

Tashkent Solar PV and BESS Project Republic of Uzbekistan

Stakeholder
Engagement Plan

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ABBREVIATION	MEANING
AIIB	Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank
AoI	Area of Influence
BESS	Battery Energy Storage System
CDM	Clean Development Mechanism
CEEC	China Energy Engineering Corporation
CESMP	Construction Environmental & Social Management Plan
CH	Critical Habitat
CHA	Critical Habitat Assessment
CLOs	Community Liaison Officers
COD	Commercial Operation Dates
DEG	German Investment Corporation
DFIs	Development Finance Institutions
DoD	Depth of Discharge
EBA	Endemic Bird Areas
EBRD	European Bank for Reconstruction and Development
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EMS	Energy Management System
EPFIs	Equator Principles Financial Institution
ESG	Environmental and Social Governance
ESIA	Environmental and Social Impact Assessment
ESMS	Environmental and Social Management System
FGD	Focus Group Discussions
GBV	Potential Gender-Based Violence
GIIP	Good International Industry Practice
HGVs	Heavy Goods Vehicles
HSSE	Health Safety Security and Environmental
HVAC	Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning
IFIs	International Financial Institutions
IPs	Indigenous Peoples
IsDB	Islamic Development Bank
JSC the	Joint-Stock Company
KBA	Key Biodiversity Areas
KIIs	Key Informant Interviews
LALRP	Land Acquisition and Livelihood Restoration Plan
LGA	Local Government Authorities
LILO	Loop-In-Loop-Out
LLA	Land Lease Agreement

ABBREVIATION	MEANING
MDAs	National Ministries, Departments, and Agencies
MEEPCC	Ministry of Ecology, Environmental Protection and Climate Change
NEGU	National Electric Grid of Uzbekistan
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organizations
NTS	Non-Technical Summary
O&M	Operation and Maintenance
OESMP	Operational Environmental & Social Management Plan
OTL	Overhead Transmission Line
PAC	Project-Affected Communities
PAs	Protected Areas
PICs	Project Information Centres
PPA	Power Purchase Agreement
PPP	Public-Private Partnership
PSs	IFC Performance Standards
PV	Photo-Voltaic
SCADA	Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition
SCMP	Supply Chain Management Plan
SEA	Sexual Exploitation and Abuse
SEE	State Environmental Expertise
SEP	Stakeholder Engagement Plan

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Rationale and Roadmap

Uzbekistan is amongst the fastest growing economies in the Central Asian region, with an increasing demand for energy. By 2018, the country's power consumption reached 50 million TWh, and the domestic demand for power has been projected to rise at an annual rate of 4%, due to continued population growth and industrial expansion.

The steady uptrend in power consumption, declining yield of aged power plants and emergent climatic pressures have led to unprecedented power supply shortages, particularly within the regions of Tashkent, Andijan, Namangan, Ferghana, Samarkand, and Surkhandarya. In December 2022, severe grid congestion ensued from widespread spikes in electrical demand for domestic heating under extreme winter temperatures, culminating in a series of power blackouts across Tashkent Region. The emerging power crisis in Uzbekistan has prompted an urgent agenda for the development of the country's renewable energy base. This movement falls in line with the country's policy shift towards decarbonization and a greener economy.

On 19 March 2023, the Joint-Stock Company (JSC) National Electric Grid of Uzbekistan (NEGU) entered into a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) with ACWA Power (hereinafter Project Developer), for the fast-track development and operation of a 200-megawatt (MW) PV plant and a 500-megawatt hour (MWh) Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) in Tashkent Region. The agreement will be executed over a period of 25 years and 20 years from the Commercial Operation Dates (COD) for the PV plant and BESS components respectively. Upon the completion of the agreement term, the project facilities will be handed over to the off-taker (NEGU) for subsequent operation and maintenance (O&M).

To this end, the project company, ACWA Power Riverside Solar LLC, was nationally registered on 23 March 2023. With the project planning in progress, The Project Developer is seeking international financing from Development Finance Institutions (DFIs) including the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), German Investment Corporation (DEG), Islamic Development Bank (IsDB), and Proparco/ French Development Agency (AFD) (hereinafter Project Lenders).

To ensure comprehensive planning and permitting, in keeping with applicable E&S appraisal criteria, the Project Developer has commissioned 5 Capitals (hereinafter the Consultant) to undertake a bankable Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) for the Project.

The Consultant has engaged Juru and NBT as local sub-consultants in the delivery of the national EIA and support on certain elements of the bankable E&S impact assessment studies.

1.2 Requirements for Stakeholder Engagement

The project will involve the greenfield development of two major facilities for the generation and storage of electricity within two peri-urban districts in Tashkent Region. The Project Developer is seeking project finance from a number of Development Finance Institutions (DFIs). The operations and activities of these DFIs are guided by E&S policies that serve to mainstream the identification, assessment and management of the E&S risks associated with investment projects, in furtherance of sustainable development.

The commitment towards ensuring environmental and socioeconomic sustainability of development projects is enshrined numerous international conventions and DFI performance benchmarks addressing topical developmental issues, such as biodiversity conservation, pollution control, climate change, preservation of cultural heritage, protection of human rights, public participation in decision-making and access to information. This commitment is also founded on the principles of transparency, accountability and good governance, which underpin the mandates of the DFIs in relation to their partners, clients and stakeholders (including project-affected communities).

As set out in the broad-based international accords and industry guidelines, stakeholder engagement is a fundamental element of sustainable and socially responsible development planning and implementation. In the context of E&S risk identification, assessment, responsive mitigation planning and related monitoring, stakeholder consultation and participatory planning is aimed at leveraging expert and local knowledge and minimizing the E&S risks of projects. The disclosure of project information at all stages of project development also delivers on stakeholders' rights to information access in development planning, and alongside meaningful and consultative dialogue, builds stakeholder buy-in for specific investments.

The inclusion of stakeholders in project development is therefore crucial to minimizing E&S risks, creating sustainable and equitable project benefits for potential beneficiaries, and addressing legal, financial, and reputational risks associated with failure to meet relevant project development objectives, host country regulatory requirements and DFI mandates. As such, the Project's E&S appraisal and related stakeholder engagement processes are inextricably linked processes that should be undertaken in parallel. Accordingly, the Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) presented herein will serve to guide meaningful and

differential stakeholder consultation and disclosure over the course of project delivery (i.e., project planning, construction, and operational phases).

The legal context for project-level stakeholder engagement is presented in Section 2.1 of this document.

1.3 Objectives of the SEP

Stakeholder engagement amongst the key requirements for the conduct of the Project's ESIA, under national law and the project lenders' E&S performance standards. According to these instruments, a meaningful and adaptive stakeholder engagement process which begins at reasonably early stages of project planning and continues throughout subsequent stages of project implementation, is intended to fulfil the following E&S performance objectives:

- To establish a participatory, informative and transparent dialogue with parties with the potential to influence the project and/or become affected by the project, as well as constituencies with an interest in the outcome of the project.
- To leverage and integrate local and expert knowledge in the identification and assessment of E&S impacts, subsequent optimization of the project design and effective mitigation planning.
- To establish community buy-in and ensure the delivery of sustainable project benefits to targeted beneficiaries.

Stakeholder engagement is a 'live' process that must be organized by means of a dedicated and documented Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP).

1.4 Scope of the SEP

The SEP set out in this document has been developed with the aim of guiding various stakeholder engagement activities for the Project, in line with regulatory requirements and relevant E&S standards observed by the Project Lenders, notable the EBRD Performance Requirements (EBRD PRs), Equator Principles (EPs), and by extension the IFC Performance Standards (IFC PSs). The SEP will apply to all the planned facilities constituting the Project in its entirety, as outlined below:

- The 200 MW solar (PV) power plant in Yuqorichirchik District.
- The 500 MWh BESS facility in Parkent District.
- The 220 kV (underground) interconnection cable.
- The 220 kV Loop-In-Loop-Out (LILO) Overhead Transmission Line (OTL).

In accordance with the E&S impact assessment requirements detailed in the EBRD PR1 and the IFC PS1, the SEP provides for stakeholder dialogue in relation to potential E&S impacts within the totality of Project's Areas of Influence (AoI). As such, the SEP is tied to the above-listed main and associated facilities, and to the host of enabling/ auxiliary facilities identified in the Project's ESIA.

Further, as detailed in Section 5 of this Plan, stakeholder engagement activities in the purview of the SEP include the following:

- Various modes of consultation (i.e., formal consultative correspondence, focus group discussion, key informant interviews etc.).
- Various modes of disclosure (i.e., community meetings, written notices and disclosure of E&S safeguard documents).
- Management of external grievances (i.e., collection of project related grievances on various E&S topics, including human rights, and responsive action).

Considering the foreseeable evolution of the project activities at different stages of implementation, potential changes in the Project's legal framework and various socioeconomic dynamics, the SEP is a live management plan. The Plan will be adapted to changing conditions and outcomes of the Project's ESIA, subsequent E&S monitoring and any follow-up E&S impact assessment processes, in conformity with national regulations and compliance obligations set by the Project Lenders. Upon the completion of the ESIA, the SEP will integrate into the Project's broader Environmental and Social Management System (ESMS) and updated accordingly.

1.5 Structure of the SEP

The presentation of the Project's SEP within this document is structured as follows:

1. Introduction
 - Objectives of the SEP
 - Project Background
 - Scope of the SEP
2. Project Overview
 - Project Location
 - Project Description
 - Project Construction Requirements
 - Project Operation Requirements
 - Local Context and Sensitivities

3. Regulations and Requirements
 - National Requirements
 - Lender Requirements
4. Stakeholder Identification and Analysis
 - Approach to Stakeholder Identification
5. Stakeholder Engagement Program
 - Engagement Methods
 - Disclosure of E&S Documents
 - Measures to avoid Reprisal
 - Stakeholder Engagement During Construction and Commissioning
 - Stakeholder Engagement During Operation
6. Grievance Mechanism
 - Key Principles of Grievance Mechanism
 - Scope of Grievance Mechanism
 - Steps in Managing Grievance Mechanism
 - Grievance Mechanism in Construction and Commissioning Phase
 - Grievance Mechanism in Operational Phase
 - Grievance Procedures for Women and Vulnerable and Disadvantaged Groups
 - Grievance Mechanism Contact Details
 - Process Flow and Timeline
 - Project Information Centre
 - Training
7. Implementation Plan
 - Roles and Responsibilities
 - Monitoring & Reporting
8. Review
9. Appendices

2 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

2.1 Key Project Information

Table 2-1 Key Project Information

PROJECT TITLE	Tashkent Solar PV and BESS Project
PROJECT DEVELOPER	ACWA Power
PROJECT COMPANY	ACWA Power Riverside Solar LLC
OFF TAKER	JSC National Electric Grid of Uzbekistan
EPC CONTRACTOR	China Energy Engineering Corporation (CEEC)
O&M COMPANY	NOMAC
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANT	5 Capitals Environmental and Management Consulting (5 Capitals) PO Box 119899, Dubai, UAE Tel: +971 (0) 4 343 5955, Fax: +971 (0) 4 343 9366 www.5capitals.com
	Juru Consulting LLC Chust Str. 10, 100077, Tashkent, Uzbekistan Tel: +998 71 202 0440, Fax: +998 71 2020440 Nazar Business and Technology LLC, registered in the Uzbekistan and having its principal place of business at 14 Bekarik Street, Suite 7, Yakkasaray district, Tashkent City, Uzbekistan
POINT OF CONTACT	Ken Wade (Director), Ken.wade@5capitals.com

2.2 Project Location

The Project consists of two main components, namely the Photo-Voltaic (PV) power station and the Battery Energy Storage System (BESS). The PV plant and the BESS facility are situated 3.5 km apart, within Yuqorichirchik District and Parkent District respectively. Both districts are located within Tashkent Region. The overall project location lies about 20 km from Tashkent City.

The collector sub-station that will be located within the PV plant site will export generated power to an adjacent 220kV Overhead Transmission Line (OTL), which extends along the southern and eastern boundary of the PV plant site towards an existing sub-station situated 700 metres south of the BESS site. The collector sub-station will be connected to the grid by a Loop-In-Loop-Out (LILO) connection measuring a length of about 200 metres.

The locations of the planned PV plant and BESS facilities relative to those of the existing 220kV OTL and sub-station are shown in figure 2-1 below.

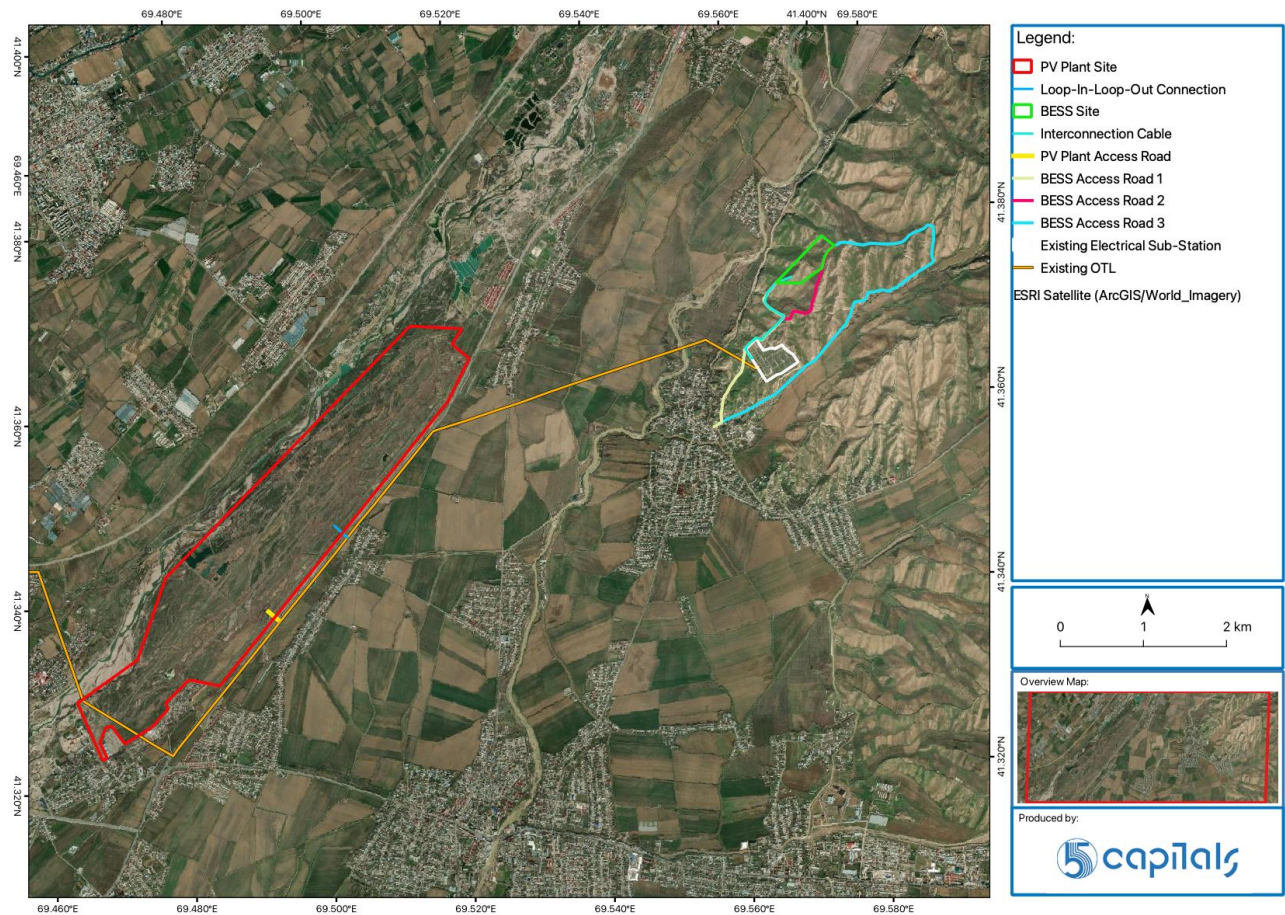


Figure 2-1 Location of the planned PV plant and BESS relative to existing OTL and sub-station

The GPS coordinates for the PV plant and BESS sites are provided in the table below.

LATITUDE	LONGITUDE
PV plant site	
41.325191°	69.470523°
41.330067°	69.464979°
41.365295°	69.522204°
41.369126°	69.514002°
BESS site	
41.366310°	69.563611°
41.365157°	69.562050°
41.363517°	69.569715°
41.361561°	69.564812°

2.3 Existing Land-Use and Land Acquisition

A total of two land parcels will be acquired for the development of the Project's temporary and permanent facilities. The hectareage of these plots is outlined in Table 2-2, and information on the tenure and current use of the land is presented further below.

Table 2-2 Overview of the land take for the project facilities

PROJECT SITE	SIZE (HA)
PV plant and collector sub-station	655
BESS facility	16

An additional area of land will be acquired on an easement basis, for the development of a 220 kV OTL and an underground interconnection cable, which measure a total length of 200 metres and 1.56 kilometres respectively.

2.3.1 PV plant and sub-station site

2.3.1.1 Land ownership

The plot of land designated for the development of the PV plant facilities, including the collector sub-station is under the ownership of the Joint Stock Company (JSC) Uzsuvtaminot, which is a utility company providing water supply and sewerage services within Tashkent Region.

2.3.1.2 Land use

Sections of the land within the PV plant site are currently utilized for surface water treatment, groundwater recharge and the abstraction of groundwater, for potable water supply to service areas within Tashkent region. The site is understood has been utilized for water supply since 1955 and caters to about a third of the population of Tashkent City.

On 28th April 2023, a joint meeting and site visit was held between the representatives from Project developer, Uzsuvtaminot and the hydrological survey team from Juru Limited. Subsequently, Uzsuvtaminot issued an inventory of the water supply facilities resident within the site, as well as regulatory source protection zones (buffers) for each category of operational facilities. Due to its sensitivity, exhaustive information on the utility assets was not disclosed for the purposes of the ESIA study. Nevertheless, ESIA-stage consultations with local engineers from Uzsuvtaminot indicated that the main resident facilities include the following:

- A concrete fence running along the northern, eastern and southern perimeter of the site. The entry gate and access road to the site is located along the eastern side of the site, which is located close to the 4R-12 highway.
- Administrative buildings, sanitary facilities and guard posts.
- A total of 63 groundwater wells, of which 48 are operational and 15 are on standby.
- One feeder canal channelling water from an upstream section Chirchik River.
- A total of 28 retention ponds, most of which are dilapidated and out of use.
- A number of water infiltration channels.
- Pumping stations and pipework.
- Auxiliary assets, including internal water distribution pipes and electrical cables.

