

# Emergency Agricultural Livelihoods and Climate Resilience Project

## CERC SUBCOMPONENT A.3:

### RESTORATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF FISHERIES LANDING SITES

## Environmental and Social Screening (ESS)

For the

## Stabilisation of Groin and Breakwater at Stowe Landing Site

December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024



## 1. Introduction

The Government of Dominica requested the activation of the second CERC from the Emergency Agricultural and Livelihoods and Climate Resilience Project. This was brought about by the onset of the global pandemic and Russia's invasion of Ukraine which has directly triggered increased food insecurity in Dominica.

An environmental and social screening was conducted on October 5<sup>th</sup> 2024, to identify risk associated with works for the Stowe Fish Landing Site. Works to be conducted at the Stowe includes stabilisation and restoring of the breakwater, minor stabilisation to the groin, construct concrete pavement around the Vending area and the Cooperative building and replacement of slipway gliders.

The objective of this screening was to identify the environmental, social, and health and safety impacts and risks associated with the proposed works at Stowe Fish Landing Site and identify what type of environmental assessment will be required, under the requirements of the Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) developed for the Project.

Stowe Fish Landing Site is located off the Southeast coast of Dominica. The landing site consists of a cooperative building and a Vending area. The Stowe Fisheries Inc. has a membership of 26 fishers (see ESS as annex 1).

Photo 1. Breakwater (parallel to shoreline) and Groin (perpendicular to shoreline) at Stowe



Photo # 2. Vending Area



Photo # 3. Cooperative Building



Photo # 4. Location of cooperative and vending building in relation to breakwater



## 2. Project description

A breakwater is an offshore structure made from either a concrete wall or rocks/boulders parallel to coast line that protects harbours or beaches from the force of waves. A groin is a rigid perpendicular structure built from an ocean shore or from a bank (in rivers) that interrupts water flow and limits the movement of sediment. The breakwater and groin stabilisation will provide a safe harbour for fishing vessels from the devastating and direct impact of the Atlantic Ocean currents, especially in times of weather disturbances. The breakwater is approximately 240 feet long and 30 feet wide. The breakwater will be approximately 5ft in height after being restored with rock/ boulders of varying sizes. The groin is approximately 60 ft long and extending to the sea starting from 15ft wide narrowing to 10 ft as it reaches the sea. Minimal stabilisation works will be done to the groin as it has already achieved its attainable height. The nature of works will be the same as that of the breakwater.

Traditionally, in the development of the breakwater, the rocks were not arranged in the correct order, thus the destruction caused to it during Hurricane Maria. Therefore, in the restoration of the breakwater the rocks will be reorganized larger boulders being placed on the ocean side of the breakwater, reducing the impact of incoming wave and the smaller rock will be placed on the shore line side of the breakwater thus receiving less wave impacts. With this new arrangement of placing rocks and boulders, no concrete will be used to stabilize the rocks/breakwater.

Approximately twenty (20%) of the rock will be collected from the neighbouring communities of Dubique and Stowe. The remaining eighty percent (80%) are available on the breakwater site. The rocks are loose, brought down from Tropical Storm Erika in 2015 and most recently Hurricane Maria in 2018. During these two natural disaster numerous boulders and other debris came down from the mountain side, these rocks will be used for restore the breakwater. No quarries will be engaged nor permit required for this project.

A limited amount of rocks will also be taken from the river bed within the same vicinity, where rocks hinders the free flow of water in times of heavy rainfall causing flooding of its banks. Rocks and boulders from the Stowe and Dubique will loaded by backhoe/excavators onto dump trucks then transported to the breakwater area. At the site of the breakwater the boulders will be dump off and placed based on size to allow for stable and compacted foundation. Excavators and backhoes will be used for the restoration of the breakwater primarily for arranging the rocks and boulders. Concrete will be used for the pavement leading to the fish vending area and Cooperative building. This small amount of concrete will be mixed manually or using a small cement mixer. The total duration of the restoration works is estimated at 4 months.

