

## ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

### ESS 4: COMMUNITY HEALTH, SAFETY, AND SECURITY

COMMUNITY  
HEALTH, SAFETY  
AND SECURITY



MAR FUND'S ESMS

## ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

# ESS 4: COMMUNITY HEALTH, SAFETY, AND SECURITY

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“ESS 4: Community Health, Safety, and Security” is part of MAR Fund’s Environmental and Social Management System (ESMS). Therefore, ESS 1 should be read and understood in conjunction with the other 9 Safeguards and the other documents that are part of the ESMS.

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## • GLOSSARY

AFD	Agence Française de Développement <sup>1</sup>
BMZ	Bundesministerium für Wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit und Entwicklung <sup>2</sup>
EbA	Ecosystem-based Adaptation
CAPEX	Capital Expenditure
CSO	Civil Society Organization
CTF	Conservation Trust Fund
Due Diligence	Environmental and Social Due Diligence
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
ERP	Emergency Response Plans
ESAP	Environmental and Social Commitment Plan
Escazú Agreement	Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Public Participation, and Justice in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean
ES	Environmental and Social
ESDD	Environmental and Social Due Diligence
ESIA	Environmental and Social Impact Assessment
ESMF	Environmental and Social Management Framework
ESMP	Environmental and Social Management Plan
ESMS	Environmental and Social Management System
ESPF	Environmental and Social Performance Framework
ESSQ	Environmental and Social (ES) Screening Questionnaire
ESS	Environmental and Social Safeguards
FB	Fundación Biosfera
FCG	Fundación para la Conservación de los Recursos Naturales y Ambiente en Guatemala

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<sup>1</sup> French Development Agency

<sup>2</sup> Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development of the Federal Republic of Germany.

FC–Measures	Financial Cooperation Measures
FFEM	Fonds français pour l’environnement Mondial <sup>3</sup>
FI	Financial Intermediary
FMCN	Fondo Mexicano para la Conservación de la Naturaleza
FPIC	Free, Prior, and Informed Consent
GCF	Green Climate Fund
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GHG	Greenhouse gas
GMO	Genetically Modified Organism
H&S	Health & Safety
IDB	Inter–American Development Bank
IFC	International Financial Corporation
ILO	International Labour Organisation
ISPM	International Standard for Phytosanitary Measures
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
JMP	WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme for Water Supply, Sanitation and Hygiene
KfW	Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau <sup>4</sup>
LGBTQ+	Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer (or sometimes questioning) and others. + represents other sexual identities including pansexual and Two–Spirit.
MAR	Mesoamerican Reef
MAR Fund	Mesoamerican Reef Fund
NAP	National Adaptation Plans
NDC	National Determined Contributions
NGO	Non–Governmental Organization
OH&S	Occupational Health & Safety
PACT	Protected Areas Conservation Trust

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<sup>3</sup> French Facility for Global Environment.

<sup>4</sup> Reconstruction and Credit Corporation of the Federal Republic of Germany.

PPE	Personal Protective Equipment
PS	Performance Standards
RfP	Request for Proposals
SEA	Sexual Exploitation and Abuse
SECF	Stakeholder Engagement and Communication Framework
SECP	Stakeholder Engagement and Communication Plan
SGBV	Sexual and Gender-Based Violence
SIA	Social Impact Assessment
The Policy	MAR Fund's Environmental and Social Policy
ToR	Terms of Reference
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environmental Programme
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UN Protocol	United Nations Protocol on Allegations of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse Involving Implementing Partners
WASH	Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene

## 1 ESS 4: COMMUNITY HEALTH, SAFETY, AND SECURITY



### 1.1 INTRODUCTION

1. The “ESS 4: Community Health, Safety, and Security” (ESS 4) reflects and integrates the relevant aspects of the IFC’s PS 4 Community Health, Safety and Security and the World Bank’s ESS 4: Community Health and Safety. It also includes material elements from the IDB’s ESPS 4 Community Health, Safety, and Security

#### 1.1.1 OBJECTIVES

2. The objectives of the ESS 4 are:
  - i. To anticipate risks and avoid adverse impacts on the health, safety, and security of communities participating in, or otherwise affected by, projects approved by MAR Fund.
  - ii. To ensure that the enforcement measures of protected areas or resources are carried out in a way that minimises risks to communities.

