



**Afghanistan
Rural Enterprise
Development Program
Ministry of Rural
Rehabilitation and
Development
8/3/2009**

AREDP

Environmental and Social Management Framework has tools and guidelines for screening subprojects under the AREDP program and enable the program staff to avoid, minimize and mitigate any potential adverse environmental and social impacts of the sub-projects under the Afghanistan Rural Enterprise Development Program. The ESMF also includes implementation arrangements, monitoring, reporting as well capacity building issues needed for the ESMF proper application.

Environmental and Social Management Framework
Afghanistan Rural Enterprise Development Program
MRRD

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ACRONYMS

AREDP	Afghanistan Rural Enterprise Development Program
CDC	Community Development Council
DA	District Administration
EG	Enterprise Group
EO	Enterprise Owner
ESMF	Environmental and Social Management Framework
FD	Forest Department
FI	Financial Institution
GoA	Government of Afghanistan
IDA	International Development Association
MAIL	Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation & Livestock
ME	Micro Enterprise
MFI	Microfinance Institution
MoPH	Ministry of Public Health
MoLSA	Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs
MoWA	Ministry of Women Affairs
MRRD	Ministry of Rural Rehabilitation and Development
NEPA	National Environmental Protection Agency
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NSP	National Solidarity Program
OM	Operational Manual
PA	Provincial Administration
PEF	Provincial Enterprise Facilitator
PMO	Program Management Office (of AREDP at the MRRD)
PO	Provincial Office
RD	Revenue Department
SG	Saving Group
SIU	Safeguards Implementation Unit (Safeguards Desk Unit)
SME	Small / Medium Enterprise
VF	Village Facilitator
VSLA	Village Savings and Loan Association
WB	World Bank

Executive Summary

The over-arching developmental goal of the proposed Afghanistan Rural Enterprise Development Program is to “improve employment and income of men and women in the rural areas of Afghanistan, and sustainability of targeted local enterprises.” The program is divided into two key components and one support component. The two program components are Community-based Enterprise Development which provides knowledge-base and financial services to community-based rural enterprises, and SME Development which provides business advisory and financial services to rural SMEs.

This ESMF document defines the management procedures that allow the proposed Afghanistan Rural Enterprise Development Program (AREDP) to “avoid, mitigate, or minimize adverse environmental and social impacts” of supported activities and enterprises.

The ESMF was prepared in accordance with definitions provided in the World Bank Operational Manual and relating to the triggered operational policy on Environmental Assessment (OP 4.01). The other operational policies included in the World Bank safeguards procedures were not triggered by AREDP.

The proposed interventions of the program in support of community enterprise and SMEs and the level of activity anticipated places the overall categorization of AREDP in category “B”.

AREDP has defined strategies, structures and tools to ensure that staff and Program beneficiaries not only apply, but also comprehend why they should apply these procedures. Specifically, the program is proposing to put into place a Safeguards Implementation Unit to be initially staffed with one Environmental and one Social safeguards specialist to ensure the application of the program’s safeguards strategy. The program has also developed a comprehensive matrix of all anticipated adverse environmental and social impacts of supported activities and monitoring and mitigation tools.

Environment and Social safeguards are not only required by many donors to protect the environmental and social fabric of Afghanistan, but also are legislated in the nation’s constitution, Environment Law and other related laws and Legislations. As with many regulations, the challenge is to apply them and monitor their use and ensure that they are mainstreamed in the program’s operations in such a way that they do not become only the responsibility of the safeguards unit, but rather everyone’s business.

1.0 AREDP Program Objectives and Components

1.1 Development Objectives

The over-arching developmental goal of the proposed Afghanistan Rural Enterprise Development Program is to *improve employment and income of men and women in the rural areas of Afghanistan, and sustainability of targeted local enterprises*. Project outcome indicators are:

Sustainable, increased income and employment for rural women and men

- 70% of Enterprise Groups (EGs) will have increased their net revenues by over 50. At least 35% of these will be female EGs;
- At least 30% increase in direct and/or indirect employment by SMEs and EGs. At least 35% of those employed will be women;
- On average SMEs report at least a 50% increase in purchase inputs produced in rural areas;
- 50% of supported EGs are still operating 2 years after start-up. At least 35% of these will be female EGs.

1.2 Project components

AREDP is divided into two program components and one functional and support component. The two program components are Community-based Enterprise Development which provides knowledge-based and financial services to community-based rural enterprises, and SME Development which provides business advisory and financial services to rural SMEs. The support component consists of program management functions, plus the development of two units that will handle policy issues for rural enterprises, and research and technical support services.

Community-based enterprise and SME development

Component A: Community-based Enterprise Development

- A1. Community Facilitation*
- A2. Support to Enterprise Groups*
- A3. Access to Finance*

Component B: SME Development

- B1. SME Facilitation*
- B2. Business Development Support for SMEs*
- B2. Access to Finance for SMEs*

Component C: Program Implementation Support

1.3 Program Clients

1.3.1 Enterprise Groups

Enterprise Groups will comprise 5 to 15 members that come together to establish a group. They do not constitute a single enterprise but

Individual producers enhance profitability through economies of scale

rather a group of individual producers who, through collaboration, can benefit from economies of scale in procurement and sales, share knowledge, and access key services. In this way the profitability and prospects for growth or their individual enterprises are enhanced. The access to markets for inputs, produce and services are improved for each member, and the terms of their market access shifts in their favour. Enterprise Groups may also organize themselves as a Savings Group if all group members agree. In any case, individual members of Enterprise Groups may also apply for loans from the Village Savings and Loan Association (VSLA) and pool their money with other EG members at a later stage of the Program.

and access to markets

1.3.2 Savings Groups

The Savings Groups (SGs) will comprise 10 to 15 members who come together with the aim of mobilizing resources in the community for productive loans and for emergency needs. At maturity SGs can also mobilize external funds from MFIs or, where these do not operate locally, form Village Savings and Loan Associations.

Savings groups mobilise internal and external funds

1.3.3 Village Savings and Loan Associations

AREDP will assist the SGs to set up community banks in the form of Village Savings and Loan Associations (VSLA). SGs that demonstrate their maturity (regularity of meetings and savings, management of loan for productive activities, repayment and re-lending) and can form the VSLA and will become eligible for seed capital from the Program to increase credit availability. Further funds will be sought from MFIs and other local sources.

Agglomerated SG receive seed capital if and when they demonstrate maturity

1.3.4 Small-Medium Enterprises

AREDP has conducted a comprehensive SME survey that covers all provinces of Afghanistan. In the survey, SMEs were identified as businesses with a minimum of 5 and an average of 25-30 employees. SMEs operating in key, identified value chains (with back linkages to community level producers) will be offered business development services and mentored through the processes of accessing finance from MISFA.

SMEs with linkages to rural producers get BDS and can apply to MISFA for credit

1.4 Program Sectors and Enterprises

The challenge to environmental and social management presented by the Program lies in:

Program challenges to ESMF application

- The arms length nature of the Program, where community members save their own money and decide how those savings should be loaned out in productive ways;
- The diversity of actions that may be undertaken by the community enterprise groups or the SMEs;
- The number and smallness of the interventions that will ultimately be financed by the Savings Groups and the Village Savings and Loan Associations (this will be less of a problem with the SMEs from Component B);

The matrix presented on the next page of this Framework identifies the universe of activities that may be addressed by the Program and those actions that may require safeguards interventions.

A matrix of activities

1.5 Program Location and Coverage

With the current budget AREDP will be initially rolled-out in five provinces, and later scale-up with additional funds eventually to all 34 provinces of the country. The first set of provinces identified for program implementation includes Parwan, Ningrahar, Bamyan, Balkh and Herat. They have been selected considering their potential for enterprise development, security and accessibility, significant number of good quality Community Development Councils (CDCs) created by NSP and track record of implementing NSP.