Photo # 5. Outer edge of the breakwater

Photo # 6. Surface of the breakwater



Photo # 7. Slipway gliders to be replaced

Photo # 8. Height of the breakwater



### 3. Environmental and Social Screening Checklist

Annex 1 presents the E&S Screening Checklist, as required under the ESMF. According to the checklist, the impacts and risks associated with the works to be conducted at the Stowe Fish Landing Site fall into the category of low potential risks, which are primarily temporary, localized and reversible. Therefore, this ESS also identifies the required mitigation measures to be adhered during the restoration and stabilisation of breakwater, stabilisation of rock groin, installation of slipway gliders to the existing concrete slipway and minor concrete pavement around the vending and cooperative building (see section below)

### 4. Risk and Impacts during Breakwater and Groin Stabilisation

According to the Environmental and Social Screening Checklist attached as Annex 1, the project's impacts and risks are described below:

#### 4.1 Water Quality

Impacts to the water quality will be localized in the immediate area of stabilisation activity. There will be an increase in turbidity and sedimentation when rocks are being stabilised. Rocks and boulders collected will have soil attached to their surface further increasing sedimentation in the vicinity of the stabilisation activity. These impacts are short term and negligible lasting a period of 4 months.

#### 4.2 Workers Health and Safety

Physical injuries are likely to occur, main accidents associated are slips and falls when traversing on the rock, especially when rocks covered with moss. The risk of accident occurring are low but the impacts of such can be significant. Drowning can occur in case a worker slips and falls into the rough Atlantic Ocean. Fishermen that stay at the landing site are primarily docking boat or preparing to go out at sea, both activities occurring in the late afternoon or early morning respectively. Therefore, with the rock stabilisation occurring during the day, works will not interfere with fisherfolks' activities.

#### 4.3 Noise and dust pollution

Noise pollution will be short term, 4 months project duration time and minor in impact, occurring only when heavy equipment is in operation. Noise pollution can affect hearing when it is more than 80 Decibels. Due the constant traffic moving rocks to the breakwater and groin site, there will be a certain degree of dust along the route the dump trucks are traversing. These impacts are short term and minor in nature.

#### 4.4 Traffic and Road Safety

The Stowe landing site though located along the main road, traffic is very slow on that part of the Island. Traffic may be impacted, primarily when heavy machinery, i.e when backhoe and dump trucks are loading rocks/boulder. Traffic congestion will be negligible and minor risk of traffic congestion may be encountered.

#### 4.5 Community Health and Safety

The neighbouring communities will be impacted by heavy machinery traversing the area between Stowe and Dubique during the transportation of boulders and rocks. Restoration works are expected to be short term lasting around 4 months with minimal risk and some of the impacts can be significant. Heavy

Machinery (dump trucks and excavators) can tip over due to loss of control or unbalanced loads and also cause collapse by putting pressure on the banks of ditches. These heavy machineries can also move uncontrollably and cause injury to workers or being crush by dump trucks and its tailgate. Material from dump trucks can fall and injury workers or passers-by.

## 5. Mitigation measures during Breakwater and Rock Groin Stabilisation

### 5.1 Water Quality

- Contractor must ensure that fuel containers used are tightly closed and stored in a secluded area to avoid spillage and entering into the marine environment.
- Contractor shall provide garbage bins on site to avoid workers from polluting the sea with domestic waste

### 5.2 Worker Health and Safety

- Workers need to wear non-slip shoes and other appropriate PPE's, such as life jackets in case of accidental falls in the sea.
- Contractor must conduct daily tool box briefing
- There must have a first aid kit on site at all times.

### 5.3 Noise and dust pollution

- Construction workers shall wear the necessary PPE such as ear muffs/plugs
- Contractors will need to wet the road to reduce dust, especially when it dry.

### 5.4 Traffic and Road Safety

- Contractor or employee must employ safe drivers with updated driver's license.
- The Contractor must coordinate with the traffic Department and maintain the free movement of traffic especially when loading and off-loading backhoe.
- The Contractor must erect road signs or cones to indicate construction works ahead and motorist need to slow down or reduce speed etc.