The consultations further indicated that Uzsuvtaminot has arranged for severely degraded facilities (in disuse) and has sought the Project developer's assistance in the upgrade of a few existing facilities, and the establishment of several new infiltration ponds and channels.

The perimeter of the site is fenced on all fronts, except the western boundary, which is situated nearby Chirchik River. Access to the site is strictly prohibited, and security personnel are stationed across the area. No other land usages were observed within the site, and no private property is located in the area.



Figure 2-2 Uzsuvtaminot administrative offices (left) and pump station (right) within the PV plant site

As the original holder of land within the PV plant site, Uzsuvtaminot provided a non-objection statement (as part of the national EIA), to allow for limited acquisition of unused land for the development of the Project. Nevertheless, considering that Uzsuvtaminot will continue to utilize a significant fraction of land interspersed with the project facilities, a joint Site

Management Plan will be established to ensure due coordination on the management of HSSE risks and impacts, initially during construction, and subsequently during operations.

Some of the compulsory avoidance and mitigation measures to prevent contamination impacts on water resources in and around the site, H&S accidents, as well as various form of property damage, over the course of the Project's construction and operation phases, include the following:

- Establishment of a Site Management Plan, which will (i) delimit land areas designated for the two different land usages (including internal access roads and walkways) and (ii) establish a basis for joint and respective roles and responsibilities, with regard to the management of HSSE risks and impacts (i.e., including contingencies, such as spills, fire outbreak and floods)).
- Demarcation of the water supply and power supply system footprints and their respective buffer zones/ setbacks (i.e., sanitary protection zone, grid security zones specified in relevant laws or prescribed by competent authorities on ad-hoc basis).
- Mandatory restriction of activities and facilities that pose potentially detrimental and/or catastrophic impacts on the existing water supply utility assets, operations and associated impacts on human health. Key proscribed activities include (but are not limited to):
 - The bulk on-site storage of hazardous materials (e.g., fuels).
 - On-site maintenance of heavy machinery.
 - Encroachment of sanitary buffers for water sources and waterworks.
 - Earthworks within the riverine buffer of Chirchik River.
 - Provision of site access to unauthorized entities.
 - Littering and inappropriate disposal of waste, including open burning.
 - Establishment of construction-enabling facilities (i.e., warehouses, laydown areas and EPC Contractor staff offices) within central or riparian locations on the site.
 - Uncontrolled use and blockage of internal access roads for O&M activities by Uzsuvtaminot.
 - Institution of common/ overarching agreement on management plans and procedures managing mutual health, safety risks, and security risks, as well emergency preparedness and response.
 - Monitoring and auditing to rectify non-conformances pertaining to the management of HSSE risks and impacts.

The main land-uses noted within 500 meters of the site boundaries include commercial establishments located along the southern and south-western bounds, the 4R-12 highway east of the site, a cluster of aquacultural ponds located a distance away from the northern

boundary, an underground gas pipeline north of the site, and an existing 200kV OTL running the southern and south-western boundaries.



Figure 2-3 Existing OTL within the PV plant site (left) and Chirchik River close to the site (right)

2.3.2 BESS site

2.3.2.1 Land ownership

Prior to the commencement of the Project, land within the BESS site was placed under the ownership of the Cultural Heritage Agency (CHA) of Uzbekistan, as part of a wider tract measuring a total area of 179 hectares. However, following the issue of the Presidential Resolution to provide for the Project, the Cultural Heritage Agency returned the undeveloped land to the land reserves of the Tashkent Regional Khokimiyat (administration), following the completion of a pre-construction archaeological survey to confirm the absence of any tangible cultural heritage resources within the area.

2.3.2.2 Land use

The site designated for the establishment of the BESS is undeveloped, and no farmland, built-up structures, utility assets or water sources are present within the area. Site visits and consultations with local authorities and community leadership indicated that the BESS site is utilized for herding on a regular basis.



Figure 2-4 Pasture field within the BESS site (left) and the existing sub-station south-west of the area (right)

A large portion of the landscape surrounding the BESS site is utilized for grazing, and herds of cattle were encountered during field reconnaissance. A patchwork of actively farmed land extends across the middle section, western, eastern, and southern extremities of the surrounding area. Agricultural production sighted nearby the site includes the cultivation of wheat, apple trees and plum trees.



Figure 2-5 Fallow land and fruit tree orchards within areas surrounding the BESS site

2.4 Identification of E&S Impact Receptors

A preliminary identification of potential E&S receptors (i.e., Valued Environmental Components) located within 3 kilometres of the PV plant and BESS plot boundaries was carried out based on the examination of satellite imagery, early site visits, and progressive consultations with key stakeholders. The general Area of Influence (Aol) was set to 3 km considering the maximum Aol, which is expected for the majority of potential direct impacts associated with the main project facilities.

The land-uses and potential E&S receptors around the PV plant are shown in the figure below.

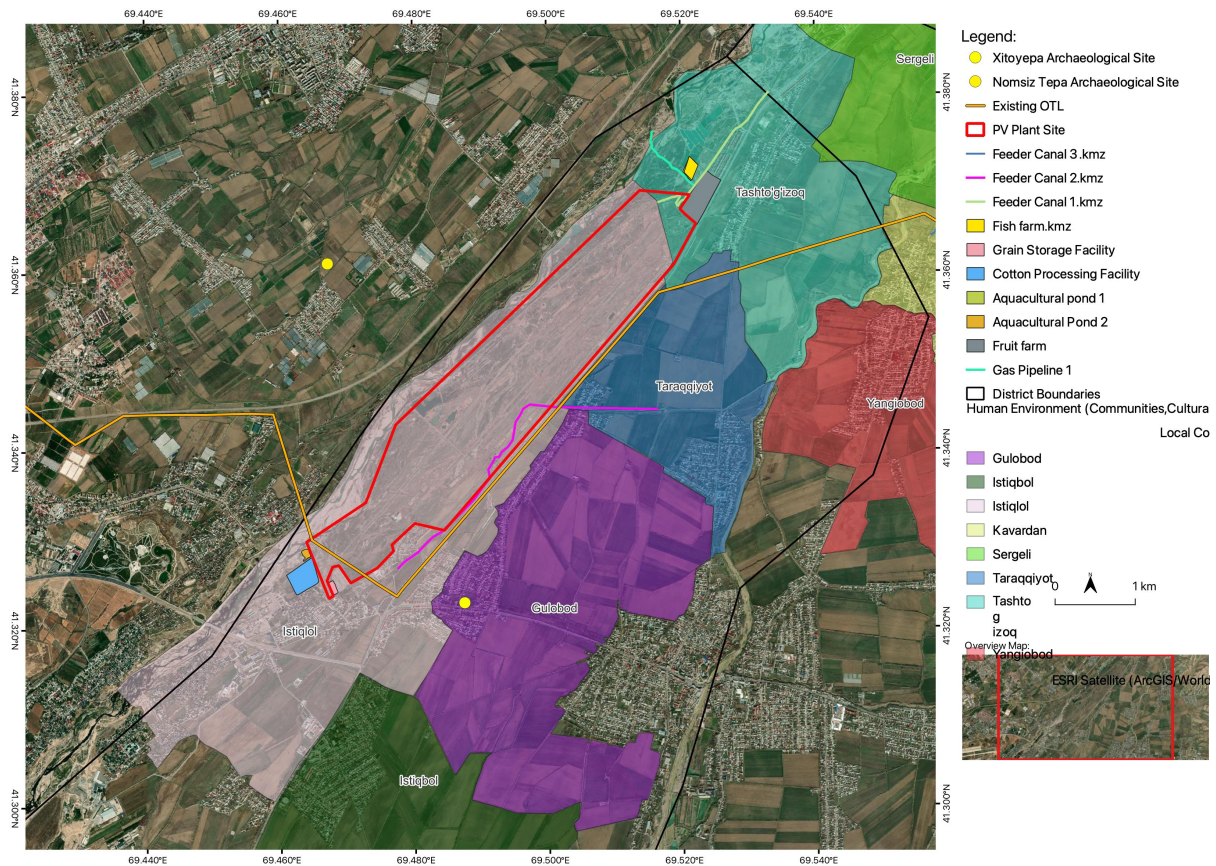


Figure 2-6 Overview of potential E&S impact receptors within 3 kilometres of the PV plant site

Table 2-3 below provides further information on the E&S receptors identified within the general AoI of the PV plant site, with respective summary descriptions and locations relative to the boundaries of the project footprints.

Table 2-3 Overview of potential E&S impact receptors within 3 kilometres of the PV plant plot boundaries

RECEPTOR TYPE	PROXIMITY TO PROJECT SITES	DESCRIPTION
Uzsuvtaminot water supply facilities	Within the project site	Boreholes, piping, pumping stations, infiltration channels and retention ponds, electrical cabling, administrative buildings and sanitary facilities operated by Uzsuvtaminot.
Chirchik River	100 metres west	Chirchik River channel located an average of 100 meters from the western site boundary.
Feeder canal 1	Within the project site	Feeder canal channelling water from an upstream section of Chirchik River.

RECEPTOR TYPE	PROXIMITY TO PROJECT SITES	DESCRIPTION
Feeder canal 2	Within the project site	Feeder canal channelling water from Karasu River, which stems from an upstream section of Chirchik River.
Aquacultural pond	200 metres north	Cluster of fish farming ponds, with the nearest pond located north of site boundary.
Istiqlo residential community (with commercial complex)	Immediate south	Residential community adjoining the southern site boundary, with the nearest zone featuring a commercial complex.
Tashto'g'izoq residential community	Immediate north	Residential community adjoining the northern site boundary, with the nearest zone featuring a cluster of fish farms.
Taraqiyot residential community	100 metres east	Residential community located east of the site boundary, including extensive farmland.
Gulobod residential community	300 metres east	Residential community located east of the site boundary, including extensive farmland.
Istiqbol residential community	1 kilometre south-east	Residential community located south-east of the site boundary, including extensive farmland.
Yangiobod residential community	2 kilometres east	Residential community located east of the site boundary, including extensive farmland.
Kavardan residential community	2.5 kilometres north-east	Residential community located north-east of the site boundary, including extensive farmland.
Sergeli residential community	1.7 kilometres north of the site	Residential community located north of the site boundary.
4R-12 highway	50 metres east	A paved road connecting the district to the main radial and outer ring roads of Tashkent City.
Gas pipeline 1	122 metres north	Yangiyor-Tashkent gas pipeline, with a length of 201 km, depth of 0.8m to 1.5m below ground level and a diameter 1220mm.
220kv OTL	Within the project site	An existing OTL intersecting the southern portion of the site and running along the western boundary of the site.
Xitoytepa cultural heritage site	0.9 kilometres east of the site	A cultural heritage exploration area east of the site.
Nomsiz Tepa cultural heritage site	2 kilometres west of the site.	A cultural heritage exploration area west of the site.
Fish farm	100 metres south-west of the site	An aquaculture recreational site under construction.
Fruit garden	Immediately north-east of the site	Strawberry farm

The land-uses and potential E&S receptors around the BESS are shown in the figure overleaf.

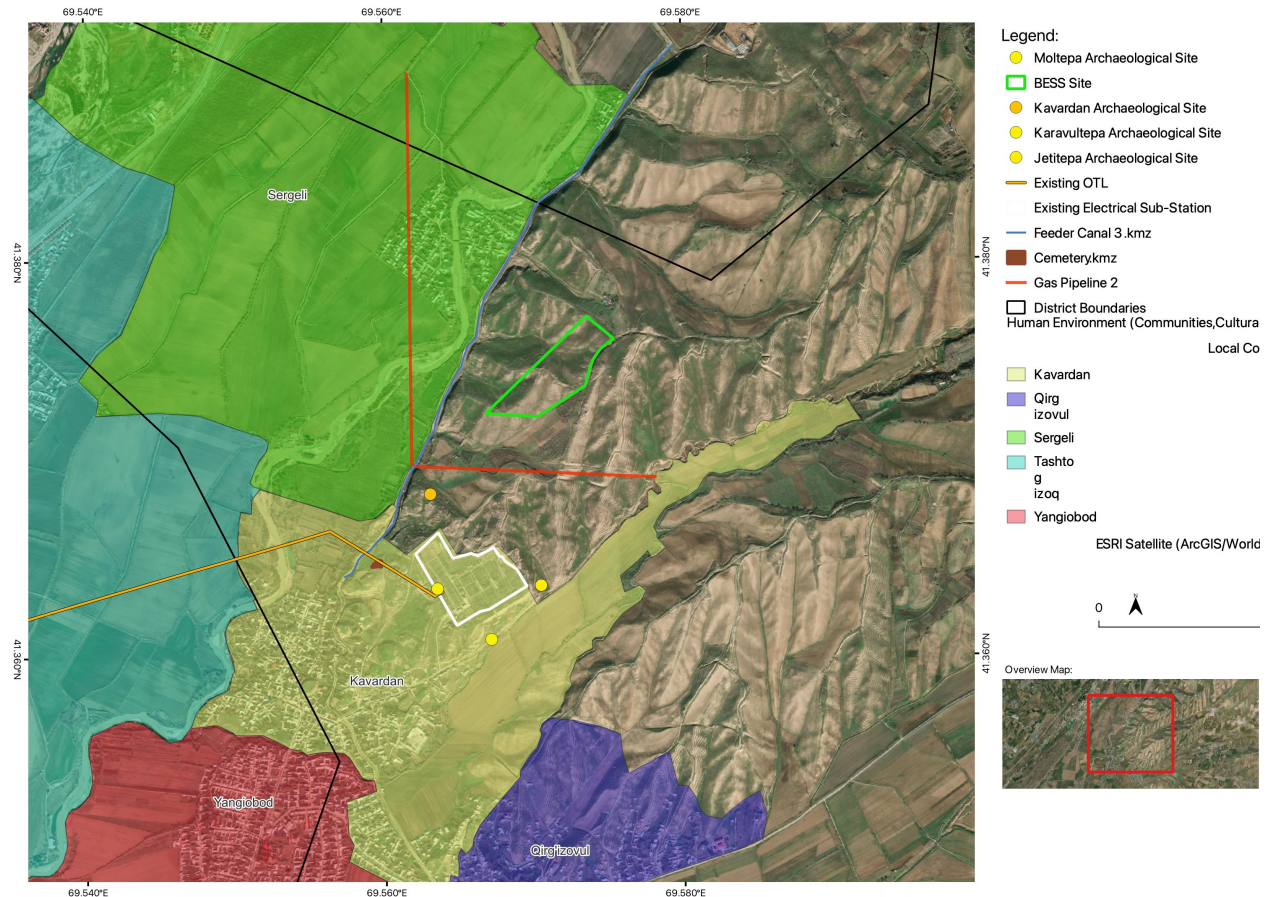


Figure 2-7 Overview of potential E&S impact receptors within 3 kilometres of the PV plant site

Table 2-4 below provides further information on the E&S receptors identified within the general AoI of the BESS site, with respective summary descriptions and locations relative to the boundaries of the project footprints.

Table 2-4 Overview of potential E&S impact receptors within 3 kilometres of the BESS plot boundaries

RECEPTOR TYPE	PROXIMITY TO PROJECT SITES	DESCRIPTION
Karasu River	362 metres west	Main canal stemming from Chirchik River.
Khandam Canal	245 metres west	Irrigation channel stemming from Karasu River.
Residential plot 1	140 metres north-east	Residential facility (to be confirmed) located north-east of the site.
Residential plot 2	264 metres south-west	Residential facility located south-west of the site.
Tashto'g'izoq residential community	1.2 kilometres west	Residential community west of the site.
Yangiobod	2.1 kilometres south-	Residential community located south-west of the

RECEPTOR TYPE	PROXIMITY TO PROJECT SITES	DESCRIPTION
residential community	west	site boundary, including extensive farmland.
Kavardan residential community	885 metres to the south and east	Residential community located east and south of the site boundary, including extensive farmland.
Sergeli residential community	300 metres west	Residential community located west of the site boundary.
Qirg'izovul residential community	1.8 kilometres south-east	Residential community located south-east of the site boundary, including extensive farmland.
4R-12 highway	2.4 kilometres west	A paved road connecting the district to the main radial and outer ring roads of Tashkent City.
Gas pipeline 2	300 metres to the west and south	Syrdaryo-Tashgres gas pipeline, with a length 198 km, depth of 0.8m to 1.5m and diameter of 1020mm.
220kv OTL	1 kilometre south	An existing OTL connecting to the nearby sub-station.
Existing sub-station	600 metres south-west	An existing sub-station located south-west of the site.
Cemetery	990 metres south-west	A communal cemetery located south-west of the site.
Kavardan Cultural Heritage Site	540 metres south-west	A cultural heritage exploration area south-west of the site.

2.5 Land Acquisition Process

2.5.1 Power Purchase Agreement

On 19 March 2023, the National Electric Grid of Uzbekistan (NEGU) JSC executed a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) with the Project Developer and Project Company. The agreement requires the Project Company to construct the PV power plant, BESS, and underground interconnection powerline. According to the PPA, following the construction of these facilities, the Project Company will be responsible for the operation and maintenance of the PV power plant and BESS facilities for power supply to the national grid over a period of 25 years.

2.5.2 Presidential Resolution

On 14 June 2023, the Presidential Resolution No. PQ-189 on Measures to Implement the Investment Project 'Construction Of 400 MW Solar Photovoltaic Power Plant And 334 MW Electricity Storage System in Yurkochirchik District of Tashkent Region' was established (see Annex 1). The Resolution mandates the Ministry of Investment, Industry and Trade (MIIT) and

the State Assets Management Agency (SAMA) to allocate land plots for the development of the PV power plant and BESS within Yukorichirchik and Parkent Districts in Tashkent Region.

