

Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia Ministry of Health



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MINISTRY OF HEALTH-ETHIOPIA
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HEALTHY PEOPLE FOR PROSPEROUS NATION

**Terms of Reference for Preparation of
Environmental and Social Impact Assessment
For**

**The Strengthening of the SGBV and MHPSS services in Ethiopia project at
the intervention area (Asayita, Kemise, Suhul and Gandhi Hospitals)**

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1. Introduction

1.1 Background

Over the past few years, Ethiopia has been grappling with a confluence of natural and man-made crises. These include a severe humanitarian crisis stemming from conflict in the northern and other regions, compounded by the socio-economic repercussions of the global pandemic, recurring climate challenges manifesting as droughts and internal displacement across the country, and an ongoing economic crisis characterized by high inflation.

In response to these increasingly pressing needs, particularly affecting the most vulnerable populations impacted by the northern conflict and environmental shocks in the south, an initiative has been launched. This initiative prioritizes strengthening mechanisms for responding to and treating gender-based violence (GBV) and mental health problems. Notably, reported cases of GBV have significantly increased, highlighting the urgent need for intervention. The initiative also focuses on decentralizing and strengthening mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) services, crucial for addressing the widespread consequences of these crises, especially among vulnerable groups such as children, adolescents, young people, and people with disabilities. A holistic approach is planned, providing medical/health and psychosocial support to survivors of violence in conflict-affected areas and Addis Ababa, where rapid urbanization has also exacerbated these issues.

This initiative aligns strongly with key national strategies of the Ministry of Health (including the Women, Children and Youth Directorate Strategic Plan 2021-2025 and the National Mental Health Strategic Plan 2020-2025), and the Ministry of Women and Social Affairs (particularly the National Policy and Strategy on Gender Based Violence Prevention, and Response, 2023). Furthermore, it directly supports the priorities of the Ministry of Health's Health Sector Development Program (HSDIP) by addressing the emerging needs of GBV and mental health while simultaneously strengthening service delivery at the General and Primary Health Care (PHC) level by improvement of access to quality and comprehensive social and health services for the most vulnerable groups in Ethiopia.

Therefore, the overarching aim of the project is to strengthen the local system in the provision and expansion of quality, equitable, and accessible Sexual Gender Based Violence (SGBV) and Mental Health Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) services in conflict-affected areas (Tigray, Amhara, and Afar) and in Addis Ababa. In line with the Ministry of Health's priorities, the project will focus on: 1) Enhancing the infrastructure of three Regional One Stop Centers and one in Addis Ababa; 2) Expanding mental health services at the primary health care unit (PHCU) and hospital levels; and 3) Strengthening referral mechanisms and the capacities of socio-health workers and legal/police personnel. The initiative will also emphasize the development of coordination mechanisms, guidelines, and protocols.

Therefore, MOH is seeking a qualified Consultancy Firm to prepare an environmental and social impact assessment report for the strengthening of the SGBV and MHPSS services at the intervention area (construction of four hospital SGBV One Stop Centers and MHPSS services blocks).

Table 1: Locations of the SGBV and MHPSS services intervention areas eligible for ESIA

S.N	Health Facility	Town	Region	Remark
1.	Kemise Hospital	Kemise	Amhara	
2.	Asayita Hospital	Asayita	Afar	
3.	Suhul Hospital	Shire	Tigray	
4.	Gandhi Hospital	Addis Ababa	Addis Ababa	

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1.2 Objective of the Consultancy

The primary objective of this consultancy is to conduct a comprehensive Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) for the proposed project focused on strengthening SGBV and MHPSS services within the identified intervention areas. This will specifically involve the construction of four hospital-based SGBV One Stop Centers and MHPSS service blocks. The ESIA aims to provide decision-makers with sufficient, objective, and well-documented information to:

- Justify the acceptance of the proposed project, based on a thorough understanding of its potential environmental and social implications.
- Identify and evaluate potential environmental and social risks and impacts associated with all phases of the project lifecycle (design, construction, and operation).
- Develop appropriate and feasible environmental and social mitigation measures to avoid, minimize, reduce, or offset negative impacts, and to enhance positive outcomes.
- Inform potential modifications to the project design or implementation strategy to improve its environmental and social sustainability.
- Provide a basis for informed decisions regarding the project's financing and implementation, ultimately contributing to environmentally and socially responsible development.

