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Environmental and Social Standards (ESS)

Resilient Homestead and Livelihood Support to the
Vulnerable Coastal People of Bangladesh (RHL) Project

Palli Karma-Sahayak Foundation (PKSF)



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What is this flipchart?

This flipchart serves as a practical, field-ready guide for applying environmental and social safeguards under the RHL Project ESMF. It supports PKSF, Implementing Entities and field teams to screen proposed activities, identify and manage environmental and social risks, prevent harm, promote inclusion, and ensure that affected communities remain safe, informed and meaningfully engaged. The guide translates ESS1–ESS10 into clear operational actions, aligned with GCF requirements, Bangladesh law, and the project's ESMF, ESMP, ESAP and Gender Action Plan.

10 ESS at a glance

ESS-1: Assessment and Management of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts

ESS-2: Labor and Working Conditions

ESS-3: Resource Efficiency and Pollution Prevention and Management

ESS-4: Community Health and Safety

ESS-5: Land acquisition, restrictions on land use and involuntary resettlement

ESS-6: Biodiversity conservation and Sustainable Management of Living Natural Recourses

ESS-7: Tribal People/ Traditional Local Communities

ESS-8: Cultural Heritage

ESS-9: Financial Intermediaries

ESS-10: Stakeholder Engagement and Information Disclosure

Purpose

- Build a shared understanding of ESS requirements and support
- Consistent screening, mitigation, monitoring and grievance response.

Who will use it?

PKSF, Implementing Entities, field staff, trainer, CCAGs, contractors/workers, local government and community members.

How will it be used?

Use it during orientation, field visits, community consultation, activity screening, site monitoring, training and CCAG meetings- before, during and after implementation.



Understand

Know the ESS



Screen

Identify risks



Plan

Prepare measures



Implement

Apply safeguards



Monitor

Check results



Respond

Record grievances

Use the flipchart as a quick discussion and field-check tool: understand the standard, screen the activity, apply safeguards, monitor results, and respond to concerns.

ESS-I Assessment and Management of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts



I. WHAT THIS STANDARD COVERS



- ❖ Identify potential environmental and social risks at the earliest stage.
- ❖ Screen all proposed activities to determine risk level and required actions.
- ❖ Prepare and disclose appropriate environmental and social instruments based on risk level.
- ❖ Monitor the implementation and effectiveness of mitigation measures.
- ❖ Avoid, minimize, mitigate, restore and, where residual impacts remain, compensate.
- ❖ Provide an accessible grievance mechanism and resolve concerns in a timely manner.



Identify Risks



Screen & Prepare
ES Instruments



Monitor
Mitigations



Manage
Grievance

2. PROJECT SPECIFIC ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL MANAGEMENT FOCUSES



Saline water and effluent from crab culture may affect soil quality and nearby water bodies



Temporary dust, noise and waste during construction can affect people and surroundings



Blocked drainage or inadequate design may cause flooding or waterlogging



Ensure safe access, structural stability, and protection of neighbors and users



Protect workers through safe practices, PPE, and adequate facilities



Protect mangroves, local habitats and wildlife in coastal areas

3. REQUIRED ACTIONS

Screen before approval and re-screen when location, design, scale or technology changes

Monitor mitigation and immediately report, investigate and correct serious incidents

Classify and document the risk level

Prepare ESMP and include in the plans

Keep records and respond to the concerns

4. ALSO ENSURE



Consult and include women, vulnerable groups and local communities



Share clear information in understandable and accessible ways



Keep complete, organized environmental and social records



Apply good practices and comply with laws, standards and policies

Every activity must be screened, managed, and monitored to reduce environmental and social risks.

ESS 2

Labor and Working Conditions



1. WHAT THIS STANDARD COVERS

- ❖ Apply for direct, contracted, community, family/beneficiary and primary-supply workers.
- ❖ No discrimination, harassment, and respectful treatment for all workers.
- ❖ Safe and healthy working conditions to prevent accidents and injuries.
- ❖ No child labor, forced labor, and fair treatment for all workers.
- ❖ Workers can raise concerns confidentially and get a fair response
- ❖ Workers are trained and supervised for safe and responsible work.



Fair
treatment



Safe
workplace



Child and
forced labor
prohibited



Worker
grievance
mechanism



Training
and
supervision

2. PROJECT SPECIFIC LABOR FOCUSES



Follow safe
methods and
quality standards.



Materials are transported
safely and vehicles are
not overloaded.



Equal access to works,
training, pay, and advancement
without discrimination.



Follow safe and hygienic
practices when working
in livestock sheds.



Provide safe drinking
water, handwashing and
separate sanitation.



Worker Code of
Conduct covering
SEAH



All grievances are recorded,
responded to and resolved
in a timely manner.

