

**Republic of Argentina
Directorate of Sectoral and Special Programs
and Projects (DIPROSE), of the Administrative
Undersecretariat of the Legal and
Administrative Coordination Secretariat from
the Chief of Cabinet of Ministers**

**Strengthening data infrastructure to close the
digital gap in Argentina Project– P178609**

**Negotiated draft
ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL
COMMITMENT PLAN (ESCP)**

October 28, 2022

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL COMMITMENT PLAN

1. The Argentine Republic (the Borrower) will implement the “Strengthening data infrastructure to close the digital gap in Argentina” Project (the Project), through the Directorate of Sectoral and Special Programs and Projects (DIPROSE) of the Chief of Cabinet of Ministers with the involvement of other Undersecretariats of the Administrative branch, Participating Entities, Participating Provinces and Participating Municipalities, as set out in the Loan Agreement. The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (the Bank) has agreed to provide financing for the Project, as set out in the referred agreement.
2. The Borrower, through JGM, shall ensure that the Project is carried out in accordance with the Environmental and Social Standards (ESSs) and this Environmental and Social Commitment Plan (ESCP), in a manner acceptable to the Bank. Unless otherwise defined in this ESCP, capitalized terms used in this ESCP have the meanings ascribed to them in the Loan Agreement.
3. Without limitation to the foregoing, this ESCP sets out material measures and actions that the Borrower shall carry out or cause to be carried out, including, as applicable, the timeframes of the actions and measures, institutional, staffing, training, monitoring, and reporting arrangements, and grievance management. The ESCP also sets out the environmental and social (E&S) instruments that shall be adopted and implemented under the Project, all of which shall be subject to prior consultation and disclosure, consistent with the ESS, and in form and substance, and in a manner acceptable to the Bank. Once adopted, said E&S instruments may be revised from time to time with prior written agreement by the Bank.
4. As agreed by the Bank and the Borrower, through JGM, this ESCP will be revised from time to time if necessary, during Project implementation, to reflect adaptive management of Project changes and unforeseen circumstances or in response to Project performance. In such circumstances, the Borrower through the Directorate of Sectoral and Special Programs and Projects (DIPROSE) and the Bank agree to update the ESCP to reflect these changes through an exchange of letters signed between the Bank and the Borrower, through the director of the Directorate of Sectoral and Special Programs and Projects. The Borrower shall promptly disclose the updated ESCP.

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
MONITORING AND REPORTING			
A	<p>REGULAR REPORTING</p> <p>Prepare and submit to the Bank regular monitoring reports on the environmental, social, health and safety (ESHS) performance of the Project, including but not limited to the implementation of the ESCP, status of preparation and implementation of E&S instruments required under the ESCP, stakeholder engagement activities, and functioning of the grievance mechanism(s).</p>	<p>Submit six-monthly reports to the Bank throughout Project implementation, commencing after the Effective Date. Submit each report to the Bank no later than 15 days after the end of each reporting period.</p>	DIPROSE
B	<p>INCIDENTS AND ACCIDENTS</p> <p>Promptly notify the Bank of any incident or accident related to the Project which has, or is likely to have, a significant adverse effect on the environment, the affected communities, the public or workers, including, inter alia, cases of sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA), sexual harassment (SH), and accidents that result in death, serious or multiple injury. Provide sufficient detail regarding the scope, severity, and possible causes of the incident or accident, indicating immediate measures taken or that are planned to be taken to address it, and any information provided by any contractor and/or supervising firm, as appropriate.</p> <p>Subsequently, at the Bank’s request, prepare a report on the incident or accident and propose any measures to address it and prevent its recurrence.</p>	<p>Notify the Bank no later than 48 hours after learning of the incident or accident.</p> <p>Provide subsequent report to the Bank within a timeframe acceptable to the Bank.</p>	DIPROSE
ESS 1: ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RISKS AND IMPACTS			
1.1	<p>ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE</p> <p>Maintain the DIPROSE team that is tasked with ESHS management, with qualified staff and resources to support management of ESHS risks and impacts of the Project, including the assigning the following specific positions for ESHS management: an environmental specialist and a social specialist.</p>	<p>Maintain the DIPROSE as set out in the Loan Agreement, and thereafter maintain these positions throughout Project implementation.</p>	DIPROSE