2.5.3 Transfer of Land Rights

In furtherance of the Presidential Resolution for the implementation of the Project, the following two decrees were issued by the Mayor of Tashkent Region, to transfer the ownership of targeted land parcels from Uzsuvtaminot JSC to the Ministry of Energy:

- On 11 July 2023, the decree no.317-10-0-Q/23 was established to mandate an application by Uzsuvtaminot JSC for the return of 460 hectares of residual (unoccupied) land parcels within the 'Kibray Water Facility Plot' to state reserves, pursuant with Provisions 6 and 25 of the Law on Local State Municipality (see Annex 2).
- On 17 July 2023, the decree no.335-10-0-Q/23 was established to mandate the transfer of the targeted land parcels from government reserves to the Ministry of Energy for the development and operation of the PV power plant and LILO (see Annex 2).
- In August 2023, two additional decrees were established to mandate the return of 15.9 hectares of the targeted, undeveloped land parcels under the ownership of Cultural Heritage Agency to state reserves, and the subsequent acquisition of these land parcels by the Ministry of Energy for the development and operation of the BESS and underground interconnection cable.

2.5.3.1 PV power plant site

The third-party tenure within the plot of land partially allocated to the development of the PV power plant will continue on the basis of an effective land allotment order. This tenure will apply to all areas required for the continued operation and maintenance of the utility assets belonging to Uzsuvtaminot.

The parcels of residual land designated for the operation and maintenance of the project facilities will be held on the basis of a LLA between the Ministry of Energy and the Project Company, for the duration of the Project's operational phase. In addition, a tripartite easement agreement involving the Ministry of Energy, Project Company and Uzsuvtaminot will be established for additional areas of land held by Uzsuvtaminot, where ad-hoc access may be required for occasional maintenance purposes during operations.

Following the issue of the Presidential Decree, Uzsuvtaminot played a lead role in the delineation of residual (unused) land parcels for reallocation to the Project. Consultations with Uzsuvtaminot confirmed that the Project's construction and operational footprint will not impact upon any operational water supply facilities within the plot. No aspect of the utility facilities, water supply services or labour will be curtailed by the Project. The consultations also indicated that another operational water extraction zone managed by the utility is

situated about 300 metres west of the site, across Chirchik River, and no expansion plans were developed prior to the Project.

Further, early engagement with Uzsvtaminot involved the demarcation of protective buffer zones for all resident water supply facilities, to avoid contingent contamination of soil and ambient water resources close to boreholes and accidental damage to utility assets, during construction. At the national EIA stage (preceding the bankable ESIA study), the Ministry of Ecology, Environmental Protection and Climate Change (MEEPCC) also prescribed a riparian buffer of 60 metres for Chirchik River, which generally lies about 200 metres west of the project footprint. This buffer serves as both a sanitary setback to prevent sediment loading and the inflow of contaminated runoff, and leeway for any alluvial flood events and related erosion.

2.5.3.2 BESS and interconnection cable sites

Land within the BESS site was previously held by the Cultural Heritage Agency, however, no developments were undertaken within the site. Following the issue of the Presidential Decree for the Project, the Agency commissioned an archaeological survey to ascertain the absence of any tangible heritage resources within the site prior to the handover of land. Consultations with the Agency established that no archaeological finds were noted in the survey, and that the project footprint does not fall within any protective buffers for designated cultural heritage sites or objects.

The Project Company will enter into an overarching LLA (i.e., pertaining to both PV plant and BESS sites) with the Ministry of Energy, for ownership of the BESS site, for the duration of the Project's operational term. The entire footprint of the underground interconnection cable linking the BESS to the nearby sub-station falls within the Right of Way (RoW) of an existing community road. An easement agreement will therefore be established between the Parkent District Road Department, the Project Company and two PAPs (i.e., one PAP whose farmland falls within the Right of Way of the existing access road, and CHA who owns the remainder of land within the road RoW and cable footprint).

2.6 Project Facilities

Project facilities planned for the Project's construction and operational phases can be split into several categories, based on their relation to the project and the financing agencies involved in the development of these facilities.

2.6.1 Main facilities

The main facilities refer to facilities planned as part of the project, which are of primary importance to the Project's operational objectives and funded by the Project Lenders.

These facilities comprise the solar (PV) power plant and the BESS. The PV plant components will serve the following main functions:

- Generation of solar power.
- Conditioning of the raw electrical output, for conformity with the operational standards of the recipient utility grid.
- Evacuation of power harnessed by the PV plant to the recipient utility grid.

The main functions of the BESS include:

- Storage of surplus power in the utility grid during periods of off-peak demand.
- Controlled discharge of stored power to the utility grid during periods of limited production and/or peak-demand.

2.6.1.1 Solar power (PV) plant

The solar (PV) plant sited within Yuqorichirchik District will operate at a capacity of 200 MW, with a total estimated lifetime yield of 11,861,233 MWh. The PV plant components involved in the generation of electricity from solar radiation are described as follows.

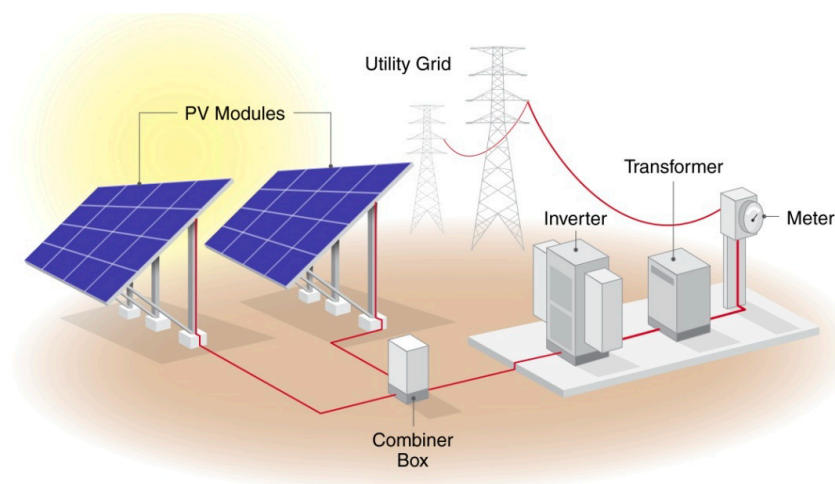


Figure 2-8 Illustration of the configuration of utility-scale PV power plants

The PV power plant consists of the following facilities:

- Solar modules, panels and strings
- Solar trackers and mounting system

- Central combiner boxes
- Inverters
- Medium-voltage step-up transformers
- Collector sub-station

2.6.1.2 Battery Energy Storage System

The Project will also involve the establishment of a 500 MWh AC-coupled Battery Energy Storage System (BESS). The BESS will operate on an independent basis (separately from the PV plant) and be developed close to the existing sub-station. The BESS facility will serve the following main functions:

- Storage of electrical energy from power sources feeding into the project-associated utility grid during off-peak grid time, and the dispatch of the operating reserves in the event of grid congestion (i.e., instances of power demand exceeding power supply).
- Stabilization of the frequency of the project-associated utility grid by provisioning power reserves to equalize power demand and power supply within the grid.

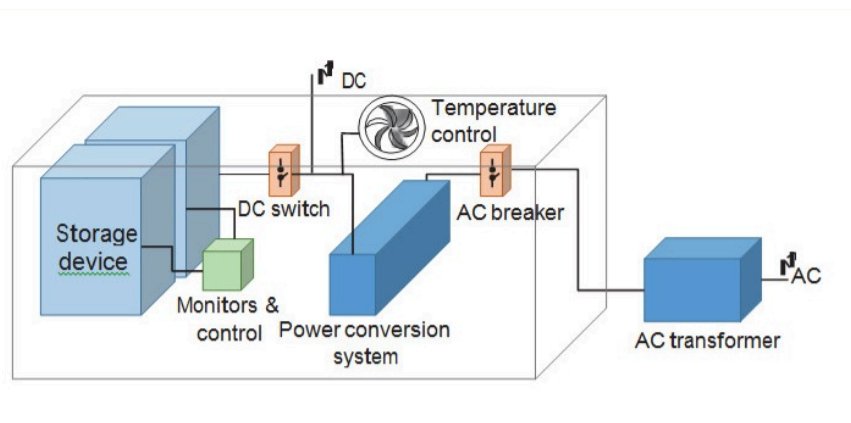


Figure 2-9 General schematic of a BESS facility

The BESS consists of the following facilities:

- Battery assembly
- Battery Management System (BMS)
- Power Conversion System (PCS)
- Grid connection
- Energy Management System
- Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning System (HVAC)

2.6.2 Ancillary facilities

This set of project facilities will be established for auxiliary purposes during the Project's construction and operational phases, such as general maintenance and connection to enabling utility infrastructure.

2.6.2.1 Construction enabling and maintenance

The following ancillary facilities will be established to enable construction activities planned under the Project:

- Access roads
- Laydown areas
- Concrete supply
- Construction site offices and welfare facilities
- Sanitation facilities
- Solid waste facilities
- Security system

2.6.2.2 Operations and maintenance

The following ancillary facilities will be established to enable construction activities planned under the Project.

- Drainage system
- Fire safety system
- Lightning protection system
- Operation and maintenance office
- Warehouses
- Sanitation facilities
- Solid waste storage facilities
- Security system

2.6.3 Associated Facilities

Associated facilities refer to concomitant facilities, which are planned as part of the project but not covered by lender financing, without which the project would not be viable.

2.6.3.1 Loop-In-Loop-Out Connection

From the collector sub-station, a total of two 220 kV outgoing transmission lines, which will measure a length of 200metres. The LILO connection will be linked to the existing 220 kV Overhead Transmission Line (OTL) extending along the southern bounds of the PV plant and collector sub-station plot. The installation of the LILO OTL and its operation will be undertaken by NEGU, as set out in Project's PPA.

2.6.3.2 Infiltration Channels and Ponds

As described in Section 2.3.1, the overall area designated for the establishment of the PV plant site is currently utilized by Uzsuvtaminot, and a number of water supply facilities are distributed across the site. Consultations with Uzsuvtaminot indicated that the water supply facilities were developed around 1955, and some of the infrastructure is in disuse due to prolonged dilapidation. This infrastructure includes a total of 28 retention and infiltration ponds, most of which are dysfunctional.

In consideration of this, Uzsuvtaminot recommended mutually beneficial drainage (and groundwater recharge) initiatives, which would entail the rehabilitation and development of drainage facilities as follows:

- Rehabilitation and extension of the existing infiltration channels across the site, such that a total of four main infiltration channels will be upgraded for continued operation. The channels would continue to aid groundwater recharge with water channelled by the feeder canals.
- Rehabilitation of two existing infiltration ponds, and the development of an additional two retention and infiltration ponds. The new and revamped ponds will likewise enhance surface water capture within the groundwater intake zone.

The construction and rehabilitation of the water supply facilities will be carried out by the EPC Contractor in collaboration with the Uzsuvtaminot engineering team. Nevertheless, the operation and maintenance of these facilities will rest entirely with Uzsuvtaminot.

2.7 Construction Activities, Resources and Waste

2.7.1 Construction activities

The Project's construction phase will entail the following main activities:

- Mobilization and early construction works

The commencement of the Project's construction phase and available project employment opportunities have been publicised within the project-affected communities, to enable local content. At the ESIA stage, such opportunities were

announced as part of the national EIA public hearings, as well as Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) within the affected makhallas. The LALRP includes forward provisions for the extension of project employment opportunities to PAPs subject to livelihood impacts from the project's land-take.

- Civil works
- Electrical and mechanical works
- Demobilization

2.7.2 Construction equipment

The following table provides a preliminary overview of equipment that will be used to perform various construction activities and operations:

The main equipment to be employed for construction activities includes excavators, bulldozers, mobile cranes, forklifts, trucks, trenchers, compactors, welding machines, and power generators, among others.

Summary counts for the anticipated construction equipment are provided in Table 2-5 below. The list is notably not exhaustive.

Table 2-5 Provisional inventory of construction equipment

BATTERY UNITS	TOTAL NUMBER
Bulldozer	2
Excavator	2
Mobile crane	2
Truck	2
Truck-mounted drill rig	6

2.7.3 Construction materials and waste

The planned construction activities will require a host of raw materials, that will be delivered to the PV plant and BESS sites and reserved within on-site storage facilities such as laydown areas and warehouses. Construction work will also generate various streams of liquid and solid refuse, which will require temporary and controlled on-site storage, prior to handover to licensed contractors for disposal and/or recycling at designated sites.

Table 2-6 provides a listing of various construction raw materials, which will be generated during the Project's construction phase. Detailed estimates for these materials were not available at the time of writing.

Table 2-6 Estimated quantities of raw construction materials

MATERIAL	QUANTITY
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MATERIAL	QUANTITY
Water	84,503 m ³ per year
Concrete	20,000 tonnes
Steel	5,000 tonnes
Fuel (for generator and motorized machinery)	1.2 million litres

An overview of construction-phase waste materials and their respective estimated quantities is provided in Table 2-7 below.

Table 2-7 Estimated quantities of construction waste

MATERIAL	QUANTITY
Sewage	1,693 m ³ per year
Solid waste	600 tonnes

2.7.4 Power demand

Construction works for the development of the PV plant and BESS will demand an average 132,666 KWh of electricity per month. Electricity for construction works on the PV plant site will be sourced from the auxiliary power system utilized by Uzsuvtaminot. On the BESS site, an on-site diesel generator will be used for power generation.

2.7.5 Construction workforce

The Project Company established for the project implementation currently employs a total of 23 employees, 11 of whom are Uzbekistan nationals.

The EPC Contractor appointed for projection construction works is China Energy Engineering Corporation (CEEC). The construction workforce will comprise skilled and semi-skilled labour, with a peak total of 700 workers. A sizeable fraction of the contracted workforce (i.e., 40-60%) will be Chinese based, however recruitment for readily available specialists and blue-collar occupations will be reserved for Uzbekistan nationals and residents of the Project's affected communities, to the extent feasible.

The establishment of construction camps for worker accommodation is not envisaged. Workers will reside within rental housing in the nearby outskirts of Tashkent City, and to a lesser extent within rental property in the project-affected districts. Transportation service will be provided by staff vehicles, including buses. Any centralized accommodation facilities (i.e., new or existing) will be audited to ensure accommodation and sanitary conditions meet the requirements of the IFC/ EBRD guidelines for labour accommodation.

Beyond contracted labour, the Project will engage supply chain workers employed in the extraction and manufacture of raw materials associated with the manufacture of the PV plant, sub-station and BESS components. The apex supplier engaged by the EPC Contractor for the delivery of solar panels is JA Solar.

2.8 Operation and Maintenance Activities, Resources and Waste

2.8.1 Operational activities

The following Operation and Maintenance (O&M) activities will be carried out over the course of the Project's operational lifetime:

- Commissioning and Plant Handover
- Scheduled/ preventative maintenance
- Scheduled/ preventative maintenance
- Unscheduled/ corrective maintenance
- Performance monitoring, production forecasting and reporting

2.8.2 Operational equipment

Table 2-8 below provides a preliminary overview of equipment that will be used to perform various operation-phase activities and operations within the PV plant, sub-station and BESS facilities, and their respective counts.

Table 2-8 Provisional inventory of operational equipment

BATTERY UNITS	TOTAL NUMBER
Automated dry-cleaning robots	One per array
Miscellaneous spare equipment parts/ devices (i.e., batteries, fuses etc.).	Supply on demand

2.8.3 Operational materials and waste

Materials required for planned operation and maintenance activities will be delivered to PV plant and BESS sites upon demand and reserved within the on-site warehouses. These materials will include water for sanitary and other maintenance activities. Operation and maintenance will also generate various streams of liquid and solid refuse, which will require temporary and controlled on-site storage, prior to handover to licensed contractors for disposal and/or recycling at designated sites.

Operations-phase waste materials will include:

- Electronic waste
- Spent oils
- Domestic solid refuse from site offices
- Domestic wastewater/ sewage

2.8.4 Power demand

Auxiliary power supply is required to operate inverter control circuitry, transformer magnetizing circuitry, cooling fan, air conditioner, lights, computers, server and lighting. During the daytime, generated yield will provide auxiliary power, whereas during the night-time or downtime, power will be imported from the grid.

2.8.5 Operational workforce

The Project's operational workforce will include a full-time workforce of 13 personnel. In addition, a total of 20-25 specialist staff may be deployed for major maintenance activities.

NOMAC Maintenance Energy Services is the main O&M Contractor appointed for O&M support under the Project Company.

2.9 Project Milestones

The following pre-feasibility and feasibility studies, have been completed for the Project:

- Remote and on-site solar resource assessment
- Topographic survey
- Geotechnical survey
- Hydrological survey
- Commercial modelling

The Project is currently in its development and detailed design phase, which involves the completion of engineering designs, agreements with the appointed EPC Contractor and supplier, acquisition of various permits from competent authorities, and access to project financing.

Table 2-9 below provides an overview of the tentative schedule for subsequent stages of project implementation.

Table 2-9 Milestones for project implementation

IMPLEMENTATION PHASE	COMMENCEMENT DATE
Mobilization and early works for PV plant facilities	July 2023
Mobilization and early works for BESS facilities	April/ May 2024
Main construction works	September 2023
Commissioning	31 March 2024 (for 100MW PV Sub-Plant 1) 1 June 2024 (for 100MW PV Sub-Plant 2) September 2025 (for BESS Plant);
Operations	December 2025

3 LEGAL AND COMPLIANCE OBLIGATIONS

3.1 National Laws and Regulations

3.1.1 Public Participation in national EIA

Based on changes in the national legislation regarding the process of National Environmental Impact Assessment conducting public consultation is now a mandatory part of Stage I of the National EIA process.

