

## ANNEX I. SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCREENING TEMPLATE

### Project Information

<b>Project Information</b>	
1. Project Title	Assistance in the implementation of a pilot electronic data interchange system in Turkmenistan
2. Project Number	01000304
3. Location (Global/Region/Country)	Turkmenistan

### Part A. Integrating Overarching Principles to Strengthen Social and Environmental Sustainability

#### **QUESTION 1: How Does the Project Integrate the Overarching Principles in order to Strengthen Social and Environmental Sustainability?**

*Briefly describe in the space below how the Project mainstreams the human-rights based approach*

Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) in the public sector can mainstream the human rights-based approach by ensuring that government operations and services are guided by the principles of non-discrimination, participation, transparency, and accountability.

Firstly, EDI can help to promote non-discrimination by eliminating biases and barriers in government procurement processes, which can help to ensure that all businesses and entrepreneurs have equal opportunities to participate in government contracts, regardless of their gender, race, or other personal characteristics.

Secondly, EDI can facilitate greater citizen participation and engagement in government decision-making processes by providing online channels for public consultation and feedback. This can help to ensure that the views and needs of all citizens, including marginalized and vulnerable groups, are taken into account in the development of policies and programs.

Thirdly, EDI can promote greater transparency and accountability in government operations by providing real-time access to information on government expenditures and programs. This can help to ensure that resources are allocated in a way that addresses the specific needs and priorities of all citizens, particularly those who may be marginalized or excluded.

Moreover, EDI can support the right to access information by providing user-friendly digital platforms for accessing government services and information. This can help to ensure that all citizens have equal access to government services and can exercise their rights to access information that is relevant to their needs and interests.

Overall, by promoting non-discrimination, participation, transparency, and accountability, EDI in the public sector can mainstream the human rights-based approach and contribute to more inclusive and equitable societies.

***Briefly describe in the space below how the Project is likely to improve gender equality and women's empowerment***

Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) in the public sector can help to improve gender equality and women's empowerment by promoting greater transparency, accountability, and inclusivity in government operations and services.

Firstly, EDI can help to reduce gender-based discrimination and biases in government procurement processes. By enabling electronic transactions, EDI can help to create a more level playing field for women-owned businesses and entrepreneurs, who may face barriers to accessing traditional procurement channels.

Secondly, EDI can promote greater transparency and accountability in government operations by providing real-time access to information on government expenditures and programs. This can help to ensure that resources are allocated in a way that addresses the specific needs and priorities of women, such as access to healthcare, education, and employment opportunities.

Thirdly, EDI can facilitate greater citizen participation and engagement in government decision-making processes by providing online channels for public consultation and feedback. This can help to ensure that the views and needs of women are taken into account in the development of policies and programs.

Moreover, EDI can improve the delivery of government services to women by providing user-friendly digital platforms for accessing information and services. This can help to reduce the time and cost associated with accessing government services in person, particularly for women who may face additional barriers such as caregiving responsibilities.

Overall, by promoting greater transparency, inclusivity, and efficiency in government operations and services, EDI can contribute to greater gender equality and women's empowerment in the public sector.

***Briefly describe in the space below how the Project mainstreams environmental sustainability***

Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) in the public sector can mainstream environmental sustainability by promoting greater efficiency, reducing waste, and supporting the transition to a low-carbon economy.

Firstly, EDI can help to reduce the environmental impact of government operations by streamlining processes and reducing paper-based transactions. By enabling electronic transactions, EDI can reduce the use of paper, which can help to reduce deforestation and support the sustainable management of forests.

Secondly, EDI can support the transition to a low-carbon economy by facilitating the development of digital services and infrastructure, which can help to reduce carbon emissions associated with traditional transportation and infrastructure.

Thirdly, EDI can promote the use of renewable energy and support the development of sustainable supply chains by providing real-time access to information on energy consumption and emissions. This can help to identify opportunities for reducing energy use and emissions, and support the development of sustainable procurement practices.

