

SAINT VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES STRENGTHENING HEALTH SYSTEM RESILIENCE PROJECT

Terms of Reference ENVIRONMENTAL SPECIALIST SVG-SHSRP-C-INDV-7

BACKGROUND

The Government of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines (SVG) has received financing from the International Development Association (World Bank) and OPEC Fund for International Development (OFID) towards the cost of implementing the Strengthening Health System and Resilience Project (SHSRP). The SHSRP aims to strengthen the capacity of hospital services and health system resilience in advancing the goals and targets of the National Health Sector Strategic Plan (NHSSP) and the National Economic and Social Development Plan (NESDP) 2013-2025. The project will also benefit from technical assistance activities financed under the Korea-World Bank Partnership Facility (KWPF). These investments are expected to play a transformative role in strengthening the capacity and adaptability of the national health sector, including the ability to effectively respond to costly disease outbreaks, devastating natural disasters, and the rising burden of chronic Non-Communicable Diseases.

The essential focus of the SHSRP is to promote resilience, quality, and efficiency at the secondary health care level and throughout the health system and induce providers and consumers to seek care early and at lowest appropriate level of care. Specifically, the project will finance infrastructure development, purchase of medical equipment, establish a robust hospital digital management information system for service efficiency and quality, and strengthen hospital governance and management. In effect, the project will be executed under four components:

Component 1: Development and launch of a new acute care hospital. This component will co-finance the construction of the new hospital and related medical and non-medical equipment, as well as support the development of an equipment and maintenance strategy.

Component 2. Strengthening Health System Resilience. This component will finance activities at the hospital and sector levels to strengthen the resilience of the health system against crises to reduce disruption to delivery of essential health care services during emergencies. Financing of this component will be complemented by KWPF grant-financed analytics and advisory services.

Component 3: Project Management, Coordination and Evaluation. This component will support national level activities in support of the project implementing agency. Specific activities include capacity building in contract management, procurement, environment and social safeguards, financial management, and technical monitoring and evaluation, including project audits. In

addition, related operating expenses, equipment, and personnel necessary for the execution of the project will be supported.

Component 4. Contingency Emergency Response Component (CERC). This zero-cost component aims to provide funding in the event of an eligible emergency, as defined in the Financing Agreement. The CERC may be triggered if the Government of Saint Vincent meets the conditions set forth under the Financing Agreement.

Implementation of the project will fall within the span of control of the Public Sector Investment Project Management Unit of the Economic Planning, Ministry of Finance, Economic Planning, and Information Technology (MOFEP), working in close coordination with the Ministry of Health, Wellness, and the Environment (MOHWE) that will serve as the lead agency on technical matters. A dedicated Project Coordination Team (PCT) will be established to assume the management functions of project planning, monitoring and evaluation, fiduciary oversight, and environmental and social risk management. The PCT will be supported in the execution of its functions, for Component 1 by the Construction Management Consultant and by a Health Sector Consultant (HSC) for Component 2. In response to the complexity and development focus of the project, a broad-based multisectoral Project Steering Committee (PSC) will be established to enable high-level leadership, oversight, and coordination.

TERMS OF ASSIGNMENT

The Environmental Specialist is expected to coordinate with the Environmental and Social Safeguards Focal Points in the Ministry of Finance, Economic Planning and Information Technology and with the Social Safeguards Specialist contracted for the project to support the PSIMPU in ensuring that environmental issues and environmental management activities are mainstreamed into the various components of the Project so that it is compliant with the country's regulations, with the Environmental and Social Standards of the World Bank, and with the Social and Environmental Assessment provisions developed for this Project.

The consultancy is full-time and will be performed on site at the designated project office located in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines. The Environmental Specialist will work under the overall management of the Director of Economic Planning and will report to the Project Manager. He/She shall work under the supervision of the Environment Focal Point in the PSIPMU on all environmental safeguards related matters and provide the stated services for the project. He/She will work in tandem with the project's Social Specialist. The Environmental Specialist will be jointly responsible with the Social Specialist with respect to the application of the following Environmental and Social Standards (ESSs):

- Environmental and Social Standard 1: Assessment and Management of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts: The main instruments are the Environmental and Social Commitment Plan (ESCP) Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF), Environmental and Social Management Plans (ESMPs).
- Environmental and Social Standard 2: Labor and Working Conditions. Elements of Occupational Health and Safety (OSH) will fall under this ESS, for which measures will be described in the ESMF and ESMPs
- Environmental and Social Standard 3: Resource Efficiency and Pollution Prevention and Management. Measures are part of the ESMF and ESMPs.
- Environmental and Social Standard 4: Community Health and Safety. Most of the measures under this ESS will be part of the Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) and Environmental and Social Management Plans (ESMPs).
- Environmental and Social Standard 8: Cultural Heritage. Measures to address these potential impacts will be defined in the ESMF and ESMPs.