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
1.2	<p>ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL INSTRUMENTS</p> <p>1. Finalize, consult, publish, adopt and implement an Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) for the Project, consistent with the relevant ESSs.</p> <p>2. Adopt and implement an Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) for the activities/works of Component 1 of the Project, consistent with the relevant ESSs.</p> <p>3. Adopt and implement an Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA), and the corresponding Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) for the activities/works of Component 2 of the Project, consistent with the relevant ESSs.</p>	<p>1. Consultation, finalization, adoption, and disclosure of the ESMF in a manner acceptable to the Bank within the first three months after the Effective Date and/or before the initiation of any activity, and thereafter implement the ESMF throughout Project implementation.</p> <p>2. Adopt the ESMP before launching the bidding process for the respective activities that requires the adoption of such ESMP. Once adopted, implement the respective ESMP throughout Project implementation.</p> <p>3. Adopt the ESIA and ESMP before launching the bidding process for the respective activities that requires the adoption of such ESMP. Once adopted, implement the respective ESMP throughout Project implementation.</p>	DIPROSE
1.3	<p>MANAGEMENT OF CONTRACTORS</p> <p>Incorporate the relevant aspects of the ESCP, including, inter alia, the relevant E&S instruments, the Labor Management Procedures, and code of conduct, into the ESHS specifications of the procurement documents and contracts with contractors and supervising firms. Thereafter ensure that the contractors and supervising firms comply and cause subcontractors to comply with the ESHS specifications of their respective contracts.</p>	<p>As part of the preparation of procurement documents and respective contracts.</p> <p>Supervise contractors throughout Project implementation.</p>	DIPROSE
1.4	<p>TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE</p>	Throughout Project implementation.	DIPROSE

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
	Ensure that the consultancies, studies (including feasibility studies, if applicable), capacity building, training, and any other technical assistance activities under the Project are carried out in accordance with terms of reference acceptable to the Bank, that are consistent with the ESSs. Thereafter ensure that the outputs of such activities comply with the terms of reference.		
1.5	<p>CONTINGENT EMERGENCY RESPONSE FINANCING</p> <p>a) Ensure that the CERC Manual includes a description of the ESHS assessment and management arrangements including a CERC- ESMF Addendum that will be referred to in the CERC Manual for the implementation of Component 5 of the Project, in accordance with the ESSs.</p> <p>b) Adopt any environmental and social (E&S) instruments which may be required for activities under Component 5 of the Project, in accordance with the CERC Manual, CERC- ESMF Addendum and the ESSs, and thereafter implement the measures and actions required under said E&S instruments, within the timeframes specified in said E&S instruments.</p>	<p>a) The adoption of the CERC Manual and the CERC-ESMF Addendum in form and substance acceptable to the Bank is a withdrawal condition under Schedule 2 of the Loan Agreement for the Project.</p> <p>b) Adopt any required E&S instrument and include it as part of the respective bidding process, if applicable, and in any case, before the carrying out of the relevant Project activities for which the E&S instrument is required. Implement the E&S instruments in accordance with their terms, throughout Project implementation.</p>	DIPROSE
ESS 2: LABOR AND WORKING CONDITIONS			
2.1	<p>LABOR MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES</p> <p>Adopt and implement the Labor Management Procedures (LMP) for the Project, including, inter alia, provisions on working conditions, management of workers relationships, occupational health and safety, code of conduct (including relating to SEA and SH), forced labor, child labor, grievance arrangements for Project workers, and applicable requirements for contractors, subcontractors, and supervising firms.</p>	Elaborate and adopt the LMP no later than 60 days after Effective Date or prior to the recruitment of the first project worker (whichever comes first), and thereafter implement the LMP throughout Project implementation.	DIPROSE

