ASM-16934 - SESP (Social and Environmental Screening Procedure)

Procedure Year: 2024

Procedure Rating: Low

Procedure Status: Approved

Procedure Name: ASM-16934

Procedure Type: Design

Procedure Department: CO - Sri Lanka - Colombo

Record Owner: Nuwan Perera

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RELATED PORTFOLIO MYWPS/PROJECTS(1)					
NAME	DEPARTMENT	STATUS	ATLAS PROJECT NUMBER	START DATE	END DATE
01003546	CO - Sri Lanka - Colombo	On Going		11/1/2024	6/30/2026

Triggered Requirements:

Assessment — Status: Complete

Is assessment required? (Question only required for Moderate, Substantial and High Risk portfolio MYWPs/projects)

Targeted assessment(s) required? No

If yes, please indicate the status of required assessment(s)?

Comments (for instance, please indicate the assessment type) (10000 Characters maximum)

Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) required? No

If yes, please indicate the status?

Comments (10000 Characters maximum)

Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA) required? No

If yes, please indicate the status?

Comments (10000 Characters maximum)

Management Plans — Status: Complete

Are management plans required? (Question only required for Moderate, Substantial and High Risk portfolio MYWPs/projects)

Targeted management plan(s) required? No

If yes, please indicate the status of required management plan(s)?

Comments (for instance, please indicate the type of management plan) (10000 Characters maximum)

Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) required? No

If yes, please indicate the status?

Comments (10000 Characters maximum)

Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) required? No

If yes, please indicate the status?

Comments (10000 Characters maximum)

Identified Risks & Treatments:

Principle & Standard: Human Rights

Risk Significance: Low

Triggered Principles:

Risk Significance: Low

Event:

Risk of key stakeholders getting excluded in the consultations.

Causes:

Due to tight expedited timeline proposed by the Ministry of Environment deliver NDC 3.0.

Impact:

Lead towards reproduce features of marginalization against affected, marginalized groups such as PwD, women, youth, especially regarding participation in design and in access to opportunities and benefits that may affect them in its implementation.

Principle & Standard: Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment

Risk Significance: Low

Triggered Principles:

Risk Significance: Low

Event:

There is a risk that wider stakeholders may be not have the capacity to advocate for their rights, opportunities to be considered within the scope of national policy frameworks.

Causes:

gaps in the capacities and social stigma.

Impact:

This would lead to the project potentially reproducing features of marginalization.

Principle & Standard: Accountability

Risk Significance: Low

Triggered Principles:

Risk Significance: Low

Event:

There is a risk that government agencies may not have the institutional capacity to effectively fulfill their obligations under the project towards timely and accurate data collection and analysis.

Causes:

Limited horizontal coordination across Ministries and Agencies.
Inadequate coordination capacity and weak inter-agency mechanisms.

Impact:

Could hinder timely and accurate data collection and analysis.

Questionnaire:

Step 1 - Integrate the SES Programming Principles Status: Complete

QUESTION 1: How Does the Portfolio MYWP/Project Integrate the Programming Principles in Order to Strengthen Social and Environmental Sustainability?

Briefly describe in the space below how the portfolio MYWP/project mainstreams the human rights-based approach (32000 Characters maximum)

The project will support to mainstream climate change, land degradation neutrality, loss and damage concerns within key national policy frameworks which align with the UNFCCC and UNCCD. In consultation and under the leadership of the Ministry of Environment, an inclusive and participatory approach will be adopted for the planned stakeholder engagement activities, designed to enhance opportunities for decision-making prospects of groups and individuals considered as vulnerable and marginalized, in line with non-discriminatory, equality and human-rights principles. The project will also support to enhance awareness of wider stakeholders with a focus on empowering stakeholders, especially marginalized and vulnerable groups, to claim their rights and actively engage in decision-making processes that affect their lives, thereby fostering more inclusive, equitable, and sustainable outcomes.

Briefly describe in the space below how the portfolio MYWP/project is likely to improve gender equality and women's empowerment (32000 Characters maximum)

The project will support to enhance gender equity and social inclusion (GESI) considerations within the national policy frameworks. It will support the mapping of key entry points for gender-responsive and socially inclusive considerations across environmental and climate-related policy development and programming, including within NDC mitigation and adaptation sectors. Tailored GESI indicators and metrics will be developed to quantify and verify the meaningful engagement and inclusion of women and other marginalized societal groups in the design and implementation of NDC 3.0 activities. The project will also facilitate consultations with women, youth, persons with disabilities, and other vulnerable and marginalized populations to provide a platform for their voices to be heard and reflected in decision-making processes, promoting inclusive, equitable, and accountable climate action. The budget for the project will be developed in a gender sensitive manner, the NDC 3.0 component of the project has allocated 15% towards GESI related activities.

