

# **Bhutan for Life**

## **Environmental and Social Management Plan for Jomotsangkha Wildlife Sanctuary (2022)**

### **1. Introduction**

#### **(A) Project Background**

The Bhutan for Life (BFL) project aims to ensure a robust network of protected areas and biological corridors that secures human well-being, biodiversity conservation and increase climate resilience in Bhutan. The project provides a 14-year financial bridge that allows for immediate improvement in the management of Bhutan's protected areas for climate resilience, and the prompt delivery of mitigation, adaptation and biodiversity gains, while the country gradually ratchets up its own financing resources.

BFL seeks to achieve the following objectives:

- Help Bhutan remain carbon neutral by increasing forest and vegetative cover within the Protected Area System;
- Enhance the socio-economic wellbeing of communities in and in the vicinity of the PAs through climate-informed natural resources management;
- Maintain stable, thriving and diverse populations of key species contributing toward national and global biodiversity goals;
- Strengthen organizational, institutional, and financial capacity for effective management of PAS.

BFL includes five components that reflect these goals, divided into 16 milestones (or outputs) and over 80 detailed activities.

#### **(B) Scope of ESMP**

The preparation of this Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) was required in order to manage the environmental and social impacts through and specific mitigation actions required to implement the project in accordance with the requirements of WWF's Social Safeguards Integrated Policies and Procedures (SIPP), the project's Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF), and applicable national legislation and regulations.

The ESMP provides an overview of the environmental and social baseline conditions on the routes of the proposed second segment of the project summarizes the potential impacts associated with the proposed activities and sets out the management measures required to mitigate any potential negative impacts.

This ESMP will be implemented by BFL focal person in each park authority (PA) and biological corridor (BC), and by the contractor to be commissioned by each PA/BC for the project.

#### **(C) Purpose of ESMP**

This Site-Specific ESMP is a project-specific source document detailing the environmental and social protection requirements to mitigate and minimize the adverse impacts. The ESMP's primary purpose is to ensure that the environmental requirements and social commitments associated with the project are carried forward into implementation and operational phases of the project and are effectively managed. The specific objectives of this ESMP are as hereunder:

- Minimizing any adverse environmental, social and health impacts resulting from the project activities;
- Conducting all project activities in accordance with the relevant RGoB Laws and WWF's safeguard operational policies and guidelines;
- Preventing environmental degradation as a result of either individual subprojects or their cumulative effects;
- Enhancing the positive environmental and social outcomes of project activities;
- Ensuring that the proposed mitigation measures are feasible and cost-efficient;
- Providing an Action Plan to ensure that the project impact mitigation measures are properly implemented and monitored;
- Ensuring that all stakeholders are engaged in the project activities' preparation and implementation, and their concerns are fully addressed.

#### (D) Applicable law, policies, and regulation

This ESMP is developed by following the guidelines as set forth in the BFL's ESMF.

Applicable RGoB laws and policies include the Constitution of the Kingdom of Bhutan, 2008; legislation on land and moveable property (Land Act of Bhutan 2007; Land Rules, 2007; The Moveable Cultural Property act of Bhutan, 2005); legislation and regulations on forests and protected areas (National Environment Protection Act, 2007; Forest and Nature Conservation Act of Bhutan, 1995; Forest and Nature Conservation Rules and Regulations of Bhutan, 2017; National Forest Policy, 2011); legislation on water and waste prevention (Water Act of Bhutan, 2011; Waste Prevention and Management Act, 2009); legislative requirements on environmental assessment (Environmental Assessment Act, 2000 and Regulations on the Environmental Clearance of Projects, 2001); and other relevant laws (The Local Government Act of Bhutan, 2009; Livestock Act of Bhutan, 2001; The Biodiversity Act of Bhutan, 2003; The Pesticides Act of Bhutan, 2000; The Penal Code of Bhutan, 2004; National Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS) Policy (Draft), 2014).

WWF's safeguards policies that are relevant to this project are as follows: Policy on Environment and Social Risk Management; Policy on Protection of Natural Habitats; Policy on Involuntary Resettlement; Policy on Indigenous Peoples; Standard on Pest Management; Policy on Accountability and Grievance System; Standard on Physical Cultural Resources; as well as general standards on occupational and community health and safety and on energy efficiency.