Moreover, EDI can facilitate greater citizen participation and engagement in environmental sustainability efforts by providing online channels for public consultation and feedback. This can help to ensure that the views and needs of all citizens are taken into account in the development of policies and programs that support environmental sustainability.

Overall, by promoting greater efficiency, reducing waste, and supporting the transition to a low-carbon economy, EDI in the public sector can mainstream environmental sustainability and contribute to more sustainable and resilient societies.

**Part B. Identifying and Managing Social and Environmental Risks**

While Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) in the public sector can bring many benefits, there are also potential social and environmental risks associated with its implementation. Here are three potential risks:

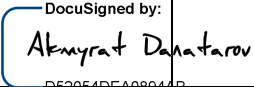

QUESTION 2: What are the Potential Social and Environmental Risks?	QUESTION 3: What is the level of significance of the potential social and environmental risks?			QUESTION 6: What social and environmental assessment and management measures have been conducted and/or are required to address potential risks (for Risks with Moderate and High Significance)?
<i>Note: Describe briefly potential social and environmental risks identified in Attachment 1 – Risk Screening Checklist (based on any “Yes” responses). If no risks have been identified in Attachment 1 then note “No Risks Identified” and skip to Question 4 and Select “Low Risk”. Questions 5 and 6 not required for Low Risk Projects.</i>	<i>Note: Respond to Questions 4 and 5 below before proceeding to Question 6</i>			<b>Description of assessment and management measures as reflected in the Project design. If ESIA or SESA is required note that the assessment should consider all potential impacts and risks.</b>
Risk Description	Impact and Probability (1-5)	Significance (Low, Moderate, High)	Comments	
Risk 1 - Cybersecurity risks: EDI involves the electronic exchange of sensitive information between government	I = 1 P = 1	<b>Moderate</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conduct regular security assessments and audits of the EDI system to identify</li> </ul>

<p>agencies and external stakeholders. This can make the system vulnerable to cyberattacks, data breaches, and other security threats. Such breaches can lead to the loss of personal information and sensitive data, which can have severe social and economic impacts.</p>				<p>vulnerabilities and weaknesses, and implement measures to mitigate these risks.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implement strong access controls and user authentication procedures to ensure that only authorized individuals can access the system and sensitive information.</li> <li>• Train employees and stakeholders on cybersecurity best practices, such as password management, phishing awareness, and safe online behavior.</li> <li>• Develop and test incident response plans to respond quickly and effectively to any security incidents or breaches.</li> <li>• Monitor the system for suspicious activity and implement real-time threat detection and response measures.</li> </ul>
<p>Risk 2 - Digital divide: While EDI can improve access to government services and information, it can also create a digital divide by excluding individuals who lack access to digital technologies or skills. This can create social inequalities, particularly for marginalized and vulnerable groups who may already face barriers to accessing government services.</p>	<p>I = 1 P = 1</p>	<p><b>Moderate</b></p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct a digital divide assessment to identify groups that may be excluded from the EDI system and develop strategies to address these barriers.</li> <li>• Develop user-friendly digital interfaces and provide training and support to ensure that all stakeholders can access and use the system.</li> <li>• Provide alternative access options for individuals who lack access to digital technologies, such as phone or mail-based systems.</li> <li>•</li> </ul>
<p>Risk 3: The use of the EDI system can affect the excessive control of government over citizens, as the system will allow to structure and consolidate data from different registries, being available to the government.</p>	<p>I = 1 P = 1</p>	<p><b>High</b></p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue working with state institutions on democracy, social control and human rights</li> <li>• Keep our work transparent to society</li> <li>• Monitor the process of implementation of technical solutions and inform the UNDP CO management and human right cluster in case</li> </ul>

