

Social and Environmental Screening Template

The completed template, which constitutes the Social and Environmental Screening Report, must be included as an annex to the Project Document at the design stage. Note: this template will be converted into an online tool. The online version will guide users through the process and will embed relevant guidance.

Project Information

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1. Project Title	Addressing COVID-19 and Sustainable Investments along the Belt and Road by Strengthening Partner Countries' Capacities and Establishing a Network of Sustainable Investment Promotion (SIP) Facilities with Serbia as an Early Pilot
2. Project Number (i.e. Atlas project ID, PIMS+)	Award: 00136369 Output: 00127304
3. Location (Global/Region/Country)	Republic of Serbia
4. Project stage (Design or Implementation)	Design
5. Date	October 2021

Part A. Integrating Programming Principles to Strengthen Social and Environmental Sustainability

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

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

The project will strive to enhance the overall investment climate in Serbia during (and after) the COVID-19 global pandemic and contribute to the sustainability of all investments in the country, regardless of source. COVID-19 is the worst global pandemic in 100 years, and its outbreak significantly impacted all citizens in various forms. It is having a disastrous socioeconomic impact, especially on poor and vulnerable populations, as well as causing major disruptions to health and economic systems. The proposed project will provide a multilateral framework of cooperation to leverage sustainable investment opportunities in response to the immediate aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic, which will show early and positive results, bridge communication gaps, and ensure that foreign investments complement existing programs and local stakeholders are fully engaged. Consequentially, this will contribute to Serbia and its society to achieve the SDGs and to promote human rights and security.

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

The project is marked as GEN1 project, thus not having the straightforward outputs that by implementing are improving the gender equality. Nevertheless, all activities in this project will be seen through SDGs lenses and will make sure that wherever we can we contribute to women empowerment. For example, one activity is to develop SDG Investor Map - a targeted platform of country-level data that highlights business opportunities as well as potential social and economic benefits of foreign investments in priority sectors, subsectors, sub-regions and, more granularly, proven business models to safeguard social security and stimulate economic growth in Serbia after the COVID-19 crisis. This methodology proposes to implement this activity and use a gender lens approach: embed it within the team by ensuring gender expertise, and within the process through consistent integration across all steps. Also, we will engage with a broad set of investors or

investment facilitators in data collection, including impact-focused investors that are women-led and/or gender, human rights, or women-focused investors, local business incubators, global investors.

Briefly describe in the space below how the project mainstreams sustainability and resilience

This project, through policy engagement, platform building, and piloting projects, the programme in Serbia aims to improve its overall investment climate to attract and sustain foreign investments that counteract the impact of COVID-19 on economic and social sustainability of development in the country. This will be done through strengthening the relevant institutional frameworks and further developing capacities.

The SIP facility, which will be established through project, will strive to enhance the overall investment climate in Serbia after COVID-19 and contribute to the sustainability of all investments in the country, regardless of source. Through its global network and development expertise, UNDP can utilize SIP facilities to respond to development priorities of partner countries, to incorporate sustainability principles into foreign investment and its subsequent implementation, and to leverage financing for development

Briefly describe in the space below how the project strengthens accountability to stakeholders

The project will strengthen Government accountability towards citizens and help them to strengthen capacities of policymakers to understand the impact of COVID-19 on enterprises, identify practical challenges, priorities, regulatory and institutional gaps in sustaining and upgrading investments and businesses that support Serbia's post-crisis recovery and long-term sustainability of its development

Part B. Identifying and Managing Social and Environmental Risks

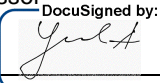
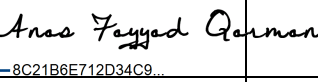
QUESTION 2: What are the Potential Social and Environmental Risks? <i>Note: Complete SESP Attachment 1 before responding to Question 2.</i>	QUESTION 3: What is the level of significance of the potential social and environmental risks? <i>Note: Respond to Questions 4 and 5 below before proceeding to Question 5</i>			QUESTION 6: Describe the assessment and management measures for each risk rated Moderate, Substantial or High
Risk Description (broken down by event, cause, impact)	Impact and Likelihood (1-5)	Significance (Low, Moderate Substantial, High)	Comments (optional)	Description of assessment and management measures for risks rated as Moderate, Substantial or High
Risk 1: Unpredictability of how long the COVID-19 pandemic will last and the possibility of its recurrence during the proposed project cycle, which will impact project implementation, may cause Delay in project implementation, thus no fulfillment of the project objective, as per initial timeframe, and engagement of additional resources.	I = 3 L = 4	Moderate		Activities that rely less on physical travel/presence, and can be performed online have been prioritized. Currently planned off-line activities have also been designed with flexible format or timing sequence, in order to enhance the project's overall resilience.
Risk 2: No available data to establish the proposed online SIP One-Stop Platform and to update on a regular, on-time basis, may cause Inability to create	I = 4 L = 2	Moderate		Additional knowledge and technical support will be pursued from the targeted media partners.