1.3 Environmental and Social Aspects

The construction and operation of any facility has certain impacts on the environment and or community. Some of these impacts may be negative or adverse, while others may be positive or beneficial. The major aspects of the construction and operation of the hospital-based SGBV One Stop Centers and MHPSS service blocks that are expected to impact the environment and community include the following:

- Temporary disturbance of the land surface during construction of the blocks.
- Occupation of the land surface with permanent infrastructures and offsite facilities.
- Temporary disturbance of the hospital service provisions during construction
- Occupation Health and Safety
- Hazardous waste management
- Ambient air quality concentration levels due to flue gases.
- Employment (and attraction into the local site area) of numbers of workers for construction and operation.

The nature and significance of the environmental and social impacts expected to result from these aspects of the project are to be discussed in the ESIA report. This TOR outlines the scope of the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment study to be carried out and utilized in the process of obtaining Environmental Permits and Funding Approvals. The aim is to supply relevant data concerning the environmental and social impacts of the project, and to assess and compare the impacts in relation to relevant national and international requirements and guidelines. A typical summary for the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment Report (see Annex 1) are defined which should comply with standardized requirements and World Bank (WB) Environmental and Social Standards; WBG guidelines and EPA environmental and social assessment guidelines.

Thus, according to the World Bank's Environmental and social standards, the ESIA has to be prepared with all the requirements for WB's projects, in terms of rigor of analysis, analysis of alternatives, extent of consultation, details of environmental and social management plan, and public disclosure.

1.4 Environmental and Social Impact Assessment Requirements

These requirements will be identified including any regulations and guidelines which will govern the conduct of the assessment. The Environmental and social impact assessment is to be guided by:

- The consultant should identify the impacts and provide mitigating measures for each relevant environmental and social standards. Details on the relevant environmental and social standards are available in World Bank's ESF.

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- The consultant should look in to detail designs and alternative analysis to avoid/reduce Environmental and Social impacts of the project.

Methodologies and tools

The following section provides the details of the approach and methodology adopted for the ESIA of the proposed hospital-based SGBV One Stop Centers and MHPSS service blocks subproject.

- **Desk review:** The consultant must hold a briefing meeting with client in the first day after signing the contract. Subsequently, the consultant shall prepare assessment tools, formats, checklists for primary data collections instruments. Besides, the consultant will also systematically review all relevant secondary data (e.g., The GoE financing agreement provisions, pertinent documents related to Environmental and social issues, Legal frameworks, project Appraisal Reports, guidelines, and other ESIA prepared for similar subprojects)
 - National laws and/or regulations on environmental reviews and impact assessments.
 - World Bank environmental and social standards relevant for the project;
 - The consultant should review the WBG EHS guideline, identify and use GIIPs and standards that could be applicable to this project
- **Site visit:** In consideration of the nature and the location of the potential future conditions and consequences, the project intervention areas are identified. Therefore, the Project area in which implementation will definitely bring about measurable and sometimes significant direct changes to the physical environment and ecology, as well as the social and economic conditions.
- **Collection of Available Information:** to identify potential sources of impact of the project on the environment and the consultants collected published documents, regulations, and census reports. Information on existing environmental conditions, necessary to provide the background for impact identification and assessment will obtain from the published sources.
- **Maps and Images:** the consultant should use the topographic maps, Satellite images and area map used to identify and delineate project site to assess the land use, vegetation cover, infrastructure, within the project site.
- **Field Investigation:** the field investigation on physical resources, ecological resources, socio-economic aspects, health, cultural and other values in the project area will be collect.
- **Stakeholder and Public Consultations:** The consultant should conduct the consultations with various community members around the proposed project area, as well as different stakeholders and local authorities in the project-affected areas.
- **Description of the Environment and Social Baseline:** Information on the existing natural and socio-economic resources is of fundamental importance for evaluation of environmental impacts. So the consultant should collect the baseline data on the physical, biological and social, cultural and socio-economic setting of the project will be assemble, evaluate and present.
- **Identification of Environmental and Social Impacts:** Key potentially beneficial as well as adverse impacts on the physical, biological and socio-economic environment associated with the construction and operation phases of the project will be identify and quantify where possible.
- **Environmental and Social Mitigation and Benefit Enhancement Measures:** Feasible and cost effective mitigation and benefit enhancement measures that may avoid or reduce potentially significant adverse environmental impacts to acceptable levels shall be identify and recommend.
- **Preparation of ESIA Report and approval by Environmental Protection Authority:** The final step is the preparation of site specific ESIA report for each intervention area. This report will concentrate on key issues and impacts, which are importance in terms of affecting the overall environmental performance of the Project. Upon receiving clearance of the ESIA report from the MOH and the funder, the consultant shall be responsible for obtaining formal approval of the report from the regulatory authority (EPA).

