



**KYRGYZ REPUBLIC**  
**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND INVESTMENT AGENCY**

**STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN**  
**(SEP)**

**CASA1000 Community Support Project**  
**and**  
**CASA1000 Community Support Project (COVID Response)**  
**Additional Financing**

Bishkek  
October, 2020

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## ABBREVIATIONS

AA	Aiyl Aimak (subdistrict)
AF	Additional Financing
AKF	Aga Khan Foundation
AO	Aiyl Okmotu (sub-district administration)
ARIS	Community Development and Investment Agency
BFM	Beneficiary Feedback Mechanism
CASA1000	Central Asia South Asia Electricity Transmission and Trade Project
CASA1000 CSP	CASA1000 Community Support Project
CDSO	Community Development Support Officer
CESA	Community Engagement and Social Accountability
CVIA	Community Village Investment Association
CoI	Corridor of Impact
CSP	Community Support Project
ESMP	Environmental and Social Management Plan
FAP	First Aid Point
GKR	State Agency for Architecture, Construction and Housing and Communal Services
GoK	Government of the Kyrgyz Republic
GRM	Grievance Redress Mechanism
IDA	International Development Association
L4Y-CSP	Livelihoods for Youth Community Support Project
LSP	Livelihoods Support Program
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MIS	Management Information System
MoF	Ministry of Finance
NEGK	National Electricity Grid of Kyrgyzstan
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
PIU	Project Implementation Unit
POM	Project Operations Manual
SALSGIR	State Agency for Local Self-Government and Interethnic Relations
SEP	Stakeholder Engagement Plan
US\$	US Dollar

## 1. INTRODUCTION AND PROJECT DESCRIPTION

### 1.1. Introduction

World Bank support for the development of social and economic infrastructure in villages near the Central Asia South Asia Electricity Transmission and Trade Project (CASA1000) transmission line, delivered through the Kyrgyz Republic CASA1000 Community Support Project (the “CSP”, the parent project), focuses on the enhancement of the services, livelihoods, and inclusion of the people living in 77 villages that lie within the Corridor of Impact (CoI)<sup>1</sup> in Jalal-Abad, Osh, and Batken Oblasts; and 145 Aiyl Aimaks (AAs) under Additional Financing (AF) for the CASA1000 CSP.

The CSP was approved by the World Bank Board of Executive Directors on April 10, 2018 in the amount of US\$11.00 million, and after a delay in signing and ratification, became effective on February 3, 2020. The CSP is supported by the Community Engagement and Social Accountability Project (CESA) (US\$1.00 million), and also links to the Livelihoods for Youth-Community Support Project (L4Y-CSP) (US\$2.70 million).

However, on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization declared a global pandemic as COVID-19 spread rapidly. It was first diagnosed in the Kyrgyz Republic on March 24, 2020 and the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic (GoK) responded by introducing restrictions (such as curfews, social distancing, and travel restrictions) to curb the spread of the virus but, like elsewhere, these were to have devastating effects on the livelihoods of the citizens. To support the country’s COVID-19 economic recovery plan, the GoK requested the World Bank to provide Additional Financing for the CASA1000 CSP as a part of the COVID-19 response strategy.

The AF for the CASA1000 CSP was approved by the World Bank Board of Executive Directors on July 30, 2020 in the amount of US\$21.00 million.

The AF expands the coverage of the project (hereinafter “the project” refers to both the parent CSP and the AF) to all AAs in the oblasts of Jalal-Abad, Osh, and Batken to support: (i) social infrastructure and services with health-related and livelihoods-related outcomes (Subcomponent 1B); (ii) the reestablishment of livelihoods for the most vulnerable communities (Subcomponents 1C and 2C); (iii) the scale-up of community mobilization (Subcomponent 2A); (iv) the strengthening of project management and coordination as necessary for the effective implementation of the project; and (v) the addition of a Contingent Emergency Response Component.

The activities within the AF are not fundamentally different from the parent project. However, the AF increases the number of AAs covered by the project with a commensurate increase in the number of subgrants for investments, and narrows the focus to the planned health and livelihoods focus for the COVID-19 economic recovery. Nevertheless, the project recognizes the importance of environmental and social risks and associated impacts and has developed, as one of the key documents, this Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP).

As required by Bank management, this SEP will cover both the parent project and the additional financing. While the SEP will be updated as needed throughout the project, it is to be disclosed for public consultation as soon as possible after approval.

### 1.2. Project Description, Components and Activities

The COVID-19 pandemic is expected to undermine the livelihoods of the rural poor, especially in the south of the country. Poor households are expected to suffer from the impact of rising food prices, loss of labor income, and reduced remittances. In particular, the country’s pandemic containment measures, which included lockdowns and limitations on wheat exports, are expected to significantly lower incomes: almost 8 in 10 of those in the bottom 20 percent (in terms of income) are employed in highly impacted sectors (agriculture, trade, and construction). Most of the rural poor in the Kyrgyz Republic are in the informal sector and thus outside

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<sup>1</sup> The CoI is defined as a 3 km-wide corridor centered on the final route of the CASA1000 transmission line.

formal social safety nets, increasing the importance of community-driven mechanisms as a means of delivering assistance, mitigating the economic impacts of the pandemic on the rural poor, and ensuring that assistance is aligned with the priorities of rural communities. It is also anticipated that the economic downturn will disproportionately impact young people, women, and marginalized groups. Remittances are a critical source of income, especially in the south of the country, but are projected to decline sharply due to the COVID-19 pandemic, hurting the rural poor in the target oblasts. This is likely to exacerbate the existing patterns of social inequity and vulnerability, as well as ongoing unemployment and underemployment in the CASA1000 CSP target oblasts.

### **Project Development Objective**

To engage communities in the development of social and economic infrastructure in order to enhance services, livelihoods, and inclusion in target oblasts near the CASA1000 transmission line.

#### **Component 1: Support for Community-led Investments in Social and Economic Infrastructure** (Parent project: US\$8.95 million; AF: US\$16.50 million)

**Subcomponent 1A, Support for Electricity Improvements**, will finance village-level electricity improvements in the villages that lie within the CoI. Communities will be able to select from a short menu of enhancements to the village electricity, which includes upgrade of the existing system to improve the current supply, expansion to new neighborhoods, or street lighting. The allocation is based on the size of the villages and their infrastructure needs.

**Subcomponent 1B, Support for Social Infrastructure and Services**, will finance priority social infrastructure and service subprojects in the CoI. The project will enable corridor villages to select from an open menu (subject to ineligible investments defined in the Project Operations Manual (POM)). It is likely that communities will select a range of social facilities such as kindergartens, water supply, school extensions, first aid points (FAPs). The allocation of subgrants to villages is based on a formula that includes population, youth population, and proximity to the transmission line.

- *Support provided under the AF:* Given post COVID-19 needs, it is anticipated that the subprojects selected in the additional 145 AAs, will support mostly health-related or livelihoods-related outcomes, such as FAPs, family medical centers, and/or water-, sanitation-, and hygiene-related needs. Communities may also prioritize subprojects that would underpin their efforts to reestablish livelihoods, such as childcare facilities that enable women to work, water supply needed for productive and household use, or enhance their resilience to future shocks, including those caused by climate change.

**Subcomponent 1C, Support for Livelihoods Facilities**, will support up to US\$0.90 million in livelihoods facilities in the CoI. These livelihoods subprojects will be selected by youth through the parallel L4Y-CSP to suit local opportunities; value chains that might require investment in small-scale facilities include: (i) agricultural production and processing, and supporting sectors such as transport services; (ii) craft and garment production; (iii) digital and new service sectors (including, for instance, recycling or other environmental enterprises); and (iv) new COVID-19-response products and services. Livelihoods facilities might include refrigerated storage facilities, fruit and vegetable greenhouses and warehouses, small-scale manufacturing or fruit processing plants, machinery workshops, craft workshops, and multi-purpose work centers.

- *Support provided under the AF:* Subcomponent 1C will be significantly expanded to address the loss of livelihoods caused by the COVID-19 crisis and economic downturn, especially for vulnerable women and men. To support the development of productive infrastructure, Subcomponent 1C will finance the reestablishment/establishment of economically-viable value chains and livelihoods facilities. Community Livelihoods Business Partners will apply to partner with Community Village Investment Associations (CVIAs) and Aiyl Okmotus (AOs) for the development and operationalization of these livelihoods facilities.

The overall Component 1 allocation to villages in the CASA1000 CSP CoI will not be changed, to maintain the support envisaged near the transmission line. Subcomponents 1B and 1C will follow the same principles and methodology as for the parent project, taking account of the AA population, poverty and remoteness, and any specific exposure to shocks (such as natural hazards or COVID-19).

**Component 2: Support for Community Mobilization, Youth Engagement and Communications**  
(Parent project: US\$1.30 million; AF: US\$3.00 million)

**Subcomponent 2A, Community Mobilization**, will support community mobilization activities in all communities in target areas. These activities will ensure Component 1 investments are decided by communities, are responsive to the needs of all community members, and that they reach the poor and vulnerable. Young men and women will be trained and supported to take up active roles of the community (e.g. youth climate change ambassadors) and to lead participatory planning processes. Emphasis will be placed on the inclusion of vulnerable groups.

- *Support provided under the AF:* Activities will include the same social accountability activities planned under the CSP and CESA grant, with intensified mobilization, capacity building, and youth engagement near the border and enclave areas. Subcomponent 2A will also support the adaptation of communication and outreach processes and materials necessary in a post-COVID-19 context. This will include development of distance learning products to build the skills of facilitators and other local stakeholders, the blending of online and traditional approaches to mobilization, and a digital mobile-friendly platform through which all beneficiaries can access information and provide feedback.

**Subcomponent 2B, Communications**, will support communication activities necessary to share information about the CASA1000 transmission line and the support provided to corridor villages through the CSP.

**Subcomponent 2C, Livelihoods Support Program**, has been added in the AF to support a livelihoods support program (LSP) to help vulnerable community members reestablish livelihoods in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic. The AF will finance the market needs assessments and local value chain action plans in target areas to provide a framework for decision making. The AF will also support skills development through a coaching and mentoring program tailored for vulnerable beneficiary groups in selected traditional and information technology-driven sectors to incubate and sustain “learning-by-doing” microenterprises. This integrated approach to livelihoods support will be based on global best practice alongside similar experience in the Kyrgyz Republic. The LSP<sup>2</sup> will target vulnerable members of the community defined as: (i) extreme poor; (ii) disabled; (iii) unemployed elderly (of working age); (iv) unemployed women; (v) members of large households; (vi) single female-headed households; and (vii) at-risk youth. At least 50 percent of the beneficiaries will be women.

