

Bhutan For Life

**Environmental and Social
Management Plan for One Gewog
One Product Program**

January 2023 - June 2024

One Gewog One Product Program / Thimphu

Table of Contents

1. Introduction	2
1.1 Project Background	2
1.2 Scope of ESMP	2
1.3 Purpose of ESMP	2
1.4 Applicable law, policies, and regulation	3
2. Environmental and Socio-Economic Conditions.....	4
3. Planned activities for January 2023 - June 2024	4
3.1 Production of highland honey	4
4. Potential social and environmental impacts	5
4.1 Production of highland honey	5
5. Mitigation Measures for Environmental and Social Impacts.....	6
6. ESMP Implementation arrangements	7
7. ESMP monitoring arrangements.....	7
8. Capacity Need and Budget	7
9. Consultation and Disclosure Mechanisms	8
10. Stakeholder engagement plan.....	8

Bhutan for Life
Environmental and Social Management Plan for One Gewog One Product (OGOP)
Program for January 2023 - June 2024

1. Introduction

1.1 Project Background

The Bhutan for Life (BFL) project aims to ensure a robust network of Protected Areas (PAs) and Biological Corridors (BCs) that secure human well-being, biodiversity conservation and increase climate resilience in Bhutan. The project shall sustain for 14-years, in this duration an immediate improvement to the management of Bhutan's protected areas for climate resilience and biodiversity gains are sought. Meanwhile the country would gradually ratchet 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 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; and
- 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.

1.2 Scope of ESMP

The preparation of this Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) was deemed necessary in order to manage the environmental and social impacts. The mitigation actions required to implement the project was 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 the 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.

1.3 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; and
- Ensuring that all stakeholders are engaged in the project activities' preparation and implementation, and their concerns are fully addressed.

1.4 Applicable law, policies, and regulation

This ESMP is developed in strict adherence and compliance to the guidelines set forth in 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), and Local Government Act of Bhutan, 2009.

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;
- General standards on both occupational and community health and safety and 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. Regarding environmental impacts, there are no direct contradictions between the RGoB laws and regulations and the WWF's SIPP, but the requirement of the latter is more extensive. All project activities should fully comply both with the RGoBs Regulations on the Environmental Clearance of Projects, and with the procedures and mitigation measures prescribed in this ESMF. In case the

WWF's SIPP requirements turn out to be extensive, strict, or detailed compared to RGoB legislation and policies, the former will apply to all project activities.

Regarding social impacts, the status of non-title holders and informal land use, and the commitment to participatory decision-making processes conclude the primary discrepancies between the RGoB laws and regulations and the WWF's SIPP. 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 during the project in order to develop various safeguards documents. RGoB legislation does not include three requirements reflected in SIPP. For the purpose 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

The project site is in Lunana Gewog which is under the management of Jigme Dorji National Park. Lunana Gewog lies in the extreme northwest of the country with total area of 1716.26 Square kilometers and is located at an altitude of 3400m above sea level. It has the population of over 810 (male: 384 & female: 426) with 185 households, the Gewog consist of five chiwogs and thirteen villages in total. It is bordered by the Gewogs of Laya in the west, Goen Shari, Punakha in the southwest, Sephu Gewog in the southwest and the Tibet Autonomous Region of China in the extreme north.

It experiences climate conditions ranging from temperate to alpine with extremely cold winters, and short pleasant summers. During winters, Lunana experience heavy snow fall which keep them snow bound as the mountain passes become inaccessible to the neighboring Gewogs and Dzongkhags, it receives an average annual rainfall 2000mm. The people of Lunana generally speak Dzongkha with a distinctive accent and their local dialect.

Gewog also experiences severe climatic conditions with long winters, does not allow the diversification of agriculture production. However, dry land cropping like wheat, buckwheat, and horticulture production (potato, radish, turnip etc...), is carried out on a small scale. People of these Gewog entirely depend on Cordyceps (Yartsagunbup) and livestock productions, which are bartered with neighboring Gewogs and Dzongkhags. Some of the people spend their winters in the lower altitude valleys of Wangdue Phodrang and Punakha.

About half part of the Gewog falls under the Jigme Dorji National Park and other part falls under Ugyen Wangchuck National Park habitat for different species of birds and animals like the takin, musk deer, blue sheep, snow leopard, red pandas, raven, wild pheasants, snow pigeons, red billed cough, Himalayan black bear, tiger, etc.

