

Belize
**Ministry of Finance, Economic Development
and Investment**
**Reliant and Resilient Energy System
Project (P179520)**

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

Draft for Negotiations
October 21, 2024

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL COMMITMENT PLAN

1. Belize (the Borrower/Recipient) will implement the Belize Reliant and Resilient Energy System Project (the Project), with the involvement of the Ministry of Finance, Economic Development and Investment as set out in the Loan Agreement, the Canada Clean Energy and Forest Climate Facility (CCEFCF) Loan Agreement, and the CCEFCF Gender Equality Grant Agreement (jointly, the Agreements). The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development acting on its own and as the administrator of the Canada Clean Energy and Forest Climate Facility Single-Donor Trust Fund (the World Bank), has agreed to provide financing for the Project, as set out in the referred Agreements.
2. The Borrower/Recipient shall ensure that the Project is carried out in accordance with the Environmental and Social Standards (ESSs) and this Environmental and Social Commitment Plan (ESCP), in a manner acceptable to the World Bank. The ESCP is a part of the Agreements. Unless otherwise defined in this ESCP, capitalized terms used in this ESCP have the meanings ascribed to them in the Agreements.
3. Without limitation to the foregoing, this ESCP sets out material measures and actions that the Borrower/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 World Bank. Said E&S documents may be revised from time to time with prior written agreement by the World Bank. As provided for under the referred Agreements, the Borrower/Recipient shall ensure that there are sufficient funds available to cover the costs of implementing the ESCP.
4. As agreed by the World Bank and the Borrower/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 World Bank and the Borrower/Recipient agree to update the ESCP to reflect these changes through an exchange of letters signed between the World Bank and the Borrower/Recipient's Financial Secretary of the Ministry of Finance, Economic Development and Investment. The Borrowers 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		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS AND CAPACITY SUPPORT			
A	ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE Maintain a Central Execution Unit (CEU) with qualified staff and resources to support management of ESHS risks and impacts of the Project, including appointment of dedicated staff in the areas of: a. Environmental safeguards; and b. Social safeguards,	a. and b. Maintain a Central Executing Unit (CEU) as set out in the Agreements. Appoint the environmental and social safeguards staff no later than 120 days after the Project Effective Date and thereafter maintain the positions throughout Project implementation	Ministry of Finance, Economic Development and Investment
B1	CAPACITY BUILDING PLAN/MEASURES a. Prepare and implement training for Project team staff, design consultants and relevant government agencies on the E&S project requirements and the implications for their roles and responsibilities in implementing the project. The training shall include but not be limited to: • Stakeholder engagement and Grievance Mechanisms • Occupational Health and Safety • Biodiversity Management b. Participate in training on ESHS matters, including (i) environment, social and health and safety considerations in design, (ii) integrating ESHS into procurement process and (iii) contract management for ESHS performance. c. Prepare, implement or participate in additional training and capacity development events as the need arises during the implementation of the project.	a. Training program to commence no later than 120 days after the Project Effective Date. b. Prior to finalization of (i) design, (ii) bidding documents for works and (iii) start of works contract. c. Throughout Project implementation.	CEU
B2	Training to be provided to Project contractors/workers on: • Environmental and social requirements, including ESHS requirements • Waste management • Occupation Health and safety for the workforce including emergency preparedness and response • Community health and safety • SEA/SH risk management • Stakeholder engagement activities and Grievance Mechanism for workers.	Prior to the start of civil works.	CEU
MONITORING AND REPORTING			
C	REGULAR REPORTING Prepare and submit to the Bank regular monitoring reports on the Environmental, Social, Health and Safety (ESHS) performance of the Project. The reports shall summarize the ESHS activities undertaken during the reporting period including but not limited to:		CEU