data-base for online SIP One-Stop Platform, and lead to no fulfillment of the project objectives.				
Risk 3: No Available staff from the Serbian government counterparts and enterprises in charge of the piloting projects to devote to supporting project interventions, may cause no existence of national ownership for the piloting projects, which in turn may impact in failure to enable sustainable investment promotion.	I = 3 L = 2	Moderate		Capacity and awareness gaps will be augmented by including the targeted staff with the proposed events on knowledge sharing, capacity development and training. Necessary questionnaires, one-on-one interviews and consultations will be organized.
Risk 4: Creating a SIP facility that is seen to exclusively focus on Chinese investment, not providing useful lessons for all investment – domestic and foreign, or the necessary compatibility with Serbia's EU membership objectives may jeopardize strategic orientation of the country which may impact in non-existence of enabling sustainable environment for all investments - domestic or foreign.	I=4 L=2	Moderate		Throughout the process of the project implementation, local participation and buy-ins of the facility need be strengthened and highlighted, multilateral stakeholders from all interested nations will also be fully engaged, including investor roundtables, trips, etc planned under the SIP facility. Inputs will be sought from Serbia's relevant Ministries regarding EU rules. The SIP facility will provide support to the country in ensuring sustainability standards in early stages of negotiations on investments.
Risk 5: Weak coordination between national ministries, sector bureaus and regional governments, may cause no clear ownership due to different jurisdictions of the line ministries, and possible overlapping of different levels of governments, which could jeopardize fulfillment of the project objective.	I=3 L=2	Moderate		The advocacy platforms will be used to promote coordination and harmonization for the success of SIP initiation.
Risk 6: Lack of financial resources to further expand the programme beyond the 2-year period may cause in no continuation of the project and no sustainability, and the Sustainable Investment Promotion initiative could be jeopardized.	I=4 L=3	Substantial		The SIP facility will also serve as a platform to advocate for resource mobilization to further expand the programme.
	QUESTION 4: What is the overall project risk categorization?			
		Low Risk	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		Moderate Risk	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

	Substantial Risk	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	High Risk	<input type="checkbox"/>	
QUESTION 5: Based on the identified risks and risk categorization, what requirements of the SES are triggered? (check all that apply)			
Question only required for Moderate, Substantial and High Risk projects			
<u>Is assessment required? (check if "yes")</u>			Status? (completed, planned)
<i>if yes, indicate overall type and status</i>		x	Targeted assessment(s)
		<input type="checkbox"/>	ESIA (Environmental and Social Impact Assessment)
		<input type="checkbox"/>	SESA (Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment)
<u>Are management plans required? (check if "yes")</u>			
<i>if yes, indicate overall type</i>		<input type="checkbox"/>	Targeted management plans (e.g. Gender Action Plan, Emergency Response Plan, Waste Management Plan, others)
		<input type="checkbox"/>	ESMP (Environmental and Social Management Plan which may include range of targeted plans)
		<input type="checkbox"/>	ESMF (Environmental and Social Management Framework)
Based on identified risks, which Principles/Project-level Standards triggered?			Comments (not required)
Overarching Principle: Leave No One Behind	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Human Rights	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Accountability	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
1. Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Natural Resource Management	<input type="checkbox"/>		
2. Climate Change and Disaster Risks	<input type="checkbox"/>		
3. Community Health, Safety and Security	<input type="checkbox"/>		
4. Cultural Heritage	<input type="checkbox"/>		
5. Displacement and Resettlement	<input type="checkbox"/>		
6. Indigenous Peoples	<input type="checkbox"/>		
7. Labour and Working Conditions	<input type="checkbox"/>		
8. Pollution Prevention and Resource Efficiency	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Final Sign Off

Final Screening at the design-stage is not complete until the following signatures are included

Signature	Date	Description
QA Assessor 		UNDP staff member responsible for the project, typically a UNDP Programme Officer. Final signature confirms they have "checked" to ensure that the SESP is adequately conducted.
QA Approver 		UNDP senior manager, typically the UNDP Deputy Country Director (DCD), Country Director (CD), Deputy Resident Representative (DRR), or Resident Representative (RR). The QA Approver cannot also be the QA Assessor. Final signature confirms they have "cleared" the SESP prior to submittal to the PAC.
PAC Chair		UNDP chair of the PAC. In some cases PAC Chair may also be the QA Approver. Final signature confirms that the SESP was considered as part of the project appraisal and considered in recommendations of the PAC.