According to the Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministries of the Republic of Uzbekistan “On further improvement of mechanism for Environmental Impact Assessment” No. 541 dated 07.09.2020 the procedure of conducting public consultations is as follows:

- Annex 3 of the Resolution No 541 – Rules and regulations for conducting public consultations states that public consultations should include discussions and decision making regarding planned activities (for construction of any facility) that may have negative impacts on the environment.
- A non-technical summary regarding any planned project activity that is categorized as I & II group (in accordance with national requirements for categorization) shall be prepared. The NTS should include information about the following:
 - Brief description of the project;
 - Technology solutions and alternative options for the project;
 - Current state of the environment at the selected project site;
 - A brief assessment of socio-economic conditions;
 - Brief description of the causes and type of negative impacts on the environment as a result of the project;
 - Forecast and assessment of possible changes in the state of the environment, socio-economic conditions;
 - Forecast and assessment of project and non-project risks;
 - Measures to prevent, minimise and/or compensate for adverse impacts; and
 - Assessment of possible significant adverse cross-border impacts.
- A public consultation shall be based on the review of non-technical summary by providing equal rights to all participants to express their concerns, opinion and suggestions.
- The following entities shall be considered as part of public consultations:

- Representatives of local departments of State Committee on Ecology and Environmental Protection who will be considered as observers of public consultations.
- Local municipalities (considered as the responsible organisation for organising and inviting participants to the meetings);
- NGOs'
- All organisations interested in the project;
- Local communities; and
- Mass media.
- Expenses, if any, related to the public consultations shall be financed by the Project Developer.

In addition to the above National requirement on conducting public consultations, the Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan 'Regarding Appeals of Individuals and Legal Entities' No 378 dated 3.12.2014 (with amendments on 17th August 2017), regulates the appeals of individuals and legal entities to state bodies as well as to their officials. Appeals can be oral, written or electronic and regardless of their form and type are of equal importance. A people's 'Reception Office' is tasked with organising a direct dialogue with the population, ensuring the functioning of an effective system of appeals aimed at the full protection of their rights, freedoms and legitimate interests. Any applications are considered within 15 days from date of receipt and any additional consideration is completed within 1 month.

3.1.2 Management of Public Grievances

The Resolution No. 728 provides for a centralized Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) for the resolution of broad-ranging grievances from the public. This system draws on a publicly accessible online platform for the collection of grievances from residents across the country. The Portal allows any member of the public to submit a grievance, for the attention of various authorities within the various domains of local and central Government. The application for grievance resolution can target any authority within the hierarchy of executive Government. Upon initial review of the grievance statement by the target authority, the grievance is allocated to the most relevant LGA for further review and remedial action. In the event that resolution cannot be delivered by the most relevant LGA level, the grievance is cascaded higher along the administrative hierarchy, until an appropriate executive decision is provided by a competent authority.

3.2 Lender E&S Performance Requirements

3.2.1 European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)

All projects financed by EBRD shall be structured to meet the requirements of the EBRD Environmental and Social Policy which includes ten Performance Requirements (PRs) for key areas of environmental and social sustainability that projects are required to meet, including PR10 Information Disclosure and Stakeholder Engagement. In addition, EBRD's Independent Project Accountability Mechanism (IPAM), as an independent last resort tool, aims to facilitate the resolution of social, environmental and public disclosure issues raised by Project-affected people and civil society organisations about EBRD financed projects among Project stakeholders or to determine whether the Bank has complied with its ESP and the Project-specific provisions of its Access to Information Policy; and where applicable to address any existing non-compliance with these policies, while preventing future non-compliance by the Bank.

The EBRD's ESP defines stakeholder engagement as an on-going process which involves the following elements: (i) stakeholder identification and analysis; (ii) stakeholder engagement planning; (iii) disclosure of information; (iv) meaningful consultation and participation leading to the client's incorporating into its decision-making process the views of the affected parties on matters that affect them; (v) an effective grievance procedure or mechanism, and (vi) ongoing reporting to relevant stakeholders. The process of stakeholder engagement should begin at the earliest stage of project planning and continue throughout the project life.

An essential element in the stakeholder engagement process, to ensure meaningful and effective consultation process, is the careful identification of all involved stakeholders and the examination of their concerns, expectations, and preferences. Special attention should be paid to the identification of vulnerable stakeholders. The engagement with these stakeholder groups needs to be planned and managed differentially, based on their unique needs and challenges in the socioeconomic context of the project-affected communities.

Furthermore, the EBRD requires that the project developer establish and maintain an effective grievance mechanism, ensuring that any stakeholder complaints are received, handled, and resolved effectively, in a prompt and timely manner.

This SEP has been developed in line with these requirements and in consideration of the categorisation of the Project as Category A under the ESP (2019), requiring a formalised and participatory ESIA process.

EBRD PR10 "recognises the importance of an open and transparent engagement between the client, its workers, local communities directly affected by the project and where

appropriate, other stakeholders as an essential element of Good International Practice (GIP) and corporate citizenship. Such engagement will involve the following key elements:

- Stakeholder Identification and analysis.
- Stakeholder engagement planning.
- Disclosure of information.
- Consultation and Participation.
- Grievance Mechanism.
- Ongoing reporting to relevant stakeholders.

In reference to vulnerable groups, PR10 states *“The client will identify those project-affected parties (individuals or groups) who, because of their particular circumstances, may be disadvantages or vulnerable”*. In addition, the client is required to *“support active and inclusive engagement with project affected parties including disadvantaged or vulnerable groups”*.

EBRD PR10 requires clients to establish a grievance mechanism to receive and facilitate the resolution of grievances from affected stakeholders, including affected communities.

3.2.2 Equator Principles IV

The Equator Principles IV establish key requirements for stakeholder engagement through the following principles:

- Principle 5: Stakeholder Engagement
 - For all Category A and Category B Projects the EPFI will require the client to demonstrate effective Stakeholder Engagement, as an ongoing process in a structured and culturally appropriate manner, with Affected Communities, Workers and, where relevant, Other Stakeholders.
 - For Projects with potentially significant adverse impacts on Affected Communities, the client will conduct an Informed Consultation and Participation process. The client will tailor its consultation process to: the risks and impacts of the Project; the Project's phase of development; the language preferences of the Affected Communities; their decision-making processes; and the needs of disadvantaged and vulnerable groups. This process should be free from external manipulation, interference, coercion and intimidation.
 - There are also other requirements for facilitating engagement and engagement with indigenous peoples.
- Principle 6: Grievance Mechanism
 - For all Category A and, as appropriate, Category B Projects, the EPFI will require the client, as part of the ESMS, to establish effective grievance mechanisms which are designed for use by Affected Communities and Workers, as appropriate, to receive and

facilitate resolution of concerns and grievances about the Project's environmental and social performance.

- Grievance mechanisms are required to be scaled to the risks and impacts of the Project, and will seek to resolve concerns promptly, using an understandable and transparent consultative process that is culturally appropriate, readily accessible, at no cost, and without retribution to the party that originated the issue or concern. Grievance mechanisms should not impede access to judicial or administrative remedies. The client will inform Affected Communities and Workers about the grievance mechanisms in the course of the Stakeholder Engagement process.

IFC - PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

All of the IFC Performance Standards include requirements for stakeholder engagement as part of project-level ESIA and subsequent ESMS implementation. The IFC Performance Standard 1 on "Social and Environmental Assessment and Management Systems" describes the stakeholder engagement as follows:

"Stakeholder engagement is the basis for building strong, constructive, and responsive relationships that are essential for the successful management of a project's environmental and social impacts. Stakeholder engagement is an on-going process that may involve, in varying degrees, the following elements:

- Stakeholder analysis and planning.
- Disclosure and dissemination of information.
- Consultation and participation.
- Grievance mechanism.
- On-going reporting to Affected Communities.

The nature, frequency, and level of effort of stakeholder engagement may vary considerably and will be commensurate with the project's risks and adverse impacts, and the project's phase of development."

The IFC Performance Standards indicate that when Affected Communities are subject to identified risks and adverse impacts from a project, the developer/client will undertake a process of consultation in a manner that provides the Affected Communities with opportunities to express their views on project risks, impacts and mitigation measures, and allows the client to consider and respond to them. Effective consultation is a two-way process that will:

- Begin early in the process of identification of environmental and social risks and impacts and continue on an on-going basis as risks and impacts arise;
- Be based on the prior disclosure and dissemination of relevant, transparent, objective, meaningful and easily accessible information which is in a culturally

appropriate local language(s) and format and is understandable to Affected Communities.

- Focus inclusive engagement on those directly affected as opposed to those not directly affected.
- Be free of external manipulation, interference, coercion, or intimidation.
- Enable meaningful participation, where applicable.
- Be documented.

4 STAKEHOLDER IDENTIFICATION AND ANALYSIS

The preparation of the Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) commenced with a stakeholder mapping exercise. The wide range of stakeholders associated with the Project were identified and classified based on the review of the Project's legal framework and the preliminary identification of E&S impact receptors by means of desktop research and field reconnaissance. In terms of administrative capacity, the project stakeholders were classified as follows:

1. Project-affected landowners and land users.
2. Project-Affected Communities (PACs).
3. Local Government Authorities ((LGAs) i.e., regional and district administration).
4. National Ministries, Departments, and Agencies (MDAs).
5. Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs).

Subsequently, the stakeholders were characterized and prioritized in terms of their relevance to the project to enable a differential engagement strategy, such that the scope, modes and frequency of planned consultation and disclosure are commensurate with the parties' roles, risks, and interests in relation to the Project. This systematic characterization enabled a subsequent level of stakeholder categorization on the basis of their relation to the project, and in a decreasing order of priority:

- Decision-making stakeholders (Category 'D') – entities charged with the implementation, appraisal and/or regulation of the various project aspects, and with subsequent resolution which can critically affect the course of the Project (i.e., national regulators and project lenders).
- Impact-based stakeholders (Category 'A') – entities that are potentially impacted by the Project directly or indirectly.
- Interest-based stakeholders (Category 'I') – entities that are neither affected by the project nor bear any executive influence on the project but hold certain interests in the project.

The EBRD PR1 and PR5, and IFC PS1 and PS5, define vulnerable groups as sections of project-affected communities that are subject to disproportionate adverse socioeconomic impacts from projects, by virtue of characteristics such as gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, religion, ethnicity, indigenous status, age (including children, youth and the elderly), physical or mental disability, literacy, political views or social status. On this basis, the list of vulnerable community groupings provisionally classed as vulnerable in the context of the Project includes the following entities:

- Community with ethnic minorities resident in Istiqlol Makhalla (gypsy community), which is situated south of the PV power plant site.
- Any households belonging to Indigenous Peoples (IPs).
- Any households within project-affected communities, which are (i) employed in natural resource-based livelihoods (i.e., smallholder crop farming and livestock rearing) and (ii) subject to economic and/or physical displacement.
- Any households within project-affected communities, which are (i) subject to economic and/or physical displacement, and (ii) do not have legally demonstrable (formal) rights to project-affected landholdings and pastoral areas.
- Households in which more than two members or the household head are disabled.
- Households in which more than two members or the household head are chronically sick.
- Female-headed households.
- Child-headed households.
- Households with an elderly head (over 60 years).
- Households living in extreme poverty (i.e., under the national basic poverty line).

Table 4-1 below provides an overview of the stakeholder categories (by administrative order), stakeholder ratings (by role), their respective consultation and disclosure agenda and the engagement mode for each.

Table 4-1 List of project stakeholders grouped by administrative capacity and their relation to the project

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER	STAKEHOLDER	RELEVANCE CATEGORY
Project-affected landowners and land users	Landowners – Farmers (to be confirmed)	A: Landowners subject to economic displacement as a result of land acquisition for the Project's development.
	Land users – Informal settlers	A: Landowners (without legally demonstrable entitlements to the land) subject to economic displacement as a result of land acquisition for the Project's development.
	Land users – Herders	A: Land-users subject to economic displacement as a result of land acquisition for the Project's development.
	Land users – Fodder gatherers	A: Land-users subject to economic displacement as a result of land acquisition for the Project's development.
	Land users – Farmworkers (to be confirmed)	A: Indirect land-users subject to economic displacement as a result of land acquisition for the Project's development.
Project-Affected Communities (PACs/ Makhallas)	Tashtogizov	A: Communities subject to E&S impacts from various project aspects.
	Yangiobod	
	Gulobod	
	Istiqbol	
	Taraqciyot	
	Qirgizovul	
	Kavardan (community nearest to BESS and underground cable sites)	A: Community subject to E&S impacts from various project aspects, particularly impacts related to air quality (i.e., dust generation from extensive cut-and-fill operations), third-party property damage, and health and safety incidents due to project traffic along community and dedicated access roads.
	Istiqol (community nearest to the PV power plant site)	A: Community subject to E&S impacts from various project aspects, particularly impacts related to air quality (i.e., dust generation from earthworks and movement of Heavy Goods Vehicles), drainage, third-party property damage, and health and safety incidents due to project traffic along community and dedicated access roads.

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER	STAKEHOLDER	RELEVANCE CATEGORY
	Local women	A: Community sections subject to disproportional or exclusive E&S impacts from various project aspects.
	Local youth	
	Other vulnerable groups within local communities (including ethnic minority (i.e., gypsies within Istiqlol community)	
Local Government Authorities (LGAs / Khokimiyats)	Makhalla Chairman and committee.	D: -Grass-roots administration and monitoring of development projects, and coordination with district administration. -Front-line response to community grievances.
	Yuqorichirchik District Khokimiyat.	D: -District-level planning and administration of development projects. -Preparation of land-use proposals, approval of subsequent land-use plans, commissioning of cadastral registration of landholdings, and administration of Land Lease Agreements (LLAs).
	Parkent District Khokimiyat.	D: -District-level planning and administration of development projects. -Preparation of land-use proposals, approval of subsequent land-use plans, commissioning of cadastral registration of landholdings, and administration of Land Lease Agreements (LLAs).
	Tashkent Region Khokimiyat.	D: Regional planning and administration of development projects.
National Ministries, Departments, and Agencies (MDAs) – Energy.	Ministry of Energy.	D: Review and approval of project design, land acquisition, operational off-take and O&M of planned power generation facilities post PPA term completion.
	National Electricity Grids of Uzbekistan (NEGU).	D: Review and approval of project design, land acquisition, operational off-take and O&M of planned interconnection facilities post PPA term completion.
	Uztranzgaz.	D: Provision of general information on planned and existing gas pipelines within the project-affected areas, and execution of laws and regulations pertaining to the operation and

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER	STAKEHOLDER	RELEVANCE CATEGORY
		maintenance of gas supply infrastructure (e.g., appropriate buffer zones).
	Hududgaz	D: Provision of district-level information on existing gas pipelines within the project-affected areas, and execution of laws and regulations pertaining to the operation and maintenance of gas supply infrastructure.
MDAs – Environment and Climate Change.	Ministry of Ecology, Environmental Protection and Climate Change (MEEPCC).	D: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provision of information on biodiversity and ecologically important water resources within the project-affected areas. -Execution of laws and regulations pertaining to environmental management. -Review of national EIA reports for planned project facilities. -Issue of environmental permits for construction and operation. -Follow-up monitoring of E&S compliance.
	MEEPCC Tashkent Region Office.	D: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Provision of information on biodiversity and ecologically important water resources within the project-affected areas, and related conservation programs. -Implementation of mandatory, pre-construction biodiversity surveys (i.e., in the event that any threatened species/ habitats are identified etc.). -General monitoring of E&S compliance during the Project's construction and operational phases.
	MEEPCC Yuqorichirchik District Office.	D: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Provision of information on biodiversity and ecologically important water resources within the project-affected areas, and monitoring of environmental management within project-affected areas.

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER	STAKEHOLDER	RELEVANCE CATEGORY
		<p>-Implementation of mandatory, pre-construction biodiversity surveys (i.e., in the event that any threatened species/ habitats are identified etc.).</p> <p>-General monitoring of E&S compliance during the Project's construction and operational phases.</p>
	MEEPCC Parkent District Office.	<p>D:</p> <p>-Provision of information on biodiversity and ecologically important water resources within the project-affected areas, and monitoring of environmental management within project-affected areas.</p> <p>-Implementation of mandatory, pre-construction biodiversity surveys (i.e., in the event that any threatened species/ habitats are identified etc.).</p> <p>-General monitoring of E&S compliance during the Project's construction and operational phases.</p>
	Institute of Zoology of the Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Uzbekistan.	I: Provision of information on biodiversity and technical support on ad-hoc baseline surveys for specific faunal species and habitats.
	Institute of Botany of the Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Uzbekistan.	I: Provision of information on biodiversity and technical support on ad-hoc baseline surveys for specific floral species and habitats.
MDAs – Land Administration	District Khokimiyats.	<p>D:</p> <p>-Preparation of land-use proposals, approval of subsequent land-use plans, commissioning of cadastral registration of landholdings, and administration of Land Lease Agreements (LLAs).</p>
	Chamber of State Cadastres of the Cadastre Agency (CSC) Tashkent Region Office.	D: Cadastral registration of landholdings, based on approved land-use plans developed by Uzdaveroiyiha State Research and Design Institute.
MDAs – Water	Uzsuvtaminot.	<p>D:</p> <p>-Provision of information on planned and existing potable water supply facilities within the project-affected areas, and execution of laws and regulations pertaining to the operation and</p>

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER	STAKEHOLDER	RELEVANCE CATEGORY
resources		<p>maintenance of related infrastructure (e.g., appropriate buffer zones).</p> <p>-Issue of permits for use of potable water supply system during construction (i.e., utility connections and water consumption).</p>
	Chirchik-Akhangaran Basin Irrigation Systems Department.	<p>D:</p> <p>-Provision of information on planned and existing irrigational water supply facilities within the project-affected areas, and execution of laws and regulations pertaining to the operation and maintenance of related infrastructure (e.g., appropriate buffer zones).</p> <p>-Issue of permits for use of water supply system during construction (i.e., water abstraction).</p>
	Sanitary and Epidemiological Welfare and Public Health Service of The Republic of Uzbekistan.	<p>D:</p> <p>-Execution of laws and regulations pertaining to public health and safety.</p> <p>-Establishment of sanitary and health and safety buffer zones.</p> <p>- Regular monitoring of E&S compliance in relation to impacts on environment and public health and safety.</p>
MDAs – Health, Sanitation, Safety and Security	Ministry of Emergency Situations of the Republic of Uzbekistan.	I: Emergency response to natural disasters and other contingencies, and mobilization of humanitarian aid.
	Toza Hudud	A: State waste management agency that is responsible for the provision of waste collection and management services within project-affected makhallas (communities).
	State Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan on Geology and Mineral Resources.	D: Provision of information on planned and existing mineral exploration surveys (and related exclusion zones within the project-affected areas, and any geotechnically hazardous land.
MDAs – Industry, Commerce and Livelihoods	State Committee on Sericulture and Wool Development Industry.	D: Custodianship of land reserved for governmental, communal and private pastoral use.
	Ministry of Transportation.	I: Provision of information on the transport infrastructure within the project-affected areas, and execution of laws and regulations pertaining to the operation and maintenance of related infrastructure (e.g., tonnage, drainage, upgrade or extension of existing roads and traffic

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER	STAKEHOLDER	RELEVANCE CATEGORY
		regulation).
MDAs – Transportation	Ministry of Employment and Labour Relations of the Republic of Uzbekistan.	I: Execution of laws and regulations pertaining to the labour in Uzbekistan, and provision of guidelines to implement new legal requirements.
MDAs – Labour	Academy of Sciences – Institute of Archaeology.	I: Provision of information on any regulatory requirements related to labour and labour conditions.
MDAs – Cultural Heritage	Academy of Sciences – Cultural Heritage Agency.	I: Provision of information on tangible and intangible cultural heritage within the project-affected areas.
	Academy of Sciences – Institute of Archaeology.	I: Provision of information on tangible and intangible cultural heritage within the project-affected areas, and completion of archaeological surveys for the national inventory of cultural heritage sites.
Project Lenders	EBRD, DEG, AIIB, IsDB, Saudi EXIM Bank and Proparco/ AFD	D: Providing project finance and undertaking related due diligence over the period of the financing agreement.

