



The Republic of Uganda

Soroti Sweet Potato Producers and Processors Association (SOSPPA)

Strengthening Productive Capacity and Resilience of Smallholder Sweet potato Producer Organizations in Uganda Project (P179537)

Draft

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL COMMITMENT PLAN (ESCP)

Final

April 10, 2025

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL COMMITMENT PLAN

1. The Soroti Sweet Potato Producers and Processors Association (SOSPPA) (the Recipient]) will implement the Strengthening Productive Capacity and Resilience of Smallholder Sweet Potato Producer Organizations in Uganda Project (the Project), as set out in the Letter Agreement (the Agreement). The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (the Bank), acting as the trustee and supervising entity (SE) of the Global Agriculture and Food Security Program, has agreed to provide financing for the Project, as set out in the referred 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 Bank. 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 Bank. 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 Bank 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 Bank and the Recipient agree to update the ESCP to reflect these changes through an exchange of letters signed between the Bank and the Recipient's Representative specified in the Agreement or Chairman of SOSPPA. 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	TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY	
IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS AND CAPACITY SUPPORT			
A	<p>ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE</p> <p>1. Establish and maintain a Project Coordination Unit (PCU) with qualified staff and resources to support management of environmental, social, health and safety (E&S) risks and impacts of the Project including an Environment Specialist a Social Specialist. The PCU will also include a Project Coordinator, Orange-fleshed Sweet Potato (OFSP) Puree Processing Manager, Silage Processing Manager, Marketing Manager, Accountant, and M&E Specialist. The project will also hire nine trained and experienced technical assistants at field level.</p>	<p>1. Establish a PCU and hire an Environment Specialist and a Social Specialist as set out in the Agreement by the Project Effective Date and thereafter maintain the PCU and these positions throughout Project implementation.</p>	<p>SOSPPA</p>
B	<p>CAPACITY BUILDING PLAN/MEASURES</p> <p>1. Prepare and implement the following capacity building measures: - training for Project Contractors/Consultants workers on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National laws and regulations on environmental and social risks and impacts management. • The World Bank’s Environmental and Social Framework (ESF) including the 10 ESSs. • Contractor management on environmental and social risks. • Occupational Safety and Health – the basics to know for the Agricultural Project activities, following mitigation hierarchy. • Traffic Management. • Waste Management. • Gender Mainstreaming in construction projects. • Stakeholder mapping and engagement and implementation of the stakeholder engagement plan. • Specific aspects of environmental and social assessment. • Emergency preparedness and response including reporting of incidents and accidents and maintaining an incident log. • Community health and safety. • Gender-Based Violence (GBV), Sexual Exploitation and Abuse/Sexual Harassment (SEA/SH) prevention and response measures, Violence against Children (VAC) and other social risks. • Grievance Management. • Labor Management Procedures. • Monitoring and reporting on project activities, among others. <p>2. In addition to the above training, the Recipient shall support the Enhanced Implementation Support and Monitoring (EISM) to ensure:</p>	<p>1. Prior to commencement of project activities and thereafter on a regular basis.</p> <p>2. Complete training including development of training materials within three months of the Project Effective Date and support the EISM throughout implementation.</p>	<p>SOSPPA</p>

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training of SOSPPA staff and private sector consultants/clients, workers, and contractors on non-discrimination under the Project, including by identifying individuals and venues, as well as providing other logistical support. • Training project level GRM on non-discrimination under the Project, including by developing training materials, identifying venues, and providing trainers. • Preparation of training modules for call center operators, data management personnel, and community outreach personnel on appropriate handling of sensitive information. 		
MONITORING AND REPORTING			
C	<p>REGULAR REPORTING</p> <p>1. Prepare and submit to the Bank regular monitoring progress reports on the environmental, social, health and safety (E&S) performance of the Project, including but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The implementation of the ESCP. • Status of preparation and implementation of E&S documents required under the ESCP. • Summary of stakeholder engagement activities carried out as per the Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP). • Complaints submitted to the grievance mechanism(s), the grievance log, and progress made in resolving them. • Complaints received through the EISM, and progress made in addressing them. • E&S 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 Section E below. 	1. Submit Quarterly and Annual reports to the Bank throughout the Project implementation period, starting 6 months after the Project Effective Date. Submit each report to the Bank no later than 15 days after the end of each reporting period.	SOSPPA
D	<p>CONTRACTORS' MONTHLY REPORTS</p> <p>1. Require contractors and supervising firms to provide monthly monitoring reports on E&S (inclusive of reports from EISM) performance in accordance with the metrics specified in the respective bidding documents and contracts and submit such reports to the Bank.</p>	1. Submit the monthly reports to the Bank as annexes to the reports to be submitted under action C above.	SOSPPA
E	<p>INCIDENTS AND ACCIDENTS</p> <p>1. Notify the Bank 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) and any incidents or complaints related to the discrimination of vulnerable or marginalized individuals or groups; or disease outbreaks.</p> <p>2. Provide available details of the incident or accident to the Bank upon request.</p>	<p>1. Notify the Bank no later than 48 hours after learning of the incident or accident.</p> <p>2. Provide available details within 5 working days upon request.</p>	SOSPPA

