

# 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

## Rehabilitation and Upgrade of Mahaut Fish Landing Site

August 28<sup>th</sup> , 2024



## 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.

During the passage of Hurricane Maria, fish landings sites were significantly impacted. This is evident through the destruction of fish vending facilities, fish cooperative building and the slip ways. This CERC component seeks to enhance the fishing capacities through the preservation of fish by providing cold storage facilities and improved health and sanitation of vending areas.

This environmental and Social screening was conducted for the Mahaut landing sites on July 25<sup>th</sup> 2024.

## Mahaut Fish Landing Site

Mahaut Fish Landing site (Mahaut Jetty) is located off the central west coast of the Dominica in the village of Mahaut. It is bordered by the sea towards the west and the E. O LeBlanc Highway on the east side, to its south is a small ravine/Pringles Bay and the north a tertiary entrance to the fish landing area and also a Supermarket (Convenience Plus) beyond this road. The Mahaut Landing site consist of a jetty, slipway and the cooperative building. Mahaut Fisheries Cooperative has a membership of 50 fishers. The Cooperative building has a small storage area, one toilet, an office and an area designated for an ice machine. The intervention for Mahaut Fish Landing site includes the construction/renovation of a slipway and the construction of two toilets one male and one female and one shower for the fishermen to be used if the need arises. The vending area of the Mahaut Fish Landing site will accessible to persons with disability, specifically those are physically challenged. A slipway, also known as boat ramp is a ramp on the shore by which boats can be moved to and from the water. (see figure 2)

Figure 1. Site for the Washrooms



Figure 2. Slipway to be rehabilitated



## Impacts and Risk during Construction Phase

### **Site Access**

The Mahaut fish landing site is an area used by fishers, vendors and the community in general, access will be restricted only to the immediate construction area and not the Cooperative building.

### ***Proper disposal of construction waste and debris***

Construction waste generated will include wood scraps, metals and nails, which may cause injury to workers and will appear unsightly if not disposed of in a timely manner. Waste not managed properly can enter into the ravine or the sea negatively impacting aquatic.

### ***Sewage waste disposal***

Sewage waste not managed properly will enter the waterways increasing risk of infection to humans that may get into contact with the sea.

### ***Protection against dust and noise pollution***

Construction work will generate dust that can cause long term respiratory issues especially with workers suffering asthma and pre-existing respiratory ailments. Dust can also cause more acute symptoms such as sneezing and eye irritation. The risk associated with noise will be limited to the immediate construction site and will not disturb the neighbouring environs.

### ***Traffic Management***

The Mahaut Fish Landing Sites lies adjacent to the E.O Le Blanc Highway, construction activity may disrupt the flow of traffic and may cause accidents.

### ***Workers' Health and Safety Risks***

Even the small construction works planned will present standard health and safety risks to the workers, such as slip, trip and fall, manipulating equipment (cuts), accidents while manual material handling, struck-by accidents, chemical contamination (e.g., cement), etc.

## Mitigation measures during the construction phase

### **Site Access**

- The contractor must barricade the construction site to avoid customers, fishers and the general public from entering the construction area.
- Due to the nature of the construction works, there will be no impact to fishers conducting their normal vending activities.

### ***Proper disposal of construction waste and debris***

- The contractor shall dispose of material debris and solid waste in accordance with approved procedures of the Dominica Solid Waste Management Corporation (DSWMC).

- Construction wastes must be stockpiled away from coast and not pose safety hazards to construction workers, wastes must be stored in containers and removed from the site and taken to the Landfill on a regular basis; containers must not overflow and properly covered or tied.
- The Contractor shall collect and segregate wastes based on their classification and ensure disposal by the DSWMC.
- No burning of waste material

#### ***Sewage waste disposal***

- During Construction works the Contractor and Workers shall use the washroom facility at the Mahaut Fish Cooperative complex. The new washroom facility will utilize the same septic and soakaway system as the one currently being used. The Contractor must engage a professional plumber to ensure proper connection between the existing soakaway and the toilets pipes.

#### ***Protection against dust and noise pollution***

- Construction workers are required to wear dust mask, ear plugs or ear muff when using of electric drills, saws and when mixing cement to reduce the health issues associated with dust and noise respectively.

#### ***Traffic Management***

- 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 pouring concrete in the construction of the slipway.
- The Contractor must erect road signs or cones to indicate construction works ahead and motorist need to slow down or reduce speed etc.

#### ***Workers' Health and Safety Risks***

- The Contractor will be responsible for the safety of the workers, will be required to engage in good construction practices, including providing the appropriate PPE to all workers.

#### ***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. Communication with the President of the Mahaut Fisheries Cooperative revealed that there are other works planned to be conducted in the future at the Mahaut Fisheries Cooperative that are outside the scope of this Project, such as to create a vending area, establish an area where boats and fishing nets can be repaired. Another member also mentioned that there is a need to expand the cold storage area by reducing the space of the office. There are also plans of installing an ice machine, all these subprojects will be funded by other institutions.

## Annex 1: Environmental and Social Screening Checklist

The form below identifies potential risk during the Construction of the washroom and rehabilitation of the slipway at the Mahaut Landing Site. These works have low or negligible potential negative impacts and as such mitigation measures are not extensive as would have been from major construction works where the impacts are more significant.

### Section A: Background information

Subproject Name	CERC (CRW) Food Insecurity
Subproject Purpose	<input type="checkbox"/> New Structure <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Expansion of existing structure <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Renovation of existing structure <input type="checkbox"/> Construction of waste disposal system
Subproject Location	Mahaut Fish landing site and Vending area
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	Rehabilitation of Mahaut Fish Landing Site
Estimated Investment	
Expected Start/Completion Date	September 2024 to December 2024

### 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 Mahaut Fish Landing Site falls into the category of low potential risk which is localized and reversible. Therefore, this environmental and



social screening was developed, outlining the mitigation measures to be adhered during the rehabilitation of the slipway and construction of a washroom facility to include 1 male and 1 female toilet and a shower) at the Mahaut Landing site. (see Screening Checklist in Annex 1 and Mitigation Measures in Page 3 of this document)

## 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 present 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 hand-washing 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 renovation works at Mahaut Landing Site 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 10-20 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.