**Component 3: Project Management, and Monitoring and Evaluation**  
(Parent project: US\$0.75 million; AF: US\$1.50 million)

**Subcomponent 3A, Project Management**, will finance the incremental costs of the Community Development and Investment Agency (ARIS) for project management, including coordination and supervision of the implementation, managing the budget, project audits, a feedback system, and procurement.

**Subcomponent 3B, Monitoring and Evaluation**, will support activities to track the progress of the project, carry out semiannual assessments of outcomes and results, and communicate and report regularly on the progress of the project to relevant audiences. Monitoring and evaluation (M&E) will be conducted through an M&E team appointed by ARIS.

**Component 4. Contingent Emergency Response Component**  
(AF: ~US\$0.00 million)

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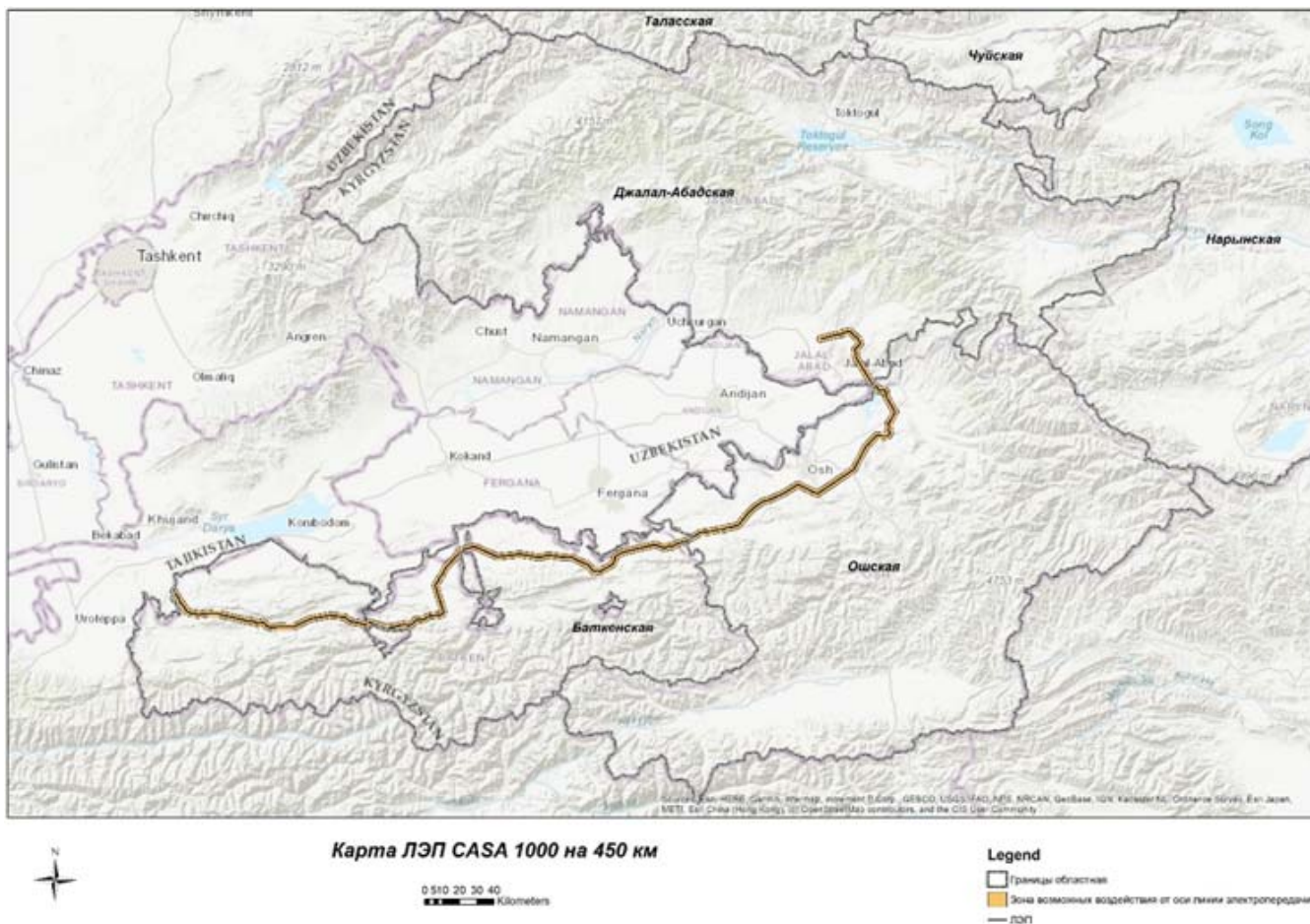
<sup>2</sup> In the parent project, the LSP is being supported by a parallel technical assistance grant funded by Japan.

A Contingent Emergency Response Component has been added in the AF. In light of the COVID-19 outbreak, this provisional zero component is designed as a mechanism that will allow for rapid access to project funds for a Kyrgyz Republic response and recovery to crisis, based on the provisions laid out in the POM.

**Project Coverage**

The CSP parent project will be implemented in 42 AAs (77 villages) that are crossed by the CASA1000 transmission line. The AF will be implemented in an additional 145 AAs, thus ensuring that all 187 AAs in Jalal-Abad, Osh, and Batken oblasts are reached (see Annex 3). The final village list is provided in Annex 2.

**Image 1.** Batken, Jalal-Abad, and Osh oblasts, and the CASA1000 transmission line



**Project Duration**

The parent project closing date is June 30, 2023; the AF project closing date will extend project support to December 31, 2024.

**1.3. Objectives of the Stakeholder Engagement Plan**

The engagement of the citizens and government institutions of the Kyrgyz Republic is fundamental to the success of project implementation. To minimize and mitigate environmental and social risks, and provide smooth cooperation between project personnel and local communities in the project, the overall objective of this SEP is to define a stakeholder engagement program, including public information disclosure and consultation, for the duration of the project. The SEP describes the ways in which the implementing agency, ARIS, will communicate with stakeholders, and includes mechanisms through which people can articulate their



preferences, raise concerns, provide feedback, or file complaints against contractors or the project participants themselves.

The detailed objectives of the SEP are as follows:

- Outline the stakeholder engagement requirements of GoK legislation and World Bank environmental and social standards
- Provide guidance for stakeholder engagement, including the timing and methods of engagement with stakeholders throughout the life cycle of the project
- Identify key stakeholders that are affected, and/or able to influence the project
- Describe the measures that will be used to remove obstacles to participation, and how the views of differently affected groups will be captured
- Identify effective ways and methods to disseminate project information as per the needs of the stakeholders
- Guide the implementing agencies, contractors, and supervision consultants in building mutually respectful, beneficial, and lasting relationships with stakeholders
- Establish project-level grievance redress mechanism(s) (GRMs)
- Define the roles and responsibilities for implementation of the SEP

#### **1.4. Structure of the Stakeholder Engagement Plan**

The remainder of this document is structured in the following manner:

Chapter 2: World Bank Standards and National Legislation

Chapter 3: Summary of Previous Stakeholder Engagement Activities

Chapter 4: Stakeholder Identification and Analysis

Chapter 5: Stakeholder Engagement Program: Implementation Strategy and Approach

Chapter 6: Resources and Responsibilities for Implementing Stakeholder Engagement Activities

Chapter 7: Beneficiary Feedback Mechanism and Grievance Management Mechanism

Chapter 8: Monitoring and Reporting

## **2. WORLD BANK STANDARDS AND NATIONAL LEGISLATION**

### **2.1. National Legal Provisions of Information Disclosure**

In the Kyrgyz Republic, in accordance with the Constitution of the Kyrgyz Republic and a number of regulatory legal acts and international treaties ratified by the Kyrgyz Republic, the basis for public access to information, including environmental information, has been determined.

The Constitution of the Kyrgyz Republic guarantees freedom of speech and expression, establishing that every citizen of the country has the right “to free expression and dissemination of thoughts, ideas, and opinions, to freedom of literary, artistic, scientific and technical creativity, freedom of the press, [and] transmission and dissemination of information”, and specifies that “the adoption of laws restricting freedom of speech and press is not allowed.” (Articles 31 and 33).

The main law regulating the provision of information is the Law No. 130 of the Kyrgyz Republic “On access to information held by state bodies and local self-government bodies of the Kyrgyz Republic” as amended on July 20, 2017. This law regulates the access of individuals and legal entities to information under the jurisdiction of state bodies and local self-government bodies.

In the field of environmental protection, Law No. 53 of the Kyrgyz Republic “On environmental protection” dated June 16, 1999 specifies that citizens of the Kyrgyz Republic have the right to receive complete and reliable information about the state of the environment and the health of the population, and the expected effect on the environment and health from about production facilities planned for construction (Article 46).

In accordance with Regulation No. 60 of the GoK “on Environmental Impact Assessments” dated February 13, 2015, information on the environment should be disclosed to the public, and the objectives of the regulation include the following:

- Informing the public on issues related to environmental protection
- Realization of the public's right to participate in the discussion and adoption of environmentally significant decisions
- Taking into account the comments and suggestions of the public on environmental protection issues in the process of impact assessment and decision making regarding the implementation of planned activities
- Finding mutually acceptable solutions for the initiator of the project and the public in matters of preventing or minimizing harmful effects on the environment during the implementation of the planned activities

Annex 1 presents articles from the main legislative acts of the Kyrgyz Republic on the participation of the population in issues affecting them and access to information from various government bodies.

