South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme (SACEP)
Plastic free Rivers and Seas for South Asia (P171269)

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK (ESMF)

[4 April 2020]

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

PROJECT INTRODUCTION

i. The South Asia Region is the third largest contributor to plastic waste globally with an estimated doubling by 2050 unless action is taken. The Maldives aside, all South Asia's coastal nations are among the top twenty most polluting nations ranked by the volume of mismanaged plastic waste with Sri Lanka ranked among the top six according to published studies.

ii. There is growing global and regional recognition and call to reduce ocean plastic pollution. World leaders, including representatives from SAR within the G7, G20, APEC, IORA, SACEP and the UN, have agreed to reduce plastic waste, and signed agreements supporting greater cooperation across nations.

iii. **The Plastic free Rivers and Seas for South Asia (PRS)** Project consists of three main components totaling US$40 million from IDA that will be implemented over a period of five years.

- Component 1: Supporting Competitive Block Grant Investments to Reduce Plastic Waste. The objective of this component is to identify, verify and invest in circular plastic economy solutions and facilitate the exchange of knowledge and awareness of these solutions. To this end, the project will support circular plastic economy solutions to reduce plastic waste by implementing a program of regional competitive block grant investments, providing Regional Competitive Block Grants ("RBGs") to eligible organizations in South Asia ("Eligible RBG Beneficiaries"). Under this component, the project will also facilitate the exchange of circular plastic economy knowledge between eligible RBG beneficiaries and selected South Asian countries and promotes awareness raising activities of these solutions across the region.

- Component 2: Leveraging Public and Private Sector Engagement and Solutions. The objective of this component is to facilitate the region's transition toward a more circular plastic economy through the improvement of regional and national strategies, policies, action plans and standards based on better analytics and through public-private sector engagement, dialogue and collaboration. To this end, the component will provide support to develop and/or improve national and regional plastic pollution mitigation strategies and action plans, policies and industry standards; and, provide technical and other support to relevant institutions to identify, prioritize, collect and analyze lifecycle data and identify data issues and gaps.

- Component 3: Strengthening Regional Integration Institutions. The objective of this component is to strengthen regional organizations' capacity to coordinate and to support their member-states to better deliver on solutions to mitigate plastic pollution that flows into rivers and seas across South Asia and transition to a more circular plastic economy. To this end, the component would build SACEP's institutional capacity to better achieve its mandate by supporting the institutional strengthening of SACEP and its ability to collaborate with other regional organizations and institutions.

iv. The South Asia Cooperative Environment Programme (SACEP) is the implementing agency for this project. SACEP is an inter-governmental organization established by Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka in 1982 to promote and support protection, management and enhancement of the environment in the region.

v. All SAR countries will benefit from the project by virtue of the IDA proceeds that support the implementation of important features of two regional action plans, one specifically prepared to address marine litter, the other one on solid waste more broadly – both that feature plastic waste management and reduction. These plans (with proposed activities) were prepared by SACEP, consulted with all SAR nations and endorsed. The proposed project is designed to ensure that the activities are structured such that SACEP member-states are fully engaged during implementation.

PURPOSE OF THE ESMF

vi. The **Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF)** provides general policies, guidelines, codes of practice and procedures for the project. This ESMF is developed to ensure compliance of the project with the World Bank Environmental and Social Standards (ESS) and WBG environmental health and safety guidelines (EHSGs)and applicable environmental rules and regulations of the governments of the SAR countries.

vii. More specifically, the ESMF is an instrument that examines the risks and impacts of this project which will later consist of several subprojects (implemented by the partners and grantees), whose risks and impacts cannot be determined until the details have been identified. The ESMF sets out the principles, rules, guidelines and procedures to assess the environmental and social risks and impacts according to the WB ESS and the SAR countries respective environmental regulatory frameworks. It contains measures and plans to reduce, mitigate and/or offset adverse risks and impacts, positive and negative list of subprojects, provisions for estimating and budgeting the costs of such measures, and information on the agency or agencies responsible for addressing project risks and impacts, including on its capacity to manage environmental and social risks and impacts; and the procedures for disclosure and grievance redress.

POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RISKS AND IMPACTS

viii. The proposed project, **both through TA and the block grants**, is expected to have largely positive and beneficial impacts for SAR and its oceans. The project's objectives to support the enabling environment, cross-country coordination and capacity building, innovation; and support to the 3Rs is expected to have positive long-term effects in reducing and the dumping of plastic wastes in waterways that end up in coastal areas and oceans. The project will stimulate partnerships among civil society organizations, youth groups and other stakeholders to support national and community-based behavior change and awareness raising; provide funding for innovative solutions; and support youth-led movements, among other things. It may also support, at the policy level, the strengthening of E&S standards and certification for sustainable plastics supply chains focused on socially and environmentally responsible waste sourcing and recycling through transparent, accountable, and legitimate supply chains addressing labor issues, working conditions, and livelihoods. In addition to, the project may also support strengthening industry standards for recycled plastic products (e.g., plastic roads and furniture products) to grow secondary-reuse markets and attract private sector investments.

ix. While by appraisal specific types of innovative technologies and solutions to reduce, reuse and recycle plastics which will be supported by the project are not known yet the project design, however, will ensure that only investments that focus on these 3Rs that are resource efficient, sustainable and environment-friendly, among others, will be supported. Those that are pollutive and resource intensive will be on a negative list and will be ineligible for project financing. That said, environmental risks still exist particularly to the

potential subprojects through the block grant, which would relate to residual wastes or those plastics that cannot be reused, recycled and repurposed, which will have to be disposed and managed properly. However, given that the thrust of the project is 3Rs, residual plastic wastes should be minimal. In addition, innovative methods of collecting plastics from the oceans may still have risks and impacts, which will need to be properly screened and/or assessed during project implementation.

x. The environmental risks from subprojects that will be supported through TA are very unlikely as the TA will mostly involve policy review and formulation, institutional building measures and IEC activities.

xi. On the social side, there will be health risks and impacts to those working in plastics collection and recycling/repurposing due to potential exposure to harmful materials and chemicals during the recycling process, if proper health and safety measures in work places are not implemented and depending on the technology adopted to recycle and repurpose plastics. Resource use patterns will also need to be assessed in these facilities to ensure resources (energy, water and raw materials) are used in an efficient and sustainable manner. The project will include a range of stakeholders across the region: public sector organizations, social enterprises, community groups, and private sector entities. Specific criteria for the management of the challenge grants will need to be prepared and applied to ensure fair access to funding, especially by women's organizations and youth groups. In addition, institutional capacity of the implementing agency, inter-organizational and cross-regional coordination is also weak, and this will be strengthened under the project.

xii. Based on the overall positive and beneficial impacts of the project, which outweigh whatever residual risks and impacts there may be on the adoption of environment-friendly, sustainable and resource-efficient technologies and practices on 3Rs, the overall Environmental and Social risk classification of the project is assessed to be Moderate. This will be revisited during implementation and updated, if necessary, in accordance with an adaptive management approach.

xiii. According to the Gender Based Violence (GBV) risk assessment, the project is classified as Low Risk. The GRM will be appropriately trained to handle potential GBV complaints ethically. Mapping of GBV service providers will be undertaken.

E&S Risk and Impacts from Subprojects to be Supported by the Block Grant

xiv. The table below identifies potential environmental and social impacts, issues and risks for current approach on plastic litter management. Potential subprojects that may be supported by the block grants are also listed. The listing is not exhaustive and may include other innovations to be proposed by grant recipient across the region.

Analysis of Potential Environmental and Social Impacts, Risks

Current Approach to Manage Plastics	Anticipated Environmental and Social Impact, Risks
Prevention	
• Avoidance by new material, new product design (change in production or process) • Reuse	• Potential generation of other waste streams associated with new process or materials (i.e., more water and chemical usage in production of glass bottles than PET); • With the change of process and/or raw material, there may be a need to re-design existing wastewater treatment facilities to address new waste water characteristics or a totally new wastewater system will be needed; • Consequently, with the new process/products used, there might be a need to re-design existing air emission controls or additional treatment facilities may be required; • Workers safety.
Mitigation	
• Recycling technologies (same or new products) • Recovery of plastics • Waste to energy • Better storage, collection and transport • Better thrash trap design installed in waterways • Better design landfills	• Increase in water consumption for cleaning; • Generation of wastewater; • Potential release of micro-plastics and toxic chemicals (i.e., for plastic e-wastes) and fumes; • Generation of solid residues (non-recyclable components) which may need disposal or incineration; • Potential impact of constructing new facilities, and or installation of additional equipment; • Community safety; • Workers safety.
Cleanup	
• Beach and river bank cleanup • Garbage traps • Waste tracking	• Transportation/hauling issues for the recovered wastes; • Need of processing or recycling facilities; • Disposal for recovered plastic which are not recyclables; • Safety of workers/partners/volunteers; • Exposure to sewage-contaminated waste during cleanup.

<u>E&S Risk and Impacts from Subprojects to be Supported by the Technical Assistance</u>

xv. All subprojects supported by the grants would require an **Enabling Environment**, such as in the form of policy and financing scheme, to make them happen. In most of these strategies, government, business entities, and individual consumers must take their respective roles. Such activities will be supported by the project through the TA.

xvi. The environmental and social risks and impacts from such activities will be minimal. However, screening must still be conducted to ensure that such policies, schemes or regulations proposed across the region will be consistent with WB ESS and will not violate existing national laws and regulations.

E&S RISK MANAGEMENT

xvii. The identified sub-projects (TA and block grants) will be screened and will be assessed based on the type and scale of the project, its location, and the nature and magnitude of the potential environmental and social impacts.

Managing Risks According to Applicable ESS

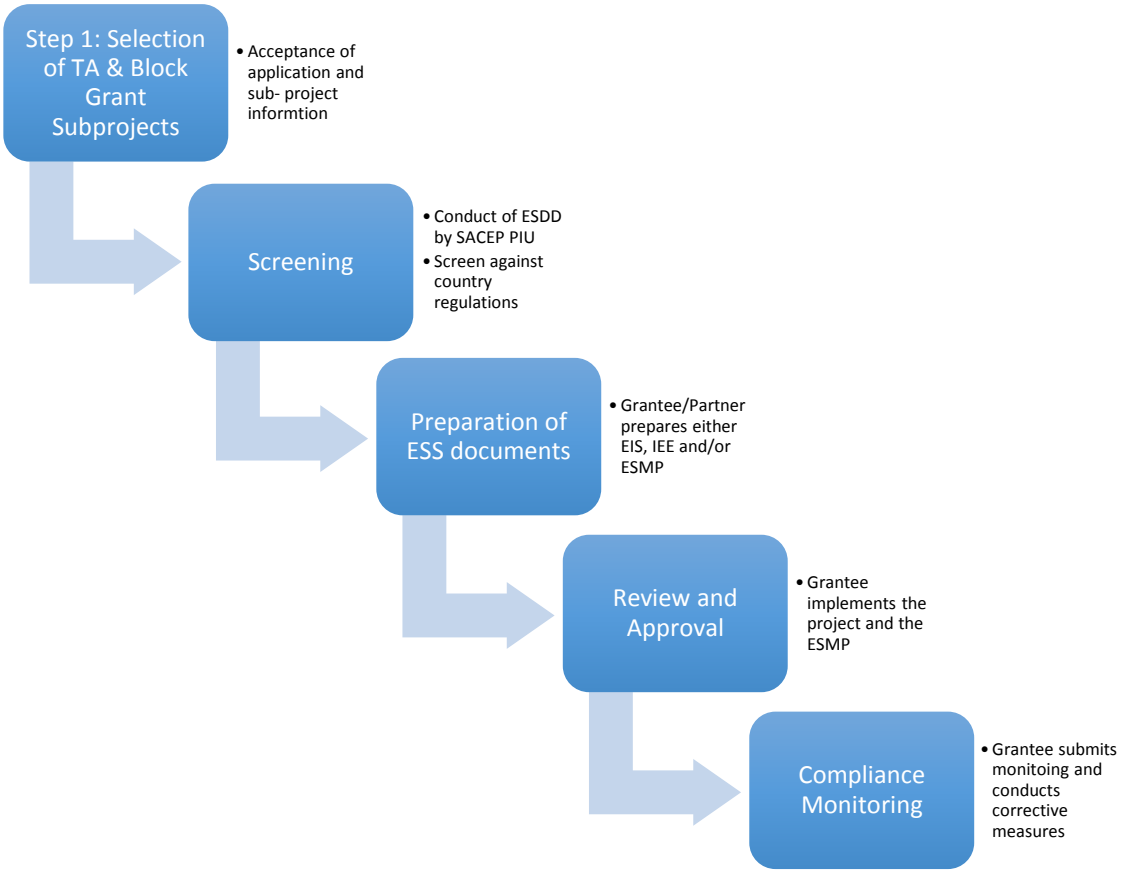
ESS		Managing Risks
ESS1	Assessment & Management of Environmental and Social Impact	• Conduct of Environmental and Social Assessment (ESA) • Preparation of an Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) • Environmental and social screening of subprojects • Application of positive and negative list of subprojects • Preparation of environmental and social diligence (ESDD) for subprojects • Preparation of sub-project specific Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) • Submission of subproject specific Environmental Compliance Monitoring Plan • Corrective Action Plans
ESS2	Labor and Working Conditions	• Preparation of SACEP Labor Management Procedures • Requirement of Occupational and Health and Safety Plan from subprojects/grants • Preparation of GRM for labor related issues. • Codes of Conduct against GBV and SEA for SACEP and contractor (for SACEP HQ construction)
ESS3	Resource Efficiency, Pollution Prevention and Management	• Requirement of ESMP for subprojects/grants • Water & energy audits and GHG inventory report during project implementation for block grant recipients
ESS4	Community Health & Safety	• Preparation of Communication Plan, Stakeholders Engagement Plan and ESMP for subprojects • Codes of Conduct against GBV and SEA for SACEP and block grant recipients
ESS5	Land Acquisition	• E&S screening • Preparation of environmental and social diligence (ESDD) for subprojects
ESS6	Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Management of Resources	• E&S Screening • Preparation of environmental and social diligence (ESDD) for subprojects • Preparation of ESMP
ESS10	Stakeholder Engagement and Information Disclosure	• Preparation of Communication Plan, and Stakeholders Engagement Plan for subprojects • Grievance Redress Mechanism

E&S IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENT

xviii. The ESMF provides guidance on environmental and social risk management and the associated project development procedures to ensure that the sub-projects are sustainable. This guidance serves to ensure that potential impacts and practical mitigation measures are identified early on in the planning and selection process for this project. The next figure shows the proposed Project Environmental and Social Risks Assessment Process.

xix. SACEP will implement the ESMF while the Recipients of the block grants will ensure adherence of their subprojects to the ESMF requirements. SACEP will be beefed up by the hiring of an Environmental and Social Specialist and a Stakeholder Engagement Specialist to screen, review, supervise and monitor implementation of the subprojects while also mobilizing the National Focal Point in each country, which is the Ministry of Environment, to monitor implementation of subprojects. Trainings and capacity building on ESF and implementation of various instruments will also be provided and supported by the project.

Environmental and Social Risk Assessment Process



1. PROJECT INTRODUCTION

1.1 Regional, Sectoral and Institutional Contexts

1. While economic growth across the South Asia Region (SAR) accelerates, sustainable management of its environment and natural resource base is critical for sustainable growth. SAR is the fastest growing region in the world, with an average GDP growth rate of 7.2 percent over the past decade. At the same time, being home to over 1.92 billion people (one fourth of the world's population), SAR is not only the most populous, but also the most densely populated geographical region in the world at 299 people per square kilometer. The population growth rate in the region is also accelerating at 1.27percent per annum in 2016.

2. Strong economic growth, coupled with rapid population growth and increasing population density, has been putting pressure on the region's environment and natural resources (marine and coastal habitats, freshwater sources, forests, fisheries, and wildlife). These ecological systems or natural assets, which are transboundary in nature, backstop economic systems: they provide valuable economic and other benefits and services. Their degradation and overuse, however, jeopardize hard-fought development gains, and affect livelihoods, especially of the poor.

3. Regional cooperation across SAR, particularly on environmental issues affecting all eight nations in the region could generate positive development outcomes. While it is generally recognized that cooperation across countries offer substantial benefits, the political economy of regional cooperation in SAR is complex with a variety of influencers at the national and sub-national levels in each country. Regional organizations exist, but they face limitations in development effectiveness. However, while there are dozens of regional organizations established with varying mandates, The South Asia Cooperative Environment Programme (SACEP), a regional organization based in Colombo, Sri Lanka has proved since its inception in the 1980's by all eight SAR nations that it can convene member-states on environmental issues and over the past few years in particular make meaningful progress on waste management more generally, and marine debris and marine plastic pollution more specifically. SACEP, for example, led member-states in the preparation of a Regional Marine Litter Action Plan (2018). This was followed by each SAR nation, with support from SACEP, initiating the preparation of national action plans to reduce marine debris. While a small step to addressing a massive problem, it has been a timely and important one – this work has aided declarations by SAR nations at the G7, G20, APEC and UN to address marine plastic pollution.

4. The menace of plastic waste that pollutes land, flows into river systems and, ultimately into oceans, poses national, regional, and global threats to development**.** The qualities that make plastic useful—lightness, durability, strength, versatility and low production costs—have resulted in fast growing demand, but mismanaged plastic waste has also created a mounting pollution crisis, eroding ecological systems like rivers and oceans. The global production of plastic is currently estimated to be around 300 million tons per year, while plastic pollution in the marine environment alone (including beaches) estimated at 9.5 million tons with 1.5 million tons ending up in the ocean annually. The impact of marine plastic pollution has far-reaching economic, ecological and health impacts, including on planetary health. The annual global damage of plastics to marine ecosystems in particular is estimated at US$13 billion per year. As a result, marine plastic waste has been acknowledged as one of the main global environmental challenges in recent years and the movement to combat marine plastic litter accelerated in 2019 and is poised to become a feature of many national development plans over this new decade.

5. Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and air pollution is linked to the generation of plastics, either through oil extraction and refineries or plastic manufacturing, improper solid waste management practices and measures – particularly from single use plastics and waste packaging materials. After a short first-use cycle, 95 percent of plastic packaging material value, or US$80–120 billion annually, is lost to the global economy; 32 percent of plastic packaging escapes collection systems, generating significant economic costs by reducing the productivity of vital natural systems such as the ocean and clogging urban infrastructure such as drainage and leading to flooding during period of high rainfall. The cost of such after-use externalities for plastic packaging, plus the cost associated with greenhouse gas emissions from its production, is conservatively estimated by independent experts in "The New Plastic Economy: Rethinking the Future of Plastics" at US$40 billion annually – exceeding the plastic packaging industry's profit pool. However, such data and analytics remain largely absent in national decision-making.

6. The South Asia Region is the third largest contributor to plastic waste globally with an estimated doubling by 2050 unless action is taken. The Maldives aside, all South Asia's coastal nations are among the top twenty most polluting nations ranked by the volume of mismanaged plastic waste with Sri Lanka ranked among the top six according to published studies. Modelled estimates of floating micro-plastic (<4.75 mm) and macro-plastic (>4.75 mm) abundance (items per square kilometer) suggest that the Bay of Bengal Large Marine Ecosystem, the ocean system that touches South Asian ocean-facing nations, is in a category of ocean regions with the highest plastic concentration. The Indian Ocean is also host to one of the world's largest plastic gyers due to the flow of plastic from land to sea. While twenty percent of the estimated plastic waste found in the marine environment originate from sea-based activities, plastic waste "leakage" from high mountain states in the upper river watersheds travel via transboundary river systems such as the Indus, Ganga and Brahmaputra and contribute to accumulation downstream and eventually in the region's seas. Following current trends, the amount of mismanaged waste (including plastic) across South Asia is projected to rise from 334 million tons per year in 2016 to 661 million tons by 2050. This will adversely impact the region's ocean ecosystems and sustainable development more broadly. In addition, Pakistan, along with Thailand, Vietnam and the Philippines have become the new destinations for plastic waste exports from developed countries as nations like China and Malaysia stopped the practice, in part due to the vast pollution caused and overall cost imposed, outweighing benefits. Accepting these waste streams from other nations while initially beneficial due to payouts received, have many longer-term negative implications not factored into these transactions and require further examination.

7. India dominates the region in plastic manufacturing and processing capacity, estimated at over 20 million tons per year by 2020. The industry includes 15 large polymer suppliers, about 200 equipment manufacturers, and over 30,000 more specialized micro- small, and medium sized plastic packaging processing units employing 3 million people. India is becoming a key market worldwide for plastics processing and polymer conversion with exports to the United States, UAE, Germany, China and Bangladesh. Other SAR countries have downstream plastics production primarily by micro-, small, and medium sized plastics processing units. Enterprises producing plastic bottles for water distribution are even found in small non-industrial countries like the Maldives. In 2019, India banned the import of solid plastic waste by amending the Hazardous Waste Rules leaving waste plastic from China, South Korea, United States, Thailand and Japan seeking new nations willing to take their waste.

8. There is growing global and regional recognition and call to reduce ocean plastic pollution. World leaders, including representatives from SAR within the G7, G20, APEC, IORA, SACEP and the UN, have agreed to reduce plastic waste, and signed agreements supporting greater cooperation across nations. The 2018 G7 Summit in Canada concluded with a *G7 Ocean Plastic Charter*; the June 2019 G20 Osaka Summit in Japan concluded with an agreement to

establish the *G20 Implementation Framework for Actions on Marine Plastic Litter* to facilitate, through voluntary national actions, the *G20 Action Plan on Marine Litter* launched at the 2017 G20 Hamburg Summit. G20 leaders also announced the *Osaka Blue Ocean Vision*, which aims to eliminate additional marine plastic pollution by 2050. The APEC Summit in June 2018 concluded with its 15 member-states endorsing the preparation of an APEC Marine Debris and Action Plan. The SACEP ministerial level Governing Council has endorsed a Regional Marine Litter Action Plan for the South Asia Seas, and all SAR countries will deepen early stage draft country specific action plans.

9. Several South Asian nations are pioneers in single use plastics bans. However, these bans are largely ineffective. According to the UN, about 127 countries (of 192 reviewed) have adopted some form of legislation to regulate single use plastic bags, ranging from outright bans to progressive phase outs to laws that incentivize the use of reusable bags. Over 5 trillion plastic bags are produced per year and take an estimated 1,000 years to decompose. SAR has many such examples. Sikkim introduced a ban on plastic bags as early as 1998, and Bangladesh in 2002 was the first country in the world to introduce a ban or national restriction on single use plastic bags, followed by India (initiated in 2002, starting with New Delhi), Bhutan (2005, renewed with greater enforcement in 2019), Afghanistan and Nepal (2011), Sri Lanka (2011), and Pakistan (2013 municipal level ban). Maldives introduced a ban on single use plastic bags on *Bodufolhudoo* island in 2016, and established a national steering committee in 2019, mandated to advance the phase out of single use plastics by 2020. While such policy instruments have had initial positive response in many countries, due to a lack of enforcement, a failure to regulate plastic through its life cycle, too many exemptions, too few manufacturer limits, an absence of cost-effective alternatives, and growing but fragmented effort on public education and behavior change, these policy initiatives have not yet produced the desired results – a decrease in the use of single use plastics.