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Rural sectors and enterprises

Environmental and Social Management Framework Afghanistan Rural Enterprise Development Program MRRD

Value chain	Inputs, water &	Machinery &	Storage/Waste	Processing &	Transport & Distributio	Retail & Marketing	Enabling, BDS &
Agriculture & Land; Seed; Biocides; Fertilizers; Irrigation;	Ploughing; Seeding; Cultivation; Harvesting; Handling; Baking;	Silos; Hangars; Cellars; Cold Storage; Drainage; Straw silage;	Drying; Threshing; Winnowing; Milling; Bagging/Crating; Boxing;	Inside Farm gate; FG to collection point; Collection to wholesaler; Wholesale;	Wholesale to retail; Market studies; Value chain analysis; International;	Extension (MAIL); Generic BDS; MFIs; Commercial banks; Certification;	
Livestock & Dairy Young; Feedstuffs; Antibiotics; Water supply; Heating; Buildings;	Watering; Feeding; Waste removal & spreaders; Heating; Buildings;	Buildings/barns; Stock pens; Cold storage; Composting; Manuring; Skins & bones;	Slaughter; Butchery; Skins/bones; Homogenization; Cheese/yoghurt	On-hoof to slaughter; FG to wholesale; Wholesale to retail;	Market studies; Value chains; Retail 'fridge'; International markets;	Extension (MAIL); Generic BDS; MFIs; Commercial banks;	
Horticulture Land; Seed/Rootstock; Biocides; Fertilizers; Irrigation; Greenhouses;	Sterilization; Planting/pots; Irrigation; Harvesting/ Picking;	Hangars; Cellars; Racks; Cold Storage;	Drying; Pressing/ extraction; Grading; Crating/Bagging; Bottling;	FG to wholesale; FG to retail;	Branded pkgs for dried goods; Branded crating for fresh goods; Fair trade;	Extension (MAIL); Generic BDS; MFIs; Commercial banks; Certification;	
Handicrafts Raw materials; Dyes/mordant; Leather tanning; Water supply; Heating; Buildings;	Weaving looms; Sewing machines Cobbling; Embroidery machines; Vats & boilers	Warehouse; Waste collection and disposal;	Dyeing; Cutting; Cleaning; Washing; Baling;	Shop door to collection; Collection to retail;	Retail stores; Design; International markets; International fair trade;	Technical training; Generic BDS; MFIs; Commercial banks;	

Red activities indicate possible environmental problems

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2.0 ESMF Background and Objectives

The ESMF defines the management procedures that allow the proposed Afghanistan Rural Enterprise Development Program (AREDP) to “avoid, mitigate, or minimize adverse environmental and social impacts [1]” of supported activities and enterprises.

Avoid, minimise, or mitigate adverse impacts

The ESMF provides an Environmental Screening process and other tools such as Environmental Management Plan (EMP) to assess and mitigate potential environmental and social impacts of proposed activities where needed.

With the use of the ESMF, national environmental and social requirements regarding any affected community and entity will be met. This will also be consistent with the OP4.01 and OP4.12 and other applicable safeguard provisions of the World Bank. The ESMF also represents a statement of policy, guiding principles and procedures of reference with focus on the AREDP projects, agreeable to all key stakeholders such as the NEPA, the World Bank, MRRD and the implementing Agencies.

Where impacts are likely to be significantly adverse; the ESMF provides guidance for developing an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA). The environmental issues, level of impacts, mitigation measures and the institution arrangement will be addressed in the Environmental Management Plan (EMP).

The objectives of the ESMF are:

- To provide tools and guidelines for screening subprojects for assessment of the **potential environmental and social impacts** of the subprojects;
- to make provision for **mitigation measures** which will effectively address identified negative impacts;
- specify **appropriate roles and responsibilities**, and outline the necessary reporting procedures for managing and monitoring environmental and social concerns related to sub-projects;
- determine the **training and technical assistance** needed to successfully implement the provisions of the ESMF; and
- establish the **program funding** required to implement the ESMF requirements

The overall purpose of the ESMF is to ensure that all activities within the Community Enterprises and SMEs supported by the Program are not harmful to the local communities and the environment as well as are environmentally sound and are in compliance with the requirements of pertinent Afghan laws and Legislations as well as World Bank environmental policies. Also, we should be bearing in mind the characteristics of community-based and SME development interventions.

Compliance with Afghan laws and Legislations

The ESMF was prepared in accordance with definitions provided in the World Bank [Operational Manual](#) [2] and relating to the triggered operational policy on Environmental Assessment ([OP 4.01](#)); and with specific reference to Mine Clearance where appropriate. The other operational policies included in the World Bank safeguards procedures were not triggered by AREDP.

World Bank operational policies triggered

¹ [World Bank Operational Manual: OP 4.00](#) – Piloting the use of Borrower Systems to address Environmental and Social Safeguards. Accessed 5th July 2009, World Bank Website.

#	<i>WB Operational Policies</i>	<i>Triggered (Yes/No)</i>
1	Environmental Assessment (OP 4.01)	Yes
2	Natural Habitats (OP 4.04)	No
3	Pest management (OP 4.09)	No
4	Indigenous Peoples (OP 4.10)	No
5	Physical and Cultural Resources (OP 4.11)	No
6	Involuntary Resettlement (OP 4.12)	No
7	Forests (OP 4.36)	No
8	Safety on Dams (OP 4.37)	No

Operational Policies

The AREDP will *not* cause large scale impacts. However while the expected actions will be small, considering the diversity, number and nature of Program sub-projects that might be supported and may have potential cumulative impacts and therefore the relevant tools and guidelines provided in the ESMF should be implemented and letter and spirit.

Overall category "B"

3.0 Applicable Laws and Legislations

The primary laws and Legislations framing environmental issues are:

- The Environment Law of Afghanistan (with reference to water resources);
- Law on the Preservation of Afghanistan’s Historical and Cultural Heritages;
- Recently passed Water Law of Afghanistan covering use and management of water resources;
- Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction; and
- Largely ignored regulations on pesticides from 1989.

3.1 Environment Law

The Afghan Environment Law [³] has been promulgated to “*provide for the management of issues relating to the rehabilitation of the environment and the conservation and sustainable use of natural resources, living organisms and non-living organisms*”.

The Law currently deals mainly with major construction projects and manufacturing industries. Given that the AREDP will be promoting small scale sub-projects and activities at the community and

Rationale of the Environment Law

We need to apply the spirit of the law

² [Operational Manual](#): World Bank. Accessed 6th July 2009

³ The law has been passed recently, and was based on the previously promulgated Environment Act of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, *Official Gazette #873, 29th Jadi 1384*

The Law currently deals mainly with major construction projects and manufacturing industries. Given that the AREDP will be promoting small scale sub-projects and activities at the community and provincial levels, it is important to consider the Environment Law more through the spirit than the letter of the law. For this reason we present below those articles of the Environment Law that are particularly pertinent to the AREDP.

We need to apply the spirit of the law

- *All elements of the environment must be regulated, taking into account international law, the dictates of the public conscience and the fundamental values of humanity;*
- *The right to development must be fulfilled in a sustainable manner so as to meet developmental and environmental needs of present and future generations;*
- *Adverse effects should be prevented and minimised through long term integrated cross-sectoral planning and the co-ordination of government and non-government bodies;*
- *Persons who cause adverse effects, especially pollution, must bear the social and environmental costs of avoiding, mitigating and/or remedying those adverse effects;*
- *Local communities should be involved in decision-making processes and planning efforts regarding sustainable natural resource management and conservation and rehabilitation of the environment where and when possible;*

International law

Future generations

Integrated, cross-sectoral planning

Polluters must pay

Involve local communities

3.1.1 Interim Environmental Impact Assessment Measures (Article 23)

A proponent of any project, plan, policy or activity that is likely to have a significant adverse on the environment shall apply international best environmental impact assessment practices in regard to such activities, in coordination with the National Environment Protection Agency (NEPA)

International best practices under NEPA

3.1.2 Water Resources Conservation and Management

Afghanistan's recently passed Water Law covers water issues under the chapter Five: Environmental Considerations Relevant to Water Resource Conservation and Management. As concerns the AREDP, the misuse of water resources is covered in the Program negative list (see **Annex A: AREDP negative list of sub-projects**)

Water Law of Afghanistan and coverage of water issues

3.2 Protection of Afghanistan's Historical and Cultural Heritage

The responsibility for the protection and preservation of the historical and cultural sites lies not only in the Archaeological Committee duly constituted in the Law on the Preservation of Afghanistan's Historical and Cultural Heritages (Official Gazette no. 828, 1383/02/31) but also with the private citizens and clients of the AREDP. This is also the case for artefacts found by chance during work undertaken within the program. The client responsibilities will be addressed by specific training sessions with clients and communities.

