

The Republic of Malawi
Ministry of Transport and Public Works
Resilient and Strategic Transport Operational
Enhancement Project (RESTORE)
P500625

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL
COMMITMENT PLAN (ESCP)

Appraisal
April 2025

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL COMMITMENT PLAN

1. The Republic of Malawi (the Recipient) will implement the Resilient and Strategic Transport Operational Enhancement (RESTORE) Project (the Project), with the involvement of the Ministry of Transport and Public Works and the Malawi Roads Authority, as set out in the Financing Agreement (the Agreement). The International Development Association (the Association) has agreed to provide financing for the Project, as set out in Agreement.
2. The Recipient shall ensure that the Project is carried out in accordance with the Environmental and Social Standards (ESSs) and this Environmental and Social Commitment Plan (ESCP), in a manner acceptable to the Association. The ESCP is a part of the Agreement. Unless otherwise defined in this ESCP, capitalized terms used in this ESCP have the meanings ascribed to them in the Agreement.
3. Without limitation to the foregoing, this ESCP sets out material measures and actions that the Recipient shall carry out or cause to be carried out, including, as applicable, their respective timeframes; institutional, staffing, training, monitoring and reporting arrangements; and grievance management. The ESCP also sets out the environmental and social (E&S) documents that shall be prepared or updated, consulted, disclosed and implemented under the Project, consistent with the ESSs, in form and substance acceptable to the Association. Said E&S documents may be revised from time to time with prior written agreement by the Association. As provided for under the referred Agreement, the Recipient shall ensure that there are sufficient funds available to cover the costs of implementing the ESCP.
4. As agreed by the Association and the Recipient, this ESCP will be revised from time to time, if necessary, to reflect adaptive management of Project changes or unforeseen circumstances or in response to Project performance. In such circumstances, the Association and the Recipient agree to update the ESCP to reflect these changes through an exchange of letters signed between the Association and the Recipient's Representative specified in the Agreement. The Recipient shall promptly disclose the updated ESCP.
5. The subsection on "Indicators for Implementation Readiness" below identifies the actions and measures to be monitored to assess Project readiness to begin implementation in accordance with this ESCP. Nevertheless, all actions and measures in this ESCP shall be implemented as set out in the "Timeframe" column below irrespective of whether they are listed in the referred subsection.

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS [The actions listed below are illustrative. See further details in the "NOTE" in each box. Delete, adjust, or add actions, as needed].		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS AND CAPACITY SUPPORT¹			
A	ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Establish and maintain a PIU with qualified staff and resources to support management of environmental, social, health and safety (ESHS) risks and impacts of the Project including one Occupational Health and Safety Specialist, one Environmental Specialist, one Social Specialist, and a Gender Based Violence Specialist. b. Provide resources for PIU ESHS Safeguards Specialists to effectively carry out their functions (resources include but are not limited to vehicles, office space and laptops) c. Appoint an Independent ESHS Consultant to perform bi-annual independent ESHS audits during project implementation (see item C.b). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Establish PIU as per financing agreement and hire ESHS specialists prior to project effectiveness and thereafter maintain the PIU and these positions throughout Project implementation. b. Provide resources once ESHS specialists have been hired c. Appoint an Independent ESHS Consultant 30 days after project effectiveness. 	Roads Authority
B	CAPACITY BUILDING PLAN/MEASURES <p>Prepare and implement the capacity building plan based on an Environmental and Social needs assessment covering the following topics: World Bank Environmental and Social Framework (ESF), applicable WBG EHS Guidelines, and other relevant topics such as Occupational Health and Safety, Community Health and Safety, Gender Based Violence, Sexual Exploitation and Abuse, Emergency Preparedness and Response in line with Good International Industry Practice (GIIP).</p> <p>Capacity building plan to include the following: PIU, Nsanje and Chikwawa District Environmental Sub Committees (Nsanje and Chikwawa), District Director of Public Works (Nsanje and Chikwawa), Project Workers and GRM committees.</p>	Capacity Building plan to be developed within 6 months of project effectiveness and revised annually.	Roads Authority PIU
MONITORING AND REPORTING			
C	REGULAR REPORTING <p>Prepare and submit to the Association regular monitoring reports on the environmental, social, health and safety (ESHS) performance of the Project. The reports shall include:</p>		Roads Authority PIU