In general, RGoB's laws, policies, and guidelines are in line with the WWF's environmental and social safeguards requirements. However, there are a few differences between the two systems. With regard to environmental impacts, there are no direct contradictions between the RGoB laws and regulations and the WWF's SIPP, but the requirements of the latter are more extensive. All project activities should fully comply both with the RGoB's Regulations on the Environmental Clearance of Projects, and with the procedures and mitigation measures prescribed in this ESMF. In case that the WWF's SIPP requirements are more extensive, strict, or detailed than the RGoB legislation and policies, the former will apply to all project activities. With regard to social impacts, the primary discrepancies between the RGoB laws and regulations and the WWF's SIPP refer to the status of non-title holders and informal land use, and the commitment to participatory decision-making processes. First, according to the WWF's SIPP, all users of land and natural resources (including people that lack any formal legal ownership title or usage rights) are eligible to some form of assistance or compensation if the project adversely affects their livelihoods. The RGoB laws only recognize the eligibility of land owners or formal users to receive compensation in such cases. Second, the WWF's SIPP require extensive community consultations as part of the development of various safeguards documents and during project activities. RGoB legislation does not include similar requirements. For the purposes of the BFL project, the provisions of the WWF's SIPP shall

prevail over the RGoB legislation in all cases of discrepancy.

## 2. Environmental and Socio-Economic Conditions

Well known by the name Khaling Wildlife Sanctuary (KWS) was notified in 1974 and gazette in 1993. The sanctuary has an area of 362.49 sq.km making it the second smallest naturally protected area of Bhutan. It is located in south-eastern part of Bhutan under Samdrup Jongkhar district. In the year 2014, KWS was renamed as Jomotsangkha Wildlife Sanctuary (JWS). JWS has topography of plain grasslands with deep gully formations in the foothills due to heavy rainfall and there are steep slopes when getting to the high hills. Sandy soils are found mostly in the plains, loamy soils along the hills and across the valleys there are clay deposits from which the wild animals get their natural mineral licks. There are 14 different sizes of perennial water bodies that flow through the sanctuary.

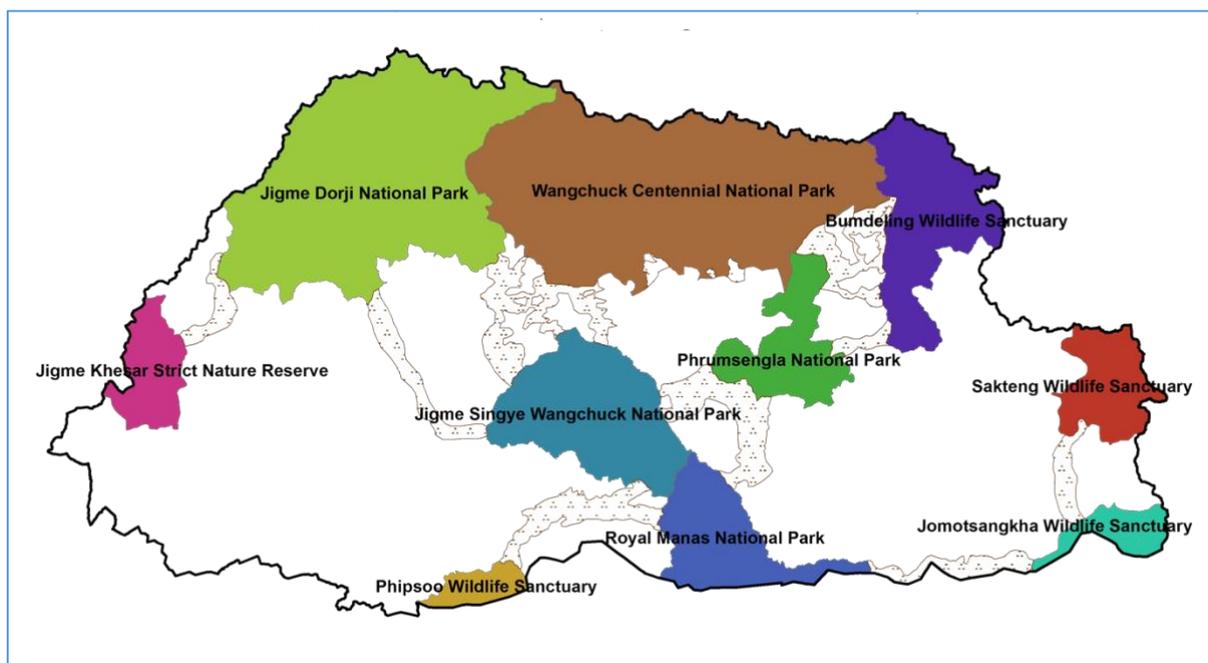


Figure 1 Location of Jomotsangkha Wildlife Sanctuary

The Sanctuary manages Phuntshothang, Pemathang, Samrang, Martshalla under Samdrupcholing Dungkhag and Langchenphug, Serthig and Lauri under Jomotsangkha Dungkhag. As can be seen in Figure 1, the Sanctuary is bordered by Assam to the south, Dewathang gewog to the west, Sakteng Wildlife Sanctuary to the north and Arunachal Pradesh to the east. It lies between 26° 48.26' 60" (northing), 91°42.92' 08" E (easting). The altitude of the sanctuary ranges from 174 masl to 2228 masl which consist of Sub-tropical Forest, Cool Broadleaved Forest, Warm Broadleaved forest and narrow grasslands spreading along the southern flood plains.

