultural soils) - ____ (Yes or No)

If the answer is “Yes”, the risk category of the sub-project may be upgraded:

3. Environmental assessment required (Yes or No) _____ (the following items should be filled in only for the MR- Category III/IV sub-projects)

4. Types of required environmental assessment documents (select either, depending on the result of the

above sections):

To determine the required document, use the table on page 8:

- a) draft EIS or EIS including EMP elements/EMP checklist elements (including information disclosure and public consultations)
- b) No local assessment document is required, however EMP checklist for small sub-projects of MR or LR is recommended by WB ESS;

5. What environmental and social issues are raised by the sub-project? (including work with agrochemicals-pesticides and mineral fertilizers, see Annex 6)

6. If an environmental and social impact assessment is required, what specific issues need to be addressed?

7. What are the time intervals and estimated cost of conducting an EMP/EMP checklist and DEIS or EIS (local documents) ?

Conclusion (is it possible to include the subproject into the program, and if so, under what conditions):

Preliminary environmental assessment was conducted by:

Date:

Annex 3. Indicative outline of EMP

An EMP consists of the set of mitigation, monitoring, and institutional measures to be taken during implementation and operation of a project to eliminate adverse environmental and social risks and impacts, offset them, or reduce them to acceptable levels. The EMP also includes the means and actions needed to implement these measures. The Borrower will (a) identify the set of responses to potentially adverse impacts; (b) determine requirements to ensure that those responses are made effectively and in a timely manner; and (c) describe the means for meeting those requirements.

Depending on the project, an EMP may be prepared as a stand-alone document or its content may be incorporated directly into the ESCP (Environmental and Social Commitment Plan). The content of the EMP will include the following:

(a) *Mitigation*

The EMP identifies measures and actions in accordance with the mitigation hierarchy that reduce potentially adverse environmental and social impacts to acceptable levels.

The plan will include compensatory measures, if applicable. Specifically, the EMP:

(i) identifies and summarizes all anticipated adverse environmental and social impacts (including those involving indigenous people or involuntary resettlement);

(ii) describes - with technical details - each mitigation measure, including the type of impact to which it relates and the conditions under which it is required (e.g., continuously or in the event of contingencies), together with structures, equipment descriptions, and operating procedures, as appropriate;

This may be particularly relevant where the Borrower is engaging contractors, and the EMP sets out the requirements to be followed by contractors. In this case, the EMP should be incorporated as part of the contract between the Borrower and the contractor, together with appropriate monitoring and enforcement provisions.

(iii) estimates any potential environmental and social impacts of these measures; and

(iv) takes into account, and is consistent with, other mitigation plans required for the project (e.g., for involuntary resettlement, indigenous peoples, or cultural heritage).

(b) *Monitoring*

The EMP identifies monitoring objectives and specifies the type of monitoring, with linkages to the impacts recognized in the environmental and social assessment and the mitigation measures described in the EMP.

Specifically, the monitoring section of the EMP provides (a) specific description and technical details of monitoring measures, including the parameters to be measured, methods to be used, sampling locations, frequency of measurements, detection limits (where appropriate), and the definition of thresholds that will signal the need for corrective actions; and (b) monitoring and reporting procedures to (i) ensure early detection of conditions that necessitate particular mitigation measures, and (ii) furnish information on the progress and results of mitigation.

(c) *Capacity Building and Training*

To support timely and effective implementation of environmental and social project components and mitigation measures, the EMP draws on the environmental and social assessment of the existence, role, and capability of responsible parties on site or at the agency and ministry level.

Specifically, the EMP provides a specific description of institutional arrangements, identifying which party is responsible for carrying out the mitigation and monitoring measures (e.g., for operation, supervision, enforcement, monitoring of implementation, remedial action, financing, reporting, and staff training).

To strengthen environmental and social management capability in the agencies responsible for implementation, the EMP recommends the establishment or expansion of the parties responsible, the training of staff and any additional measures that may be necessary to support implementation of mitigation measures and any other recommendations of the environmental and social assessment.

(d) Implementation Schedule and Cost Estimates

For all three aspects (mitigation, monitoring, and capacity development), the EMP provides (a) an implementation schedule for measures that must be carried out as part of the project, showing phasing and coordination with overall project implementation plans; and (b) the capital and recurrent cost estimates and sources of funds for implementing the EMP. These figures are also integrated into the total project cost tables.