10. Despite the challenges, there are many promising initiatives that regional cooperation could help better recognize, share, and replicate to reduce the stock and flow of plastic waste. India leads the region on enactment of Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) laws starting in 2016, a policy approach where producers must be responsible for the clean-up or recycling of their products. EPR encompasses management of the potential impacts of a product in all stages of production, use, collection, re-use, recycling, reprocessing, and disposal. In the small island state of Maldives, the public, private, and civil society such as youth have joined forces to collect plastics for corporations such as Adidas. Adidas in turn produces apparel branded “Parley for the Oceans” and formally kits out major professional sports teams such as FC Bayern Munich, Real Madrid and Manchester United FC, thereby creating a highly visible public awareness campaign in addition to helping solve the marine plastic pollution problem. Revenue generated from sales are in part used to fund formal and informal youth environmental education programs via Parley Ocean Schools and further clean-up efforts in Maldives and around the world. There is further scope to extend such plastic clean-up programs linked to commercial value chains across SAR. EPR in India and the work of Parley in Maldives are two of many emerging examples of a circular economy approach, which looks to prevent depletion of finite natural resources from the global economy, and instead better use the natural resources we’ve already extracted to extend their useful lives. The proposed regional IDA project will support and promote a circular economy approach to plastics for South Asia.

11. Minimizing the use of plastics across company supply chains and better understanding the flow of plastic waste and the full extent of its externalities are key to reducing plastic waste. While supply chain challenges for recycled plastics to meet processing volume requirements and international ESG standards remains a challenge, over 30 companies have joined hands to form the Alliance to End Plastic Waste (AEPW), pledging $1 billion of investment over five years (with a focus on Asia) to help end plastic waste in the environment, particularly the

world's oceans. International NGOs such as National Geographic have assembled an independent coalition of scientists who are mapping plastic flows along the Ganges River Basin throughout 2019-2020. At national levels, as lead up to the G20, India announced a National Mission on Plastics and in the Maldives, a historic youth-driven resolution to ban single use plastics was approved by parliament on July 4, 2019. At the grassroots level, entrepreneurs and new social enterprises are emerging with promising business models to help raise living standards of plastic waste "rag picker" workers; deploy low cost waste sorting equipment to process high organic co-mingled waste containing all forms of plastics; and, transform solid plastic waste back to usable and reusable liquid oils, among others.

1.2 Project Development Objective

12. The Project development objective is to strengthen innovation and coordination of circular economy solutions to plastic pollution flowing into South Asian Seas To achieve this, proposed PDO-level key result areas include the following:

- Circular plastic economy innovations developed and tested for application in participating South Asia countries;
- A South Asia-wide regional public private partnership platform to support participating countries transition to a circular plastic economy designed and operational;
- Funds leveraged for circular plastic economy investments.

13. The project targets a long-term goal of eliminating leakage of plastics into the marine environment across the SAR, which can only be achieved beyond the life of the project. The project seeks to strengthen innovation and coordination of circular economy solutions to plastic pollution across the region. This means identifying and reducing negative externalities of select plastic waste streams through adoption of a 3R approach (reuse, reduce, recycle) and the successful AIR approach of avoid, intercept, redesign adopted by corporations such as Adidas, American Express, etc. Project implementation will focus on catalyzing actions to reduce the flow of plastic pollution into rivers that empty into the marine environment. This will require: (i) well-specified and enabling policies, incentives, education, behavioral change at the producer and consumer levels; (ii) bottom-up, community and citizen-led action in addition to more top-down regional level engagement; and (iii) public and private sector investments to support circular economy transitions.

1.3 Purpose and Scope of the ESMF

14. The **Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF)** provides general policies, guidelines, codes of practice and procedures for the project – Plastic-Free Rivers and Seas for South Asia. This ESMF is developed to ensure the consistency of the project with the World Bank Environmental and Social Standards (ESS), WBG environmental health and safety guidelines (EHSGs), UN environmental, social and economic sustainability framework, SDGs, and applicable environmental rules and regulations of the governments of the SAR countries.

15. More specifically, the ESMF is an instrument that examines the risks and impacts of this project which will later consist of several subprojects (implemented by the partners and grantees), whose risks and impacts cannot be determined until the details have been identified. The ESMF sets out the principles, rules, guidelines and procedures to assess the environmental and social risks and impacts according to the WB ESS and the SAR countries respective environmental regulatory frameworks. It contains measures and plans to reduce, mitigate and/or offset adverse risks and impacts, provisions for estimating and budgeting the costs of such measures, and information on the agency or agencies responsible for addressing project risks and impacts, including on its capacity to manage environmental and social risks and impacts; and the procedures for disclosure and grievance redress.

16. This ESMF will provide SACEP guidance on how to:

a) Screen all project activities (**technical assistance** – policy formulation, development of standards, guidelines, capacity building, etc.; **block grants** - innovative 3R technologies or AIR; plastics collection methods, etc.) for environmental and social risks;

b) Assess the downstream risks and impacts of enabling policies, standards, guidelines, etc. on 3Rs of plastics (reduce, reuse, and recycle);

c) Screen all available 3R technologies and assess their environmental and social risks and impacts with the intention of screening out and putting in the negative list non-environment-friendly and unsustainable technologies;

d) Assess the environmental and social risks and impacts of different methods of collecting, and hauling/transporting plastics to their final destinations of reuse and recycling;

e) Assess the risks and impacts (both positive and negative) of the aforementioned technologies and activities on disadvantaged or vulnerable individuals or groups in the sub-regions and/or countries considered likely for inclusion in the project;

f) Carry out Gender Based Violence (GBV) risk assessment focused on activities that will involve civil works and ensure implementation of measures to address GBV and sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA) risks and impacts that may arise during project implementation; and,

g) Develop measures to manage risks and impacts of eligible 3R technologies including disclosure and grievance redress.

2. DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT

2.1 Project Components

17. The Plastic free Rivers and Seas for South Asia (PRS) project consists of three main components totaling US$40 million from IDA that will be implemented over a period of five years.

2.1.1 Component 1: Supporting Competitive Block Grant Investments to Reduce Plastic Waste

18. The objective of this component is to identify, verify and invest in circular plastic economy solutions and facilitate the exchange of knowledge and awareness of these solutions. 2. The rationale for this component is four-fold: First, South Asian nations could benefit from knowing the range of existing and new solutions and innovative approaches being undertaken in their nations and across the region to assist transitions to a more circular plastic economy; Second, they could also benefit from witnessing how block grant investments to select organizations can help accelerate this transitions, opening up the possibility of these nations to assist a variety of organizations within their own countries beyond this initial pilot, in national transitions to a more circular plastic economy; Third, the RBG investment recipient themselves will not only be able to demonstrate impact in a short time, but also will serve as case studies and good practice examples of what could be further scaled and replicated across South Asian nations. The project will identify innovative and cutting edge, replicable solutions that could be adapted and serve as demonstrations. Fourth, the selection of country-level RBG recipients will be undertaken in consultation with national level authorities and prioritize those recipients that complement the World Bank's country-level (that is, national) engagements on reducing plastic pollution. The component will be supported through two subcomponents:

19. **Sub-component 1.1: Investing in Circular Solutions to Reduce Plastic Waste:** This subcomponent supports circular plastic economy solutions to reduce plastic waste by implementing a program of regional competitive block grant investments, providing Regional Competitive Block Grants ("RBGs") to eligible organizations in South Asia ("Eligible RBG Beneficiaries"). The RBG competition has two windows. The first window, Window 1 (W1), provides investment support and will seek proposals (up to US$2m) from eligible, registered organizations in eligible SAR nations (private entities, social enterprises, nongovernmental organizations [NGOs]/community-based organizations [CBOs], for example) that can demonstrate that with the use of IDA grant proceeds the entity could accelerate toward a more circular plastic economy that would not be possible to do without IDA and with selection criteria and institutional arrangements for selection detailed in the POM and summarized in annex 2). W1 will support at least one eligible entity from each of the SACEP's eight member states, with the PARLEY Foundation providing W1 parallel investment of up to US$2 million to at least one entity in both Sri Lanka and India. It is estimated that W1 will award 20-30 entities with IDA grant proceeds in two separate call for proposals with both calls occurring before the project's midterm review (MTR) and with at least half of the funds disbursed. The RBG proposals for W1 will also have to lay out how women are currently involved in their entity and how with IDA proceeds they will directly and indirectly incrementally benefit. Each recipient will be technically audited for gender inclusion to verify the same. Moreover, at least five W1 proposals will support eligible female-led organizations and all recipients will have to demonstrate female participation of at least 30 percent by end of project. The second window, Window 2, (W2), will seek innovative ideas and creative solutions from individuals and institutions on turning the tide on plastic pollution. W2 will provide technical assistance (TA) support for the most promising ideas and, similar to W1 recipients, an opportunity to showcase their ideas through the project's knowledge exchange platform (see Subcomponent 1.2) and

in doing so, to other investors (foundations, donor partners, private investment houses, SAR governments, and so on). A total of 50 percent of those showcased under W2 and invited in knowledge exchanges will be women.

20. The RBGs supported through W1 will prioritize organizations that can demonstrate within 12-24 months, a meaningful and recurrent reduction in plastic waste that otherwise would have accumulated in South Asia's rivers and seas and that would not have been possible without support from the project. It would also prioritize organizations that with RBG support are able to establish meaningful business partnerships that enable 'end to end' solutions, from improved interception, collection, sorting, baling, washing, flaking, pelletizing, yarn spinning and/or product development – and thus significant reductions of plastic pollution that would have ended up in South Asian seas – that would not have been possible without project support. This priority was established based on economic analysis undertaken to assess the cost/benefit of such plastic pollution mitigation schemes. For example, a plastic waste recycling company operating in an eligible country and specialized in washing, flaking, and pelletizing plastic waste could use the RBG to establish a formal multi-year contracted relationship with a CBO dedicated to organizing female waste pickers in river plastic interception, collection, sorting and baling and/or building this capability themselves to extend their line of sight over the value chain. On the flip side, this same recycling company could establish relationships and formalized contracts up the value chain with makers of upcycled products from recycled plastic waste or use the RBG to broaden their own business to do so. Other possible recipients of RBGs could be involved in (a) designing and creating alternatives to major single use plastic pollutants such as sachets, (b) education of fishers and enlisting them to intercept marine plastic pollution as an alternative or supplemental livelihood and selling that plastic waste to recyclers and up-cyclers for a guaranteed minimum price and until the market is better understood; (c) creating material innovations, including design of recyclable plastic resins that can replace non-recyclable resins in similar products, among a long positive list (and strict negative list – See 5.6 below) to encourage innovations of all types give the field is advancing quickly..

21. **Sub-component 1.2: Promoting Knowledge Exchange and Awareness.** This subcomponent facilitates the exchange of circular plastic economy knowledge between eligible RBG beneficiaries and selected South Asian countries and promotes awareness raising activities of these solutions across the region. The project will facilitate knowledge exchange among recipients of project investments, between RBG recipients and participating South Asian countries, and between grantees and potential investors. There are three avenues to promote knowledge and information sharing. First, an interactive ICT website will be developed and showcase the RBG W1 and W2 recipients, provide a platform for exchange of knowledge, learn from others, and potentially lead to acceleration funding from different sources. The ICT website will also allow for online monitoring and tracking of expenditures and impact/results. Second, annual face-to-face convenings of W1 and W2 recipients will further foster dialogue, discussion, and knowledge and technology transfer, in addition to facilitating face-to-face interaction with representatives of member states, private foundations, and private investors. The project will likely adopt and customize an off-the-shelf grants management system, thereby providing less administrative burden on the SACEP and the PIU. Third, the project will support raising the level of awareness across the region to solutions that mitigate plastic pollution flowing into the region's rivers and seas.

2.1.2 Component 2: Leveraging Public and Private Sector Engagement and Solutions

22. The objective of this component is to facilitate the region's transition toward a more circular plastic economy through the improvement of regional and national strategies, policies, action

plans and standards based on better analytics and through public-private sector engagement, dialogue and collaboration.

23. To this end, the component will provide support to develop and/or improve national and regional plastic pollution mitigation strategies and action plans, policies and industry standards; and, provide technical and other support to relevant institutions to identify, prioritize, collect and analyze lifecycle data and identify data issues and gaps. As an important follow-on from the SACEP-led Regional Marine Litter Action Plan for the South Asia Seas, SACEP member states requested that SACEP support each Ministry of Environment to develop and/or improve country-level 'National Marine Litter Action Plans' to address plastic pollution that leaks into rivers and seas. The development of national action plans, while led by national ministries authorized to do so will get support from SACEP and will complement, and be coordinated with, other country dialogues and advisory work financed by other sources. Country national action plans will help to identify key areas for circular plastic economy investment, including the specific focus areas and selection of RBG recipients of each country (component 1) and where existing policies are failing. Moreover, given that there is no clear methodology being used by South Asian countries to measure the current amount of plastic pollution generated and amounts reduced from mitigation measures (policies and investment), the project will fill this gap and aim to develop coordinated approaches. This methodology will also support the project in measuring its impact on plastic waste/pollution reduction and linked to the M&E Unit discussed in Component 3. The component would also support the convening of public and private sector decision-makers to discuss and agree on mainstreaming circular plastic economy solutions and approaches. This component will be undertaken through two proposed subcomponents:

24. **Sub-component 2.1: Enabling Policies, Standards, and Analytics.** This subcomponent supports the review and revision and/or development of strategies, action plans, policies, and standards to harmonize plastic pollution mitigation measures that will be incorporated into policy, planning and investment processes across the region, including modification of existing standards and regulations governing private sector organizations. This subcomponent will support a) development and implementing a multi-year plastic policy program working with leading universities from the region and their partners from other parts of the world; b) development of a database for lifecycle analysis (DLA), data collection, modelling, and analytic capability for lifecycle analysis of plastic across select industry value chains; c) supporting communications to share best practice alternatives, technology, and results-driven public, private, and community driven solutions. The project builds on strong working relationships with units in government Ministries of each of the SACEP member states responsible for plastics and marine litter policy and their associated government standards bodies. One of its functions will be to help to maintain an up to date understanding of plastics relevant standards at any given time across countries, analyze the extent of their harmonization and key areas of divergence, and help respond to the research and technology focused agenda needed to work on the update and introduction of new standards. In the project's first year, SACEP will work closely with national ministries toward the development of improved country-level/national marine litter strategies and action plans in addition to the development of an approach, including methodology and measurement to track and report on existing plastic pollution levels (national and regional) and plastic reduction impact of solutions (investment and policy), by MTR.

25. **Sub-component 2.2: South Asia Regional Public Private Collaboration and Engagement.** This subcomponent brings public and private sector representatives together to review and discuss strategies, policies, and standards (developed under subcomponent 2.1) that can accelerate South Asian countries toward a more circular and reduced use of plastics in the economy. This subcomponent will (a) support the design of regional convenings as a part of SACEP's regular convening of stakeholders; (b) support costs associated with

such annual or more frequent meetings of public sector policy and decision makers with private sector representatives, including the sharing of best practice public-private partnership (PPP) solutions from within the region and beyond; and (c) proactively disseminate information on a regular basis to a broad range of stakeholders on the goals and progress on shared priorities defined for an action-focused agenda for regional conversion as reported by both public and private entities from across the region. These convenings could be branded to further accelerate awareness and exemplify regional cooperation in support of plastic free rivers and seas and could adopt a fee for private sector participation (a successful model used in trade shows, convening on other topics, and so on) to ensure continued convenings over time that SACEP will continue to oversee beyond the life of the project.

26. The rationale for this subcomponent is that public and private sectors play significant roles in the production, use and effective management of plastics that 'leak' into rivers and oceans and therefore must work together in the formulation and implementation of public sector policy and associated national and regional actions. Moreover, consumers are beginning to hold companies accountable, opening them up to collaboration with private foundations and governments, while seeking market-based solutions. However, existing government policies and regulations – despite being well-intentioned – are falling short in terms of effectiveness, given very little consultation with industry associations and the companies most responsible for plastic waste and pollution. In addition, companies typically operate across markets wider than a single country and so will benefit from a higher level of harmonization to address a range of organization, policy, and technology issues related to market access, and aggregation of supply chain to better comply with plastic pollution mitigation regulation. However, for public and private sectors to convene, dialogue, identify and deploy knowledge and solutions for South Asia, a collaborative and supportive, regular convening is required which could also serve as a marketplace for exchange of ideas and that brokers solutions.

27. SACEP's convenings enables public and private sectors to work together toward solutions and work directly with a range of existing or new national-focused plastics waste trade and industry groups and key ministries and public institutions such as CORE (collect and recycle) in Pakistan which comprises several large multinational corporations self-organized into a nonprofit organization who work closely with public institutions to better address needs and solve problems. A group of more than 32 large corporates in India representing over 90 percent of the pan-India polyethylene terephthalate (PET) value chains, also formed both for profit and nonprofit joint ventures, which enable more inclusive dialogue with governments. SACEP will also ensure that smaller-scale local business from across the region have a strong voice and way to participate. This activity will help fill a gap to support convening and brokering around issues and solutions that are better addressed in a coordinated way at a regional scale across South Asian countries rather than a national scale such as standards, socially responsible and environmentally sound practices, and recycled materials supplies. The value addition of a regional approach can help bring greater efficiencies of scale, remove barriers, find sustainable supply chains for locally sourced alternative materials and higher volumes of recycled plastics, facilitate transfer of knowledge across countries faster, and ultimately enhance trade and access to more sustainable products and consumer goods across the region.

2.1.3 Component 3: Strengthening Regional Integration Institutions

28. The objective of this component is to strengthen regional organizations' capacity to coordinate and to support their member-states to better deliver on solutions to mitigate plastic pollution that flows into rivers and seas across South Asia and transition to a more circular plastic economy. To this end, the component would build SACEP's institutional capacity to better achieve its mandate by supporting the institutional strengthening of SACEP and its ability to

collaborate with other regional organizations and institutions. The component supports two subcomponents:

29. **Sub-Component 3.1: Building SACEP's Institutional Capacity.** This subcomponent provides support by carrying out works and providing technical assistance to, and building capacity of, SACEP. It will support SACEP's ability to convene and coordinate with regional organizations, line ministries and governments, including to uniformly collect, analyze and interpret pollution data will better inform policy and decision-making support for investment planning, design and implementation. In doing so, SACEP would be able to put together a regional database of plastic pollution with data collected and aggregated from multiple sources and plastic pollution monitoring. The subcomponent will also support construction of SACEP's new headquarters (a center of excellence for the region with state of the art eco-friendly and energy efficient, carbon neutral designed auditorium, and expanded working space for government secondees). It will support inter alia co-financing with SACEP member-states and PARLEY Foundation on a matching bases, the costs associated with the construction and furnishing of SACEP's new headquarters. The subcomponent would also support the development of a sustainability fund to enable SACEP to crowd-in donor-partner support and continue building on its activities to specifically mitigate plastic pollution after the project closes.

30. **Sub-Component 3.2: Project Management**. The objective of this component is to support SACEP in the implementation and overall management of the Project, regarding the aspects related to social and environmental safeguards, monitoring, reporting and evaluation, complaints handling mechanisms, as well as financial audits, to ensure successful implementation of the activities carried out under the Project. The project will finance establishing and operating the Project Implementation Unit (PIU). It is envisaged that the PIU would be led by a highly competent Director and well-regarded regional and/or global thought leader on circular plastic economy issues and include dedicated technical and support staff across all functions, operating on a separate floor of SACEP's new headquarters. In addition, the component will also finance consultancies required for the preparation and supervision of specific activities, boosting capacity for all fiduciary aspects of the project (financial management, procurement as per World Bank requirements), monitoring and evaluation, trainings, exposure visits, studies for knowledge generation, and incremental operating costs.

31. This first of its kind regional project with SACEP, a first-time recipient of IDA requires a special approach to project management. The optimum arrangement balances a need for efficiency and skills to work with a wide network of partners with care to limit the project management capacity burden on the regional institution to functions like coordination, convening, and monitoring and evaluation that need to be stronger for the longer term and will require strengthening SACEP as an institution in order to serve as an effective delivery institutions at the regional level, that need to strategically complement the national level engagement and delivery mechanisms. To address capacity constraints within SACEP, the project will invest in building SACEP's capacity to strengthen SACEP as an institution for the medium term across all core functions, and, ensure it can effectively manage an IDA operation of this size. This includes dedicated support to upgrade systems to ensure transparent and effective fiduciary management, procurement, budgeting, accounting, and reporting.

2.2 Type of Potential Activities and 3R Technologies

32. An illustrative positive list and a strict negative list would be developed to ensure alignment with the use of IDA grant proceeds and project development objectives, including compliance

with WB ESS. Grants would target change at local, national and/or regional levels, while being rooted in one of the following areas (non-exhaustive):

- Reducing the consumption of single use plastic products with viable and sustainable alternatives;
- Reducing, recycling, reusing, and/or upcycling existing accumulated plastic waste;
- Changing consumer behaviors, or retail and wider business practices;
- Implementing alternative business models and optimizing supply chains;
- Introducing new materials fit for a circular economy or that offer sustainable alternatives to fossil fuel-based and non-recyclable plastics (i.e. plastic sachets);
- Adopting, customizing and implementing Parley A.I.R. strategy: Avoid (reduce and replace), Intercept (retrieve and recycle) and Redesign (create new materials and new industry standards) successfully rolled out in Maldives with Adidas and other corporates;
- Clean-up, collection and removal of plastic waste from rivers and seas, including before it enters (or reenters) the sea (i.e. beach and river bank clean ups), among other things;
- Design, manufacturing, supply chain and other innovations that serve to reduce plastics utilization and/or enhance plastics recovery, recycling and re-use;
- Design and manufacturing of truly biodegradable substitutes for plastics, including single use plastic sachets;
- Material innovations, including design of recyclable plastic resins that can replace non-recyclable resins in similar products;
- Introduction of plastics waste collection, recycling and re-use programs in municipalities including mechanisms for full cost recovery (i.e., similar to container deposit laws);
- Financial, policy, regulatory or other incentives that minimize loss of fishing nets and optimize their recovery for re-use or recycling; and
- Innovative economic, policy, regulatory and other measures/incentives to minimize or eliminate use of unnecessary single use plastic items and ensure better enforcement of such bans.

33. Special areas of emphasis of particular interest to IDA (with dedicated support provided) include:

- Grant proposals that catalyze action along rivers (including transboundary hot spots) and hot spots at sea, including international waters;
- Grant proposals that explicitly support female-led social enterprises; NGOs and CSOs that working with bottom of the pyramid female waste pickers who would directly benefit from grant proceeds; and,
- Grant proposals by regional organizations that could accelerate and/or deepen regional cooperation and/or integration.