The details of the households in and around the vicinity of the Sanctuary are given in the Table below:

Table 1: Household details under

Sl. No.	Name of Dungkhag	Name of Gewog	H H;	Chewog
1	Jomotsangkha	Langchenphu	240	5
2		Lauri	545	5
3		Serthi	365	5
4	Samdrupcholing	Pemathang	301	5
5		Phuntshothang	517	5
6		Samrang	54	5
7		Martshala	504	5

The Sanctuary lies in the Indo-Malayan realm and is known by its wilderness of nature and being habitat to many keystone and flagship species such as tiger, common leopard, elephant and gaur. It is the home to critically endangered species viz. Chinese Pangolin and Lady Slipper. Out of 11 cat species found in the country, 7 species are recorded in the Sanctuary. There are four types of hornbills of Bhutan (Great Hornbill, Oriental Pied Hornbill, Rufous-necked Hornbill and Wreathed Hornbill) with active nesting sites. Also, sanctuary harbors some of the important wildlife species such as Himalayan Black Bear, Gaur, Serow and Sambar among many others.

### **3. Planned activities in Year 2022**

Cost: Nu. 700000

Timeline: Oct, 2022 to Dec, 2022.

#### **1. Establishment of Nursery (*Paris polyphylla*) Satuwa**

The establishment of the community nursery (*Paris polyphylla*) Satuwa in Deptsang shall be carried out by a non-wood forests product group which was formed in 2015.

The main reason for nursery creation was to conserve and protect medicinal plants, *Paris polyphylla*. It is locally known as *Thogsampa* (Sh) and is widely collected and traded in the market for medicinal value. The local community in Serthi and Lauri gewog under Jomotshangkha collects *Paris polyphylla* from forest and sells it for income generation and livelihood. People collect from different areas of the NWFP group where the management regime is approved through group formation. However, there are instances where people collect outside of their area and sell off illegally. Due to such illegal harvest, the species are likely to get exhausted from the area over a short period of time. It is thus necessary to motivate Deptsang NWFP group to continue domestication of *Paris polyphylla*.

The Group have tree seedling nursery but now they want to shift to growing high value NWFP like *Paris polyphylla* in their nursery. For several years they had been raising in small scale in their home garden and they found this a lucrative business if the foreign market opens up like before (before COVID situation).

However, due to the damaged green mesh nets and rotten posts for nursery, seedlings and rhizomes of *Paris polyphylla* are getting exposed to sunlight, causing drying up of leaves resulting in less production. The condition of the nursery has deteriorated over 7 years of establishment. The group fund is not sufficient to meet the establishment of a concrete nursery. Besides producing seedlings of *Paris polyphylla*, the NWFP group aspires to produce seedlings of *Michelia champaca* and other seedlings of timber species trees.

The maintenance of an old nursery with huge numbers of timbers and poles would impact forest coverage around the settlement. Nursery poles need to be replaced every 1-2 years causing implication on labour shortage and cost expenditure for group members repeatedly. Therefore, a repeated request has been received from NWFP Group, Deptsang for establishment of a nursery with concrete post that would last for a longer duration. This can also reduce felling of trees to be used as poles every couple of years.

The activity site is located 43km from JWS head office under serthi gewog with 29 Households with approximately with less than hundred in habitats. They are primarily dependent on agriculture and for cash they depend on NWFP resources (*Paris polyphylla* and *Rubia cordifolia*). The maintenance work will be carried out by the 10-12 local workers who will commute from their home to work.



Figure 1: Nursery which they want to upgrade for Paris polyphylla



Figure 2: Existing nursery with few Paris polyphylla in Deptsang visited by Honorable Director DoFPS and ED BFLFS.

The activity will have Positive impact since the Farmers in the group are going to cultivate the species in large scale in the nursery and if it is successful, the group have a plan to produce seedlings for distribution on top of cultivation for sale to other interested farmers and others. This will only decrease the pressure on collection of NTFPs by the group and other community members as well.