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
		instruments throughout Project implementation.	
1.2	MANAGEMENT OF CONTRACTORS 1. Ensure E&S specifications included in procurement documents and subsequent works contracts are appropriate to deliver the works in compliance with the ESCP, including inter alia: 1.1 Environmental and Social Assessments and/or Plans, 2.1 Labor Management Procedures (including code of conduct), 2.2 Occupational Health and Safety Management, 3.1 Waste Management Planning, 4.1 Traffic and Road Safety, 8.1 Chance Finds, and 10.1 Stakeholder consultations and a grievance mechanism. 2. Thereafter oversee the work of the supervising engineer/consultant to ensure they enforce the works contract and that the contractors and their subcontractors comply with the E&S requirements including code of conduct. Provide copies of the relevant contracts with contractors/subcontractors and supervision firms to the World Bank.	1. As part of the preparation of procurement documents and prior to the issuance of works request for proposals or request for bids. 2. Throughout Project implementation.	CEU
1.3	TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE Ensure 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.	Throughout Project implementation.	CEU
1.4	REMEDIAL MEASURES FOR LAND CLEARANCE/INFILLING AT SAN PEDRO SITE 1. Replantation of Mangroves a. Provide details and ecological justification of the mangrove species to be replanted including source of seedlings to inform replanting. b. Provide a replantation plan describing, inter alia, the proposed location and size of land, ecological suitability of the site for the selected species, planting plan and program and management proposals for the mangrove area. c. Plant the mangrove seedlings in a location, of a size and with a species composition agreeable to the World Bank. d. Develop and submit a long-term management plan for the monitoring and maintenance of the replanted mangroves, describing the arrangements for the survival and protection of the seedlings for the first 10 years. 2. Water Runoff e. Undertake measures to address the flooding issues including runoff into the aquatic environment caused due to the clearing of the mangroves and land reclamation. f. Review designs to ensure drainage is adequately addressed in the BESS designs. g. Include the specifications in the procurement documents.	a. Within 120 days of Project Effective date b. Within 180 days of Project Effective date c. Within 1 year of Project Effective date d. Within 1 year of Project Effective date e. Within 120 days of Project Effective date f. Prior to approval of the BESS designs as part of the review of the designs	CEU

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	3. Restoration of damaged infrastructure h. Restore/repair/relocate damaged infrastructure: the pathway, boardwalk linking pathway to entrance and two small built structures at the eco-sanctuary. 4. Restoration of loss of income i. Provide compensation from Project loan to the affected persons working in the eco-sanctuary for proven loss of income in line with ESS5. 5. Compensation to Project Affected People j. Compensate Project Affected People from Project loan for proven loss and damage suffered as per the World Bank's ESF requirements and national legislation based on the outcome of the judicial court decision.	g. As part of the preparation of procurement documents and prior to the issuance of works request for proposals or request for bids h. Within 180 days of Project Effective Date i. Within 180 days of Project Effective Date j. Within 180 days after judicial court decision.	
ESS 2: LABOR AND WORKING CONDITIONS			
2.1	LABOR MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES Prepare and implement the Labor Management Procedures (LMP) for the Project, describing, inter alia, provisions on working conditions, management of workers relationships, occupational health and safety (including personal protective equipment, and emergency preparedness and response), code of conduct (including relating to SEA and SH), forced labor, child labor, grievance arrangements for Project workers, and applicable requirements for contractors, subcontractors, and supervising firms.	Submit the LMP to the World Bank for review within 120 days of Project Effective date; thereafter implement the LMP throughout Project implementation.	CEU
2.2	OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY MANAGEMENT PLAN 1. Develop and implement OHS measures as part of the development and implementation of the site specific ESMP in a manner acceptable to the World Bank. 2. Incorporate the OHS measures into bidding documents and contracts with consulting firms, contractors and supervision firms. 3. Ensure that the OHS measures specified are implemented at the site.	1. Same timeframe as for the preparation and implementation of the ESMPs, under action 1.1. 2. Prior to commencing the corresponding bidding process for each work and thereafter incorporate such OHS measures in the respective contract. 3. Throughout implementation of Project activity that involves works.	CEU

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
2.3	GRIEVANCE MECHANISM FOR PROJECT WORKERS Establish and operate a grievance mechanism for Project workers, as described in the LMP and consistent with ESS2.	Establish grievance mechanism prior to mobilizing Project workers and thereafter maintain and operate it throughout Project implementation.	CEU
2.4	CODE OF CONDUCT Ensure provisions in the bidding documents for contractors and supervision consultants to establish a code of conduct to be signed by all workers, including any subcontractors, and establishing the minimum content of said code. The code of conduct must be based on the guidelines contained in the LMP and should address, among other issues, the risk of sexual exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment in the workplace.	Before awarding the contract.	CEU
2.5	PROJECT WORKERS' TRAINING Implement, and require contractors and supervision consultants to implement, capacity building activities for Project workers, designed to raise awareness about risks of sexual exploitation or abuse and sexual harassment, and health and safety in the workplace, and the measures to manage these risks. Specifically, the capacity building activities shall include training on: • Codes of conduct and other topics related to managing risks stemming from labor influx and workforce management, for contractors. • Occupation health and safety and emergency response, including for any community workers. • Awareness of the labor grievance mechanism under the Project, for all Project workers.	Throughout project implementation.	CEU
ESS 3: RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT			
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.	Same timeframe as for the adoption and implementation of the ESMPs.	CEU
3.2	RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT Incorporate resource efficiency and pollution prevention and management measures in the ESMP to be prepared under action 1.1 above.	Same timeframe as for the adoption and implementation of the ESMPs.	CEU
ESS 4: COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY			
4.1	TRAFFIC AND ROAD SAFETY Ensure E&S specifications are included in the bidding documents and subsequent works contracts for planning and agreeing on traffic management measures in line with Good International Industry Practice to be implemented during construction works to protect workers, the community, and all road users.	As part of the preparation of procurement documents and prior to the issue of works request for proposals or request for bids.	CEU