Briefly describe in the space below how the portfolio MYWP/project mainstreams sustainability and resilience (32000 Characters maximum)

As the project focuses on updating the country's key national policy frameworks including the NDCs, it will support the identification of NDC actions to manage climate risks and avert potential future impacts across the 15 NDC sectors. The updated sectoral targets will be underpinned by a strong focus on preparedness and capacity building, promoting the use of early warning systems and the generation and application of risk information for more informed decision-making. The project will also reinforce national alignment with international environmental and climate commitments by leveraging synergies between the Rio Conventions and the Sustainable Development Goals, fostering coherent and effective implementation across frameworks. In doing so, it will uphold a precautionary approach to natural resource management, promoting conservation practices that anticipate and mitigate environmental degradation before irreversible damage occurs.

Briefly describe in the space below how the portfolio MYWP/project strengthens accountability to stakeholders (32000 Characters maximum)

The project is designed based on the principles of accountability and will be implemented in close collaboration with stakeholders i.e. those who address and are affected by climate change challenges. The ministries, institutes of the state, private sector, academia, non-government organizations and varied social groups will be involved from start to completion of the project implementation process. They will be engaged to provide inputs in the

design of the national policy frameworks. The project will ensure gender balance, and take into consideration the needs of marginalized groups affected by climate change.

Step 2.1 - SES Risk Screening Checklist (Programming Principles)

Status: Complete

Human Rights

P.1 Have local communities or individuals raised human rights concerns regarding the portfolio MYWP/project (e.g. during the stakeholder engagement process, grievance processes, public statements)?	No
P.2 Is there a risk that duty-bearers (e.g. government agencies) do not have the capacity to meet their obligations in the portfolio MYWP/project?	Yes
P.3 Is there a risk that rights-holders (e.g. persons affected by programming activities) do not have the capacity to claim their rights?	Yes

Would the portfolio MYWP/project potentially involve or lead to:

P.4 Adverse impacts on enjoyment of the human rights (civil, political, economic, social or cultural) of the affected population and particularly of marginalized groups?	No
P.5 Inequitable or discriminatory impacts on affected populations, particularly people living in poverty or marginalized or excluded individuals or groups, including persons with disabilities?	Yes
P.6 Restrictions in availability, quality of and/or access to resources or basic services, in particular to marginalized individuals or groups, including persons with disabilities?	No
P.7 Exacerbation of conflicts among and/or the risk of violence to affected communities and individuals?	No

Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment

P.8 Have women's groups/leaders raised gender equality concerns regarding the portfolio MYWP/project, (e.g. during the stakeholder engagement process, grievance processes, public statements)?	No

Would the portfolio MYWP/project potentially involve or lead to:

P.9 Adverse impacts on gender equality and/or the situation of women and girls?	No
P.10 Reproducing discriminations against women based on gender, especially regarding participation in design and implementation or access to opportunities and benefits?	Yes
P.11 Limitations on 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?	No
P.12 Exacerbation of risks of gender-based violence?	No

Sustainability and Resilience: Screening questions regarding risks associated with sustainability and resilience are encompassed by the Standard-specific questions below

Accountability

Would the portfolio MYWP/project potentially involve or lead to:

P.13 Exclusion of any potentially affected stakeholders, in particular marginalized groups and excluded individuals (including persons with disabilities), from fully participating in decisions that may affect them?	Yes
P.14 Grievances or objections from potentially affected stakeholders?	Yes
P.15 Risks of retaliation or reprisals against stakeholders who express concerns or grievances, or who seek to participate in or to obtain information on the project/portfolio?	Yes

Step 2.2 - SES Risk Screening Checklist (Standards) Status: Complete

Standard 1: Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Natural Resource Management

Would the portfolio MYWP/project potentially involve or lead to:

1.1 Adverse impacts to habitats (e.g. modified, natural, and critical habitats) and/or ecosystems and ecosystem services?	No
1.2 Activities within or adjacent to critical habitats and/or environmentally sensitive areas, including (but not limited to) 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 Changes to the use of lands and resources that may have adverse impacts on habitats, ecosystems, and/or livelihoods?	No
1.4 Risks to endangered species?	No
1.5 Exacerbation of illegal wildlife trade?	No
1.6 Introduction of invasive alien species?	No
1.7 Adverse impacts on soil?	No
1.8 Harvesting of natural forests, plantation development, or reforestation?	No
1.9 Significant agricultural production?	No
1.10 Animal husbandry or harvesting of fish populations or other aquatic species?	No
1.11 Significant extraction, diversion or containment of surface or ground water?	No
1.12 Handling or utilization of genetically modified organisms/living modified organisms?	No
1.13 Utilization of genetic resources?	No
1.14 Adverse transboundary or global environmental concerns?	No

Standard 2: Climate Change and Disaster Risks

Would the portfolio MYWP/project potentially involve or lead to:

2.1 Areas subject to hazards such as earthquakes, floods, landslides, severe winds, storm surges, tsunami or volcanic eruptions?	No
2.2 Outputs and outcomes sensitive or vulnerable to potential impacts of climate change or disasters	No