Responsibility of both citizen and government

The AREDP enterprise development operations are unlikely to pose a risk of damaging cultural property, as the subprojects will largely consist of small investments in community income generating activities. Further, the negative list of attributes, which would make a subproject ineligible for support (Attachment 1), includes any activity that would significantly damage non-replicable cultural property.

Little probability of cultural damage but training is needed

A detailed response to chance heritage finds is provided in **Annex B: Procedures for Heritage Chance finds.**

The procedures identified in **Annex B** will apply as standard provisions when applicable and shall be presented to participating SMEs, CDCs and community members as part of the general environment and heritage awareness package delivered in Program training.

Heritage Awareness training

3.3 Pest Management

“⁴...*The Government of Afghanistan ... does not have its own list of registered pesticide products with specific permitted uses and instead defers to FAO’s list of acceptable products, which is limited and not adapted specifically for Afghanistan’s agriculture and human health systems. Afghanistan has had regulations on pesticide use since 1989, but these are largely ignored, due to lack of resources.*” Given this weak framework for pesticide regulation, the use of pesticides has been placed on the AREDP negative list unless the sub-program project can show that the proposed biocide is not dangerous.

Pesticides can only be used as prescribed in the negative list

3.4 Guidelines for Land & Asset Acquisition, Entitlement & Compensation

While the AREDP *will not trigger* the operational policy for Land Acquisition and Involuntary Settlement, it is deemed appropriate to emphasise that the Program checklist will specify that all land transfer be suitably documented and witnessed as per customary deeds. It is the responsibility of any buyer to ensure that the seller truly has title and right to sell the land: the transfer of the land then becomes a transaction between willing buyer and willing seller.

Willing buyer – willing seller

In exceptional cases, minor voluntary land donation may occur in certain sub-projects, but only provided that there are no structures or assets on the land, the livelihood impact of the donation will be insignificant and the owner is part of the EG/SME to which the land is donated. The voluntary nature of the donation should be fully documented and independently verified.

All land transactions within the program should be fully documented and verified and be recorded in the MIS.

3.5 Indigenous Peoples

OP 4.10 is not triggered. There are no groups classified as Indigenous Peoples in Afghanistan, but the focus is instead on ensuring social inclusion and community participation irrespective of gender and religious/ethnic affiliation. The AREDP will initially be rolled-out in five provinces, Parwan, Ningrahar, Bamyan, Balkh and Herat, thus covering all the regions where security allows implementation. Later AREDP will scale-up with additional funds eventually to cover all 34 provinces of the country, ultimately encompassing all rural communities. At community level, AREDP is closely aligned with the CDCs, which have special measures in place to ensure inclusion of local minority communities. Furthermore, AREDP has a clearly formulated gender strategy.

3.5 Procedures for Mine Risk Management

On September 11th, 2002, Afghanistan ratified the *Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction* (also known as the Ottawa Convention) ⁵.

The following procedures are designed to respond to the risks caused

⁴ Pesticide Evaluation Report and Safer Use Action Plan (PERSUAP) 22nd June 2008, for USAID

⁵ Further related laws and treaties can be found on the E-MINE: Electronic Mine Information Network <http://www.mineaction.org/> (accessed 18th July 2009)

by the presence of mines in Afghanistan, in the context of Community Enterprises and SME interventions identified and implemented by the communities themselves. Supplementary local regulations also cover services and trade, with direct applicability to subprojects targeted AREDP.

The communities are responsible for making sure that the projects they propose and plan are not in mine-contaminated areas, or have been cleared by MACA (or a mine action organization accredited by MACA). Communities are best placed to know about mined areas in their vicinity, and have a strong incentive to report them accurately as they will carry out the works themselves. The procedures to be used by SME and communities to demonstrate mine clearance are presented in **Annex D: Procedures to ensure Mine Clearance reports/certification.**

4.0 Environmental and Social Management Plan

The responsibility for environmental conservation and protection measures for the Program lies with the AREDP in general and with the Program Management Office in particular. Support may be elicited from the National Environmental Protection Agency to reinforce the position of that agency.

4.1 Safeguards Strategy

Effective safeguards management requires an integrated and holistic approach. Like all management, it involves planning, design, implementation, monitoring and supervision. Unless each of these roles is clearly laid out and understood, the whole process may break down. All staff must subscribe to the Program principles of environmental and social safeguards expressed in this Management Framework.

The strategy employed by the AREDP consists of *training* at all levels for awareness and implementation of Afghanistan's environmental and social regulatory framework, *staff* to ensure application of the strategy, *tools* to capture and respond to adverse threats and *monitoring* of Program plans and interventions to avoid adverse impacts originating with the program.

*All levels of Program staff
subscribe to ESMF
principles*

4.2 Capacity Building

The effective application of the Environment and Social Safeguards Strategy by Program Staff and Senior Management requires commitment and ownership on the various dimensions of possible environmental impact. Information and discussion sessions provide the opportunity for staff to discuss the national Laws and Legislations, to challenge the provisions and procedures, and to comment on the necessary and appropriate responses needed to address real and potential negative impacts.

Allowing Program staff to engage with the issues in the Strategy and its implementation will favour maximum ownership, optimal outreach and communication with provincial staff and community members.

*Commitment and ownership
comes from staff
engagement*

*Framing the Strategy in
national legal system*

Given the historical context of the country, Afghans may be surprised to find that questions of safeguards are an integral part of their national legal system and that their laws accord with international laws, standards and best practices.

The AREDP organizational structure is designed to provide capacity and support for the PEF and the VF so that they can inform themselves and deliver the rationale and application of the safeguards strategy in the communities. Safeguards training will be an integral part of the Program principles presented to the Community Development Councils (CDCs) and the generic training packages offered to the various members of the communities who chose to participate in the Program.

Getting the message to the communities

4.3 Safeguards Implementation Unit:

AREDP will establish a Safeguards Implementation Unit (SIU) within the Program Management Office. To build/enhance AREDP's capacities, two safeguards professionals will be employed: an Environmental Safeguards Specialist and a Social Safeguards Specialist.

The person responsible for the environmental issues will oversee responses to problem enterprises proposed by communities and SMEs; the Social Safeguards Specialist will not only be responsible for the social safeguards, but will also take on the responsibilities for the AREDP gender mainstreaming strategy.

TORs for both the professionals are enclosed as **Annex E: Terms of Reference for SIU Officers**.