5 STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PROGRAM

This section presents the modes of stakeholder engagement that will be adopted for the different stakeholder groupings identified in Section 4 of this document, in the Project's planning, construction and operational phases. Further, a brief summary of stakeholder engagement activities conducted to date, and the outcome of these engagements is presented subsequently.

5.1 Stakeholder Engagement Methods

For the purposes of this ESIA, a number of stakeholder engagement modes are planned for subsequent consultation and disclosure vis-à-vis the various stakeholder groups identified. The table below outlines the applicability of these engagement modes, taking into account the stakeholder categories, the size and geographical distribution of the stakeholder groups, sensitivity of stakeholder information, and social factors affecting the participation and expression of certain community groupings.

Table 5-1 Applicability of different stakeholder engagement modes

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT MODE	APPLICABILITY
Formal consultative letters/ correspondence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inviting stakeholders to public meetings. Disclosing information to a large and/or extensive target audience. Formal project introduction and preliminary rounds of consultations with MDAs, LGAs and other authorities.
Community meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initial disclosure for project introduction, description of potential E&S impacts impact management strategies, for the information of the general public within project-affected communities. Initial consultation with community members with regard to the general E&S context, potential E&S receptors and impacts, appropriate management measures and related recommendations. Responses to general project-related queries from affected communities. Presentation of the plan for subsequent rounds of engagement and grievance management.
Leaflets and infographics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presentation of lucid summary information regarding the project objectives, plan, associated E&S impacts and corresponding management measures.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Illustration of project design, and various E&S management processes (i.e., ESIA, grievance redress mechanism etc.). • Providing reference where attendance of meetings is not possible or oral presentations delivered during prior meetings is not well understood. <p>The leaflet used for the disclosure of project information and familiarization with the project GRM is presented in Annex 3 of this document.</p>
Household surveys	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collection of detailed household-level socioeconomic information, from a representative sample of households resident within project-affected communities and districts. • Collection of voluntary and sensitive information that may otherwise be reserved on public consultation platforms.
Focus Group Discussions (FGDs)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collective consultations with affected communities, which target a specific groups or guilds for discussions based around certain E&S topics. • Exclusive and safe platforms for engaging with marginalized or minority groups who may otherwise be underrepresented or intimidated with regard to self-expression, during general community meetings.
Key Informant Interviews (KIIs)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation on key resource persons and subject matter experts from local communities, district and regional administration, MDAs and NGOs. • May be conducted for follow-up consultations with various authorities, following an initial round of consultative correspondence. • Useful for collecting expert information related to key E&S topics applicable to specific locations.
Participatory site visits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Site visits for ground truthing and observation, attended by project-affected affected entities, including community members and/or relevant officials from competent authorities. • Useful for the demarcation of plot boundaries (for affected landholdings) and utility asset surveys.
Official announcements and media coverage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Written notices posted in community centres and project information centres. • Notices disseminated to communities by phone calls, phone messages, social media/ instant messaging platforms (e.g., Telegram) emails, door-to-door visits or local media. • Useful for official announcements and notices related to project milestones of account to affected stakeholders.
Local and online disclosure of E&S safeguard documents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suitable for engagement aimed at consultation and disclosure within the public domain, which can result in material changes to the Project's E&S safeguard documents and the Project Company's Environmental and Social Management System (ESMS).

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local disclosure of E&S safeguard documents (i.e., ESIA Non-Technical Summary (NTS), LALRP, and SEP) at strategic Project Information Centres (PICs) within local communities (i.e., employment assistance centres, post offices, community school libraries, Local Government Offices and country offices of Project Lenders., as appropriate). • Online disclosure of E&S safeguard documents (i.e., ESIA, LALRP, and SEP) on the websites of project lenders.
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Following the stakeholder analysis and the selection of suitable engagement modes, a forward Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) was drawn up to ensure that the scope, frequency and differential means of engagement are commensurate with the role and relevance of each stakeholder group.

The above-described modes of stakeholder engagement will continue to be conducted in a manner that is culturally appropriate, understandable to target audiences, and free of manipulation, coercion and intimidation. The timing and location of community meetings and FGDs were previously organized with efforts to ensure sufficient and equitable representation of groupings or constituencies whose attendance may be constrained by a lack of mobile communication, transportation means and overriding workplace or domestic commitments. Oral and written communication will be made in local languages, namely Uzbek and Russian, as appropriate. Where engagement is focused on international stakeholders, the default language will be English. All modes of engagement will be documented by minutes of meetings and attendance and/or document dispatch logs, as relevant.

It is noted that the SEP will be a live document that will be updated over the course of project planning and project implementation. Potential and actual E&S risks, impacts and receptors will change with the (i) progression of project activities, (ii) variation in project plans and (iii) exogenous developments in the Project's legal framework. Accordingly, the range of relevant stakeholders and corresponding engagement requirements will evolve in turn. The timing and frequency of engagement is set to ensure timely engagement that will play an instrumental part in minimizing the Project's adverse E&S impacts while enhancing development benefits to relevant constituencies.

The table below provides an overview of the project stakeholders (grouped by administrative capacity and relation to the project), their respective consultation and disclosure agenda, engagement modes and feedback in relation to E&S issues.

Table 5-2 Overview of project stakeholders, and their respective engagement modes, consultation agenda and inputs

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER	STAKEHOLDER	RELEVANCE CATEGORY	CONSULTATION AGENDA	MODE OF ENGAGEMENT	FEEDBACK; DATE OF LAST UPDATE
Project-affected landowners and land users (PAPs)	Crop farmer	A: Landowners subject to economic displacement as a result of land acquisition for the Project's development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Disclosure of project plans, potential E&S impacts, and mitigation strategies. Request for information on potentially impacted property, resources and land tenure. Establishment of the Project's external Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Official announcements. Household surveys (LALRP-stage). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One crop farmer is potentially impacted by economic displacement (September, 2023) Requested for initiatives to improve local irrigation.
	Herders	A: Landowners (without legally demonstrable entitlements to the land) subject to economic displacement as a result of land acquisition for the Project's development.			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two herders are subject to economic displacement within the BESS site (August, 2023) Requested for additional grazing land.
Project-Affected Communities (PACs/ Makhallas)	Tashtogizozq	A: Communities subject to E&S impacts from various project aspects.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Disclosure of project plans, potential E&S impacts, and mitigation strategies. Request for information on potentially impacted public infrastructure and resources. Request for specific information on local demography, household economy and social services. Establishment of the Project's external Grievance Redress 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Official announcements. Community meetings. FGDs. Household surveys (ESIA-stage). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Specified in the following table.
	Yangiobod				
	Gulobod				
	Istiqbol				
	Istiqbol				
	Taraqkiyot				
	Qirgizovul				

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER	STAKEHOLDER	RELEVANCE CATEGORY	CONSULTATION AGENDA	MODE OF ENGAGEMENT	FEEDBACK; DATE OF LAST UPDATE
			Mechanism (GRM).		
	Kavardan	A: Community subject to E&S impacts from various project aspects, particularly impacts related to air quality (i.e., dust generation from extensive cut-and-fill operations) and health and safety incidents due to project traffic along community and dedicated access roads.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Same agenda as for communities above; including the following points of discussion in addition: • Safeguards for health and safety hazards related to construction-phase traffic. • Nature of construction works, and potential impacts related to dust generation from vehicular transport along access roads and cut-and-fill operations during site grading. • The basic design and purpose of the BESS, as well as health and safety hazards associated with the operation of the BESS and underground interconnection cable. 		
	Local women	A: Communities subject to disproportional or exclusive E&S impacts from various project aspects.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disclosure of project plans, potential E&S impacts, and mitigation strategies. • Request for information on potentially impacted public infrastructure and resources. • Request for specific 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Official announcements. • FGDs. • Household surveys (ESIA-stage). 	Specified in the following table.
	Local youth				
	Other vulnerable groups within local communities (including ethnic				

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER	STAKEHOLDER	RELEVANCE CATEGORY	CONSULTATION AGENDA	MODE OF ENGAGEMENT	FEEDBACK; DATE OF LAST UPDATE
	minority (i.e., gypsies within Istiqlol community)		<p>information on local demography, household economy and social services.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Request for information on factors of socioeconomic vulnerability. Establishment of the Project's external Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM). 		
Local Government Authorities (LGAs / Khokimiyats)	Makhalla Chairman and committee.	<p>D:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Grass-roots administration and monitoring of development projects, and coordination with district administration. -Front-line response to community grievances. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Disclosure of project plans (objectives, design and activities). Request for information on potentially impacted public infrastructure and resources. Request for general information on local demography, household economy and social services. Request for general information on socioeconomically vulnerable community groupings. Request for information on local biodiversity and ongoing conservation initiatives. Establishment of the Project's external Grievance Redress 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formal consultative letters/ correspondence. KIIs. 	Specified in the following table.
	Yuqorichirchik District Khokimiyat.	<p>D:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -District-level planning and administration of development projects. -Preparation of land-use proposals, approval of subsequent land-use plans, commissioning of cadastral registration of landholdings, and administration of Land 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No other formal or informal landowners use utilize the PV power plant site (May, 2023) Chirchik River is largely used for irrigation, but there are instances of recreational fishing (September, 2023)

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER	STAKEHOLDER	RELEVANCE CATEGORY	CONSULTATION AGENDA	MODE OF ENGAGEMENT	FEEDBACK; DATE OF LAST UPDATE
		Lease Agreements (LLAs).	Mechanism (GRM).		
	Parkent District Khokimiyat.	D: -District-level planning and administration of development projects. -Preparation of land-use proposals, approval of subsequent land-use plans, commissioning of cadastral registration of landholdings, and administration of Land Lease Agreements (LLAs).			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chirchik River is largely used for irrigation, but there are instances of recreational fishing (September, 2023)
	Tashkent Region Khokimiyat.	D: Regional planning and administration of development projects.			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Land within the BESS site belonged to the CHA, and no other land use was permissible within the site (following cultural designation) (September, 2023)
National Ministries, Departments, and Agencies (MDAs) – Energy.	Ministry of Energy.	D: Review and approval of project design, land acquisition, operational off-take and O&M of planned power generation facilities post PPA term completion.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Disclosure of plans and designs for the main project facilities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ad-hoc formal consultative letters/ correspondence. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approval of project plans and design.
	National Electricity Grids of Uzbekistan	D: Review and approval of project design, land	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Disclosure of project plans and design. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ad-hoc formal consultative 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approval of project design.

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER	STAKEHOLDER	RELEVANCE CATEGORY	CONSULTATION AGENDA	MODE OF ENGAGEMENT	FEEDBACK; DATE OF LAST UPDATE
	(NEGU).	acquisition, operational off-take and O&M of planned interconnection facilities post PPA term completion.		letters/ correspondence.	
	Uztranzgaz.	D: Provision of general information on planned and existing gas pipelines within the project-affected areas, and execution of laws and regulations pertaining to the operation and maintenance of gas supply infrastructure (e.g., appropriate buffer zones).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disclosure of project plans (objectives, design and activities). • Request for information on existing gas pipelines located in and around the project area. • Request for regulatory buffers for gas pipelines located in and around the project area. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formal consultative letters/ correspondence. • Participatory site visit. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two operational Category I gas pipelines are located nearby the project sites (July, 2023). • The buffer distances for both pipes is about 300 (August, 2023) • Technical conditions were issued to ensure coordination and supervision during construction, and avoid damage to the pipe, and H&S risks (September, 2023)
	Hududgaz	D: Provision of district-level information on existing gas pipelines within the project-affected areas, and execution of laws and regulations pertaining to the operation and maintenance of gas supply infrastructure.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disclosure of project plans (objectives, design and activities). • Request for information gas pipelines located in and around the project area. • Request for regulatory buffers for gas pipelines located in and around the project area. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ad-hoc formal consultative letters/ correspondence. 	N/A
MDAs –	Ministry of Ecology,	D:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disclosure of project plans 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided instruction to

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER	STAKEHOLDER	RELEVANCE CATEGORY	CONSULTATION AGENDA	MODE OF ENGAGEMENT	FEEDBACK; DATE OF LAST UPDATE
Environment and Climate Change.	Environmental Protection and Climate Change (MEEPCC).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provision of information on biodiversity and ecologically important water resources within the project-affected areas. -Execution of laws and regulations pertaining to environmental management. -Review of national EIA reports for planned project facilities. -Issue of environmental permits for construction and operation. -Follow-up monitoring of E&S compliance. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (objectives, design and activities). • Request for information on any species and habitats of conservation concern within the project-affected areas, and recommendation for the relocation/ replanting of any threatened species. • Request for information on any ongoing conservation programs and protected areas in and around project-affected areas. 	consultative letters/ correspondence.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> carry out comprehensive baseline biodiversity surveys within the project sites (July, 2023) • Provided positive conclusion for the national EIAs for the PV power plant and BESS (June, September, 2023)
	MEEPCC Tashkent Region Office.	D: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Provision of information on biodiversity and ecologically important water resources within the project-affected areas, and related conservation programs. -Implementation of 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disclosure of project plans (objectives, design and activities). • Ad-hoc request for information on any species and habitats of conservation concern within the project-affected areas. • Ad-hoc request for information on any ongoing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formal consultative letters/ correspondence. 	N/A

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER	STAKEHOLDER	RELEVANCE CATEGORY	CONSULTATION AGENDA	MODE OF ENGAGEMENT	FEEDBACK; DATE OF LAST UPDATE
		contingent pre-construction biodiversity surveys. -General monitoring of E&S compliance during the Project's construction and operational phases.	conservation programs and protected areas in and around project-affected areas.		
	Institute of Botany of the Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Uzbekistan.	I: Provision of information on biodiversity and technical support on ad-hoc baseline surveys for specific floral species and habitats.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information on the extent of occurrence and are of occupancy (or population statistics), for any potentially affected faunal species or habitats of conservation concern. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ad-hoc formal consultative letters/ correspondence. 	Recommendation to carry out comprehensive baseline botanical surveys in the BESS site (July, 2023)
MDAs – Water resources	Uzsuvtaminot.	D: -Supervision of the upgrading and construction of the infiltration ponds and major drainage channels within the PV power plant site. -Provision of information on planned and existing potable water supply facilities within the project-affected areas, and execution of laws and regulations pertaining to the	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Request for information on existing water supply facilities in and around the project sites. Request for contextual regulatory buffers for water supply facilities located within the PV power plant site, during the Project's construction and operational phases. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formal consultative letters/ correspondence. KIIs. 	Preliminary locations of existing water intake facilities within the sites and key buffer distances were provided to Project developer (June, 2023)

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER	STAKEHOLDER	RELEVANCE CATEGORY	CONSULTATION AGENDA	MODE OF ENGAGEMENT	FEEDBACK; DATE OF LAST UPDATE
		<p>operation and maintenance of related infrastructure (e.g., appropriate buffer zones).</p> <p>-Issue of permits for use of potable water supply system during construction (i.e., utility connections and water consumption).</p> <p>-Monitoring of key impacts and risks related to soil and groundwater quality, and third-party health and safety, and oversight of relevant mitigation, during the implementation of the C-ESMP (during construction)</p>			


ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER	STAKEHOLDER	RELEVANCE CATEGORY	CONSULTATION AGENDA	MODE OF ENGAGEMENT	FEEDBACK; DATE OF LAST UPDATE
	Ministry of Water Resources	D: -Provision of information on planned and existing irrigational water supply facilities within the project-affected areas, and execution of laws and regulations pertaining to the operation and maintenance of related infrastructure (e.g., appropriate buffer zones). -Issue of permits for use of water supply system during construction (i.e., water abstraction).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Request for information on existing irrigational canals in and around the project sites. Request for contextual regulatory buffers for the canals in and around the project sites, during the Project's construction and operational phases. Request for any additional considerations and recommendation with regard to potential E&S impacts. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formal consultative letters/ correspondence. 	Sanitary and coastal protection zones were specified for Karasu River and Khandam channel nearby previous candidate site for BESS (July, 2023)
MDAs – Health, Sanitation, Safety and Security	Sanitary and Epidemiological Welfare and Public Health Service of The Republic of Uzbekistan.	D: -Execution of laws and regulations pertaining to public health and safety. -Establishment of sanitary and health and safety buffer zones. - Regular monitoring of E&S compliance in relation to impacts on environment and public	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Disclosure of project plans (objectives, design and activities). Request for information on sanitary and safety buffers for planned project facilities and existing utility assets and water bodies located in and around the project sites. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formal consultative letters/ correspondence. 	Prescribed a Health Protection Zone (HPZ) for the BESS site (September, 2023)





ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER	STAKEHOLDER	RELEVANCE CATEGORY	CONSULTATION AGENDA	MODE OF ENGAGEMENT	FEEDBACK; DATE OF LAST UPDATE
		health and safety.			
	Toza Hudud	A: State waste management agency that is responsible for the provision of waste collection and management services within project-affected makhallas (communities).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ad-hoc request for information on the availability, location and capacity of waste treatment and disposal facilities in the project affected districts and the broader Tashkent Region. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formal consultative letters/ correspondence. 	Provided information on locally available waste management facilities and nearby landfills (September, 2023)
	Ministry of Emergency Situations of the Republic of Uzbekistan.	I: Emergency response to natural disasters and other contingencies, and mobilization of humanitarian aid.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ad-hoc request for information on emergency response capacity and protocols, for natural and other contingencies in relation to the project (i.e., fire outbreak and river flooding). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formal consultative letters/ correspondence. 	Pending/ response not received.
MDAs – Industry, Commerce and Livelihoods	State Committee on Sericulture and Wool Development Industry.	D: Custodianship of land reserved for governmental, communal and private pastoral use.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Request for information on any existing pastoral land parcels in and around the project sites. Request for information on tenure of pastoral land. Informational on number of potentially affected herders. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formal consultative letters/ correspondence. 	No grazing lands are designated within the district (September, 2023)
	State Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan on Geology and Mineral Resources.	D: Provision of information on planned and existing mineral exploration surveys (and related exclusion zones within the project-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Request for information on any existing or planned prospecting areas in and around the project sites. Request for information on any geotechnically 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formal consultative letters/ correspondence. 	Pending/ response not received



ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER	STAKEHOLDER	RELEVANCE CATEGORY	CONSULTATION AGENDA	MODE OF ENGAGEMENT	FEEDBACK; DATE OF LAST UPDATE
		affected areas, and any geotechnically hazardous land.	hazardous land in and around the project sites.		
MDAs – Transportation	Ministry of Transportation.	I: Provision of information on the transport infrastructure within the project-affected areas, and execution of laws and regulations pertaining to the operation and maintenance of related infrastructure (e.g., tonnage, drainage, upgrade or extension of existing roads and traffic regulation).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ad-hoc request for feedback on any upgrades to the existing roads for the Project's construction and operational phases (in addition to directives from regional and/or district departments). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formal consultative letters/ correspondence. 	Pending/ response not received
MDAs – Labour	Ministry of Employment and Labour Relations of the Republic of Uzbekistan.	I: Execution of laws and regulations pertaining to the labour in Uzbekistan, and provision of guidelines to implement new legal requirements.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ad-hoc request for guiding information on any newly enacted legal requirements for local employment and labour conditions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formal consultative letters/ correspondence. 	Pending/ response not received
MDAs – Cultural Heritage	Academy of Sciences – Institute of Archaeology.	I: Provision of information on tangible and intangible cultural heritage within the project-affected areas, and completion of archaeological surveys for the national inventory of cultural heritage sites.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Request for information on any ongoing archaeological surveys in and around the project sites. Request for information on any archaeological findings and/or cultural heritage sites in and around the project sites. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formal consultative letters/ correspondence. 	Provided information of several archaeological exploration sites nearby the project sites; confirmed availability of in-house experts for pre-construction survey (June, 2023)

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER	STAKEHOLDER	RELEVANCE CATEGORY	CONSULTATION AGENDA	MODE OF ENGAGEMENT	FEEDBACK; DATE OF LAST UPDATE
	Academy of Sciences – Cultural Heritage Agency.	I: Provision of information on tangible and intangible cultural heritage within the project-affected areas, and execution of laws and regulations pertaining to the labour in Uzbekistan.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Request of information regarding any existing cultural heritage sites, or the potential for the existence any physical cultural resources within the sites. Request for information on any requisite archaeological surveys in and around the project sites. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formal consultative letters/ correspondence. 	Provided information of several cultural heritage sites nearby the project sites (June-October, 2023)
Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs)	Project Lenders (FLs)	D: Providing project finance and undertaking related due diligence over the period of the financing agreement.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feedback on the identification, assessment and management of project-related E&S risks, in the Project's planning and implementation stages. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formal dialogue as part of initial E&S due diligence, and subsequent E&S monitoring. 	Pending

5.2 Key Concerns and Feedback from Affected Communities

COMMUNITY/ AUDIENCE	PICTURES	DATE OF ENGAGEMENT AND FEEDBACK
Kavardan – Men	 <small>Juru Tashkent PV 08-08-2023 11:11 4:3577, 69.55321</small>	11/10/23 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unemployment levels are high locally. Expressed concern over spread of communicable diseases from worker influx. Expressed concern over EMF and public health.
Kavardan – Women	 <small>Juru Tashkent PV 08-08-2023 11:11 4:3577, 69.55321</small>	11/10/23 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Residents anticipate uninterrupted power supply. Raised concern over hazard to public health, from EMF. Raised concern over dust generation during construction. Expressed interest in project employment.
Sergeli – Men	 <small>Juru Tashkent PV 15.08.2023 09:16</small>	15/08/23 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Requested for information on project developer, timeline and location of BESS. Requested for employment opportunities.
Sergeli – Women		15/08/23 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Raised concern over impacts on human health (e.g. EMF). Expressed interest in project employment. Requested for assistance with infrastructural development, particularly construction of new roads, and installation of internal lighting.

COMMUNITY/ AUDIENCE	PICTURES	DATE OF ENGAGEMENT AND FEEDBACK
Kirgizovul – Men	 <p>Quru Energy FODALA TASH PV BESS AUGUST 4 Site Visit 15.08.2023 10:37 41.34661, 69.57045</p>	<p>15/08/23</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Requested for information on project benefits to the local community.
Kirgizovul – Women		<p>15/08/23</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Asked whether the project would result in a loss of grazing land.
Tashtoqizov – Men	 <p>JITU Tashtkent PV 08.08.2023 17:29</p>	<p>08/08/23</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Asked whether solar panels would be donated to local communities. Requested for power subsidies as many resident have disabilities. Questioned whether the price of electricity would change. Requested for connection with Project's HR department as local unemployment is high. Asked whether any trainings are being provided for qualification for project jobs.
Tashtoqizov – Women	 <p>JITU Tashtkent PV 08.08.2023 17:29 41.34661, 69.57045</p>	<p>08/08/23</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No further questions.

COMMUNITY/ AUDIENCE	PICTURES	DATE OF ENGAGEMENT AND FEEDBACK
Yangibod – Men		08/08/23 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Requested the name of the project developer.• Requested for information on the project timeline.
Yangibod – Women		08/08/23 No further questions.

5.3 Disclosure of E&S Documents

Upon the completion of the E&S safeguard documents for the Project's E&S due diligence, the documents will be issued for online disclosure on Project Company's website where they will be accessible to the public domain. The ESIA Non-Technical Summary, LALRP and SEP (including Grievance Mechanism) will be disclosed to locally based stakeholders within strategic Project Information Centres (PICs), such as employment assistance centres, post offices, community school libraries, Local Government Offices and country offices of Project Lenders.

The local disclosure of E&S safeguard documents will target stakeholder groups that were consulted during the ESIA process, including directly affected households (PAPs), other (indirectly affected) PAPs from project-affected communities, Local Government Authorities (LGAs) and any local NGOs. The disclosure meeting will also target those that were not consulted or were not available to participate during the draft ESIA public disclosure meeting.

The table below provides the ESIA public disclosure timetable.

Table 5-3 ESIA Public Disclosure Timetable

ACTIVITY	STAKEHOLDERS	ENGAGEMENT METHOD	TIMING AND FREQUENCY
Disclosure of E&S documents	All identified stakeholders	<p>Upon agreement with the lenders, the ESIA Report, ESIA Non-Technical Summary (NTS), SEP and LALRP will be fully disclosed online. The documents will be available on the website of the Project Company and Project Lenders prior to financial close.</p> <p>The same E&S documents will be made available in project information centres as per Section 6.9 of this document.</p> <p>The E&S safeguard documents will be issued in English and Russian on the websites, and in Russian or Uzbek (as appropriate) in PICs. Stakeholders will have the opportunity to raise comments or request additional information during this disclosure period, through the information channels provided for local and online disclosure.</p>	Minimum 30-60 day disclosure period prior to financial close
	Impacted Stakeholders (as identified in the project ESIA and contingent LALRP)	<p>Hard copies of the ESIA, NTS, LALRP and SEP will be provided to the PICs identified in Section 6.9, in English and Uzbek so that they are easily accessible to PAPs that do not have access to internet.</p> <p>This will also include distribution of leaflets and brochures.</p>	Within 2 weeks of uploading the ESIA documents to the websites of the Project Lenders and Project Company.
	Interest-based stakeholders	Key Informant Interviews (KIs) to disclose the Project impacts and mitigation, management and monitoring measures, access to the Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) (based on the outcomes of the ESIA, NTS, SEP and LALRP).	2 nd half of the ESIA disclosure period.
	Impacted Stakeholders (as identified in the project ESIA and contingent LALRP)	Community meetings and Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) to disclose the Project's impacts and mitigation, management and monitoring measures, access to the GRM (based on the outcomes of the ESIA, NTS, SEP and LALRP).	2 nd half of the ESIA disclosure

5.4 Measures to Avoid Reprisal

Stakeholders must be able to provide their feedback and raise concerns without fear of retaliation (e.g., threats, intimidation, harassment or violence) to ensure meaningful engagement during the lifecycle of the project. The following will be implemented by Project Company, appointed EPC and O&M Contractors, and all sub-contractors involved in the Project's construction and operational phases:

- Adopt a zero-tolerance policy to reprisals which will be reflected in project-specific Codes of Conduct and E&S/ HR Policies. This will be communicated to stakeholders during all engagements.
- If risks of retaliation become an issue (e.g., when stakeholder raise or signal concerns about their safety for expressing their opinions,) the stakeholder engagement process may need to be adapted to ensure safety of the participants (e.g., not disclosing venue or date of consultation etc.).
- Participants will be informed on the purpose of engagement/consultation and obtain consent to signing attendance sheet. Participants will be informed about how this information will be used and given the option not to have their names disclosed.
- Raise awareness among staff to ensure implementation of project-specific codes of conduct and train employees on expectation of their behaviours when communicating with host communities and project PAPs.
- Allegations of reprisals will be addressed with immediate effect. Responses will be taken in consultation with those at risk and measures for responding to reprisal and implementation will be agreed upon with victims. Personal information will not be disclosed.

5.5 Stakeholder Engagement During Construction and Commissioning

Stakeholders most likely to be affected by construction and commissioning activities will be engaged immediately prior to and during the construction and commissioning phases of the Project. Stakeholder engagement during construction and commissioning will allow decision-making stakeholders to assess whether E&S impact management measures and SEP commitments are working as intended, and to take corrective action for any demonstrated areas of E&S non-conformance. Effective management of stakeholder engagement during the construction and commissioning phases is important as it can set the precedent for the remainder of the project duration.

Construction and commissioning related engagement processes are set out below and will be the responsibility of the EPC Contractor, although the Project Company will ensure related oversight and ad-hoc intervention throughout these project phases.

Note: The engagement methods indicated in the forward SEP for the Project's construction phase will be used to introduce the Project Company's CLOs, who will take over stakeholder engagement and grievance management from the CLO team currently working for the local ESIA and LALRP Consultant (Juru Limited), upon the completion of the Project Company's E&S staffing and onboarding.

Table 5-4 Construction Phase SEP timetable

SN	ACTIVITY	STAKEHOLDERS	ENGAGEMENT METHOD	TIMING AND FREQUENCY	RESPONSIBLE PARTY
1	Compensation and livelihood restoration activities in line with LALRP	PAPs identified in LALRP.	In accordance with LALRP.	During project design, planning and construction, up until the completion of the LALRP (and relevant close-out audit)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Project Company social team (i.e., Social Specialist/ E&S Manager and CLOs) - LALRP Committee (including local community leaders)
2	Notify stakeholders of construction and commissioning activities including the timelines, and consultations regarding key ongoing and potential impacts.	Directly and indirectly impacted stakeholders.	<p>Official announcements in form of written notices will be posted at project site entry points and at strategic locations along the project sites and access roads, to advise of construction and commissioning commencement.</p> <p>Official announcements via electronic notices and/or community meetings will also be undertaken with directly impacted stakeholders to inform them of the construction commencement and any changes in project construction schedule.</p>	<p>Announcements to be undertaken prior to the start of construction and commissioning phases, and prior to any major activity that has the potential to impact affected communities (e.g., prior to commencement of earthworks at the BESS, prior to installation of fencing on the BESS site, prior to mobilisation of heavy equipment, etc).</p> <p>Official announcements via electronic communication and/or community meetings to be undertaken quarterly throughout construction phase of the project and upon any significant changes to construction activities or</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Project Company CLOs - EPC Contractor CLOs

SN	ACTIVITY	STAKEHOLDERS	ENGAGEMENT METHOD	TIMING AND FREQUENCY	RESPONSIBLE PARTY
				<p>processes.</p> <p>Ad-hoc FGDs will be held with men, women, youth and ethnic minorities (e.g., Istiqlol makhalla) for any gender-sensitive issues or issues raised by marginalized sections of affected communities.</p>	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Kavardan Community (located nearby the BESS site) - Istiqlol Community (located nearby the PV power plant site) 	Methods specified for other communities above	<p>Official announcements via electronic communication and/or community meetings to be undertaken monthly throughout the construction phase of the project and upon any significant changes to construction activities or processes.</p> <p>Meetings with community leaders to check for any grievances not submitted through the dedicated GRM, particularly those related to dust, noise and ground vibration, vehicle traffic, property damage, labour influx, and any health and safety hazards and incidents (including near misses).</p> <p>Community meetings to introduce the new CLO team under the Project Company, which will succeed the interim CLOs employed by the local ESIA</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Project Company CLOs - EPC Contractor CLOs

SN	ACTIVITY	STAKEHOLDERS	ENGAGEMENT METHOD	TIMING AND FREQUENCY	RESPONSIBLE PARTY
				and LRP Consultant (Juru).	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PAPs (i.e., residents and herders) based close to the BESS access road and site 	Announcements via phone calls, social media/ instant messaging platforms (e.g., Telegram) and site/ door-to-door visit)	Prior to the commencement of high-risk activities such as earthworks, roadworks, and mobilization of heavy transportation and HGVs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EPC Contractor CLOs
		Relevant LGAs; MDAs; and NGOs.	Written notices in coordination with relevant LGAs will be sent to provide information on construction and commissioning activities and timelines.	<p>Prior to the start of construction and commissioning phases. This will be updated as necessary within the construction and commissioning phases if there are changes to the planned activities or processes.</p> <p>Official announcements via electronic communication and/or community meetings to be undertaken quarterly throughout construction phase of the project and upon any significant changes to construction activities or processes.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project Company CLOs EPC Contractor CLOs
3	Communication of emergency preparedness and action plan	Residents in communities near the project sites.	Kills will be held with local authorities and community leaders to inform them of the emergency plan and to accommodate any concerns from their side. Based on the outcome of these meetings, it will	Prior to the start of construction and commissioning and updated if key changes to the plan occur.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project Company CLOs EPC Contractor CLOs

SN	ACTIVITY	STAKEHOLDERS	ENGAGEMENT METHOD	TIMING AND FREQUENCY	RESPONSIBLE PARTY
			be decided in coordination with LGAs whether ad-hoc community meetings and door-to-door sensitization for households in high-risk areas are necessary.		
		LGAs; relevant MDAs (including utilities and emergency service providers); relevant NGOs; Project Lenders.	Written notices to inform relevant agencies about the emergency response procedures in place and any required co-ordination for specific events. KIs will be held where necessary.	Prior to the start of construction and commissioning and updated if key changes to the plan occur.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Project Company CLOs - EPC Contractor CLOs
4	Sensitization to GBV and SEA/SH Prevention and Response	Women, men, and youth within communities near the Project sites.	FGDs will be held with women, men, young girls and boys in host communities nearby the Project site to educate them on reproductive health, STDs, gender-based violence and to encourage them to report any cases of GBV, SEA & SH.	On a quarterly basis throughout construction phase of the project.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Project Company CLOs - EPC Contractor CLOs
5	Independent Environmental & Social Monitoring & Reporting (to include GBV – SEA/SH prevention and response activities, number of grievances handled, SEA/SH awareness creation trainings provided for project staff, etc.)	Project Lenders.	E&S audits to assess compliance with regulatory requirements and performance requirements stipulated by Project Lenders.	On a quarterly basis throughout construction and commissioning phase of the Project.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Independent E&S Consultant - Project Company CLOs - EPC Contractor CLOs

SN	ACTIVITY	STAKEHOLDERS	ENGAGEMENT METHOD	TIMING AND FREQUENCY	RESPONSIBLE PARTY
6	Implementation of grievance mechanism	All identified stakeholders.	As described in Section 6 of this document.	Established at the start of construction and commissioning phases and updated throughout to facilitate rapid and effective response.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Project Company social team (i.e., Social Specialist/ E&S Manager and CLOs) - EPC Contractor social team (i.e., Social Specialist/ E&S Manager and CLOs)
7	Implementation of the C-ESMP and supplementary plans for the monitoring of E&S impacts during construction	Uzsuvtaminot	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Site walkovers, inspections, and audits as part of internal E&S monitoring during construction. - External Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM). 	<p>As specified in the C-ESMP, supplementary E&S management plans.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ad-hoc meetings involving members of the Project's E&S Committee (involving Project Company and EPC Contractor HSSE staff). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Project Company E&S Manager - EPC Contractor HSSE/ E&S team - Relevant specialists/ engineers from Uzsuvtaminot
8	Implementation of the technical conditions and safeguards for the installation of the BESS interconnection cable above the buried Category I	Uztransgaz	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Technical consultations (i.e., correspondence and meetings). - Joint site visits. - Briefing watch by Uzsuvtaminot engineers/ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - As specified in the compulsory technical conditions (issued by Uztransgaz) attached to the C-ESMP. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Project Company E&S Manager - EPC Contractor H&S team - Relevant specialists/

SN	ACTIVITY	STAKEHOLDERS	ENGAGEMENT METHOD	TIMING AND FREQUENCY	RESPONSIBLE PARTY
	gas pipeline		technicians.		engineers from Uztransgaz
9	Protection and preservation of known and unknown tangible cultural heritage in and around the project sites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Institute of Archaeology - Cultural Heritage Agency 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Technical consultations and joint site visits to ascertain and delineate protective buffers for designated cultural heritage/ archaeological sites located nearby the BESS and underground cable sites. - Technical consultations and joint site visits in the event of suspected/ confirmed archaeological chance finds within the BESS and underground cable sites. - Briefing watch for earthworks within the BESS and underground cable sites by government archaeologist appointed by the Institute of Archaeology. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - As specified in the C-ESMP and Archaeological Chance Finds Procedure. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Project Company E&S Manager - EPC Contractor CLO/ social specialist - Government archaeologists from CHA and Institute of Archaeology

5.6 Stakeholder Engagement During Operation

Stakeholder engagement during the operational phase of the Project will be the responsibility of the Project Company. It will be important for the Project Company to ensure a smooth transition between stakeholder engagements from construction and commissioning phase to operational phase of the Project by understating the approaches that have been most effective during construction and commissioning phases. It will be important to sustain these techniques to avoid decrease in the frequency of stakeholder engagements, as the stakeholders are already familiar with the typical processes for engagement.