3. Planned activities for January 2023 - June 2024

3.1 Production of highland honey

- a. Budget: Nu. 1,635,000
- b. Timeline: January - December, 2023
- c. Location: Thangza, Lunana Gewog, Gasa Dzongkhag (JDNP)

Bee keeping is being initiated by One Gewog One Product Program in various rural areas and have encouraged many farmers to take up apiculture due to its diverse benefits to the farmers, which includes minimal investment and labor and diverse products. It also contributes to the economics boost up of the rural and marginalized farmers. Besides the economic contribution from the bees' products, beekeeping enhances the pollination services assuring the crop yields and helping to maintain the natural biodiversity from the foothills to the upper Himalayans. Beekeeping gives the mutual benefits to both beekeeper and the crop farmers on the economic returns from the selling of the bee products and beehives and also increases the yields of the pollination-dependent crops by ensuring the efficient pollination services. These perspectives of beekeeping enhance the livelihoods of the farmers through the sustainable practices of beekeeping.

In Thangza village under Lunana Gewog, 20 out of 45 households have shown interest in beekeeping. Thanza village the largest village in Lunana and it is located officially 9 days walking distance from the nearest road head. OGOP Program plans to train the communities on beekeeping and management with support and expertise from National Apiculture Center, Bumthang. OGOP Program will provide marketing platform, wherein all honey produced at Lunana will be sold as niche product. Therefore, Lunana Beekeeping Group will be formed with the following objectives:

- i. To produce high-end niche OGOP highland honey; and
- ii. To provide income substitute to the highlanders

As a part of the activity, a training on beekeeping management will be provided and support for transportation of beehives and colonies in helicopter will be provided to the group. Large numbers of hives are transported to multiple locations throughout the country by truck to pollinate seasonal fields and orchards. During transportation, colonies are challenged by a variety of stressors. Transportation has been described as a likely contributor to colony loss and as transportation lasts few days, colonies experience confinement, increased variation in temperature, air pressure, and vibration. Proper ventilation is a primary concern because poorly ventilated colonies often die from overheating, therefore, to decrease the mortality rate, due to arduous 9-day journey by pony, we have proposed to transport the colonies by air. Aerial transportation has a number of advantages. There's extra safety and happier bees from flying bees in by helicopters, resulting in better bee health and performance. It also removes the bumpy ride and ensure a smoother bee experience.

4. Potential social and environmental impacts

4.1 Production of highland honey

The practice of beekeeping has no negative implications upon the environment. There are many positive aspects due to the pollination services, with a positive impact on maintaining biodiversity in the region. However, the foreseen social impact of the proposed activity is the safety of the bee handlers both during the transportation to the project site and honey extraction at the project site. The proposed method of beekeeping in Lunana is called Nomadic Beekeeping. This involves transferring hives from one territory to another. We intend to move these hives to places where there is the availability of nectar plants within the Lunana area. The hives must be moved to areas that can benefit the bees' nourishment. Territories far from pollution and rich in food sources, greatly increase the productivity of bee swarms. However, the bees do not need to be transported down into the lower altitudes every winter but will be moved within Lunana only.

Following are some of the possible common impacts foreseen during the implementation of the proposed activities:

- i. Environment Impacts: None anticipated

ii. Social Impacts

- Occupational health and safety of the bee handlers

5. Mitigation Measures for Environmental and Social Impacts

Potential impacts to the environment and society along with the mitigating measures are listed below in the table:

Potential impact	Impact scale	Proposed mitigations measures	Responsibility party	Cost
Activity 1: Production of highland honey				Nu. 1,635,000
1. Occupational health and safety of the bee handlers	Minimum/minor (Short term)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comply with the BFL’s occupational health and safety guidelines; • Ensure regular health screening for the workers pre and during activities; • Ensure that no underage workers, or children are engaged; • Ensure decent work conditions, including an appropriate salary, working hours, accommodation and food for workers shall be provided to all workers; • Ensure that workers are employed on the principle of equal opportunity and fair treatment, and there is no discrimination with respect to any aspects of the employment relationship, such as recruitment and hiring, compensation (including wages and benefits), working conditions and terms of employment, access to training, job assignment, promotion, termination of employment or retirement, and disciplinary practices; and • Implement a grievance mechanism for workers (and their organizations, where 	BFL Focal person in OGOP and Officials from National Apiculture Center	To be part of the activity cost

		they exist) to raise workplace concerns.		
--	--	--	--	--

6. ESMP Implementation arrangements

The project activities will be implemented by the BFL focal person in OGOP Program. The focal person will be responsible for aligning the procedures with ESMP. Compliance with existing rules to obtain clearances, permits, approvals, or consent documents from relevant authorities and stakeholders will also be monitored by the focal person.