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1.5 The Consultant Tasks and Responsibilities

Overall, the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) involve a detailed assessment of the institutional and managerial, regulatory and policy, environmental, socio-cultural and socio-economic implications of the proposed project/investment. This must necessarily encompass analysis of, and the presentation of findings/recommendations in respect of the subject areas listed in turn hereunder.

The Consultant will have to do the following but not necessarily be limited to- these

Preliminary Tasks:

- The Consultant should submit an inception report with a detailed work-plan including a time schedule, budget, the names, professional status and biographic data of all professional staff to be deployed on this assignment, along with a description of the duties to be performed by each expert.

Tasks and Responsibilities

The Consultant should:

- Integrate a specialized team of experts required to undertake the ESIA study
- Conduct visits, with the team of experts, to the site for carrying out site inspection and data collection, in conjunction with the concerned authorities.
- Conduct, using the specialized team of experts, baseline studies, covering the all spectrum of analysis and modeling relevant to the construction, and operation of the strengthening SGBV and MHPSS services project (four hospital-based SGBV One Stop Centers and MHPSS service)
- Assess the environmental and social impacts of the construction and operation activities; and develop an environmental management and monitoring plan to manage these impacts.
- Conduct of an Environmental and Social Scoping of the proposed investment
- Identify and assess the potential significant environmental impacts of the project in its different alternatives the site;
- Prepare Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) included in the ESIA report for the implementation of proposed measures to mitigate negative impacts and optimize positive ones for the site;
- Provide recommendations on how to adapt project design (if required) to optimize the exploitation of opportunities, manage risks and operate under the constraints imposed by the natural environment, including climate variability, climate change and the availability or scarcity of natural resources;
- Compile, edit and prepare for final print a Draft Final Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) Report containing standardized parts of the study Report for the site.
- Obtain formal approval of the ESIA report from the regulatory authority (EPA).

2. Scope of Work

The performance of the scope of work described hereinafter will provide an Environmental and Social Impact Assessment for the strengthening SGBV and MHPSS services project (four hospital-based SGBV One Stop Centers and MHPSS service) in the intervention areas (Kemise, Asayita, Suhul and Gandhi Hospitals). This scope addresses the World Bank Environmental and Social standards/guidelines, as they will relate to this project. This scope is presented to clearly describe the relationship between the activities and the work products that comprise the ESIA reports.

2.1 Scoping and Consultation

2.1.1 ESIA scoping study

The ESIA scoping study will deliver the following results:

- An overview of the project, the applicable legislative and institutional framework
- An indication of the project alternatives and their variants to be studied;
- A description of the key stakeholders and their concerns;

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- A stakeholder engagement plan (to be implemented while the ESIA study as such is conducted);
- A description of the key environmental and social aspects and project-environment interactions that should be addressed in the ESIA;
- A description of the geographical area to be considered in the environmental baseline and in the identification of impacts;
- Recommendations on specific impact identification and evaluation methodologies to be used in the ESIA;
- An indication of the time frames, costs and resources needed to carry out the ESIA study.

