

Annex [#]. Social and Environmental Screening Template

The completed template, which constitutes the Social and Environmental Screening Report, must be included as an annex to the Project Document. Please refer to the [Social and Environmental Screening Procedure](#) and [Toolkit](#) for guidance on how to answer the 6 questions.

Project Information

Project Information	
1. Project Title	Building Municipal Capacity for Project Implementation
2. Project Number	00105769
3. Location (Global/Region/Country)	Republic of North Macedonia

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

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

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

Though not specifically mentioned, the project mainstreams the human-rights based approach by addressing most of the key SDG challenges and basic human rights and quality of life in general.

The main premise of using the human rights approach in this project is that it introduces a broader commitment to local democracy and the principle of “subsidiarity”, by ensuring that decisions with a direct impact on people’s lives are taken as close to the affected individuals and communities as is possible. Therefore, the project mainstreams the human-rights approach by creating activities which are addressing the deep disparities in the quality of life for citizens, both within and between the country’s eight main regions, this goes both in the context of equal opportunities and other human rights principles. Another context is that the activities in the project are helping local authorities to set their development priorities in exercising their rights according to the subsidiarity principle. Large part of the activities will be based on „desk review“ of the existing and available legal and other documents regulating the system of local self-government and their managerial responsibilities, having the human-rights as a basic principle. To achieve this, as a part of the activities, senior local and international consultants will be specifically assigned to work on research analysis in order to narrow the legislation gap, all previously aligned to EU *acquis communautaire*.

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

It is highly likely and much expected that the Project will improve the gender imbalance in the country. In the ProDoc, there is very clearly defined focus on promotion and improvement of the gender equality. The project is designed to provide effective and adequate coverage of the gender equality issues for all stakeholders, especially for the main beneficiaries, but also for the related parties.

All project components, assessments and mapping exercises will include gender aspects and disaggregated data to identify different needs and priorities for men and women. Within the first component, the index will include gender-related indicators in line with the EU Gender Equality index, as well as the already existing methodology for

<p>preparation of Quality of Life reports. For instance, the output 2.1 clearly states delivering services to improve gender equality: “Local governance institutions strengthened to deliver services efficiently and equitably (GEN2)”.</p> <p>Furthermore, while conducting the functional analysis of municipalities, the project will closely rely on the requirements prescribed with the Law on Equal Opportunities between Men and Women and the Law on Local Self Government Units, thus enhancing gender equality at the local level. Additionally, in order to ensure that the technical documentation fund operates in a gender-sensitive fashion, the project will devote special attention to ensure that gender sensitive pre-assessment, impact assessment and monitoring and evaluation instruments are put into place.</p> <p>Gender mainstreaming will be effectively considered in all aspects of the implementation of the project including the development of the specific Terms of Reference for each of the foreseen services:</p> <p>Implementation and management of activities, general operations and financial management, public information activities and stakeholder coordination.</p> <p>Briefly describe in the space below how the Project mainstreams environmental sustainability</p> <p>The issue of environmental sustainability has been taken fully into consideration while designing the project. The overall context of the foreseen actions, the increased capacity to assume the obligations of the prospective EU membership at local level, includes addressing the capacity of local governance units to implement the EU legislation in the fields of environmental protection and climate change. In fact, this legislation represents the biggest proportion of the <i>acquis communautaire</i> and, consequently, the most “investment heavy” policies to implement.</p> <p>The index of municipal development will be determined in such a way to include environmental and climate concerns as impediments, that is clearly stated in the document:</p> <p>“• The functional analysis of the local governance system will analyze the environmental and climate related legislation, sustainability and the procedures with impact to local governance units; and develop recommendations for systemic changes where necessary.</p> <p>• The “technical documentation fund” for local development projects will be designed in such a way to reward those project ideas (studies, action plans and concrete investment projects) contributing to implementation of the above mentioned environmental and climate related legislation and policies, sustainability of the projects will be one of the strongest issues to be taken into consideration.”</p>
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Part B. Identifying and Managing Social and Environmental Risks

Risk Description	Impact and Probability (1-5)	Significance	Comments	Description of assessment and management measures as reflected in the Project design. If ESIA or SESA is required
<p>QUESTION 2: What are the Potential Social and Environmental Risks? <i>Note: Describe briefly potential social and environmental risks identified in Attachment 1 – Risk Screening Checklist (based on any “Yes” responses). If no risks have been identified in Attachment 1 then note “No Risks Identified” and skip to Question 4 and Select “Low Risk”. Questions 5 and 6 not required for Low Risk Projects.</i></p>	<p>QUESTION 3: What is the level of significance of the potential social and environmental risks? <i>Note: Respond to Questions 4 and 5 below before proceeding to Question 6</i></p>	<p>QUESTION 6: What social and environmental assessment and management measures have been conducted and/or are required to address potential risks (for Risks with Moderate and High Significance)?</p>		