### 5.5 Community Health and Safety

- Truckers must dump boulders on level ground, avoid soft surfaces, and stay in the cab with your seatbelt on while dumping.
- Truckers must avoid overloading the truck bed and load boulders evenly on the truck
- Heavy Machinery Operators/Trucker should keep excavators/trucks as far back from the edge of the ditch as possible
- Workers must keep a safe distance from dump trucks and excavators.
- Truckers and Excavator Operators must scan frequently to be aware of their surroundings
- When traversing the main road, Truckers must pay attention to vehicles entering their blind spots
- Truckers must check for brake lights or other indicators that traffic is slowing
- Workers should use stairs or handrails when accessing dump truck
- Workers must keep step clean of mud and debris to reduce accidents associated with slippage
- Appropriate road signs alerting to works in progress should be in place

## 6. Risk and Impacts during construction of concrete pavement and replacement of slipway gliders

### 6.1 Workers Health and Safety

Physical injuries are likely to occur, mainly accidents associated are slips and falls when using jack hammers to remove gliders on the steep slipway. The risk of accident occurring are low but the impacts of such can be significant. Fishermen at the landing site are primarily docking boat or preparing to go out at sea, both activities occurring in the late afternoon or early morning respectively and should not coincide with construction works. The removal of the slipway gliders should not exceed 3 days.

### 6.2 Noise and dust pollution

Noise pollution will be short term, not exceeding 3 days and will occur when the jack hammer is being used. The degree of dust is minimal, short term not lasting more than 3 days primarily from the jack hammer removing the slipway gliders and mixing of concrete. Minimal amounts of dust will be generated when mixing concrete for the pavement around the Cooperative building and vending shed.

### 6.3 Waste disposal

After removal, plastic slipway gliders and empty cement bags if not disposed of properly and in a timely fashion may cause both land and water pollution.

## 7. Mitigation Measures during construction of concrete pavement and replacement of slipway gliders

### 7.1 Worker Health and Safety

- Workers need to wear non-slip shoes and other appropriate PPE's, such as ear plugs or ear muffs, goggles and gloves especially when operating the jack hammer.
- Hazard assessment must be conducted prior to the works: On any slope between 20-45 degrees, workers should ascend and descend using a hand line (guide rope) or a harness.
- Contractor must conduct daily tool box briefing
- There must have a first aid kit on site at all times.

### 7.2 Noise and dust pollution

- Construction workers shall wear the necessary PPE such as ear muffs/plugs and dust mask, hiking poles or harness, as appropriate.
- Contractors will need to wear a dust mask or respirator when operating the jackhammer and mixing of concrete.

### 7.3 Waste disposal

- Contractors must dispose of old plastic slipway gliders and other inorganic waste at the landfill in a timely manner. While on site, they must store in an adequate way, avoiding trips and falls, and according to good housekeeping practices.

## 8. Engagement of Fisherfolk

The Fisheries Officers for the respective fishing district, provides information as to works to be done, start date, expected completion dates and provides update to the Fishers. They are the liaison between the fisherfolks and the Project. Communications are also held with the Treasurer of Stowe Fisheries Inc.

## Annex 1: Environmental and Social Screening Checklist

The form below identifies potential risk during the stabilisation of the rock groin and breakwater at Stowe Landing Site. These works have low or negligible risk and impacts and as such mitigation measures are put in place to reduce risk and impacts.

### Section A: Background information

Subproject Name	CERC (CRW) Food Insecurity
Subproject Purpose	<input type="checkbox"/> New Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Expansion of existing structure <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Renovation of existing structure <input type="checkbox"/> Construction of waste disposal system
Subproject Location	Stowe Fish Landing Site
Subproject property ownership	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Government of the Commonwealth of Dominica <input type="checkbox"/> Own <input type="checkbox"/> Lease Agreement
Subproject current property use	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Administrative Office <input type="checkbox"/> Residential
Subproject Component	Restoration and stabilisation of Breakwater and Groin
Estimated Investment	
Expected Start/Completion Date	December 2024 to April 2025

### Section B: Construction Issues

Will the sub-project:	Yes	No
Demolish existing structures and require disposal of construction materials?		X
Demolish existing structures and require disposal of hazardous materials?		X
Involve the generation of a significant amounts of solid and liquid waste?	X	
Construction work generate emissions to the atmosphere (dust, odours, fumes)?		X
Construction work cause a noise nuisance due to the operation of heavy machinery and other on-site activities?	X	
Construction work produce significant amounts of runoff, change drainage patterns and/or erosion?		X
Construction work affect traffic or public safety?	X	
Cause physical changes in topography and land use?		X



If answers to any of the above is 'yes', please include an ESMP in sub-project implementation.