*The adverse environmental and social impacts for the activity are:*

- Waste: generation of waste as a result of establishing nursery.
- Site clearing and digging

#### 4. Environmental and Social Impacts and Mitigation Measures

##### 1. Establishment of *Paris polyphylla* nursery in Deptsang

Potential impact	Impact scale	Proposed mitigation measures	Responsible party	Costs (1USD=Nu.70.5)
<b>Activity 1: Establish <i>Paris polyphylla</i> Nursery</b>				
Vegetation clearing: It is already used piece of land so no bush clearing is required	Long term Minor	<p><i>During establishment:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure that no accidental damage is caused to any trees or local vegetation.</li> </ul> <p><i>After construction:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>landscaping shall be carried out as it is located on slope</li> </ul>	BFL focal person in JWS	Nu. 5000
Waste: generation of waste as a result of construction activities (plastics and construction materials)	Short term Minor	<p><i>During construction</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identification of the different waste types at the project site (soil, cement, food, plastics etc.);</li> <li>Proper containers/waste bins should be provided at the project site;</li> <li>Dumping of wastes on the sides of the road, on private land, or in other non-designated places should be prohibited;</li> <li>Dumping waste shall be prohibited on fragile slopes, forests, religious or other culturally sensitive areas or areas where livelihood is derived;</li> <li>Collection, transportation and final disposal of all waste should be undertaken regularly on a weekly basis;</li> <li>All construction materials should be covered during the transportation to avoid waste dispersion;</li> <li>excavated soil, etc.).</li> <li>Burning of construction waste should be prohibited.</li> </ul> <p><i>After construction:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All waste shall be removed from the project site.</li> </ul>	BFL focal person/Chairman NWFP group	Waste management after construction: Nu: 5000

## 5. ESMP Implementation Arrangements

The implementation of project activities will be carried out by the BFL focal person in JWS.

The focal person will be responsible for compliance with all procedures outlined in this ESMP, as well as compliance with any requirements to obtain clearances, permits, approvals, or consent documents from relevant authorities and stakeholders.

This ESMP should be part of the contract that the PA will sign with the Community for implementation of the planned activities in JWS in 2022. The Community is obligated to perform all proposed preventive or mitigation environmental and social measures in this plan and to keep the evidence of any documents related to applying these measures. An OHS information session should be organized by the NWFP Chairman for all workers prior start the project activities and prior any specific tasks with high health risks.

The JWS office needs to monitor the implementation of proposed measures by the community group. Non-compliances should be recorded and the Report on any non-compliances should be reported to the ESS officer immediately, and the ESS officer will report it to the PCU (M&E Officer). Every non-compliance should be closed with appropriate measure/s and the evidence should be kept.

Disbursement of project funds to the PA will be contingent upon their full compliance with the safeguard's requirements.

## 6. ESMP Monitoring Arrangements

The BFL focal person in JWS will closely monitor the implementation of all planned activities and the required mitigation measures, and ensure that they fully comply with this ESMP and with the terms and conditions included in the environment clearances issued by RGoB's national authorities.

JWS's PA is also fully responsible for the compliance of all external contractors and service providers working in the JWS with the safeguard's requirements outlined in the ESMP.

The monitoring of activities under this ESMP will be carried out in the following manner:

Sl.No	Activities	Monitoring team	Timeline		Location	Means of Verification
1	Establishment of Paris polyphylla Nursery		Start	Complete		
		Field focal	Oct 2022	December 2022	Deptsang, JWS	Physical site visit and through performance reports submitted semi annually
		ESS focal	November, 2022			

Monitoring by implementing entities (BA/BC focal):

- Field visits—at least weekly
- Monthly reports by the implementing entities submitted to ESS officer

Monitoring by ESS officer at PCU:

- Field monitoring by ESS officer - monitoring through photographic/video evidence submitted by the IAs during the implementation as per the given dateline in the table above.
- Reports by ESS officer to BFL Fund Secretariat – Annual report submitted to the BFL Fund Secretariat in January, 2023.

Bi-annual reports of the Secretariat to WWF US (as part of mid-year and final APRs)

## 7. Capacity Need and Budget

Activities under this ESMP will be implemented by the implementing community group in collaboration with BFL focal person, that will employ community labors while implementing the activity.

Sl.No.	Activity	Amount (Nu)	Budget for ESS mitigation (Nu)
1	Establishment of <i>Paris polyphylla</i> Nursery	700000	10000
<b>Total</b>		<b>700000</b>	<b>10000</b>

## 8. Consultation and Disclosure Mechanisms

This ESMP has been prepared in a participatory manner, and a community consultation was carried out for the establishment of Nursery with the committee members of NWFP group of Deptsang. Even during the ED of BFL Fund secretariat while on field tour met with members and visited the proposed site.

The full English version of this ESMP, as well as an executive summary in Bhutanese, shall be disclosed on the website of MoAF and WWF, Bhutan Program. Hard copies of the ESMP should also be available at the PA Management Office and at the PCU Office.