2.2 ESIA STUDY

In general, the consultant will perform the following key tasks as part of the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) study for the strengthening SGBV and MHPSS services project (four hospital-based SGBV One Stop Centers and MHPSS service):

- Describe the Subproject including its main components, ancillary components/facilities, resources input, and outputs/produces.
- Establish baseline environmental and social settings of the Subproject investment influence area.
- Establish legal and institutional frameworks under which the Subproject is implemented and operated.
- Identify beneficial and adverse environmental and social risks and impacts of the Subproject during implementation and operation periods.
- Propose suitable, practical, and site-specific enhancement and mitigation measures to avoid, reduce, mitigate, and compensate/offset the identified impacts with operational details.
- Conduct meaningful stakeholders' consultations and analysis to capture the subproject affected people and parties' aspirations, concerns, and recommendations towards the planned interventions.
- Carryout alternative analysis and compare various subproject planning and design options in terms of their environmental and social consequences.
- Develop environmental and social management and monitoring plans with institutional arrangement, human resources, and budget requirement.
- Develop specific environmental and social requirements and procedures to be included in contractor's contract documents.

Overall the ESIA involves an assessment of the institutional and managerial, regulatory and policy, environmental, socio-cultural and socio-economic implications of the proposed project. This must necessarily encompass analysis of, and the presentation of findings/recommendations in respect of the subject areas listed in turn hereunder.

The consultant should conduct consultations with the people in the project area and others that may be affected by the project. It should be documented in the ESIA report. The consultant also should conduct wide ranging consultations with key stakeholder and other interested parties, and review relevant background information in order to gain an insight/understanding of the requirements of the assignment.

An indicative listing of the activities to be undertaken and issues to be studied and reported on, and recommended approaches to the conduct of this assignment shall include but is not limited to the issues listed hereunder.

2.3. Data Collection

Coincident with the scoping for the environmental and social impact assessment, a data gathering task will be undertaken. One activity is a site visit to confirm site conditions and the level of development of the surrounding area. The second is to gather input data to analyze the environmental and social issues as determined from the scoping process.

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2.4. Analysis

Subsequent to gathering of data, the environmental and social issues will be addressed in terms of the environmental and social risks associated with the strengthening SGBV and MHPSS services project (four hospital-based SGBV One Stop Centers and MHPSS service) and the routine and non-routine operation of the existing hospital facilities.

The ESIA will address the issue of alternatives by summarizing and referencing the alternatives in a manner consistent with national and international guidance.

3. Description of the Proposed Project

A project description is a detailed description of any proposed infrastructure to be financed under the Project. The project description should provide a brief description of the relevant parts of the project, using maps (at appropriate scale) where necessary, and including the following information: location; general layout; size, capacity, etc.; pre-construction activities; construction activities; schedule; staffing and support; facilities and services; and operation activities and life span. As part of the project/, including, among other relevant aspects:

- Project activities including detailed scheduling and cost;
- Personnel to be hired temporarily and permanently during the stages of construction and operation of the Project;
- How and if "Sustainable Infrastructure" principles have been included in the Project with focus on: energy efficiency and use of renewable resources, conservation of resources such as water and energy, internal air quality, and community involvement; and
- **Location.** Where appropriate describe and present schematically, the administrative, political and geographical location of all envisaged infrastructural works of the Project, Provide definition and description of the Project area including associated facilities and activities.

The project justification should be described based on combined economic, environmental and social assessments.

4. Policy, Legislative, Regulatory and Administrative Considerations

- Description of legislative and institutional norms, systems and environmental licensing requirements, and other necessary requirement for the implementation of the Project
- Description of any specific and applicable local regulations and requirements relating to the project such as healthcare, water, solid waste, wastewater, air pollution, labor, and health and safety.
- Description of the 10 World Bank environmental and social standards identifying which of these should be relevant. The results should be presented in a tabular format, showing each of the ten standards, status of relevant, and rationale for relevant or not.
- Identify international and regional legislation, policies, norms, standards, guidelines, and current.
- Examine the extent to which implementation of environmental safeguards and controls might be hindered (for example policy overlaps). This will provide an overview of the existing environmental management regimes and the extent to which these are applicable to this proposed undertaking.

4.1. Description of the Project Environment and Social Context

The environmental characterization should evaluate and present baseline data on the relevant environmental characteristics of the study area. It will include information on any changes anticipated before the project commences.

- **Physical environment:** geology; topography; soils; climate and meteorology; ambient air quality; surface and groundwater hydrology; existing sources of air emissions; existing water pollution discharges; and receiving water quality.