			(Low, Moderate, High)		<i>note that the assessment should consider all potential impacts and risks.</i>
Risk 1: Political instability, causing decision delays and/or lack of commitment to the Project objectives (components 1,2 and 3)	I = 2 P = 3		Medium Low		Project activities have been designed to assist the civil servants at national and local level in their regular work, and do not require any extra effort. Once the initial political support is secured, through signature of support letters and establishment of a project board, this risk has been minimized.
Risk 2: Lack of socio-economic and other data from local level necessary for establishment of development indicators (component 1)	I = 2 P = 4		Low High		The purpose of the component 1 is not only to design the Development Index based on existing data, but to introduce new sets of data and assist in their collection and processing. The index will be in line with best statistical practices and prepared in coordination with other similar initiatives in the country.
Risk 3: Political and administration reluctance to provide qualitative information for Project activities (component 2)	I = 2 P = 2		Low Medium		Most of this activity will be based on „desk review” of the existing and available legal and other documents regulating the system of local self-government and their managerial responsibilities. Once the political support is secured by signatures and active involvement in the Project Board, the impact and risk shall be minimized and controlled.
Risk 4: Lack of sensible project applications meeting the requirements to benefit from the technical documentation fund (component 3)	I = 2 P = 3		Medium Medium		In order to mitigate this risk, the Project team will undertake a snapshot review of the existing project pipelines at local level and adjust the criteria accordingly. Depending on the findings, there is enough room in Project budget and timeline to assist those municipalities that need to further develop project ideas. In the process of project development, the Project team will be following closely the development of the applications and establish closer relationship with the administration in the municipalities.
Risk 5: Sustainability of the project output after the project ends (component 1,2, and 3)	I = 2 P = 2		Low Low		In order to mitigate the risk, the project is designed to allow for upscaling and wider application of practices and models created within it. In addition, the project team will develop visibility and communication plan that will secure communication of the project and get involved in awareness raising and stakeholders’ involvement activities to create sense of ownership.
[add additional rows as needed]					
QUESTION 4: What is the overall Project risk categorization?					
Select one (see SESP for guidance)				Comments	

		Low Risk	✓	In order to mitigate the risk, the project is designed to allow for upscaling and wider application of practices and models created within it. In addition, the project team will develop visibility and communication plan that will secure communication of the project and get involved in awareness raising and stakeholders' involvement activities to create sense of ownership.
		Moderate Risk	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		High Risk	<input type="checkbox"/>	
QUESTION 5: Based on the identified risks and risk categorization, what requirements of the SES are relevant?				
Check all that apply				
		Principle 1: Human Rights	✓	Comments
		Principle 2: Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment	✓	
		1. Biodiversity Conservation and Natural Resource Management	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		2. Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation	✓	
		3. Community Health, Safety and Working Conditions	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		4. Cultural Heritage	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		5. Displacement and Resettlement	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		6. Indigenous Peoples	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		7. Pollution Prevention and Resource Efficiency	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Final Sign Off

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

SESP Attachment 1. Social and Environmental Risk Screening Checklist

Checklist Potential Social and Environmental Risks		Answer (Yes/No)
Principles 1: Human Rights		
1.	Could the Project lead to adverse impacts on enjoyment of the human rights (civil, political, economic, social or cultural) of the affected population and particularly of marginalized groups?	No
2.	Is there a likelihood that the Project would have inequitable or discriminatory adverse impacts on affected populations, particularly people living in poverty or marginalized or excluded individuals or groups? ¹	No
3.	Could the Project potentially restrict availability, quality of and access to resources or basic services, in particular to marginalized individuals or groups?	No
4.	Is there a likelihood that the Project would exclude any potentially affected stakeholders, in particular marginalized groups, from fully participating in decisions that may affect them?	No
5.	Is there a risk that duty-bearers do not have the capacity to meet their obligations in the Project?	No
6.	Is there a risk that rights-holders do not have the capacity to claim their rights?	No
7.	Have local communities or individuals, given the opportunity, raised human rights concerns regarding the Project during the stakeholder engagement process?	No
8.	Is there a risk that the Project would exacerbate conflicts among and/or the risk of violence to project-affected communities and individuals?	No
Principle 2: Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment		
1.	Is there a likelihood that the proposed Project would have adverse impacts on gender equality and/or the situation of women and girls?	No
2.	Would the Project potentially reproduce discriminations against women based on gender, especially regarding participation in design and implementation or access to opportunities and benefits?	No
3.	Have women's groups/leaders raised gender equality concerns regarding the Project during the stakeholder engagement process and has this been included in the overall Project proposal and in the risk assessment?	No
4.	Would the Project potentially limit women's ability to use, develop and protect natural resources, taking into account different roles and positions of women and men in accessing environmental goods and services? <i>For example, activities that could lead to natural resources degradation or depletion in communities who depend on these resources for their livelihoods and well being</i>	No
Principle 3: Environmental Sustainability: Screening questions regarding environmental risks are encompassed by the specific Standard-related questions below		
Standard 1: Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Natural Resource Management		
1.1	Would the Project potentially cause adverse impacts to habitats (e.g. modified, natural, and critical habitats) and/or ecosystems and ecosystem services?	No