#### 1.1.2 SCOPE OF APPLICATION

3. The applicability of the ESS 4 is decided during the environmental and social due diligence with the support of the ESSQ tool. In principle, the ESS 4 applies to all projects that have risks and impacts on the health, safety, and security of communities participating, hosting, or otherwise affected by these projects.

### 1.2 REQUIREMENTS

#### 1.2.1 COMMUNITY HEALTH RISKS

4. When the project involves the temporary influx of people into a community (as in the case of long-term research projects, documentary-films making, small construction projects, etc.) grantees must ensure that the incoming persons are trained in human rights, gender-based violence (GBV) and other gender-related issues.
5. The grantees shall reduce the risks of transmission of communicable diseases. It includes developing protocols and ensuring that their staff is fully vaccinated against COVID 19 and other communicable diseases before sending them into communities.
6. This also applies to all personnel living temporarily in the community, as presented below in § 4.

### 1.2.2 RISKS OF GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

7. When the project involves the temporary influx of people into a community including workers of construction projects and security personnel, researchers, crews of shooting documentaries, etc., grantees must ensure that they are adequately trained in human rights, gender-based violence (GBV) and other gender-related issues.
8. MAR Fund will make available training materials to grantees including the prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA) course that is mandatory for all personnel of United Nations Funds and Programmes, including consultants and volunteers. Refer to the ESS 9: Gender for more guidance about GBV and PSEA.

### 1.2.3 SECURITY OF COMMUNITIES AND WORKERS

9. Projects approved by MAR Fund will not be to the detriment of the safety and well-being of communities. When risks to the safety and well-being of communities, or potential adverse human rights impacts, are identified during the environmental and social due diligence, a human rights due diligence process is necessary to identify, prevent, mitigate, and address these risks and impacts by the grantee.
10. The security and safety of communities affected by projects approved by MAR Fund are essential. The grantees must ensure the duty to protect communities and individuals from human rights abuses, avoid adverse human rights impacts, and promptly address any human rights impacts that may occur
11. When a risk of this type is identified, the grantees shall ensure early engagement with communities to recognize pre-existing issues, such as historical inequality, legacy issues from previous projects, the existing human rights situation, social tension, and pressures on natural resources. This engagement will be supported by their Stakeholder Engagement and Communication Plan (SECP).
12. In cases where vulnerable or disadvantaged stakeholders and communities have been identified, as defined in the ESS 10, grantees should pay special attention to their needs and take special care to avoid abuses of their human rights.

### 1.2.4 ENFORCEMENT MEASURES WITH SECURITY PERSONNEL

13. Some projects may include enforcement of natural resources measures by using security personnel. It is necessary that such measures are adopted in conjunction with the hosting or surrounding communities, in a manner that satisfies the applicable law and the requirements set forth by MAR Fund's ESS 5: Access Restrictions to Natural Resources, Livelihood Lost, and Limited Involuntary Resettlement (see section 7 of this document).



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14. It is necessary that the security personnel engaged by a project respect and protect human dignity and maintain and uphold the human rights of all persons. Before their deployment, the security personnel must be trained in human rights, sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV), and harassment, including sexual exploitation and abuse and other risks based on sexual orientation and gender identity and sexual orientation.
15. The grantees are fully responsible for their security personnel and accountable to the legal authorities, communities and other stakeholders for their actions or omissions. Grantees remain fully responsible even when security personnel are contracted through agencies and third parties.
16. The grantees are required to review all allegations of unlawful or abusive acts by their security personnel, received through the Grievance Mechanism or any other channel, and to promptly remedy any anomalous situation and to demand that appropriate measures be taken to prevent recurrence. They shall also report any unlawful or abusive act to the relevant authorities. They are required to promptly inform MAR Fund of the occurrence of any of these developments.