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- **Biological environment:** flora; fauna; rare or endangered species; sensitive habitats, including parks or preserves, significant natural sites, etc.; species of commercial importance; and species with potential to become nuisances, vectors or dangerous.
- **Socio-cultural environment** (include both present and projected where appropriate): population; land use; planned development activities; community structure; employment; distribution of income, goods and services; recreation; healthcare system; cultural prosperities; tribal peoples; and customs, aspirations and attitudes.
- The analysis should be relevant and commensurate with the project.

5. Assessment of the Environmental and Social Impacts of the Project

The Assessment of the Environmental and Social Impacts should distinguish between significant positive and negative impacts, direct and indirect impacts, and immediate and long-term impacts during construction and operation phases indicating their importance level and their probability of occurrence. It will identify impacts which are unavoidable or irreversible. Wherever possible, it will describe impacts quantitatively. Cumulative effects shall also be addressed taking into account other projects or actions planned in the study area.

Identification and assessment of environmental and social impacts of the project, including those impacts related to occupational safety and health in the stages of construction, and operation should be done. Consideration should be given to all potential direct and indirect negative impacts. The ESIA should:

- Identify, describe and assess all potential environmental and social, direct and indirect, short and long-term, temporary and permanent impacts, indicating their importance level and their probability of occurrence. The importance level may be assessed on the basis of the nature, extent, intensity and duration of the impact, as well as on the sensitivity of the concerned environmental and social components and perceptions of the public;
- Address any national regulatory issues related to the environmental and social assessment of the project;
- Highlight all impacts including irreversible or unavoidable impacts. Cumulative and scale effects shall also be addressed taking into account planned activities or actions in the project area;
- Identify, describe and assess impacts on the biodiversity of surrounding areas, including risk of genetic invasion and its impacts on the biodiversity and ecological services;
- Assess the air quality and emissions against national or international standards;
- Identify and evaluate the socio-environmental impacts based on the characterization of the area of influence. This characterization outlines the general conditions of the area without the effects of the Project and constitutes the basis for analyzing how the Project will impact the area;
- Assess the environmental and social impacts by identifying and describing impacts and overall impact by the proposed project on the environment as a result of the interplay between the different stages and activities as well as with other projects and facilities; and
- Recommend mitigation measures and provide an actionable ESIA.

5.1. Analysis of Alternatives to the Proposed Project

- Identification of alternatives that were examined in the course of developing the proposed project and identify other alternatives which would achieve the same objectives, including the "without project option". The concept of alternatives extends to siting, design, technology selection, construction techniques and phasing, and operating and maintenance procedures. It will compare alternatives in terms of potential environmental impacts and suitability under local conditions.

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- The ESIA needs to analyze the efficiency and capacity of existing waste incinerators and recommend all possible and feasible technical and design measures to manage the medical wastes.
- For each of the alternatives, the environmental and social impacts shall be quantified as possible, including their economic values where feasible. The selected alternative shall be the most environmentally and socially sustainable, taking into account the technical and economic feasibility.

5.2. Consultation and GRM

Identify Subproject stakeholders including government bodies/authorities, beneficiary communities, community leaders, civil society organizations, non-governmental organizations, women groups, youth groups, etc.

- Disclose Subproject information to the stakeholders;
- Consult on stakeholders' understanding, views, aspirations, and recommendations on the Subproject;
- Recommend ways to integrate the findings of the stakeholder engagement into the Subproject plan, design, and implementation; and
- Subproject stakeholders may have grievances during implementation and operation stages and thus stakeholders should be given a means to voice their grievances and obtain redress. The ESIA shall device a grievance redress mechanism appropriate to the Subproject and local communities.

5.3. Environmental and Social Management Plan

The ESIA should develop an environmental and social management plan outlining procedures and institutional responsibilities to manage the identified impacts. The environmental and social management plan shall include:

Potential environmental and social benefits and impacts resulting from Subproject implementation (identified in the earlier exercise)

- Type, extent, and significance of the benefits and impacts;
- Recommended enhancement measures for the beneficial/positive impacts;
- Recommended mitigation measures for the adverse impacts to enable the sustainable implementation and operation of the Subproject;
- Location of the mitigation measures within the Subproject setup;
- Frequency of mitigation or measures implementation timeframe;
- Success indicators for the mitigation measures;
- Institutional responsibility for implementation of the enhancement or mitigation measures;
- Capacity building recommendations for the institutions; and
- Estimate of measures implementation budget.