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS	TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY	
<p>3. Arrange for an appropriate review of the incident or accident to establish its immediate, underlying and root causes. Prepare, agree with the Bank, 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>3. Provide review report and Corrective Action Plan to the Bank no later than 10 days following the submission of the initial notice, unless a different timeframe is agreed to in writing by the Bank.</p>		
<p>ESS 1: ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RISKS AND IMPACTS</p>			
<p>1.1</p>	<p>ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL ASSESSMENTS AND/OR PLANS</p> <p>1. Implement the ESMF for the Project consistent with the relevant ESSs.</p> <p>2. Prepare, consult upon, adopt, disclose, and implement the environmental and social instruments for specific activities, such as Environmental and Social Impact Assessments (ESIAs) and corresponding ESMPs, as set out in the ESMF and SEP in a manner acceptable to the Bank.</p> <p>3. EXCLUSIONS: Exclude the following types of activities as ineligible for financing under the Project. Ensure this exclusion list is reflected in Annex 2 of the ESMF:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Activities that may cause long term, permanent and/or irreversible (e.g. loss of major natural habitat) impacts or significant conversion of critical habitat as defined in ESS6. b. Activities that have a high probability of causing serious adverse effects to human health and/or the environment, other than associated with use of pesticides. c. Activities that may have significant adverse social impacts and/ or may give rise to significant social conflict. d. Activities that may involve exclusion and discrimination of people especially the vulnerable or marginalized individuals or groups as well as the disadvantaged groups. e. Activities that may affect lands or rights of Indigenous Peoples or other vulnerable minorities. 	<p>1. Adopt and disclose the ESMF prior to the Project Effective Date and thereafter implement the ESMF throughout Project implementation.</p> <p>2. Prepare, disclose, consult upon, and adopt the ESIA and ESMP prior to implementation of specific activities for which it is required, and thereafter implement the ESIA and ESMP throughout Project implementation.</p> <p>3. Throughout project implementation as part of the assessment process conducted under action 1.1.</p>	<p>SOSPPA</p>

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
	<p>f. Activities that may involve involuntary resettlement or land acquisition (other than voluntary land donation) or impacts on cultural heritage.</p> <p>4. Ensure social inclusion and non-discrimination, and implementation of measures to mitigate the risk of discrimination against or exclusion of any vulnerable or marginalized individuals or groups, as specified in the ESMF and SEP, and these measures will subsequently be reflected in the ESIA, ESMPs, project operational manual and implemented throughout the life of the project.</p>	4. Throughout the project implementation.	
1.2	<p>MANAGEMENT OF CONTRACTORS</p> <p>1. Incorporate the relevant aspects of the ESCP, including, inter alia, the ESMF, ESIA, ESMPs, Labor Management Procedures, and code of conduct, into the E&S specifications of the procurement documents and contracts with contractors and supervising firms.</p> <p>2. 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.</p> <p>3. Provide copies of contracts with contractors/subcontractors and supervision firms to the Bank.</p>	<p>1. During the preparation of procurement documents and the respective contracts.</p> <p>2. Supervise contractors throughout Project implementation.</p> <p>3. Copies of relevant contracts provided to the Bank upon request.</p>	SOSPPA
1.3	<p>TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE</p> <p>1. Carry out the consultancies, studies, capacity building, training, and any other technical assistance activities under the Project in accordance with terms of reference acceptable to the Bank, that are consistent with the ESSs. Thereafter prepare and finalize the outputs of such activities in compliance with the terms of reference.</p>	1. Throughout Project implementation.	SOSPPA
ESS 2: LABOR AND WORKING CONDITIONS			
2.1	<p>LABOR MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES</p> <p>1. Adopt and implement the Labor Management Procedures (LMP) for the Project as part of the ESMF; ensuring inclusion and non-discrimination of any vulnerable or marginalized individuals or groups.</p>	1. Adopt the LMP as part of the ESMF prior to the Project Effective Date and thereafter implement the LMP throughout Project implementation.	SOSPPA
2.2	<p>OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY MANAGEMENT PLAN</p> <p>1. As the project activities do not entail large civil works, a standalone OHS Management Plan for the project is not essential, OHS elements essential to the project are specified in Health and Safety management Plan contained in the ESMF.</p>	1. Adopt OHS measures as indicated in the ESMF prior to the start of activities and thereafter implement them throughout the Project implementation period.	SOSPPA