				potential controversial solutions (from human right and privacy point of view) are being deployed.
[add additional rows as needed]				
	<b>QUESTION 4: What is the overall Project risk categorization?</b>			
	<b>Select one (see <a href="#">SESP</a> for guidance)</b>		<b>Comments</b>	
	<i>Low Risk</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Risks are identified by project management and actions are taken to manage risks. The risk log is actively maintained to keep track of identified risks and actions taken.	
	<i>Moderate Risk</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
	<i>High Risk</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
	<b>QUESTION 5: Based on the identified risks and risk categorization, what requirements of the SES are relevant?</b>			
	Check all that apply		<b>Comments</b>	
	<i>Principle 1: Human Rights</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Project will ensure implementation of human rights equally for whole population of the country by providing equal access to digital public goods.	
	<i>Principle 2: Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The project is aimed at ensuring gender rights via increasing the digital capacity of all woman and girls in the country, as well as by reducing digital divide between genders.	
	<i>1. Biodiversity Conservation and Natural Resource Management</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/a	
	<i>2. Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/a	
	<i>3. Community Health, Safety and Working Conditions</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/a	
	<i>4. Cultural Heritage</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/a	
	<i>5. Displacement and Resettlement</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/a	
	<i>6. Indigenous Peoples</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/a	

	<b>7. Pollution Prevention and Resource Efficiency</b>	<b>X</b>	Project will promote sustainable digital practices, such as reducing unnecessary printing, using cloud-based storage systems, and promoting sustainable procurement policies that consider the environmental impacts of digital technologies and prioritize the use of sustainable materials and suppliers.
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### Final Sign Off

<b>Signature</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Description</b>
QA Assessor Akmyrat Danatarov 		
QA Approver Tomica Pavovic 		

## Social and Environmental Risk Screening Checklist

<b>Checklist Potential Social and Environmental Risks</b>		<b>Answer (Yes/No)</b>
<b>Principles 1: Human Rights</b>		
1.	Could the Project lead to adverse impacts on enjoyment of the human rights (civil, political, economic, social or cultural) of the affected population and particularly of marginalized groups?	NO
2.	Is there a likelihood that the Project would have inequitable or discriminatory adverse impacts on affected populations, particularly people living in poverty or marginalized or excluded individuals or groups? <sup>1</sup>	NO
3.	Could the Project potentially restrict availability, quality of and access to resources or basic services, in particular to marginalized individuals or groups?	NO
4.	Is there a likelihood that the Project would exclude any potentially affected stakeholders, in particular marginalized groups, from fully participating in decisions that may affect them?	NO
5.	Is there a risk that duty-bearers do not have the capacity to meet their obligations in the Project?	NO
6.	Is there a risk that rights-holders do not have the capacity to claim their rights?	NO
7.	Have local communities or individuals, given the opportunity, raised human rights concerns regarding the Project during the stakeholder engagement process?	NO
8.	Is there a risk that the Project would exacerbate conflicts among and/or the risk of violence to project-affected communities and individuals?	NO
<b>Principle 2: Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment</b>		
1.	Is there a likelihood that the proposed Project would have adverse impacts on gender equality and/or the situation of women and girls?	NO
2.	Would the Project potentially reproduce discriminations against women based on gender, especially regarding participation in design and implementation or access to opportunities and benefits?	NO
3.	Have women's groups/leaders raised gender equality concerns regarding the Project during the stakeholder engagement process and has this been included in the overall Project proposal and in the risk assessment?	NO
4.	Would the Project potentially limit women's ability to use, develop and protect natural resources, taking into account different roles and positions of women and men in accessing environmental goods and services? <i>For example, activities that could lead to natural resources degradation or depletion in communities who depend on these resources for their livelihoods and well being</i>	NO
<b>Principle 3: Environmental Sustainability:</b> Screening questions regarding environmental risks are encompassed by the specific Standard-related questions below		
<b>Standard 1: Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Natural Resource Management</b>		
1.1	Would the Project potentially cause adverse impacts to habitats (e.g. modified, natural, and critical habitats) and/or ecosystems and ecosystem services? <i>For example, through habitat loss, conversion or degradation, fragmentation, hydrological changes</i>	NO
1.2	Are any Project activities proposed within or adjacent to critical habitats and/or environmentally sensitive areas, including legally protected areas (e.g. nature reserve, national park), areas proposed for protection, or recognized as such by authoritative sources and/or indigenous peoples or local communities?	NO
1.3	Does the Project involve changes to the use of lands and resources that may have adverse impacts on habitats, ecosystems, and/or livelihoods? (Note: if restrictions and/or limitations of access to lands would apply, refer to Standard 5)	NO