2.3 Project Implementing Agency

34. The South Asia Cooperative Environment Programme (SACEP) is proposed as the responsible implementing agency for this project. SACEP is an inter-governmental organization established by Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka in 1982 to promote and support protection, management and enhancement of the environment in the region. SACEP's core program and project activities include waste management, incuding plastics and climate change adptation. In addition,

SACEP serves as the secretariat of the South Asian Seas Programme (SASP), one of 18 such United Nations sponsored Environment Programs. SASP administers the Action Plan for the Protection and Management of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the South Asian Seas Region which includes, as one of its four key focus areas, the environmental effects of land-based activities. In 2007 SACEP adopted the Framework on Marine Litter Management in SAS Region and is the only regional organization, based in the region, that is actively engaged with issues relating to waste management and plastic debris. SASP specifically covers the seas relevant to South Asia and this proposed regional project.

35. The regional project would strengthen SACEP to administer relevant project activities via the following insutitonal structure, which includes a Minisiterial Level Governing Council, Consultative Committee, National Focal Points, Subject Area Focal Points, and a Colombo-based Secretatiat. **The Governing Council** is the principal review and deliberative body of SACEP and is responsible for determining its policies and programs. It consists of one representative from each member state who will be of Ministerial portfolio and as per Articles of Association, should meet annually. **The Consultative Committee** is responsible for facilitating the implementation of policies, strategies and programs approved by the GC and provides guidance to the Secretariat in its activities. It consists of representatives of diplomatic missions of the member states residing in Colombo. **The Secretariat,** based in Colombo, consists of a Director General that rotates between member-states and professional, administrative and support staff. SACEP Secretariat would host the Project Implementation Unit (PIU) for the project.

36. **Roles and Responsibilities.** At the regional level, SACEP as the PIU will play an important technical coordination role among member-states, provide technical input into terms of references and other activities that would then put out to bid (major regional studies, public awareness campaigns, competitive 3R grants, regional convenings on plastic policy, knowledge transfer, etc) and provide technical oversight to these project activities. SACEP would undertake discrete activities for which it has a mandate. SACEP will also ensure that the ESF will be implemented and that all TAs and block grants will be consistent with the WB ESS and will meet WBG Environmental Health and Safety Guidelines.

37. **National Focal Points** have been designated by each member state from their environment ministries which function as the main communication link between the Secretariat and the respective member-state. For this project, the NFPs are expected to implement and monitor national-level programs which will be initiated by this project in cooperation with the Secretariat. These programs and activities, which will include several TAs and call for block grants that will be participated by several organizations within SAR member countries, will be promoted, monitored, assessed and reported by the NFPs. The NFPs shall also ensure that all TAs and block grant recipients will comply and adhere to national environmental and social policies and regulations. SACEP may seek assistance of the NFPs in approving and monitoring specific environmental and social management plans (ESMPs).

38. **Local Recipients.** Grantees of the block grants will implement specific activities and projects approved by SACEP and will be responsible in reporting the status of project implmentation including status of environmental and social management compliance to SACEP. Grantees and recipients of TAs will be oriented with the project's environmental and social requirements including WB's ESS, the ESF, and existing regional and national environmental and social commitments and regulations. It is the grantees' and TA implementers' responsibility to implement, monitor and report compliance with the agreed and approved ESMPs.

3. LEGAL, POLICY FRAMEWORK AND REGULATORY REQUIREMENT

3.1 Global and Regional Sustainability Framework and Agreements

39. The application of policy and planning principles such as Waste Hierarchy, Sound Material Cycle Society and Circular Economy into the sustainable waste and resource management in South Asia can also bring various social, economic and environmental benefits. The sustainable waste and resource management can contribute to achieving many of the targets of the Agenda 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It has strong linkages to a range of global challenges such as health, climate change, poverty reduction, food and resource security and sustainable production and consumption. The political case for action is significantly strengthened when waste management is viewed as an entry point to address a range of such sustainable development issues, many of which are difficult to tackle alone. Thus, a strong argument can be made for the strategic importance of improving waste management, insofar as actions here will contribute to progress towards a range of SDG targets. Setting and monitoring global targets for waste management will thus contribute significantly to attaining the SDGs.

40. In addition to the above global agreements - Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Paris Climate Agreement signed by the countries in South Asia in 2015 - a greater action on sustainable waste and resource management in South Asia is an important cross-cutting thematic area of most of multilateral environmental agreements. Some of them are:

- Basel Convention on the Transboundary Movement of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal;
- Rotterdam Convention on Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade;
- Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants;
- Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer;
- Montreal Protocol of the Vienna Convention;
- International Conference on Chemicals Management;
- Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM); and
- Minamata Convention on Mercury.

41. The urgency of addressing the sustainable waste and resource management in the South Asia is also discussed among the countries in its regional co-operation frameworks and in align with other pressing regional concerns such as environmental degradation, food safety, power generation, poverty alleviation and trans-boundary technology transfer. Some of key regional activities are:

- The Dhaka Declaration on Waste Management of 2004, which recognizes the environment imperative to promote more effective waste management systems ‘with special attention to addressing the needs of the poor’;
- SAARC action plan on Climate Change of 2008, which listed waste management as one of the prioruty areas for nationally appropriate mitigation actions where regiobal sharing of best practices can be useful;
- The 2010 convention on co-operation on the environment also included waste management among a list of 19 areas for the exchange of best practices and knowledge, and transfer of eco-friendly technology;
- The summary statement of the South Asia Sustainable Consumption and Production Forum in 2016 has also acknowledged the importance of achieving SCP in the region

and recommended SACEP Governing Council to provide continues support and guidance;

- Since the launch of the Regional 3R Forum in Asia and the Pacific in 2009, policy issues and priorities on sustainable waste and resource management have been widely discussed among member countries and agreed on some declarations such as Hanoi 3R Declaration – _Sustainable 3R Goals in 2013 and Indore 3R Declaration of Asian Mayors in 2018; and the
- Regional Seas Programme of UNEP, which has been developing and implementing Regional Action Plans on Marine Litter, including capacity building for effective management, promoting public awareness and strengthening cooperation among governments, NGOs, and other stakeholders.

3.2 National Environmental Policies, Rules and Regulations

42. The project will be supporting grants and activities across the SAR. As part of the sustainability framework of the project, all subprojects and activities shall be consistent with the national environmental framework on environmental impact assessment; environmental standards for air, water, and land; occupational safety and health; labor and working conditions; and community safety. The various national environmental frameworks, regulatory agencies, and environmental procedures of the SAR countries are presented in the following subsections:

3.2.1 Afghanistan

43. The National Environmental Protection Agency (NEPA) goal is “to protect the environmental integrity of Afghanistan and support sustainable development of its natural resources through the provision of effective environmental policies, regulatory frameworks and management services”.

44. Interim Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations. These regulations govern the process of environmental impact assessment in Afghanistan on an interim basis pending the establishment of the EIA Board of Expert in terms of Article 20 of the Environmental Law and issuing of final regulations. These regulations provide the detailed process of EIA and list the projects into category A and B based on potential impacts.

45. The Government’s regulation on environmental impact assessment is based on the Environmental Act of Islamic Republic of Afghanistan (Gazette No. 912) dated 23 Jadi, 1384 (25 January, 2007). The NEPA, as an independent institutional entity, is responsible for coordinating and monitoring conservation and rehabilitation of the environment, and for implementing this act.

46. Article 16 and 17 of Chapter 3 of the Environmental Act describes the process of preparing a preliminary assessment, an environmental impact statement and a comprehensive mitigation plan to be conducted by the proponent of each project. Article 21 mentions public consultation is required for all the projects.

47. Article 18 describes the approval procedure of environmental impact assessment. The NEPA will appoint an EIA Board of Experts to review, assess and consider applications and documents submitted by the proponent. Acting on the advice of the EIA Board of Experts, NEPA shall either grant or refuse to a grant permit in respect of the project. A permit granted will lapse in the event that the proponent fails to implement the project within three years of the date of which the permit was granted.

48. Article 19 describes the appeal procedure. Any person may, within thirty (30) days of the granting or refusal of a permit, appeal the decision to the Director-General of the NEPA. The

Director-General shall review the appeal application and thereafter make an appropriate decision. In case the appellant wish to appeal the Director-General's final decision, the matter shall be referred to the relevant court.

3.2.2 Bangladesh

49. In Bangladesh, the primary institution for environmental management is the Department of Environment (DoE), under the Ministry of Environment and Forest (MoEF). The DoE is the authority with the mandate to regulate and enforce environmental management, and the setting and enforcement of environmental regulations, including the pollution control of water resources. Its key duties relate to the water pollution (WQS) for particular uses of water and for environmental clearance permits - the latter being legal requirements before proposed projects can proceed. ECA status confers protection on land and water resources through a series of environmental regulations.

50. The DoE is responsible for ensuring the application of environmental laws and issuance of necessary clearances. The procedures and requirements for EIA under the power sector are dictated by the Environment Conservation Act of 1995, which introduced a requirement for any proposed "industrial unit or project" to obtain prior approval from the DoE.

51. The Environment Conservation Act has classified projects to be assessed by the DoE in four categories (Green, Amber A, Amber B, and Red). Projects which are classified to the red category will require an IEE which will be followed by a full EIA. Subject to a satisfactory review of the environmental assessment, the DoE issues an authorization for the project to proceed. The authorization consists of two parts: (a) "Site Clearance", which gives approval to the site proposed for the project and (B) "Environmental Clearance", which approves the content of the project.

52. A key requirement of the EIA for projects classified in the Amber and Red categories is an environmental management plan (EMP). The objective of the EMP is to enable the project proponent to show the DoE how it will deliver the environmental performance assessed in the EIA. The EMP must describe in detail the organization and management responsibilities, how mitigation measures identified in the EIA will be implemented and monitored. A Clearance from the DoE does not relieve the developer of a project from the requirement to comply with other environmental regulations. In particular, the Bangladesh National Environment Quality Standards (EQS) for industrial effluent have been set and compliance is mandatory.

53. The Environment Conservation Rules give the Director General of the DoE the discretion to issue Environmental Clearance directly without issuing any site clearance to any industry or project if the Director General finds appropriate reason for doing so.

54. National Strategies, Policies, Acts and Rules related with the environment include the following:

- Environment Pollution Control Ordinance, 1977
- Environmental Quality Standards for Bangladesh, 1991
- National Conservation Strategy (NCS) 1992
- Environment Policy (1992)
- National Environment Management Action Plan (NEMAP) 1995
- Environment Conservation Act (1995)
- Environment Conservation Rules (1997)

55. There is no specific marine litter management agency in Bangladesh. However, many agencies are present for waste management, protection of environment, preservation of

resources, water management, conservation of wildlife etc. that are indirectly have the act, rule, law or legislation which prevent marine pollution or litter.

56. Bangladesh has initiated a process to develop National Program of Action (NPA) under the Global Program of Action (GPA) for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities in 1999. Even though Bangladesh has sign and rectified many international conventions, policies and laws it was observed that no proper implementation mechanism to practically implement the litter management activities.

3.2.3 Bhutan

57. The policy, legal, and administrative frameworks relevant to the environmental assessment of projects in Bhutan have been established by the following laws and regulations: (i) the National Environmental Protection Act of 2007, (ii) the Environmental Assessment Act of 2000, and (iii) Regulation for Environmental Clearance of 2002. At the national policy level, environmental protection and conservation is a constitutional mandate to:

- Protect, conserve, and improve the pristine environment;
- Safeguard biodiversity; and
- Prevent pollution and ecological degradation.

58. A National Environment Committee was established in 1989 in Bhutan, as part of the Planning Commission, under the Royal Command of His Majesty the King. The Environment Secretariat was de-linked from the Planning Commission and upgraded to an independent organization functioning as the National Environment Commission (NEC) in 1992. The NEC is a high-level, cross-sectoral body made up of Ministers and officials from various sectors to create policy, to regulate, and to be responsible for meeting the Royal Government's obligations under global environmental conventions.

59. The National Environmental Protection Act of 2007 is the overall law on environmental protection and specifies the powers, functions, and operational framework of the NEC. Their mandate includes the maintenance of environmental quality through the enforcement of environmental standards and promotion of best environmental management practices to address pollution and environmental hazards.

60. Article 33.1 of the Environmental Assessment Act 2000, grants the competent authority a power to screen, issue or deny the environmental clearance of the activities or project listed under Annex 2 of RECOP 2002. Regulation for Environmental Clearance of Projects (RECOP) defines responsibilities and procedures for the implementation of the Environmental Assessment Act, 2000 for issuance and enforcement of environmental clearances.

61. National Strategies, Policies, Acts and Rules related with the environment include the following:

- Environment Assessment Act, 2000
- National Environment Protection Act, 2007
- Water Prevention and Management Act of Bhutan, 2009
- General Rules and Regulations on Occupational Health and Safety, 2006
- Labour and Employment Act of Bhutan, 2007

62. The uses of plastics for carry bags, package wrappers and pouches have been banned in Bhutan since 1999 through a government decree. Even with the decree, plastic waste formed up to 12.73% of the total municipal solid wastes generated in the urban areas. Plastic wastes is composed mainly of packaging plastic products, hard and flexible plastic household items,

PET bottles, jerry can, etc. Plastic wastes especially packaging materials do not decompose and compact easily which is why it significantly affects transportation cost and landfill life.

63. The only facility that Bhutan possesses in terms of plastic recycling is shredding plant for PET bottles which when crushed and shredded to pellets can fetch better prices in export while reducing the transportation cost. Such facility is governed by the Waste Prevention and Management Regulation of 2012 which has the following mandate under Section 53 of the Waste Prevention and Management Act, 2009. Within this regulation, each person or organization is required to comply and cooperate with waste segregation, reduction, reuse and recycling initiatives by an authority or authorized service provider.

3.2.4 India

64. The Ministry of Environment and Forest (MoEF) is the nodal agency in the Central Government for policy, planning, promotion and coordination of environmental and forestry programmes. The main activities of the Ministry are conservation and survey of flora, fauna, forests and wildlife, prevention and control of pollution, afforestation and regeneration of degraded areas and protection of environment. These tasks are sought to be fulfilled through environmental impact assessment (EIA), eco-regeneration, assistance to organizations implementing environmental and forestry programmes, enactment of environmental legislation, formulation of environmental policies, promotion of environmental and forestry research, extension, education and training to augment the requisite manpower, dissemination of environmental information, international cooperation and creation of environmental awareness among all sectors of the country's population.

65. The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) was constituted in 1974 under the provisions of the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974. Subsequently as the Indian environmental legislation evolved, the role expanded to cover the areas of air pollution, hazardous and hospital waste management. The main functions of CPCBs stipulated in The Water Act, 1974 and The Air Act, 1981 are to: (a) promote cleanliness of streams and wells in different areas of the States through prevention, control and abatement of water pollution, and (b) improve the quality of air and to prevent, control or abate air pollution in the country.

66. The Government's EIA Notification of 2009 sets out the requirement for environmental assessment in India. This states that Environmental Clearance is required for specified projects or activities, and this must be obtained before any construction work or site development (except land acquisition) may start. Projects are categorized as A or B depending on the scale of the project and the nature of its impacts.

67. Category B projects will require environmental clearance from the State Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA). The State Level authority categorizes the project as either B1 (requiring EIA study) or B2 (no EIA study), and prepares TOR for B1 projects within 60 days. On completion of the study and review of the report, the SEIAA issues the EC based on the environmental assessment committee recommendation. The Notification also provides that any project or activity classified as category B will be treated as category A if it is located in whole or in part within 10 km from the boundary of protected areas, notified areas or inter-state or international boundaries.

68. There are several management agencies, committees and policies which are directly or indirectly responsible to implement the international conventions, laws, regulations, and treaties on marine litter management in India. The country has made effort to preparation of many acts and regulations to protect the environment, which came into force time to time. India also limited its marine litter management activities into the beach area.

3.2.5 Maldives

69. The law governing the protection of the environment in the Republic of the Maldives is the Environmental Protection and Preservation Act (EPPA) of 1993 (Act No 4/93) and responsibilities and procedures for conducting environmental assessments, together with the requirements for environmental monitoring of projects, are set out in the EIA Regulations of 2012. Completion of EIA is the responsibility of project proponents and all EIA work must be carried out by registered consultants. The EIA regulations require all solid waste disposal facilities such landfills, waste incinerators and large scale waste storage projects to have full EIAs. The environmental management plan, prepared following either the IEE or the EIA process, is prepared on a specified format and reviewed for compliance.

70. The National Solid Waste Management Policy was developed in 2008, by the Ministry of Environment, through consultations with the community and evaluation of existing waste management practices and scope for improved efficiency. The policy was then revised and adapted, and a new policy formulated and adopted in 2015.

71. The policy is in line with government commitment to provide the resources required for waste management in all inhabited islands of the Maldives and is founded on the following 10 principles:

- Each person should be responsible for waste generated at the individual level and should comply with rules and regulations established locally;
- All household waste should be managed in accordance with the requirements of the local council;
- Each inhabited island should prepare and submit an island waste management plan for the island;
- Waste collection should be undertaken on a fee-based system for all waste producers, including households and industries;
- Agreements with government agencies in different inhabited islands to ensure management of waste in the islands;
- Establishment of a waste management system in each inhabited island that is appropriate for the needs of the population and quantity and type of waste generated;
- Establishment of regional waste management facilities (RWMF) in each waste management zone;
- Establishment of arrangements to transport all residual waste to a RWMF;
- Promote adoption of waste management practices that generate revenue and to apply revenue to waste management at the island level; and
- Undertake waste management training and awareness campaigns at the national level.

72. National Strategies, Policies, Acts and Rules related with the environment include the following:

- Environmental impact assessment (EIA) regulations of 2007, updated in 2012 (Regulation No. 2012/R-27);
- By-law on Uprooting, Cutting and Transportation of Plants and Trees (2006);
- Regulation on Stone, Coral and Sand Mining (undated);
- Regulation for the Protection and Conservation of the Natural Life and character of Old Plants and Trees in the Maldives;
- Dewatering Regulation (213/R-R1697);
- Environmental Damage Liabilities Regulation (2011/R-9); and
- Waste Management Regulation (2013-R58).

73. Much like many other SAR countries, Maldives also addressed the issue of marine litter through variety of laws and regulations. However, there is no specific legislation or legal frameworks governing marine litter in the Maldives.

3.2.6 Nepal

74. The requirement for Environmental Assessment in Nepal is established by the National Environment Protection Act (1997), and the procedures are defined in the Environment Protection Rules (EPR) (1997) and its amendment of 20 August 2007.

75. The Solid Waste Management Act 2011 unifies the Solid Waste Management law to ensure a clean and healthy environment through source reduction, re-use, processing and disposal of solid waste for effective solid waste management and to minimize the adverse impact of solid waste on public health and the environment.

76. Nepal's procedures for environmental assessment of projects are described in the Environment Protection Act (EPA), 1997 and the Environment Protection Rules (EPR), 1997 and Amendment of 20 August 2007. Projects that need EIA and IEE are listed in the EPR. The responsibility for undertaking IEEs for the proposed subprojects lie with the Department of Urban Development and Building Construction (DUDBC) as the Proponent, on behalf of the Ministry of Physical Planning and Works (MPPW). Public consultations, including notification of stakeholders, and dissemination of information is a requirement particularly during the review and subsequent approval of the IEE reports.

77. The objective of the EPA is to recognize the interdependence between development activities and the environment, and to maintain a clean and healthy environment by minimizing, as far as possible, the impacts of environmental degradation on humans, animal and plant species, and their physical surroundings. The EPA provides the much needed legal basis for the authorities concerned to require an IEE or EIA for all projects with potentially negative impacts on the environment. With the enforcement of the Act, it will not be possible to implement such projects without the approval of the authorities concerned.

78. While the responsibility to conduct an initial environmental examination is left to individual implementing agencies, all cases requiring an EIA must be referred to the Ministry of Population and Environment. The Ministry can make use of outside expertise for reviewing EIA reports when deciding whether or not to approve a proposal. The implementing agencies can then approve a project with the proviso that the proponent adopt the necessary preventive or mitigating measures as indicated by the EIA.

79. National Strategies, Policies, Acts and Rules related with the environment include the following:

- Plant Protection Agreement for Asia and the Pacific Region, 1956
- Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES, 1973)
- Convention Concerning the Protection of World Cultural and Natural Heritage (World Heritage Convention), 1972
- International Tropical Timber Agreement, 1983
- Convention on Biological Diversity, 1992.

80. Nepal has imposed a ban on plastic bag less than 30 microns for small bags (7"x14") and 40 microns for bigger bags (20" x 35").

3.2.7 Pakistan

81. At the federal level, the Ministry of Environment is a main institution in charge of environment, which has divisions on environment, urban development and wildlife. Under the ministry, Pakistan Environment Protection Council (PEPC) and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) are major authorities on environmental protection. The PEPC formulates environmental legislation, while the EPA is a planning and implementing agency.

82. The Pakistan Environmental Protection Act, 1997 is the basic legislative tool empowering the government to frame regulations for the protection of the environment. The act is applicable to a wide range of issues and extends to air, water, soil, marine, and noise pollution, as well as to the handling of hazardous wastes. The law prescribes the requirement for an initial environmental examination (IEE) and environmental impact assessment (EIA). Section 12(1) states that: "No proponent of a subproject shall commence construction or operation unless he has filed with the Federal Agency an initial environmental examination [IEE] or, where the subproject is likely to cause an adverse environmental effect, an environmental impact assessment [EIA], and has obtained from the Federal Agency approval in respect thereof."

83. The Pakistan Environmental Protection Act, 1997 (PEP Act) provides for two types of environmental assessments: initial environmental examinations (IEE) and environment impact assessments (EIA). EIAs are carried out for subprojects that have a potentially significant environmental impact, whereas IEEs are conducted for relatively smaller subprojects with a relatively less significant impact.

84. The Pakistan Environmental Protection Agency Review of IEE and EIA Regulations, 2004, prepared by the Pak-EPA under the powers conferred upon it by the PEP Act, categorizes subprojects for IEE and EIA. Schedules I and II, attached to the Regulations, list the subprojects that require IEE and EIA, respectively.

85. Under Pakistan Environmental Protection Act (EPA) 1997, (revised in 2013) imposed ban on manufacturing, sale and use of non-degradable scheduled plastic products. Further as per order issued by the Pakistan EPA in February 2005, the powers related to monitoring and pollution control in the areas of Pakistan's Maritime Zones has been delegated to the Maritime Security Agency. Pakistan is lagging behind in implementing the strategy on International Conventions, laws, regulations and treaties due to non-availability of direct responsible agency to manage marine pollution and marine environment.