### **2.2. Principles of the World Bank Environmental and Social Standard on Stakeholder Engagement**

The World Bank’s Environmental and Social Framework became effective on October 1, 2018. It includes 10 environmental and social standards, one of which is ESS10 - Stakeholder Engagement and Disclosure. This standard recognizes “the importance of open and transparent communication between the borrower and project stakeholders as an important element of good international practice”. ESS10 emphasizes that effective stakeholder engagement can significantly improve the environmental and social sustainability of projects, enhance their acceptability, and make a significant contribution to the successful design and implementation of projects. ESS10 applies to all projects supported by the Bank through financing investment projects. The borrower will engage with stakeholders as an integral part of the project’s environmental and social assessment and project design and implementation. The requirements established by ESS10 are as follows:

- Borrowers will engage with stakeholders throughout the project life cycle, starting such engagement as early as possible in the project development process and within a time frame that allows meaningful stakeholder consultation on project design issues. The nature, scope, and frequency of stakeholder involvement will be proportional to the nature and scope of the project and its potential risks and impacts.
- Borrowers will participate in meaningful consultations with all stakeholders. Borrowers will provide stakeholders with timely, relevant, understandable, and accessible information and consult with them in a culturally appropriate manner, free from manipulation, interference, coercion, discrimination, and intimidation.

The stakeholder engagement process will include the following: (i) identification and analysis of stakeholders; (ii) planning how stakeholder engagement will take place; (iii) disclosure of information; (iv) consultation with stakeholders; (v) handling complaints and responding to them; and (vi) reporting to stakeholders.

The borrower should develop an SEP commensurate with the nature and scope of the project and its potential risks and impacts. It should be disclosed as early as possible and prior to project appraisal, and the borrower should seek stakeholder views on the project, including stakeholder identification and proposals for future engagement. If material changes are made to the project, the borrower must disclose the updated SEP. According to ESS10, the borrower must also propose and implement a GRM to receive and facilitate the resolution of issues and complaints from affected parties related to the environmental and social performance of the project in a timely manner. For more information on the World Bank's environmental and social standards, please refer to the following links:

[www.worldbank.org/en/projects-operations/environmental-and-social-framework/brief/environmental-and-social-standards](http://www.worldbank.org/en/projects-operations/environmental-and-social-framework/brief/environmental-and-social-standards) and  
<http://projects-beta.vsemirnyjbank.org/ru/projects-operations/environmental-and-socialframework/brief/environmental-and-social-standards>.

### 3. SUMMARY OF PREVIOUS STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

#### 3.1. Brief Summary of Previous Stakeholder Engagement Activities

The speed and urgency with which the AF has been developed to meet the growing threat of COVID-19 in the country (combined with government restrictions on gatherings of people) limited the project's ability to develop a complete SEP before the AF was approved by the World Bank. This SEP represents a starting point of an iterative process to develop a more comprehensive stakeholder engagement strategy and plan. It will be updated periodically as necessary, with more detail provided in the first update planned after project approval. Stakeholders will be kept informed as the project develops, including reporting on project environmental and social performance and implementation of the SEP and the grievance mechanism. If necessary, this SEP will be updated, and disclosed again.

Nevertheless, beneficiary dialogues were held virtually during the pandemic and early implementation of the parent project (to date, stakeholder engagement efforts include meetings with key stakeholders, i.e. government agencies, local governments, and specific beneficiary groups). Table provides information on the consultation activities carried out for the preparation of the AF.

**Table 1. Summary of Previous Meetings with Key Stakeholders During Preparation of the AF**

Location	Date	Participants	Key points of discussion
State agencies and partners on development			
Bishkek/Osh	June 9, 2020	Virtual meeting with local business community members and representatives of AOs	Discussion of planning activities and learning about interest in livelihoods activities, including interest of business players to be involved in the value chain under the project, which is aiming to support/create livelihoods and additional jobs. Explanation of the project's upcoming technical support for AF business communities.
Bishkek/Jalal-Abad	Jun 9, 2020	Virtual meeting with returned migrants	Discussion of issues relating to migrants, their future plans, and their engagement in the context of the AF, and how COVID-19 impacts the migrants and how the migrants could be involved in the process of development of livelihoods and in the value chain.
Bishkek/Batken	Jun 9, 2020	Virtual meeting with women's focus group (unemployed women and women working within their gardens)	Discussion of the needs of women in the context of the AF. Gathered ideas/needs of the women's group to establish/rehabilitate livelihoods, to create jobs for women and include women's needs in the value chain.
Osh and Jalal-Abad	Jun 12, 2020	Virtual meetings with the Jalal-Abad and Osh regional electricity companies	Discussion of the roles and responsibilities of parties (energy companies and ARIS) under the procurement of electricity investments.
Bishkek	Jun 11, 2020	Virtual meetings with the Ministry of Finance (MoF)	Discussions to determine the implementing agency for the AF and discussion of the AF design, scope, and focus.
Bishkek	Feb 14, 2020	Meetings with National Electricity Grid of Kyrgyzstan (NEGK) and the CASA1000 project implementation unit (PIU)	Discussion on the alignment of projects activities, field visits to the target villages, and endorsement of the final village list.
Bishkek	May 16, 2020	NEGK, PIU, Aga Khan Foundation (AKF) and ARIS	Coordination of the communications campaign for the CASA1000 and CSP. Development, review, and approval of

Location	Date	Participants	Key points of discussion
			communications materials through the Communications Working Group.
Bishkek	Mar 17, 2020	Ministry of Health	Coordination regarding support by the CSP to the COVID-19 response – distribution of personal protective equipment; support for improvements to FAPs.
Bishkek	Jun 6, 2020	Ministry of Economics	Discussion on the design, scope, and focus of the AF financing.
Bishkek	Jun 6, 2020	Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Discussion and agreement on the Financing Agreement for the AF financing, and project scope and focus.
Bishkek	Jun 6, 2020	Ministry of Justice	Discussion and agreement on the Financing Agreement for the AF financing, and project scope and focus.
Bishkek	Jun 10, 2020	SCESU	Discussion and agreement on the Financing Agreement for the AF financing, and project scope and focus.
Bishkek	Jun 24, 2020	Meeting of the GoK on tax and investment policy	Discussions on clearance of the AF by the Council of the GoK on tax and investment policy.

### 3.2. Lessons Learned from Stakeholder Meetings

Feedback from beneficiary meetings provided confirmation that:

- **Migrants.** During the virtual meeting with the migrant group in Jalal-Abad oblast, hopes were expressed that additional jobs would be created under the project, especially for youth who worked abroad and have returned back home. Migrants were trained and improved their professional skills in different positions and work abroad, so they could use these skills to create livelihoods or to be part of the value chain. Migrants suggested including youth engagement activities under the project. Some of the migrants have some small amount of savings, that they could use as startup funding for the creation of new livelihoods.
- **Women.** There were suggestions from single women to build new kindergartens and to improve the conditions for children attending them, which in turn would increase the time they have to generate income and go to work. Also, the construction of FAPs will provide timely benefits in getting healthcare and healthcare prevention services at the local level. They also mentioned the creation of mini-workshops, craft workshops, and horticulture. Women have their household gardens and crops/harvest, that they would like to sell and profit from. They would like to have some equipment for drying fruit and preparing jam in order to export the products.
- **Business people.** Proposals raised by the business people included: construction of warehouses and/or plants to produce construction materials in order to create additional jobs, such as plants to produce reinforced concrete products (electric transmission line pillars, floor slabs, etc.). In general, they suggested that the Project put more attention to the creation of new income generating facilities onsite.

The minutes of the meetings are available on the CSP online platform at: <https://kyrgyz-demo-republic-village-covid-19.yrpri.org/community/1458>.

## 4. STAKEHOLDER IDENTIFICATION AND ANALYSIS

Project stakeholders are defined as individuals, groups, or other entities who:

- (i) are impacted or likely to be impacted directly or indirectly, positively or adversely, by the project (also known as “affected parties”); and
- (ii) may have an interest in the project (known as “interested parties”). They include individuals or groups whose interests may be affected by the project and who have the potential to influence the project outcomes in any way.

Cooperation and negotiation with the stakeholders throughout project preparation and implementation often also require the identification of persons within the groups who act as legitimate representatives of their respective stakeholder group, i.e. the individuals who have been entrusted by their fellow group members with advocating the group’s interests in the process of engagement with the project. Community representatives may provide helpful insights into the local setting and act as the main conduit for the dissemination of project-related information and be the primary communication/liaison link between the project and targeted communities and their established networks. Verification of stakeholder representatives (i.e. the process of confirming that they are legitimate and genuine advocates of the community they represent) is an important task in establishing contact with community stakeholders. Legitimacy of the community representatives can be verified by talking informally to a random sample of community members and heeding their views on who can represent their interests in the most effective way.

To understand the project stakeholders in the parent project, a key definition is the CoI, which is defined as a 3 km-wide corridor centered on the final route of the CASA1000 transmission line.

### 4.1. Methodology

In order to meet best practice approaches, the project will apply the following principles for stakeholder engagement:

- **Openness and project-cycle approach.** Blended consultations will be done, which include standard consultations and traditional meetings. Additionally, project information will be disclosed on the ARIS online platform “Your priorities”, <https://kyrgyz-demo-republic-village-covid-19.yrpri.org/community/1264>, during the whole life cycle, carried out in a transparent manner, free from external manipulation, interference, coercion, and intimidation.
- **Informed participation and feedback.** Information will be provided to and widely distributed among all stakeholders in an appropriate format; opportunities will be provided for communicating stakeholders’ feedback, and analyzing and addressing comments and concerns.
- **Inclusiveness and sensitivity.** Stakeholder identification is undertaken to support better communications and build effective relationships. The participation process for the project is inclusive. All stakeholders at all times will be encouraged to be involved in the consultation process. Equal access to information will be provided to all stakeholders. Sensitivity to stakeholders’ needs is the key principle underlying the selection of engagement methods. Special attention will be given to vulnerable groups, in particular women, internally displaced persons, returning migrants,<sup>3</sup> persons with disabilities, youth, the elderly, and the cultural sensitivities of diverse ethnic groups and those living in remote or inaccessible areas.

For the purposes of effective and tailored engagement, project stakeholders can be divided into the following core categories:

- **Affected parties** – persons, groups and other entities within the CoI that are directly influenced (actually or potentially) by the project and/or have been identified as most susceptible to change associated with

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<sup>3</sup> Migrants returning to project target areas due to COVID-19.

the project, and who need to be closely engaged in identifying impacts and their significance, as well as in decision making on mitigation and management measures.

- **Other interested parties** – individuals/groups/entities that may not experience direct impacts from the project but who consider or perceive their interests as being affected by the project and/or who could affect the project and the process of its implementation in some way.
- **Vulnerable groups** – persons who may be disproportionately impacted or further disadvantaged by the project as compared to any other groups due to their vulnerable status, and that may require special engagement efforts to ensure their equal representation in the consultation and decision-making processes associated with the project.