These Safeguards Specialists will be responsible for ensuring the implementation of the Strategy:

- Championing the Strategy and its implementation through the program staff structure to the communities and SMEs;
- Receiving and transmitting technical assistance from external safeguards consultant(s);
- Developing a community-level training module that covers the adverse effects and their mitigation, for the interventions that are proposed by the community entrepreneurs;
- Supervising and analysing ESMF checklists and monitoring reports as they relate to Program support applications made by SME and community enterprises;
- Ensuring communication with the relevant officers in the National Environmental Protection Agency;

#	Activities	Role / Responsibility	Remarks
1	Safeguards training to Senior staff, Provincial Office and Program Clients	Relevant Safeguard Specialist (Environment/Social); PEF and VF;	Summary of national laws;
2	CED or SME request submitted by enterprises	Letter of invitation includes section on respect of national laws;	Reference to negative lists;
3	Basic screening of sub-project.	Evaluation by AREDP leading to acceptance, through Provincial Office Teams, PEF/BDO	Section on screening form

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	project	Teams (PEF/VF), supervised by SIU. Design review and approval by SIU as per environmental and social considerations.	applied where appropriate
5	Monitoring of the sub-project.	SIU, AREDP M&E Unit or external service provider	Particularly where mitigation is needed
6	Response to chance finds of heritage artefacts	VF/PEF support to client	

Table 4.1: ESMF activities, roles and responsibilities

4.4 Provincial Office

The primary operational management of the AREDP will be decentralized to Provincial Offices. The office is responsible for all outreach, service delivery and supervision of the Program and its activities in the province and communities. The PO will work through the Provincial Enterprise Facilitators, Business Development Officers and Village Facilitators to:

Decentralized PMO will oversee safeguard training and monitoring

- Deliver awareness training (see following section);
- Explain sub-project Check list section on Safeguards;
- Confirm that enterprise activity designs and specifications contain environmental and social safeguards checks and considerations;
- Confirm that plans include mitigation actions where needed and monitoring responsibilities are recognized;
- Organize/facilitate on-the-job training in safeguards monitoring, inspection and information analysis; and
- Appoint or hire inspectors who are given a strong mandate to carry out independent environmental audits of the mitigation actions taken.

4.5 PEF and Community awareness

Community and Enterprise awareness training on environmental and social safeguards is essential to present the Afghan legal framework and to underline the importance the Program places on avoiding problems. The Provincial Enterprise Facilitator will be responsible for support to the Village Facilitator in presenting and explaining the Program safeguards rules. This training will also entail the presentation of the negative list with justifications, and the checklist categories (see below) with the emphasis that the Program can only deliver services to sub-projects that avoid adverse impacts.

Explaining the procedures for safeguards

In those cases where mitigation actions are required, the enterprises will be helped to find service providers who can prepare appropriate mitigation plans. These plans will be evaluated and approved when appropriate by the Safeguards Implementation Unit in Kabul.

Approval of mitigation plans by SIU

4.6 Checklist applied to Community Enterprises and SMEs

Each community enterprise and SME that desires program assistance will prepare an application form for access to MISFA, VSLAs and/or the Business Development Services training facilitated by the Program.

Enterprises fill in the checklist with reference to ESMF matrix.

The application form *must* contain the filled in Environmental and Social Safeguards Checklist (**Annex F**) which will be filled in with

reference to the ESMF Matrix presented in **Annex G**.

The applications for Program support will be evaluated and approved by the Provincial Office Team. No program support will be given to enterprises that do not demonstrate the absence of adverse effects or a mitigation plan where needed.

Support is given where no adverse effects

4.7 Monitoring and Reporting

The Provincial Office M&E officer will be responsible for monitoring the Enterprise applications and their approval to ensure that the checklist has been duly filled in and verified by the relevant PEF.

Provincial M&E Officer monitors applications and checklists

Spot checks in the communities will allow the M&E Officer to verify that the mitigation procedures are being applied as described in the ESS Checklist and the sub-project designs and plans.

As the Programs gathers information about the diverse sub-projects proposed and requested by the community enterprises and SMEs. The SIU in Kabul will build up a library of mitigation measures that can be shared with entrepreneurs and communities as they choose their enterprise sub-projects.

A library of sub-projects and E&S safeguard responses

4.8 Technical Assistance

The SIU team will need guidance and mentoring to maintain the momentum of this ESMF. External international Safeguards Technical Assistance will be provided on a quarterly (one month every three months) basis for the first year and then bi-annually for years two and three. In addition, one month per year of *ad hoc*, as needed consultation is provided for each year of the program.

Technical assistance supports the SIU

4.9 ESMF Budgeting

Budget lines for the two specialists in the Safeguards Implementation Unit have been included in the budget on lines **C.11.42** and **C.11.43** of the AREDP budget. Budgetary provisions for the international technical advisor have been included in the overall Program

5.0 Conclusion

Environment and Social safeguards are not only required by many donors to protect the environmental and social fabric of Afghanistan, but also are legislated in the nation's constitution, Environment Law and other related laws and Legislations. As with many regulations throughout the world, the challenge is to apply them and monitor their use and ensure that they are mainstreamed in the program's operations in such a way that they do not become only the responsibility of the safeguards unit, but rather everyone's business. AREDP has defined strategies, structures and tools to ensure that staff and Program beneficiaries not only apply, but also comprehend why they should apply these procedures. These can be summarized as:

1. Commitment of the Senior Management/MRRD team to the environment and social protection strategy;
2. Insertion of the Safeguards Implementation Unit in the structure of the Program Management Office;
3. Presence of Safeguards Officers in the SIU;
4. Training modules and workshops for all levels of Program staff;
5. Prolonged emphasis on the safeguards strategy in training of the Provincial Enterprise Facilitators, Business Development Officers and Village Facilitators;
6. Awareness training on Program E&S requirements in communities and SMEs (principles; negative list; checklist for applications);
7. E&S requirements spelled out in the invitations to apply for Program support given to SMEs;
8. Evaluation of sub-project applications by BDOs and PEFs ensuring that impacts and mitigations have been included in Program support applications – problems are "red flagged";
9. Approval is only given to enterprises that have demonstrated no adverse impacts or have appropriate mitigation plans;
10. Visits by safeguards specialists of the program of red flagged applications that otherwise could be approved;
11. Provincial M&E Officer monitors E&S training, checklists and support to Program beneficiaries;
12. Environment and Social Safeguards report is compiled in the province by the M&E Officer and sent for approval to Safeguards Implementation Officer;
13. SIO reports on the E&S tracking for the Program quarterly report in a specific section on Environmental and Social Safeguards.
14. Support, training and mentoring given by external international advisor;
15. *Ad hoc* consultancy available for problematic issues;
16. SIO will ensure contact and communication with the appropriate officials in the National Environmental Protection Agency;

AREDP has defined procedures to ensure due attention to E&S issues

Strategy, structures and tools

ANNEXES

Annex A: AREDP Negative list of sub-projects

Sub-projects with any of the following characteristics shall not receive any form of program support:

1. Production or trade in any product or activity deemed illegal under host country laws or Legislations or international conventions and agreements;
2. Investments detrimental to the environment;
3. Equipment, infrastructure or land improvement destined to be used for the production poppy or poppy processing;
4. Guns, mines, armaments or other military paraphernalia;
5. Any activity on land that is considered dangerous due to security hazards or the presence of unexploded ordnance (mines, bombs);
6. Use of any land that has disputed ownership or tenure rights;
7. Child labour should be discouraged as much as possible and where children are asked to contribute to the household income, assurance must be made that schooling and child health is not adversely affected; prevalence and impact of child labor should be reviewed at Mid-Term Review
8. Donations or contributions to the construction of religious buildings;
9. Cash donations for the disabled;
10. Equipment or infrastructure (pumps, deep bore wells) designed to exploit any underground water sources with diesel engines for irrigation or mass processing (e.g. washing, produce transport in processing plant), including the construction of tube-wells;
11. Crop and soil biocides (pesticides, herbicides, fungicides, miticides) delivered manually or with machinery that are shown to have toxic or noxious effects on humans (soaps; diatomaceous earth; and non-toxic applications may be used after hazard training);
12. Equipment or materials funded by other organizations such as government agencies, NGOs or other donor-funded programs;
13. Political campaign materials or donations of any kind;
14. Payment of salaries to CDC members;
15. Trade in wildlife or wildlife products regulated under CITES;
16. Production or trade in radioactive materials;
17. Production or trade in or use of non-bonded asbestos fibres
18. Production or trade in pharmaceuticals and pesticides/ herbicides subject to international phase outs or bans;
19. Fishing in the marine environment using electric shocks

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- and explosive materials;
20. Production or trade in products containing PCBs;
 21. Production or trade in ozone depleting substances subject to international phase out;
 22. Production or trade in wood or other forestry products from unmanaged forests including purchase of logging equipment (e.g. chainsaws) for use in cutting forest;
 23. Production, trade, storage, or transport of significant volumes of hazardous chemicals, or commercial scale usage of hazardous chemicals;
 24. Production or trade in alcoholic beverages;
 25. Gambling, casinos and equivalent enterprises;

Annex B: Procedures for heritage Chance finds

While it is **not anticipated** that the program will trigger the World Bank's Operational Policy on Physical and Cultural Resources (OP 4.11), the following procedures for identification, protection from theft, and treatment of chance finds should be followed and included in the training of community entrepreneurs and SME using the Program.