5.4. Environmental and social management monitoring plan

An environmental and social monitoring plan for Subproject implementation and operation shall be recommended in the ESIA. Main components of the monitoring plan are:

Potential environmental and social benefits and impacts resulting from subproject implementation (identified in the earlier exercise)

- Recommended enhancement and mitigation measures;
- Key Subproject parameters or aspects to monitor;
- Specific and measurable indicators;
- Monitoring location, if applicable;
- Measurement methods and/or equipment;
- Frequency of monitoring;
- Responsible institutions/parties for monitoring; and

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- Monitoring budget.

6. Capacity development and training

For effective implementation of the environmental and social management and monitoring plans, the existing institutional capacity of the concerned parties shall be assessed and measures to strengthen their capacities (such as training) shall be recommended.

7. Conclusions and recommendations

Conclusions shall be drawn from the key findings of the ESIA. Further, the ESIA shall provide recommendations based on the findings of the assessment. The recommendations shall, among other points, include:

- Promoting integration and collaboration on environmental and social management by the various stakeholders participating during the Subproject implementation and operation
- Strengthening institutions responsible for implementation and management of environmental and social issues
- Capacity building needs for institutions responsible for environmental and social management
- Dissemination and disclosure of environmental and social information
- Environmental and social requirements and management measures to be included in the works procurement and contract documents
- Recommendations on other key environmental and social management issues.

8. Environmental and Social Impact Assessment Report

An environmental and social impact assessment report for the strengthening SGBV and MHPSS services project (four hospital-based SGBV One Stop Centers and MHPSS service) will be developed separately in a manner complying with the requirements of the World Bank, and the Ethiopian Environmental Regulation. The environmental and social assessment report will be concise and limited to significant environmental issues. The main text will focus on findings, conclusions and recommended actions, supported by summaries of the data collected and citations for any references used in interpreting those data. Detailed data will be presented in appendices. A typical content for the ESIA report is presented in Annex 1.

The ESIA Reports shall describe the scientific approach adopted to carry out the studies. In particular, the methods and criteria used in the studies shall be presented and explained. The Report shall also include maps and drawings at the appropriate scale and refer to all consulted documents. The detailed ESIA Report shall be prepared in English. The ESIA Executive Summary shall, however, be written in English and Amharic. To be useful for consultations, the ESIA Executive Summary shall be concise and written in a non-technical language. A draft report will be issued for review and comment by MOH and the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS) after which a final report will be issued.

9. Deliverables and Reporting Requirements

- An Inception Report to be submitted within one (1) week of contract signing that includes a Workplan with timelines for completing the assignment
- A Draft Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) report in which Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) is included in detail for the Proposed Project
- A Final Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) Report, incorporating suggestions and feedback from the project team during the review of the draft, and a draft copy of the Final report must be prepared by the consultant and submitted to the MOH and Italian Agency for Development Cooperation for approval and agreement prior to finalization.

10. Approval

The Consultant must submit the final ESIA report to be disclosed by both the MOH and the AICS. Before the ESIA documents are approved by EPA and the AICS, the consultant is accountable for carrying out any changes that the client, authorities, may request, and they must keep working until there are no AICS and EPA objections.

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11. Activities and Time Schedule

The ESIA Study Report shall be finalized and the Draft Final Report shall be prepared within *three months* from study start date. The following chart in the Table 1 depicts the required time and activities for carrying out the ESIA Study and the output deliverables that will result accordingly.