It is important to negotiate and cooperate with the stakeholders who act as legitimate representatives of their respective stakeholder group, e.g. village elders who have been assigned by their fellow group members to advocate for the group’s interests in the process of engagement with the project, or school teachers identified as focal points for this purpose.

The participants include state and non-state stakeholders, such as representatives of local authorities, youth groups, community organizations, and representatives of mass media.

Examples of legitimate stakeholder representatives include:

- Representatives of oblast and raion state administrations, representatives of regional structural divisions
- Elected/appointed government officials in the AOs and Aiyl Keneshes
- Elected/appointed village leaders
- CVIAs and their appointed chairs and representatives
- Non-elected leaders that have wide recognition within their community, such as chairpersons of local initiative groups or water user associations, teachers, and representatives of schools, kindergartens, or community organizations, including community youth organizations
- Leaders of community-based organizations, civil society organizations, mass media, local non-governmental organizations (NGOs), women’s groups, youth committees, and heads of women’s councils, jamaats, mahallas, and enterprises
- Other respected persons in the local community

#### **4.2. Affected Parties and Project Beneficiaries in the Project Target Areas**

Affected parties, project beneficiaries, and other parties that may be subject to direct impacts from the project specifically include the following:

- Communities in the AOs and cities in the CoI (Annex 2 provides a list of the 77 villages involved) for the parent project
- The 145 AAs not crossed by the CoI for the AF
- CVIAs
- Community leaders
- COVID-19-infected people; people under COVID-19 quarantine; and relatives of COVID-19-infected people
- Local community workers and ARIS field staff (Community Development Support Officers or “CDSOs”) engaged in providing support through home visits

#### **4.3. Other Interested Parties**

The project stakeholders also include parties other than those in directly-affected communities, including:

- Government stakeholders
- Community leaders
- The public at large
- Community-based organizations, civil society groups, and local NGOs
- Other national and international NGOs
- Goods and service providers involved in the project's supply chain
- Media and other interest groups, including social media and the Government Information Department
- Interested businesses

#### 4.4. Disadvantaged/Vulnerable Individuals or Groups

It is particularly important to understand whether project impacts may disproportionately fall on disadvantaged or vulnerable individuals or groups, who often do not have a voice to express their concerns or understanding of the impacts of a project, and to ensure that awareness raising and stakeholder engagement with disadvantaged or vulnerable individuals or groups on infectious diseases and medical treatments in particular, are adapted to take into account such groups' or individuals' particular sensitivities and concerns. The vulnerability may stem from a person's origin, gender, age, ability, health condition, economic deficiency and financial insecurity, disadvantaged status in the community (e.g. minorities or fringe groups), or dependence on other individuals or natural resources, especially those living in remote, insecure, or inaccessible areas. Engagement with vulnerable groups and individuals often requires the application of specific measures and assistance aimed at facilitation of their participation in project-related decision making so that their awareness of and input into the overall process are commensurate to those of the other stakeholders.

Within the project, vulnerable or disadvantaged groups may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Individuals in extreme poverty
- Persons with disabilities
- Unemployed elderly people of working age
- Unemployed women
- Members of large households
- Households headed by single women
- At-risk youth
- Households at risk from climate change
- Returned migrants (many due to COVID-19)
- Communities in remote or inaccessible areas

Vulnerable groups within the communities affected by the project will be further confirmed and consulted through dedicated activities, as appropriate. Table 1 defines the relative interests of the stakeholder groups, and a description of the methods of engagement that will be undertaken by the project is provided in the following sections.

**Table 1. Project-Affected Stakeholders**

Stakeholder Group	Nature of interest in project	Interest	Influence
<b>Project-affected parties</b>			
<b>Community members</b> of the 77 corridor villages in 42 AAs falling <u>within</u> the CoI of the CASA1000 transmission line in Osh, Batken, and Jalal-Abad oblasts (parent project target areas) (See the table in Annex 2 for the list of villages.)	Interest in project impacts re: social services and livelihoods; understanding project benefits, and compensation procedure.	High	High



Stakeholder Group	Nature of interest in project	Interest	Influence
<b>Community members</b> of 145 AAs in Osh, Batken, and Jalal-Abad oblasts supported <u>outside</u> the CoI of the CASA1000 transmission line (AF target areas)	Interest in project impacts re: livelihoods; understanding project benefits, and compensation procedures, if required.	High	High
<b>Youth members of target communities</b> with specific roles in mobilization, social accountability (also supported by the CESA project).	with specific roles in mobilization, social accountability (also supported by the CESA project).		
<b>CVIA members</b>	Project-supported community-based organizations will appoint members and leaders from participating villages, will lead all livelihoods activities.	High	Medium
<b>Vulnerable groups</b> in all target areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Individuals in extreme poverty</li> <li>• Persons with disabilities</li> <li>• unemployed elderly people of working age</li> <li>• Unemployed women</li> <li>• Members of large households</li> <li>• Households headed by single women</li> <li>• At-risk youth</li> <li>• Households at risk from climate change</li> <li>• Returned migrants (many due to COVID-19)</li> <li>• Communities in remote or inaccessible areas</li> </ul>	Migrants who have returned from abroad due to the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic who want to stay and work in the country.	High	Low
<b>Government agencies with direct engagement or likely engagement</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ministry of Finance</li> <li>• State Comm for Industry, Energy, Subsoil Use</li> <li>• NEGK</li> <li>• Osh, Jalal-Abad, Batken regional admins</li> <li>• AO heads</li> <li>• Local Aiyl Keneshes</li> <li>• Ministry of Emergency Situations</li> <li>• Ministry of Economy</li> <li>• Ministry of Health</li> <li>• Ministry of Education and Science</li> <li>• State Agency for Local Self-Government and Interethnic Relations (SALSGIR)</li> <li>• State Agency for Architecture, Construction and Housing and Communal Services (GKR)</li> <li>• State Inspectorate for Environmental and Technical Safety under the GKR</li> <li>• Plenipotentiary representatives of the GKR in Batken, Osh, and Jalal-Abad oblasts</li> </ul>	Interest in planning and implementing the project, coordination of project activities and distribution of services, and addressing the potential environmental and social impacts as well as community health and safety.	High	Medium
<b>Other government agencies</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ministry of Agriculture, Food Industry and Land Reclamation</li> <li>• Ministry of Labor and Social Development</li> <li>• Ministry of Culture, Information and Tourism</li> <li>• State Agency for Youth Affairs, Physical Culture and Sports under the GKR</li> <li>• State Agency for Environmental Protection and Forestry under the GKR</li> <li>• State Inspectorate for Veterinary and Phytosanitary Safety under the GKR</li> <li>• State Agency for Land Resources under the GKR</li> </ul>	Potential interest in planning and implementing the project, coordination of project activities and distribution of services, and addressing the potential environmental and social impacts as well as community health and safety.	Medium	Medium
NGOs, local civil society organizations	Support for vulnerable groups	Medium	Medium

Stakeholder Group	Nature of interest in project	Interest	Influence
Academic institutions	Concerns over potential environmental and social impacts	Medium	Low

The identified stakeholders are divided according to their spheres of influence. Major and significant stakeholders are described in Table 2 below.

**Table 2. Stakeholder Analysis and Mapping of Key Agencies and Groups Involved in Planning and Implementation of the Project**

Stakeholder	Level	Description	Area of influence	Interest	Influence
Project Coordination Committee	National	Ensuring effective project implementation, CASA1000 coordination and information flow for timely decision making.  It will include NEGK, the MoF, ARIS, SALSGIR, AKF, Oshelektro OJSC and Jalal-Abad elektro OJSC.	Strategic and programmatic aspects at the highest level	High	High
Communications Working Group	National	Ensuring two-way information flows between local- and national-level stakeholders on CASA1000 CSP communication efforts. Coordination of communications campaign and endorsement of communication materials.	National and local levels	High	High
Ministry of Finance	National	The MoF provides functions for the development and implementation of state policy in the field of public financial management, as well as policy in the field of internal audit and public procurement. It carries out the execution, accounting, and analysis of the development budget (programs of public investment, capital investments, and incentive (equity) grants), and external financial, technical assistance, and guarantees.	Project coordination  The MoF is responsible for overall project coordination with ministries and departments.	High	High
ARIS	National	The organization responsible for implementation of the project.	Implementing organization responsible for all fiduciary and assurance functions for the project.	High	High
NEGK and the PIU for the CASA1000 CSP	national	Implementing agency for the project, responsible for coordinating all aspects of the construction to ensure sequenced implementation, as well as communications on the CASA1000 TL.			

Stakeholder	Level	Description	Area of influence	Interest	Influence
Regional electricity companies	Regional	The energy companies carry out the purchase, transportation, distribution, and sale of electricity, as well as repair, maintenance, and operational maintenance of distribution electrical networks with a voltage of 35-10-6-0.4 kV.	They will participate in the development of technical specifications for the purchase of electrical equipment under the project, and in the installation of the purchased electrical equipment.	High	High
Osh, Jalal-Abad, and Batken oblast administrations	Regional	In accordance with the country's laws, the regional administration is the second level after the national government.	Regional administrations provide political guidance for the social and economic development of their regions.	High	High
Local government bodies Aiyl Okmotus	Local	These are the local legislatures representing AA residents.	They are responsible for information and communication, provision of land (if possible) and granting of the permissions required at the municipal level.	High	High
Aiyl Keneshes and Deputies	Local	Provide guidance for AA socioeconomic development..	Assistance and control over the implementation of the project at the municipal level, as well as consultation at the municipal level. Municipal property of the project.	High	High
CVIAs	Local	Primary vehicle for community mobilization activities and decision-making activities at the community level.	Collaboration with local self-government bodies, community members, value chain business partners, ARIS, AKF, and energy companies.	High	Moderate