Chance find procedures are defined in the law on Maintenance of Historical and Cultural Monuments (Official Gazette, December 21, 1980), specifying the authorities and responsibilities of cultural heritage agencies if sites or materials are discovered in the course of project implementation. This law establishes that all moveable and immovable historical and cultural artefacts are state property, and further:

1. The responsibility for preservation, maintenance and assessment of historical and cultural monuments rests with the Archaeological Committee under the Ministry of Information and Culture, which has representation at provincial level.
2. Whenever chance finds of cultural or historical artefacts (moveable and immovable) are made the Archaeological Committee should be informed. Should the continuation of work endanger the historical and cultural artefacts, the project work should be suspended until a solution is found for the preservation of these artefacts.
3. If a moveable or immovable historical or cultural artefact is found in the countryside of a province, the provincial governor (*wali*) or district-in-charge (*Woluswal*) should be informed within two weeks, and they should inform the Archaeological Committee. In case the immovable historical or cultural artefact is found in a city, the provincial branch of the Department of Maintenance of Historical Values of the Ministry of Information and Culture should be informed within two weeks (art. 18). If the find is made within the center, the Archaeological Committee must be informed directly within one week (art. 25).
4. Failure to report a chance find within the stipulated time limit will be punished with a fine or imprisonment for a period of one week or up to one month (art. 72).
5. If someone intentionally damages a historical or cultural artefact, the culprit shall pay compensation in accordance with the value of the artefact plus be imprisoned for a period of one month to ten years depending on the gravity of the crime (art. 71).

In case of a chance find of moveable or immovable historical or cultural artefact, the **Entrepreneur** (Community Enterprise or SME) is responsible for **declaring said find and securing the artefact** from theft, pilferage and damage until the responsibility has been taken over by the relevant authorities as specified above. The Entrepreneur will also report any such chance find to the appropriate Provincial Enterprise Facilitator who will assist the Entrepreneur with relations with the relevant authorities.

Chance finds are also covered

The Ministry of Information and Culture

Work is suspended on discovery

Inform the Archaeological Committee through the Governor's Office

Failure to report is punished

Intentional damage is compensated

Entrepreneur is responsible for declaration and protection.

Annex C: Heritage and Culture Negative List

Subprojects with any of the attributes listed below will be ineligible for funding under the community or SME sub-project.

Attributes of Ineligible Subprojects
Involves the significant conversion or degradation of critical natural habitats. Including, but not limited to, any activity within: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ab-i-Estada Waterfowl Sanctuary;• Ajar Valley Wildlife Reserve;• Dashte-Nawar Waterfowl Sanctuary;• Pamir-Buzurg Wildlife Sanctuary;• Bande Amir National Park;• Kole Hashmat Khan Waterfowl Sanctuary.

Will significantly damage non-replicable cultural property, including but not limited to any activities that affect the following sites:

- Monuments of Herat (including the Friday Mosque, ceramic tile workshop, Musallah complex, Fifth Minaret, Gawhar Shad mausoleum, mausoleum of Amir Ali Sher Navaii, and the Shah Zadehah mausoleum complex);
- Monuments of Bamiyan Valley (including Fuladi, Kakrak, Shar-I Ghulghular and Shahr-i Zuhak);
- Archaeological site of Ai Khanum;
- Historical and religious sites and monuments of Ghazni;
- The minaret of Jam in Ghor province;
- Mosque of Haji Piyada/Nu Gunbad, Balkh province;
- Stupa and monastery of Guldarra;
- Site and monuments of Lashkar-i Bazar, Bost;
- Archaeological site of Surkh Kotal.

Annex D: Procedures to ensure Mine Clearance Certification

Procedure:

1. Communities are required to reply to a questionnaire regarding the suspected presence of mines in the area where Bank-funded community-managed projects will be implemented. This questionnaire should be formally endorsed by the Mine Action Program for Afghanistan (MAPA). It will be a mandatory attachment to the project submission by the communities and should be signed by community representatives and the PEF. PEFs will receive training from MAPA. Financing agreements with the communities should make clear that **communities are solely liable** in case of a mine-related accident.
2. If the community certifies that there is no known mine contamination in the area, AREDP/SIU will check with MACA whether any different observation is reported on MACA's data base.
 - If MACA's information is the same, the project can go ahead for selection. The community takes the full responsibility for the assessment, and external organizations cannot be made liable in case of an accident.
 - If MACA's information is different, the project should not go ahead for selection as long as MACA's and community's statements have not been reconciled.
3. If the community suspects mine contamination in the area,
 - If the community has included an assessment/clearance task in the project agreed to be implemented by MACA (or by a mine action organization accredited by MACA), the project can go ahead for selection.
 - If the community has not included an assessment/clearance task in the project, the project should not go ahead for selection as long as this has not been corrected.

Mine clearance tasks must be implemented by MACA or by a mine action organization accredited by MACA. Communities will be penalized (subsequent funding by World-Bank funded projects shall be reduced or cancelled) if they elect to clear mines on their own.

Annex E: Terms of Reference for SIU Specialists:

E1 Environmental Safeguards Specialist

The Environmentalist is responsible for oversight and technical input for biotic, vegetative and physical environmental.

In addition, s/he will also take care of wildlife habitats protected areas, nature reserves, game sanctuaries, and archaeological / cultural heritage sites. S/he is also required to hold, at least, a Bachelor's degree in (i) environment related discipline, (ii) forestry or (iii) agriculture, with five years work experience in a related organization such as Forest Department, or 10 years applied experience in similar work settings.

Job activities for this officer will consist of:

- Facilitate AREDP, entrepreneur owner(s) and design consultants in the selection of SME projects with the least damage and disturbance to the ecosystem of the area.
- Examine, evaluate and advise enterprises in adopting suitable, cost-effective and physical / social environmental friendly designs.
- Conduct crosschecking and vetting of SME physical and social environmental specification conflicts, and tender / contract documents.
- Edit the specification documents in a manner that it is congruent with the socio-environmental settings.
- Facilitate AREDP, enterprise owner and contractor in following the ESMF as per the contract deed, specifications and local socio-environmental settings.
- Maintain adequate liaison and coordination with NEPA, related state functionaries and other environmental agencies.
- Establish contacts with NEPA, Forest/Wildlife Departments, local/regional NGOs, local officials, other SME operators, and related stakeholders connected with environmental issues.
- Act as an advisor, coordinator and eyes / ears to AREDP on all socio-environmental aspects related with the project.

The Environmental Safeguards Specialist will be housed within the Safeguards Unit of the Monitoring and Learning Office of AREDP, and will report to Head of Monitoring and Learning Office, who in turn reports to the Executive Director.

E2: Social Safeguards Specialist

The Social Scientist is required to discharge socio-cultural responsibilities for the successful attainment of project objectives. S/he is required to hold, at least, a Master's degree in social sciences and five years work experience in an organization such as Local Government and Rural Development Department or any other development project, or a 10 years applied experience in similar settings. Job activities for this officer will consist of the following responsibilities:

- Facilitate the AREDP, enterprise owner(s) and design consultants in the selection of SME site(s) entailing the least damages and disturbances to the socio-cultural, socio-economical, socio-environmental and historical resources

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of the area, under the direct / indirect influence of the SME.