¹ Prohibited grounds of discrimination include race, ethnicity, gender, age, language, disability, sexual orientation, religion, political or other opinion, national or social or geographical origin, property, birth or other status including as an indigenous person or as a member of a minority. References to "women and men" or similar is understood to include women and men, boys and girls, and other groups discriminated against based on their gender identities, such as transgender people and transsexuals.

	<i>For example, through habitat loss, conversion or degradation, fragmentation, hydrological changes</i>	
1.2	Are any Project activities proposed within or adjacent to critical habitats and/or environmentally sensitive areas, including legally protected areas (e.g. nature reserve, national park), areas proposed for protection, or recognized as such by authoritative sources and/or indigenous peoples or local communities?	No
1.3	Does the Project involve changes to the use of lands and resources that may have adverse impacts on habitats, ecosystems, and/or livelihoods? (Note: if restrictions and/or limitations of access to lands would apply, refer to Standard 5)	No
1.4	Would Project activities pose risks to endangered species?	No
1.5	Would the Project pose a risk of introducing invasive alien species?	No
1.6	Does the Project involve harvesting of natural forests, plantation development, or reforestation?	No
1.7	Does the Project involve the production and/or harvesting of fish populations or other aquatic species?	No
1.8	Does the Project involve significant extraction, diversion or containment of surface or ground water? <i>For example, construction of dams, reservoirs, river basin developments, groundwater extraction</i>	No
1.9	Does the Project involve utilization of genetic resources? (e.g. collection and/or harvesting, commercial development)	No
1.10	Would the Project generate potential adverse transboundary or global environmental concerns?	No
1.11	Would the Project result in secondary or consequential development activities which could lead to adverse social and environmental effects, or would it generate cumulative impacts with other known existing or planned activities in the area? <i>For example, a new road through forested lands will generate direct environmental and social impacts (e.g. felling of trees, earthworks, potential relocation of inhabitants). The new road may also facilitate encroachment on lands by illegal settlers or generate unplanned commercial development along the route, potentially in sensitive areas. These are indirect, secondary, or induced impacts that need to be considered. Also, if similar developments in the same forested area are planned, then cumulative impacts of multiple activities (even if not part of the same Project) need to be considered.</i>	No
Standard 2: Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation		
2.1	Will the proposed Project result in significant ² greenhouse gas emissions or may exacerbate climate change?	No
2.2	Would the potential outcomes of the Project be sensitive or vulnerable to potential impacts of climate change?	No
2.3	Is the proposed Project likely to directly or indirectly increase social and environmental vulnerability to climate change now or in the future (also known as maladaptive practices)? <i>For example, changes to land use planning may encourage further development of floodplains, potentially increasing the population's vulnerability to climate change, specifically flooding</i>	No
Standard 3: Community Health, Safety and Working Conditions		
3.1	Would elements of Project construction, operation, or decommissioning pose potential safety risks to local communities?	No
3.2	Would the Project pose potential risks to community health and safety due to the transport, storage, and use and/or disposal of hazardous or dangerous materials (e.g. explosives, fuel and other chemicals during construction and operation)?	No

² In regards to CO₂, 'significant emissions' corresponds generally to more than 25,000 tons per year (from both direct and indirect sources). [The Guidance Note on Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation provides additional information on GHG emissions.]

