

**Republic of Guinea-Bissau/ Instituto  
Nacional de Estatística (INE)  
Harmonizing and Improving Statistics in  
West and Central Africa-Series of Projects  
One (HISWACA-SOP<sub>1</sub>-P178497)  
Additional Financing**

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

**26 March 2025**

## ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL COMMITMENT PLAN

1. The Republic of Guinea-Bissau (the Recipient) is implementing the Harmonizing and Improving Statistics in West and Central Africa- Series of Projects 1 (the Project), with the involvement of the Instituto Nacional de Estatística (INE or National Institute of Statistics), as set out in the Original and Additional Financing Agreement and the Project Agreements (the Agreements). The International Development Association (the Association), has agreed to provide the original financing and additional financing for the Project, as set out in Agreements. This ESCP supersedes the previous version of the ESCP for the Project and shall apply both to the original and the additional financing for the Project referred to above.
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 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 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 Agreements, 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 Minister of Finance. 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
<b>IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS AND CAPACITY SUPPORT</b>			
A	<p><b>ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE</b></p> <p>Maintain a Project Implementation Unit (PIU) with qualified staff and resources to support management of environmental, social, health and safety (E&amp;S) risks and impacts of the Project, including a full-time environmental specialist and social development specialist. Moreover, a Gender Based Violence (GBV) service provider shall also be recruited.</p>	The environmental and social specialists have been in place since May 2024 and shall be maintained throughout Project implementation. The GBV service provider shall be recruited within a month of the Effective Date of the Additional Financing Agreement.	National Institute of Statistics.
B	<p><b>CAPACITY BUILDING PLAN/MEASURES</b></p> <p>Prepare and implement the following capacity building measures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prior to their deployment, train data-collection agents on health and safety measures in data collection activities, traffic safety, grievance submissions, the Code of Conduct and sexual harassment and abuse prevention and response.</li> </ul>	Data collection agents shall be trained prior to their deployment in the field.	National Institute of Statistics
<b>MONITORING AND REPORTING</b>			
C	<p><b>REGULAR REPORTING</b></p> <p>Prepare and submit to the Association regular monitoring reports on the environmental, social, health and safety (E&amp;S) performance of the Project. The reports shall include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Status of training on health and safety, Code of Conduct and sexual harassment and abuse prevention for data-collection agents.</li> <li>• Summary of stakeholder engagement activities carried out as per the Stakeholder Engagement Plan.</li> <li>• Complaints submitted to the grievance mechanism, including the hotline, and progress made in resolving them.</li> <li>• Status of distribution of personal protective equipment</li> <li>• Number and status of resolution of incidents and accidents reported under action E below.</li> </ul>	Submit quarterly reports to the Association throughout Project implementation, commencing after the Effective Date of the Legal Agreements. To date three reports have been submitted for Q2, Q3 and Q4 of 2024.	National Institute of Statistics.
D	<b>SERVICE PROVIDERS' REPORTS</b>	To start within four months after contract signature	National Institute of Statistics.

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
	Require service providers to provide monitoring reports on E&S performance in accordance with the metrics specified in the respective bidding documents and contracts and submit such reports to the Association.		
E	<p><b>INCIDENTS AND ACCIDENTS</b></p> <p>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> <p>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>Notify the Association no later than 48 hours after learning of the incident or accident. Provide available details upon request.</p> <p>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>	National Institute of Statistics.
<b>ESS 1: ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RISKS AND IMPACTS</b>			
1.1	<p><b>TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE</b></p> <p>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 Association, that are consistent with the ESSs. Thereafter prepare and finalize the outputs of such activities in compliance with the terms of reference.</p>	Throughout Project implementation.	National Institute of Statistics.
<b>ESS 2: LABOR AND WORKING CONDITIONS</b>			
2.1	<p><b>LABOR MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES</b></p> <p>Continue the implementation of the Labor Management Procedures (LMP) of the Parent Project, which shall be applied to the AF.</p>	The LMP was approved and disclosed on October 14, 2024 <sup>1</sup> and shall be applied to the original and additional financing for the Project. Implement the LMP throughout Project implementation.	National Institute of Statistics.
2.2	<p><b>OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY MANAGEMENT PLAN</b></p> <p>Implement the health and safety plan for data collection, which is part of the LMP.</p>	Same timeline as point 2.1 above.	National Institute of Statistics.