The Environmental Specialist will play the lead role in managing the application of the following Environmental and Social Standard (ESS):

- Environmental and Social Standard 3: Resource Efficiency and Pollution Prevention and Management. Measures are part of the ESMF and ESMPs.

The Environmental Specialist will support the Social Safeguards Specialist on the application of the other ESSs more relevant to social aspects including:

- Environmental and Social Standard 10: Stakeholder Engagement and Information Disclosure. The main instrument is the Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP)

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

The Environmental Specialist will be responsible for supporting the Project Manager in ensuring that the Project's ultimate environmental impacts are achieved and that any adverse impacts are

effectively avoided and/or mitigated in a timely manner. Specifically, the Environmental Specialist will be required to:

- 1) Monitor the implementation of the ESCP and ensure the application and compliance of the ESSs, including OHS guidelines, environment guidelines, Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA), and the Environmental and Social Management Plans (ESMPs).
- 2) Prepare quarterly regular monitoring reports, as indicated in the ESCP, on the environmental, social, health and safety (ESHS) performance of the Project; on the implementation of the ESCP; and on the status of preparation and implementation of ESS documents required under the ESCP.
- 3) Carry out appropriate environmental and social assessments of the activities such as procurement of new equipment and physical transfer of equipment and assets from MCMH to AVACH as agreed in the ESCP. Conduct screening as described in the Contingency Emergency Response Component (CERC) Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) (CERC-ESMF), to determine eligibility of sub-projects and the types of environmental instruments needed (ESMPs, Environmental and Social Impacts Assessment (ESIA), etc.) for the CERC activities. Flag issues of non-compliance and advise and support in the development and implementation of alternative strategies
- 4) Review the effectiveness of the updated ESIA and CERC-ESMF if there is any change in the project design and at mid-term review and if required, update the ESIA as agreed by the Government and the World Bank.
- 5) Develop Environment, Social, Health and Safety (ESHS) measures, in collaboration with the Social Specialist, for bidding and procurement documents, including measures to mitigate the spread of COVID19 and other infectious diseases, for project activities according to the ESIA, CERC-ESMF and relevant ESMPs. Support with monitoring, to ensure that the consultants/contractors comply with the ESHS specifications of their respective contracts.
- 6) Provide inputs on environmental and social issues so that all terms of reference for studies, capacity building, training and any technical assistance activities carried out under the Project duly incorporate and take into consideration, the requirements (as applicable) of the Environmental and Social Standards of the Environmental and Social Framework (ESF) of the Bank and the provisions of the ESCP, ESIA, CERC-ESMF, and ESMPs.

- 7) Provide orientation to contractors and workers on application of ESMPs, Code of Conduct, Occupational Health and Safety Guidelines, and Labor Management Procedures, and supervise their compliance with same.
- 8) Work closely with key agencies including line ministries and beneficiary agencies, to ensure that environmental aspects of infrastructure, transport, water resources, health, solid waste management, etc. are understood, taken into account through ESMPs or other instruments, and implemented.
- 9) Participate in review of health sector policies, strategies and legislation and/or possibly lead the policy dialogue with other stakeholders on environmental or natural resources aspects relevant to the Project.
- 10) In collaboration with the Social Safeguards Specialist, and as indicated in the ESCP, prepare and/or support subprojects/contractors with reports on incidents or accident and propose measures to prevent their recurrence.
- 11) Prepare necessary documents, such as environmental guidelines and tools in consultation with stakeholders and help the client in commissioning and managing additional and/ or special studies/ assessments, if necessary.
- 12) Assist the project team in preparing the technical aspects of reports relevant to civil works.
- 13) Work closely with the Social Safeguards Specialist and support preparation and/or updating of management plans such as the Labour Management Procedure (LMP) with its Grievance Mechanism for Project Workers Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) with its Grievance Mechanism (GM), and others as relevant.
- 14) Participate in weekly or monthly site meetings and coordinate with the Construction Management Consultant and the construction contractors.
- 15) Review Contractor's Environmental and Social Management Plans (ESMPs).
- 16) Review Supervision Contractor's reports and ensure that environment, health and safety matters are included in the reports. If required, prepare the corrective action plan and ensure proper implementation of the action plan.
- 17) Verify Contractor's ESHS performance by random checks in the field where supervision consultants are in place, and by routine supervision where supervision consultants are not in place.