3.2.8 Sri Lanka

86. The National Environmental Act (NEA) of 1980 provides the administrative arrangements for the protection, management and enhancement of the environment, for the regulation, maintenance and control of the quality of the environment, for the prevention, abatement and control of pollution.

87. The NEA is implemented by the Central Environmental Authority (CEA). The scope of this law virtually covers all aspects necessary to safeguard the environment and natural resources in the country.

88. The Act entrusts the CEA with responsibilities regarding the use of lands and the management and conservation of natural resources outside of the coastal zone. However, under the instruction of the Coastal Conservation and Coastal Resources Management Department (CCCRMD), the CEA or other Project Approving Agencies (PAA) can be delegated to process development permits within or partly in the zone.

89. The CEA is also mandated to manage the Environmental Protection Licensing (EPL) system nationally; the Initial Environmental Examination/Environment Impact Assessment (IEE/EIA) process outside the coastal zone using Project Approving Agencies (PAA) where appropriate; the environmental recommendations system regarding non-prescribed activities; and the scheduled waste management licensing system.

90. CEA is also responsible for ensuring compliance with air quality, and noise, regulations. Representation of CEA at the Northern Province and Northern Province District level includes offices in all Districts.

91. The NEA includes two main regulatory provisions through which the environmental impacts of development projects are assessed, mitigated and managed: This includes:

- The Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) procedure for major development projects - regulations published in Government Gazette Extraordinary No 772 June 23, 1993 and in subsequent amendments;
- The Environmental Protection License (EPL) procedure for the control of pollution - regulations published in Government Gazette Extraordinary No 1533/16 of 25 January 2008.

92. The provisions. for EIA is contained in Part IV C of the NEA, which requires the submission of an IEE or EIA report in respect of certain “prescribed projects”. These are specified in Gazette Extraordinary No 772/22 of 23 June 1993.

93. Sri Lanka also has gathered a number of agencies to manage the marine pollution. Even though there are many agencies to manage the marine litter, only Marine Environment Protection Agency (MEPA) has been engaged in to implement marine litter management activities in relation to the strategy on International Conventions, laws, regulations, and treaties.

4. WORLD BANK ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL STANDARDS

94. The following are the environmental and social review summary done at the Concept Stage of the project presenting the assessment of the applicability of the World Bank ESS on the project.

4.1 ESS1 Assessment and Management of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts

95. **Objectives.** Identify, assess, evaluate, and manage environment and social risks and impacts in a manner consistent with the ESSs. Adopt a mitigation hierarchy approach (i.e., anticipate and avoid risks and impacts; minimize, reduce and prior to mitigation). Adopt differentiated measures so that adverse impacts do not fall disproportionately on the disadvantaged or vulnerable, and they are not disadvantaged in sharing development benefits and opportunities. Utilize national environmental and social institutions, systems, laws and regulations whenever appropriate. Promote environmental and social performance which recognize and enhance partners' capacity.

96. The proposed project is expected to have positive and beneficial impacts for SAR and its oceans as a whole as the combination of supporting the enabling environment, coordination and capacity building, and innovation and support to the 3Rs/AIR techhnologies is expected to have positive long-term effects in reducing the dumping of plastic wastes in waterways that end up in coastal areas and oceans. The standard is still relevant to the project as innovative and environment-friendly and sustainable technologies and solutions to collect and recycle, reuse or repurpose plastics **may still pose risks** to marine life, waste workers and waste pickers, and communities although risks and impacts are expected to be moderate. Any residual plastics that cannot be recycled, reused or repurposed will need to be properly disposed and managed. In addition, TA activities, such as, policy formulation, data collection, research and monitoring will be screened for environmental and social risks and impacts.

97. An Environmental and Social Assessment (ESA) was prepared for the project. The ESA took into account all environmental and social issues within the region including environmental profiles; current state of the surface-, coastal, and marine plastic pollutions and the asociated risks of plastic pollution. The ESA also identified major marine litter management challenges in the region. The ESA also reviewed current approaches to addressing the plastic pollution in the region and the capacity of SACEP in addressing E&S issues.

98. SACEP also drafted the Stakeholders Engagement Plan and the Environmental and Social Commitment Plan consistent with the requirements of the World Bank's ESF. As the subprojects are not yet identified, this ESMF is being drafted to provide guidance to SACEP on how to identify, assess and manage the environmental and social risks of the subprojects that will be handled during project implementation.

99. The ESMF will set out the principles, rules, guidelines and procedures to assess the environmental and social risks and impacts. It contains measures and plans to reduce, mitigate and/or offset adverse risks and impacts, templates for estimating and budgeting the costs of such measures, and information on the responsible entity for addressing project risks and impacts, including on its capacity to manage environmental and social risks and impacts.

4.2 ESS2 Labor and Working Conditions

100. **Objectives.** Promote safety and health at work. Promote the fair treatment, non-discrimination, and equal opportunity of project workers. Protect project workers, with particular emphasis on vulnerable workers. Prevent the use of all forms of forced labor and child labor. Support the principles of freedom of association and collective bargaining of project workers in a manner consistent with national law. Provide project workers with accessible means to raise workplace concerns.

101. The project will employ direct workers such as project staff, consultants, and will work with TA partners and block grantees that will implement the project. The subprojects may also involve community workers (waste pickers, workers who volunteer to cleanup the ocean, beaches and rivers) as well as contracted workers who may work on recycling centers and plastic collections. Labor Management Procedures proportional to the project's labor and working condition risk and impacts will be developed by SACEP to meet the requirements of this standard. OHS risk to workers will be considered in the ESMF and an OHS plan may be developed following the World Bank's EHSGs both for SACEP and the partners and grantees, particularly for Components 1 and 2 of the project. Grievance redress system for workers will also be developed and implemented.

4.3 ESS3 Resource Efficiency and Pollution Prevention and Management

102. **Objectives.** Promote the sustainable use of resources, including energy, water, and raw materials. Avoid or minimize adverse impacts on human health and the environment caused by pollution from project activities. Avoid or minimize project-related emissions of short and long-lived climate pollutants. Avoid or minimize generation of hazardous and non-hazardous waste. Minimize and manage the risks and impacts associated with pesticide use. Requires technically and financially feasible measures to improve efficient consumption of energy, water, and raw materials, and introduces specific requirements for water efficiency where a project has high water demand.

103. The ESA presented the various innovations, activities, and 3R technologies currently done not only in the region but also on the global setting. Such approach included a variety of options and menu from enabling environment, to prevention, mitigation/remediation and cleanups. For technologies and innovations reviewed, ESS3 standard is deemed relevant especially because the recycling plants will be required to use resources sustainably during recycling/repurposing work (i.e., water and electricity). The project will proactively support resource efficiency, waste minimization, plastic pollution prevention and plastic reduction. Any technology or practice of 3Rs that will be resource-intensive, non-environment friendly and unsustainable will be screened out and rendered ineligible for project financing. The TORs for developing policies and capacity building and investments will promote resource efficiency, recycling and reuse. The relevance of GHG emissions from the project will be assessed during preparation and calculations will be done accordingly if significant emissions are expected or the equivalent reductions of emissions can be quantified when materials are recyled and reused.

4.4 ESS4 Community Health and Safety

104. **Objectives.** Anticipate or avoid adverse impacts on the health and safety of project-affected communities during project life-cycle from routine and non-routine circumstances. Promote quality, safety, and climate change considerations in infrastructure design and construction, including dams. Avoid or minimize community exposure to project-related traffic and road safety risks, diseases and hazardous materials. Have in place effective measures to address

emergency events. Ensure that safeguarding of personnel and property is carried out in a manner that avoids or minimizes risks to the project-affected communities.

105. The relevance of this standard to the project will be assessed and confirmed during preparation. The clean up-focused actions that help to alleviate existing clogging of drains and waterways with plastics should result in improvements in community security from better flood management. On the other hand, facilities recycling or processing wastes may also impose community health risks particulalry related to untreated wastewater discahrges, emissions of noxious odors, noise or vibrations, and disposal of residual wastes. Safety of adjacent community must be ensured especially when the subproject will require construction works (i.e., backfilling, excavation, pipe laying or trenching) or during installation of equipment. Some activities such as temporary storage facilities, transfer stations, and hauling of recycled materials or residual wastes may also pose safety risks to communities. The risks will have to be evaluated and managed properly through the environmental and social management plans that will be required by the project from its partners and grantees.

4.5 ESS5 Land Acquisition, Restrictions on Land Use and Involuntary Resettlement

106. **Objectives.** Avoid or minimize involuntary resettlement by exploring project design alternatives. Avoid forced eviction. Mitigate unavoidable adverse impacts from land acquisition or restrictions on land use by providing compensation at replacement cost and assisting displaced persons in their efforts to improve, or at least restore, livelihoods and living standards to pre-displacement levels or to levels prevailing prior to the beginning of project implementation, whichever is higher. Improve living conditions of poor or vulnerable persons who are physically displaced, through provision of adequate housing, access to services and facilities, and security of tenure. Conceive and execute resettlement activities as sustainable development programs.

107. The project is not expected to require any land acquisition having adverse impacts on people's lands and land-based assets. Should land be required for any of the innovative technologies that are ultimately supported, the project will pursue ways of acquiring the needed land through means that do not involve physical or economic displacement or resettlement, such as voluntary land donations.

4.6 ESS6 Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Management of Living Natural Resource

108. **Objectives.** Protect and conserve biodiversity and habitats. Apply the mitigation hierarchy and the precautionary approach in the design and implementation of projects that could have an impact on biodiversity. To promote the sustainable management of living natural resources.

109. This standard is deemed relevant as project activities will benefit coastal and marine ecosystems as well as oceans and pelagic systems. The innovative technologies and solutions suggested to cleanup the oceans and rivers may also have risks & impacts on marine life.

4.7 ESS7 Indigenous Peoples/Sub-Saharan African Historically Underserved Traditional Local Communities

110. **Objectives**. Ensure that the development process fosters full respect for affected parties' human rights, dignity, aspirations, identity, culture, and natural resource-based livelihoods. Promote sustainable development benefits and opportunities in a manner that is accessible, culturally appropriate and inclusive. Improve project design and promote local support by

establishing and maintaining an ongoing relationship based on meaningful consultation with affected parties.

111. The relevance of this standard to the project will be assessed and confirmed during preparation. Screening and site-specific assessments will be included in the ESMF as needed.

4.8 ESS8 Cultural Heritage

112. **Objectives**. Protect cultural heritage from the adverse impacts of project activities and support its preservation. Address cultural heritage as an integral aspect of sustainable development. Promote meaningful consultation with stakeholders regarding cultural heritage. Promote the equitable sharing of benefits from the use of cultural heritage.

113. It is not envisioned that this project will involve civil works that will have impact on cultural heritage. Plastic recycling, repurposing centers will be existing facilities, however, the relevance of this standard will be assessed and confirmed during preparation.

4.9 ESS9 Financial Intermediaries

114. **Objectives**. Sets out how Financial Intermediaries (FI) will assess and manage environmental and social risks and impacts associated with the subprojects it finances. Promote good environmental and social management practices in the subprojects the FI finance. Promote good environmental and sound human resources management within the FI.

115. The standard is not currently relevant. The relevance of this standard to the project will be assessed during preparation.

4.10 ESS10 Stakeholder Engagement and Information Disclosure

116. **Objectives.** Establish a systematic approach to stakeholder engagement that helps Borrowers identify stakeholders and maintain a constructive relationship with them. Assess stakeholder interest and support for the project and enable stakeholders' views to be taken into account in project design. Promote and provide means for effective and inclusive engagement with project-affected parties throughout the project life-cycle. Ensure that appropriate project information is disclosed to stakeholders in a timely, understandable, accessible and appropriate manner.

117. The project will promote and support circular economy plastic waste streams which will involve a range of stakeholders across the region, including public sector organizations, community groups, and private sector entities. Project activities will include strengthening stakeholder platforms; collaborating with civil society groups to reduce plastics leakage at the community level; behavior change and awareness raising campaigns and challenge grant competitions; and development of regionwide youth-led movements for change, among other things. Given the project's implementation arrangements and activities, a Stakeholder Engagement Framework will be developed during preparation to promote broad, inclusive stakeholder engagement and participation in all phases of the project. This Framework will identify the key apex organizations working in the area of marine plastics as well as the mechanisms these use to engage with other downstream organizations. One or more Stakeholder Engagement Plans will be developed during project implementation to guide the engagement of stakeholders involved in the community-focused activities such as the behavior change, innovation grants, or beach cleanups.

5. POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RISKS AND IMPACTS

5.1 Environmental Risks

118. The proposed project, **both through TA and the block grants**, is expected to have largely positive and beneficial impacts for SAR and its oceans. The project's objectives to support the enabling environment, cross-country coordination and capacity building, innovation; and support to the 3Rs is expected to have positive long-term effects in reducing and the dumping of plastic wastes in waterways that end up in coastal areas and oceans. The project will stimulate partnerships among civil society organizations, youth groups and other stakeholders to support national and community-based behavior change and awareness raising; provide funding for innovative solutions; and support youth-led movements, among other things. It may also support, at the policy level, the strengthening of E&S standards and certification for sustainable plastics supply chains focused on socially and environmentally responsible waste sourcing and recycling through transparent, accountable, and legitimate supply chains addressing labor issues, working conditions, and livelihoods. In addition to, the project may also support strengthening industry standards for recycled plastic products (e.g. plastic roads and furniture products) to grow secondary-reuse markets and attract private sector investments.

119. At the concept stage, specific types of innovative technologies and solutions to reduce, reuse and recycle plastics which will be supported are not yet established. The project design, however, will ensure that only investments that focus on these 3Rs that are resource efficient, sustainable and environment-friendly will be supported. Those that are pollutive and resource intensive will be on a negative list and will be ineligible for project financing. That said, environmental risks still exist particularly to the potential subprojects through the block grant, which would relate to residual wastes or those plastics that cannot be reused, recycled and repurposed, which will have to be disposed and managed properly. However, given that the thrust of the project is 3Rs, residual plastic wastes should be minimal. In addition, innovative methods of collecting plastics from the oceans may still have risks and impacts, which will need to be properly screened and/or assessed during project implementation.

120. The environmental risks from subprojects that will be supported through TA are very unlikely as the TA will mostly involve policy review and formulation, institutional building measures and IEC activities.

5.2 Social Risks

121. On the social side, there will be health risks and impacts to those working in plastics collection and recycling/repurposing due to potential exposure to harmful materials and chemicals during the recycling process, if proper health and safety measures in work places are not implemented and depending on the technology adopted to recycle and repurpose plastics. Resource use patterns will also need to be assessed in these facilities to ensure resources (energy, water and raw materials) are used in an efficient and sustainable manner. The project will include a range of stakeholders across the region: public sector organizations, social enterprises, community groups, and private sector entities. Specific criteria for the management of the challenge grants will need to be prepared and applied to ensure fair access to funding, especially by women's organizations and youth groups. In addition, institutional capacity of the implementing agency, inter-organizational and cross-regional coordination is also weak, and this will be strengthened under the project.

122. Based on the overall positive and beneficial impacts of the project, which outweigh whatever residual risks and impacts there may be on the adoption of environment-friendly, sustainable

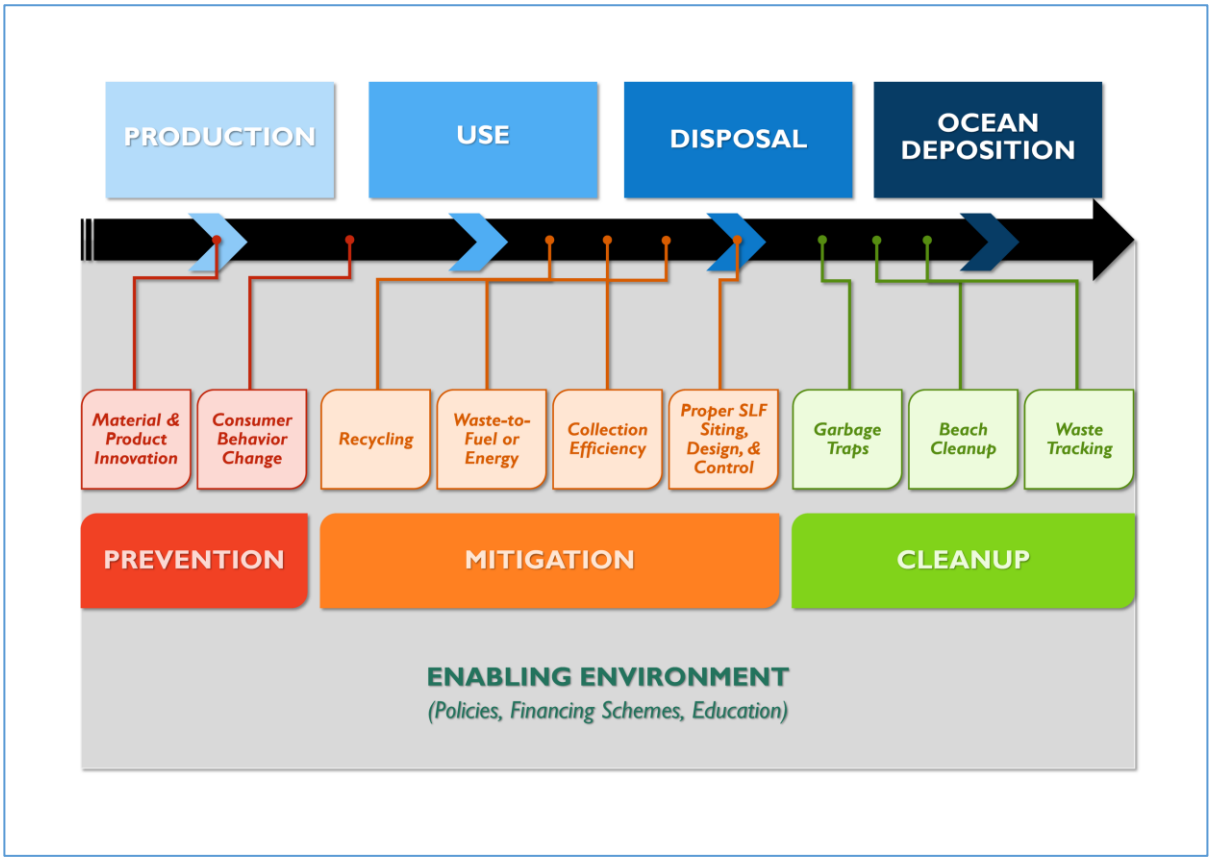
and resource-efficient technologies and practices on 3Rs, the overall Environmental and Social risk classification of the project is assessed to be Moderate. This will be revisited during preparation and during implementation and revised, if necessary, in accordance with an adaptive management approach.

123. According to the Gender Based Violence (GBV) risk assessment, the project is classified as Low Risk. The GRM will be appropriately trained to handle potential GBV complaints ethically. Mapping of GBV service providers will be undertaken.

5.3 Anticipated Impacts, Issues and Risks

124. The ESA reviewed the current approaches to addressing plastic pollution in the region. **Figure 1** below, commonly known hierarchy of plastic waste management, follows the order of points of intervention in the pathway of plastics from production to use to wastage until potential deposition in the oceans.

Figure 1: The pathway of plastic materials from production to deposition in the oceans



125. **Prevention strategies** that will be supported by technical assistance or block grants include those that aim to reduce plastic waste generation. New or alternative products, new product design and behavior change among consumers would reduce plastic production to only the unavoidable plastic commodities. Further plastic waste reduction can be achieved through packaging reuse, plastic-free packaging or innovative product dispensing system.

126. **Mitigation strategies** are actions for generated waste. Waste collected and eventually disposed in formal or informal dumpsites may be reduced through recycling recovered materials to new or waste-derived useful products (such as building materials, park benches, roads or pavements) and converting waste to fuel or energy. Meanwhile, uncollected garbage

may be reduced through expanding or improving the collection services. The amount of garbage from dumpsites that are transported to oceans may be reduced through better design, control and location of formal or informal dumpsites. Flooding events bring garbage from poorly located dumpsites (e.g., near waterways or flood prone areas) to streams leading to oceans.

127. **Cleanup** includes activities that target garbage that has escaped collection. Transport of plastic wastes from shores to the sea can be reduced using garbage traps, beach cleanup and waste tracking system. Behavioral change is needed in many of the above strategies. Such behavioral change may be driven by education or re-training campaigns. Some strategies would entail innovations, which would require research and development. For some, like waste-to-energy processes, technology is available but would require large investment.

E&S Risk and Impacts from Subprojects to be Supported by the Block Grant

128. **Table 1** identifies potential environmental and social impacts, issues and risks for current approach on plastic litter management. Potential subprojects that may be supported by the block grants are also listed. The listing is not exhaustive and may include other innovations to be proposed by grant recipient across the region.

Table 1: Analysis of Potential Environmental and Social Impacts, Risks

Current Approach	Anticipated Environmental and Social Impact, Risks
Prevention	
• Avoidance by new material, new product design (change in production or process) • Reuse	• Potential generation of other waste streams associated with new process or materials (i.e., more water and chemical usage in production of glass bottles than PET); • With the change of process and/or raw material, there may be a need to re-design existing wastewater treatment facilities to address new waste water characteristics or a totally new wastewater system will be needed; • Consequently, with the new process/products used, there might be a need to re-design existing air emission controls or additional treatment facilities may be required; • Workers safety.
Mitigation	

Current Approach	Anticipated Environmental and Social Impact, Risks
• Recycling technologies (same or new products) • Recovery of plastics • Waste to energy • Better storage, collection and transport • Better thrash trap design installed in waterways • Better design landfills	• Increase in water consumption for cleaning; • Generation of wastewater; • Potential release of micro-plastics and toxic chemicals (i.e., for plastic e-wastes) and fumes ; • Generation of solid residues (non-recyclable components) which may need disposal or incineration; • Potential impact of constructing new facilities, and or installation of additional equipment; • Community safety; • Workers safety.
Cleanup	
• Beach and river bank cleanup • Garbage traps • Waste tracking	• Transportation/hauling issues for the recovered wastes; • Need of processing or recycling facilities; • Disposal for recovered plastic which are not recyclables; • Safety of workers/partners/volunteers; • Exposure to sewage-contaminated waste during cleanup.

E&S Risk and Impacts from Subprojects to be Supported by the Technical Assistance

129. All subprojects supported by the grants would require an **Enabling Environment**, such as in the form of policy and financing scheme, to make them happen. In most of these strategies, government, business entities, and individual consumers must take their respective roles. Such activities will be supported by the project through the TA.

130. The environmental and social risks and impacts from such activities will be minimal. However, screening must still be conducted to ensure that such policies, schemes or regulations proposed across the region will be consistent with WB ESS and will not violate existing national laws and regulations.