## 9. Stakeholder Engagement Plan

The local community that resides in the NWFP group shall be fully engaged throughout the implementation of these activities. Committee members comprising Chairperson, Secretary and Accountant will assist the group in coordinating the field works and marketing of the products.

Chairperson: shall coordinate overall activities of the group and Secretary shall assist Chairperson.

Accountant: Shall maintain all financial related records for the group. The funds generated from the NWFP

## **ANNEXURE I:**

### **BFL: OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY STANDARDS**

Employers and supervisors are obliged to implement all reasonable precautions to protect the health and safety of workers. Implementing entities should hire contractors that have the technical capability to manage the occupational health and safety issues of their workers, extending the application of the hazard management activities through formal procurement agreements.

This section provides guidance and examples of reasonable precautions to implement in managing principal risks to occupational health and safety. It is based on the IFC's Environmental, Health, and Safety Guidelines (April 30, 2007)<sup>1</sup> and the Occupational Health and Safety Guidelines of Bhutan's Construction Development Corporation Ltd., which relies on the national Regulation on Occupational Health, Safety and Welfare 2012, Regulation on Working Conditions 2012 and Labour Act 2007, and in compliance to Sl. No. 21 of Regulation on Occupational Health, Safety and Welfare 2012.

#### **1. General Facility Design and Operation**

##### ***Integrity of Workplace Structures***

Permanent and recurrent places of work should be designed and equipped to protect occupational health and safety:

- Surfaces, structures and installations should be easy to clean and maintain, and not allow for accumulation of hazardous compounds.
- Buildings should be structurally safe, provide appropriate protection against the climatic conditions, and have acceptable light and noise conditions.
- Fire resistant, noise-absorbing materials should, to the extent feasible, be used for cladding on ceilings and walls.
- Floors should be level, even, and non-skid.
- Heavy oscillating, rotating or alternating equipment should be located in dedicated buildings or structurally isolated sections.

##### ***Severe Weather and Facility Shutdown***

- Workplace structures should be designed and constructed to withstand the expected elements for the region and have an area designated for safe refuge (e.g., in case of earthquake).

##### ***Workspace and Exit***

- The space provided for each worker, and in total, should be adequate for safe execution of all activities, including transport and interim storage of materials and products.

##### ***Fire Precautions***

The workplace should be designed to prevent the start of fires. Other essential measures include:

- The workplace shall be provided with adequate means of protection and escape in case of fire.
- The workplace shall be provided with adequate number of relevant fire extinguishers.
- Workers shall wear shoes without iron or steel nails or any other exposed ferrous materials which is likely to cause sparks by friction.
- Smoking, lightening, or carrying of matches, lighters or smoking materials shall be prohibited within and around the construction sites.
- All other precautions, as are reasonably practicable, shall be taken to prevent initiation of ignition from all other possible sources such as open flames, frictional sparks, overheated surfaces of machinery or plant, chemical or physical, chemical reaction and radiant heat.
- At every workplace adequate provision of water supply for firefighting shall be provided and maintained.
- Facilities shall be equipped with firefighting equipment (e.g., fire extinguishing bottle). The equipment should be maintained in good working order and be readily accessible. It should be adequate for the dimensions and use of the premises, equipment installed, physical and chemical properties of substances present, and the maximum number of people present.

<sup>1</sup>

<https://www.ifc.org/wps/wcm/connect/1d19c1ab-3ef8-42d4-b96b-b79648af3fe/2%2BOccupational%2BHealth%2Band%2BSafety.pdf?MOD=AJPERES&CVID=ls62x8l>.

- Manual firefighting equipment shall be easily accessible and simple to use.
- Fire extinguishers and emergency alarm systems that are both audible and visible should be in place.
- Fire exits should be identified and marked in Dzongkha and English- all workers should be made aware of the fire exits.

#### ***Lavatories and Showers***

- Adequate lavatory facilities (toilets and washing areas) should be provided for the number of people expected to work in the facility (one for at least one for every 20 workers). Toilet facilities should also be provided with adequate supplies of water and soap and also be connected to sewerage system.

#### ***Potable Water Supply***

- Adequate supplies of clean drinking water should be provided to workers at the work site.

#### ***Clean Eating Area***

- Where there is potential for exposure to substances poisonous by ingestion, suitable arrangements are to be made for provision of clean eating areas where workers are not exposed to the hazardous or noxious substances.

#### ***Lighting***

- Workplace should receive adequate natural light and if required supplemented with artificial illumination to promote worker's safety and enable safe equipment operation.
- Emergency lighting of adequate intensity should be provided in case of failure of the powerline.