¹ For all actions, consult with the country lawyer to ensure consistency with the legal agreement in cases where some actions need to be completed before the project becomes effective (effectiveness condition) or before certain disbursements can occur (disbursement condition).

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS [The actions listed below are illustrative. See further details in the "NOTE" in each box. Delete, adjust, or add actions, as needed].		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
	<p>a) Status of preparation and implementation of ESHS documents required under the ESCP and status of mitigation actions required under the Environmental and Social Management Plans (ESMPs).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summary of stakeholder engagement activities carried out as per the Stakeholder Engagement Plan. • Complaints submitted to the grievance mechanism(s), the grievance log, and progress made in resolving them. • ESHS performance of contractors and subcontractors as reported through monthly contractors' and supervision firms' reports. • Number and status of resolution of incidents and accidents reported under action E below. update log of all incidents. <p>b) Submit independent Environmental, Social, Health and Safety (ESHS) audit report for the project</p>	<p>a. Submit quarterly reports to the Association throughout Project implementation, commencing 3 months after the Effective Date. Submit each report to the Association no later than 14 days after the end of each reporting period.</p> <p>b. Independent ESHS audit report to be submitted bi-annually commencing 12 months after award of contract(s) under component 1</p>	
D	<p>CONTRACTORS' MONTHLY REPORTS</p> <p>Require contractors and supervising firms to provide monthly monitoring reports on Environmental, Social, Health and Safety (ESHS) performance in accordance with the metrics specified in the respective bidding documents and contracts and submit such reports to the Association.</p>	Submit the monthly reports to the Association upon request	Roads Authority PIU
E	<p>INCIDENTS AND ACCIDENTS</p> <p>a) Notify the Association of any incident or accident relating 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 those resulting in death or significant injury to workers or the public; acts of violence, discrimination or protest; unforeseen impacts to cultural heritage or biodiversity resources; pollution of the environment; dam failure; forced or child labor; displacement without due process (forced eviction); allegations of sexual exploitation or abuse (SEA), or sexual harassment (SH); or disease outbreaks. Provide available details of the incident or accident to the Association upon request.</p>	a) Notify the Association no later than 48 hours after learning of the incident or accident. Provide available details upon request.	Roads Authority PIU

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS [The actions listed below are illustrative. See further details in the "NOTE" in each box. Delete, adjust, or add actions, as needed].		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
	<p>b) Arrange for an appropriate review of the incident or accident to establish its immediate, underlying and root causes. Prepare, agree with the Association, and implement a Corrective Action Plan that sets out the measures and actions to be taken to address the incident or accident and prevent its recurrence.</p> <p>c) Keep records of all accidents and near misses throughout project implementation.</p>	<p>b) Provide review report and Corrective Action Plan to the Association no later than 10 days following the submission of the initial notice, unless a different timeframe is agreed to in writing by the Association.</p> <p>c) Keep records of all accidents and incidents throughout project implementation</p>	
ESS 1: ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RISKS AND IMPACTS			
1.1	<p>ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL ASSESSMENTS AND/OR PLANS</p> <p>a) Prepare and implement an Environmental and Social Impact Assessments (ESIAs) for the M001 road and for the S152 road, and corresponding Environmental and Social Management Plans (ESMPs) for activities under component 1, consistent with the relevant ESSs and E&S Scoping report.</p> <p>b) Prepare and implement a site-specific ESMP and related sub plans such as the waste management plan for laboratory upgrading activities under component 2, and where appropriate a cultural heritage plan following an Environmental and Social Screening process.</p>	<p>a) Prepare the ESIA and ESMP prior to bidding stage for Contractors and thereafter implement the ESIA and ESMP throughout Project implementation.</p> <p>b) Prepare the ESMP and incorporate the ESMP as part of the respective bidding documents for the respective subproject or Project activity prior to the carrying out of the subproject or Project activity that requires the preparation of ESMP. Once finalized, implement the respective ESMP throughout Project implementation.</p>	Roads Authority PIU