(e) Integration of EMP with Project

The Borrower’s decision to proceed with a project, and the Bank’s decision to support it, are predicated in part on the expectation that the EMP (either stand-alone or as incorporated into the ESCP) will be executed effectively. Consequently, each of the measures and actions to be implemented will be clearly specified, including the individual mitigation and monitoring measures and actions and the institutional responsibilities relating to each, and the costs of so doing will be integrated into the project’s overall planning, design, budget, and implementation.

Annex 4. Indicative EMP content

Phase	What (is the parameter to be monitored?)	Where (is the parameter to be monitored?)	How (is the parameter to be monitored?)	When (define the frequency/ or continuous?)	Why (is the parameter being monitored?)	Cost (if not included in project budget)	Who (is responsible for monitoring?)
During activity preparation	site access	at the site	check if design and project planning foresee diligent procedures	before launch of construction	safety of population	marginal, within budget	Contractor, Engineer
	traffic management	at the site		before start of rehabilitation works			
	availability of waste disposal facilities	in site vicinity on site	visual/ analytical if	before approval to use	timely detection of waste disposal bottlenecks	marginal, within budget; (prepare special account for analyses at	
	hazardous waste inventory	Contractor's					

	(asbestos)	store/ buildi ng yard	in doubt	materials		PMU)	
	construction material quality control (eg. paints/solvents)		visual/ research in toxic materials databases			public and workplace health and safety	
During activity supervision	dust generation	on site and in immediate neighborhood, close to potential impacted residents	visual consultation of locals	daily		avoidance of public nuisance	marginal, within budget
	noise emissions			daily			
	waste and wastewater types, quality and volumes	at discharge points or in storage facilities	visual, analytical if suspicious count of waste transports off site, check flow rates and wastewater runoff	daily/ continuous	avoidance of negative impacts on ground/surface waters ensuring proper waste		
	surface drainage soundness						
						Contractor, Engineer	

Annex 5. Environmental Management Plan Checklist
(for small scale construction and reconstruction activities)

Part 1: Project Information

INSTITUTIONAL & ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIVITIES				
Country				
Project title				
Scope of project and activities				
Institutional arrangements (Name and contacts)	WB (Project Team Leader)	Project Management	Local Counterpart and/or Recipient	
Implementation arrangements (Name and contacts)	Safeguard Supervision	Local Counterpart Supervision	Local Inspectorate Supervision	Contactor
SITE DESCRIPTION				
Name of site				
Describe site location			<i>Attachment 1: Site Map []Y []N</i>	
Who owns the land?				
Geographical description				
LEGISLATION				
Identify national & local legislation & 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)	[] N or [] Y if Yes, <i>Attachment 2</i> includes the capacity building program			

Beneficiary:

Signature:

Date:

Part 2:

ENVIRONMENTAL /SOCIAL SCREENING			
Will the site activities include/ involve any of the following?	Activities	Status	Triggered Actions
	A. Building rehabilitation	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	See Section B below
	B. New construction (small-scale)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	See Section B below
	C. Individual wastewater treatment system	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	See Section C below
	D. Historic building(s) and areas	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	See Section D below
	E. Acquisition of land ¹	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	See Section E below
	F. Hazardous or toxic materials ²	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	See Section F below
	G. Impacts on forests and/or protected areas	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	See Section G below
	H. Medical waste management	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	See Section H below
I. Traffic and Pedestrian Safety	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	See Section I below	
ACTIVITIES	PARAMETER	CHECKLIST OF MITIGATION MEASURES (Please put a tick against each action completed)	
A. General Conditions	Notification and Workers 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 communication in media and/or at publicly accessible places (including the site of the works), <i>proportionately to the size of activity</i> (c) All legally required permits have been acquired for construction and/or rehabilitation (d) All works will be carried out in a safe and disciplined manner designed to minimize impacts on neighboring residents and environment. (e) Workers' PPE will comply with international good practice (always hardhats, masks and safety glasses as needed, harnesses and safety boots) (f) Appropriate signposting of the sites will inform workers of key rules and regulations to follow.	

¹ The project will support the construction of new buildings only if the land acquisition is not necessary and there are no resettlement issues; in such cases, the investor shall have the land ownership right, and shall also prove that the land at the moment of subproject implementation is not occupied or used, even illegally.