5.4 Risk from Micro-plastics

131. Micro-plastics have been defined as particles of plastic < 5 mm in diameter (GESAMP 2015). Primary micro-plastics are particles that have been manufactured to a particular size to carry out a range of specific functions. They are used extensively in industry and manufacturing, for example: as abrasives in air/water-blasting to clean the surfaces of buildings and ships' hulls; as powders for injection molding; and, more recently, for 3D printing. They are also used in so-called personal care and cosmetic products (PCCPs), often to improve the cleaning function or impart color, and are sometimes referred to as microbeads. PCCPs containing micro-plastics/microbeads include toothpaste, cosmetics, cleansing agents and skin exfoliators (Napper et al. 2015).

132. **Micro-plastics and seafood safety.** For the present purposes, 'seafood' includes finfishes, crustaceans, mollusks, amphibians, freshwater turtles, and other aquatic animals (such as sea cucumbers, sea urchins, sea squirts and edible jellyfish) produced for the intended use as food for human consumption (FAO 2014). It is evident that humans are exposed to micro and nano-plastics through the consumption of marine food stuffs, such as shellfish, shrimp, small

fish species such as sprat and potentially other species such as sea urchins, tunicates and sea cucumbers, that are consumed as whole animal foods including the gastrointestinal tract. Consumption of filter feeding invertebrates, such as mussels or oysters, appears the most likely route of human exposure to micro-plastics, but a wide variety of commercial species appear to be contaminated with micro-plastics. One study has attempted to estimate potential dietary exposure based on observed micro-plastic concentrations in seafood and assumed consumption rates. This study estimated dietary exposure for high mussel consumers in Belgium to range between about 11 000 (Van Cauwenberghe et al. 2014) and 100 000 MPs a-1 (GESAMP 2015).

133. Although it is evident that humans are exposed to micro-plastics through their diet, and the presence of micro-plastics in seafood could pose a threat to food safety (Van Cauwenberghe and Janssen 2014, Bouwmeester et al. 2015), our understanding of the fate and toxicity of micro-plastics in humans constitutes a major knowledge gap.

134. **Primary** micro-plastics are those manufactured on purpose such as 'microbeads' in cosmetic and personal care products (such as toothpaste, exfoliating scrubs), cleaning agents (air or water blasting of surfaces), and resin pellets for plastic industry use. **Secondar**y micro-plastics are the result of weathering and fragmentation of larger plastic objects. These processes are enhanced by exposure to UV irradiation, which are almost absent in deep sea bottoms. Tyre-wear dust from land-based transportation and microfibers of textiles are significant sources of secondary micro-plastics in marine environment. Recycling facilities are also potential sources of secondary micro-plastics. **3R technologies must be therefore evaluated to ensure that secondary micro-plastics are not produced during recycling processes.**

5.5 Risks from Recovery and Processing of Plastics from E-Wastes

135. Around 2% of the total solid waste generation in developed countries consists of waste electrical and electronics equipment (WEEE) (UNEP, 2007). The presence of hazardous substances in WEEE makes it imperative to effectively manage them, as well as, to strictly implement regulations concerning their proper disposal. WEEE have components that are covered under the amended Stockholm Convention (2009) on POPs. These include certain brominated flame retardants (BFRs) that are listed in Annex A of the Convention. These are: (a) hexabromobiphenyl (HBB) and (b) polybrominated diphenyl ethers (PBDE) – commercial Octa BDEs and commercial penta BDE. There is no specific exemption for the production or uses of HBB, while production and use of POP-PBDEs have to be eliminated by Parties subject to the exemptions allowed by the Convention.

136. Each year some 3 million Metric Tons plastics are used in new Electric and Electronic Equipment (EEE) in Europe. In the separately collected Waste of Electric and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) there are many plastics. There are many types of plastics used in EEE products. The most common are HIPS, ABS, PP and PC-ABS. These plastics may contain Brominated Flame Retardants (BFR's) and some of the BFR's are restricted, because they contain substances of concern. The vast majority of WEEE plastics do not have BFR's in them.

137. Plastics with BFR's are typically used in appliances that generate heat such as CRT televisions and monitors, printed circuit boards in IT equipment, printers and cables and connectors. In the average mix of WEEE plastics only 5 – 10 % consist of plastics with Brominated Flame Retardants. The majority (> 92 %) of the applied Brominated Flame Retardants in EEE are not restricted. The restricted BFR's, according to POP regulation are: Octa BDE, Penta BDE, and HBCD. Deca BDE has been added to these POP's, but no thresholds have been defined yet. Since the introduction of the RoHS directive in 2003 these restricted BFR's are not allowed into new electronic equipment.

138. At this point, there are no available data on the percentage of WEEE are intercepted as marine litters. As it is difficult to analyze the amount of the restricted BFRs in the plastic WEEE, potential WEEE that will be collected must be handled, stored and processed according to prescribed procedure. The disposal of WEEE via landfill could pose serious environmental threats, like groundwater and surface water pollution. Open burning emits toxic substances into the air, while direct human exposure to the hazardous components of WEEE poses serious health concerns.

5.6 Negative List

139. From the ESA conducted for this project, and the environmental and social risk analysis of anticipated subprojects, the ESMF proposed that the initial screening for the eligibility be based on the list of excluded activities that will not be supported by the project.

1. Activities that will produce **wastewater where there is no on-site or off-site mechanism to comply with the national standards for effluents**

2. Processes that will **emit PM2.5, PM5, PM10, fly ash, toxic fumes and noxious odor** exceeding the national emission standards or the World Bank Group Environment, Health and Safety Guidelines (EHSG).

3. Activity that pollutes groundwater by discharging contaminants during collection, transport, treatment, and disposal of plastic waste.

4. **Production of residual waste with no available safe disposal facilities** or access to the facilities duly approved by the government.

5. Activities which will involve **recovery of plastics from waste electronic and electrical equipment** (WEEE) which will potentially release toxic restricted Brominated Flame Retardant (BFR).

6. Activities/processes which will involve use of **highly toxic and/or banned chemicals**.

7. Use of technologies in **marine clean-up** that would **harm marine life.**

8. Technologies whose by-product will **promote production of secondary micro-plastics that may have significant impacts on ecosystems**.

9. Activities that will require acquisition of any new land or have a negative impact on **income/livelihood resources**.

10. Activities which will involve **forceful evictions of people**.

11. Activities which will **involve child labor / forced labor / serious occupational health and safety concerns for workers**.

12. Involve activities that cause or lead to child abuse, child labor exploitation or human trafficking

13. Any activities that have negative impacts on indigenous people including activities that may require free prior and informed consent (FPIC)

14. Any activity that has substantial or high environmental / social impact

15. **Pyrolysis and other chemical recycling technologies**

6. ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT

6.1 Environmental and Social Risk Classification

140. As part of the environmental and social procedures, the Bank classifies all projects into one of four classifications: High Risk, Substantial Risk, Moderate Risk or Low Risk. In determining the appropriate risk classification, the Bank takes into account relevant issues, such as the type, location, sensitivity, and scale of the project; the nature and magnitude of the potential environmental and social risks and impacts; and the capacity and commitment of the Client to manage the environmental and social risks and impacts in a manner consistent with the ESSs.

141. Since the project will involve multiple subprojects that are identified, prepared and implemented during the course of the project, SACEP shall carry out appropriate environmental and social assessments of subprojects and prepare and implement such subprojects as follows:

- High Risk subprojects, in accordance with the ESSs;
- Substantial Risk, Moderate Risk and Low Risk subprojects in accordance to national law and any requirements of the ESSs that the WB deems relevant to such subprojects which were initially identified in the ESRS.

142. The identified sub-projects will be screened and will be assessed based on the type and scale of the project, its location, and the nature and magnitude of the potential environmental and social impacts. Risk classification is determined by the significance of potential impacts. Both **TA and subprojects funded by the block grants** may be assessed using an environmental and social due diligence (ESDD) to proposed partners/grantees.

6.2 Managing Risks

143. The identified sub-projects (TA and block grants) will be screened and will be assessed based on the type and scale of the project, its location, and the nature and magnitude of the potential environmental and social impacts. Risk classification is determined by the significance of potential impacts. Risk classification is determined by the significance of potential impacts.

Table 3: Managing Risks According to Applicable ESS

ESS		Managing Risks
ESS1	Assessment & Management of Environmental and Social Impact	• Conduct of Environmental and Social Assessment (ESA) • Preparation of an Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) • Environmental and social screening of subprojects • Application of positive and negative list of subprojects • Preparation of environmental and social diligence (ESDD) for subprojects • Preparation of sub-project specific Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP)

ESS		Managing Risks
		• Submission of subproject specific Environmental Compliance Monitoring Plan • Corrective Action Plans
ESS2	Labor and Working Conditions	• Preparation of SACEP Labor Management Procedures • Requirement of Occupational and Health and Safety Plan from subprojects/grants • Preparation of GRM for labor related issues. • Codes of Conduct against GBV and SEA for SACEP and contractor (for HQ construction)
ESS3	Resource Efficiency, Pollution Prevention and Management	• Requirement of ESMP for subprojects/grants • Water & energy audits and GHG inventory report during project implementation for block grant recipients
ESS4	Community Health & Safety	• Preparation of Communication Plan, Stakeholders Engagement Plan and ESMP for subprojects • Codes of Conduct against GBV and SEA for SACEP and block grant recipients
ESS5	Land Acquisition	• E&S screening • Preparation of environmental and social diligence (ESDD) for subprojects
ESS6	Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Management of Resources	• E&S Screening • Preparation of environmental and social diligence (ESDD) for subprojects • Preparation of ESMP
ESS10	Stakeholder Engagement and Information Disclosure	• Preparation of Communication Plan, and Stakeholders Engagement Plan for subprojects • Grievance Redress Mechanism

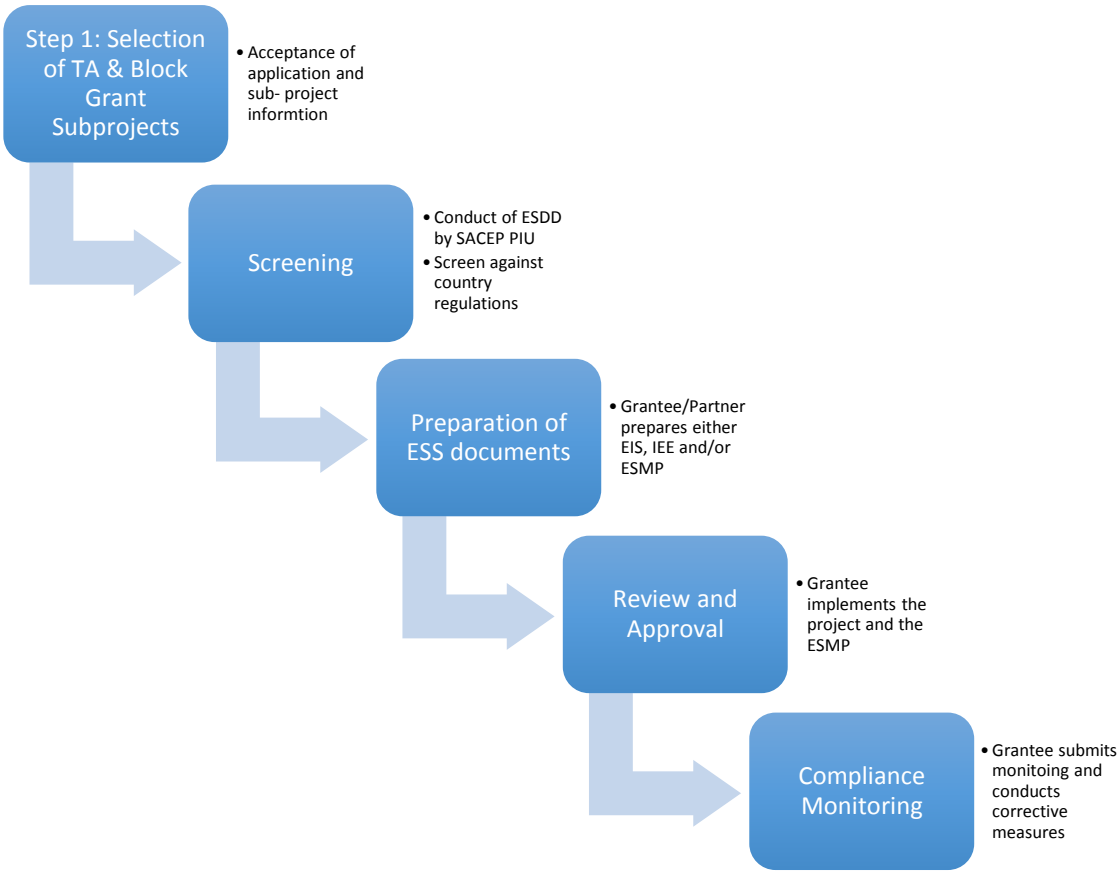
7. E & S RISK MANAGEMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

7.1 Procedure

144. This section provides guidance on environmental and social risk management and the associated project development procedures to ensure that the sub-projects are sustainable. This guidance serves to ensure that potential impacts and practical mitigation measures are identified early on in the planning and selection process for this project.

145. **Figure 2** shows the proposed Project Environmental and Social Risks Assessment Process.

Figure 2: Environmental and Social Risk Assessment Process



7.1.1 Step 1: Selection of sub-project proposal or grantee

146. The first step will involve the identification and selection of sub-projects based on the agreed criteria. At the minimum the following information must be included in the grant or TA applications which will allow the environmental and social screening by the PIU.

- Description of the process or technology
- Project location/s

- Presence or absence of Indigenous Peoples/Ethnic Minorities[2] in the project area (to be confirmed/validated by the PIU and the World Bank)
- Raw materials (capacity or consumption rate)
- Water and energy consumptions
- Anticipated wastes (wastewater, emissions) that will be produced
- Manpower required
- Solid waste residue disposal plan

7.1.2 Step 2: Screening of Sub-projects

147. SACEP PIU will screen subprojects early in the identification stage determining the project boundaries presence or absence of indigenous peoples/ethnic minorities and possible environmental and social risks and impacts that may be encountered. Potential environmental and social risks must be identified at the beginning to facilitate the proper selection of mitigating measures. The screening will ensure that the sub-project is aligned with the process undertaken by SACEP for its potential environmental and social impacts and to determine the nature and extent of the environmental and social due diligence that must be conducted before the approval of the sub-project.

148. The proposal will be screened against the negative/non-eligible subproject and/or activities.

149. An environmental and social due diligence (ESDD) may be conducted by the SACEP PIU to the existing activities which will be considered as a subproject, if needed, to check its compliance with national regulations.

150. The screening results will be validated by SACEP or the country focal person using the country's environmental impact assessment system to determine the additional documents that may be required by the government environmental authority. The required document must be prepared (i.e., EIA, IEE or ESMPs) based on the government's screening.

7.1.3 Step 3: Subproject Preparation and Documentation

151. Once the screening and documentation requirements are completed, the grantee/partner will prepare the required site- and project-specific environmental and social assessment and management plan (ESMP) which will contain the impact or risk analysis and with the proposed mitigating measures based on the identified impacts. Sample ESMP template is presented in the **Annex** including the ESMP prepared for the construction of the SACEP HQ.

152. Sub-projects assessed to be low risk will not require any plan or assessment after screening. Moderate and substantial risk activities may be required to prepare an ESMP, an IEE or an ESIA depending on and proportional to the level of risks and impacts.

153. The safeguard documents (EIA, IEE, and/or ESMPs) will be subject to consultation and disclosure in an accessible place, in a timely manner, in a form and language understandable to key stakeholders, prior to the finalization of the documents. Particular attention will be given to ensure project-affected persons, including vulnerable and disadvantaged groups and

[2] Refer exclusively to a distinct social and cultural groups possessing the following characteristics in varying degrees: (a) self-identification as members of a distinct indigenous social and cultural group and recognition of this identify by others; and, (b) collection attachment to geographically distinct habitats, ancestral territories, or areas of seasonal use or occupation, as well as to the natural resources in these areas; and, (c) customary cultural, economic, social, or political institutions that are distinct on separate from those of the mainstream society or culture; and, (d) a distinct language or dialect, often different from the official language of languages of the country or region in which they reside.

individuals[3] have adequate time and ready access to draft documents before consultation takes place.

7.1.4 Step 4: Review and Approval

154. All the safeguard documents submitted will be reviewed by PIU team before the SACEP clears the documents for its final appraisal and approval. Once the project document has been cleared by PIU, the proposed subproject goes through a number of compliance verification systems. The Bank may review the sub-projects and the results of PIU's E&S screening. SACEP may solicit the assistance or cooperation of the national focal person to review and endorse the ESMPs.

7.1.5 Step 5: Implementation, Monitoring and Evaluation

155. SACEP will regularly monitor the sub-projects to ensure the commitments are being implemented and to evaluate the compliance of the subprojects with the national environmental policy requirements. The PIU will prepare annual project implementation reports, mid-term reviews and terminal evaluations. The recipient of the block grant or TA will be responsible in reporting to SACEP and then to World Bank its compliance to the ESCP, SEP, and ESMP.

7.2 ESMP Review Process

156. As described in risk assessment process, a site-specific environmental and social due diligence will be conducted in accordance with the World Bank's ESF, and at the minimum site-specific ESMPs will be prepared as a result of such evaluation. These will be the responsibility of SACEP PIU and the grantees. For Moderate risk subproject, the ESMP should be a part of the subproject proposal package and must be an annex to any (procurement) documents or contracts/MOUs.

157. Labor management procedure and other relevant requirements listed in **Table 3** will also form a part of ESMP submittal. Implementation of ESMP will be the responsibility of subproject beneficiary/grantee. In case of any non-compliance, SACEP PIU will be required to take corrective action as the primary responsible party. Delegation of the responsibilities of all parties involved in the project is presented in **Table 4**.

158. The preparation and implementation of ESMPs are expected to cost only a small fraction of design and construction cost, as most mitigation measures will be very generic, off-the-shelf, and implementable without specialized skills, experience or equipment. For the first 5 subprojects, SACEP will submit site specific ESMPs to World Bank for prior review. When the World Bank is confident that SACEP PIU has demonstrated that the process is accurate, World Bank will transfer this prior review to post review.

[3] *Disadvantaged or vulnerable refers to those who may be more likely to be adversely affected by the project impacts and/or more limited than others in their ability to take advantage of a project's benefits. Such an individual/group is also more likely to be excluded from/unable to participate fully in the mainstream consultation process and as such may require specific measures and/ or assistance to do so. This will take into account considerations relating to age, including the elderly and minors, and including in circumstances where they may be separated from their family, the community or other individuals upon which they depend.*

Table 4: Delegation of Responsibilities for ESMF Implementation

Responsible Party	Responsibilities
World Bank	• Review, approve and disclose ESMF, LMP, and SEP on World Bank's official website. • For the first 20 subprojects, review subproject-specific ESMPs and provide no objections to SACEP. • Review and approve labor management procedures. • Conduct implementation support and supervision missions in order to ensure that the Project is in compliance with World Bank ESF requirements and standards.
SACEP-PIU	• Prepare the project ESA. • Prepare and implement the ESMF, SEP, LMP, and ESCP and submit to World Bank for approval. • Disclose the ESMF, SEP, LMP, and ESCP on SACEP PIU website. • Conduct environmental and social screening and due diligence for grant applicant. • Review ESMPs according to ESMF. • Submit to World Bank first 5 subproject safeguards documents for prior review. • Disclose submitted ESMPs to SACEP website and incorporate ESMPs into the agreement with grantees and project partners. • Assign field specialists for the environmental and social monitoring. • Monitor implementation of labor management procedures and occupational health and safety plans of SACEP. • Conduct necessary consultations according to the SEP and communication plan. • Set up a multi-level GRM, monitor and address grievances related to the project and subprojects under specified timelines. • Submit regular environmental and social compliance monitoring report to World Bank.
National Focal Point (Ministry of Environment)	• Monitor and supervise implementation of subprojects, including ESMP.
TA and Block Grant Recipients	• Develop and implement ESMPs on the project sites. • Report on a regular basis on the ESMP implementation progress. • Report any unexpected environmental and social issues that may arise during subproject implementation.

7.3 Environmental and Social Monitoring and Reporting

159. Environmental and social monitoring during the implementation of sub-projects shall contain information on key environmental and social aspects of sub-projects, their impact on the environment, social consequences of impacts and the effectiveness of measures taken to mitigate the consequences.

160. Monitoring of the implementation of environmental measures shall be carried out by Environmental Specialists of the PIU. Representatives of the respective environmental

ministries may also be involved in monitoring. The aim is to verify the main points of compliance with the ESMF and subproject-specific ESMPs, the progress of implementation, the scope of consultations and the participation of local communities. The standard checklist will be used for the reporting. In the medium term of the project implementation and at the end of the project, an independent audit will be carried out to monitor the status of environmental, social, health and safety aspects of the project. The audits are necessary to ensure that (i) the ESMF has been properly implemented and (ii) mitigation measures are identified in subproject-specific ESMPs and implemented accordingly. The audit will be able to identify any amendments to the ESMF to improve its effectiveness.

161. Monitoring for social part will be done on the continuous bases by the PIU Social Specialist to ensure, that there is no unanticipated impact during project implementation on land, productive assets, illegal users, people's livelihood, access to the assets etc. Monitoring will also cover health and labor issues.

162. If some issues are identified by the environmental and social monitoring, adequate mitigation measures will be proposed in the progress reports or separate Corrective Action Plans (CAP).

7.3.1 Monitoring Plans

163. The implementation of environmental and social mitigation measures is monitored by the local environmental specialists and/or project officer and supervised by the SACEP PIU. Environmental and social monitoring system starts from the grant preparation and implementation phases of through the operation phase in order to prevent negative impacts of the project and ensure the effectiveness of mitigation measures. This system helps the World Bank and SACEP to evaluate the success of mitigation as part of project supervision and allows taking an action when needed. The monitoring system provides technical assistance and supervision when needed, early detection of conditions related to mitigation measures, follows up on mitigation results, and provides information of the project progress.

164. Environmental and social monitoring to be implemented by the SACEP PIU shall provide information about key environmental and social aspects of subprojects, particularly the environmental and social impacts and the effectiveness of mitigation measures specified in respective subproject specific ESMPs. Such information enables the PIU to evaluate the success of mitigation as part of project supervision and allows for corrective action(s) to be implemented, when needed. In this regard the Monitoring Plan identifies monitoring objectives and specifies the type of monitoring, and their link to impacts and mitigation measures.

165. Specifically, the monitoring section of the ESMP provides: (a) a specific description, and technical details, of monitoring measures, including the parameters to be measured, methods to be used, sampling locations, frequency of measurements; and, (b) monitoring and reporting procedures to: (i) ensure early detection of conditions that necessitate particular mitigation measures, and (ii) furnish information on the progress and results of mitigation. A Monitoring Plan Format is presented in the Annex.

7.3.2 Monitoring and Reporting Responsibilities

166. The environmental performance of the project shall be regularly monitored, documented and reported. In the case of instrumental monitoring data, the original records of the results of the required instrumental environmental monitoring shall also be presented in a separate file for records.

