



**Federal Government of Somalia
Ministry of Energy and Water Resources**

TERMS OF REFERENCE (TOR)

Country:	Federal Republic of Somalia
Name of Project:	Somali Electricity Sector Recovery Project (SESRP) and Accelerating Sustainable and Clean Energy Access Transformation in Somalia (ASCENT Somalia) projects.
Project ID:	P173088
Assignment Title:	Environmental Safeguards Specialist
Type of Appointment:	Individual Consultant
Reference No.:	SO- MOEWR-399013-CS-INDV
Place of Assignment:	Mogadishu, Somalia

1. Background:

The Ministry of Energy and Water Resources (the Ministry) established a Project Implementation Unit (PIU) to carry out the day-to-day activities of project planning, coordination, and implementation of the Somali Electricity Sector Recovery Project (SESRP) and Accelerating Sustainable and Clean Energy Access Transformation in Somalia (ASCENT Somalia) projects. The Ministry intends to engage a consultant to work as Environmental Safeguards Specialist within the project PIU. These Terms of Reference define the scope of activities and responsibilities of the Environmental Safeguards Specialist.

2. Projects Overview:

The Government of Somalia has secured a grant from the World Bank to implement the Somali Energy Sector Recovery Project (SESRP) and the Accelerating Sustainable and Clean Energy Access Transformation in Somalia (ASCENT Somalia). The details of the projects are as follows:

a) The Somali Electricity Sector Recovery Project (SESRP)

The Project Development Objective of SESRP is to increase access to lower cost and cleaner electricity supply in the project areas and to reestablish the electricity supply industry.

The project comprises of four components:

- **Component 1** – Sub-transmission and distribution network reconstruction, reinforcement, and operations efficiency in the major load centers of Mogadishu and Hargeisa.
- **Component 2** – Hybridization and battery storage systems for mini grids.
- **Component 3** – Stand-alone solar off-grid access to public institutions (Health and Education).
- **Component 4** - Institutional Development and Capacity Building.

b) Accelerating Sustainable and Clean Energy Access Transformation in Somalia (ASCENT Somalia).

The Project Development Objective of ASCENT Somalia is to increase access to sustainable and clean energy through private sector participation in Somalia.

The ACENT Somalia project comprises three components:

- **Component 1** - Distributed Renewal Energy (DRE) with Solar PV (SPV) and Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) in the capital city of Mogadishu and other major load centers in the Federal Members States (FMS).
- **Component 2** - Electricity Distribution Network Rehabilitation and Reinforcement of the mini grids serving the Mogadishu capital city area and other FMS major load centers.
- **Component 3** - Sector Capacity and Institution Enhancement and Project Implementation Support.

3. Scope of Work for the Environmental Safeguards Specialist:

3.1. Objective of the Assignment:

The Environmental Safeguards Specialist is expected to work in close coordination with the Social Safeguards Specialist, the Gender Specialist, the Security advisor and other specialists within the PIU to support the implementation of the Environmental and Social Management Frameworks and other safeguards commitments of the Somali Electricity Sector Recovery Project “SESRP” and The Accelerating Sustainable and Clean Energy Access Transformation in Somalia (ASCENT Somalia).

The overall objective of the consultancy is to offer advisory and technical assistance to the Ministry of Energy and Water Resource to provide overall environmental management oversight during the implementation of the project, supporting and advising the PIU in addressing a variety of environmental, social, OHS and HSE issues at all the stages of the implementation of the project and provide environmental related training/awareness for each component of the project. The environmental safeguards specialist is expected to perform the following specific objectives:

- i. The Environmental Safeguards Specialist will be responsible to provide technical advice and support to the ministry of Energy and Water Resources with regard to the World Bank-financed SESRP and ASCENT Somalia project in line with World Banks safeguards policies and standards.
- ii. Environmental Safeguards Specialist will be responsible for providing technical support to the Ministry/PIU on the preparation of environmental safeguards, OHS documentations and monitoring and reporting on environmental safeguards implementation.
- iii. Developing and implementing environmental management plans and strategies to mitigate potential environmental risks associated with SESRP and ASCENT Somalia projects, while ensuring the highest standards of OHS and HSE are maintained.
- iv. Monitoring compliance with the Bank’s and Government environmental and social safeguards, regulations, and permit requirements, with a strong emphasis on OHS and HSE protocols.
- v. Ensuring that WBG- energy and water financed projects safeguards arrangements and procedures are carried out in accordance with applicable safeguards management policies, standards, procedures, and instructions.
- vi. Provision of direct and just-in-time technical environmental and social support to the Ministry of Energy and Water Resources project support service providers (consultant firms) to enable effectively carryout project activities and assignments.