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS [The actions listed below are illustrative. See further details in the "NOTE" in each box. Delete, adjust, or add actions, as needed].		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
	c) Conduct and prepare an ESHS audit for current on-going works for the M001 and S152 roads	c) Prepare ESHS audit report prior to commencement of construction works	
1.2	MANAGEMENT OF CONTRACTORS Incorporate the relevant aspects of the ESCP, including, inter alia, ESIA and ESMP, Occupational Health and Safety plan, Community Health and Safety Plan, the Labor Management Procedures, and code of conduct, into the E&S specifications of the procurement documents and contracts with contractors and supervising firms. Contractors shall prepare their own Contractors' ESMPs (C-ESMPs) following the requirements of project's ESMPs. Thereafter ensure that the contractors and supervising firms comply and that they require their subcontractors to comply with the E&S specifications of their respective contracts. Provide copies of the relevant contracts with contractors/subcontractors and supervision firms to the Association.	As part of the preparation of procurement documents and respective contracts. Supervise contractors throughout Project implementation. Copies of relevant contracts provided to the Association upon request.	Roads Authority PIU
1.3	TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE Carry out the consultancies, studies and feasibility studies (including FS for S136 and S151), capacity building, training, and any other technical assistance activities under the Project in accordance with terms of reference acceptable to the Association, that are consistent with the ESSs and initial findings of the E&S Scoping Report. Thereafter prepare and finalize the outputs of such activities in compliance with the terms of reference.	Throughout Project implementation.	Roads Authority PIU
1.4	CONTINGENT [EMERGENCY] [EARLY] RESPONSE FINANCING a) Ensure that the CERC Manual as specified the legal agreement includes a description of the E&S assessment and management arrangements including the CERC ESMF for the implementation of component 4 in accordance with the ESSs. b) Implement the E&S provisions of the CERC Manual including the CERC-ESMF	a) The preparation of the CERC ESMF in form and substance acceptable to the Association is a withdrawal condition under Section [XX] of Schedule 2 of the [name of legal agreement]. b) In accordance with the timeframes specified in the	Roads Authority PIU

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS [The actions listed below are illustrative. See further details in the "NOTE" in each box. Delete, adjust, or add actions, as needed].		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
		CERC Manual including the CERC-ESMF	
1.5	<p>ASSOCIATED FACILITIES</p> <p>No Associated Facilities has been identified during project preparation and E&S Scoping Report. In case Associated facilities become relevant during project implementation, it is required that: cause name of owner/operator of the associated facility to ensure that the activities in the associated facility are carried out in accordance with the applicable requirements of this ESCP and the ESSs including, the ESIA, ESMP, LMP, management of contractors, RAP, SEP</p>	If/Upon identification of Associated Facility during project implementation	Roads Authority PIU
ESS 2: LABOR AND WORKING CONDITIONS			
2.1	<p>LABOR MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES</p> <p>Prepare and implement the Labor Management Procedures (LMP) for the Project as part of the ESMF.</p>	Prepare the LMP as per timelines under 1.1 and thereafter implement the LMP throughout Project implementation.	Roads Authority PIU
2.2	<p>OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY MANAGEMENT PLAN</p> <p>Prepare and implement an OHS Management Plan to assess and manage the OHS risks and impacts of the Project.</p> <p>AND</p> <p>Require contractors and subcontractors to prepare and implement Contractors' OHS Management Plans in accordance with the Project Occupational Health and Safety Plan</p>	Prepare the OHS Management Plan as an annex in the ESMPs (item 1.1) and thereafter implement the requirements in the plan throughout Project implementation.	Roads Authority PIU
2.3	<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.	Roads Authority PIU