SESP Attachment 1. Social and Environmental Risk Screening Checklist

Checklist Potential Social and Environmental Risks		
INSTRUCTIONS: The risk screening checklist will assist in answering Questions 2-6 of the Screening Template. Answers to the checklist questions help to (1) identify potential risks, (2) determine the overall risk categorization of the project, and (3) determine required level of assessment and management measures. Refer to the SES toolkit for further guidance on addressing screening questions.		
Overarching Principle: Leave No One Behind		Answer (Yes/No)
Human Rights		
P.1	Have local communities or individuals raised human rights concerns regarding the 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 project?	No
P.3	Is there a risk that rights-holders (e.g. project-affected persons) do not have the capacity to claim their rights?	No
<i>Would the project potentially involve or lead to:</i>		
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? ¹	No
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 project-affected communities and individuals?	No
Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment		
P.8	Have women's groups/leaders raised gender equality concerns regarding the project, (e.g. during the stakeholder engagement process, grievance processes, public statements)?	No
<i>Would the project potentially involve or lead to:</i>		
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?	No
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? <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
P.12	exacerbation of risks of gender-based violence? <i>For example, through the influx of workers to a community, changes in community and household power dynamics, increased exposure to unsafe public places and/or transport, etc.</i>	No
Sustainability and Resilience: Screening questions regarding risks associated with sustainability and resilience are encompassed by the Standard-specific questions below		

¹ Prohibited grounds of discrimination include race, ethnicity, sex, age, language, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, 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 and transsexual people.

Accountability		
<i>Would the project potentially involve or lead to:</i>		
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?	No
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?	No
Project-Level Standards		
Standard 1: Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Natural Resource Management		
<i>Would the project potentially involve or lead to:</i>		
1.1	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	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? (Note: if restrictions and/or limitations of access to lands would apply, refer to Standard 5)	No
1.4	risks to endangered species (e.g. reduction, encroachment on habitat)?	No
1.5	exacerbation of illegal wildlife trade?	No
1.6	introduction of invasive alien species?	No
1.7	adverse impacts on soils?	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? <i>For example, construction of dams, reservoirs, river basin developments, groundwater extraction</i>	No
1.12	handling or utilization of genetically modified organisms/living modified organisms? ²	No
1.13	utilization of genetic resources? (e.g. collection and/or harvesting, commercial development) ³	No
1.14	adverse transboundary or global environmental concerns?	No
Standard 2: Climate Change and Disaster Risks		
<i>Would the project potentially involve or lead to:</i>		
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 See the [Convention on Biological Diversity](#) and its [Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety](#).

³ See the [Convention on Biological Diversity](#) and its [Nagoya Protocol](#) on access and benefit sharing from use of genetic resources.

	<i>For example, through increased precipitation, drought, temperature, salinity, extreme events, earthquakes</i>	
2.3	increases in vulnerability to climate change impacts or disaster risks now or in the future (also known as maladaptive or negative coping 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
2.4	increases of greenhouse gas emissions, black carbon emissions or other drivers of climate change?	No
Standard 3: Community Health, Safety and Security		
<i>Would the project potentially involve or lead to:</i>		
3.1	construction and/or infrastructure development (e.g. roads, buildings, dams)? (Note: the GEF does not finance projects that would involve the construction or rehabilitation of large or complex 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 project (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 project workers to project areas?	No
3.8	engagement of security personnel to protect facilities and property or to support project activities?	No
Standard 4: Cultural Heritage		
<i>Would the project potentially involve or lead to:</i>		
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: 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		
<i>Would the project potentially involve or lead to:</i>		
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? ⁴	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		
<i>Would the project potentially involve or lead to:</i>		
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 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 screening question 6.3 is "yes", then the potential risk impacts are considered significant and the project would be categorized as either Substantial Risk or High Risk</i>	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? <i>Consider, and where appropriate ensure, consistency with the answers under Standard 5 above</i>	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? <i>Consider, and where appropriate ensure, consistency with the answers under Standard 4 above.</i>	No
Standard 7: Labour and Working Conditions		
<i>Would the project potentially involve or lead to: (note: applies to project and contractor workers)</i>		
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 project life-cycle?	No
Standard 8: Pollution Prevention and Resource Efficiency		
<i>Would the project potentially involve or lead to:</i>		No

⁴ Forced eviction is defined here as the permanent or temporary removal against their will of individuals, families or communities from the homes and/or land which they occupy, without the provision of, and access to, appropriate forms of legal or other protection. Forced evictions constitute gross violations of a range of internationally recognized human rights.

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? <i>For example, DDT, PCBs and other chemicals listed in international conventions such as the Montreal Protocol, Minamata Convention, Basel Convention, Rotterdam Convention, Stockholm Convention</i>	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