Table 5-5 Operational Phase SEP Timetable

SN	ACTIVITY	STAKEHOLDERS	ENGAGEMENT METHOD	TIMING AND FREQUENCY	RESPONSIBLE PARTIES
1	Livelihood restoration activities in line with LALRP	PAPs identified in LALRP.	In accordance with LALRP.	During operations (depending on the duration of LALRP program, up until the completion of the LALRP (and relevant close-out audit))	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Project Company social team (i.e., Social Specialist/ E&S Manager and CLOs) - LALRP Committee (including local community leaders)
2	Notify stakeholders of commissioning and operational activities including the timelines, and consultations regarding key ongoing and potential impacts.	Directly and indirectly impacted stakeholders.	<p>Official announcements in form of written notices will be posted at entry points within project sites and strategic locations along the access road to advise of commencement of the operational phase of the Project.</p> <p>Community meetings to introduce the new CLO team under the Project Company, which will succeed the interim CLOs employed by the local ESIA and LRP Consultant (Juru).</p>	<p>At least 2 months prior to commencement of operations; and</p> <p>Prior to the commencement of high-risk activities such as maintenance roadworks, mobilization of heavy transportation, or electrical maintenance along the underground cable.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Project Company social team (i.e., Social Specialist/ E&S Manager and CLOs) - EPC Contractor social team (i.e., Social Specialist/ E&S Manager and CLOs) - O&M Contractor social team (i.e., E&S Manager etc.)

SN	ACTIVITY	STAKEHOLDERS	ENGAGEMENT METHOD	TIMING AND FREQUENCY	RESPONSIBLE PARTIES
		PAPs (i.e., residents and herders) based close to the BESS access road and site	Announcements via phone calls, social media/ instant messaging platforms (e.g., Telegram) and site/ door-to-door visit		- EPC Contractor CLOs
		Relevant LGAs; MDAs; and NGOs.	Written notices in coordination with relevant LGAs will be issued to provide information on operational phase activities and timelines.		- Project Company social team (i.e., Social Specialist/ E&S Manager and CLOs) - O&M Contractor social team (i.e., E&S Manager etc.)
3	Upon development of and any updates related to the emergency preparedness and action plan, or other HSE related matters that may affect local external parties	Residents in communities near project sites.	KIIs will be held with local authorities and community leaders to inform them of the emergency plan and to optimise with any concerns from their side. Based on the outcome of these meetings, it will be decided in coordination with local government whether ad-hoc community meetings and door-to-door sensitization for	2 months prior to the commencement of operations and updated if there are key changes to the plan occur.	- Project Company social team (i.e., Social Specialist/ E&S Manager and CLOs) - O&M Contractor social team (i.e.,

SN	ACTIVITY	STAKEHOLDERS	ENGAGEMENT METHOD	TIMING AND FREQUENCY	RESPONSIBLE PARTIES
			households in high-risk areas are necessary.		E&S Manager etc.)
		LGAs; relevant MDAs (including utilities and emergency service providers); relevant NGOs; Project Lenders.	Written notices informing the applicable government agencies/authorities about the emergency response procedures in place and any required co-ordination for specific events. Bilateral meetings will be held where necessary.		
4	Sensitization to GBV and SEA/SH Prevention and Response	Women, young girls and boys within communities nearby project sites.	FGDs will be held with women, young girls and boys in the communities nearby project sites to educate them on reproductive health, STDs, gender-based violence and to encourage them to report any cases of GBV, SEA & SH.	On an annual basis throughout operational phase of the project.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Project Company CLOs - O&M Contractor social team (i.e., E&S Manager etc.)
5	Independent Environmental & Social Monitoring & Reporting (to include GBV – SEA/SH prevention and response activities, number of grievances handled, SEA/SH awareness creation trainings provided for project staff, etc).	Project Lenders and other interest-based stakeholders.	E&S audits to assess compliance with regulatory requirements and performance requirements stipulated by Project Lenders.	On an annual basis throughout operational phase of the project.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Independent E&S Consultant - Project Company CLOs - O&M Contractor social team (i.e., E&S Manager etc.)
6	Implementation of grievance mechanism	All identified stakeholders—including project workforce.	As described in Section 6 of this document.	Established at the start of operations and managed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Project Company social team (i.e.,

SN	ACTIVITY	STAKEHOLDERS	ENGAGEMENT METHOD	TIMING AND FREQUENCY	RESPONSIBLE PARTIES
				throughout the entirety of the operational phase to facilitate rapid and effective response.	Social Specialist/ E&S Manager and CLOs) - EPC Contractor social team (i.e., Social Specialist/ E&S Manager and CLOs)
7	Implementation of the O-ESMP and supplementary plans for the monitoring of E&S impacts during operations	Uzsuvtaminot	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Site inspections, and audits as part of internal E&S monitoring during operations. - External Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM). 	As specified in the O-ESMP, supplementary E&S management plans. Ad-hoc meetings involving members of the Project's E&S Committee (involving Project Company and O&M Contractor).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Project Company E&S Manager - O&M Contractor HSSE/ E&S team - Relevant specialists/ engineers from Uzsuvtaminot

6 GRIEVANCE MECHANISM

The Project's activities (during construction, commissioning and operation) may result in potential nuisances for stakeholders, or environmental and social impacts and as such the establishment of a grievance mechanism to address potential complaints from affected parties. The aim of the grievance mechanism is establishing a system to receive and facilitate resolution of the stakeholder's concerns and grievances about the Project's environmental and social performance.

The grievance mechanism is an important part of stakeholder engagement and will be in place from the E&S disclosure process, throughout construction and operations through the end of the Project life. The grievance mechanism will use an understandable and transparent process that is culturally appropriate and readily accessible at no cost; so, all stakeholders/affected parties will have the opportunity to raise a complaint.

The overall responsibility and accountability for the grievance mechanism will be held by the Project Company. However, implementation may be delegated and fall under separate parties, depending on whether the grievance is related to the construction, commissioning or the operational phases, i.e., EPC Contractor during construction and commissioning and O&M Company during operations.

6.1 Key Principles of Grievance Mechanism

The grievance mechanism for the Project will comply with the following principles:

- The purpose of the grievance mechanism procedure will be clarified at the outset;
- The process will be scaled to the risks and impacts of the Project;
- The process will be transparent and accountable to all stakeholders by putting it into writing, publicising it and explaining it to relevant stakeholders;
- The grievance mechanism will be made clear, understandable and easily accessible by providing information in the local language and orally where communities cannot read and/or write;
- Complaints or concerns will be rapidly resolved;
- The mechanism will not involve any costs nor retribution associated with lodging a grievance; and
- Precautionary measures such as clear non-retaliation policy, confidentiality measures and safeguarding of personal data collected in relation to a complaint, as well as an option to submit grievances anonymously will be in place.

6.2 Scope of Grievance Mechanism

The scope of the grievance mechanism is to evaluate and address stakeholders' problems and concerns regarding project activities, the implementation of mitigation and compensation measures as per the ESIA and environmental and social performance of the Project.

All relevant claims from affected stakeholders will be accepted and no judgment made prior to investigation, even if complaints are minor. This includes complaints in relation to gender-based violence, sexual exploitation and abuse, sexual harassment, conflict between project employees and community members etc.

However, according to good practice, the following claims will be directed outside of Project-level mechanisms:

- Complaints clearly not related to the project based on assessment of their legitimacy.
- Issues related to governmental policy and government institutions.
- Complaints constituting criminal activity and violence, which will be referred to law enforcement and the judicial system.
- Commercial disputes: Commercial matters will be stipulated for in contractual agreements and issues will be resolved through a variety of commercial resolution mechanisms or civil courts.

In the event that any of the grievances are rejected at the screening stage, the complainant will be informed of this decision including a justification why.

6.3 Steps in Managing Grievance Mechanism

6.3.1 Publicising Grievance Management Procedures.

Stakeholders categorized as "Affected Entities (A)" will be informed about the purpose and structure of the GRM, and the process for the management of project-related grievances at the early stages of the ESIA. For affected communities and vulnerable constituencies in particular, the introduction of the GRM will create awareness around the stakeholders' rights to invoke the Project's GRM facilities. The following methods will be used for publicizing the GRM:

- Formal consultative letters/ correspondence.
- Official announcements.
- Community meetings.

- FGDs and KIs.
- Household surveys during ESIA baseline studies.

The GRM will be widely publicized within project-affected communities, using project introduction leaflets where appropriate. The information provided will be available in both English, Uzbek and Russian and will include the following:

- What Project-level mechanisms are capable of delivering and what benefits complainants can receive from using the company's grievance mechanism, as opposed to other resolution mechanisms;
- Who can raise complaints (i.e., all stakeholders);
- Where, when, and how community members can file complaints;
- Who is responsible for receiving and responding to complaints;
- What sort of response complainants can expect from the company, including timing of response; and
- What other rights and protection are guaranteed.

6.3.2 Submitting a Grievance

The GRM will allow for the delivery of oral and/or written grievance by aggrieved entities. Reporting channels for external grievances will include:

- General consultation forums (i.e., community assemblies, FGDs, KIs).
- Phone calls.
- Email correspondence.
- Grievance box at entry points to project sites.
- Written/ oral delivery to project personnel, including CLOs, security personnel (security personnel at the Project's entry points and site office(s) must be aware and trained to deal with any grievances appropriately).

Information will be provided at the project site entry points, at the location of grievance boxes to inform people about the process and timeline to follow up their grievances.

For illiterate complainants or those that prefer to submit their grievances verbally, they will have the possibility to meet with the relevant CLOs (or other competent members of the E&S team) who will take notes on the details of the complainant and read them out loud to the complainant to confirm that the key elements of the complaint have been captured. Where the respective E&S personnel are not available, security staff will take the grievances and ensure these are registered via the formal grievance process.

If an anonymous grievance (e.g., letter or email without details about the complainant) or the grievant requests to remain anonymous is submitted, the grievance will also be accepted and processed.

Note: During the Project's construction phase, the CLOs will communicate with local community leaders and district khokimiyats on a monthly basis (or upon relevant notifications from these parties) concerning any grievances not reported through the dedicated GRM information channels.

Customary (or conventional) platforms for reporting community grievances may include written and oral communication with local community leaders and members of the district khokimiyats (including those raised in community meetings and social media broadcasts).

The project CLOs will monitor any grievances raised on these alternative platforms on a regular basis and register any such complaints on the project grievance logs for redressal procedures in line with the dedicated external GRM.

6.3.3 Keeping Track of Grievances

Upon receipt of grievances through the above-listed information channels, the steps below will be followed to ensure all grievances are adequately investigated in order to avoid leaving any issues or concerns raised opened.

- The grievance will be recorded in a form of registers (i.e., internal/ worker and external/ third party grievance logs). The register will contain:
 - Details of the grievance
 - The personnel/division(s) responsible for resolving the grievance
 - Process tracking fields (receipt dates, status, result dates)
 - Response provided to the complainant
 - Corrective and preventive actions taken to prevent reoccurrence of such complaint.
- The grievances will be acknowledged as soon as possible (no later than a week from reception) by sending a formal confirmation with a complaint number and a timeline for response to the compliant to assure the complainant that the organization is responding properly.
- In cases of sensitive grievances, such as those involving multiple interests and a large number of affected people or those relating to sexual abuse and

harassment or gender-based violence, where a more complex investigation is required, the complainant will receive an update within two weeks of the grievance being received, explaining the actions required to resolve the complaint, and the likely timeframe; and

- The Project Company will explain in the first letter of acknowledgment, which claims are clearly outside the scope of the mechanism and what alternative mechanisms communities can use to address these potential issues.

6.3.4 Reviewing and Investigating Grievances

Depending on the circumstances of complaints made, various departments may need to be involved in resolving the complaints. The person(s) responsible for handling grievance will organize the process to validate the complaints legitimacy and arrange for investigation of details.

When grievances are complex and cannot be resolved quickly, an extensive investigation may be required to prevent escalation of the issue. The responsible and accountable party remains the Project Company, although the investigation and review may be delegated to the EPC Contractor, at the construction stage. The grievance mechanism must conform to the principle of 'no cost'. If the investigation team is formed internally, issues that will be taken into consideration include potential conflicts of interest, qualifications, gender composition, and budget. Meetings with complainants and site visits will be undertaken, as appropriate.

All grievances will be investigated by the responsible Project party within two weeks of submission. Where grievances require a longer duration for investigation, the grievant will be informed of this delay and advised of the expected timeline for a response.

In cases of sensitive grievances - such as those involving multiple interests or those relating to sexual abuse and harassment or gender-based violence or community related conflict- it may help to engage outside organizations in a joint investigation, or allow for participation of local or national authorities only if the complainants agree to this approach.

6.3.5 Grievance Resolution Options and Response

The approach used in resolving various types of grievances will be differential depending on the nature of the issue, frequency of occurrence and the number of grievances. Rather than prescribing a specific procedure for each particular type of complaint, the flexibility of the grievance mechanism allows for resolution options appropriate for different types of grievances to be provided. For example, these options may include altering or halting harmful activities or restricting their timing and scope (e.g. for construction dust, noise or

access road noise), facilitating reconciliation and pardons, and revising the stakeholder engagement strategy.

Resolution to the grievance will be communicated to the grievant either in written format or verbally depending on what format the grievant has selected as preferred, but in all cases a written record will be kept by the Company. In cases where the grievance/claim is rejected or where the company does not require action, the company representative will be diplomatic when informing the grievant about the outcome of the eligibility review process so as to prevent conflict from escalating.

Where the claim is accepted, a proposed solution will be provided and communicated to the grievant within a stipulated period. If the grievant does not accept the proposed resolution, the company would re-assess the situation, discuss and clarify the finding with the grievant and make sure that all alternatives within the grievance mechanism are explored. If the grievant is still not satisfied with the proposed resolution, the grievant can take the dispute resolution mechanism outside of the company grievance mechanism (external mechanism).

Note: The project GM does not replace any other available grievance mechanism including legal ones.

Where a proposed solution is accepted or agreed upon by all parties involved, the case will be closed out and evidence that necessary actions have taken place will be collected. Such evidence includes:

- Conducting a meeting with the complainant to reach a collective agreement or get a confirmation and file it along with the case documentation to close out the claim; and
- Take photos or collect other documentary evidence to create a comprehensive record of the grievance and how they were resolved.

Where the grievant is not satisfied with the outcome of the proposed resolution, actions concerning further discussion and re-assessment shall be completed and advised within 2-weeks of notification of dissatisfaction by the grievant.

6.4 Grievance Mechanism in Construction and Commissioning Phase

The construction and commissioning phase will require two separate grievance mechanisms to be implemented for the following parties:

- Internal parties; Construction and commissioning personnel, workers, project staff, (including sub-contractors' staff and visitors); and

- External parties.

Although the Project Company will remain responsible and accountable, the EPC Contractor will manage internal and external grievance mechanisms. A member of staff will be assigned the responsibility to receive and follow up on all grievances. They will also be required to train related staff (as outlined below). Grievances will be investigated by the EPC Contractor and may require co-ordination with the project company or other sub-contractors. All received grievances will be acknowledged within a week of receipt, or quicker depending on the urgency of the grievance.

Adequate resources will be allocated to the assigned staff member responsible for managing stakeholder engagement. This designated staff member will also be responsible for following up and managing grievances. An additional team or part of an existing team may support the member of staff; however, the staff will be experienced in engagement processes and will be familiar with the lender requirement for stakeholder engagement.

External grievance forms will be made available in Uzbek, Russian, Chinese and English at the site entrance gate. Sealed and locked 'grievance boxes' will be made available at the Project site entrance for grievance form submission. The contact details of the E&S Manager will be advertised at the notice board at the site's main entrance gate, once the individual has been appointed. The process for recording, reviewing, following up and responding to will be the same as detailed in sub-section 7.3.

Where external complaints are received by telephone, letters or email these will also be formally recorded and followed up appropriately by the designated representative. The solution to the grievance will be communicated to the grievant depending on the format the grievant has selected as preferred. In cases where the grievance/complaint is rejected, the company representative will be diplomatic when informing the grievant about the outcome of the resolution process so as to prevent conflict from escalating.

The company would re-assess the situation, organise a meeting with the complainant and local community members responsible for arbitration during conflicts or mediating of conflicting groups to discuss and clarify the findings and make sure that all alternatives within the grievance mechanism are explored.

Formal records of the grievance submission, investigation, determination of root cause (if any), corrective and preventative actions and any follow up (including monitoring) will be recorded in a grievance follow up form and maintained as documented information, with all other associated evidence of follow-up or corrective/close-out actions.

The follow up form will state all actions taken to resolve the grievance and any further dialogue that had ensued, as well as any future monitoring of the situation or other planned

actions. The completed and signed off forms will be kept in a dedicated grievance mechanism folder, which will be made available for review to applicable external parties such as independent environmental and social auditors.

Irrespective of the type of grievance and level of response, all grievances raised by workers and third parties (including affected communities) will be recorded and reported to the Project Company, and project lenders, as part of regular E&S monitoring and reporting. Specific Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) will be used for the monitoring and evaluation of grievance management during construction.

Note: Personal data and records will be protected and only used for the purpose of grievance resolution or analysis. No personal data will be disclosed or reported publicly.

HSSE issues requiring emergency response will be reported through dedicated emergency reporting channels, in line with the occupational and community health and safety plans, as well as the Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan.

6.5 Grievance Mechanism in Operational Phase

The grievance mechanism in the operational phase of the Project will be similar to that of the construction and commissioning phase. The grievance mechanism will be available for both internal and external-parties.