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
4.2	COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY Prepare, adopt, and implement measures and actions to assess and manage specific risks and impacts to the community arising from Project activities including, inter alia, risks of fire and life safety, behavior of Project workers, risks of labor influx, and include these measures in the ESMPs in a manner acceptable to the World Bank.	Same timeframe as for the adoption and implementation of the ESMPs.	CEU
4.3	INFRASTRUCTURE DESIGN AND SAFETY Ensure that all inspections are carried out and verified that construction and installation of the BESS has been undertaken in accordance with the national codes and requirements.	Prior to works contract completion	CEU
ESS 5: LAND ACQUISITION, RESTRICTIONS ON LAND USE AND INVOLUNTARY RESETTLEMENT			
5.1	RESETTLEMENT PLAN Prepare and implement a Resettlement Action Plan (RAP), if needed, to minimize land acquisition and restrictions on land use and avoid or minimize economic displacement where possible for sites where land acquisition occurs. The RAP shall contain measures to provide compensation, relocation and livelihood assistance where required and a grievance mechanism for those effected by resettlement.	RAP, if needed for any of the selected sites to be submitted to the Word Bank for approval. RAP shall be implemented, including the full costs of compensation at replacement costs and resettlement assistance, prior to any displacement occurring and prior to any project activity which involves resettlement.	CEU
5.2	Undertake measures as stated in 1.4 (j) to ensure that Project Effected People (PAPs) are compensated consistent with this standard.	As per 1.4(j).	CEU
ESS 6: BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF LIVING NATURAL RESOURCES			
6.1	BIODIVERSITY RISKS AND IMPACTS a. Ensure that surveys and biodiversity assessment already undertaken inform the design and placement of infrastructure undertaken for the project activities. b. Undertake surveys and obtain records as needed to identify baseline conditions of important marine and terrestrial species that may be affected by project activities; use this baseline to assess the potential impacts and to avoid significant biodiversity impacts and to identify other appropriate controls and mitigation measures. c. Ensure E&S specifications are included in the bidding documents and subsequent works contracts to mitigate impacts to biodiversity as identified in the site-specific ESMPs and any other report.	a. and b. Same timeframe as for the preparation and implementation of the site-specific ESMPs. c. As part of the preparation of procurement documents and prior to the issue of works request for proposals or requests for bids.	CEU
6.2	Undertake measures as stated in 1.4.1 listed above to ensure that replantation of mangroves is undertaken consistent with this standard.	As per 1.4.1 listed above.	CEU

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
ESS 7: INDIGENOUS PEOPLES/SUB-SAHARAN AFRICAN HISTORICALLY UNDERSERVED TRADITIONAL LOCAL COMMUNITIES			
	This is not relevant.		
ESS 8: CULTURAL HERITAGE			
8.1	CHANCE FINDS Ensure that an appropriate chance finds procedure is incorporated into all works contracts, and that training is provided.	As part of the preparation of procurement documents and prior to the issue of works request for proposals or request for bids.	CEU
ESS 10: STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION DISCLOSURE			
10.1	STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN Update, finalize 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. The updated SEP will provide consultation schedule for engaging impacted people and businesses at each of the selected sites, including the San Pedro BESS site. The Updated SEP will incorporate recommendations from the final Environmental and Social Audit report for the San Pedro site.	Submit an updated SEP within 120 days of Project Effective date; thereafter implement SEP throughout Project implementation.	CEU
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 prior to Project Effective date, and thereafter maintain and operate the mechanism throughout Project implementation.	CEU
INDICATORS FOR IMPLEMENTATION READINESS			
The following actions are indicators for implementation readiness: A. Allocation of Staff 2.1. Approved LMP 10.1. Updated SEP 10.2 Establish Project Grievance Mechanism.			