### Section C: Environmental Issue

Will the sub-project	YES	NO
Create a risk of increased soil erosion?		X
Create a risk of increased deforestation?		X
Create a risk of increasing any other soil degradation?		X
Affect soil salinity and alkalinity?		X
Divert the water resource from its natural course/location?		X
Cause pollution of aquatic ecosystems by sedimentation and agro- chemicals, oil spillage, effluents, etc.?		X
Introduce exotic/alien plants or animals?		X
Involve drainage of wetlands or other permanently flooded areas?		X
Cause poor water drainage and increase the risk of water-related diseases such as Dengue?		X
Reduce the quantity of water for the downstream users?		X
Result in the lowering of groundwater level or depletion of groundwater?		X
Create waste that could adversely affect local soils, vegetation, rivers and streams or groundwater?		X
Reduce various types of livestock production?		X
Focus on biomass/bio-fuel energy generation?		X

If answers to any of the above is 'yes', please include an ESMP in sub-project implementation.

### Section D: Socioeconomic Issues & Community Health and Safety

Will the sub-project:	YES	NO
Displace people from their current settlement?		X
Cause an influx of labour?		X
Interfere with the normal health and safety of the worker/community?	X	
Reduce the employment opportunities for the surrounding communities?		X
Reduce settlement (no further area allocated to settlements)?		X
Reduce income for the local communities?		X
Increase safety concerns due to introduction of the project?		X
Increase exposure of the community to communicable diseases such as HIV/AIDS?		X
Induce conflict?		X
Introduce new practices and habits?		X
Lead to child delinquency (school drop-outs, child abuse, child labour, etc.?)		X
Lead to gender disparity or gender-based violence?		X
Lead to poor diets?		X
Lead to social evils (drug abuse, excessive alcohol consumption, crime, etc.)?		X
Cause an increased exposure of the community to COVID-19?		X

### Section E: Natural Habitat

Will the sub-project:	YES	NO
Be located within environmentally sensitive areas (e.g., intact natural forests, mangroves, wetlands) or threatened species?  NB: If the answer is yes, the sub-project should prepare a Natural Habitats Plan (see ESMP).		X
Adversely affect environmentally sensitive areas or critical habitats – wetlands, woodlots, natural forests, rivers, protected areas including national parks, reserves or local sanctuaries, etc.)?  NB: If the answer is yes, the sub-project should not proceed.		X
Affect the indigenous biodiversity (flora and fauna)?  NB: If the answer is yes, the sub-project should not proceed.		X
Cause any loss or degradation of any natural habitats, either directly (through project works) or indirectly?  NB: If the answer is yes, the sub-project should not proceed.		X
Affect the aesthetic quality of the landscape?		X
Reduce people’s access to the pasture, water, public services or other resources that they depend on?		X
Increase human-wildlife conflicts?		X
Use irrigation system in its implementation?		X

NB: If the answers to any of the above is ‘yes’, please include an ESMP/Natural Habitat Management Plan with sub-project application

### Section F: Pesticides and Agriculture Chemicals

Will the sub-project:	YES	NO
Involve the use of pesticides or other agricultural chemicals, or increase existing use?		X
Cause contamination of watercourses by chemicals and pesticides?		X
Cause contamination of soil by agrochemicals and pesticides?		X
Experience effluent and/or emissions discharge?		X
Export produce? Involve annual inspections of the producers and unannounced inspections?		X
Require scheduled chemical applications?		X
Require chemical application even to areas distant away from the focus?		X
Require chemical application to be done by vulnerable group (pregnant mothers, chemically allergic persons, elderly, etc.)?		X

If the answer to the above is ‘yes’, please consult the IPMP that has been prepared for the project.