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
2.2	<p>GRIEVANCE MECHANISM FOR PROJECT WORKERS</p> <p>Establish and operate a grievance mechanism for Project workers, as described in the LMP and consistent with ESS2.</p>	Establish grievance mechanism prior engaging Project workers and thereafter maintain and operate it throughout Project implementation.	DIPROSE
ESS 3: RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT			
3.1	<p>WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN</p> <p>Incorporate and implement a Waste Management measures in the ESMP to manage hazardous and non-hazardous wastes, consistent with ESS3.</p>	Same timeframe as for the implementation of actions 1.2.2 and 1.2.3.	DIPROSE
3.2	<p>RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT</p> <p>Incorporate resource efficiency and pollution prevention and management measures in the ESMP to be prepared under action 1.2.2 and 1.2.3 above.</p>	Same timeframe as for the implementation action 1.2.2 and 1.2.3.	DIPROSE
ESS 4: COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY			
4.1	<p>TRAFFIC AND ROAD SAFETY</p> <p>Incorporate measures to manage traffic and road safety risks as required in the ESMP to be prepared under action 1.2.2 and 1.2.3 above.</p>	Same timeframe as for the implementation of action 1.2.2 and 1.2.3.	DIPROSE
4.2	<p>COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY</p> <p>Assess and manage specific risks and impacts to the community arising from Project activities including, inter alia, behavior of Project workers, risks of labor influx, response to emergency situations, and include mitigation measures in the ESMPs to be prepared in accordance with the ESMF.</p>	Same timeframe as for the implementation of action 1.2.2 and 1.2.3.	DIPROSE
ESS 5: LAND ACQUISITION, RESTRICTIONS ON LAND USE AND INVOLUNTARY RESETTLEMENT. Not relevant.			
ESS 6: BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF LIVING NATURAL RESOURCES. Not relevant.			
ESS 7: INDIGENOUS PEOPLES/SUB-SAHARAN AFRICAN HISTORICALLY UNDERSERVED TRADITIONAL LOCAL COMMUNITIES			
7.1	<p>MEANINGFUL CONSULTATIONS</p>	Consultations with indigenous peoples shall be conducted no later than 45 days after the Effective Date.	DIPROSE

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
	<p>Consultation with representatives of indigenous peoples shall be held, with a focus on identifying risks to indigenous peoples and possible mitigation measures. Based on the results of the consultations, the ESMF and SEP shall be updated with mitigation measures related to Indigenous Peoples (IPs), in a manner acceptable to the Bank.</p>	<p>IP-related mitigation measures included in the ESMF and SEP shall be finalized for Bank approval no later than three months after the Effective Date.</p> <p>Once approved, IP-related mitigation measures shall be implemented throughout Project implementation.</p>	
ESS 8: CULTURAL HERITAGE			
8.1	<p>CHANCE FINDS</p> <p>Describe and implement the chance finds procedures, as part of the ESMF of the Project.</p>	<p>Describe the chance find procedures in the ESMF. Implement the procedures throughout Project implementation.</p>	DIPROSE
ESS 9: FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES. Not relevant.			
ESS 10: STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION DISCLOSURE			
10.1	<p>STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN PREPARATION AND IMPLEMENTATION</p> <p>Finalize, consult, publish, adopt, and implement a Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) for the Project, consistent with ESS10, which shall include measures to, inter alia, provide stakeholders with timely, relevant, understandable, and accessible information, and consult with them in a culturally appropriate manner, which is free of manipulation, interference, coercion, discrimination, and intimidation.</p>	<p>SEP consultations shall begin no later than 45 days after the Effective Date. Updated versions of the SEP shall be forwarded for Bank approval no later than four weeks after the completion of the consultation process and in no case later than three months after the Effective Date. Once the no-objection has been granted, the updated version shall be published immediately. The SEP and the measures included therein shall be implemented, as required, throughout Project implementation.</p>	DIPROSE
10.2	<p>PROJECT GRIEVANCE MECHANISM</p>	<p>Maintain the current grievance mechanism for the project (updated along with the final SEP, in no case later than three months after the Effective Date). Thereafter maintain the mechanism throughout Project implementation.</p>	DIPROSE

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
	<p>Establish, publicize, maintain, and operate an accessible grievance mechanism, to receive and facilitate resolution of concerns and grievances in relation to the Project, promptly and effectively, in a transparent manner that is culturally appropriate and readily accessible to all Project-affected parties, at no cost and without retribution, including concerns and grievances filed anonymously, in a manner consistent with ESS10.</p> <p>The grievance mechanism shall be equipped to receive, register, and facilitate the resolution of SEA/SH complaints, including through the referral of survivors to relevant gender-based violence service providers, all in a safe, confidential, and survivor-centered manner.</p>		
CAPACITY SUPPORT			
CS1	<p>Training may be required for PIU staff and provincial governments staff on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • stakeholder mapping and engagement • specific aspects of environmental and social assessment • emergency preparedness and response • community health and safety. 	Throughout Project implementation.	DIPROSE with support from the World Bank