- Examine, evaluate and advise all concerned professionals in adopting suitable, cost-effective, socio-cultural and environmentally sensitive SME designs, where the local residents receive the maximum benefits the least disturbance in their day-to-day lives.
- Conduct a cross-checking and vetting of specification conflicts, tender, and contract documents, making them suitably orientated towards the social needs of the residents in the area of SME operations.
- Ensure social mitigation measures for the SME in a manner that civic and social rights of local communities are protected and enhanced.
- Ensure that the ESMF and Monitoring Plans are implemented.
- Facilitate AREDP, enterprise owner(s) and/or operators in the implementation of environmental plans as per the contract deed, specifications and other covenants of the project, including EMP and monitoring arrangements.
- Maintain adequate liaison and coordination with NEPA, related state functionaries and other environmental agencies.
- Act as an advisor, coordinator and eyes / ears to AREDP on all socio-cultural aspects related with the project.

The Social Safeguards Specialist will be housed within the Safeguards Unit of the Monitoring and Learning Office of AREDP, and will report to Head of Monitoring and Learning Office, who in turn reports to the Executive Director.

Annex F: Environment and Social Safeguards Checklist

The following checklist will be filled for each enterprise sub-project by the chairperson of the Community Enterprise Group or by the owner of the SME facilitated by the PEF or BDO respectively.

Environment and Social Safeguards Checklist

Factor	Accept	Reject	Mitigation or comments
Sector and relevance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Land	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Site Preparation/ structures	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Noxious inputs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Services (water; energy)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Waste production & discharges	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Air quality & noise	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Cultural Heritage	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Mine clearance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____

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Annex G: ESMF MATRIX

Environmental Issues & Components	Remedial Measure	Reference to Contract Document	Approximate Location	Timeframe	Mitigation Cost	Institutional Responsibility	
						Implementation	Supervision
I. PHYSICAL AND BIOLOGICAL ENVIRONMENT							
Location & Design Issues							
Location of SME or community-based Enterprise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conflict with the interests of local population due to cultural norms, resource sharing or others. - Source of pollution for locals due to toxic emissions or chemical effluents. - SME locations to be well away from hospitals, schools & mosques, graveyards, joint communal lands, public property, etc. - No SME to be planned & located in areas of indicated negative lists, or areas of similar nature. - SME location must not make any barriers, bottlenecks or impediments for mechanized & pedestrians' traffic. - Wind direction consideration in case of SMEs generating dust & emissions. - Must have adequate space any potential for expansion. - A local level information gathering survey will be recommendable about archaeological & heritage aspects. - Local information about any past land-mines, AXOs, UXOs or any other incidents. - In case if the findings are affirmative, then an alternative site should be sought out. - Or, the site be surveyed & reconnoitred by 	To be part of design specifications.	At the site of respective SME.	At design stage.	Being part of design costs.	AREDP, Design Consultants, Enterprise Owners	AREDP, Safeguards Implementation Unit

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Environmental Issues & Components	Remedial Measure	Reference to Contract Document	Approximate Location	Timeframe	Mitigation Cost	Institutional Responsibility	
						Implementation	Supervision
	<p>appropriate agency dealing with the matter.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - SME site must not be in the general vicinity of old Soviet or <i>Mujahidin</i> camps, or on the trails leading to it. 						
Water Contamination & Usage, Proximity of Water Bodies & Sources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Only processed water, as per agriculture standards, is allowed to be disposed in water channels / streams. - Regular soil / water testing against particular contaminants as per NEQS. - Education & awareness for related disease vectors. - No tapping of ground water through tube-wells. - Water recycling system for maximum conservation. - Safe water sedimentation basins before disposal in channels, well away from springs & water storage areas. - Deliberations for installation of rain-water harvesting systems. - Advance measures to prevent any damage to water bodies at all costs. - Immediate rehabilitation & compensation of damaged or impacted water sources. - Any community water source like wells & springs etc if lost will be replaced with alternate sources. 	To be part of design specifications.	At the site of respective SME.	At design stage.	Being part of design costs.	AREDP, Design Consultants, Enterprise Owners	AREDP, Safeguards Implementation Unit

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Environmental Issues & Components	Remedial Measure	Reference to Contract Document	Approximate Location	Timeframe	Mitigation Cost	Institutional Responsibility	
						Implementation	Supervision
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Chemicals, fuels & other contaminants stored well away from water sources. - Construction work close to water channels may be avoided. - Adequate precautions will be taken to construct temporary devices for preventing water pollution due to increased siltation & turbidity. - Suitable measures will be taken to prevent earthworks & stone works from impeding rivers, streams, water canals, or drainage system. - Wastes materials must be collected, stored, & disposed at approved sites. - To avoid contamination, all equipment will be properly maintained & refuelled. - Traps will be provided at fuelling points to prevent water contamination. - Side drains will discharge through a primary settling tank. - Waste chemicals & petroleum products will be collected, stored, & disposed of at the approved sites. - Water quality will regularly be monitored at critical locations. 						
Spoil Disposal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Spoil disposal plans. - Least quantities of waste spoil. Maximum efforts for spoil usage for fill through haulage. - Strict prohibition for free rolling down of spoil. - Identification of spoil disposal areas in consultation with locals, preferably in waste lands. - Landscaping & vegetation restoration plans. 	To be part of design specifications.	At the site of respective SME.	At design stage.	Being part of design costs.	AREDP, Design Consultants, Enterprise Owners	AREDP, Safeguards Implementation Unit

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Environmental Issues & Components	Remedial Measure	Reference to Contract Document	Approximate Location	Timeframe	Mitigation Cost	Institutional Responsibility	
						Implementation	Supervision
Removal of Trees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Design adjustments for saving maximum trees. - Plan for tree plantations & landscaping. - Soil erosion treatment with bio-engineering techniques. 	To be part of design specifications.	At the site of respective SME.	At design stage.	Being part of design costs.	AREDP, Design Consultants, Enterprise Owners	AREDP, Safeguards Implementation Unit, FD
Processed & Unprocessed Waste.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Waste recycling plans. - Safe disposal, as per recommended norms or NEQS. - Preventive & precautionary measures against disease spread. - Invocation of penalty clause against aesthetic & visual hazards. 	To be part of design specifications.	At the site of respective SME.	At design stage.	Being part of design costs.	AREDP, Design Consultants, Enterprise Owners	AREDP, Safeguards Implementation Unit
Construction Stage							
Loss of Top Soil	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cultivable lands will not be used for SMEs, unless specifically requested by the landowner. - Careful stacking of top soil & its re-application after work completion. 	To be determined	At the site of respective SME.	During construction.	To be included in construction costs.	Enterprise Owners / Contractor	AREDP, Safeguards Implementation Unit & NEPA
Borrow Soils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No earth will be borrowed from cultivable lands. - Borrowing may be done from barren, wastelands, & riverbeds. - In case of new borrow areas, all measures will be taken so that there will be no loss of productive soil, and all environmental considerations are to be met with. - Precautionary measures like tarpaulin vehicle coverings will be used to avoid any spilling of borrow materials during transportation. - All borrow areas will be refilled, re-vegetated & landscaped. In case if it is not done, then such areas will be cordoned with barbed wire fence, with warning 	To be determined	At the site of respective SME.	During construction.	To be included in construction costs.	Enterprise Owners / Contractor	AREDP, Safeguards Implementation Unit & NEPA