167. For those sub-projects which required the preparation of ESMPs, it is recommended that grantees/partners, with the assistance of the environmental and social specialists of SACEP,

develop a checklist for site inspections both before and during the implementation of subprojects. The checklist shall contain a list of mitigation measures to be implemented at the sites, the status of their implementation and some explanations on the status of implementation, as required.

168. On monthly basis, the grantees will present short reports on ESMPs implementation to SACEP PIU on a quarterly basis. The list of measures that are checked by the SACEP PIU environmental and social specialists when visiting the site shall correspond to the measures specified in respective subproject-specific ESMPs. Based on the reports received from grantees, the PIU will prepare annual report on ESMF and ESMPs implementation which shall be an integral part of the progress reports to be submitted to the World Bank.

169. Monitoring sections of subproject-specific ESMP will reflect:

- details of monitoring methodology, including parameters to be measured;
- monitoring and reporting procedures: to (i) ensure early identification of conditions requiring mitigation measures; and (ii) provide information on the progress and results of mitigation.

170. If any issues identified by the environmental and social monitoring, the CAP shall be developed. The CAP should contain information on a subproject, status of physical works, impact types, and the assessment of environmental and social impacts observed, and, proposed mitigation measures (if needed in addition to those specified by respective ESMPs). CAP should be prepared by the subproject grantee and approved by the PIU.

171. The SACEP PIU, being responsible for environmental and social reporting to the World Bank, will:

- Record and maintain the results of project supervision and monitoring throughout the life of the project. It will present summary progress reports on ESMF/ESMP implementation and the environmental and social aspects of subprojects on a semi-annual basis to the World Bank. This will include updates on any grievances/feedback received, during the reporting period, and on how those were addressed;
- Prepare semi-annual reports on the progress of implementation of the provisions of ESMF and measures proposed by subproject-specific ESMPs;
- In accordance with SEP, regularly inform stakeholders on the status of the project implementation and project environmental and social performance.

8. PUBLIC CONSULTATION, DISCLOSURES AND GRIEVANCE MECHANISM

8.1 ESMF Disclosure and Public Consultation

172. SACEP shall, along with the disclosure of the ESMF at its website, include presentation of the ESMF to the consultations that will be conducted with its partners and other stakeholders.

173. The ESMF was subjected to two national stakeholder consultation meetings held in the Maldives and Sri Lanka (see below). The ESMF was also public disclosed in SACEP's website on www.sacep.org and in the websites of member country partner organizations. Stakeholder consultations and engagement will continue as per Table 1- Project Stakeholders in SEP.

- First National Stakeholder Consultation Meeting - Maldives

A stakeholder consultation meeting on Plastic Free Rivers and Seas of South Asia Project was held on 19th January 2020 in Male', Maldives back to back with the Maldives national level stakeholder consultation on solid waste management policy. Various stakeholders including government, private sector, Civil Society, Hoteliers, NGOs were participated at this one-day consultation meeting. During the consultation Participants were able to identify possible Stakeholder Groups, Stakeholder in each group, other interested parties, ongoing complementary activities, priority areas, etc. Representatives from SACEP, World Bank as well as the Minister and officials of Ministry of Environment, Maldives were also participated. SACEP has introduced the project to the participant and requested their feedback on possible stakeholders' involvement in implementing this project.

- Second National Stakeholder Consultation Meeting – Sri Lanka

Second National Stakeholder Consultation meeting for Plastic free Rivers and Seas for South Asia project was held on 11th March 2020 in Colombo, Sri Lanka with the participation of additional secretary, Ministry of Environment and Wildlife Resources, Sri Lanka and 44 participants representing government, private sector, NGOs, plastic recyclers, media, academia and civil society. SACEP has extended invitations to about 60 participants covering above sectors and 44 were participated and few others regretted as they were unable to participate due to prior commitments. The meeting started at 9 am with welcome addresses made by Dr. Abas Basir, DG SACEP and Mr. A.H.L.D Gamini Wijesinghe, Addl. Secretary on behalf of the Ministry of Environment and Wildlife Resources and continued until 4.30 pm. SACEP made presentations on the project and its components, ESA, ESMF and SEP. In the Afternoon, last session, participants were requested to identify possible stakeholder groups and stakeholders under each group as a group work session.

Participants were actively engaged during the questions and answers sessions. The full report is in Annex D.

174. As suggested during initial consultations, SACEP will continue to review various national plastic waste management action plans that are implemented or will be implemented by the SAR countries. The project may consider prioritizing support to initiatives or innovations already listed or endorsed in the country plastic management plan.

175. From the support manifested by the private sector during the consultation, SACEP will also continue to solicit partnerships with the private sector particularly on screening technologies that will may supported by the project. SACEP will continue to review the procedures on its ESMF including the criteria for the negative list with feedbacks from the private and government partners to ensure project's environmental sustainability.

8.2 Grievance Redress Mechanism

176. SACEP will adopt a Policy pertinent to the Grievance Mechanism (GM) proposed for this project and will include the following key principles:

- Stakeholder engagement is vital toward ownership and sustainability of project initiatives and outcomes; thus, stakeholder feedback, including complaints, need to be heard
- Complaints shall be addressed promptly and transparently, and without retribution to the complainant
- The process of receipt, investigation, and resolution of complaints shall be fair, consistent, and respectful
- Complaints and grievances shall be resolved at the lowest possible level for resolution

177. Mechanisms to handle complaints will be provided for stakeholders and other interested parties to raise questions, comments, suggestions and/or complaints, and/or provide any feedback from all activities funded by the project. The GM may be used by i) project beneficiaries (i.e., direct or indirect beneficiaries of the project), ii) project staff including consultants, and iii) other interested parties who may use the GM to raise any concern in relation to the project.

178. The GM will be managed by the PIU establish under SACEP. Complaints may be submitted at any time during the implementation of the project. The PIU will provide the following channels where stakeholders can make a complaint:

- **Feedback page on SACEP website.** The feedback page on SACEP website can be used as feedback module, where users could send their feedback, including complaints, anonymously. SACEP will take note of these feedback and act on/resolve.

- **Dialogue with PIU Staff**. The PIU is also access points for receiving complaints. PIU staff receives the complaint and evaluates if the issue is relevant to the project and could be resolved informally (which is the usual case for low grievance risk). If it can, the staff takes measures/advises steps to resolve the complaint. The staff records the complaint, complainant, discussion, and resolution/outcome. The document shall be signed by the PIU Lead and the complainant. Copies shall be provided to the complainant and to the PIU. If the issue cannot be resolved informally, the staff shall advise the complainant to lodge a written complaint.

- **Written Complaints**. A project email address will be established prior to project launch. The complainant may lodge a written complaint within 20 days from the date of observing/experiencing the condition that gave rise to the grievance. The document shall state the nature of the complaint and the grievance. Receipt of complaints will be acknowledged with an action plan on next steps including arrangement for a grievance meeting.

179. The PIU is responsible for recording all complaints (informal and formal), creating and updating a complaints database, and tracking the progress of complaint resolution until completion.

180. **The Grievance Meeting**. The PIU shall convene its meetings to:

- State the purpose of the meeting
- Introduce everyone and explain each one's participation in the meeting
- Explain that the content of the meeting is confidential

- State that a decision regarding the complaint shall be made after the meeting, and that the complainant shall be notified in writing
- Describe how the meeting shall be conducted
- Give the complainant the opportunity to describe the exact nature of the complaint, and state the reasons for the grievance
- Allow the presentation of any statements made by witnesses
- Ask the complainant on any suggestion to solve the problem
- Summarize the main points made, and highlight any issues that need to be investigated further

181. **Records**. The Human Resource and Administration focal person shall record the entire process, which includes:

- The nature of the grievance
- The written grievance statement
- Highlights of the grievance meeting
- Supporting documents of the meeting
- The written statement of the decisions
- Outcome of implementation of the decisions

182. **Appeal**. The complainant has the right to appeal the decision of the project management committee. The appeal must be made in writing, within 20 days of receipt of the decision. The purpose of the appeal is to provide an independent view of the complaint, and to review the decision. The Appeals Committee, constituted by the Project Steering Committee, shall receive the written appeal, convene the grievance appeal meeting, decide on the appeal, and advise the complainant in writing on the outcome of the appeal[4].

183. If the complainant does not accept the outcome of the appeal, the case will be closed. The complainant may seek redress through the courts. SACEP shall regularly report to the donor on the number of complaints received and resolved, not resolved, or referred to a third party.

9. REFERENCES

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01. Information for Site Risk Assessment

Is the project site/Location would be susceptible or recently witnessed the natural Hazards?

Natural Hazard	No	Yes	If Yes, Attached following document
Earthquakes		Yes	Susceptible Map and recently witnessed the natural Hazards:
Liquefaction			Susceptible Map or recently witnessed the natural Hazards:
Landslides			Susceptible Map or recently witnessed the natural Hazards.
Ground Shaking			Susceptible Map or recently witnessed the natural Hazards
Tsunami			Susceptible Map or recently witnessed the natural Hazards
Flood			Susceptible Map or recently witnessed the natural Hazards
Fire			Susceptible Map or recently witnessed the natural Hazards
Draught			Susceptible Map or recently witnessed the natural Hazards
Disease outbreak			Susceptible Map or recently witnessed the natural Hazards

02. Biodiversity conservation and Ecological sensitivity of the Sub Project.

	No	Yes	Not applic able	If Yes, Pls write brief description or justification
Is the site located in or near a Nationally sensitive area (Eg. Protected Area/Wildlife and Marine Sanctuary/Wetland/Animal Corridor/Protected Wilderness Area, water stream, channel etc?)	No			
Is there any involvement of the project that poses an impact on vulnerable or endangered species and their habitats?	No			
Does the process of collecting plastic waste or other materials adversely affect marine flora and fauna?	No			
Is there a recommended sanitary landfill within a feasible distance for disposal of hazardous or residual waste?	No			
Does this process generate waste other than the plastic (such as food waste)?	No			

03) Resource efficiency and Pollution Prevention

3.1 Natural resources and Energy consumption

Concern	yes	No	If Yes, Pls explain the type of material, Source of Material and Demand of quantity
Is there a requirement to use any type of raw materials other than plastic waste for production, treatment and disposal?			
(Water footprint) What is the estimated overall water requirement of the production process (either how much water is used to produce 1kg product or daily water demand)			
Estimated Power/Electricity consumption with total cost of the power.	kWh/Day		
Estimated fuel Consumption with cost.			If yes pls mention the type of fuel will be consumed and consumption rate of each fuel type

3.2 Solid Waste, Waste water and Emissions.

	National standards (if any)	Yes/No	If yes pls mention the type of waste and waste generation rate and its compliance	Is there any onsite treatment or disposal methods adopted?
Does the process generate Solid waste significantly? (Ex: byproduct, residual waste)				
Does the process generate wastewater/Effluent?				
Does the process generate any emissions beyond the national standards?		No		
Is the quantity of plume in the air generated per day measured as per the national standard?				
Does innovation lead to the generation of significant microplastics in processing and application?				
What is the mechanism for disposing of debris and residue?				
Does the process generate Noise pollution beyond the national stands?				
What are the chemicals or enzymes used / day?				
What is the estimated quantity of waste generated from the project?				
What is the characteristic of plume stock?				

04.Community health and safety

	Yes/No	If yes How much Extent?	Mitigation/Alternative solution
Does the project cause livelihood losses of any community due to extraction of raw materials / resources?	No		
Will the innovation adversely affect the livelihoods of any community groups?	No		

05. Labor and working condition

	Yes/No	If yes How much Extent?	If no, Mitigation/Alternative solution
Are any workers, waste collectors at risk of exposure to harmful substances and hazardous chemicals?	No		
Are there any risks of noncompliance with nationals occupational safety standards during operation?	No		
Is the Space and ventilation available in the workplace adequate?			
Are there life and fire safety protocols in place?			
Are the labor management policies and plans (code of conduct, grievance mechanism, health and safety etc.) attached?			
Have the labor management policies and plans (code of conduct, grievance mechanism, health and safety etc.) complied with? (Explanation regardless of relevance of Yes / No)			

06. Stakeholder engagement and information disclosure

	Yes	No	If no, Mitigation/Alternative solution
Have the communities been systematically identified?			
Have the communities within the project intervention area engaged in the project design (including any outreach that has already taken place as part of proposal development or other relevant community research)?			
Are there Implementing partner(s)?			
Have the partnership structure and coordination mechanism clearly described including types of partnership agreement established with the local government?			
Is the grievance mechanism in place?			
How will the project build on previous experiences to ensure complementarity and avoid duplication			

B. Environmental and Social Checklist for Recycling Facility

Instruction: Below is the checklist of required documents that will be needed in conducting the environmental and social due diligence for a recycling facility. The applicable documents will be reviewed to check the compliance of the facility.

Location/Area		Date Inspected	
Contact Person		Inspected by	

Information/ Document Requirement	Specifics	Required ?	Status and Remarks
A. Information on Existing Facility			
1. Description of facility	• Indicate process and technology used in the plant • Type of wastes being recycled	☐	
2. Location	• Identify specific address of office and facility	☐	
B.1 Environmental Aspects			
1. Permit document	• Identify the documents (i.e., EIS, IEE, EMP) submitted or for submission to environmental agency • Submit the project's environmental management plan (EMP) and environmental monitoring plan (EMoP)	☐	
2. Pollution control system	• Describe the pollution prevention and control features of the plant (water pollution, air pollution, solid and hazardous wastes) • Indicate equipment installed with specifications	☐	
3. Environmental and socio-economic benefit of the project	• Indicate and quantify anticipated benefits of the project to the environment and surrounding communities	☐	
4. Personnel protection equipment	• Indicate the proposed personnel protective equipment to used	☐	
5. Personnel Training	• All facilities must train their personnel and staff. • List of training	☐	
6. Proper Waste Management Plan	• Emergency Contingency Plan	☐	
6. Laboratory tests	• Present the results of laboratory analysis	☐	
7. Residual wastes	• Indicate amount of waste or residuals (i.e., hazardous wastes)	☐	
B.2 Social Aspects			
1. Social safeguards documentation	• Whenever applicable, indicate the lot to be acquired (including ownership); houses to be displaced, relocated or resettled • Informal settlers to be affected • Livelihood to be affected	☐	

Information/ Document Requirement	Specifics	Required ?	Status and Remarks
	• Compensation plan		
2. Cultural property screening	• Will there be cultural, heritage, historical sites to be affected by the project?	☐	
3. Gender and Development	• Indicate number of women, PWD and children to be directly affected by the project	☐	
B.3 Proper Management Plan of Hazardous Waste			
1. Storage Management Plan	• Storage Management Plan for raw materials, residues, by-products and end-products	☐	
2. Contingency Plan	• Fire/earthquake plans	☐	
C. Permitting Required			
1.Environmental clearance	• For project covered by the country EIS system	☐	
2. Other environmental permits on water/air and hazardous wastes	• All facilities that treat, store or dispose hazardous waste must register to the government.	☐	
D. Other Documents			
1. City/district permits	• This may be in a form of city/municipal resolutions or ordinance supporting the project	☐	
2. Service Contracts or Agreement	• For projects whose component or service will be sub-contracted to a third party • Indicate validity of the contract	☐	

C. Inspection Checklist for the Storage Facility

Location/Area		Date Inspected	
Contact Person		Inspected by	

Storage Facility	Yes	No	Remarks
Is the storage area accessible, secured, enclosed but properly ventilated?			
Are the floors impermeable to liquids, resistant to attack by chemicals, not slippery, and constructed to retain spillages?			
Does the storage area have a proper signage?			
Are Safety Data Sheets available at the storage facility?			
Are the containers used compatible with their contents?			
Are incompatible waste containers separated and segregated?			
Are the containers properly labeled and legible?			
Are the labels accompanied by proper placards?			
Are all containers properly closed?			
Are all containers in good condition without leakage or damage?			
Have wastes been disposed of within the allowable accumulation time?			

D. Inspection Checklist for E-Waste Dismantlers

Location		Date Inspected	
Dismantler's Organization		Inspected by	
Year the organization was established			
Type of e-wastes collected:	☐ Computer central processing units (CPUs), desktops, and notebooks/laptop s/tablets ☐ Office electronics(fax machines, copiers, printers, scanners) ☐ LCD monitors and television ☐ Handheld electronics, including cellular phones, personal digital assistants, and peripherals	☐ CRT monitors and televisions ☐ Keyboards, mouse, speakers and other computer peripherals ☐ Household electronics and appliance ☐ Other electronic equipment Please specify:	
E-waste Sources			
Processing of collected e-wastes	☐ Transferring whole electronic waste devices for further processing ☐ Cutting cords off of devices ☐ Dismantling devices using hand tools to recycle devices or component parts ☐ Taking apart devices in order to do repairs ☐ Taking apart devices to recover parts to put into other devices or for sale ☐ Landfill for disposal	☐ Shredding whole devices ☐ Shredding component parts ☐ Dismantling or breaking open CRT devices ☐ Breaking or grinding CRT glass ☐ Smelting, melting, burning, or transforming materials ☐ Others Please specify:	

E-waste Dismantling	Yes	No	Remarks
Are the waste collectors/dismantlers aware of the toxicity of the chemicals present in the e-wastes collected?			
Are the waste collectors/dismantlers aware of the dangers and risks in handling the e-wastes particularly PBDE-related health risks?			
Is the community aware of the vulnerability of pregnant women and			

E-waste Dismantling	Yes	No	Remarks
children that are exposed to the e-wastes?			
Are trainings provided for waste collectors/dismantlers in proper handling/dismantling of the e-wastes?			
Are trainings provided for waste collectors/dismantlers on what to do in case of emergency or accidents?			
Do the waste collectors wear proper PPEs when collecting and handling the e-wastes?			
Are there safe dismantling areas provided for the dismantling of the e-wastes collected?			
Are there easily accessible and well-signed areas for the storage of the collected e-wastes?			
Are the collected e-wastes properly and orderly stored in the area?			

10.2 Environmental and Social Management Plan Template

A. ESMP Subproject Template

Instruction: For each project phase, potential impact of subproject activities should be listed and provided with proposed mitigating measures and the responsibilities.

(1) Potential Impacts	(2) Mitigating Measures	(3) Monitoring Parameter	(4) Details of Mitigating Measures (Schedule, Cost, Responsible Entity)	(5) Status of Compliance with Mitigating Measures
(I.e., Construction Phase)				
○ Removal of vegetation ○ Cutting of trees	○ Proposed replacement (green zones) ○ Proposed nurseries	○ Areas where nurseries and green zones are established ○ Tree Cutting Permit (if necessary)		
○ Water quality degradation ○ Air quality degradation	○ Provision of septic tanks ○ Proper drainage system ○ Watering of exposed soils to prevent dust re-suspension	○ Presence septic tank ○ No stagnant water ○ Dust re-suspension		
○ Generation of construction wastes and other solid wastes	○ Implement proper segregation, collection and disposal of solid wastes ○ Re-use of constructions waste materials ○ Provide bins for food wastes	○ Presence of bins		

B. MATRIX OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL MANAGEMENT PLAN (ESMP) for the Construction of the SACEP HQ

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES / POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT	PROPOSED MITIGATION MEASURE OR ENHANCEMENT MEASURE	MITIGATION COST	IMPLEMENTATION	SUPERVISION/ MONITORING	ASPECTS/ PARAMETERS TO BE MONITORED	MEANS OF MONITORING / FREQUENCY	MONITORING COST
A. CONSTRUCTION PHASE							
Acquisition of applicable permits and licenses (urban development permit, etc.)	Submission of complete requirements for the processing of all permits	Part of Contractors' bid cost	Contractor	Design and Supervision Consultant (DSC) and Project Management Unit (PMU)	Compliance to conditions of applicable permits and licenses	Provision of compliance matrix Prior to start of construction activities	Minimal cost (part of Consultant's task)
Climate Change Vulnerability of Proposed Project	Climate change adaptation measures are: i. Engineering assessment on potential site erosion; ii. Engineering assessment on potential site flooding;	Part of detailed design cost	Design Consultant	PMU	Engineering drawings and specifications	Verification of engineering drawings and specifications Once	Minimal cost (part of Consultant's task)
Complaints due to project-related impacts	PMU and the Contractors will: i. Establish the approved Project's Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM); ii. Publicize the existence of the Project's GRM through campaigns, website, billboards, etc.; iii. Ensure that the contact details are placed on notice boards and/or website.	Part of Contractors' bid cost	Contractor and PMU	DSC and PMU	▪ Consultation meetings; ▪ Tender documents; ▪ GRM activated with Community Advisory Committees (CACs)	Verification of meeting documents, tender documents and in placed CACs ▪ After completion of meetings; ▪ Once after preparation of tender documents prepared	Minimal cost (part of Consultant's task)
Improper disposal of excavation spoils	The PMU will: i. Require the Contractor for a disposal plan;	Part of Contractors' bid cost	Contractor and PMU	PMU	Contractor's disposal plan	Inspection of disposal site Monthly	Minimal cost (part of Consultant's task)

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES / POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT	PROPOSED MITIGATION MEASURE OR ENHANCEMENT MEASURE	MITIGATION COST	IMPLEMENTATION	SUPERVISION/ MONITORING	ASPECTS/ PARAMETERS TO BE MONITORED	MEANS OF MONITORING / FREQUENCY	MONITORING COST
	ii. Inspect the disposal site prior to transfer of excavated spoils						
Soil erosion and sediment of construction sites	Measures to divert surface runoffs away from the exposed areas and to prevent sediments from moving offsite may include i. Small interceptor dikes ii. Pipe slope drains, iii. Grass bale barriers, iv. Silt fence, v. Sediment traps and vi. Temporary sediment basins	Part of Contractors' bid cost	Contractor	DSC and PMU	▪ Disturbed sites ▪ Use of appropriate sediment controls	▪ Visual inspection of sites ▪ Verification of plans Daily during rainy periods	Minimal cost (part of Consultant's task)
Extraction of local construction materials	The Contractor will provide enough information about the source of construction materials to be used in the Project. Sources should be: i. Licensed; ii. Covered by required government permits;	Part of Contractors' bid cost	Contractor	DSC and PMU	Government permits and licenses	▪ Visual inspection of source; ▪ Verification of government permits and licenses Monthly	Minimal cost (part of Consultant's task)
Oil and other hazardous materials releases.	Measures for storage area: i. Enclosed and has impervious floor and bund around it; ii. Located away from watercourses, flood-prone areas, work camps and danger areas; iii. Regular checking for leakage and undertakes necessary repair or replacement Measures for storage containers i. In good condition and with proper labeling; ii. Tightly sealed to avoid leakages	Part of Contractors' bid cost	Contractor	DSC and PMU	▪ Measures required to prevent accidental releases; ▪ Records of accidental releases; ▪ Measures for clean-up and handling of contaminated materials; ▪ Training records of	▪ Visual inspection of storage area; ▪ Verification of records Weekly and as necessary	Minimal cost (part of Consultant's task)