A member of staff will be assigned and responsible for managing internal and external grievances received (recording, reviewing, investigating, and responding) appropriately. Internal grievance forms will be made available in Uzbek, Russian and English at key locations on-site with a sealed and locked 'post box' available for submitting grievance at every location. The post box will be checked regularly.

External grievance forms will be made available in both Uzbek, Russian and English at the site entrance gate. Sealed and locked 'grievance boxes' will be made available at the Project site entrance for grievance form submission. The process for recording, reviewing, following up and responding to will be the same as detailed above. All grievances during operations will be recorded for a minimum of 5 years, with records being kept on site.

Where external grievances are received by letters or email these will also be formally recorded and followed up appropriately by the designated representative. The contact

details of the E&S Manager will be advertised at the notice board at the site's main entrance gate, once the individual has been appointed.

There will be worker representatives selected by workers at sites who will be involved in grievance management and in coordination with representatives from trade unions.

HSSE issues requiring emergency response will be reported through dedicated emergency reporting channels, in line with the occupational and community health and safety plans, as well as the Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan.

6.6 Grievance Procedures for Women and Vulnerable and Disadvantaged Groups

The following procedures will be implemented by the Project Company and EPC Contractor to ensure GBVH cases are reported:

- Workers will be provided with information regarding worker code of conduct in local languages as part of their employment contract which will include provisions for reporting, investigations, termination and disciplinary action against those who perpetrate gender violence and harassment.
- The Project Company and EPC Contractor will conduct mandatory regular training and awareness raising for the workforce on gender-based violence and harassment towards local community members and their colleagues especially women and the availability of a grievance mechanism to report any GBVH cases.
- The workers will be made aware of the laws and regulations that make sexual harassment and gender-based violence a punishable offence which is prosecuted.
- Ensure inclusion of a balanced representation of women on the HSE team and CLO who will be easily relatable and approachable to female workers.
- Develop tools for anonymous sexual harassment complaints by workers and host community members and protect the confidentiality of the complainants.
- The Project Company and EPC Contractor will work in close coordination with the local authorities in investigating any complaints relating to gender violence and harassment in the host communities where it relates to Project workers.
- The EPC Contractor will provide targeted training (including in life skills such as leadership and decision-making) and awareness raising to vulnerable workers such as women; and
- Develop a monitoring system to monitor GBV activities to assess the effectiveness of the controls.

6.6.1 Reporting of Gender Based Violence and Harassment (GBVH)

Channels and tools for anonymous reporting of GBVH shall be developed. The reporting channels shall ensure safety and confidentiality to encourage reporting of such incidents. The reporting channels shall include complaint/feedback boxes, a toll -free telephone number, a designated community organisation (e.g., NGOs, etc.), service-user group or local women's organisation. Reporting channels shall include anonymous and child friendly options to encourage children and young people to come forward.

6.7 Grievance Mechanism Contact Details

The following details will be provided to the stakeholders in order to be able to submit their grievances or comments regarding the proposed Project.

Note: The engagement methods indicated in the forward SEP for the Project's construction phase will be used to introduce the Project Company's CLOs, who will take over stakeholder engagement and grievance management from the CLO team currently working for the local ESIA and LALRP Consultant (Juru Limited), upon the completion of the Project Company's E&S staffing and onboarding.

Table 6-1 Contact details for GRM points of contact (at project planning stage)

COMMUNITY LIAISON OFFICER (CLO)	COMPANY	CONTACT DETAILS
Iroda Malikova	Juru Limited/ 5 Capitals	Email: i.malikova@juru.org Mob: +998770675550 Work: +998712020440
Oybek Rajabov	Juru Limited/ 5 Capitals	Email: o.rajabov@juru.org Mob: +998901177334 Work: +998712020440
Lidia Bakhova	Juru Limited/ 5 Capitals	Email: l.bakhova@juru.org Mob: +998910091639 Work: +998712020440

Table 6-2 Contact details for GRM points of contact (at project implementation stage)

COMPANY	CONTACT DETAILS
Project Company	Name: Khaled AlGammaz Tel: +998 95 115 5106 Email: kalgammaz@acwapower.com
EPC Contractor	Name: Arsalan Habib Tel: +998 95 140 9061 Email: habib_a@ceec.net.cn
O&M Company	Name: Alisher Ametov Tel: +998 99 460 5667 Email: alisher.ametov@nomac.com

The Project Company and EPC Contractor/ O&M Company contact details will be confirmed before the commencement of the construction and operational phases as applicable.

6.8 Process Flow and Timeline

Table 6-3 Grievance Process and Timeline

STAGE	TIMELINE
Grievance is received/submitted	-
Grievance is logged and acknowledged	Within 7 working days of grievance being submitted
Grievance is investigated	Within 14 working days of grievance being submitted*
Proposed resolution conveyed to grievant	Within 14 working days of grievance being submitted
If applicable following dissatisfaction of resolution by Grievant	
Actions to re-assess grievance/propose new solution/inform Grievant of final decision	Within 14 working days of notification of dissatisfaction by Grievant
In the event that a grievance cannot be resolved between the two parties a mediator will be involved i.e. local leaders who understand the culture and practices within the Project site.	Within 14 working days of notification of dissatisfaction by the Grievant.
The LRP Committee will be invoked, for ultimate extrajudicial recourse for grievances related to livelihood impacts. Note: The intended objectives and constitution of the LRP Committee are provided in Section 7.1.5 of this Plan	Within 30 working days of notification of dissatisfaction by the Grievant.
Note: In the event that certain complexities result in protracted investigation and remedies, the Grievant will be informed of any such delays and advised on the updated timeline to response, with monthly status updates until time of grievance closure.	

6.9 Project Information Centre

The table below provides the proposed locations where project documents can be disclosed in the Project area so that local community members can physically access project documents.

Table 6-4 Locations for Accessing Project Documents

MUNICIPALITY/VILLAGE	LOCATION	JUSTIFICATION
Yuqorichirchik District	The employment assistance centre or post office at Yuqorichirchik District Khokimiyat	This employment centre is the centre for establishing grievance boxes in the district and it serves as an information centre for local residents as well.
Parkent District	The employment assistance centre or post office at Parkent District Khokimiyat	This employment centre is the centre for establishing grievance boxes in the town and it serves as an information centre for local residents as well.

The Project Company and EPC Contractor will be required to undertake further consultation with community leaders and elders to determine the suitability of the proposed locations. If necessary, the locations proposed in the table above will be updated. In addition to the availability of project information and documents at the proposed locations, grievances will also be received at these community offices/centres. All grievances received will be processed in a timely manner as outlined in Section 6.3 of this document.

Custodians of project information and E&S documents at the PICs will be appointed by community leaders and members of the district administration. The SEP will be communicated to the custodians and local leadership, to arrange for the delivery of documents for communal reference. Any questions, comments and grievances with regard to the project documents will be received and addressed as part of the external/ third-party GRM.

Furthermore, the Project Company in coordination with relevant LGAs will install an information board at the entrance of District Khokimiyat offices to provide non-technical information about the project which will include a project map, the construction schedule, GRM contact details, job opportunities available to locals, etc.

6.10 Training

- It will be the responsible of Project management to endorse the grievance mechanism and ensure that they are aware of the availability of this process. It is also necessary for Project management to ensure that personnel are allocated to manage the grievance mechanism.

- These personnel shall be made fully aware of the outlined grievance mechanism and have access to this document to ensure that they can undertake the necessary duties for effective implementation; and
- As grievances can be submitted/taken at the Project entrance, it will be necessary to ensure that security staff are trained in regard to this process and have access to this document and any applicable forms, contact details of responsible project parties etc.
- All staff will be advised of the availability of the grievance mechanism in the Project induction, including its key features such as how to submit gender-based violence & harassment incidences, processes and where to access it.

7 IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

In order for project SEP to function effectively, it is important to determine a management structure and assign suitable personnel for the implementation of the SEP commitments.

7.1 Roles and Responsibilities

Note: The roles below are subject to review upon the completion of E&S staffing under the Project Company, EPC Contractor and O&M Company, and the allocation of specific roles and responsibilities within E&S teams.

The responsibilities of the E&S Manager and Community Liaison Officer are to be outlined below once confirmed by the Project Company and EPC Contractor/ O&M Company.

7.1.1 Social Specialist (Project Company)

NAME	Shohzod Rizoqulov
CONTACT DETAILS	Tel: +998 95 115 5108 Email: srizoqulov@acwapower.com

The Social Specialist to be employed by the Project Company will be responsible for the following in the duration of the construction phase:

- Overseeing the development of a Stakeholder Engagement Plan by the Project Company and EPC Contractor during construction, and by the Project Company (and any O&M Contractors) during operations;
- Leading the implementation of the Stakeholder Engagement Plan in subsequent phases of project implementation, in coordination with CLOs employed on the EPC Contractor's end;
- Overseeing the resolution of community grievances pertaining to land acquisition (applicability to be confirmed) prior to the commencement of the Project's construction phase as well as those pertaining to subsequent project operations;
- Overseeing grievance redressal by the EPC Contractor's CLOs in the course of project construction.

7.1.2 HSE Manager (Project Company)

NAME	Khaled AlGammaz
CONTACT DETAILS	Tel: +998 95 115 5106 Email: kalgammaz@acwapower.com

The HSE Manager is responsible for:

- Ensuring stakeholders are recognised as partners in the development and delivery of strategic goals;
- Assisting the stakeholder management unit to effectively consult and engage stakeholders;
- Advising Senior Management of issues and/or risks to stakeholder relationship as soon as they arise so risk can be managed effectively;
- Supporting the implementation and management of the SEP;
- Getting involved in stakeholder engagement activities that relate directly to HSE concerns or emergency planning; and
- Engaging with any external stakeholders with respect to emergency planning, drills, and instances of emergency as appropriate.

7.1.3 HSE Manager (EPC Contractor)

NAME	Arsalan Habib
CONTACT DETAILS	Tel: +998 95 140 9061 Email: habib_a@ceec.net.cn

The EPC Contractor will employ/nominate the Environmental and Social Manager during the construction and commissioning phase and the Project Company during the operation phase. The Project Company HSE Manager will oversee the Environmental and Social Manager. The Environmental and Social Manager is responsible for:

- Implementation of all aspects of the SEP ensuring that the Project is compliant with lenders requirements;
- Identifying stakeholder issues and acting appropriately to address those issues.
- Ensuring that the SEP and the available engagement methods are publicised by the Community Liaison Officer;
- Ensuring that Project personnel are well briefed in regard to the SEP and grievance mechanism (including security personnel), and that the required resources (e.g. vehicles, company phones, office materials) are provided;
- Ensuring stakeholder meeting and disclosure of information are managed properly.
- Supervising the processing and resolution of all grievances; and
- Supervising the independent periodic monitoring and disclosure of the non-technical summary of the audit reports and of the full reports if required.

7.1.4 Community Liaison Officer (EPC Contractor)

NAME	Arsalan Habib (Interim CLO)
CONTACT DETAILS	Tel: +998 95 140 9061 Email: habib_a@ceec.net.cn

In order to maintain regular communication with affected stakeholders, a Community Liaison Officer (CLO) will be employed/nominated (this role may be shared by the nominated E&S Manager). The CLO will be knowledgeable about the project region and will have a working proficiency in Russian and Uzbek. The responsibilities of the CLO include:

- Identifying, informing and recording public views, opinions & grievances and or relaying them to the necessary personnel for follow up;
- Setting up a grievance complaint tracker system to keep track of the type of complaints filed, the complainant and status of each complaint;
- Publicising and distributing information to applicable stakeholders and translation of the material into applicable languages;
- Handling minor, straightforward issues such as those related to a complainants request for information;
- Obtaining clarification from other members of management in regard to dealing with specific grievances, such as a need to notify the Project Company (or other Project parties) in regard to the content or response to specific grievances;
- Ensuring all received external grievances are properly recorded, addressed and managed within the specified timelines as detailed in this procedure; and
- Keeping up to date with any changes in compliance obligations with respect to stakeholder engagement and grievances.

7.1.5 LRP Committee

A cross-cutting LRP committee will be established with the primary aims of (i) aiding the resolution of community grievances pertaining to the implementation of the LALRP, and (ii) validating the eligibility of any additional (emergent) PAHs for LALRP entitlements.

The Committee will be instituted upon the disclosure of the LALRP to local communities within Parkent District and remain operational for up to one year from the start of construction activities within the BESS and underground interconnection cable sites.

The Committee will serve to fulfil the following specific responsibilities:

- Create local awareness around the role of LRP Committee in relation to the Project's LALRP.

- Establish the verification procedures and criteria for claims to compensation and supplementary LALRP benefits in connection with project-related economic displacement.
- Establish a timeline for the disbursement of compensation payments after a claim has been verified.
- Maintain a record of all related claims, review, and delivery of additional entitlements (i.e., minutes of meeting etc.).

The committee will be instrumental in verifying potential claims to compensation and supplementary livelihoods restoration assistance from any PAHs who were not identified at the time of this assessment. The LRP Committee will be constituted by the following parties:

- Local leaders from Sergeli and Kavardan makhallas.
- A representative from the cadastral department of the Parkent District Khokimiyat
- Social Specialist/ senior CLO from the Project Company
- Elected representatives of PAHs

All external parties constituting the LRP Committee will receive comprehensive induction training in the objectives of livelihood restoration planning in line with key mandatory and lender requirements. The parties will be familiarized with the Project, livelihood impacts from associated land-take, livelihood restoration remedies, and the E&S organization dedicated to LALRP implementation and management of community grievances.

7.2 Monitoring and Reporting

The following Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) should be considered to evaluate the progress or successful implementation of the SEP. KPIs should be accounted on a monthly basis.

Table 7-1 KPIs for monitoring and evaluation of the construction-phase and O&M SEP

KPI No.	KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS (KPIs)	TARGETS	TARGET TIMEFRAME	MEANS OF VERIFICATION (MOV)	M&E FREQUENCY	RESPONSIBILITY
1	Cumulative number of grievances related to local community health, safety, security, social and environmental issues, by topic ¹	Decreasing	Throughout construction and operation	Third-party (external) grievance logs	Monthly; quarterly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project Company • EPC Contractor (during construction) • O&M Contractor (during operations)
2	Fraction of cumulative grievances that are pending/ unresolved	100% of lodged grievances have been closed out	Throughout construction and operation	Third-party (external) grievance logs	Monthly; quarterly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project Company • EPC Contractor (during construction) • O&M Contractor (during operations)
3	Number of grievances not resolved in less than 3 months and 6 months (separately)	100% of lodged grievances have been closed out within 6 months from the time of their receipt	Throughout construction and operation	Third-party (external) grievance logs	Monthly; quarterly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project Company • EPC Contractor (during construction) • O&M Contractor (during

¹ This count will include both closed and pending grievances. The cumulative grievance count will be broken down by grievance topic, for due monitoring, reporting, and management.

KPI No.	KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS (KPIs)	TARGETS	TARGET TIMEFRAME	MEANS OF VERIFICATION (MOV)	M&E FREQUENCY	RESPONSIBILITY
						operations)
4	Average cumulative time for grievance resolution	Less than one month from receipt of grievance	Throughout construction and operation	Third-party (external) grievance logs	Monthly; quarterly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project Company • EPC Contractor (during construction) • O&M Contractor (during operations)
5	Number of grievances received and resolved in regard to SEA, SH and GBV etc.	100% of grievances related to SEA, SH and GBV resolved	Throughout construction and operation	Third-party (external) grievance logs	Monthly; quarterly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project Company • EPC Contractor (during construction) • O&M Contractor (during operations)
6	Percentage of scheduled SEP activities implemented and reported to project lenders	100% of scheduled SEP activities implemented and reported to project lenders	Throughout construction and operation	Third-party (external) grievance logs	Monthly, quarterly, biannually and annually (as appropriate)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project Company • EPC Contractor (during construction) • O&M Contractor (during operations)

The Project Company will issue a sustainability/ E&S performance report for the Project, at least annually. This report will be posted on the Project Developer's website. Hard copies of the report will also be made available at the Project Information Centres (PICs).

8 REVIEW

As stated herein, the SEP is a living document that will be utilised in the ESMS throughout the project's lifecycle as a reference document. As such, there is a need to update the SEP as necessary to include any relevant changes such as changes in projects circumstances, new requirements, new affected stakeholders, reviews of techniques, changes to engagement methods, changes of relevant personnel, changes to grievance mechanism, etc. There may also be a need to update the SEP and Grievance Mechanism as part of corrective actions linked to audit, or other findings.

As a minimum, the SEP will be reviewed on an annual basis, with the aim of achieving continual improvement.

APPENDIX A – EXAMPLE OF GRIEVANCE FORM

<u>GRIEVANCE FORM</u>	
INSTRUCTIONS	Please fill in this Grievance form in clear handwriting and submit through one of the following means: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Directly to Environmental & Social Manager - By email to: - Deposit in the letter box at the Project main entrance
Full Name	First Name: _____ Last Name: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> I wish to raise my grievance anonymously
Contact Information Please mark how you wish to be contacted (mail, telephone, e-mail).	<input type="checkbox"/> By Post: Please provide mailing address: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> By telephone: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> By email: _____
Preferred Language of Communication	<input type="checkbox"/> Uzbek <input type="checkbox"/> Russian <input type="checkbox"/> English
Description of Incident/Grievance	What happened? Where did it happen? Who did it happen to? What is the result of the problem?
Date of Incident/Grievance	<input type="checkbox"/> One-time incident/grievance (date...) <input type="checkbox"/> Happened more than once (how many times?) <input type="checkbox"/> On-going (currently experiencing problem)
What would you like to see happen to resolve the problem?	
Signature:	
Date:	

APPENDIX B - GRIEVANCE REGISTER TEMPLATE

ID	DATE	NAME OR GRIEVANT	CONTACT DETAILS	PREFERRED LANGUAGE	REQUESTED ANONYMITY?	DESCRIPTION OF THE PROBLEM	RESPONSIBLE PERSON	ACTIONS TO BE UNDERTAKEN	DUE DATE	RESULTS OF THE ACTIONS	CLOSING DATE	EVIDENCE (IF APPLICABLE)

APPENDIX C PROJECT & GRM INTRODUCTION LEAFLET