#### ***Safe Access***

- Passageways for pedestrians and vehicles within and outside buildings should be segregated and provide for easy, safe, and appropriate access.
- Equipment and installations requiring servicing, inspection, and/or cleaning should have unobstructed, unrestricted, and ready access.
- Covers need to be provided where ever necessary, if there is risk of falling of overhead object.
- Measures to prevent unauthorized access to dangerous areas should be in place.

#### ***First Aid***

- The employer should ensure that qualified first-aid can be provided at all times. A sufficient number of first aid boxes or cupboards shall be provided and maintained so as to be readily available during all working hours, provided that the distance of the nearest first aid box or a cupboard stall be not more than 200m from any working place.
- First aid kits include all equipment outlined in Annex 1 to these Guidelines.
- Each first aid box or a cupboard shall be distinctly marked "FIRST AID"

#### ***Air Supply***

- Workplace should have adequate ventilation for fresh air

### **2. Information Provision on Occupational Health and Safety (OHS)**

2. The Contractor is responsible to hold an information session to familiarize all workers with the OHS procedures specified in these guidelines, in order to ensure they are apprised of the basic site rules of work at / on the site and of personal protection and preventing injury to fellow workers.
3. The information session should consist of basic hazard awareness, site-specific hazards, safe work practices, and emergency procedures for fire, evacuation, and natural disaster, as appropriate. Any site-specific hazard or color coding in use should be thoroughly reviewed as part of orientation training.

### **3. Physical Hazards**

Physical hazards represent potential for accident or injury or illness due to repetitive exposure to mechanical action or work activity.

### ***Rotating and Moving Equipment***

Injury or death can occur from being trapped, entangled, or struck by machinery parts due to unexpected starting of equipment or unobvious movement during operations. Recommended protective measures include:

- Designing machines to eliminate trap hazards and ensuring that extremities are kept out of harm's way under normal operating conditions. Examples of proper design considerations include two-hand operated machines to prevent amputations or the availability of emergency stops dedicated to the machine and placed in strategic locations.
- Where a machine or equipment has an exposed moving part or exposed pinch point that may endanger the safety of any worker, the machine or equipment should be equipped with, and protected by, a guard or other device that prevents access to the moving part or pinch point. Guards should be designed and installed in conformance with appropriate machine safety standards.

### ***Noise***

- No worker should be exposed to a noise level greater than 90 dB(A) for a duration of more than 8 hours per day without wearing ear plugs/ear muffs.
- Exposures to impulsive or impact noise shall not exceed 140dB(A).
- For every 3 dB(A) increase in sound levels from the permissible limit of noise, the 'allowed' exposure period or duration should be reduced by 50 percent.
- Where it is not practicable to reduce the noise, the employer must limit the duration of time persons employed or working in the workplace are exposed to the noise so that such persons are not exposed to excessive noise.
- Prior to the issuance of hearing protective devices as the final control mechanism, use of acoustic insulating materials, isolation of the noise source, and other engineering controls should be investigated and implemented, where feasible.
- Periodic medical hearing checks should be performed on workers exposed to high noise levels.

### ***Vibration***

In any workplace where persons are at work in any process or operation which involves exposure to vibration which may constitute a risk to their health, it shall be the duty of the employer to provide, so far as is reasonably practicable, effective means to reduce the vibration.

### ***Electrical***

Exposed or faulty electrical devices, such as circuit breakers, panels, cables, cords and hand tools, can pose a serious risk to workers. Overhead wires can be struck by metal devices, such as poles or ladders, and by vehicles with metal booms. Vehicles or grounded metal objects brought into close proximity with overhead wires can result in arcing between the wires and the object, without actual contact. Recommended actions include:

- Marking all energized electrical devices and lines with warning signs
- Locking out (de-charging and leaving open with a controlled locking device) and tagging-out (warning sign placed on the lock) devices during service or maintenance
- Checking all electrical cords, cables, and hand power tools for frayed or exposed cords and following manufacturer recommendations for maximum permitted operating voltage of the portable hand tools
- Double insulating / grounding all electrical equipment used in environments that are, or may become, wet; using equipment with ground fault interrupter (GFI) protected circuits
- Protecting power cords and extension cords against damage from traffic by shielding or suspending above traffic areas
- Appropriate labeling of service rooms housing high voltage equipment ('electrical hazard') and where entry is controlled or prohibited
- Establishing "No Approach" zones around or under high voltage power lines
- Conducting detailed identification and marking of all buried electrical wiring prior to any excavation work
- Every person who is working on an electric supply line or apparatus or both shall be provided with tools and devices such as gloves, rubber shoes, and safety belts, ladders, earthing devices, helmets, line testers, hand lines whichever is relevant for protecting him/her from mechanical and electrical injury.