Stakeholder	Level	Description	Area of influence	Interest	Influence
Local contractors	Regional	Local contractors will carry out general construction work in the regions.	Renovation and construction	High	Moderate
Community Business Partners	Local	Express interest and participate in project opportunities to create livelihoods, as well as to be involved in the value chain. They are a person or group of persons, men or women, who are successful entrepreneurs, have their own business, and/or can help start businesses for other entrepreneurs.	Establishes partnerships with business partners, AOs, and the local community to develop subprojects to create livelihoods.	High	Moderate
<b>Associated</b>					
State Agency for Land Resources	Regional	Provision of owner information on land resources, provision of information land plot boundaries	Provides information on rights to land and other real estate for the development of the project.	Moderate	Low
Ministry of Health	Regional	Management and formulation of state policy in the field of public health protection	Provides information about medical facilities	Moderate	Low
Ministry of Education	Regional	Management and formulation of state policy in the field of education	Provides information about preschools (kindergartens) and schools	Moderate	Low
Department of Sanitary and Epidemiological Surveillance under the Ministry of Health	National	Responsible for developing state policy in the field of sanitary and hygienic development	Provides draft specific information on sanitation and health safety policy.	Moderate	Average
State Inspectorate for Technical and Environmental Safety	National	The State Inspectorate is responsible for the implementation of the rules of the state policy on environmental and technical safety.	Has overall control and responsibility for ensuring compliance with environmental and social norms by all organizations and persons whose actions and processes have potential impact on the environment.	Moderate	Moderate

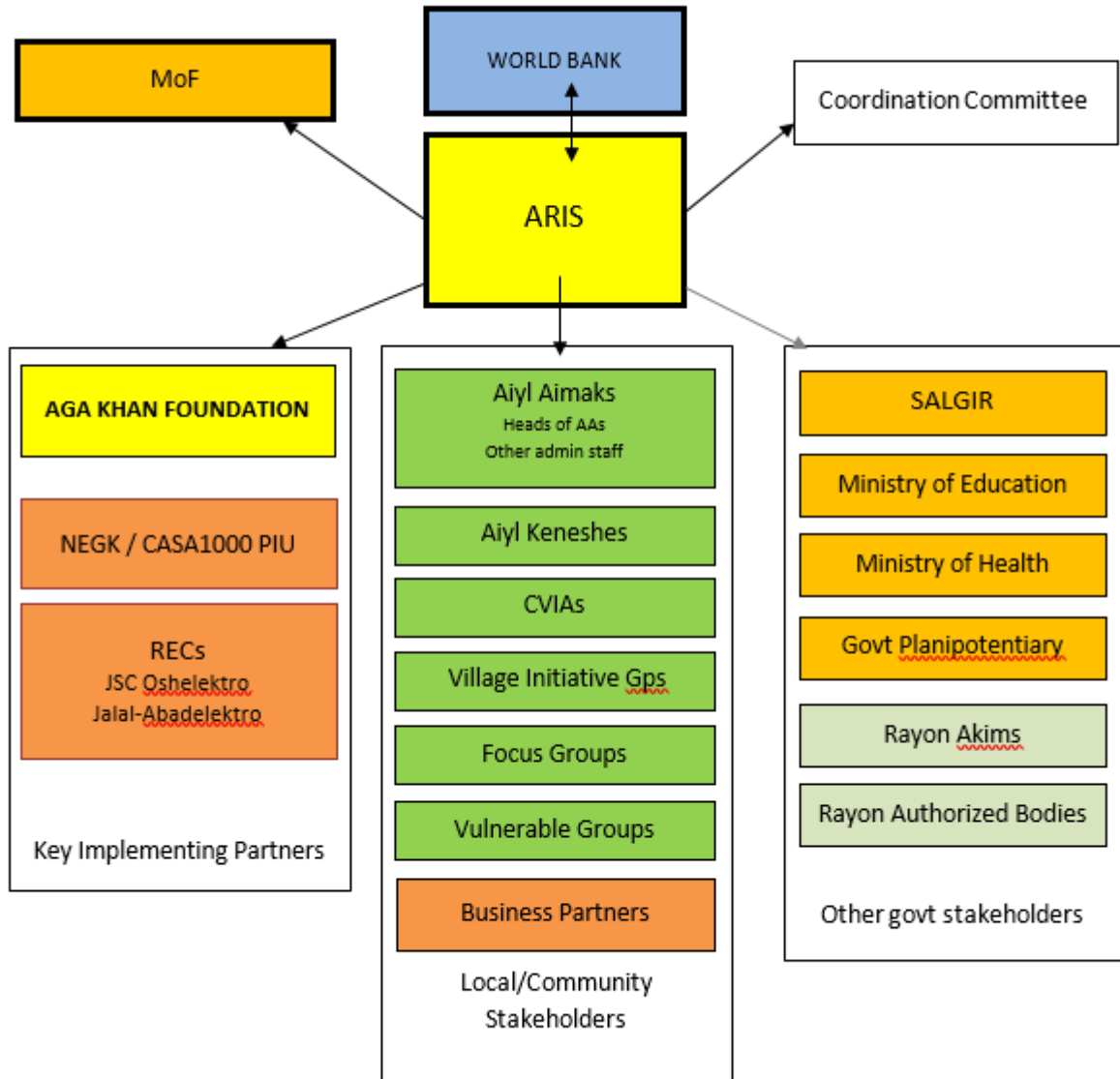
The roles and responsibilities of the key implementing partners for the project are described in Table 3, and a chart of the key stakeholders is provided in Figure 1 below.

**Table 3. Summary of the Roles and Responsibilities of Key Implementing Partners**

	<b>Community mobilization</b>	<b>Communications</b>	<b>Village electricity improvements</b>	<b>Socioeconomic infrastructure</b>	<b>Livelihoods facilities</b>
<b>ARIS (lead implementing agency)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lead project launch, awareness building, and communications</li> <li>• Facilitate youth-focused community mobilization process</li> <li>• Establish and build capacity of CVIAs</li> <li>• Liaise with AOs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lead communications efforts for CASA1000 CSP (in coordination with CASA1000 overarching communications strategy and dissemination efforts)</li> <li>• Carry out activities set out in the communications action plan for the project</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordinate with electricity companies</li> <li>• Present viable electricity options to communities</li> <li>• Carry out technical design</li> <li>• Launch procurements on behalf of CVIAs (where needed)</li> <li>• Sign cooperation agreements with electricity companies</li> <li>• Handover assets to electricity companies</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sign subgrant agreements with CVIAs</li> <li>• Carry out technical design</li> <li>• Launch procurements on behalf of CVIAs (where needed)</li> <li>• Supervise construction</li> <li>• Hand over assets on completion to AOs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sign subgrant agreements with AOs</li> <li>• Carry out technical design</li> <li>• Launch procurements on behalf of AOs</li> <li>• Supervise construction</li> <li>• Hand over facilities on completion to AOs</li> </ul>
<b>AKF</b>	<p>Support community mobilization innovations, i.e.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduce youth engagement</li> <li>• Support capacity building of youth facilitators</li> <li>• Implement awareness building and social accountability activities with complementary grant (CESA)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support ARIS-led communications efforts where relevant</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support community mobilization process, awareness building, and social accountability mechanisms to ensure communities have information, facilitation, and capacity building to make decisions that are needs-based, and inclusive of women, vulnerable, and poor households.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support community mobilization process, awareness building, and social accountability mechanisms to ensure communities have information, facilitation, and capacity building to make decisions that are needs-based, and inclusive of women, vulnerable, and poor households.</li> </ul>	<p>Manage complementary small grant (L4Y-CSP - JSDF) to increase impact of livelihoods facilities, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local market analysis</li> <li>• Entrepreneurship and youth-centric value chain development</li> <li>• Enterprises linked to the digital economy</li> </ul>
<b>Electricity companies</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support communications efforts on CASA1000 CSP electricity benefits to CoI villages</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sign cooperation agreements with ARIS</li> <li>• Develop terms of reference</li> <li>• Check technical designs</li> <li>• Join procurement committees</li> <li>• Transport and install rehabilitation infrastructure</li> <li>• Take on assets to balance sheets without tax</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide support for any village electricity subprojects</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide support for any electricity-related requirements</li> </ul>
<b>AOs</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support project orientation and outreach meetings</li> <li>• Support establishment of CVIAs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support dissemination of communications materials and project messaging within AA villages; provide</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide public land as necessary</li> <li>• Coordinate with electricity companies</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide public land as necessary</li> <li>• Coordinate staffing and operations and maintenance</li> <li>• Take over assets on completion</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Endorse construction of livelihoods facilities</li> <li>• Provide public land</li> </ul>

	<b>Community mobilization</b>	<b>Communications</b>	<b>Village electricity improvements</b>	<b>Socioeconomic infrastructure</b>	<b>Livelihoods facilities</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support community outreach and capacity building</li> <li>Ensure update and development of local development strategies with youth development strategies</li> </ul>	feedback to ARIS on community concerns			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Take over ownership of facilities on completion</li> </ul>
<b>CVIAs</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Established and legally registered during community mobilization</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Coordinate and cooperate with social accountability activities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Represent corridor communities after subproject selection</li> <li>Inform ARIS of subproject selections, instruct technical design (and procurement as necessary)</li> <li>Carry out coordination, monitoring role, and financial management and procurement functions (if capacity is proven)</li> <li>Establish operations and maintenance plans</li> <li>Manage Community Development Fund post project</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Carry out agreed functions re: rent from project-financed facilities</li> </ul>

Figure 1. Key Stakeholder Map



## 5. STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT: STRATEGY AND APPROACH

Following the identification, mapping, and analysis of project stakeholders, the project has designed a comprehensive plan for stakeholder engagement, as outlined below.

The project SEP is designed to ensure that direct and indirect project stakeholders are provided with up-to-date, timely, and accessible information to enable them to express their views and concerns about the project and its implications. The SEP describes, at the different stages of the project, how these activities will take place, and with what frequency. In cases where decisions on public meetings, venues, and dates have not yet been taken, information is provided on how people will be made aware of upcoming opportunities to review information and present their views. The SEP takes into account the key characteristics and interests of stakeholders, as well as the different levels of involvement and consultation that are appropriate for different stakeholders, defining interactions with all stakeholders, and exploring the opportunities and risks associated with engaging with them.