Table 1: ESIA Preparation Schedule

No	Activities	Months					
		1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Inception Report						
2.	Site Reconnaissance						
3.	Baseline Data						
4.	Scoping Session						
5.	Description of the Project						
6.	Impact Identification						
7.	Mitigation/Environmental Management						
8.	Environmental Monitoring						
9.	Public Consultation Process (ESIA)						
10.	Draft ESIA Report						
11.	Final Report						
12.	MOH & AICS Disclosure						

11. Desired competency of the Consultancy Firm and Experts**11.1. Consultancy Firm**

The Ministry of Health - Ethiopia, Italian Agency for Development Cooperation towards Strengthening of the SGBV and MHPSS services in Ethiopia Project now invites eligible consulting firms ("Consultants") to indicate their interest in providing the Services. Interested Consultants should provide information demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the Services. The shortlisting criteria are:

- Core business and years in business (The firm's core business operations must demonstrably revolve around the provision of environmental and social studies, including ESIA and ESMP. This should be supported by a minimum of year's experiences in this field, evidenced by project portfolios and official registrations).
- Relevant experience in the field of the assignment (Proven experience in successfully completing at least two ESIA/ESMP studies for health facilities within the last five years. This includes demonstrating appropriate capabilities, resources, and a high standard of execution).
- Technical and managerial capability of the firm (Availability of appropriately qualified and experienced technical and managerial staff to effectively execute all aspects of the scope of services. Key personnel should possess relevant certifications and demonstrable project leadership experience).

Key Experts will not be evaluated at the shortlisting stage. The Qualifications and Experience of Key Experts (CVs) shall not be included in the shortlisting criteria.

The consultancy firm should have the expertise and practical experience in Environmental and Social Impact Assessment and Environmental and Social Management Plan. Preference will be given to a consultancy firm that has a practical experience in health facility construction ESIA preparation. Preference will also be given to consultancy firm that have at least 5 years of experience and those may have previous experience with the international financing development cooperation such as World

Bank financed projects. The firm should have proven track record of supporting, advising and collaborating with government institutions/project offices.

Please note that consulting firms should be legally registered by the concerned regulatory authorities and the following documents shall be submitted with the EOI: Renewed and valid trade license, tax payer's certificate, TAX Clearance, VAT and TIN registration certificate issued by the appropriate government organizations or any other applicable registration certificate/ permits or License to operate in the country issued by the concerned government Bureau.

11.2. Required Qualifications and Work Experience of Experts

The consultancy firm should have multi-discipline experts on and it should be conducted by a team of experts, who should have a minimum of the following profiles:

- Expert level I with at least Master's degree on Environmental Engineering, or related fields with, or in closely related fields with at least 10 years of relevant practical experience in Environmental and Social Impact Assessment.
- Expert level II with at least Master's degree on Environmental Health, Environmental Science, Public Health or in a closely related fields with and at least 8 years of relevant experience with Bachelor's degree and at least 10 years of relevant experience.
- Expert level III with at least Master's degree on Psychology, or in a closely related fields with and at least 8 years of relevant experience with Bachelor's degree and at least 10 years of relevant experience.
- Expert level IV with at least Master's degree on Social Science, sociology or in a closely related fields with and at least 8 years of relevant experience with Bachelor's degree and at least 10 years of relevant experience. Ability to work independently and as part of a team; organize and prioritize work to meet deadlines Strong interpersonal skills and ability to work effectively with internal/external partners in a multicultural environment.
- Fluency in English and Amharic.

Annex 1: Indicative Outline of Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA)

Where an environmental and social impact assessment is prepared as part of the environmental and social assessment, it will include the following:

1. **Executive summary**
 - Concisely discusses significant findings and recommended actions.
2. **Background**
 - The Introduction shall indicate the purpose of the ESIA, present an overview of the proposed project to be assessed, as well as the project's purpose and needs.
3. **Legal and institutional framework**
 - Analyzes the legal and institutional framework for the project, within which the environmental and social assessment is carried out. Compares the national's existing and WB environmental and social OPs and identifies the gaps between them.
 - Identifies and assesses the environmental and social requirements of any co-financiers.
4. **Project description**
 - Concisely describes the proposed project and its geographic, environmental, social, and temporal context.
 - Through consideration of the details of the project, indicates the need for any plan to meet the WB Ops requirements including a map of sufficient detail, showing the project site and the area that may be affected by the project's direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts.
5. **Baseline data**