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES / POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT	PROPOSED MITIGATION MEASURE OR ENHANCEMENT MEASURE	MITIGATION COST	IMPLEMENTATION	SUPERVISION/ MONITORING	ASPECTS/ PARAMETERS TO BE MONITORED	MEANS OF MONITORING / FREQUENCY	MONITORING COST
	Measure for refueling and servicing area: i. Designed with impermeable floor and with sump where wash water and sludge will be collected for disposal; ii. Adequately equipped to avoid leaks and spills that could contaminate soil and water; iii. With drainage leading to an oil-water separator with regular maintenance				personnel for hazardous materials;		
On-site air pollution due to construction activities	Measures for air pollution due to construction activities: i. Regular water spraying of roads, work areas and other construction-related facilities to minimize dust generation; ii. Provision of cover in storage area of construction materials, stockpiles and spoils to prevent fine materials from being blown; iii. Prohibit use of equipment and vehicles that emit dark sooty emissions; iv. Provision of tight tarpaulin cover on delivery trucks to avoid spills and dust emission; and v. Prohibit burning of all types of wastes generated	Part of Contractors' bid cost	Contractor	DSC and PMU	▪ Dust generation ▪ Smoke emitting equipment, ▪ Open burning of materials	Visual inspection of sites and equipment Daily	Minimal cost (part of Consultant's task)
Improper solid waste management	Measures for solid waste management: i. Provision of garbage bins for domestic solid waste and temporary storage area for construction waste; ii. Segregation of solid waste into hazardous, non-hazardous and reusable waste;	Part of Contractors' bid cost	Contractor	DSC and PMU	▪ Storage area for solid waste ▪ Records of regular disposal	▪ Visual inspection of storage area ▪ Verification of records Daily	Minimal cost (part of Consultant's task)

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES / POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT	PROPOSED MITIGATION MEASURE OR ENHANCEMENT MEASURE	MITIGATION COST	IMPLEMENTATION	SUPERVISION/ MONITORING	ASPECTS/ PARAMETERS TO BE MONITORED	MEANS OF MONITORING / FREQUENCY	MONITORING COST
	iii. Storage area should be secured and has weatherproof flooring iv. Regular disposal of wastes to the designated landfill; v. Prohibit burning of all types of wastes generated; vi. Removal of construction wastes from the sites after work completion, and vii. Restoration of disturbed sites.						
Construction noise and vibration	Measures for construction noise and vibration: i. Prior notification to the community on schedule of construction activities especially nighttime activities; ii. Provision of noisy equipment with noise reduction covers; iii. Position stationary noisy equipment (genset, compressors, batching and rock crushing plant, etc.) away from houses and other receptors; iv. If possible, avoid working during nighttime; v. Conduct regular noise level monitoring (the limits near residential area are 55 and 45 dB(A) during daytime and nighttime, respectively)	Part of Contractors' bid cost	Contractor	DSC and PMU	Noise level Normal operation schedule	Noise meter As necessary	Minimal cost (part of Consultant's task)
Vehicular traffic congestion and hindrance to public access	Measures for vehicular traffic congestion: i. Preparation of traffic management plan and provision of traffic aid; ii. Coordinate with local authorities for any closure of roads or rerouting of vehicular traffic; iii. Provision of traffic signs in the vicinity of the construction sites;	Part of Contractors' bid cost	Contractor	DSC and PMU	▪ Traffic Management Plan (TMP); ▪ Traffic signs in vicinity of construction sites;	▪ Verification of TMP; ▪ Visual inspection of vicinity of construction sites. Daily	Minimal cost (part of Consultant's task)

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES / POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT	PROPOSED MITIGATION MEASURE OR ENHANCEMENT MEASURE	MITIGATION COST	IMPLEMENTATION	SUPERVISION/ MONITORING	ASPECTS/ PARAMETERS TO BE MONITORED	MEANS OF MONITORING / FREQUENCY	MONITORING COST
Community health and safety	Measures for community health and safety: i. Install barriers and signage; ii. Provision of security personnel to restrict public access; iii. Operate construction night light at the vicinity of construction sites; and iv. Provision of adequate safe passageways for the public crossing the construction sites	Part of Contractors' bid cost	Contractor	DSC and PMU	▪ Construction safety policy ▪ Hazards in the area ▪ Safety control such as signages, lightings, and barriers ▪ Health and safety records (near miss, first aid, lost time accident)	▪ Verification of construction safety policy and health and safety record ▪ Visual inspection of site Daily	Minimal cost (part of Consultant's task)
Potential social issues due to influx of workers	Measures include: i. Induction of the workers on community health and safety policy, GRM, and consultation and communication plan; ii. Implementation of protocols concerning the workers contact between the local communities; iii. Implementation of a communicable disease awareness and prevention program on the risk of disease spreading including STDs and HIV	Part of Contractors' bid cost	Contractor	DSC and PMU	▪ Implementation of workers induction, required protocols, and disease awareness and prevention program	▪ Verification of records Prior to start of work	Minimal cost (part of Consultant's task)
Pollution and health risks due to workers' camp	Measures include: i. Installation of proper sanitary facilities; ii. Implementation of proper solid waste management	Part of Contractors' bid cost	Contractor	DSC and PMU	▪ Discharge of domestic wastewater ▪ Garbage Hauling	Verification of records for garbage hauling and discharge of domestic wastewater Weekly	Minimal cost (part of Consultant's task)

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES / POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT	PROPOSED MITIGATION MEASURE OR ENHANCEMENT MEASURE	MITIGATION COST	IMPLEMENTATION	SUPERVISION/ MONITORING	ASPECTS/ PARAMETERS TO BE MONITORED	MEANS OF MONITORING / FREQUENCY	MONITORING COST
Occupational health and safety at work sites	Measures include: i. Implementation of construction health and safety management plan; ii. Provision of first aid station iii. Provision of appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE), iv. Providing of emergency response equipment such as fire-fighting equipment, fire extinguishers, etc. v. Provision of potable water and adequate sanitation facilities, vi. Provision of workers with adequate and well-ventilated camps, clean eating areas, and separate sleeping quarters for male and female workers.	Part of Contractors' bid cost	Contractor	DSC and PMU	▪ Construction health and safety plan ▪ First aid station, PPE, emergency response equipment and sanitation facilities ▪ Health and safety records (near miss, first aid, lost time accident)	Verification of health and safety plan and records Daily	Minimal cost (part of Consultant's task)
B. OPERATION PHASE							
Consumption of electricity and water and release of greenhouse gases into the atmosphere	Promoting green building initiatives such as: i. Provision of rainwater harvesting ii. Provision of daylight-controlled and motion-controlled lighting fixtures iii. Incorporating good ventilation in the design to reduce the energy consumed by air conditioning system iv. Use of paint that absorb harmful gases	Part of construction cost	Contractor	Engineering Department / Pollution Control Officer (PCO)	▪ Electricity and water conservation index ▪ Carbon footprint reduction	▪ Assessment of water electricity and water conservation index ▪ Assessment of carbon footprint reduction Monthly	Part of the Proponent's operational cost
Improper solid waste management	Measures for solid waste management: i. Provision of garbage bins for domestic solid waste and temporary storage area for construction waste; ii. Segregation of solid waste into hazardous, non-hazardous and reusable waste;	Part of operation cost	Operations Department	Pollution Control Officer (PCO)	▪ Storage area for solid waste ▪ Records of regular disposal	▪ Visual inspection of storage area ▪ Verification of records	Part of the Proponent's operational cost

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES / POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT	PROPOSED MITIGATION MEASURE OR ENHANCEMENT MEASURE	MITIGATION COST	IMPLEMENTATION	SUPERVISION/ MONITORING	ASPECTS/ PARAMETERS TO BE MONITORED	MEANS OF MONITORING / FREQUENCY	MONITORING COST
	iii. Storage area should be secured and has weatherproof flooring; iv. Regular disposal of wastes to the designated landfill; v. Prohibit burning of all types of wastes generated;					Daily	
Impact on water quality of receiving body of water from discharge of untreated wastewater	Installation of Sewage Treatment Plant (STP)	Part of construction cost	Contractor	Engineering Department / Pollution Control Officer (PCO)	▪ Operation of STP ▪ Significant effluent parameters	▪ Regular inspection of equipment ▪ Analysis of wastewater by accredited 3rd party laboratory Monthly	Part of the Proponent's operational cost
Public health risk due to unplanned outages and emergencies of STP	Mitigating measures include: i. Identification of potential cause; ii. Provision of written management procedures iii. Regular inspection and maintenance of the backup power supplies and its Automatic Transfer Switch (ATS) iv. Provision of written standard operating procedures (SOPs) v. Regular training of STP personnel on how to handle unplanned outages and emergencies	Part of operation cost	Operations department (STP personnel)	Pollution Control Officer (PCO)	▪ Written management procedures ▪ Records of inspection and maintenance of backup power supplies ▪ SOPs ▪ Records on training of staffs	▪ Verification of management procedures, SOPs and records Weekly verification ▪ Records of inspection and maintenance ▪ Implementation of SOPs	Minimal cost

C. Environmental and Social Management Plan Template for E-Waste Recycling Facility (Construction and Operation)

Instruction: For each project phase, potential impact of activities should be listed and provided with proposed mitigating measures and the responsibilities

Project Phase / Environmental Aspect	Environmental Component Likely to be Affected	Potential Impact	Options for Prevention or Mitigation or Enhancement	Responsible Entity	Cost	Guarantee / Financial Arrangements
I. Construction Phase						
Dust emission from the civil works and movement of vehicles.	Air People	Air pollution	Dust control at the stock pile of aggregates through regular water sprinkling	Proponent/ contractor		TOR with contractor
Erosion and surface soil runoff	Land Water	Water pollution	Provision of silt traps Cleaning of gutters and canals	Proponent/ contractor		TOR with contractor
Impact of construction activities on welfare and safety of workers and passersby.	People	Health and safety of workers	• Require contractors and workers to undergo Safety/IMS/Environmental/ Security orientation. • Application of Permit to Work system prior to project start-up Provision of scaffoldings, safety nets, and other materials for protection and safety. • Wearing of safety gadgets such as hard hats, gloves, safety belts, rubber boots, goggles, etc. will be a mandatory requirement for workers. • Posting of safety signs/reminders in strategic areas within the construction area Installation of sufficient lighting in dark areas.	Proponent/ contractor		TOR with contractor Permit to Work
Generation of construction debris and other solid wastes	Land People	Solid and hazardous wastes generation	• Collection and recycling of construction wastes. • To be offered to junk shops as scrap material. • Handling and storage of potential contaminants under strict conditions	Proponent/ contractor		TOR with contractor

Project Phase / Environmental Aspect	Environmental Component Likely to be Affected	Potential Impact	Options for Prevention or Mitigation or Enhancement	Responsible Entity	Cost	Guarantee / Financial Arrangements
II. Operation Phase						
Increased volume and pollution load into the receiving body of water.	Water	Water pollution	• Installation of septic tank for domestic wastes or connect to sewer lines • Provision for closed-loop system for process wastes.	Proponent		ECC or equivalent permits
Emissions from the operation of the reaction vessels, spray treatment chambers, and standby generator unit.	Air	Air pollution	• Provision of fume hoods and air pollution control facility using activated carbon filters. • Implementation of closed-loop system. • Continuous and automatic per-chloroethylene monitoring system (when necessary and applicable) • Provision of generator sets with mufflers and enclosure with soundproof acoustical walls and ceiling.	Proponent		Secure Permit to Operate
Explosion and other fire hazards from equipment/vessel failure	Air Land People	Pollution/ Fatality	• Design of emergency preparedness and response plan. • Provision of fire safety equipment, water sprinkler system, fire exits, and other requirements of the Fire Code	Proponent		Detailed project plans
Generation of non-recyclable plastics and other residues	Land	Solid waste	Implementation of waste segregation and disposal of residues to landfill or make necessary arrangement for use as refused derived fuel (i.e., incineration)	Proponent		Contract with solid waste hauler
Generation of residues with potential PBDEs content (i.e., dismantled CPU, CRT monitors)	Land, Water, People	Generation of toxic plastic (e-waste) residues	Segregate and store properly, all e-wastes identified or suspected to contain PBDEs (i.e., dismantled CPU, CRT monitors) and coordinate disposal to government accredited e-waste residues treatment facility.	Proponent		Contract with solid waste hauler

D. Report of National Stakeholder Engagement Workshop under "Plastic free Rivers and Seas for South Asia" Project, 11th March 2020- Colombo, Sri Lanka

Second National Stakeholder Consultation meeting for Plastic free Rivers and Seas for South Asia project was held on 11th March 2020 in Colombo, Sri Lanka with the participation of additional secretary, Ministry of Environment and Wildlife Resources, Sri Lanka and 44 participants representing government, private sector, NGOs, plastic recyclers, media, academia and civil society. SACEP has extended invitations to about 60 participants covering above sectors and 44 were participated and few others regretted as they were unable to participate due to prior commitments. The meeting started at 9 am with welcome addresses made by Dr. Abas Basir, Director General on behalf of SACEP and Mr. A.H.L.D Gamini Wijesinghe, Addl. Secretary on behalf of the Ministry of Environment and Wildlife Resources and continued until 4.30 pm. SACEP made presentations on the project and its components, Environment and Social Assessment (ESA), Environment and Social Management Framework (ESMF) and Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) prepared by SACEP for the project. In the Afternoon, last session, participants were requested to identify possible stakeholder groups and stakeholders under each group as a group work session.

Welcome remarks by Dr. Abas Basir- DG, SACEP

Dr. Basir welcomed Mr. Gamini Wijesinghe, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Wildlife Resources, and all other participants and extended his thank to the Ministry of Environment and Wildlife Resources for assisting in organizing this Stakeholder meeting. He stated that the meeting was properly arranged within a short period of time and also thanked to all participants for participation at this very important meeting. He wished that we will have very fruitful discussions on this very important project.

Next, Dr. Basir introduced SACEP and said, it is an Intergovernmental Organization established in 1982 by the governments of South Asia namely, Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. The Secretariat is hosted by Sri Lanka. The mission of this organization is to promote and support coordination between member countries in terms of protection of the environment in South Asian region. Since its establishment SACEP has conducted many activities of environment protection and nowadays has six priority areas of activities including climate change, biodiversity, sustainable consumption and production, air quality, marine environment, water quality and environmental governance.

Dr. Basir also stated that waste management is one of the major areas SACEP is currently working on. As you know, solid waste in general is one of the major challenges that global community and particularly South Asian region is facing, due to the fast economic development and growth. Among the different streams of waste, plastic waste is a major challenge. During Governing Council meeting, the Ministerial meeting of SACEP held in Dhaka, Bangladesh last year in November, All SACEP member countries, all the ministers emphasized that plastic waste management should be one of the focused areas of SACEP activities in the next decade.

He also mentioned about the problems created by plastic waste allover the world and South Asia in particular. Last Governing Council meeting of SACEP adopted a roadmap on sustainable waste management for South Asia which is mostly focused on circular economy, resource management and plastic management. It also adopted Regional Marine Litter Action Plan which identifies challenges and major problems on marine litter management in South Asia. All of these documents mandated SACEP to work on plastic waste management.

Dr. Basir then said that this is a $ 50 million project. $40 million is contributed by World Bank and SACEP is expecting PARLEY for Oceans to provide another extra 10 million US dollars to complement World Bank' support.

This project has four main components. The first component which is very important is Regional Competitive Block Grants to Reduce Plastic Waste. Under this component we will be communicating to individuals, civil society organizations, entrepreneurs and institutions and entities who are interested in plastic waste management, who has innovative ideas, who has the ability to implement these ideas.

The second component is Leveraging Private Sector Engagement and Solutions. Without involving private sector, it would be difficult to properly tackle plastic pollution. Private sector plays a significant role in the production and use of plastics that "leak" into rivers and oceans and therefore must be a core stakeholder in the formulation and implementation of public-sector policy and associated actions. There are many innovative ideas and solutions among private sector. So, we need to make them involved in plastic waste management.

The third component is Promoting Educational Partnership, Awareness and Behavioral Change. The objective of this component is to promote education, increase awareness and stimulate behavioral change of citizens across South Asia. The role of public is very important in plastic waste management. They are the main consumer and their behavior is key to plastic waste. We need to change the public lifestyle through public awareness campaign and through educational partnership.

The final component is Strengthening Regional Integration and Project Management with the objective to support regional coordination, cooperation, institutions and policy development that deliver both short and long-term solutions. It improves SACEP abilities to implement large projects in South Asia region. This is a unique opportunity for SACEP and its member countries to address the plastic pollution in the region. Of course, 50 million US dollars is not a huge amount to tackle all problems, but with this amount we can establish an enabling environment and mobilize another financial support from member countries and I am hopeful that with the support of SACEP member countries can tackle this challenge through the implementation of this project.

At the end, Dr. Basir thanked the Ministry of Environment and Wildlife Resources for assisting in organizing this meeting and wished to have a fruitful discussion.

Remarks by Mr. Gamini Wijesinghe, Additional Secretary, Environment Projects and Education Training, Ministry of Environment and Wildlife Resources, Government of Sri Lanka

Mr. Wijesinghe, while welcoming all participants on behalf of the Ministry of Environment and Wildlife Resources, said that it was his pleasure to being here in this workshop. He thanked Dr. Abas Basir, the Director General of South Asia Cooperative Environment Programme and his team about financing this workshop. We have invited government officials as well as leading private sector organizations and NGO's for this workshop.

Currently in Sri Lanka, waste management including plastic is a big problem. When we use plastic, we dump them to our environment as open dumping. Those plastic goes to our rivers and at the end it will go to the oceans. Why is this a problem to country and the world? You know plastics

are not degradable. It has a long life. After going to our water bodies and oceans most of the animals in ocean they eat these things and after sometimes the biodiversity will disappear. They will kill. Not only human beings all living beings, this is a major issue.

We know in the world daily usage of plastic is really high, in Sri Lanka also very high. When we use water bottles, we regularly use these. So, what should we do to manage this and what have we done so far? Actually, to manage this, I believe we can reduce the usage. If we can reduce the usage, plastic in the environment will reduce. As well as we can reuse and recycle. Also, we can do 3R. Who are involved in leading companies of private sector we are invited for this workshop we have a responsibility to reduce plastic usage. As citizens of Sri Lanka we must do it because we want to protect our environment. So, I think during this day we will realize what is the importance of this workshop.

He further stated that “Plastic free rivers and seas for South Asia project” is the name of this project. This is the National Stakeholder Consultation for Sri Lanka. So, I am lucky, and you all are lucky to be here.

Technical session by Mr. W. K. Rathnadeera, Senior Programme Officer- SACEP

Presentation 01- introduction of the project.

Mr. W.K. Rathnadeera made a PowerPoint presentation and introduced the project components. Before take through the details of this proposed project he explained the objective and the purpose of today’s meeting. The purpose of the meeting is to inform you about the project we are going to implement in South Asia region. This project will be implemented in all eight countries including Sri Lanka and this is the first time we are having stakeholder consultation for Sri Lanka on this project. We had a similar kind of meeting in Maldives last January. Secondly, we have produced a number of documents, three documents related to this project. We are hoping to disclose these documents to you and general public in general and get your feedback on them. Thirdly, we want to hear feedback from you on the possible stakeholders who can involve in this project. These are the objectives that we are set up to organize this workshop. So, if I move into the details of this project, you already know some facts about this project as Dr. Basir and Mr. Wijesinghe mentioned before regarding the project and plastic pollution.

If you see the current facts of plastic issue globally, 8 million metric tons of plastic waste entered into oceans every year. About 250 metric tons of plastic wastes could be in the oceans fewer than 10 yrs. The estimated time for a plastic bottle to decomposed is 50 yrs. I would like to take your attention regarding a recent article which was published in last Sunday in ‘The Sunday Morning’ newspaper in Sri Lanka. That interesting article says that ‘Increase in Microplastics in Seas: a growing concern for Sri Lanka’. The Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) of the United Nations in their technical paper titled “Microplastics in fisheries and aquaculture”, indicated that the global plastic production had reached 322 million tons in 2015 with an addition of 61 million tons of synthetic fibres in the same year, and expected that it would very likely double in 2025. The mismanagement of plastic waste had contributed towards the contamination of freshwater, brackish waterbodies, and the ocean resulting in 4.8-12.7 million tons of plastic waste entering the oceans in 2010. That is the issue that we are facing currently.
Then he explained the project in detail.

Discussion
This project will implement through the participation of stakeholders. During the day, you can identify whether you are a direct beneficiary stakeholder or indirect stakeholder and who are the other possible stakeholders. Even though you are not a stakeholder directly benefit from the project, you can contribute to the cause of alarming issue of plastic waste, not only for Sri Lanka and for the region as well.

1. **You have mentioned about a block grant and what is the mechanism to achieve the grant?**

   As mentioned, there are 2 windows created under sub-component 1.1 of the component 1. Window number 1 is the block grant and window number 2 is the TA support for the most promising ideas including innovative ideas and creative solutions from individuals and institutions on turning the tide on plastic pollution. We will publish a call for interested parties to apply. So, they can apply according to the criteria we set along. We'll make necessary arrangements to publish this call for proposals on our website and on other printed media, as widely as possible. Interested people, organizations, private sector, NGOs or any other individuals who would like to implement the innovative activities or new technologies which eligible for our criteria can apply directly to SACEP on a given format. So, we will appoint a selection committee and we will follow a transparent selection criteria and selection method. Again, short listed proposals and the final list will publish on SACEP website to inform the stakeholders and general public.

   The other way you all can involve in this project is that there are activities under the mitigation, like cleanup activities, we hope to implement with the participation of NGOs, CBO,s and other stakeholders. There is an opportunity for relevant stakeholders to take part in public awareness programmes as well.

   The criteria and many other information we'll be discussed during the day. I invite you to visit our website www.sacep.org regularly as we will publish all information about this project on it.

2. **Political blessing and commitment are a key to implement this type of a project in the South Asian region, we have to keep a link between the ministry/ or need to get the approval from the ministry regarding these kinds of projects when implementing in Sri Lanka. Therefore, what is the strategy of this project in terms of political background?**

   Well, yes, you are right. The political support is really critical in implementing any project. So, we have the blessing of all the ministers of 8 countries basically, environment ministers who are the members of our governing council. We had our GC meeting in last November in Dhaka, Bangladesh. They were very supportive and in fact, they adopted a decision there by assuring the all countries willingness to participate in this project and they asked SACEP to accelerate the process of development of this project with the World Bank. So, basically that the political support at the ministerial level and in fact the country level is there. Another example, Sri Lanka, the Ministry of Environment and Wildlife Resources as our National Focal Point extended its fullest support in organizing this event. In fact, the invitation letter has gone under the signature of the Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Wildlife resources which shows their commitment and the support for this project in particular and for the SACEP as usual.