### 5.1. Principles of the SEP

Key principles of the implementation strategy and approach for the SEP of the project includes:

- **Alignment with citizen engagement activities.** This SEP has been fully aligned with the citizen engagement activities planned under the project, and ensures that the citizen engagement activities are not duplicated and that planned activities will ensure the greater depth of engagement.
- **Provision of a mechanism for feedback.** The SEP stakeholder communication strategy also identifies the mechanisms by which stakeholders can express their concerns and communicate their complaints, and how such concerns and complaints will be resolved in a timely manner. Under the SEP, complaints will be resolved within 30 days in accordance with the procedures for the beneficiary feedback mechanism (BFM) (described in Section 7 below).
- **Timely engagement.** The project will ensure timely engagement with all stakeholders from project start to completion.

The strategy includes information disclosure, consultation, and other citizen engagement activities and grievance redress as below.

### 5.2. Proposed Strategy for Information Disclosure

The strategy for information disclosure will ensure that the target groups receive full information in a user-friendly manner through a variety of channels. The information sharing and disclosure will accommodate the challenges of working within the context of COVID-19.

- a. **Community- and AA-level meetings.** The project includes social mobilization of the community at several stages. At the initial stage of project implementation, ARIS will organize initial meetings at the oblast, raion, and AA levels (Osh, Batken, and Jalal-Abad oblasts). In addition, the ARIS team will help organize community mobilization meetings of communities in municipalities throughout the entire life cycle of the project.
- b. **Social communication in mass media.** The ARIS Public Relations Department will be involved in the project at all stages of the project implementation with the help of various campaigns throughout the project life cycle. Various channels will be used, both traditional mobilization (public meetings, media, radio, television, print publications,) and adapted, in the context of a pandemic, for the use of social networks to the maximum extent possible to disseminate information.
- c. **Traditional information materials.** Information will be disclosed to the public through a variety of written and printed communications materials, including brochures, flyers, and posters on village noticeboards. Materials will be displayed on village noticeboards. For CASA1000 target communities in the CoI, a public relations kit will be specially designed and distributed both in print and online. All materials will be produced in Kyrgyz and Russian.



**d. Online information accessible by mobile phones.** ARIS has developed an online platform to promote direct and rapid communications with target communities through the COVID-19 pandemic and after. All materials are uploaded on the project online platform. Links will be sent via WhatsApp to target groups with the relevant information for the activity in question (e.g. safeguards consultations, focus group discussions (FGDs), etc.). ARIS will also regularly update its website (at least quarterly) with key project updates and project environmental and social performance reports in both English and Russian. The website will also provide information on the project's grievance mechanism (see next subsection).

All future project-related environmental and social monitoring documents in the above sections will be disclosed on the project online platform (in the safeguards window) <https://kyrgyz-demo-republic-village-covid-19.yrpri.org/community/1409>. Project updates (including news on construction activities and relevant environmental and social information) will be sent via links to community members. They will be able to access documents and provide feedback into national-level portals or village portals. An easy-to-understand guide to the terminology used in the environmental and social reports or documents will also be disclosed on the platform.

- The project online platform is available for all beneficiary engagement <https://kyrgyz-demo-republic-village-covid-19.yrpri.org/community/1402>.
- All information brochures and fliers will also be posted on the online platform at <https://kyrgyz-demo-republic-village-covid-19.yrpri.org/community/1419>.
- As part of the BFM, an electronic grievance submission form is available on ARIS's website and on the platform. Contact details of the Environmental and Social Team and headquarters and all Environmental and Social Specialists at the municipality level will also be made available on the website. The online platform will also receive complaints anonymously and post results at <https://kyrgyz-demo-republic-village-covid-19.yrpri.org/group/2831>.

In cases of significant changes in the project, which may lead to the emergence of additional social and environmental risks and impacts, additional public consultations will be held using the online platform, the above sources of information, and various adapted or traditional methods. After consultations, the updated version of the environmental and social management framework and resettlement policy framework will be made public on the ARIS website via the project online platform.

The procedure for holding consultations with the affected parties in the event that significant changes are made to the project may lead to additional risks and impacts.

**e. Alignment with citizen engagement activities under Component 2.** This strategy for information disclosure is fully aligned with the approach envisaged in Component 2, i.e. to support information generation (on project objectives, targets, and performance) and awareness-building activities in each community linked to the engagement activities to ensure communities are fully informed and to promote project transparency. As part of the post COVID-19 response, the project will coordinate and help amplify the information, communications, and outreach by the Ministry of Health and other public messaging, through the ARIS network of community-related support, and the ARIS project online platform.

**In case of any changes in the project, the implementation of all conditions is needed, according the Financial Agreement.**

### **5.3. Review of Stakeholders' Comments and Feedback**

Ongoing feedback and comments received from stakeholders throughout the project will be reviewed and additional actions will be taken with relevant stakeholders as necessary to ensure the smooth implementation of the project.

In addition, the BFM and GRM of the project will act throughout the life of the project to receive any feedback from both internal (project workers) and external stakeholders.

The procedure for collecting and considering comments (received in writing and verbally) from stakeholders will be governed by the BFM procedures.

#### 5.4. Strategy for Engaging with Beneficiary Communities

Depending on the target audience, different methods will be used to consult with each of the stakeholder groups, by drawing on the planned citizen engagement activities and commitments agreed at appraisal. These engagement tools will be tracked throughout the project.

The project is predicated on the principle of participatory development, and the community mobilization activities included in Component 2 engage community members in three stages of citizen engagement and social accountability:

- (i) Participatory assessment of needs
- (ii) Participatory planning and prioritizing of investments
- (iii) Participatory monitoring of implementation

To enhance the impact in communities, a youth-led approach included in the parent project will be expanded with capacity building to develop the voice and agency of youth across the selected AAs of the AF target areas and ensure communities are fully engaged in the selection of investments and their monitoring. Beneficiary engagement includes innovative social accountability mechanisms, such as community scorecards and social audits in every community undertaking investments. This will help ensure semiannual feedback is made available from communities for tracking results. Beneficiary engagement also includes efforts to engage the target communities in climate change roles such as climate change co-benefits tracking.

To improve the resilience of the citizen engagement framework of activities in the project, procedures developed under the CASA1000 CSP and the CESA grant will be enhanced to: (i) blend traditional mechanisms and digital solutions; (ii) localize the implementation of activities; and (iii) strengthen the facilitation of each set of activities. Community mobilization processes, which enable community members to prioritize needs and investments, will be available through a mobile app as well as through face-to-face meetings, thus enabling quick adaptation in the event of any future social distancing and travel restrictions. This development of a more resilient system that will enable citizen engagement at a distance will also include a blended approach to community scorecards and social audits (to provide feedback on the social and livelihoods facilities, CVIAs, and LSP as well as real-time feedback on COVID-19 impacts). The ARIS civic technology platform (<https://kyrgyz-demo-republic-village-covid-19.yrpri.org/community/1402>), disseminated through village social media (WhatsApp) groups and traditional materials, will ensure ongoing information sharing and feedback through village portals that collect and manage community feedback, linked to the management information system (MIS). It will thus include, inter alia, subproject prioritization and decision making, participatory monitoring and oversight, social impact assessment surveys, disclosure and consultation of safeguards instruments (the environmental and social management framework and environmental and social management plans (ESMPs), and a climate dashboard to enhance accountability for the delivery of climate co-benefits. The project will include indicators that measure beneficiary feedback and the effectiveness of the citizen engagement processes. Table 4 summarizes the proposed consultation strategy for the project.

**Table 4. Proposed Consultation Strategy**

Project components	Consultation topic	Methods used	Schedule: location/date	Stakeholder target groups	Responsible persons
Component 2	Design and preparation of informational materials	Placement in mass media and internet messengers	In the project target areas/during project implementation	All stakeholders	ARIS team
Component 2	Communication of the objectives, scope, and project	Conducting of traditional and online meetings	In the project target areas /during project implementation	Community members and stakeholders at the oblast and raion levels.	ARIS team

Project components	Consultation topic	Methods used	Schedule: location/date	Stakeholder target groups	Responsible persons
	implementation mechanisms			Focus groups (youth, women, disabled persons), CVIAs	
<b>Component 2</b>	Joint research of community needs and their prioritization	Conducting of traditional and online meetings	In the AAs	Community members, focus groups (youth, women, disabled persons), CVIAs	ARIS team
<b>Components 1 and 3</b>	Subproject implementation	Conducting of traditional and online meetings	In the community where the subproject is being implemented	Stakeholders	ARIS team
<b>Component 4</b>	Response to crisis or emergency situation	Conducting of traditional and online consultations	In the project target areas/in case of an emergency situation	Stakeholders	ARIS team, stakeholders

### 5.5. Strategy for Engaging with Disadvantaged and Vulnerable Groups

The vulnerable groups identified through the stakeholder mapping include:

- Individuals in extreme poverty
- Persons with disabilities
- Unemployed elderly people of working age
- Unemployed women
- Members of large households
- Households headed by single women
- At risk youth
- Households at risk from climate change
- Returned migrants (many due to COVID-19)
- Communities in remote or inaccessible areas

The disadvantages experienced by these groups are often compounded by less awareness of their rights, less access to information due to language or limited mobility, low level of education, a low level of skills and relevant work experience, and lack of access to the internet and inability to use internet messenger services to gain access to information about the project.

As a community-driven development project, the project includes mechanisms that will ensure attention is paid to the inclusion of vulnerable community members. The proposed strategy to ensure the engagement of vulnerable groups will include: outreach, language, community leadership and focal points, FGD training activities, links to local NGOs, and dedicated links and functionalities in the online platform, as described below.

**Outreach.** To ensure the participation of vulnerable groups in the design and implementation of a subproject through regular meetings and structured engagement processes, it is necessary to disseminate information more widely through local traditional media (such as radio, telephone, and SMS) and involve NGOs. Transport needs

(if any) for vulnerable groups and participation in planned events will be coordinated and managed by CDSOs hired by ARIS to conduct community mobilization.

**Language.** To ensure that the participatory activities with local communities developed under Component 2 include representatives of vulnerable groups, presentations and dialogues will be conducted in Kyrgyz, Russian, and other languages (as needed) to make them more convenient for members of local communities. Additional formats will be used where necessary to improve understanding.

**Community leadership support.** The assistance of community leaders will be needed to encourage effective representation of vulnerable and disadvantaged groups in group discussions at all stages of the project. The project will identify community focal points to support outreach to vulnerable households as part of the need to adapt the participatory process to the context of COVID-19 travel restrictions and social distancing.