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Environmental Issues & Components	Remedial Measure	Reference to Contract Document	Approximate Location	Timeframe	Mitigation Cost	Institutional Responsibility	
						Implementation	Supervision
Quarry Areas	<p>signs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – All quarry materials will be obtained from previously operating sites with proper licenses & environmental clearances. – New quarries will only be opened with prior permission from respective authorities. 	To be determined	At the site of respective SME.	During construction.	To be included in construction costs.	Enterprise Owners / Contractor	AREDP, Safeguards Implementation Unit & NEPA
Contamination of Soils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – All mechanized equipment will be maintained & refuelled ensuring no spillage soil contaminations. – Fuel storage & refuelling will be kept away from water channels. – All chemicals will be stored in safe warehouses, allowing no spills on soils. – All spoils & wastes will be disposed of as per approved disposal plans in wastelands, in consultation with communities. – Chemical wastes will be disposed of at approved sites with impervious linings. – Storage of chemicals, oils, fuels, lubricants will be done on hard standings in warehouse, with sumps to cater for leakages. – No leakage wastes will be allowed for free disposal leading to soil contamination. – Such wastes will be disposed as per safe environmental practices. – Periodic monitoring of soil quality for Pb, Hg, Cr, & Cd. – Suitable remedial measures, if any contamination detected. 	To be determined	At the site of respective SME.	During construction.	To be included in construction costs.	Enterprise Owners / Contractor	AREDP, Safeguards Implementation Unit & NEPA
Drainage &	– Flash rains & cloud burst phenomena are common in	To be	At the site of	During	To be	Enterprise Owners /	AREDP,

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Environmental Issues & Components	Remedial Measure	Reference to Contract Document	Approximate Location	Timeframe	Mitigation Cost	Institutional Responsibility	
						Implementation	Supervision
Run-off	<p>the project area. Hence, construction materials at cross drainage structures will be removed in time so as not to block the water flow.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Storage of chemicals, fuels & other contaminants be away from water runoff. 	determined	respective SME.	construction.	included in construction costs.	Contractor	Safeguards Implementation Unit & NEPA
Construction Camps Sanitation & Waste Disposal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – All construction camps will be located away from built-up areas, in consultation with locals. – Camps will have sewage system so that no water pollution takes place. – Camp must have medical & recreational facilities. 	To be determined	At the site of respective SME.	During construction.	To be included in construction costs.	Enterprise Owners / Contractor	AREDP, Safeguards Implementation Unit & NEPA
Emission from Construction Vehicles & Equipments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – All static plants will be downwind of human habitats. – Emission levels of all construction vehicles & equipment will conform to the prescribed standards, as per NEQS. – Pollutant parameters will regularly be monitored during construction. – Asphalt plants, crushers, & batching plants will be in the downwind from nearest human settlements. – Periodic tuning to all equipment will be ensured. 	To be determined	At the site of respective SME.	During construction.	To be included in construction costs.	Enterprise Owners / Contractor	AREDP, Safeguards Implementation Unit & NEPA
Noise from Vehicles, Plants & Equipment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – All construction equipment & plants will strictly conform to NEQS noise standards. – All vehicles & equipment used will be fitted with noise abatement devices. – Industrial noise standards will be enforced to protect workers & residents from severe noise impacts. – Construction workers will be provided with earplugs. Noise level will be monitored during the construction. – Noise barriers/trees will be placed in urban locations. 	To be determined	At the site of respective SME.	During construction.	To be included in construction costs.	Enterprise Owners / Contractor	AREDP, Safeguards Implementation Unit & NEPA

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Environmental Issues & Components	Remedial Measure	Reference to Contract Document	Approximate Location	Timeframe	Mitigation Cost	Institutional Responsibility	
						Implementation	Supervision
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Noise levels will be monitored at critical locations. – Sound barriers & insulations will be installed as warranted. – Warning signs at sensitive zones like hospitals, mosques, educational institutions etc will be placed. – Timings may be staggered not to operate several machines at one time. – Public awareness program will be launched. 						
Blasting Works	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Advance liaison & coordination within blasting area with local administration & communities. - All blasting works will be done in accordance with Explosives Act. - Highly controlled blasting will be done. - Pre-announcement of blasting schedule & timings to the residents & its rigid adherence. - No blasting will be done between dusk & dawn. - Workers associated with blasting sites will be provided with earplugs. - Proper safety precautions: first aid kit with trained person must be on site. Warning signs should be installed. 	To be determined	At the site of respective SME.	During construction.	To be included in construction costs.	Enterprise Owners / Contractor	AREDP, Safeguards Implementation Unit & NEPA
Vegetation Losses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – All removed trees will be replanted according to “Re-plantation Program”. – Prior permission of FD will be obtained for any tree removal. – Trees requiring removal will be paint-marked. – Trees not requiring removal will be red paint-marked. 	To be determined	At the site of respective SME.	During construction.	To be included in construction costs.	Enterprise Owners / Contractor	AREDP, Safeguards Implementation Unit & NEPA
Soil	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – All construction machinery & equipment will be 	To be	At the site of	During	To be	Enterprise Owners /	AREDP,

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Environmental Issues & Components	Remedial Measure	Reference to Contract Document	Approximate Location	Timeframe	Mitigation Cost	Institutional Responsibility	
						Implementation	Supervision
Compaction	<p>stationed in designated areas to prevent vegetation compaction.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Any incidental damages like, soil trampling & damage to herbs, shrubs & grasses will be kept to the minimum. – Any damages will be restored after construction work is over. 	determined	respective SME.	construction.	included in construction costs.	Contractor	Safeguards Implementation Unit & NEPA
Loss, Damage or Disruption of Wildlife	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Education to construction workers not to disrupt or damage the wildlife. – Wildlife Protection laws will strictly be followed. – All construction vehicles will ply specified routes to avoid accidents with cattle & wildlife. 	To be determined	At the site of respective SME.	During construction.	To be included in construction costs.	Enterprise Owners / Contractor	AREDP, Safeguards Implementation Unit & NEPA
Construction Activities & Accident Risks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Safety signals will be installed on all hazard related works during construction – Strict enforcement of safety rules & regulations. – All blasting sites will have warning & clearance signals. Site will be inspected prior/after blasting. Blasting will be done during lean hours. – Workers will be provided safety equipment, like helmets, masks & goggles etc. – A readily available first aid unit, dressing materials etc, with paramedic will be ensured at critical locations. – Information dissemination through newspaper, radio/TV & banners etc about project time frame, activities causing disruption & temporary arrangements for public relief must be ensured. 	To be determined	At the site of respective SME.	During construction.	To be included in construction costs.	Enterprise Owners / Contractor	AREDP, Safeguards Implementation Unit & NEPA
Health Issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Drainage, sanitation, & waste disposal facilities will be provided at work places. 	To be determined	At the site of respective	During construction.	To be included in	Enterprise Owners / Contractor	AREDP, Safeguards

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Environmental Issues & Components	Remedial Measure	Reference to Contract Document	Approximate Location	Timeframe	Mitigation Cost	Institutional Responsibility	
						Implementation	Supervision
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Drainage will be maintained to avoid water stagnation, leading to mosquitoes & disease. – Suitable sanitation & waste disposal facilities will be provided at camps by means of septic tanks & soakage pits etc. – Sufficient water supply will be maintained at camps to avoid water-related diseases & to secure workers health. – Health education & preventive medical care will be provided to workers. – Routine medical check up of workers & avoidance of communicable disease. 		SME.		construction costs.		Implementation Unit & NEPA
Damages to Archaeological, Religious, Cultural & Properties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – In case of any chance finding of valuable articles such as, coins, artefacts, structures, or other archaeological relics are discovered, the excavation will be stopped & the archaeology departments will be informed. – The place will be cordoned & guarded till its inspection by respective officials. – Construction camps, blasting sites, & all allied construction activities will be away from cultural properties so they are not affected. 	To be determined	At the site of respective SME.	During construction.	To be included in construction costs.	Enterprise Owners / Contractor	AREDP, Safeguards Implementation Unit & NEPA
Landscape Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Plantation of mixed specie, aesthetics trees, shrubs, & aromatic plants will be carried out. – In this context a detailed scheme will be prepared. – Green belts will be developed at the end of construction & maintained. 	To be determined	At the site of respective SME.	During construction.	To be included in construction costs.	Enterprise Owners / Contractor	AREDP, Safeguards Implementation Unit & NEPA