3.3	Does the Project involve large-scale infrastructure development (e.g. dams, roads, buildings)?	No
3.4	Would failure of structural elements of the Project pose risks to communities? (e.g. collapse of buildings or infrastructure)	No
3.5	Would the proposed Project be susceptible to or lead to increased vulnerability to earthquakes, subsidence, landslides, erosion, flooding or extreme climatic conditions?	No
3.6	Would the Project result in potential increased health risks (e.g. from water-borne or other vector-borne diseases or communicable infections such as HIV/AIDS)?	No
3.7	Does the Project pose potential risks and vulnerabilities related to occupational health and safety due to physical, chemical, biological, and radiological hazards during Project construction, operation, or decommissioning?	No
3.8	Does the Project involve support for employment or livelihoods that may fail to comply with national and international labor standards (i.e. principles and standards of ILO fundamental conventions)?	No
3.9	Does the Project engage security personnel that may pose a potential risk to health and safety of communities and/or individuals (e.g. due to a lack of adequate training or accountability)?	No
Standard 4: Cultural Heritage		
4.1	Will the proposed Project result in interventions that would potentially adversely impact sites, structures, or objects with historical, cultural, artistic, traditional or religious values or intangible forms of culture (e.g. knowledge, innovations, practices)? (Note: Projects intended to protect, and conserve Cultural Heritage may also have inadvertent adverse impacts)	No
4.2	Does the Project propose utilizing tangible and/or intangible forms of cultural heritage for commercial or other purposes?	No
Standard 5: Displacement and Resettlement		
5.1	Would the Project potentially involve temporary or permanent and full or partial physical displacement?	No
5.2	Would the Project possibly result in economic displacement (e.g. loss of assets or access to resources due to land acquisition or access restrictions – even in the absence of physical relocation)?	No
5.3	Is there a risk that the Project would lead to forced evictions? ³	No
5.4	Would the proposed Project possibly affect land tenure arrangements and/or community based property rights/customary rights to land, territories and/or resources?	No
Standard 6: Indigenous Peoples		
6.1	Are indigenous peoples present in the Project area (including Project area of influence)?	No
6.2	Is it likely that the Project or portions of the Project will be located on lands and territories claimed by indigenous peoples?	No
6.3	Would the proposed Project potentially affect the human rights, lands, natural resources, territories, and traditional livelihoods of indigenous peoples (regardless of whether indigenous peoples possess the legal titles to such areas, whether the Project is located within or outside of the lands and territories inhabited by the affected peoples, or whether the indigenous peoples are recognized as indigenous peoples by the country in question)? <i>If the answer to the screening question 6.3 is “yes” the potential risk impacts are considered potentially severe and/or critical and the Project would be categorized as either Moderate or High Risk.</i>	No

³ Forced evictions include acts and/or omissions involving the coerced or involuntary displacement of individuals, groups, or communities from homes and/or lands and common property resources that were occupied or depended upon, thus eliminating the ability of an individual, group, or community to reside or work in a particular dwelling, residence, or location without the provision of, and access to, appropriate forms of legal or other protections.

6.4	Has there been an absence of culturally appropriate consultations carried out with the objective of achieving FPIC on matters that may affect the rights and interests, lands, resources, territories and traditional livelihoods of the indigenous peoples concerned?	No
6.5	Does the proposed Project involve the utilization and/or commercial development of natural resources on lands and territories claimed by indigenous peoples?	No
6.6	Is there a potential for forced eviction or the whole or partial physical or economic displacement of indigenous peoples, including through access restrictions to lands, territories, and resources?	No
6.7	Would the Project adversely affect the development priorities of indigenous peoples as defined by them?	No
6.8	Would the Project potentially affect the physical and cultural survival of indigenous peoples?	No
6.9	Would the Project potentially affect the Cultural Heritage of indigenous peoples, including through the commercialization or use of their traditional knowledge and practices?	No
Standard 7: Pollution Prevention and Resource Efficiency		
7.1	Would the Project potentially result in the release of pollutants to the environment due to routine or non-routine circumstances with the potential for adverse local, regional, and/or transboundary impacts?	No
7.2	Would the proposed Project potentially result in the generation of waste (both hazardous and non-hazardous)?	No
7.3	Will the proposed Project potentially involve the manufacture, trade, release, and/or use of hazardous chemicals and/or materials? Does the Project propose use of chemicals or materials subject to international bans or phase-outs? <i>For example, DDT, PCBs and other chemicals listed in international conventions such as the Stockholm Conventions on Persistent Organic Pollutants or the Montreal Protocol</i>	No
7.4	Will the proposed Project involve the application of pesticides that may have a negative effect on the environment or human health?	No
7.5	Does the Project include activities that require significant consumption of raw materials, energy, and/or water?	No