**FGDs for vulnerable beneficiaries.** The project will establish FGDs for vulnerable community members to ensure that disadvantaged and vulnerable groups have equal opportunities to participate in project activities, and it will also develop measures to improve access to information and project benefits. These FGDs will provide vulnerable community members with greater opportunities to put forward their priority areas, express concerns, and access information to understand their rights or the impact of the project, and ensure that the views of vulnerable groups in communities are taken into consideration.

- Separate FGDs held at easily accessible locations will be conducted for women, youth, people with disabilities, and any other vulnerable groups in the target villages and AAs.
- FGDs will be organized for vulnerable groups at the stages of selection of priority proposals and feedback during implementation as defined in Subcomponent 2A, and channels to provide feedback or file complaints.
- FGDs will share information about the project directly, (with translation into Kyrgyz, Uzbek, or Tajik, etc. if required), and provide printed materials related to the project for information dissemination in culturally appropriate, user-friendly language, that is translated prior to distribution.

**Training activities** will be carried out in target AAs to ensure greater participation of the target population. All of the abovementioned stakeholder engagement methods will be specifically designed for activities conducted with vulnerable groups and will take into account the specific needs and proposals received from members of the vulnerable groups during consultations.

**Links to relevant NGOs.** ARIS will work with local organizations and NGOs representing the interests of persons with disabilities.

**Dedicated links and functionalities in the online platform.** The ARIS online platform will be tailored to suit members of vulnerable groups: separate windows can be developed to clearly document the inputs provided by vulnerable groups during the prioritization of investments; the online platform has a number of functional characteristics that can help members of the community with disabilities (e.g. audio messages can be left and will be transcribed), the online platform can be used from home by persons with physical disabilities, without requiring community members to attend meetings. Technical support will be provided by the community focal points, and hotspots, to maximize the use by vulnerable groups.

**This is fully aligned with the citizen engagement mechanisms established for vulnerable groups in the project,** i.e. the voice of vulnerable groups within the community, including the elderly, the disabled, and disadvantaged households will be addressed through a series of targeted outreach mechanisms that ensure they are an integral part of project decision making. These specific mechanisms will utilize vulnerability mapping, traditional mobilization (community-based organizations), and media (community radio, telephone).

## 6. RESOURCES AND RESPONSIBILITIES FOR IMPLEMENTING STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

**Table 5. Project Stakeholder Engagement Plan Budget (2020-2024)**

Item	Quantity	Unit cost (US\$)	Months	Total cost (US\$)	Remarks
Periodic stakeholder consultations	20	500	-	10,000	On average once a quarter for 5 years
Travel expenses	60	1,500	-	90,000	On average once a month for 5 years
Logistics expenses	-	-	-	10,000	Lump sum (around US\$2,000 per year for 5 years)
Exposure visits	5	3,000	-	15,000	Once a year for 5 years
Training and orientation for staff, communications (for ARIS Central Office staff, CDSOs of Jalal-Abad, Osh, and Batken oblasts, CVIAs, community reporters)	8	1,000	-	8,000	Twice a year for 5 years, starting month 6
Training and orientation for staff GRM and Grievance Committee members	5	1,000	-	5,000	Once per year for 5 years
Work/advance of the BFM in ARIS IC soft	-	-	-	-	All project implementation phases
Project information (preparation of webinars/video and GRM materials and frequently asked questions)	-	-	-	7,500	Lump sum (around US\$1,500 per year for 5 years)
Project website (online platform including development of videos for communities)	-	-	-	7,500	Lump sum (around US\$1,500 per year for 5 years)
Conducting of online public consultations, meetings with communities, interested parties, conferences (technical support WEBEX)				6,000	Lump sum (around US\$1,200 per year for 5 years)
M&E, including half-yearly SEP implementation report	10	1,000	-	10,000	Twice a year for 5 years
<b>Total:</b>				<b>169,000</b>	

**Training seminars**

The project will organize training and capacity building activities for skills and knowledge in social mobilization in communities in the following areas: (i) increasing skills and knowledge in social mobilization and work with the population in the process of project implementation; (ii) training activities to develop management skills, strategic planning, prioritization, and fundraising; and (iii) increasing knowledge and skills in managing subgrants, as well as participating in monitoring activities during the implementation of subgrants.

Capacity building under the project will be carried out using the traditional method and/or online platforms. Training activities, including the practice and coaching, as well as mutual exchanges among the network of participants will be done in accordance with the project plan.

The relevant trainings will be aimed at ARIS CDSO staff, youth coordinators, women, initiative and public groups, as well as AO and Aiyi Kenesh members. Additionally, trainings will be conducted to support women on their way to becoming microentrepreneurs (e.g. with mentors acting as role models, training materials specifically developed for women, and logistics) and will include support for awareness raising on issues related to climate change.

The project gives significant value on the development of local communities in the identification, implementation, and management of independently defined types of activities. Under the project, standard trainings are planned for the participants on topics such as: (i) viewpoint/strategy of the local territory development and investment plan; (ii) coaching and facilitation skills; (iii) procurement procedures; (iv) design of social infrastructure subprojects and environmental checklists; (v) financial literacy; (vi) awareness raising of the community on the project; and (vii) joint research of the community's needs.

## 7. BENEFICIARY FEEDBACK MECHANISM AND GRIEVANCE REDRESS MECHANISM

The project will adopt a BFM to enable project beneficiaries and the citizens of the Kyrgyz Republic to provide feedback on the project. The BFM is a system for receiving prompt, objective information, and evaluating and considering appeals (claims, suggestions, complaints, requests, positive feedback) related to all ARIS projects, and will include the project. This BFM includes a GRM for any resettlement complaint, as required by World Bank policy OP4.12.

In accordance with the Law on the Procedure of Citizens' Appeals and ARIS internal regulations on dealing with appeals, citizens/beneficiaries may send any appeals on issues related to the implementation of ARIS projects including Resettlement Program issues (to identify resettlement needs) at all implementation stages. Procedures for involuntary resettlement will be carried out in accordance with the laws and regulations of the Kyrgyz Republic and WB OP policy 4.12 on Involuntary Resettlement.

**Description from the AF Project Appraisal Document.** ARIS introduced an institutional BFM in 2017, which includes an expanded GRM that includes all project activities, including safeguards. The systems and requirements (including staffing) for the grievance redress chain of action—from uptake, sorting and processing, and acknowledgement and follow-up, to verification and action, M&E, and finally feedback—are embodied in this BFM. To encourage proactive beneficiary engagement, the BFM will be communicated at project orientation and on village notice boards, to direct and indirect project beneficiaries. As a part of the improved system, ARIS will conduct annual outreach and ensure that staff are fully trained, and that information is available in target communities. The CASA1000 CSP will utilize this system (written and telephone complaint channels), while ensuring all project-related information is disseminated, and complaints and responses are disaggregated and reported. The use of the GRM for safeguards purposes will be elaborated in the Resettlement Policy Framework.

**Scope of the BFM/GRM.** The BFM/GRM will cover all villages in the Kyrgyz Republic where the project is being implemented.

**Principles.** Project stakeholders are those who are likely to be directly or indirectly affected positively or negatively by the project. Project stakeholders have, among others, the following rights under the project:

- The right to information
- The right against inappropriate intervention by an outside party
- The right to a project free of fraud and corruption.

Any stakeholders (including villagers, contractors, project staff, authorities, or other involved parties) may file a grievance if they believe one or more of these rights have been infringed, or if any of the project's principles or procedures has been violated.

- Information about the BFM/GRM, including contact details, is distributed in all participating villages at public meetings through brochures/pamphlets in local languages to the extent possible, and posted on the AO boards.
- The BFM/GRM offers a number of different channels for providing feedback. Villagers and stakeholders themselves decide on the best ways to file complaints.
- Grievances are disclosed publicly, but no one who files a grievance is identified unless they self-identify. The identity of all those who have filed grievances is treated with confidentiality.
- There is no charge for filing a grievance.
- The timeframe for responding to a grievance should not exceed 30 days from the time the grievance is originally received. Grievances should be resolved within 90 days of receipt.
- Grievances are resolved locally, at the lowest level, if possible. If not, they are “escalated” or sent up to a higher level within 30 days. Anyone may convey comments or suggestions about any

aspect of the project through the BFM/GRM. Comments, suggestions, appreciation, or questions should be recorded and submitted to the BFM/GRM handling officer of the ARIS Central Office to provide an answer in coordination with relevant project staff, ensuring that responses are in line with the POM.

**Channels for feedback.** Within the framework of the project, the following channels will be established through which citizens/beneficiaries can apply at various stages of project implementation:

- Online information platform on the official ARIS website, which contains information about the BFM/GRM and where beneficiaries and other project stakeholders can file their appeals or grievances (link: <https://kyrgyz-demo-republic-village-covid-19.yrpri.org/post/25458>)
- Hotline (calls are received 24 hours a day; conversations will be recorded)
- ARIS website: [www.aris.kg](http://www.aris.kg)
- Social media (Facebook, Odnoklassniki) WhatsApp (a system of immediate text messaging for mobile devices with voice and video connections) will be available while ensuring data security
- Verbal or written appeal received during the on-site working meetings or via CVIAs, youth facilitators, or CDSOs
- Incoming correspondence via ARIS reception
- Incoming correspondence via email.

The ARIS online information platform was created when COVID-19 infections started in the country to disseminate information during the pandemic in the Kyrgyz Republic. It plays a significant role in the receipt of feedback from beneficiaries and other project stakeholders. Users can obtain information or leave a comment on the BFM/GRM about project issues, such as problem with construction progress, environmental and social safeguards, results of research and surveys conducted by project, which contributes to project objectives and fulfilling beneficiary needs.

The BFM will ensure flexibility and the availability for citizens/beneficiaries to use any of the abovementioned channels to submit an appeal. ARIS specialists responsible for the implementation of the BFM handle all appeals and complaints.

### **Steps for Processing and Responding to Feedback**

**Step 1. Logging of feedback.** For the purpose of consolidating, analyzing, and providing unified data (reports to donors, the ARIS Executive Director, and project coordinators), all appeals are logged.

*a. Appeals received by written correspondence or verbal report* are included in the BFM/GRM log and are entered into the GRM configuration in the 1C system to analyze and monitor incoming correspondence with the following information (depending on what is provided):

- Name and surname
- Registration and residential address or telephone number
- Contents of the request
- Other background information

The appeals may be submitted anonymously. In cases where the appeals were received in the absence of any of the above data, it is recorded in the incoming correspondence log of the BFM, and the results of the appeal will be published in the media at the local level, on the ARIS website, or made public at the session of the Aiyl Kenesh.