3. REQUIRED ACTIONS

Use written terms and
explain work tasks, risks,
CoC among the workers

Verify age and prohibit
child/forced labor

Monitor safety, hours,
breaks, sanitation and safe
practices

Apply OHS, PPE, training,
first aid and the right to
stop unsafe work

Operate confidential
worker grievance
mechanism

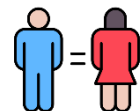
4. ENSURE



Clear contracts
and terms



First aid
arrangements



Respect and non-
discrimination

The project workers must be treated fairly, work safely, and have access to grievance redress.

ESS 3

Resource Efficiency and Pollution Prevention and Management



1. WHAT THIS STANDARD COVERS



Efficient water
use



Efficient use of
materials and energy



Waste
management



Pollution
prevention



Safe handling of
hazardous materials

2. PROJECT SPECIFIC RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND POLLUTION PREVENTION FOCUSES



Crab nursery/farming may increase
salinity around ponds.



Odor from goat/sheep sheds;
unmanaged litter and manure.



Urine/feces may contaminate
surface water.



Dust from small
construction activities.

3. REQUIRED ACTIONS

Establish baseline and
monitor water quality and
soil salinity

Install polythene sheet
under slatted houses and
clean Goat litter regularly

Maintain safe distance
from toilet and water
bodies

Apply the waste hierarchy
and use manure as organic
fertilizer

Treat and control effluent
discharge; Use existing
saline-contaminated areas

Water spraying to
dust prevention

4. ENSURE



Reuse materials and
recycle where
possible



Use local, durable
and eco-friendly
materials.



Follow environmental
laws, permits and good
practices to protect
nature.

The project must use resources efficiently and prevent pollution to protect people, land, and water.

ESS 4

Community Health and Safety



1. WHAT THIS STANDARD COVERS

- ❖ Prevent risks to community members during construction activities.
- ❖ Ensure safe, inclusive access to homes, facilities and community resources
- ❖ Manage vehicles and transport to prevent accidents and harm.
- ❖ Be ready for emergencies and disasters; protect people and property.
- ❖ Promote good hygiene, sanitation and disease prevention.



Risk Prevention



Safe Access



Emergency preparedness



Disease prevention and hygiene

2. PROJECT SPECIFIC FOCUS



Falls, cuts, or injuries from tools, heights, or unsafe work practices.



Blocked drains and poor site drainage can cause waterlogging and health risks.



Odor may affect neighboring households



Access to safe water, latrines and proper waste management



Poor livestock management can spread disease and attract vector.



Weak structures and poor preparedness increase risk from cyclones and floods.

3. REQUIRED ACTIONS

Store materials safely; do not block walkways, drains or access

Keep latrines clean and manage waste properly

Control dust and smoke; use masks when needed.

Maintain shed hygiene; dispose waste safely; keep livestock areas clean

Site-specific emergency plan and arrangement aligned with the SOD

Share safety information clearly; report and investigate community incidents.

4. ENSURE



SEAH awareness and zero-tolerance policy on SEAH



Clear pathways for all including persons with disabilities



Address safety and health complaints fairly and promptly

The project activities must keep communities safe, healthy, and informed.

ESS 5

Land Acquisition, Restrictions
on Land Use and
Involuntary Resettlement



1. WHAT THIS STANDARD COVERS



Avoid land
acquisition



Avoid physical
displacement



Avoid livelihood
displacement



Verify land use
/ ownership



Address land-
related grievances

2. PROJECT SPECIFIC LAND USE FOCUSES

“No land acquisition or resettlement is planned. Continue screening for tenants, sharecroppers, informal/customary or seasonal users, competing family claims, and temporary access or livelihood impacts.”

3. REQUIRED ACTIONS

Verify boundaries, ownership, possession, users and competing claims

Consult local records and neighbors; confirm land is dispute-free

Stop the activity and prepare a Resettlement Action Plan or Livelihood Restoration Plan if displacement or livelihood loss is identified

Obtain informed consent from all right-holders, including women, spouses and joint owners

Register grievance, investigate and resolve in a fair, timely manner

4. ENSURE



Transparency



Community
consultation



Equal
opportunities



Grievance
management .

The project avoids land acquisition and resettlement—activities must be implemented only where land issues are clear and conflict-free.

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ESS 6 Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Management of Living Natural Resources



1. WHAT THIS STANDARD COVERS



Protect habitats



Conserve biodiversity



Promote restoration and planting



Avoid work in ecologically sensitive areas



Manage living natural resources sustainably

2. PROJECT SPECIFIC BIODIVERSITY FOCUSES



Unnecessary felling of trees



Disturbance to vegetation, soil and water bodies



Possible disturbance to natural habitat



Loss of Biodiversity due to collection of Juvenile crabs

3. REQUIRED ACTIONS

Continue site-specific screening and identify habitats, species and sensitive areas

Avoid and minimize habitat impacts and the practices that pollute water, degrade soil or harm wildlife.

Promote hatchery-based juvenile crab supply and prevent unsustainable wild collection

plant native species and control invasive species; use protective fencing to improve survival.

monitor habitat condition, water quality, tree survival and juvenile-crab sourcing and take corrective action

4. ENSURE



No work in protected areas



Mangrove planting



Responsible use of natural resources

The project must strengthen livelihoods while protecting mangroves, wildlife, and the coastal natural resource base.