<sup>1</sup> Prohibited grounds of discrimination include race, ethnicity, gender, age, language, disability, sexual orientation, religion, political or other opinion, national or social or geographical origin, property, birth or other status including as an indigenous person or as a member of a minority. References to "women and men" or similar is understood to include women and men, boys and girls, and other groups discriminated against based on their gender identities, such as transgender people and transsexuals.

1.4	Would Project activities pose risks to endangered species?	NO
1.5	Would the Project pose a risk of introducing invasive alien species?	NO
1.6	Does the Project involve harvesting of natural forests, plantation development, or reforestation?	NO
1.7	Does the Project involve the production and/or harvesting of fish populations or other aquatic species?	NO
1.8	Does the Project involve significant extraction, diversion or containment of surface or ground water? <i>For example, construction of dams, reservoirs, river basin developments, groundwater extraction</i>	NO
1.9	Does the Project involve utilization of genetic resources? (e.g. collection and/or harvesting, commercial development)	NO
1.10	Would the Project generate potential adverse transboundary or global environmental concerns?	NO
1.11	Would the Project result in secondary or consequential development activities which could lead to adverse social and environmental effects, or would it generate cumulative impacts with other known existing or planned activities in the area?  <i>For example, a new road through forested lands will generate direct environmental and social impacts (e.g. felling of trees, earthworks, potential relocation of inhabitants). The new road may also facilitate encroachment on lands by illegal settlers or generate unplanned commercial development along the route, potentially in sensitive areas. These are indirect, secondary, or induced impacts that need to be considered. Also, if similar developments in the same forested area are planned, then cumulative impacts of multiple activities (even if not part of the same Project) need to be considered.</i>	NO
<b>Standard 2: Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation</b>		
2.1	Will the proposed Project result in significant <sup>2</sup> greenhouse gas emissions or may exacerbate climate change?	NO
2.2	Would the potential outcomes of the Project be sensitive or vulnerable to potential impacts of climate change?	NO
2.3	Is the proposed Project likely to directly or indirectly increase social and environmental vulnerability to climate change now or in the future (also known as maladaptive practices)?  <i>For example, changes to land use planning may encourage further development of floodplains, potentially increasing the population's vulnerability to climate change, specifically flooding</i>	NO
<b>Standard 3: Community Health, Safety and Working Conditions</b>		
3.1	Would elements of Project construction, operation, or decommissioning pose potential safety risks to local communities?	NO
3.2	Would the Project pose potential risks to community health and safety due to the transport, storage, and use and/or disposal of hazardous or dangerous materials (e.g. explosives, fuel and other chemicals during construction and operation)?	NO
3.3	Does the Project involve large-scale infrastructure development (e.g. dams, roads, buildings)?	NO
3.4	Would failure of structural elements of the Project pose risks to communities? (e.g. collapse of buildings or infrastructure)	NO
3.5	Would the proposed Project be susceptible to or lead to increased vulnerability to earthquakes, subsidence, landslides, erosion, flooding or extreme climatic conditions?	NO
3.6	Would the Project result in potential increased health risks (e.g. from water-borne or other vector-borne diseases or communicable infections such as HIV/AIDS)?	NO
3.7	Does the Project pose potential risks and vulnerabilities related to occupational health and safety due to physical, chemical, biological, and radiological hazards during Project construction, operation, or decommissioning?	NO
3.8	Does the Project involve support for employment or livelihoods that may fail to comply with national and international labor standards (i.e. principles and standards of ILO fundamental conventions)?	NO
3.9	Does the Project engage security personnel that may pose a potential risk to health and safety of communities and/or individuals (e.g. due to a lack of adequate training or accountability)?	NO

<sup>2</sup> In regards to CO<sub>2</sub>, 'significant emissions' corresponds generally to more than 25,000 tons per year (from both direct and indirect sources). [The Guidance Note on Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation provides additional information on GHG emissions.]