Disbursement of project funds to the contractors will be contingent upon their full compliance with the requirements.

7. ESMP monitoring arrangements

The BFL focal person in OGOP Program 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. QPO is also fully responsible for the compliance and service providers working in the QPO 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
			Start	Complete		
1	Production of highland honey	Field Focal	July, 2023	December, 2023	Thangza, Lunana Gewog, Gasa Dzongkhag	Field visits and Reports
		ESS Focal	October, 2023	October, 2023		Field visits and Reports
		BFLFS	January, 2024	January, 2024		Reports

Monitoring by ESS Focal officer at PCU:

- 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, 2024; and
- Bi-annual reports of the Secretariat to WWF US (as part of mid-year and final Annual Performance Reports).

8. Capacity Need and Budget

The activity under this ESMP will be implemented by the BFL Focal person in OGOP and Officials from National Apiculture Center. The budget for the activity is as follows:

Sl. No.	Activity	Amount (Nu.)	Budget for ESS mitigation
1	Production of highland honey	1,635,000	To be met from activity cost
Total		1,635,000	

The proposed activities are of very small scale and there are no adverse social and environmental impacts which require mitigation measures. Therefore, separate fund for mitigation measures is not proposed.

9. Consultation and Disclosure Mechanisms

Virtual consultation meeting was done with the community leaders and Gewog Administration officials to draft the proposal and thereafter, the proposal was drafted in consultation with the community members and with concerned involvement of local governance. For the selection of site, Mr. Prasad Bhujel, Apiculturist, National Apiculture Programme of Bhutan was consulted and the community was selected upon his recommendation and the community's willingness.

Beekeeping is one useful option of income generating activities in Bhutan. It is one of the main agricultural activities carried out by the rural communities in Bhutan. Honey is in high demand in Bhutan and the Bhutanese consumer prefer local honey than the commercial honey. The communities of Thangza have shown keen interest in apiculture, and National Apiculture Programme, Bumthang and QPO has been working in close collaboration to promote beekeeping in the country and together 11 beekeeping groups (Darla, Logchina, Tshangkha, Khebisa, Dorokha, Patshaling, Tashiling, Tshendagang, Jigmechoeling, Phuntshothang & Khotokha Sibjam Detchen) have been formed and trained along with providing them with honey collection and processing center and necessary basic equipment.

The full English version of this ESMP, as well as an executive summary in Bhutanese, shall be disclosed/uploaded on the website of MoENR, BFL and WWF. The hard copies of the ESMP would be made available at the office of OGOP Program and at the PCU Office.

10. Stakeholder engagement plan

All the relevant stakeholders including with local communities residing in the vicinity of the project will be consulted before implementation of the activity in respective areas to solicit their opinion and if required make changes in the activity plan. The issues raised by the local community during the consultation, if any, will be recorded and the detailed minutes of the consultation meeting shall be attached to this ESMP, along with a full list of participants (disaggregated by gender and age).

During the implementation phase, stakeholders will be updated on the progress of the activities quarterly. Trainings will be conducted in consultation with all the relevant stakeholders, especially, the local governance and training reports will be submitted within a week of completion of the activity.

Annexure 1

BFL: Suggested 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) 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 climate, 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 through the implementation of fire codes applicable to industrial settings. 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.
- 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.
- Equipping facilities 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.
- 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.

Lavatories and Showers

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

Potable Water Supply

- Adequate supplies of potable 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

- Workplaces should, to the degree feasible, receive natural light and be supplemented with sufficient artificial illumination to promote workers' safety and health, and enable safe equipment operation. Supplemental 'task lighting' may be required where specific visual acuity requirements should be met.
- Emergency lighting of adequate intensity should be installed upon failure of the principal artificial light source to ensure safe shut-down, evacuation, etc.