2.3 Direct or indirect increases in vulnerability to climate change impacts or disaster risks now or in the future (also known as maladaptive or negative coping practices)?	No
2.4 Increases of greenhouse gas emissions, black carbon emissions or other drivers of climate change?	No

Standard 3: Community Health, Safety and Security

Would the portfolio MYWP/project potentially involve or lead to:

3.1 Construction and/or infrastructure development (e.g. roads, buildings, dams)?	No
3.2 Air pollution, noise, vibration, traffic, injuries, physical hazards, poor surface water quality due to runoff, erosion, sanitation?	No
3.3 Harm or losses due to failure of structural elements of the programming activities (e.g. collapse of buildings or infrastructure)?	No
3.4 Risks of water-borne or other vector-borne diseases (e.g. temporary breeding habitats), communicable and noncommunicable diseases, nutritional disorders, mental health?	No
3.5 Transport, storage, and use and/or disposal of hazardous or dangerous materials (e.g. explosives, fuel and other chemicals during construction and operation)?	No
3.6 Adverse impacts on ecosystems and ecosystem services relevant to communities' health (e.g. food, surface water purification, natural buffers from flooding)?	No
3.7 Influx of portfolio MYWP/project workers to targeted areas?	No
3.8 Engagement of security personnel to protect facilities and property or to support portfolio MYWP/project activities?	No

Standard 4: Cultural Heritage

Would the portfolio MYWP/project potentially involve or lead to:

4.1 Activities adjacent to or within a Cultural Heritage site?	No
4.2 Significant excavations, demolitions, movement of earth, flooding or other environmental changes?	No
4.3 Adverse impacts to sites, structures, or objects with historical, cultural, artistic, traditional or religious values or intangible forms of culture (e.g. knowledge, innovations, practices)? (Note: portfolio MYWPs/projects intended to protect and conserve Cultural Heritage may also have inadvertent adverse impacts)	No
4.4 Alterations to landscapes and natural features with cultural significance?	No
4.5 Utilization of tangible and/or intangible forms (e.g. practices, traditional knowledge) of Cultural Heritage for commercial or other purposes?	No

Standard 5: Displacement and Resettlement

Would the portfolio MYWP/project potentially involve or lead to:

5.1 Temporary or permanent and full or partial physical displacement (including people without legally recognizable claims to land)?	No
5.2 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 Risk of forced evictions?	No
5.4 Impacts on or changes to land tenure arrangements and/or community based property rights/customary rights to land, territories and/or resources?	No

Standard 6: Indigenous Peoples

Would the portfolio MYWP/project potentially involve or lead to:

6.1 Areas where indigenous peoples are present (including project area of influence)?	No
6.2 Activities located on lands and territories claimed by indigenous peoples?	No
6.3 Impacts (positive or negative) to 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 programming activities are 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)?	No
6.4 The 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 The utilization and/or commercial development of natural resources on lands and territories claimed by indigenous peoples?	No
6.6 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 Adverse impacts on the development priorities of indigenous peoples as defined by them?	No
6.8 Risks to the physical and cultural survival of indigenous peoples?	No
6.9 Impacts on the Cultural Heritage of indigenous peoples, including through the commercialization or use of their traditional knowledge and practices?	No

Standard 7: Labour and Working Conditions

Would the portfolio MYWP/project potentially involve or lead to: (note: applies to portfolio MYWP, project and contractor workers)

7.1 Working conditions that do not meet national labour laws and international commitments?	No
7.2 Working conditions that may deny freedom of association and collective bargaining?	No
7.3 Use of child labour?	No
7.4 Use of forced labour?	No
7.5 Discriminatory working conditions and/or lack of equal opportunity?	No
7.6 Occupational health and safety risks due to physical, chemical, biological and psychosocial hazards (including violence and harassment) throughout the portfolio MYWP/project life-cycle?	No

Standard 8: Pollution Prevention and Resource Efficiency

Would the portfolio MYWP/project potentially involve or lead to:

8.1 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

8.2 The generation of waste (both hazardous and non-hazardous)?	No
8.3 The manufacture, trade, release, and/or use of hazardous materials and/or chemicals?	No
8.4 The use of chemicals or materials subject to international bans or phase-outs?	No
8.5 The application of pesticides that may have a negative effect on the environment or human health?	No
8.6 Significant consumption of raw materials, energy, and/or water?	No

Approval History

Approval Date: Thu Jul 03 00:00:00 GMT 2025

Approved By: Salma EL HAG YOUSIF <salma.elhagyousif@undp.org>

Confirmed Date:

Connfirmed By:

PAC/Board Date:

PAC/Board Meeting minutes uploaded: ☐

STEP NAME	DATE	STATUS	ASSIGNED TO
Cleared for PAC/Board	2025-07-03 03:48:42	Approved	Salma EL HAG YOUSIF
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Approval Request Submitted	2025-07-03 02:28:32	Started	Nuwan Perera