² Toxic/hazardous material includes but is not limited to asbestos, toxic paints, removal of lead paint, 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 it with water mist to reduce debris dust (c) During pneumatic drilling/wall destruction suppress dust by ongoing water spraying and/or installing dust screen enclosures at site (d) Keep the surrounding environment (sidewalks, roads) free of debris to minimize dust (e) There shall be no open burning of construction/waste material at the site (f) There shall be no excessive idling of construction vehicles at 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 shall be closed, and equipment placed as far away from residential areas as possible
	Water Quality	(a) 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 will be established at the site.
	Waste management	(a) Waste collection and disposal pathways and sites will be identified for all major types of waste expected from excavation, demolition and construction work. (b) Mineral construction and demolition wastes will be separated from general refuse, organic, liquid and chemical waste by on-site sorting and storing 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 when they contain asbestos).
C. Individual wastewater treatment system	Water Quality	(a) The approach to handling sanitary wastes and wastewater from building sites (installation or reconstruction) shall be approved by the local authorities

		<p>(b) Before being discharged into receiving waters, effluents from individual wastewater systems must be treated in order to meet the minimal quality criteria set out by national guidelines on effluent quality and wastewater treatment</p> <p>(c) Monitoring of new wastewater systems (before/after) will be carried out</p>
D. Historic building(s)	Cultural Heritage	<p>(a) If the building is an acknowledged historic site, or located very close to such a site or located in an acknowledged historical area, notification shall be made and approvals/permits be obtained from local authorities and all construction activities shall be considered in line with local and national legislation.</p> <p>(b) Appropriate provisions shall be put in place where artifacts or other possible “accidental finds” discovered during excavation or construction are noted and recorded, responsible officials are contacted, and works are delayed or modified to account for such finds.</p>
E. Social Risk Management	Public relationship management	<p>(a) Assign local liaison person responsible for communication with and receiving requests/complaints from local population.</p> <p>(b) Consult local communities to identify and proactively manage potential conflicts between an external workforce and local people.</p> <p>(c) Raise local community awareness about sexually transmitted disease risks associated with the presence of an external workforce and include local communities in awareness activities.</p> <p>(d) Schedule works beyond irrigation season to the extent possible in order to avoid/minimize service disruption. Inform local population about construction and work schedules, interruption of services, traffic detour routes and provisional bus routes, blasting and demolition, as appropriate.</p> <p>(e) Limit construction activities at night. When necessary, carefully schedule night work and inform affected community beforehand.</p> <p>(f) Properly mark and fence work site</p> <p>(g) No temporary storage of construction materials and waste occurs within cultivated land plots or any type of private property</p> <p>(h) Allocate areas for temporary storage of construction materials and waste so that free movement of traffic and pedestrians is not hindered</p>

E. Land Acquisition	Land Acquisition Plan/ Framework	<p>(a) If land acquisition was not expected but is required, or if loss of access to income sources of legal or illegal users of land was not expected but may occur, that the Bank’s Task Team Leader shall be immediately consulted.</p> <p>(b) The approved Land Acquisition Plan/Framework (if required by the Project) shall be implemented before the start of construction works.</p>
F. Toxic Materials	Asbestos management	<p>(a) If asbestos is located on the project site, it shall be marked clearly as hazardous material.</p> <p>(b) No asbestos to be used during any refurbishment using the project fund</p> <p>(c) Where possible, the asbestos should be properly contained and sealed to minimize exposure.</p> <p>(d) Before removal (if removal is required) the asbestos should be treated with a humidifier to minimize asbestos dust.</p> <p>(e) Asbestos should be handled and disposed by skilled & experienced professionals.</p> <p>(f) If the asbestos is to be stored temporarily, the waste should be securely stored inside closed containments and marked appropriately.</p> <p>(g) The removed asbestos shall not be reused</p>
	Toxic/hazardous waste management	<p>(a) Temporary on-site storage of all hazardous or toxic substances should be carried out in safe containers labeled with detailed information on composition, properties and handling.</p> <p>(b) The containers with hazardous substances should be placed in a leak-proof container to prevent spillage and leaching.</p> <p>(c) The waste shall be transported by specially licensed carriers and disposed at a licensed object.</p> <p>(d) Paints with toxic ingredients, solvents or lead-based paints shall not be used.</p>
G. Affected forests, wetlands and/or protected areas	Protection	<p>(a) All recognized natural habitats, wetlands and protected areas in the immediate vicinity of the activity shall not be damaged or exploited; all staff will be strictly prohibited from hunting, foraging, logging or other damaging activities.</p> <p>(b) Large trees shall be marked and cordoned off with fencing, their root system shall be protected, and any damage to the trees avoided.</p>