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
	<p>2. Develop a Health, Safety, and Environmental (HSE) plan as part of the site-specific ESMPs, in line with Good International Industry Practice (GIIP) and consistent with World Bank Group EHS Guidelines, including procedures on investigation and reporting of incidences and non-conformances, emergency preparedness and response procedures, and continuous training and awareness to workers.</p>	<p>2. Develop HSE plan as part of the site-specific ESMPs, prior to the start of activities and thereafter implement throughout Project implementation period.</p>	
2.3	<p>GRIEVANCE MECHANISM FOR PROJECT WORKERS</p> <p>1. Establish and operate a grievance mechanism for Project workers, as described in the LMP and consistent with ESS2.</p> <p>2. Strengthen the workers GRM through the EISM (with the World Bank support) to ensure that the grievance mechanism includes an effective, safe, ethical, and confidential mechanism to receive, manage, refer, and monitor grievances related to exclusion and discrimination.</p> <p>PROJECT WORKERS TRAINING:</p> <p>3. Implement training of Project Workers designed to heighten awareness of E&S risks and to mitigate impacts on local communities. This shall include worker training and sensitization on the obligations of Project participants to ensure non-discrimination of individuals or groups who are vulnerable or marginalized, including the following measures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhance existing project-level grievance redress mechanisms to safely, ethically, and confidentially receive cases related to discrimination under the Project and refer them to an appropriate grievance handling mechanism. • Design and operate a mechanism for receiving grievances related to discrimination under the Project (including from project level grievance mechanisms noted above). • Establish a hotline or an alternative complaint mechanism, for individuals to lodge complaints of discrimination on WB financed projects or voice their concerns without fear of reprisal. <p>4. The Project shall use the EISM GRM, which is an alternative to lodging complaints through a GOU-led Project-level GRM, for complaints related to discrimination of vulnerable or marginalized individuals or groups.</p> <p>A hotline (0800 333125) has been established, hosted and operated by a local NGO on behalf of the EISM firm for vulnerable or marginalized groups or individuals to lodge their complaints of discrimination. The guidelines on how the hotline will be used and cases managed are provided in the Project E&S documents.</p>	<p>1, 2 & 3- establish grievance mechanism prior to engaging Project workers and thereafter maintain and operate it throughout Project implementation.</p> <p>4. Prior to disbursement of funds for all components and implemented throughout the Project.</p>	SOSPPA
ESS 3: RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT			
3.1	WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN		

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
	1. Prepare and implement a Waste Management Plan (WMP), as part of the ESMPs to be prepared for the Project, to manage hazardous and non-hazardous wastes, consistent with ESS3.	1. Prepare the WMP as part of the ESMP prior to the start of activities for which the ESMP is required and thereafter implement the WMP throughout Project implementation.	SOSPPA
3.2	<p>RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT</p> <p>1. Incorporate resource efficiency and pollution prevention and management measures in the ESMP to be prepared under action 1.1 above.</p> <p>2. The Project shall:</p> <p>i. Adopt the Fertilizer and Pest Management Plan (FPMP) as part of the ESMF including emergency response measures.</p> <p>ii. Under action 1.1 above, include measures for: (i) storage and handling of pesticides; (ii) disposal of unwanted or surplus insecticides shall follow the applicable requirements under the relevant ESSs, the WBG EHS Guidelines, and other relevant Good International Industry Practice (GIIP) to the Bank.</p>	<p>1. Same timeframe as for the preparation and implementation of the ESMP.</p> <p>2) (i) Adopt the FPMP as part of Project ESMF and thereafter implement the FPMP throughout Project implementation.</p> <p>2) (ii) During activity design/preparation and prior to implementation of the specific activity for which ESIA/ESMP has been developed and thereafter implement the ESIA and ESMP throughout Project implementation.</p>	SOSPPA
ESS 4: COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY			
4.1	<p>TRAFFIC AND ROAD SAFETY</p> <p>1. Incorporate measures to manage traffic and road safety risks as required in the ESMP to be prepared under action 1.1 above.</p>	1. Same timeframe as for the preparation and implementation of the ESMP.	SOSPPA
4.2	<p>COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY</p> <p>1. 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, and include mitigation measures in the ESMPs to be prepared in accordance with the ESMF.</p>	1. Same timeframe as for the preparation and implementation of the ESMPs.	SOSPPA
4.3	<p>SEA AND SH RISKS</p> <p>1. Implement SEA/SH Action Plan as part of project ESMF, and site specific ESMP, to manage the risks of SEA and SH.</p>	1. Adopt and implement as spelt out in the ESMP.	SOSPPA