### Section G: Vulnerable and Marginalized Groups meeting requirements for OP 4.10

Are there:	YES	NO
People who meet requirements for OP 4.10 living within the boundaries of, or near the project?		X

Members of these VMGs in the area who could benefit from the project?		X
VMGs livelihoods to be affected by the subproject?		X
Affect vulnerable people and underserved groups (e.g., children, elderly poor pensioners, physically challenged, women, particularly head of households or widows, etc.)?		X
Require temporary relocation for a vulnerable population affected (children, physically challenged, elderly, minority group etc.)?		X

If the answer to any of the above is 'yes', please consult the IPP that has been prepared for the project.

### Section H: Land Acquisition and Access to Resources

Will the sub-project:	YES	NO
Require acquisition of land (public or private) (temporarily or Permanently) for its development?		X
Use land that is currently occupied or regularly used for productive purposes (e.g. gardening, farming, pasture, fishing locations, forests)?		X
Displace individuals, families or businesses?		X
Result in temporary or permanent loss of crops, fruit trees and Pasture land?		X
Adversely affect small communal cultural property such as funeral and burial sites, or sacred groves?		X
Result in involuntary restriction of access by people to legally designated parks and protected areas?		X
Be on monoculture cropping?		X

If the answer to any of the above is 'yes', please consult the mitigation measures in the ESMF, and if needs be adopt the ARAP guidelines.

### Section I: Proposed action

Summarize the above: Based on the above screening checklist results and the risk identified an ESMP will be developed.	(ii) Guidance
All the above answers are 'No'	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If all the above answers are 'No', there is no need for further action;</li> </ul>
There is at least one 'Yes'	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If there is at least one 'Yes', please describe your recommended course of action (see below).</li> </ul>

Project activities and actions with **low potential Environmental & Social risk** require no further safeguards actions.

Those with **moderate potential risk** will be managed using the general ESMF for the Emergency Agricultural Livelihoods and Climate Resilience Project (EALCRP), and will typically require that an ESMP be developed.

The risk associated with the works to be conducted at the Stowe Fish Landing Site falls into the category of low potential risk which is localized and reversible. Therefore, this environmental and

social screening was conducted, outlining the mitigation measures to be adhered during the stabilisation of the rock groin at Stowe Landing site.

## Annex 2. Sample Code of Conduct

### **EXAMPLE OF CONTRACTOR'S CODE OF CONDUCT** **ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL, HEALTH AND SAFETY**

#### ***Code of Conduct***

*Each personnel shall comply with the following:*

1. Carry out his/her duties competently, diligently and in accordance with best practice 2. Comply with applicable laws, rules, and regulations of the Country
3. Compliance with applicable health and safety requirements to protect the local community (including vulnerable and disadvantaged groups), and the Employer's Personnel, including wearing prescribed personal protective equipment [PPE], preventing avoidable accidents and a duty to report conditions or practices that pose a safety hazard or threaten the environment
4. Compliance with environmental requirements identified in the ESS including sewage waste management, traffic control, noise and dust pollution, and the disposal of construction wastes
5. Compliance with COVID-19 or other communicable diseases, Prevention Protocols of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment and other national guidance and related protocols
6. Compliance with applicable emergency operating procedures and health and safety requirements
7. Duty to report work situations suspected to be not safe or healthy and remove oneself from a work situation which is reasonably believed to presents an imminent danger to life or health. Each personnel must assume responsibility for his/ her own health and safety and should report any concerns immediately to the Project Manager/ Site Supervisor, Resident Engineer or ESHS Experts.
8. Respecting reasonable work/ site instructions (including regarding environmental and social norms). All our personnel are required to be aware of related work/ site instructions and are expected to comply. This is a condition of employment and subject to disciplinary measures if violated.
9. The use of illegal substances. Our Organisation has a zero tolerance for the use of illegal substances - all drugs, alcohol and any controlled substances or medicines. This may result in immediate dismissal if violated. If required, we are prepared to engage the services of a Medical Professional to perform testing for any illegal substances.