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS [The actions listed below are illustrative. See further details in the "NOTE" in each box. Delete, adjust, or add actions, as needed].		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
ESS 3: RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT [The relevance of ESS3 is established during the ESA process. ESS3 may require the preparation of specific measures to cover energy, water (e.g., water balance) and raw materials use, management of air pollution, hazardous and nonhazardous wastes, chemicals and hazardous materials and pesticides (pest management plan). Depending on the project, these measures may be set out in an E&S document (e.g., ESMP) already mentioned in the section under ESS1 above or as a stand-alone document or as a separate measure or action. See sample actions below.]			
3.1	WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN Prepare and implement a Waste Management Plan (WMP), as part of the ESMP prepared for the Project, to manage hazardous and non-hazardous wastes, consistent with ESS3. Require contractors to incorporate waste management measures in their respective C-ESMPs in line with the projects Waste management Plan	Prepare the WMP as an annex in the ESMPs (item 1.1) and thereafter implement the WMP throughout Project implementation.	Roads Authority PIU
3.2	RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT Incorporate resource efficiency and pollution prevention and management measures in the ESIA's and ESMPs to be prepared under action 1.1 above.	Prepare the ESIA's and ESMPs prior to bidding stage for Contractors (item 1.1)	Roads Authority PIU
ESS 4: COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY [The relevance of ESS4 is established during the ESA process. As with other ESSs, ESS4 may require the preparation of specific measures to cover community health and safety risks, including, inter alia, on infrastructure and equipment design and safety, safety of services, traffic and road safety, community exposure to health issues, ecosystem services, management and safety of hazardous materials, emergency preparedness and response, security (including engagement of security personnel), and safety of dams. Depending on the project, these measures may be set out in an E&S document (e.g., ESMP) already mentioned in the section under ESS1 above or as a stand-alone document or as a separate measure or action. See sample actions below.]			
4.1	TRAFFIC AND ROAD SAFETY Incorporate measures to manage traffic and road safety risks, both during construction and operations, as required in the ESMPs to be prepared under action 1.1 above. Require Contractors to implement traffic management plans based on measures incorporated in ESIA's and ESMPs under action 1.1	Prepare the ESIA's and ESMPs prior to bidding stage for Contractors (item 1.1).	Roads Authority PIU

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS [The actions listed below are illustrative. See further details in the "NOTE" in each box. Delete, adjust, or add actions, as needed].		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
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, community awareness and safety at project sites, behavior of Project workers, risks of labor influx, response to emergency situations, and include mitigation measures in the ESIs and ESMPs to be prepared in accordance with the E&S Scoping Report.</p> <p>Prepare and implement a community health and Safety Plans (including traffic and road safety, security, Infrastructure and Equipment Design and Safety, Climate Considerations for Structural Element Design, Emergency Preparedness and Response, management and safety hazardous materials, and others in line with ESS4)</p>	<p>Same timeframe as for the preparation and implementation of the ESMPs under 1.1.</p> <p>Prepare the Community Health and Safety plan prior to disbursement of Component 1</p>	Roads Authority PIU
4.3	<p>SEA AND SH RISKS</p> <p>Prepare and implement a SEA/SH Action Plan as part of ESMP in accordance with the annex of the ESMF, to assess and manage the risks of SEA and SH.</p> <p>Engage a GBV Service Provider and third party monitor with GBV specialists to support implementation of the SEA/SH action plan.</p>	<p>As per timelines in 1.1</p> <p>As per timelines in 1.1</p>	<p>Roads Authority PIU</p> <p>Roads Authority PIU</p>
ESS 5: LAND ACQUISITION, RESTRICTIONS ON LAND USE AND INVOLUNTARY RESETTLEMENT [The relevance of ESS5 is established during the ESA process. If resettlement documents need to be prepared (e.g., resettlement process frameworks, resettlement action plans, process frameworks) this should be reflected in the ESCP. See sample actions below]			
5.1	<p>RESETTLEMENT [FRAMEWORK] [PLAN] or [PLANS]</p> <p>Prepare and implement a Resettlement Plan (RP) or a Livelihood Restoration Plan (LRP) as set out in the RPF and consistent with ESS5.</p>	<p>Prepare and implement the respective RP or LRP prior to carrying out the relevant works, including ensuring that before taking possession of the land and related assets, full compensation has been provided and displaced people have been resettled and moving allowances have been provided.</p>	