### 1.2.5 EQUIPMENT-RELATED RISKS

17. When projects involve the purchase or leasing of equipment, grantees should take special care to minimize risks that may arise from faulty equipment installation or accidental use by untrained personnel or community members.
18. If the equipment is intended to be installed and left unattended, grantees must provide adequate training to the community before its installation. Likewise, grantees must take all necessary measures to prevent improper access to such equipment. It includes the construction of barriers, fences, and other obstacles to preventing unauthorized community members including children from accessing the equipment.
19. Same provisions must be taken when there is construction or maintenance of water reservoirs, water tanks, and any equipment for fish farming.

### 1.2.6 TEMPORARY DISRUPTIONS

20. Where projects involve temporary disruptions to the community (such as traffic or mobility disruptions), grantees will seek to minimize these disruptions to the extent possible and address the community's needs with viable alternatives. It includes taking appropriate measures to inform the community of the disruptions and the alternatives to them, in the language spoken by the community and manner that is understandable.

### 1.2.7 EMERGENCY AND PREPAREDNESS MEASURES

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21. The grantees will identify appropriate measures to address emergency events that may arise from their projects and articulate these measures in Emergency Response Plans (ERP). These ERPs seek to safeguard the health and safety of the community and to minimize and mitigate any potential impacts. Ultimately, these plans may also include compensation measures for residual community impacts.
22. Only projects with the potential to trigger emergency events will be required to have an ERP. This potential is established during the environmental and social due diligence exercise. In cases when risks of emergencies are identified, grantees shall conduct a risk assessment and prepare the ERP.
23. For projects involving minor construction, minor infrastructure renewal, or decommissioning, and require an ERP, the ERP will be part of the ESCOP. For projects with an ESMP, the ERP will be part of the ESMP. Projects that do not require either will not have an ERP.
24. The ERP shall include controls and alarms commensurate with the hazard; clear identification of available emergency equipment; designated emergency responders and clear lines of command and communication; notification procedures for emergency responders and the community; training for emergency responders; drills for emergency responders and the community; evacuation procedures; and restoration measures. The grantee shall evaluate the ERP annually and update it as necessary.

### 1.2.8 ENGAGEMENT WITH CHILDREN

25. In line with the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, MAR Fund recognizes that all children have the right to protection from violence, abuse, exploitation, neglect, and mistreatment. Projects approved by MAR Fund may include specific activities with children and other type of engagement with children. The rights of children must be safeguarded in all activities financed or otherwise supported by MAR Fund<sup>1</sup>.
26. When carrying out activities with children, grantees must ensure the well-being and best interests of children and engage with them with dignity and respect. Grantees will avoid behaviour, actions, language, or relationships that could be inappropriate, offensive, abusive, discriminatory, or cultural insensitive; avoid unnecessary physical contact with children; ensure that representatives of the school or the community are always present and retain responsibility for the supervision of children; encourage open communication and be sensitive to children's demands and concerns.

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<sup>1</sup> This section draws from the Safeguarding Children and Adults at Risk Policy of the Fauna and Flora International organization.

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27. Grantees will ensure that their personnel who will be in contact with children have the relevant qualifications and experience, have their references checked, and satisfactory background, employment, and education history.
28. Grantees carrying out projects with continued participation of children are encouraged to adopt an Engagement with Children protocol.

### 1.2.9 USE OF IMAGES OF COMMUNITY MEMBERS – INCLUDING CHILDREN

29. The use of images of members of the communities participating in projects approved by MAR Fund must be wise and respectful. The images of community members shall present them with dignity and agency.
30. Grantees shall always seek the consent of the community member whose image is intended to be used.
31. Grantees wishing to use a child's image must obtain the prior consent of the child -when the child is competent to give consent- and of the parent or guardian of the child. Grantees must exert good judgment and apply the necessary safeguards when using a child's image to reduce the risks of misappropriation and misuse of the images. It may include ensuring the children are adequately clothed, no personal information is revealed, and watermarks are in place to identify the image as part of the project.

\*\* \*\* END OF ESS 4 \*\* \*

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<sup>5</sup> This section draws from the Safeguarding Children and Adults at Risk Policy of the Fauna and Flora International organization.

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