### ***Eye Hazards***

Solid particles from a wide variety of industrial operations, and/or a liquid chemical spray may strike a worker in the eye causing an eye injury or permanent blindness. Recommended measures include:

- Use of machine guards or splash shields and/or face and eye protection devices, such as safety glasses with side shields, goggles, and/or a full-face shield. Frequent checks of these types of equipment prior to use to ensure mechanical integrity is also good practice.
- Where machine or work fragments could present a hazard to transient workers or passers-by, extra area guarding or proximity restricting systems should be implemented, or PPE required for transients and visitors.

### ***Welding / Hot Work***

Welding creates an extremely bright and intense light that may seriously injure a worker's eyesight. In extreme cases, blindness may result. Additionally, welding may produce noxious fumes to which prolonged exposure can cause serious chronic diseases. Recommended measures include:

- Provision of proper eye protection such as welder goggles and/or a full-face eye shield for all personnel involved in, or assisting, welding operations. Additional methods may include the use of welding barrier screens around the specific work station.

### ***Working Environment Temperature***

Exposure to hot or cold working conditions in indoor or outdoor environments can result temperature stress-related injury or death. Use of personal protective equipment (PPE) to protect against other occupational hazards can accentuate and aggravate heat-related illnesses. Extreme temperatures in permanent work environments should be avoided through implementation of engineering controls and ventilation. Where this is not possible, such as during short-term outdoor work, temperature-related stress management procedures should be implemented which include:

- Monitoring weather forecasts for outdoor work to provide advance warning of extreme weather and scheduling work accordingly
- Providing temporary shelters to protect against the elements during working activities or for use as rest areas
- Use of protective clothing
- Providing easy access to adequate hydration such as drinking water or electrolyte drinks.

### ***Ergonomics, Repetitive Motion, Manual Handling***

Injuries due to ergonomic factors, such as repetitive motion, overexertion, and manual handling, take prolonged and repeated exposures to develop, and typically require periods of weeks to months for recovery. These OHS problems should be minimized or eliminated to maintain a productive workplace. Controls may include:

- Use of mechanical assists to eliminate or reduce exertions required to lift materials, hold tools and work objects, and requiring multi-person lifts if weights exceed thresholds (adult man- 50kg, adult female- 25kg)
- Selecting and designing tools that reduce force requirements and holding times, and improve postures
- Incorporating rest and stretch breaks into work processes, and conducting job rotation
- Implementing quality control and maintenance programs that reduce unnecessary forces and exertions

### ***Working at Heights***

Fall prevention and protection measures should be implemented whenever a worker is exposed to the hazard of falling more than two meters; into operating machinery; into water or other liquid; into hazardous substances; or through an opening in a work surface. Fall prevention / protection measures may also be warranted on a case-specific basis when there are risks of falling from lesser heights. Fall prevention may include:

- Installation of guardrails with mid-rails and toe boards at the edge of any fall hazard area
- Proper use of ladders and scaffolds by trained workers
- Use of fall prevention devices, including safety belt and lanyard travel limiting devices to prevent access to fall hazard area, or fall protection devices such as full body harnesses used in conjunction with shock absorbing lanyards or self-retracting inertial fall arrest devices attached to fixed anchor point or horizontal life-lines
- Appropriate training in use, serviceability, and integrity of the necessary PPE
- Inclusion of rescue and/or recovery plans, and equipment to respond to workers after an arrested fall

### ***Illumination***

Work area light intensity should be adequate for the general purpose of the location and type of activity, and should be supplemented with dedicated work station illumination, as needed. Controls should include:

- Use of energy efficient light sources with minimum heat emission
- Undertaking measures to eliminate glare / reflections and flickering of lights
- Taking precautions to minimize and control optical radiation including direct sunlight.
- Exposure to high intensity UV and IR radiation and high intensity visible light should also be controlled
- Controlling laser hazards in accordance with equipment specifications, certifications, and recognized safety standards. The lowest feasible class Laser should be applied to minimize risks.

#### **4. Personal safety equipment for workers**

All workers are equipped with the following personal safety equipment: helmet, gloves, ordinary boots and reflective vest.

Workers that are exposed to dust should also be provided with eye protection glasses and face mask. Workers that are exposed to noise should be provided with ear plugs. Workers that need to work in the dark should be provided with hand and cap lamps.