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ESS 7 Tribal People/ Traditional Local Communities



I. WHAT THIS STANDARD COVERS



**Identify
presence**



**Avoid adverse
impacts**



**Ensure culturally
appropriate consultation**



**Promote inclusion
in benefits**



**Respect identity
and practices**

2. PROJECT SPECIFIC TRIBAL PEOPLE FOCUSES

“Not currently triggered at screened sites. Continue village- and activity-level screening. If Tribal Peoples/Traditional Local Communities are present, apply the project IPPF, carry out due diligence including free, prior, informed consent with them prior to implement the activities and prepare an Indigenous Peoples Plan where required.”

3. REQUIRED ACTIONS

Screen all project areas early and repeatedly to identify tribal peoples/traditional local communities

Disclose information in relevant languages and culturally appropriate formats

Avoid adverse impacts on land, resources, culture, livelihoods and heritage.

Engage legitimate community representatives; Assess impacts and benefit inclusion

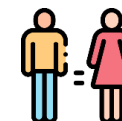
Carry out due diligence including free, prior, informed consent

Record community concerns, agreements and provide culturally appropriate grievance channels.

4. ENSURE



**Dignity and
respect**



**Non-
discrimination**



**Inclusion of all
groups**

If tribal or traditional local communities are present, The project must engage respectfully and ensure they are not adversely affected.

ESS 8

Cultural Heritage



1. WHAT THIS STANDARD COVERS



Identify cultural heritage



Avoid damage to religious or community sites



Consult communities



Protect tangible and intangible heritage

2. PROJECT SPECIFIC CULTURAL HERITAGE FOCUSES

No cultural, archaeological, historical, or religious heritage sites were identified during the RHL Project screening. If any sacred trees, burial sites, community ponds and cultural or religious heritage is discovered or accidentally affected during implementation, the project will apply precautionary measures and follow the Chance Find Procedure to ensure its protection and preservation.

3. PROJECT PRECAUTIONARY ISSUES

Screen and avoid sensitive sites before work

Avoid sensitive sites in design and planning

If a find occurs, stop work and secure the area.

Brief workers on chance finds before work begins

Consult the community and inform authority

Restart only after written authorization; document and report the action

4. ENSURE



Community participation and respect



No disturbance to sacred places or traditions



Information sharing in local language

Even where risk is low, the project must protect cultural and religious heritage through screening and community consultation

ESS 9

Financial Intermediaries



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Partner Organization

BENEFICIARY HOUSEHOLDS & LIVELIHOOD ACTIVITIES



1. WHAT THIS STANDERD COVERS



Establish ES management system



Risk screening and categorization



Due diligence and mitigation measures



Monitor portfolio and implementation



Reporting, audit and corrective action

2. PROJECT INSTITUTIONAL PATHWAYS

PKSF Sets ESS requirements, provides guidance, tools, capacity support and oversight

Partner Organizations Screen subprojects, implement mitigation and ensure compliance

Identify potential risks, prepare ESMPs and apply measures

Stakeholders are informed and feedback is considered

Partner Organizations monitor performance and report results to PKSFBHABAN

PKSF monitor, provide feedbacks and produce performance reports

3. ENSURE



Strengthen knowledge and skills for better ES performance.



Make informed decisions and due diligence at every stage.



Maintain complete and accessible ES documentation and records.



Ensure clear roles, open communication and transparent disclosure.



Suspend or stop financing where serious non-compliance is not corrected.

PKSF and its partner organizations must apply ESS procedures consistently across the project activities.

ESS 10

Stakeholder Engagement and Information Disclosure



1. WHAT THIS STANDARD COVERS



Identify stakeholders



Implement Stakeholder Engagement Plan



Engage throughout the project cycle



Disclose information clearly



Ensure inclusion of vulnerable groups



Operate grievance redress

2. KEY STAKEHOLDERS

PKSF

Provides policy guidance, oversight and support for RHL

Partner Organizations

Implement activities, engage communities and ensure compliance

Climate Change Adaptation Groups (CCAGs)

Local groups leading climate-resilient actions

Women and Vulnerable Households

Primary beneficiaries whose needs and voices are central

Local Government / Union Parishad

Support coordination, facilitate services and participation

Other Community Stakeholders

Teachers, religious leaders, youth, NGOs, relevant govt. department and others

3. REQUIRED ACTIONS

Identify and map stakeholders by interest, influence, vulnerability

prepare an engagement schedule, track engagement, share responses and feedback

Disclose project information early in accessible languages and formats

Use differentiated methods for women, ethnic groups, older and low-literacy people

Record complain and response; Pathways for community, worker and confidential SEAH complaints with female focal points, survivor consent

4. ENSURE



Transparent communication



Inclusion of women and vulnerable groups



Accessible meetings



Documentation and follow-up

Strong stakeholder engagement helps the project remain inclusive, accountable, and responsive to community needs.



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