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 should, if feasible, be installed to protect against falling items.
- 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 shall be not more than 200m from any working place.
- First aid kits include all equipment outlined in Annex 1 to these Guidelines.
- Remote sites should have written emergency procedures in place for dealing with cases of trauma or serious illness up to the point at which patient care can be transferred to an appropriate medical facility.

Work Uniform

- The contractor shall provide a working uniform to each worker.
- All workers shall be required to attend the duty in proper uniform unless otherwise instructed by the Contractor.

Air Supply

- Sufficient fresh air should be supplied for indoor and confined workspaces. Factors to be considered in ventilation design include physical activity, substances in use, and process related emissions. Air distribution systems should be designed so as not to expose workers to draughts.
- Re-circulation of contaminated air is not acceptable. Heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) systems should be equipped, maintained and operated so as to prevent growth and spreading of disease agents (e.g. Legionella pneumophila) or breeding of vectors (e.g. mosquitoes and flies) of public health concern.

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

- 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.
- 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 85 dB(A) for a duration of more than 8 hours per day without hearing protection. In addition, no unprotected ear should be exposed to a peak sound pressure level (instantaneous) of more than 140 dB(C).
- The use of hearing protection should be enforced actively when the equivalent sound level over 8 hours reaches 85 dB(A), the peak sound levels reach 140 dB(C), or the average maximum sound level reaches 110dB(A). Hearing protective devices provided should be capable of reducing sound levels at the ear to at least 85 dB(A).
- Although hearing protection is preferred for any period of noise exposure in excess of 85 dB(A), an equivalent level of protection can be obtained, but less easily managed, by limiting the duration of noise exposure. For every 3 dB(A) increase in sound levels, the ‘allowed’ exposure period or duration should be reduced by 50 percent.
- 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

Exposure to hand-arm vibration from equipment such as hand and power tools, or whole-body vibrations from surfaces on which the worker stands or sits, should be controlled through choice of equipment, installation of vibration dampening pads or devices, and limiting the duration of exposure.

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
- Rubber tired construction or other vehicles that come into direct contact with, or arcing between, high voltage wires may need to be taken out of service for periods of 48 hours and have the tires replaced to prevent catastrophic tire and wheel assembly failure, potentially causing serious injury or death
- Conducting detailed identification and marking of all buried electrical wiring prior to any excavation work

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.
- Provisions should be made for persons who have to wear prescription glasses either through the use of overglasses or prescription hardened glasses.

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 (a solid piece of light metal, canvas, or plywood designed to block welding light from others). Devices to extract and remove noxious fumes at the source may also be required.

Working Environment Temperature

Exposure to hot or cold working conditions in indoor or outdoor environments can result in 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, and avoiding consumption of alcoholic beverages

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:

- Facility and workstation design with 5th to 95th percentile operational and maintenance workers in mind
- 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
- 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

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.
- The living facilities are built using adequate materials, kept in good repair and kept clean and free from rubbish and other 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 or WHO standards.
- 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 is regularly monitored.

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 rubbish collection are provided and emptied on a regular basis.
- Pest extermination, vector control and disinfection are undertaken throughout the living facilities at least once.

6. Rooms/dormitories facilities

- Rooms/dormitories are kept in good condition.
- Rooms/dormitories 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.
- Mobile partitions or curtains are provided.
- Adequate number of furniture such as table, chair, mirror, and lamps are provided for all workers.
- Separate sleeping areas are provided for men and women.

7. Bed arrangements and storage facilities

- A separate bed is provided for every worker.
- The practice of “hot-bedding” is prohibited.
- There is a minimum space of 1 meter between beds.
- The use of double deck bunks is minimized.
- If double deck bunks are in use, there is enough clear space between the lower and upper bunk of the bed.
- Workers are provided with comfortable mattresses. Workers may be expected to use their own pillows and bed linens.
- Workers wash bed linen frequently and applied with adequate repellents and disinfectants (where conditions warrant).
- 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 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.
- Shower facilities are provided with water heating facilities.

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.

10. Leisure, social and telecommunications facilities

- Basic social collective spaces should be available to workers.
- Workers are provided with dedicated places for religious observance, as appropriate.
- The employer provides workers with local sim cards that can be used for communication on their personal cell phones.

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