<b>Standard 4: Cultural Heritage</b>		
4.1	Will the proposed Project result in interventions that would potentially adversely impact sites, structures, or objects with historical, cultural, artistic, traditional or religious values or intangible forms of culture (e.g. knowledge, innovations, practices)? (Note: Projects intended to protect and conserve Cultural Heritage may also have inadvertent adverse impacts)	NO
4.2	Does the Project propose utilizing tangible and/or intangible forms of cultural heritage for commercial or other purposes?	NO
<b>Standard 5: Displacement and Resettlement</b>		
5.1	Would the Project potentially involve temporary or permanent and full or partial physical displacement?	NO
5.2	Would the Project possibly result in economic displacement (e.g. loss of assets or access to resources due to land acquisition or access restrictions – even in the absence of physical relocation)?	NO
5.3	Is there a risk that the Project would lead to forced evictions? <sup>3</sup>	NO
5.4	Would the proposed Project possibly affect land tenure arrangements and/or community based property rights/customary rights to land, territories and/or resources?	NO
<b>Standard 6: Indigenous Peoples</b>		
6.1	Are indigenous peoples present in the Project area (including Project area of influence)?	NO
6.2	Is it likely that the Project or portions of the Project will be located on lands and territories claimed by indigenous peoples?	NO
6.3	Would the proposed Project potentially affect the human rights, lands, natural resources, territories, and traditional livelihoods of indigenous peoples (regardless of whether indigenous peoples possess the legal titles to such areas, whether the Project is located within or outside of the lands and territories inhabited by the affected peoples, or whether the indigenous peoples are recognized as indigenous peoples by the country in question)?  <i>If the answer to the screening question 6.3 is "yes" the potential risk impacts are considered potentially severe and/or critical and the Project would be categorized as either Moderate or High Risk.</i>	NO
6.4	Has there been an absence of culturally appropriate consultations carried out with the objective of achieving FPIC on matters that may affect the rights and interests, lands, resources, territories and traditional livelihoods of the indigenous peoples concerned?	NO
6.5	Does the proposed Project involve the utilization and/or commercial development of natural resources on lands and territories claimed by indigenous peoples?	NO
6.6	Is there a potential for forced eviction or the whole or partial physical or economic displacement of indigenous peoples, including through access restrictions to lands, territories, and resources?	NO
6.7	Would the Project adversely affect the development priorities of indigenous peoples as defined by them?	NO
6.8	Would the Project potentially affect the physical and cultural survival of indigenous peoples?	NO
6.9	Would the Project potentially affect the Cultural Heritage of indigenous peoples, including through the commercialization or use of their traditional knowledge and practices?	NO
<b>Standard 7: Pollution Prevention and Resource Efficiency</b>		
7.1	Would the Project potentially result in the release of pollutants to the environment due to routine or non-routine circumstances with the potential for adverse local, regional, and/or transboundary impacts?	NO
7.2	Would the proposed Project potentially result in the generation of waste (both hazardous and non-hazardous)?	NO


<sup>3</sup> Forced evictions include acts and/or omissions involving the coerced or involuntary displacement of individuals, groups, or communities from homes and/or lands and common property resources that were occupied or depended upon, thus eliminating the ability of an individual, group, or community to reside or work in a particular dwelling, residence, or location without the provision of, and access to, appropriate forms of legal or other protections.

7.3 Will the proposed Project potentially involve the manufacture, trade, release, and/or use of hazardous chemicals and/or materials? Does the Project propose use of chemicals or materials subject to international bans or phase-outs? <i>For example, DDT, PCBs and other chemicals listed in international conventions such as the Stockholm Conventions on Persistent Organic Pollutants or the Montreal Protocol</i>	NO
7.4 Will the proposed Project involve the application of pesticides that may have a negative effect on the environment or human health?	NO
7.5 Does the Project include activities that require significant consumption of raw materials, energy, and/or water?	NO

Signature:

Prepared

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