- 18) Training/orientation on environmental safeguards (environmental awareness, orientation and training) targeting key stakeholders and contractors and line agencies.
- 19) Perform any other tasks assigned by the Project Manager consistent with the project's objectives, expected results and in line with this ToR.

DELIVERABLES:

1. Reports which consolidate the environmental and social performance of the project and provide inputs to the project's progress reports. The reports will cover the environmental, social, health and safety (ESHS) performance of the Project, including but not limited to, the implementation of the ESCP, status of preparation and implementation of E&S documents required under the ESCP, stakeholder engagement activities, functioning of the grievance mechanism(s).
2. Environmental Impact Monitoring and Evaluation Plan, including indicators and institutional arrangements, for monitoring the environmental impacts/outcomes of the project.
3. Environmental and Social Management Plans (ESMPs) for the relevant project activities.
4. Outreach and stakeholder engagement plan on the ESIA, CERC-ESMF and specific ESMP activities to be complied by contractors and users.

QUALIFICATION AND EXPERIENCE:

- At least a Bachelor's Degree in Environmental Science, Environmental Engineering, Environmental Studies, Environmental Management, Natural Resources Management, or other related discipline.
- At least five (5) years of experience in the preparation and supervision of the implementation of Environmental Impact Assessment for infrastructure projects.
- Demonstrated experience working on projects that have applied World Bank operational Environmental and Social Standards, or experience applying similar environment and social standards in other organizations.
- Strong technical skills and experience in the preparation of ESMPs, ESIA's, and/or other environmental risk management instruments like those required by the World Bank.

- Experience in working with different stakeholders to lead discussions on environmental matters.
- Ability to work in teams and communicate effectively; and demonstrated resourcefulness and initiative
- Fluency in English with excellent oral and writing communication skills as well as report writing.

CONTRACT DURATION

The contract will be for twelve (12) months in the first instance and would be subject to an extension until the project closing date based on satisfactory job performance.

PERFORMANCE METRICS

	Performance metric	Complied*	Rating*
1. Compliance with E&S safeguards and commitments			
1.1.	Screened E&S risks and impacts of site-specific subproject		
1.2.	In coordination with other PCT staff and relevant stakeholders, developed an ESMP for site-specific subproject.		
1.3.	Led consultations with relevant stakeholders on the ESMP for site-specific subproject.		
1.4.	Summary of stakeholder consultations and feedback was integrated into ESMP for site-specific subproject.		
1.5.	Disclosed ESMP for site-specific subproject within a week of WB no Objection.		
1.6.	Provided ESHS input for bidding and contracting documents.		
1.7.	Coordinated with subcontractors to communicate ESHS requirements, requested and obtained regular reports on compliance.		
1.8.	Undertook regular E&S monitoring of subprojects to verify contractor performance.		
1.9.	Provided contributions to the regular quarterly and annual progress reports on projects' implementation within a week of being requested those inputs by the Project Coordinator.		
1.10.	Prepared and submitted monthly reports on time		
2. Stakeholder engagement and consultations			
2.1.	Led consultations with relevant stakeholders on non-infrastructure activities of the project.		
2.2.	Monitored and reported on stakeholder engagement and community outreach		

3. Strengthening of E&S capacity			
3.1.	Provided at least once a year a basic awareness raising and training workshop on E&S issues and compliance with participation of PCT, PSIPMU and MoHWE staff potential beneficiaries.		

*Complied:

- Yes
- No
- N/A (not applicable) for the assessed period.

*Rating:

- 5 Outstanding
- 4 Good
- 3 Adequate
- 2 Marginally adequate
- 1 Unsatisfactory