

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

Renovation of the Fond Cole and Newtown Fish Landing Sites

July 29th, 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 the Locker Room facility, the slip ways and the vending stalls. 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 Newtown and FondCole landing sites on July 25th 2024. Both Newtown and FondCole are small fishing communities located on the South west coast of the Island.

Newtown Fish Landing Site

The intervention for Newtown is the design and construction of a reinforced concrete roof over the fish vending area. The Newtown Fishing vending area is equipped with washroom facilities, concrete tables and is located adjacent to the Cooperative office, where ice, scales and other supplies are accessible to vendors. The Newtown Cooperative has a membership of 15, however only 8 members are regular users of the facility

Photo 1. Toilet facility



Photo 2. Concrete roof to replace tent



Fond Cole Fish Landing Site

At the Fond Cole fish vending site works include construction of an office space, washroom facility and storeroom, and transformation of the front of the building to incorporate an open concept fish vending area. Currently there are approximately 30 fishers using the vending site.

Photo 1. Exterior of fish vending area Photo 2. Interior fish vending area



Mitigation measures during the renovation phase

Site Access

- The contractor must barricade the construction site to avoid customers, fishers and the general public from entering the construction area.
- During the construction phase, it is proposed that a temporary vending area will be set up in front of the cooperative building using the tents as in the case of Newtown. Similarly, tents will be erected, and a few tables set up for vending at Fond Cole.

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 on a regular basis; containers must not overflow.
- 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

- For the construction of the septic tank and soakaway waste system in Fond Cole, the contractor must consult, seek guidance and receive **approval** from the Environmental Health Department **prior to construction**.

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.
- On dry days the Contractor shall wet the area to suppress dust

Safe use of Scaffolds and Ladders

- The Contractor must ensure a proper and stable footing of scaffold, safe and stable work platform with handrails and foot rails, and avoid overloading scaffolds.
- The Contractor must ensure that fall protection equipment such as body harness, vertical and horizontal life lines and guard rails are used when working on heights.
- Contractor must provide and ensure use of helmets, safety gloves and safety boots at all times
- Contractor and or employees must ensure safe access up and down the scaffold; if ladders and ramps are used ensure proper and stable footing.

Traffic Management

- The contractor or employee must employ competent 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 (Newtown).
- The Contractor must erect road signs to include *construction works ahead, slow down* etc. to warn and inform motorist of renovation works.

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. In communication with one of the fisherfolks in Fond Cole, specific mention was made to an open concept vending area. The Fisheries Officers for the respective fishing area plans to have discussion closer to construction date with the vendors on temporary location whilst construction is taking place.

Code of Conduct

The Contractor must establish a code of conduct for all employees or Sub Contactors engaged in the renovation works of the Fish Vending Sites. As part of the conditions of engagement, each employee on the fish vending sites renovation works is expected to sign an agreement indicating that they have: received a copy of the code of conduct, it had been explained to them, they acknowledged adherence to this Code of Conduct as a condition of employment; and understood that violations of the Code can result in serious consequences, up to and including dismissal, or referral to legal authorities. The Code of Conduct for the will be provided to each personnel on the project and will also be available in hard copy in the project office. (See Annex 2)

Grievance Redress Mechanism

The Contractor shall develop a method where the employees and sub-contractor can voice their opinion or file a complaint on matters affecting them on the job. Annex two provides a means of how contractors and their employees can report their complain to the Central Service Unit, in order for their concerns to be addressed.

Annex 1: Environmental and Social Screening Checklist

The form below identifies potential impacts during the rehabilitation of Fond Cole Fish Vending Site and Construction of a reinforced concrete root at Newton Fish Vending Site. These activities such as small construction or rehabilitation works has 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 visible.

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	Fond Cole and Newtown Fish Vending 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	Renovation/rehabilitation works at Fond Cole and Newtown 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'	• If all the above answers are 'No', there is no need for

	further action;
There is at least one 'Yes'	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If there is at least one 'Yes', please describe your recommended course of action (see below).

(iii) Recommended Course of Action

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.

Those with **moderate to substantial potential risk** will be managed using the tools in the general ESMF for the Emergency Agricultural Livelihoods and Climate Resilience Project (EALCRP) along with the additional safety guidance and information provided in this environmental and social screening.

The risk associated with the works to be conducted at the two fish landing sites falls into the category of low potential risk.

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 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 the Fish Vending Sites at FondCole and Newtown 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 acknowledged 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.