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS [The actions listed below are illustrative. See further details in the "NOTE" in each box. Delete, adjust, or add actions, as needed].		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
ESS 6: BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF LIVING NATURAL RESOURCES [The relevance of ESS6 is established during the ESA process. As with other ESSs, ESS6 may require the preparation of specific measures that may be set out in an E&S document (e.g., ESMP) already mentioned in the section under ESS1 above or as a stand-alone document or a separate measure or action. See sample actions below].			
6.1	BIODIVERSITY RISKS AND IMPACTS Prepare and implement a Biodiversity Management Plan (BMP) as part of the M001 road ESIA and the S152 road ESIA where required, in accordance with the guidelines of the ESIA prepared for the Project, and consistent with ESS6. Require Contractors to incorporate BMP measures in site specific plans	Prepare the BMP during preparation of ESIAs under 1.1 and thereafter implement the BMP throughout Project implementation.	Roads Authority PIU
ESS 8: CULTURAL HERITAGE [The relevance of ESS8 is established during the ESA process. As with other ESSs, ESS8 may require the preparation of specific measures that may be set out in an E&S document (e.g., ESMP) already mentioned in the section under ESS1 above or as a stand-alone document or a separate measure or action. See sample actions below].			
8.2	CHANCE FINDS Describe and implement the chance finds procedures part of the ESMPs of the Project. As part of ESS1, assess impacts on cultural Heritage and provide mitigation measures according to the mitigation hierarchy.	Describe the chance find procedures in the ESMP. In the same timeline as 1.1 and thereafter Implement the procedures throughout Project implementation. AS per timelines under ESS1	Roads Authority PIU Roads Authority

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS [The actions listed below are illustrative. See further details in the "NOTE" in each box. Delete, adjust, or add actions, as needed].		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
ESS 10: STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION DISCLOSURE			
10.1	STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN Update 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.	Update the SEP no later than 6 months after Project Effectiveness and thereafter implement the SEP throughout Project implementation.	Roads Authority PIU
10.2	PROJECT GRIEVANCE MECHANISM 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. 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.	Establish the grievance mechanism no later than 6 months after Project Effectiveness and thereafter maintain and operate the mechanism throughout Project implementation.	Roads Authority PIU
INDICATORS FOR IMPLEMENTATION READINESS [This subsection lists the ESCP actions (by their numbering in the first column of the ESCP) that are identified as relevant to monitor project readiness from an E&S standpoint. These may include actions related to: i) establishment of E&S risk management units in the Project Implementation Entities, ii) recruitment and training of E&S staff within Project Implementation Entities, iii) Memorandums of Understanding or other written agreements/arrangements between Project Implementation Entities and other concerned agencies to ensure proper coordination of E&S risk management activities; iv) E&S effectiveness or disbursement conditions, if deemed warranted, v) ES assessments and plans to be prepared by the Borrower at the onset of implementation; vi) other project-specific requirements related to E&S readiness for implementation].			
Establishment of E&S risk management units in the Project Implementation Entities – (A) E and S assessments and plans to be prepared by the Borrower at the onset of implementation – (1.1) [Indicate the actions by their numbers in the first column of the ESCP].			