- Sets out in detail the baseline data that is relevant to decisions about project location, design, operation, or mitigation measures. This should include a discussion of the accuracy, reliability, and sources of the data, as well as information about dates surrounding project identification, planning, and implementation. Identifies and estimates the extent and quality of available data, key data gaps, and uncertainties associated with predictions. Based on current information, assesses the scope of the area to be studied and describes relevant physical, biological, and socioeconomic conditions, including any changes anticipated before the project commences. Takes into account current and proposed development activities within the project area but not directly connected to the project.
- 6. **Environmental and social risks and impacts**
It is important to take into account all relevant environmental and social risks and impacts of the project. This will include the environmental and social risks and impacts and any other environmental and social risks and impacts arising as a consequence of the specific nature and context of the project.
- 7. **Mitigation measures**
 - Identifies mitigation measures and significant residual negative impacts that cannot be mitigated and, to the extent possible, assess the acceptability of those residual negative impacts.
 - Identifies differentiated measures so that adverse impacts do not fall disproportionately on the disadvantaged or vulnerable.
 - Assesses the feasibility of mitigating the environmental and social impacts; the capital and recurrent costs of proposed mitigation measures, and their suitability under local conditions; the institutional, training, and monitoring requirements for the proposed mitigation measures.
 - Specifies issues that do not require further attention, providing the basis for this determination.
- 8. **Analysis of alternatives**
 - Systematically compares feasible alternatives to the proposed project site, technology, design, and operation—including the "without project" situation—in terms of their potential environmental and social impacts;
 - Assesses the alternatives' feasibility of mitigating the environmental and social impacts; the capital and recurrent costs of alternative mitigation measures, and their suitability under local conditions; the institutional, training, and monitoring requirements for the alternative mitigation measures.
 - For each of the alternatives, quantifies the environmental and social impacts to the extent possible, and attaches economic values where feasible.
- 9. **Environmental and Social Management Plan (Annex 2-I)**
- 10. **Environmental and Social Management Monitoring Plan (Annex 2-II)**
- 11. **Design measures**
 - Sets out the basis for selecting the particular project design proposed and specifies the applicable Environmental Health and Safety Guidelines (EHSs), or if the ESHs are determined to be inapplicable, justifies recommended emission levels and approaches to pollution prevention and abatement that are consistent with GIIP.
- 12. **Appendices**
 - List of the individuals or organizations that prepared or contributed to the environmental and social assessment. References—set out the written materials, both published and unpublished, that have been used.

- Record of meetings, consultations, and surveys with stakeholders, including those with affected people and other interested parties. The record specifies the means of such stakeholder engagement that were used to obtain the views of affected people and other interested parties. And also include summary of stakeholder mapping during preparation phase.
- Tables presenting the relevant data referred to or summarized in the main text.
- List of associated reports or plans.

Annex 2: Indicative Outline of Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP)

An ESMP consists of the set of mitigation, monitoring, and institutional measures to be taken during implementation and operation of a project to eliminate adverse environmental and social risks and impacts, offset them, or reduce them to acceptable levels. The ESMP also includes the measures and actions needed to implement these measures. The project will (a) identify the set of responses to potentially adverse impacts; (b) determine requirements for ensuring that those responses are made effectively and in a timely manner; and (c) describe the means for meeting those requirements.

It is expected that the consultant will present the environmental and social management plan in a tabular format below as part of ESIA report:

I. Mitigation

Project Activity	Potential Environmental Impacts	Proposed Mitigation Measures	Institutional Responsibilities (Implementation & Supervision)	Cost Estimates	Comments (e.g. secondary impacts)
Pre-Construction Phase					
Construction Phase					
Operation and Maintenance Phase					

II. Monitoring

Proposed Mitigation Measure	Parameters to be monitored	Location	Measurements (Incl. methods & equipment)	Frequency of Measurement	Responsibilities (Incl. review and reporting)
Pre-Construction Phase					
Construction Phase					
Operation and Maintenance Phase					

Annexes

- List of the professionals and organizations having contributed to the preparation of the ESIA Report
- List of consulted documents, including project-related reports
- Baseline data referred to in the Report
- Record of consultation meetings with stakeholders.

Deadline for submission of Expression of Interest: - June 30, 2025, at 3:00 pm

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