10. Sanitation requirements (for example, to ensure workers use specified sanitary facilities provided by their employer and not open areas). Adequate sanitary facilities and well-equipped handwashing stations are expected to be provided by the contractor on this project. It is also expected that the contractor will ensure that these facilities are frequently cleaned and sanitized. All project personnel, including the contractor's, are required to use these facilities and will be reminded of this should the need arise.
11. Non-Discrimination and respect in dealing with the Indigenous Peoples, the local community (including vulnerable and disadvantaged groups), the Employer's Personnel, the Contractor's Personnel and other related Project Personnel (for example on the basis of family status, ethnicity, race, gender, religion, culture, language, marital status, birth, age, disability, or political conviction). Any complaints received from communities or stakeholders will be investigated in accordance with the Project's Grievance Redress Mechanism (see Annex 2).
12. Sexual harassment (for example to prohibit use of language or behaviour, in particular towards women or children, that is inappropriate, harassing, abusive, sexually provocative, demeaning or culturally inappropriate) is strictly prohibited
13. Violence, including sexual and/or gender-based violence (for example acts that inflict physical, mental or sexual harm or suffering, threats of such acts, coercion, and deprivation of liberty) expressly prohibited.
14. Exploitation including sexual exploitation and abuse (for example the prohibition of the exchange of money, employment, goods, or services for sex, including sexual favors or other forms of humiliating, degrading behaviour, exploitative behavior or abuse of power) are expressly prohibited in our Organisation
15. Protection of children (including prohibitions against abuse, defilement, or otherwise unacceptable behavior with children, limiting interactions with children, and ensuring their safety in project areas)
16. Avoidance of conflicts of interest (such that benefits, contracts, or employment, or any sort of preferential treatment or favours, are not provided to any person with whom there is a financial, family, or personal connection)
17. Avoidance of issues associated with influx of labour, both social and environmental
18. Protection and proper use of property (for example, to prohibit theft, carelessness or waste). In accordance with our Organisation's Code each employee must ensure that their actions comply with and are within the meaning and intent of all applicable laws and regulations.
19. Duty to report violations of this Code. Each employee has a duty to report any violations or suspected violations of the code. The person by virtue of this Code will be protected from retaliation. Any reports of violations received will be investigated.
20. Non-retaliation against workers who report violations of the Code, if that report is made in good faith. Our Organisation is committed to the highest standards of good governance, transparency, honesty, integrity, and accountability. Any of our employees who report unethical conduct or

violation of the Code are protected from reprisal. Any reprisal or attempted reprisal against an employee who makes a report in accordance with the Code is considered to be in breach of the Code of Business Conduct. If any employee should feel that they have been discriminated against as a result of reporting unethical conduct or violation of the Code, there is an opportunity to report the discriminatory actions directly to the Company's Director.

### Annex 3. Grievance and Redress Mechanism (GRM)

#### Central Services Unit (CSU) GRM

The CSU has prepared a project-wide Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) to receive and facilitate the resolution of concerns and grievances associated with the Emergency Agricultural Livelihood and Climate Resilient Project and related activities to include the rock groin stabilisation at Stowe Landing Site to be addressed by the CSU Social Safeguards Officer. The GRM can be viewed in detail on the EALCRP PIU's website at <http://piu.agriculture.gov.dm/safeguards>.

The GRM will enable the CSU to address any grievances against this specific sub-project activity. It must be noted that this GRM covers grievances that relate to the impacts that the project may have on people and communities. The EALCRP PIU will be responsible for registering, tracking, addressing and resolving any grievances raised by individuals or groups. Grievances can be submitted to the EALCRP PIU: Complainants can call the EALCRP PIU at the main office at (767) 266 3998 or Social Safeguards Officer at 2751953. Once received the Project will acknowledge the grievance in writing or email, by the CSU Safeguards Team within five (5) working days of a grievance being submitted to the EALCRP PIU and high-level cases will be responded within 1020 working days.

The CSU Safeguards Team will communicate verbally, written form or email to the complainant, as well as contact the complainant to verify that the grievance has been resolved and also gather any feedback on the grievance process. Grievances under this GRM are classified as Level 1 (Low Risk), Level 2 (Substantial Risk) and Level 3 (High Risk). While all grievances are considered important and critical, Levels 2 and 3 are classified as high priority, with Level 3 being the highest priority. If the complainant is not satisfied with the resolution and/or does not agree with the proposed actions, the EALCRP PIU will need to escalate the matter to the Grievance Committee.