<sup>1</sup> [https://stat-guineebissau.com/Menu\\_principal/Publica%C3%A7%C3%B5es/UGP\\_RGPH/Procedimentos\\_simplificados\\_PGT\\_HISWACA\\_26\\_do\\_08\\_\(002\).pdf](https://stat-guineebissau.com/Menu_principal/Publica%C3%A7%C3%B5es/UGP_RGPH/Procedimentos_simplificados_PGT_HISWACA_26_do_08_(002).pdf)

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
2.3	<b>GRIEVANCE MECHANISM FOR PROJECT WORKERS</b> Continue to operate the hotline 216 and disseminate its existence to all Project workers and in particular data-collection agents.	The hotline was established in October 2024 and shall be maintained throughout Project implementation.	National Institute of Statistics.
<b>ESS 3: RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT</b>			
3.1	<b>WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN</b> Continue to implement the Electronic Waste Management Plan (EWMP), which shall be applied to the AF.	The EWMP was disclosed on 14 October 2024 <sup>2</sup> and shall be implemented throughout Project implementation.	National Institute of Statistics.
<b>ESS 4: COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY</b>			
4.1	<b>TRAFFIC AND ROAD SAFETY</b> Continue to implement the health and safety plan that is part of the LMP described in point 2.1 above and that incorporates measures to manage traffic and road safety risks to the community.	Same timeframe as point 2.1 above	National Institute of Statistics.
4.2	<b>COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SAFETY</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Continue to implement the Code of Conduct and trainings of field agents.</li> <li>b. Communicate to the population about the Project's activities on the ground through a national communication plan and focal points in locations that do not have access to radio and television.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Prior to deployment of field agents.</li> <li>b. Before and during population census activities.</li> </ul>	National Institute of Statistics.
4.3	<b>SEA AND SH RISKS</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Prepare and implement a SEA/SH Action Plan to assess and manage the risks of SEA and SH.</li> <li>b. Recruit a GBV service provider.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. and b. Prepare the SEA/SH Action Plan and have service provider recruited within one month after the Effective Date of the Additional Financing Agreement and implement throughout Project implementation.</li> </ul>	National Institute of Statistics.
<b>ESS 5: LAND ACQUISITION, RESTRICTIONS ON LAND USE AND INVOLUNTARY RESETTLEMENT</b>			
<b>ESS 6: BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF LIVING NATURAL RESOURCES</b>			
<b>ESS 7: INDIGENOUS PEOPLES/SUB-SAHARAN AFRICAN HISTORICALLY UNDERSERVED TRADITIONAL LOCAL COMMUNITIES</b>			
<b>ESS 8: CULTURAL HERITAGE</b>			
<b>ESS 9: FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES</b>			

<sup>2</sup> [https://stat-guineebissau.com/Menu\\_principal/Publica%C3%A7%C3%B5es/UGP\\_RGPH/Versao\\_Final%20Gestao\\_Residuos\\_Eletronicos\\_HISWACA\\_Sept2024.pdf](https://stat-guineebissau.com/Menu_principal/Publica%C3%A7%C3%B5es/UGP_RGPH/Versao_Final%20Gestao_Residuos_Eletronicos_HISWACA_Sept2024.pdf)

MATERIAL MEASURES AND ACTIONS		TIMEFRAME	RESPONSIBLE ENTITY
<b>ESS 10: STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION DISCLOSURE</b>			
10.1	<p><b>STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN</b></p> <p>Continue to implement the Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) that was prepared for the Parent Project, which shall be applied to the AF.</p>	The SEP was disclosed on 14 October 2024 <sup>3</sup> and shall be implemented throughout Project implementation.	National Institute of Statistics.
10.2	<p><b>PROJECT GRIEVANCE MECHANISM</b></p> <p>Continue to publicize 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>	The hotline was created in October 2024 and the grievance committees in all 8 regions of Guinea Bissau have been established as of December 2024. Maintain these mechanisms throughout Project implementation.	National Institute of Statistics.
<b>INDICATORS FOR IMPLEMENTATION READINESS</b>			
<p>The following actions are indicators for implementation readiness:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GBV service provider recruited (action no. 4.3)</li> <li>• Grievance mechanism in place (action. 10.2)</li> <li>•</li> </ul>			

<sup>3</sup> [https://stat-guineebissau.com/Menu\\_principal/Publica%C3%A7%C3%B5es/UGP\\_RGPH/Final\\_Version\\_PEPI\\_HISWACA\\_Sept2024.pdf](https://stat-guineebissau.com/Menu_principal/Publica%C3%A7%C3%B5es/UGP_RGPH/Final_Version_PEPI_HISWACA_Sept2024.pdf)