3. **Basically, mentioned the GC was held with the participation of ministers. Did the minister participate at the GC?**

   During November 2019, the minister of Environment was H.E. the president. The president nominated Secretary to the President to represent him and therefore, Mr. Udaya R. Seneviratne, Secretary to the President participated from the Sri Lanka. It was last year before the election.

4. **Ministry of Environment and Wildlife Resources together with the Central Environmental Authority has already initiated an action to develop a national plastic waste management action plan. Now the first draft has been finished, and the final draft would be submitted to the cabinet for the approval. That action plan would be the strategy for managing the plastic waste in Sri Lanka. Some of the activities has already initiated. For example, basically the laws governing the plastic waste management is available in the National Environment Act under section 23W. But present, there are laws for single use plastic management, but it is little bit weaker. So, now CEA is in the process of amending the present law and dedicating some of the powers to some of the agencies like Health Department and to the Sri Lanka police. So, in some countries, I noticed that 127 countries have brought these kinds of banning laws in case of single use plastic. In our country also there are several single use plastic banning laws. The issue is that the present penalties and some other weaknesses of the current laws. So, that laws will be amended very soon and also included in the National Plastic Waste Management Action Plan. This is just to clarify whether the implementation of the national action plan will be benefited by this project or how can we coordinated and when some stakeholders apply for the grants whether you will be able to consider the national action plan whether that component is addressing the National Action Plan or how could be considered? The national action plan components also will be considered as a criterion for releasing funds for particular stakeholders. (CEA)**

   Thank you for the very important information regarding the national action plan. Yes, when we are selecting the proposals from candidates who are eligible for implementing activities under block grant, we consider many things. Some of the criteria set along is that the proposals have to meet the national environmental laws and regulations. When we are selecting possible grantees in Sri Lanka, we will take into consideration of the provisions you have said under the national action plan. Some of the activities under this project can be considered as complementary to the activities already implementing for plastic waste management.

   As I mentioned earlier the other component is that we are working on establishing public-private partnership platform to sustainability of this project beyond the project period and the criteria also will develop under this.

   Dr. Park- I would like to make a suggestion and also try to share a message. Basically, if your block grant projects accurately works, it is not for the SACEP, not for the World Bank. It is for yourself, your country and for the region. Therefore, country level strong involvement is very important. So, your involvement is very important and SACEP has to work with Focal Point at the country level. So, in Sri Lanka, SACEP can focus on the environment and sustainable development but, the focus ministry could be the Ministry of

Environment. The close collaboration with the Ministry of Environment acts as the focal point of this project for SACEP has also to open the door to all stakeholders in relation to plastic waste management and sustainable waste management activities and bring them all together and each ministries or agencies and stakeholders might have their own action plans and so on. We have to bring all the stakeholders together and this is very important and more have to work together.

Mr. W. K. Rathnadeera- There are 2 things; as I mentioned the project is going to support block grant programme and as well as technical support programme under two windows. SACEP is managing the project and SACEP is the implementing agency. Apart from this project, SACEP is implementing its own other programme activities on different subject areas. Since SACEP's establishment in 1982, all these programmes, we are implementing in collaboration and partnership with the national focal point of each member country which is the Ministry of Environment. We received more than the enough support from our National Focal Points. In this case also their support is already assured.

5. **According to the statement of that gentlemen, we have to work together. So, did you all have invited local government here because they are the body dealing with the waste management. So, in Sri Lanka many things are happening through them and they are one of the important stakeholders. So, any representatives from the waste management authority today?**

   We already extended the invitation for them and they are here today.

6. **Just want to directly be questioned regarding the private sector. The private sector in Sri Lanka we are doing a lot more things such as design, projection, recovery and increasingly we look for partnerships specifically the government and the civil society with media, academia and so on. Just wanted to know in terms of this project and the grant available, how does the private sector should qualify for a grant and what is the processes involved and what sort of rules and regulations are there for private sector in order to achieve this and how can we know whether we are already eligible?**
   (Mr. Lakshan- Coca Cola)

   There are 2 things: (1) with regard to the block grant and TA, if the proposals from private sector bring innovative ideas as a solution for this problem or even the process that you already implementing with your own and which need expansion, and meet other criteria which we will discuss later on the day, will be eligible to apply. (2) We are hoping to establish public-private partnership where the private sector can participate and give their ideas and they can directly participate to the project.

7. **I would like to express that actually the waste management is a mandate of the local authority completely and all the management activities are legalized with them and it can be overall by the provincial council and the Ministry of Local Government. So, in this project also focuses as a regional authority to give any support or facilitation to spend at the local authority's work force because ultimately the project should be handled with them and it should go to the community through the local authority. So, in this project is there a special focus on giving grant block or special condition for local authority? (Waste Management Authority- Western Province)**

The answer is straight forward because we are working with the World Bank and the grant which we received from the World Bank we can't transfer any money to the government agencies. The WB has its own process for supporting governments and its agencies. This project needs to be implemented through private sector, NGOs, CBOs. This does not mean that government agencies can't participate in implementing this project. There are many other activities other than block grants and TA which the government entities can participate. For example, in our monitoring process for block grants, we do it through our NFPs. We will discuss it on net session.

Dr. Abas Basir- Many questions raised in term of implementing national waste management action plans. We know that many countries have a plenty of national policies. This project establishes an enabling environment for the implementation of national action plans through private sector engagement, public – private partnership and public involvement. we know that governments alone are not able to tackle all environmental challenges if there is no support from public and private sector. So, we will be supporting the governments in implementing national action plans and policies by partnership. We can also work with the gov. in terms of strengthening their capacity to implement some activities, their action plans and policies.

Presentation 02: Introduction and presentation of the key findings and recommendations of the Environment and Social Assessment (ESA) for the project and discussion. (Mr. W. K. Rathnadeera)

Discussion

1. **I just want to clarify whether you are ready to fund some activities which are initiated by the govt. with the assistance and the collaboration with the pvt. Sector? (MEPA)**

   Well, whether it is initiated by govt. or complement to already in operational govt. project is not a disadvantage. If the proposed project would support to implement government policy, action plan to manage plastic waste would be an advantage. But the project should be implemented by the pvt. sector or NGO, CBO, etc. and not a government agency.

2. **Regarding single use plastic, somebody is collecting single use plastic, recycling and again making the single use product so, are you going to discourage the activity or however this is not promoted because this finally added to the env. And then pollute the env. So, what is the logic or policy behind discourage the single use plastic and again making the single use plastic. It is good in one hand but there is a long-term impact as well. We need to discourage but we can't stop it. (Mr. Mahinda Werahera, M/Envt. And Wildlife Resources)**

   We are not advising to stop them. But, under this project, we are not considering these types of proposal as eligible proposals to receive block grant or TA. The logic or a reason behind this is that though collection and recycle of the single use plastic is a good practice, producing again single use plastic is considered as environmentally negative practice as no one can assure that 100% collection of those re-produced single use plastic for recycling. That means their production going to be a threat to environment and therefore, we consider these kinds of activities under the negative list. If they are collecting single use plastic and producing multiple use products after recycling, then we encouraged.

3. **What sort of plan or actions will you expect from our department? (An officer from Sri Lanka Coast guard)**

   In this project, there will be some prevention and mitigation activities apart from block grants and TA. pollution. Prevention activities include mainly education and awareness of various stakeholders and general public. Mitigation activities include clean-up activities both beaches and water bodies including rivers and sea. As the coast guard there are some responsibilities to undertake education and awareness and also support in mitigation activities. People who are living around the area need to make aware of the negative environmental and health impacts of plastic pollution. You have a role as a stakeholder to implement such awareness and education programmes.

4. **Dr. Park-** After the identification of the stakeholders each stakeholder's roles and mandates to be known. As an example, the coast guard, your roles and enforcement as he mentioned education so on, So, detailed role of stakeholders under this project will be clearly defined and identified during stakeholder meetings and then share their roles and mandates and so on. So, then we can find the connectivity among the stakeholders how to cooperate with each other. As he mentioned the education and awareness related to plastic waste in seas and so on are important.

5. **Are all these environmental and social impacts represented here World Bank criteria? And you are also stated that many social and environmental standards which the grantees have to meet while implementing sub-projects. Also mentioned about a negative list. Can you explain what does it mean? (Dr. Park)**

   There are two aspects we will have to understand in this regard. The overall project which will be implemented by SACEP and the sub-projects will be implemented by selected grantees under window 1 and 2 of the component one. Being an implementing agency, SACEP will have to ensure that it all environmental and social standards of WB relevant to this project are fully addressed. And also, SACEP will have to ensure that all sub-projects under this project also comply with the relevant environmental and social standards. Under the ESA, we have identified possible environmental and social risks. And also, we proposed how we can manage those risks. Accordingly, we produced environmental and social management framework which we will present in next session. For the sub-projects, SACEP will request all selected grantees to produce their own ESMFs as a condition. You will get more information on it in the next session.

   Negative list is a list of activities that are pollutive and resource intensive. The sub-projects which include activities in the negative list will not be selected to support.

6. **In Sri Lanka what is lacking is the collection that is because there is no network of collection. Recycling is not an attractive business because the collection cost is high. So, I would like to make a request from the project formulation unit please pay your attention in this regard and try to encourage the networking for collection. (Mr. Mahinda Werahera, M/Envt. And Wildlife Resources)**

   What we understood is currently in Sri Lanka there are some networks but, they are not enough. When it comes to the business, yes, some recycling facilities need assistance.

But there are private sector recyclers making profitable and attractive business. When we were interacting with them, they informed that they have enough businesses and they are profitable. But the current collection is not enough for run the full capacity. According to information we received from some pvt. Sector organizations they are thinking to expand their facilities. So, if they have enough capacity and lack of collection, if they need to expand this could be one of the ideas create good case for a sub-project under block grant.

7. **Currently we are the largest PET recyclers in Sri Lanka and recycling 250 tonnes per month and our capacity is for 350 tonnes and we are lacking 100 tonnes. In 2020 to 2021 we are trying to expand our business for another plant and the estimated target is 650 tonnes. I have been and seen several these kinds of events, forums but the thing is we are talking more about these things but the final impact for the industry is not enough. we have to do more regarding this because we are talking about circular economy and the recycling is one of the main things of it and not only the single use plastic we can recycle more things but it is impossible because there is no enough knowledge on that and people are not aware on recycling.**
   Regarding to this project you have specifically mentioned about rivers and seas so, is there any specific geographical location to do the project activities or else can we implement activities all over the country? (Mr. Priyankara- Eco Spindles)

   There is no any geographical limitation within the country and in fact this is a regional project for South Asia. The reason for focusing on rivers and seas in this project is that ultimately these plastics are end up in oceans. But the sources of plastic are not the rivers and oceans therefore, we are addressing the sources as well.

   You have capacity but you are lacking collection but, I understood, you already developed partnerships with some other private sector establishments in this regard. In this project we are trying to fill the gaps.

   When it comes to coca cola, they have established number of collection centers and many collection bins.

8. **Coca Cola- yes, we do. Our focus is also to increase the recovery and projection. We work with Eco Spindles as the recycling partner and in most cases collection partner as well. We approached in different ways. We reduce the plastic accumulation in land, and we educate people regarding recycling and packaging and also enhance the collection, we do have a network of collection bins across the country in schools, universities. We are open to partnerships, anyone has the opportunity to establish collection bins. We are open to it and then we can collect and recycle. Therefore, we can sponsor the bins free of charge. We also set up larger scale cargos to clean harbours and we have established collection centers in Batticaloa, Vavuniya, Galle and so on. We are trying different models which suits for Sri Lanka and the infrastructure landscape. And we are focusing on supermarkets as well to increase the collection.**

9. **(Mr. Mahinda Werahera, M/Envt. And Wildlife Resources)- This is a feedback to coca cola. We are happy to see they are establishing these centers. We are proposing to introduce some economic tools in terms of extended producer responsibilities to**

motivate the customer to return the bottles for those collection centers. We strongly believe that the customer is the component we have to focus. We need to change the behaviour of the customer. In Sri Lankan context, for changing the behaviour, we believe not the awareness programme, but the economic instruments, some motivation to return the bottle back. Therefore, we definitely need to do that.

I think this is one area we can also look into and extend into public awareness and education. When we call for proposals for block grants, this type of proposals also can take to consideration like how you can encourage the consumers to return these plastic bottles. Normally what we found was Sri Lankan consumers throw these empty bottles and then garbage pickers are collecting. When collected, those bottles are contaminated. This contaminated plastic is very difficult to recycle than uncontaminated plastic. Therefore, this encouragement will ensure that they do not throw empty bottles to the env. And basically, ensure it will end up in proper collections.

10. **After finalizing the projects, how do you release the grant? (Eco Spindles)**

    When we are selecting the recipient, we screen all the proposals, after we are calling, based on the format we given. SACEP will appoint a selection committee and the committee will screen all the project according to the criteria we given. The selection committee will short list during first round of screening and shot listed proponents will be published. Then short-listed proponents will be requested to submit detailed proposals. Again, selection committee will screen the proposals from short-listed proponents and select the eligible projects to receive grants. Finals list also be published on SACEP website. The selected candidates should need to have an agreement with SACEP and then only we are releasing the grant.

11. **Some materials can be recycled, and some materials cannot. There is a huge issue arising with the materials which cannot be recycled. In the supermarkets also the majority of the plastics are fall into that category. Since it lacks a mechanism to recycle those plastics, the accumulation is increasing day by day and there is no research and development center in Sri Lanka to study about it and in overseas might have such a center. I have developed a small programme regarding these non-recyclable plastic materials and it is successful. Therefore, I received about 7 to 8 boxes daily consisting such materials like toffee and chocolate wrappers. So, I would like to know whether there is a possibility to support such activities like these through the grant? (Mr. Jayantha- Katana Upcycle)**

    Some entity who can proposed an alternative to these plastic wrappers definitely could be an ideal project idea. Therefore, we encourage those people to apply for grants or TA support for these kinds of projects. If the plastic is non-recyclable, we only can do is go for an alternative way to deal with those and actually this is a good idea which we can consider.

    When it comes to **e-waste**, the particular project or the organization need to give a specific report regarding the management of the e-waste which means they need to have a proper e-waste management plan.

Presentation 03: Introduction and the presentation of the Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) for the project and discussion (by Dr. Sivaji Patra)

Discussion

1. **Can you clarify whether like the conditions you have explained is applicable for country wise or project wise in a country?**

   (Responded by Mr. Rathnadeera) ESMF which we developed to address the potential environmental and social risk rising from implementing this project. This includes all the components of the project, component 1 to 4. Also, this ESMF includes the sub-projects as well. All grant recipients will have to develop their own sub project ESMF acceptable to SACEP and the WB. This ESMF will have to produced only selected grantees not all applicants. We will request them to produce and submit it to SACEP before signing of an agreement. When we are discussing a sub project those are not considered as small as what you are usually think of. We are thinking to going maximum up to 1.5 million US dollars projects (sub projects). By implementing this scale of projects, we expect them to develop an ESMF for their activities and implement it under sub projects.

2. **You are trying to do these as environmental and social analysis to the whole thing like country wise. Even without designating a required fund to these sub projects how can you assume? At least if you know these are the projects that going to fund and then you can make some assumptions and prepare the social and environment aspect and then come to a conclusion. If you want to have that vision, what are the projects that we are going to implement how can a country come to a conclusion in environmental and social aspect, are you going to do with existing data and make some predictions or what is the method?**

   (Responded by Mr. Rathnadeera) We are not expecting any sub-project proponent to submit the ESMF during the initial stage of application. SACEP will request to prepare sub-project ESMF only the ones who selected by the selection committee. That means they are assured that they have selected to receive a grant. Grantees will have to prepare and submit their own ESMF acceptable to SACEP and the WB before signing the agreement. Not only preparing, they will have to implement sub-project ESMF during the implementation of the sub-project. SACEP will include it to the agreement as a condition. When screening the projects, we consider some of the policies they adapted by own organizations like labour policy, child labour or Gender Based Violence and so on. And also, the equity. But we are not expecting all the people to prepare ESMF when they are applying with the initial application. It is required when they have selected and with the confirmation of the selection.

3. **Certain waste management and recycling projects need the approval from the CEA under the provisions of the National Environment Act. Initially large-scale projects sometimes may require the approval from the Ministry of Environment and some other projects sometimes require some kind of environmental recommendations depending a particular location. so, do we need to concern about this when receiving funds?**

   (Responded by Mr. Rathnadeera) Yes, the grant recipient will have to comply with the national environmental regulations, whether requirement is an environmental impact

assessment or whether it needs Environmental Protection Licensee. Not only that you might need to get the permission from the municipal authority, the other authorities as well. Those sub-projects should not violate the existing national laws and regulations.

The ESMF we presented to you is not for the block grant or the technical assistance and it is for the whole project. SACEP will ensure the implementation of the requirement of this ESMF throughout the project. This will guide the Project Implementing Unit to implement the whole project. Whenever the issues arise during the implementation with regard to environmental and social issues, the ESMF will be the solution for how we can manage those potential environmental and social risks.

Presentation 04: Introduction and presentation of the Stakeholder Engagement Plan (ESP) for the project and discussion. (By Ms. Priyankari Alexander)

Discussion

1. **At the moment if you consider just to give examples, at the moment in Sri Lanka due to my knowledge 8 projects are focusing on plastic. My proposal is that can you explore the possibility of inviting all these people and sit together and get aware of what everybody is doing. So, then we will be able to streamline those activities and focus into some national objectives. Otherwise we are working in an isolated manner. USA government recently gave a considerable amount of money to NGOs, but I don't know what the activities are they doing. We can support by our end, if you can get together and sit in one place and see what all are doing. Therefore, we can get to know each other and design these activities and then as Priyankari clearly targeted the machine will operate and wheels come together otherwise we all are working isolated. (Mr. Mahinda Werahera, M/Envt. And Wildlife Resources)**

   (Responded by Mr. Rathnadeera) Thanks for bringing this and I think it's a good idea and in fact one of the objectives of the today's meeting is that we want get your feedback to identify some national initiative already implementing which can complement at least some of the components of the project.

   There are activities going on and which can be complement to each other and we are open for discussions.

Stakeholder Identification and mapping

Group One

Government
Ministry of Environment & Wildlife Resources
- Central Environmental Authority (CEA)
- Marine Environment Protection Authority (MEPA)
- Coast Conservation Department (CCD)
- Department of Wildlife Conservation (DWLC)
- Forest Department (FD)
- National Zoological Gardens Department (NZGD)
- National Botanical Gardens Department (NBG)

Ministry of Industries
- Export Development Board (EDB)

- Industrial Development Board (IDB)
- Chambers of Commerce
- Consumer Affairs Authority
- Department of Commerce
- Sathosa
- National Paper Cooperation
- Laksala

Ministry of Finance
- National Planning Department (NPD)
- Board of Investment (BOI)
- Customs
- Department of Import and Export
- Department of Fiscal Planning

Ministry of Science and Technology
- National Science Foundation (NSF)
- Industrial Technology Institute (ITI)
- Sri Lanka Standard Institute (SLSI)
- National Engineering Research and Development Center (NERD)

Ministry of Health

Ministry of Public Administration and Local Governments
- Provincial Councils
- Department of Local Governments
- Local Authorities

Ministry of Fisheries
- National Aquatic Research Agency (NARA)
- National Aquaculture Development Authority (NAQDA)

Ministry of Education and Ministry of Higher Education
- Universities
- National Institute of Education (NIE)
- Schools
- Vocational Training Institutes

Ministry of Foreign Relations – Oceans Affairs Division

Ministry of Defence
- Environment Police
- Navy
- Coast Guard
- Airforce

Ministry of Mahaweli, Agriculture and Irrigation
- Department of Agrarian Services
- Department of Irrigation
- Mahaweli Authority of Sri Lanka (MASL)

Ministry of Ports
- Harbours
- Ports Authority

<u>Private Sector</u>

- Plastic Producers
- Recyclers (150 Registered under CEA)
- Packaging Industries
- Beverage and Food Companies

- Printers
- Plastic importers
- Supper Markets and other retail Shops (Trade Associations)
- Garment Industries
- Informal Sector – Recyclers, Collectors, Sellars
- Private Waste Management Companies

Other Interested Parties

- INGOS – IUCN, IWMI
- NGOs – Plastic Projects
- CBOs
- Community

Group Two

Direct Beneficiary Government Stakeholders

- Ministry of Environment and Wildlife Resources
- Marine Environment Protection Authority (MEPA)
- Central Environmental Authority (CEA)
- Ministry of Provincial Councils and Local Governments
- Ministry of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources
- Waste Management Authorities
- Ceylon Fisheries Harbour Corporation
- Sri Lanka Coast Guard

Direct Beneficiary Private Sector

- Manufacturers
- Importers and Exporters
- Traders
- Collectors
- Pickers
- Recyclers

Other Interested Parties – Government

- Ministry of Health
- Ministry of Media
- Ministry of Education
- Ministry of Finance
- Ministry of Tourism

Other Interested Parties – Private Sector

- NGOs
- Industrials
- CBOs

Manufactures

- Snakings
- CIC

- American
- Petform
- CBL
- KNEE
- Modern pack
- Elephant House

Brand Owners

- Coca-Cola
- Elephant House
- Pepsi
- Nestle
- CBL
- Maliban
- Uniliver
- Hemas
- Highland
- Kothmale
- Palawatta
- Ambewela

Recyclers

- Eco Spindles
- Sanasuma Lanka
- Dharshana Bio Packaging
- Modern Pack
- Katana Up Cyclers
- Viridis
- Jayamari Plastics

National Initiatives - Private

- Plastic Cycle
- Give Back Life
- Zero Thrash
- No-Kunu
- Eco Friends
- Eco-V
- Waste to Value

National Initiatives – Government

- Plastic Waste Action Plan
- Waste Management Policy
- Chambers of Commerce

US Funded NGO projects

- Sevanatha
- Practical Action
- IUCN

- SLCDF
- Sri Lanka Law Foundation
- Red Cross
- HELP-O

Plastic Free Rivers and Seas for South Asia project

First National Stakeholder Consultation for Sri Lanka

11 March 2020

Tentative Programme

8.30 – 9.00	Registration
9.00 – 9.45	Inauguration
9.45 – 10.30	Introduction of the Project
10.30 – 11.00	Group Picture and Tea/Coffee Break
11.00 – 12.30	Introduction and presentation of the key findings and recommendations of the Environment and Social Assessment (ESA) for the project and discussion
12.30 – 13.30	Lunch Break
13.30 – 14.30	Introduction and presentation of the Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) for the project and discussion
14.30 – 15.15	Introduction and presentation of the Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) for the project and discussion
15.15 – 15.45	Tea/Coffee Break
15.45 – 16.30	Group work on Stakeholder Mapping
16.30 – 17.00	Report Back of Group Work
17.00	Close of the programme

List of Participants

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