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
4.4	<p>SECURITY MANAGEMENT</p> <p>1. Assess and implement measures to manage the security risks of the Project, including the risks of engaging security personnel to safeguard project workers, sites, assets, and activities as set out in subproject/ activity ESMPs to be prepared under ESS1 actions 1.1 and 1.2 above.</p>	1. Same timeframe as for the preparation and implementation of the respective subproject/ activity ESMPs.	SOSPPA
ESS 5: LAND ACQUISITION, RESTRICTIONS ON LAND USE AND INVOLUNTARY RESETTLEMENT [
5.1	<p>RESETTLEMENT FRAMEWORK</p> <p>1. Adopt and implement the Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF) (prepared as part of the ESMF for the Project), consistent with ESS5. The RPF annexed to ESMF for the Project has been developed to guide assessment and mitigation of project impacts on assets and livelihoods.</p>	1. Adopt and disclose the RPF as part of the Project ESMF prior to Project Effective Date and thereafter implement the RPF throughout Project implementation.	SOSPPA
5.2	<p>1. Based on the provisions of the RPF under the ESMF site-specific RAPs will be prepared as needed.</p>	1. Prepare and implement site specific RAPs prior to commencement of project activities.	SOSPPA
ESS 6: BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF LIVING NATURAL RESOURCES [
6.1	<p>BIODIVERSITY RISKS AND IMPACTS</p> <p>1. Implement provisions for conservation of biodiversity as part of the ESMPs under action 1.1, in accordance with the guidelines of the ESMF and the sub-project ESIA to be prepared for the Project, and consistent with ESS6.</p>	1. Adopt ESMPs prior to commencement of works of the specific sub-project for which it has been prepared and thereafter implement throughout sub-projects implementation with regular reporting of any incidents.	SOSPPA
ESS 7: INDIGENOUS PEOPLES/SUB-SAHARAN AFRICAN HISTORICALLY UNDERSERVED TRADITIONAL LOCAL COMMUNITIES			
7.1	<p>INDIGENOUS PEOPLES [FRAMEWORK] [PLAN] or [PLANS]</p> <p>Not relevant</p>		
ESS 8: CULTURAL HERITAGE			
8.1	<p>CULTURAL HERITAGE RISKS AND IMPACTS</p> <p>1. Adopt and implement measures for safeguarding Cultural Heritage in accordance with the guidelines of the ESMF prepared for the Project, and consistent with ESS8. Identify measures to address risks and impacts on cultural heritage and include in the sub-project ESMPs.</p>	1. Adopt measures as indicated in the ESMF prior to the start of activities and thereafter implement them throughout the Project implementation period.	SOSPPA

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
8.2	<p>CHANCE FINDS</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Adopt and implement the chance finds procedures, as part of the ESMF of the Project including by integrating it in Environmental and Social Screening Forms/checklists and ESMPs. 2. Implement the Chance Finds Procedure for the Project in collaboration with the Department of Museums and Monuments at the Ministry of Tourism, Wildlife and Antiquities and Department of Culture and Family Affairs in the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development. 3. Ensure the Contractors include the chance finds procedure in the ESMPs and bidding documents. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Adopt the chance find procedures in the ESMF. 2. Implement the procedures throughout Project implementation. 3. Throughout Project implementation. 	SOSPPA
ESS 9: FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES			
	Not relevant		
ESS 10: STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION DISCLOSURE			
10.1	<p>STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 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, exclusion, discrimination and intimidation. 2. Inform the SEP with data and information received through the EISM. 3. Disclose all key relevant information. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Adopt the SEP prior to project appraisal and thereafter implement the SEP throughout project implementation. 2. Throughout implementation 3. Throughout implementation 	SOSPPA
10.2	<p>PROJECT GRIEVANCE MECHANISM</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 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. 2. 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. 3. Address claims received through the EISM. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Establish the grievance mechanism three months after the Project Effective Date and thereafter maintain and operate the mechanism throughout Project implementation. 2. Throughout Project implementation. 3. Throughout Project implementation. 	SOSPPA
INDICATORS FOR IMPLEMENTATION READINESS			

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS	TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
<p>The following actions are indicators for implementation readiness:</p> <p>A. (1) Recruitment of an Environment Specialist and a Social Specialist to manage E&S aspects of the project by the Project Effective Date and thereafter maintain these positions throughout Project implementation.</p> <p>1.1. ESS1 Assessments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ESMF and its Annexes adopted and disclosed by the Project Effective Date and thereafter implemented throughout project implementation. • ESMP and other E&S risk management instruments prescribed by the project ESMF prepared, consulted upon and disclosed prior to start of subprojects/ activities. <p>10.1. (1) Preparation and adoption of the SEP consistent with ESS10 prior to appraisal and its execution throughout Project implementation.</p>		