		<p>(c) Adjacent wetlands and streams shall be protected from construction site run-off with appropriate erosion and sediment control to include by not limited to hay bales and silt fences.</p> <p>(d) There will be no unlicensed quarries or dumps in adjacent areas, especially in protected areas.</p>
H. Disposal of medical waste	Infrastructure for medical waste management	<p>(a) In compliance with national regulations the Contractor shall ensure that newly constructed and/or rehabilitated health care facilities include sufficient infrastructure for medical waste handling and disposal; this includes and not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Special equipment for separating medical waste (including contaminated instruments “sharps” and human tissue or fluids) from other waste; ▪ Appropriate storage facilities for medical waste are in place; <p>(b) If the activity includes facility-based treatment, appropriate disposal options are in place.</p>
I. Traffic and Pedestrian Safety	Direct or indirect hazards to public traffic and pedestrians as a result of civil works	<p>(a) In compliance with national regulations, the Contractor should ensure that the construction site is properly secured and that traffic associated with construction is regulated. This includes, but is not limited to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Signposting, warning signs, barriers and traffic diversions: site will be clearly visible and the public warned of all potential hazards. ▪ Traffic management system and staff training, especially for site access and heavy traffic near the site. Provision of safe passages and crosswalks for pedestrians where construction traffic interferes. ▪ Adjustment of working hours to local traffic patterns, e.g. avoiding major transport activities during rush hours or times of livestock movement ▪ Active traffic management by trained and visible staff at the site, if required for safe and convenient passage for the public. <p>(b) Ensuring safe and continuous access to office facilities, shops and residences during renovation activities, if the buildings stay open for the public.</p>

Annex 6. Pest Management Plan/Chemicals Management Plan

Pest Management Plan (PMP) or Chemicals Management Plan (CMP). A PMP (or CMP) should be prepared in all cases of significant direct purchasing and/or usage of pesticides, mineral fertilizers or other chemicals in individual subprojects.

In the case of the current Project, this issue can be identified when processing the grant application under the Component 2. The PMU environmental specialist, when determining the project risk category (Annex 2), should analyze the type of activities and indicate the intended use of pesticides and/or mineral fertilizers, as well as any other chemicals that may affect the safety of health and the environment. Special attention should be paid to the following information: (i) significance of the pest management issues to be addressed; (ii) type, amount and anticipated extent of usage of pesticides; (iii) proposed storage, disposal and usage practices to be employed; and (iv) potential environmental impacts.

Based on this screening, a decision will be made if a full-scale PMP (or CMP) is required or if certain requirements can be included into existing EIA or EMP documents. It should also be emphasized that non-chemical control efforts will be used to the maximum extent possible before pesticides are used. The PMP should be a framework through which pest management is defined and implemented. The Plan should identify elements of the program to include health and environmental safety, pest identification, and pest management, as well as pesticide storage, transportation, use and disposal. The PMP should be used as a tool to reduce reliance on pesticides, to enhance environmental protection, and to maximize the use of integrated pest management techniques.

The PMP (or CMP) should generally contain pest control requirements, outline the resources needed for surveillance and control, and describe administrative, safety, and environmental requirements. The Plan should contain Operations Manual and instructions to maintain an effective pest control program/activities.

Reviewing and approving PMP. As noted above, the safety requirements for working with agro- or other chemicals can be outlined/included in the EIA or EMP documents of the proposed activities.

In such a case beneficiaries shall include the following information: (a) types of pesticides and fertilizers and their amount; (b) storage conditions; (c) ways of field usage; (d) measures to be undertaken to control possible hazard scenarios; and (e) responsible person.

PMU environment specialist will review EIA and EMP documents and will submit them for approval. These documents for at least the first 2 (two) such type of subprojects will need the World Bank prior review. Based on experience, it is anticipated that the use of pesticides and pest management in terms of individual grants would not be significant and could be addressed through training, extension services and technical support to improve farmers awareness on the safe application, storage and disposal of pesticides and the pest management through information dissemination, training and demonstration of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) approaches.