Operational Stage

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Environmental Issues & Components	Remedial Measure	Reference to Contract Document	Approximate Location	Timeframe	Mitigation Cost	Institutional Responsibility	
						Implementation	Supervision
Contamination from Spills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – An accident clearance contingency plan will be prepared & sites will be cleared immediately. – The soiled earth will be scraped into small lined confined pits nearby. – Such soils will be tested against any contamination & remedial measures will be adopted accordingly. 	To be part of SME's operational plan.	Respective SME.	Throughout operations	To be determined & born by enterprise owners or operators.	Enterprise Owners / Operators	NEPA, District Administration
Dust Generation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Maintenance of plantations will be ensured, which will act as live screens. – New plantations will be done at all blank sites within SME limits & adjoining areas. – Maintenance of continuous liaison with FD. – Periodic water sprinkling. – Dust masks for workers. – All precautions to be taken for reduction in dust level emissions from batching/hot mix plants & crushers etc. – Batching/hot mix plants & crushers etc will be at least 1 km downwind from the nearest habitation. All will be fitted with dust extraction & suppression devices. – Regular water spraying will be ensured at all mixing sites & temporary service roads. – During/after compacting works, water spraying on all dirt surfaces will be a regular feature to prevent dust. – All delivery vehicles will be covered with tarpaulin. Mixing equipment will be sealed & equipped as per existing standards. 	To be part of SME's operational plan.	Respective SME.	Throughout operations	To be determined & born by enterprise owners or operators.	Enterprise Owners / Operators	NEPA, District Administration
Air Pollution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Vigilant controls against all types of toxic emissions. – Positive deliberations & practical steps for emission reduction as per NFOS 	To be part of SME's operational	Respective SME.	Throughout operations	To be determined & born by	Enterprise Owners / Operators	NEPA, District Administration

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Environmental Issues & Components	Remedial Measure	Reference to Contract Document	Approximate Location	Timeframe	Mitigation Cost	Institutional Responsibility	
						Implementation	Supervision
	<p>reduction as per NEQS.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – If deemed necessary, emission measurements at critical places of pollutants like SPM, CO, SO₂, NO_x & Pb will be monitored on as required basis. – Maintenance of plantations to be ensured within SME limits & around it. – Penalties under the law imposed for continuous violations. 	plan.			enterprise owners or operators.		
Water Contamination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Untreated, raw & contaminated water will not be allowed to be disposed in perennial, non-perennial water channels or close to any water source & reservoirs. – Discharged water must meet the irrigation standards. – Regular cleaning of drainage system will be ensured. – Water quality will be monitored as per the monitoring plan, as per NEQS. 	To be part of SME's operational plan.	Respective SME.	Throughout operations	To be determined & born by enterprise owners or operators.	Enterprise Owners / Operators	NEPA, District Administration, PHD
Flora & Fauna	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – SME plantations will be strictly monitored & maintained. – General education & awareness for wildlife conservation. – An on-going liaison & coordination with FD, Agriculture & Wildlife Departments. 	To be part of SME's operational plan.	Respective SME.	Throughout operations	To be determined & born by enterprise owners or operators.	Enterprise Owners / Operators	NEPA, District Administration
Accidents	<p>New industries are more prone to accidents due to non-adoption & non-establishment of SOPs, slack controls & many more, which must be controlled through;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Enforcement of rules, regulations & laws. - Early establishment of SOPs. 	To be part of SME's operational plan.	Respective SME.	Throughout operations	To be determined & born by enterprise owners or operators.	Enterprise Owners / Operators	District Administration, Police, HD

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Selected team of workers for operations at critical places & machines. - Suitable trainings. - Work restrictions. - Safety restrictions & warning signs at critical spots. - Contingency plans for accident recovery. 						
Hazardous Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dealing with hazardous substances must be done under certification by respective departments. - Such chemicals must be marked with appropriate signs in block CAPITALS with red paint, warnings for all. - Any spillage will be reported to respective agency, who will be responsible for contingency measures of cleaning the spill within shortest time. - Workers dealing with hazardous materials must have proper safety equipment. - Periodic free medical check up of workers. 	To be part of SME's operational plan.	Respective SME.	Throughout operations	To be determined & born by enterprise owners or operators.	Enterprise Owners / Operators	NEPA, District Administration, Police, HD
Safety Measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Development of coordinated SME safety management plan. - Well established & rehearsed safety related SOPs. - Safety related monitoring systems & penalty against violators. - Coordination with respective state officials, district administration, police & health officials. - Firefighting equipment & training to workers. 	To be part of SME's operational plan.	Respective SME.	Throughout operations	To be determined & born by enterprise owners or operators.	Enterprise Owners / Operators	District Administration, Police
Community Development Councils and	It will be an on-going feature throughout the operational phase of SME, which must be recorded. Maximum efforts must be made to take respective state officials on	To be part of SME's operational	Respective SME.	Throughout operations	To be determined & born by	Enterprise Owners / Operators	District Administration, Community

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Community Consultative Dialogue	board for such forums. Main advantages will be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Community will be consulted for various SME related matters of their concerns. – Will as information dissemination forum. – Confidence of community members will be gained. – A sense of ownership for protecting SME related assets of public benefits will be inculcated. – Employment for locals in skilled and semi-skilled jobs. – Intensity of such consultations may vary in various sections according to on-going activities. – Grievances will be discussed & addressed. 	plan.			enterprise owners or operators.		Elders
General Amenities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Provision of shelters, restaurants, cafeterias & tuck stop for workers. – Rest & recreational areas. – Mosque & ablution place. – Residential quarters for selected workers, if SME is working for more than one shift. 	To be part of SME's operational plan.	Respective SME.	Throughout operations	To be determined & born by enterprise owners or operators.	Enterprise Owners / Operators	District Administration

II. ARCHEOLOGICAL AND CULTURAL ASPECTS

Chance Findings	– Follow procedures identified in Annex B: Procedures for heritage chance finds	To be determined	At the site of respective SME.	During operations.	To be included in planning costs.	AREDP, SIU, Enterprise Owners, Provincial / District Administration	MoCT, NEPA, Safeguards Implementation Unit, NGOs
Religious Heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Respecting religious heritage, more so in a sensitive culture like Afghanistan. - Display of respect towards shrines, grave-yards & mosques etc. 	To be determined	At the site of respective SME.	During operations.	To be included in planning costs.	Enterprise Owners, Provincial / District Administration, Local Elders	MoCT, NEPA, NGOs
Protection & Maintenance	– Repair & maintenance of community mosques.	To be determined	At the site of respective	During operations.	To be included in	Enterprise Owners, Provincial / District	MoCT, NEPA, NGOs

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Environmental Issues & Components	Remedial Measure	Reference to Contract Document	Approximate Location	Timeframe	Mitigation Cost	Institutional Responsibility	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fencing & protection measures for the local shrines & grave-yards. - Tree plantations, green belts & ornamental flowers etc. - Installation of introductory & guiding sign boards at places of public interests. 		SME.		planning costs.	Administration, Local Elders	
VI. SAFETY AND SECURITY							
Chance Findings of AXOs, UXOs or Landmines etc	<p>Followings procedural drills are recommended:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Construction work may be stopped temporarily. - Occurrence may be reported to concerned authorities & their advice sought. - The site be surveyed & reconnoitered by an appropriate agency dealing with the matter. - Work may only be resumed once clearance has been obtained. - Constant vigilance may be maintained by informing & notifying all concerned. - Education & awareness to construction workers. - Restricted movements within the site & its adjacent vicinity. 	To be determined	At the site of respective SME.	During operations.	To be included in planning costs.	AREDP, SIU, Enterprise Owners, Provincial / District Administration	Mol, Safeguards Implementation Unit, NGOs

Notes:

- *The design consultant/team will address mitigation costs due to location and design.*
- *At construction stage mitigation costs will be included in the construction bid by the respective enterprises.*
- *During operations, mitigation costs will be met out of routine enterprise budget.*

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