



Project Summary Information

Date of Document Updated: January 07, 2022

Project Name	COVID-19 Emergency Response and Health Systems Preparedness Project
Document Code	PD000378-PSI-MLD
Country	Republic of Maldives
Sector/Subsector	Other Infrastructure/Public Health Infrastructure
Status of Financing	Approved
Project Description	<p>This project is proposed to be supported under AIIB's COVID-19 Recovery Facility (Facility) and co-financed by the World Bank (WB).</p> <p>The project will have the following four components:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Emergency Response for COVID-19 Prevention: Procurement of essential protective equipment and other essential items to protect healthcare workers and patients; risk communication, community engagement and behavior change, including social distancing measures and associated mitigation strategies; (ii) Emergency Health System Capacity Strengthening for COVID-19 Case Management: Strengthening the centralized and decentralized health system capabilities for disease surveillance, case management and infection prevention and control; (iii) Implementation Management and Monitoring and Evaluation: Strengthening of public institutions for the coordination and management of the project, including central and regional arrangements for coordination of activities, financial management, procurement and social and environmental management; and (iv) Contingent Emergency Response Component: This zero-dollar component is being added to ensure additional flexibility in response to the current and any potential emergency that might occur during the lifetime of this project.
Objective	To respond to and mitigate the threat posed by COVID-19 and strengthen national systems for public health preparedness in the Maldives.
Expected Results	<p>The expected results of the project include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) the Government of Maldives (GOM) has activated its public health Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) or other coordination mechanism for COVID-19; (ii) Increased number of designated laboratories with COVID-19 diagnostic equipment, test kits, and reagents; and (iii) GOM adopted personal and community non-pharmaceutical interventions (school closures, telework and remote meetings, reduce/cancel mass gatherings).

<p>Environmental and Social Category</p>	<p>World Bank Category: Substantial Risk (equivalent to Category B if AIIB's ESP were applicable).</p>
<p>Environmental and Social Information</p>	<p>The proposed Project will be co-financed with the WB as lead co-financier, and its environmental and social (ES) risks and impacts have been assessed in accordance with the WB's Environment and Social Framework (ESF). To ensure a harmonized approach to addressing the ES risks and impacts of the Project, and as permitted under AIIB's Environmental and Social Policy (ESP), the WB ESF will apply to the Project in lieu of AIIB's ESP. AIIB has reviewed the WB ESF and is satisfied that: (i) it is consistent with the Bank's Articles of Agreement and materially consistent with the provisions of AIIB's ESP, including the Environmental and Social Exclusion List and the relevant Environmental and Social Standards; and (ii) the monitoring procedures that are in place are appropriate for the Project.</p> <p>Given the nature and potential of spread of the COVID-19 pathogen, the WB has categorized the ES risks of the project as Substantial (which is equivalent to Category B if AIIB's ESP were applicable). However, the project is expected to have mostly positive ES impacts, insofar as it should improve COVID-19 surveillance, monitoring, case management and containment, thereby preventing a wider spread of the disease.</p> <p>In accordance with the WB's ESF, an Environmental and Social Commitment Plan (ESCP) has been prepared by the Ministry of Health (MoH). To mitigate the ES risks and impacts of the Project, the MoH has prepared an Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) in line with World Health Organization (WHO) standards and guidelines on COVID-19 response. The ESMF also includes a Health Care Waste Management Plan (HCWMP).</p> <p>A Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) has been prepared and disclosed on March 24, 2020 and updated on May 22, 2020 by the MoH¹ and on the WB's external website². The MoH will use the SEP to engage citizens in locally used languages and for public information disclosure. The ESMP has been disclosed on the same websites of MoH and WB on March 26, 2020; the ESMF have been disclosed since May 22, 2020. The ES documents have also been disclosed on AIIB website³. The Executive Summary of the ESMF will be translated into Divehi language and disclosed soon.</p> <p>A project Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) has been prepared in line with the requirements of the WB's ESF and included in the SEP. A basic GRM will be developed for the workers to report any issues relating workplace safety and other concerns.</p>

¹ <http://health.gov.mv/Downloads/>

² <https://projects.worldbank.org/en/projects-operations/document-detail/P173801>

³ <https://www.aiib.org/en/projects/details/2020/approved/Maldives-COVID-19-Emergency-Response-and-Health-Systems-Preparedness-Project.html>

Cost and Financing Plan	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Loans</td> <td colspan="2">Amount (USD million)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>AiIB</td> <td colspan="2">7.3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>World Bank</td> <td colspan="2">7.3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td colspan="2">14.6</td> </tr> </table>			Loans	Amount (USD million)		AiIB	7.3		World Bank	7.3		Total	14.6	
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Borrower	The Republic of Maldives														
Project Implementation Entity	Ministry of Health														
Implementation Period	Start Date: July 15, 2020 End Date: June 30, 2023														
Expected Loan Closing Date	December 31, 2023														
Contact Points:	AiIB	World Bank	Borrower												
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Date of Concept Decision	April 2020														
Date of Appraisal Decision	June 2020														
Estimated Date of Financing Approval	June 2020														

Independent Accountability Mechanism	As noted above, WB's ESF will apply to this Project instead of AiIB's ESP. Pursuant to AiIB's agreement with the WB, AiIB will rely on the WB's corporate Grievance Redress Service (GRS) and its independent accountability mechanism, the Inspection Panel, to handle complaints relating to ES issues that may arise under the Project. Consequently, in
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	<p>accordance with the Bank's Policy on the Project affected People's Mechanism (PPM), submissions to the PPM under this Project will not be eligible for consideration by the PPM. Information on the WB's corporate GRS is available at https://projects.worldbank.org/en/projects-operations/products-and-services/grievance-redress-service. Information on the WB's Inspection Panel, is available at http://www.inspectionpanel.org.</p>
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