Annex 7. Asbestos-Containing Material Management Plan (Example)

Applicability

The Asbestos-Containing Material Management Plan (ACMMP) is applied to all Project construction or reconstruction sites and any related areas. Contractors employed by Project are legally responsible for their construction sites and related areas and shall follow the provisions of the Project ACMMP within those locations. Specifically, this procedure must be used to ensure the safe handling, removal and disposal of any and all Asbestos-Containing Materials (ACM) from those territories.

Immediate Action

On discovering ACM on a Project site, the contractor shall:

- a) Stop all work within a 5 m radius of the ACM and evacuate all personnel from this area;
- b) Delimit the 5 m radius with secure fencing posts, warning tape and easily visible signs warning of the presence of asbestos;
- c) If the site is in an inhabited area, place a security guard at the border of the site with instructions to keep the general public away;
- d) Notify the safeguards specialist and arrange an immediate site inspection.

Equipment

Contractors shall provide the following equipment to remove asbestos from a construction site:

- a) Warning tape, robust fence posts and warning notices;
- b) Shovels;
- c) Water supply and hose, fitted with a garden-type spray attachment;
- d) Bucket of water and rags;
- e) Sacks of clear, strong polythene that can be tied to close;
- f) Asbestos waste containers (empty, clean, sealable metal drums, clearly labelled as containing asbestos).

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

All personnel involved in handling ACM must wear the following equipment, provided by the contractor:

- a) Disposable overalls fitted with a hood;
- b) Boots without laces;
- c) New, durable rubber gloves;
- d) If there are only a few pieces of ACM in a small area, and if the ACM is damp usually respirator is not required;
- e) Smoking, eating or drinking is prohibited in a site containing ACM.

Decontamination Procedure 1: Removing small pieces of ACM

- a) Identify the location of all visible ACM and spray each of them slightly but thoroughly with water;
- b) Once the ACM is damp, pick up all visible ACM with shovels and place in a clear plastic bag;

- c) If ACM debris is partially buried in soil, remove it from the soil using a shovel and place it in the plastic bag;
- d) Insert a large label inside each plastic bag stating clearly that the contents contain asbestos and are dangerous to human health and shall not be manhandled;
- e) Tie the plastic bags securely and place them into labelled asbestos waste containers (clean metal drums) and seal each drum;
- f) Soil that contained ACM debris shall not be used for backfill and shall instead be shoveled into asbestos waste containers;
- g) At the end of the operation, clean all shovels and any other equipment with wet rags and place the rags into plastic disposal bags inside asbestos waste containers.

Decontamination Procedure 2: Removing ACM-contaminated backfill

- a) If soil containing ACM debris has inadvertently been used for backfill this must be sprayed slightly with water and shoveled out by hand to a depth of 300 mm and placed directly into asbestos waste containers (i.e. not stored temporarily beside the trench);
- b) Any ACM uncovered during the hand shoveling must be placed in a clear plastic bag;
- c) Once the trench has been re-excavated to 300 mm, in case there is no visible ACM remainings, the trench may be refilled by excavator using imported clean topsoil.

Disposal

ACM should be disposed of safely at a local hazardous-waste disposal site if available, or at the city municipal dumpsite after making prior arrangement for safe storage with the site operator.

- The Contractor shall arrange for the disposal site operator to collect the sealed asbestos waste containers as soon as possible and store them undisturbed at the disposal site.
- At the end of construction, Contractors shall arrange for the disposal site operator to bury all ACM containers in a separate, suitably-sized pit, covered with a layer of clay that is at least 250 mm deep.

a) Decontamination of Humans

At the end of each day, all personnel involved in handling ACM shall undergo the following decontamination procedure:

- Clean the boots thoroughly with damp rags at the end of the decontamination operation;
- Peel off the disposable overalls and plastic gloves so that they are inside-out and place them in a plastic sack with the rags used to clean the boots;
- If a disposable respirator has been used, place that in the plastic sack, seal the sack and place it in an asbestos waste container;
- All personnel should wash themselves thoroughly before leaving the site, and the washing area shall be cleaned with damp rags afterwards, which are placed in plastic sacks as above.

b) Clearance and Checking-Off

- The decontamination exercise shall be supervised by district Sanitary and Epidemiological Service inspectors (engineering or environmental staff).
- After successful completion of the decontamination and disposal, the Contractor Management Committee should visually inspect the area and sign-off the operation if the site has been cleaned satisfactorily.
- The Contractor should send a copy of the completion notice to the PCU, with photographs of the operation in progress and the site on completion.