Workers are instructed regarding safety equipment as follows:

- Always wear complete set of protective wear.
- Do not wear loose clothing, such as overhang shirt, jackets, mufflers etc.
- Tuck shirt and jacket well.
- Secure helmet with belt under the chin.
- Tuck the bottom sleeves of trouser inside safety boot.
- Dress with reflector

#### **5. Standards for workers' accommodation<sup>2</sup>**

##### ***1. General living facilities***

- The location of the facilities is designed to avoid flooding or other natural hazards
- The living facilities are located within a reasonable distance from the worksite.
- Transport is provided to worksite safe and free if the accommodation is reasonably far from the worksite.
- The living facilities are built using adequate materials, kept in good repair and kept clean and free from waste and refuse.

##### ***2. Drainage***

- The site is adequately drained.

##### ***3. Heating, air conditioning, ventilation and light***

- Living facilities are provided with adequate heating, ventilation, and light systems including emergency lighting.

##### ***4. Water***

- Workers have easy access to a supply of clean/ potable water in adequate quantities.
- The quality of the water complies with national/local requirements and is regularly monitored.
- Tanks used for the storage of drinking water are constructed and covered to prevent water stored therein from becoming polluted or contaminated.
- The quality of the drinking water

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<sup>2</sup> Based on Workers' accommodation: processes and standards—A guidance note by IFC and the EBRD (August 2009): [https://www.ifc.org/wps/wcm/connect/60593977-91c6-4140-84d3-737d0e203475/workers\\_accomodation.pdf?MOD=AJPERES&CACHEID=ROOTWORKSPACE-60593977-91c6-4140-84d3-737d0e203475-jqetNIh](https://www.ifc.org/wps/wcm/connect/60593977-91c6-4140-84d3-737d0e203475/workers_accomodation.pdf?MOD=AJPERES&CACHEID=ROOTWORKSPACE-60593977-91c6-4140-84d3-737d0e203475-jqetNIh)

## **5. Wastewater and solid waste**

- Wastewater, sewage, food and any other waste materials are adequately discharged in compliance with national and/or international standards and without causing any significant impacts on camp residents, the environment or surrounding communities.
- Specific containers for waste collection are provided and emptied on a regular basis.

## **6. Rooms/dormitories facilities**

- Rooms/dormitories are kept in good condition. They are aired and cleaned at regular intervals.
- Rooms/dormitories are built with easily cleanable flooring material.
- Rooms/dormitories and sanitary facilities are located in the same buildings.
- Residents are provided with enough space.
- The number of workers sharing the same room/dormitory is minimized.
- Doors and windows are lockable and provided with mosquito screens when necessary.
- Separate sleeping areas are provided for men and women.
- A separate bed is provided for every worker and use of double deck bunks is minimized.
- Workers are provided with comfortable mattresses. Workers may be expected to use their own pillows and bed linens.
- Adequate facilities for the storage of personal belongings are provided.
- Separate storages for work clothes and PPE and depending on condition, drying/airing areas are provided.

## **8. Sanitary and toilet facilities**

- Sanitary and toilet facilities are constructed from materials that are easily cleanable.
- Sanitary and toilet facilities are cleaned frequently and kept in working condition.
- Toilets, showers/bathrooms and other sanitary facilities are designed to provide workers with adequate privacy including ceiling to floor partitions and lockable doors.
- Separate sanitary and toilet facilities are provided for men and women.
- Toilet and shower facilities are conveniently located and easily accessible.
- Toilet facilities are environmentally friendly (e.g., pit toilet) and sewage is not disposed into the worksite.
- Open defecation in the vicinity of project sites should be prohibited.
- An adequate number of hand wash basins and showers/bathrooms facilities are provided.

## **9. Cooking and laundry facilities**

Cooking and laundry facilities should be available for workers at the worksite or in close vicinity to it. These facilities should be kept in clean and sanitary conditions.

## **Annex 1. Contents of first aid box or cup-boards**

The first aid boxes or cup-boards shall be distinctively marked with white cross on a green background and shall contain the following equipment:

1. Small sterilized dressings (12)
2. Medium size sterilized dressings (6)
3. Large size sterilized dressings (6)
4. Large size sterilized burn dressings (6)
5. (1/2 oz.) Sterilized cotton wool (6 packets)
6. (2oz.) Bottle containing a two per cent alcoholic solution of iodine (1)
7. (2oz.) Bottle containing Betadine (antiseptic solution) having the dose and mode of administration indicated on the label (1)
8. Roll of adhesive plaster (1)
9. A snake bite lancet (1)

10. Torch light (1)
11. Pair of scissors (1)
12. Tablets Aspirin ( 5gms) 2 dozen
13. Burn Ointment (2 tubes)
14. Dettol (2 phial, about 2 ozs)
15. Bandages 4 inches wide
16. Bandages 2 inches wide
17. Triangular bandages (2)
18. Packets of safety pins (1)
19. A supply of suitable splint