3.2. Responsibilities:

The duties and responsibilities of the power engineer will include the following:

- i. Provide technical advice on environmental and social safeguards and support the ministry of Energy and Water Resources with regard to the World Bank-financed SESRP and ASCENT projects in line with World Bank safeguards policies. The environmental specialist will also identify gaps in risk profiling, compliance, and propose measures to enhance compliance, ensuring effective and efficient engagement of the Ministry on environmental and social policy frameworks.
- ii. Conduct environmental impact assessments (EIAs), EHS audits and safety evaluations to identify potential occupational health hazards and environmental risks associated with the project's sites, operations, and technologies.
- iii. Ensure that the legal and binding commitments for the prudent management of project level environmental risks and impacts, as enumerated in the project's Environmental and Social Commitment Plan, are implemented, and also Implement safeguards related commitments activities as outlined in the Environmental and Social Commitment Plan and Management framework (ESCP & ESMF) of the projects.
- iv. Carry out citizen engagement, maintaining adequate stakeholder engagement and grievance redress mechanism and ensuring that private sector entities maintain the same at their level including liaison with CBOs, NGOs and project affected communities.
- v. Prepare necessary documents, such as environmental guidelines and tools in consultation with stakeholders and help the PIU in commissioning and managing additional and/ or special studies/assessment, if necessary.
- vi. Preparation and submission of environmental impact assessments, mitigation plans, and compliance reports to the ministry and the Bank, ensuring OHS and HSE compliance is integral to these reports.
- vii. Provide technical oversight to consultants and service consultant firms in the preparation of environmental safeguard instruments, including site-specific Environmental and Social Assessment and Management Plans (ESMPs) and guidance on OHS and HSE standards, emphasizing safe work practices and the mitigation of workplace hazard.
- viii. Provide technical expertise on key issues related to environmental assessment on sustainability risks in the design, preparation, implementation, and supervision of SESRP and ASCENT operations.
- ix. Provide support in supervision and monitoring of projects on the SESRP and ASCENT projects portfolio in compliance with the applicable World Bank Policies/guideline and environmental requirements on a regular basis, which may include, overseeing environmental analysis of elevated risk clients, recommending risk mitigation measures where necessary.
- x. Resolving environmental issues in case of non-compliance, and where needed, preparing a time-bound environmental action plan with specific follow-up procedures.
- xi. Training of the project stakeholders, peers and clients on environmental awareness and management, as necessary.
- xii. Review subproject and activity plan, design, cost, and bid documents to ensure environmental factors and mitigations are incorporated, and subproject/ activity documents and environmental documents are in harmony.
- xiii. Carry out site supervisions during implementation of subprojects, monitor and evaluate the implementation of OHS and HSE standards, providing regular reports on compliance and suggesting corrective actions if necessary, and provide feedback to the PIU Coordinator.
- xiv. Create and deliver environmental awareness and safety training for project personnel, with a strong emphasis on OHS and HSE protocols.
- xv. Prepare regular reports on the project's environmental performance and submit to MoEWR and the Bank's E&S teams.

- xvi. Provide technical assistance in the areas of environment and social safeguards in other World Bank supported projects under the energy and water portfolio (Horn of Africa Initiatives, ground water projects and other regional projects).
- xvii. Support the establishment and operationalization of the environmental and social management system (ESMS) for the Ministry of Energy and Water Resources.
- xviii. Any other duties as may be assigned by the Project Coordinator and the Director General of the Ministry of Energy and Water Resources.

4. Qualifications and Experience Requirements:

The candidate should have the following desired qualifications and experience:

- i. A bachelor's degree in environmental science, environmental engineering, environmental management, or a closely related field is required. A master's degree in a relevant discipline will be an added advantage.
- ii. International General Certificate in Occupational Health and Safety Occupational Health and Safety or equivalent is an added advantage.
- iii. 7 years of progressive experience in conducting Environmental Impact Assessment and Analysis, environmental impact assessments, developing, and implementing Environmental Management Plans (EMPs), and managing Health, Safety, and Environment (HSE) measures on development projects, especially in the context of energy projects.
- iv. Minimum of 5 years' experience working with Government Institutions and in development projects funded by multilateral agencies such as the World Bank, African Development Bank (AfDB) and other international organizations in the implementation of E&S related instruments.
- v. Significant practical experience with the World Bank safeguard policies/ESF and/or IFC Performance Standards evidenced from similar work carried out in the past works.
- vi. Knowledge of Environmental and Social issues and conditions for transmission line, distribution and networks and Renewable Energy projects
- vii. Relevant experience in OHS, and HSE compliance for development projects, with a proven track record of managing safety compliance processes.
- viii. Proficiency in developing and implementing OHS and HSE plans and protocols, including risk assessments, safety audits, and emergency response procedures.
- ix. Significant practical experience with the World Bank safeguard policies/ESF and/or IFC Performance Standards evidenced from similar work carried out in the past works.
- x. Excellent written and verbal communication skills, including the ability to engage with stakeholders and communicate complex environmental issues effectively.
- xi. Understanding of Somalia's unique context
- xii. Fluency in oral and written Somali and English
- xiii. Readiness to work in multi-cultural and fast – paced environment meeting tight deadlines.

5. Assignment Location:

The Environmental Safeguards Specialist will be based in the PIU office at the Ministry of Energy and Water Resources Headquarters in Mogadishu and will be expected to regularly meet and support the Project Coordinator. The consultant may also be called upon to undertake any other duties as determined by the Project coordinator, including attending more program-wide meetings.

6. Time frame and Reporting:

The consultant will be engaged for a period of three (3) years subject to the continued of the services and satisfactory annual performance evaluation.

The consultant will report to the SESRP/ ASCENT Project coordinator at the Minister of Energy and Water Resources and work closely with the World Bank Project Environmental and Social Safeguard's Team for guidance and advice.

7. Inputs/facility provided by the Client:

The client will provide office space with necessary furniture and other facilities such as printing facility etc. to enable the consultant to perform day-to-day work. The Client shall also provide soft and hard copies of any existing relevant Finance documents e.g., manuals if any on signing of the contract.