*b. Appeals received electronically* (around the clock) through the BFM/GRM channels (email, hotline, social networks, etc.) are automatically registered in the BFM configuration in the 1C system. Confidentiality will be ensured in all cases, including when the identity of a person submitting the request is known, to avoid a conflict between the interested parties.



**Step 2. BFM/GRM Category sorting/distribution by category.** When appeals are received, the BFM specialist distributes them by category in the BFM configuration in the 1C system.

Category no.	Classification
1	General enquiries
2	Grievances regarding violations of policies, guidelines, and procedures
3	Grievances regarding contract violations/breach of contract
4	Grievances regarding the misuse of project funds
5	Grievances regarding abuse of power/intervention
6	Reports of force majeure
7	Suggestions
8	Appreciation

If an appeal involves safeguards measures, the BFM specialist distributes them by the following specific safeguards measures in the BFM configuration of the 1C System.

No.	Safeguards measures	Classification of measures (during construction and operation)
1	Environmental (biological)	Flora Fauna
2	Social	Health and safety Resettlement policy Access of communities to existing communications Aesthetics and landscape Preservation of cultural heritage
3	Physical	Soil Water resources Air quality

**Step 3. Action/Response.** Once sorted, cases categorized as a grievance (Categories 2-6) are assigned to a responsible individual for investigation if needed. The staff handling the complaint gathers facts and clarifies information in order to generate a clear picture of the circumstances surrounding the grievance. Verification normally includes site visits, a review of documents, a meeting with the complainant (if known and willing to engage), and meetings with those who could resolve the issue (including formal and informal AA leaders). Grievances related to the misuse of funds may also require meetings with suppliers and contractors. The responsible individual will agree on an action plan with the BFM Specialist and set a deadline for resolving the issue.

- If the grievance relates to an AA, the BFM specialist forwards it to the respective Oblast Coordinator.
- If the grievance relates to an oblast issue, the BFM specialist forwards it to the Project Coordinator.
- If the grievance relates to an ARIS Central Office issue, the BFM specialist forwards it to the ARIS Executive Director.
- The responsible officer and the BFM specialist decide on a course of action within two weeks of receiving the information.

**Step 4. Notification.** If the person sending feedback is not anonymous, they will be sent a notification via telephone or other BFM/GRM channel that their grievance is being investigated. The notification will be registered in the log of outgoing correspondence. The BFM/GRM Specialist will provide the following information:

- Name and surname of the executor (project specialist) to which the appeal was forwarded.
- Deadline for execution (minimum 30 days, maximum 60 days since the day it was registered).
- Deadlines and actions are determined in accordance with the ARIS BFM instructions on handling grievances.

**Step 5. Follow Up.** Once the investigation is complete, the beneficiary will be notified of the decision made by ARIS regarding their case. The citizen/beneficiary has a right to appeal if they are not satisfied with the resolution of the case. Instructions on appeal will be provided with the response.

**Step 6. Appeals.** Appeals are considered by the ARIS Special Review Committee. The ARIS Executive Director will form the Special Review Committee from project managers and heads of departments that will conduct appeal hearings. The Special Review Committee will consist of [X] people, including [X] people from BFM and [X] people independent from the PIU and the GoK. After review of the appeal, if the citizen/beneficiary is still not satisfied with the resolution received then they have the right to appeal the decision in court.

**Public awareness-building on the BFM/GRM.** Information on the BFM will be disseminated to all beneficiaries, project-affected parties, and interested parties via regular information channels (for instance, TV and radio, print media, news agencies, social media), as well as meetings, roundtables, public hearings (including on resettlement or compensation), working meetings at all stages of ARIS project implementation, and through the ARIS BFM/GRM training module.

Awareness-building campaigns will be conducted annually. They will be designed by the ARIS communications team to encourage the use of the BFM/GRM and information will be published on complaints received and resolved. The campaigns will use local media (e.g. TV, newspaper, radio). When organizing and conducting these campaigns, special efforts will be made to reach vulnerable groups.

The campaigns should include information on the scope of the BFM/GRM, the eligibility criteria to make a complaint, the procedure to make a complaint (where, when, and how), the investigation process, the timeframe(s) for responding to the complainant, the principle of confidentiality, and the right to make anonymous complaints.

**Publication of appeals.** To encourage use of the BFM/GRM use, after an appeal is resolved, measures taken to resolve the appeal will be published in the local media. The identity of the person making the appeal will be kept confidential upon request.

**Reporting on BFM progress.** Semi-annual and annual reports from ARIS on the project will include a section on the BFM that provides updated information on the following:

- Status of the BFM/GRM formation (procedures, training, awareness-building campaigns, budgeting, etc.)
- Quantitative data on the number of appeals received (applications, suggestions, complaints, requests, positive feedback), of them, the number of appeals related to WB Policy OP 4.12 on Involuntary Resettlement, and the number of resolved appeals
- Qualitative data on the types of appeals and responses, and the issues that remain unresolved
- Level of satisfaction of the measures (responses) taken
- Any corrective measures taken

**Monitoring BFM effectiveness.** In addition, the following measures will be taken to monitor whether the BFM/GRM is functioning as intended:

- During the social audit open meetings, villagers will discuss the effectiveness of the grievance handling system and gather suggestions on how to improve it.
- In its regular supervision visits, ARIS will assess the functioning of the grievance handling system.

- The CSP project team and World Bank will jointly review the BFM/GRM monitoring data as part of regular implementation support missions.

## 8. MONITORING AND REPORTING

M&E will be based on indicators identified and detailed in the POM. Mid-term and end evaluations will also be carried out during the project. As the design of the processes in the project includes innovations in relation to youth participation, women, social inclusion, and accountability, specific M&E methods will be studied and lessons disseminated to increase knowledge in these areas. M&E will also reflect data on whether the project has managed to address the dynamics of possible associated risks.

M&E activities will be entrusted to ARIS, which will establish an M&E team to ensure adequate reporting. This will include reporting on outcome indicators (including updated data on citizen engagement processes), progress on implementation of component activities, status of the ESMP and Resettlement Action Plan, and independent feedback from beneficiaries via the citizen engagement tools. Semiannual progress reports will be provided 45 days after the end of each reporting period, and will include the results indicators described in the Project Appraisal Document.

The project will also continuously monitor project implementation, including a review of the functioning of the BFM/GRM and the types of complaints registered.

Upon completion of the SEP activities, a review of the results will be conducted to assess the effectiveness of the SEP as implemented.

The SEP monitoring will be conducted based on the following indicators: (i) the number of annual complaints according to gender (both directly received by the project and through other BFM/GRM) and how they were addressed; and (ii) the number of stakeholders participating in consultations and other activities related to the SEP monitoring.

Stakeholder engagement activities will be periodically assessed by the Project Coordinator. The Project Coordinator ensures that all consultations and disclosures are properly recorded. The implementation of the SEP and related complaints will be reported in the abovementioned semiannual reports in a separate section. The reports will include all stakeholder interactions and consultations held, complaints and decisions, new stakeholders and partnership progress, as well as plans for the following period.

### 8.1. Involvement of Stakeholders in Monitoring Activities

Activity monitoring will be carried out at several levels:

- **ARIS central office.** Ongoing monitoring is carried out through: (i) regular analysis of data entered into the MIS by experts and project consultants in the field; (ii) regular reports from regional offices; and (iii) regular follow-up visits by central office staff to regional offices and field sites.
- **A Project Coordination Committee is being created** and supported for the whole period of the project implementation to provide effective coordination of the CASA1000 CSP with other partners. The composition of the committee includes representatives of NEGK, the Ministry of Finance, ARIS, SALSGIR, AKF, Oshelektro, and Jalal-Abad elektro.
- **IDA.** Through regular project management reports, regular monitoring missions, independent auditor reports, special research reports.
- **Donors.** In accordance with the relevant agreements on grants, loans, assistance, and cooperation.
- **General public.** A joint M&E group will be convened that consists of representatives authorized by the local community to monitor progress and evaluate the achieved project results.
- **Community reporters** are young people who have been selected to participate in the subproject decision-making process and to monitor implementation, as well as to promote social accountability mechanisms. Community reporters will assist in introducing annual community scorecards and social audits, and the use of technical tools for the collection and dissemination of information.

## **8.2. Reporting Back to Stakeholder Groups**

Project information, including the activities in cooperation with stakeholders, will be periodically posted on the project online platform linked to the ARIS website for community information.

## ANNEX 1: LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK

Below are excerpts from the legal and regulatory framework in the Kyrgyz Republic on public participation and access to information.

### **Land Code of the Kyrgyz Republic - (Effective by Law No. 46 of the Kyrgyz Republic dated June 2, 1999)**

- **Article 51. Rights of citizens of the Kyrgyz Republic and their public associations in the field of regulation of land relations**

1. Citizens of the Kyrgyz Republic and their public associations have the right to participate in the consideration of issues on the use and protection of land affecting the interests of the population through meetings, gatherings, and other forms.
2. Citizens of the Kyrgyz Republic and their public associations shall assist state bodies in the implementation of measures for the use and protection of land and improvement of environmental protection.
3. State bodies shall inform the population about the seizure and provision of land for the placement of objects, the activities of which affect the interests of the population.

### **Water Code No. 8 of the Kyrgyz Republic dated January 12, 2005**

- **Article 6. Principles of water resources management**

Water resource management is based on the following principles: the principle of accessibility: information on the state and use of water bodies and water resources should be available to members of the public.

- **Article 21. Rights and obligations of water users**

Water users have the right to:

- have information on the quantity, quality, and use of water resources in accordance with the provisions of this code.
- use water bodies for recreation, tourism, sports, and recreational activities.

- **Article 96. Public access to information systems**

Members of the public have the right to access the unified information system, except for the cases specified in paragraph 2 of Article 97.

### **Law No. 53 of the Kyrgyz Republic “On Environmental Protection” dated June 16, 1999**

- **Article 45. Rights of public associations**

Public associations and foundations performing environmental functions have the right to:

- organize meetings, rallies, demonstrations, collect signatures, bring proposals to hold referendums, hold discussions of draft laws with the population on environmental protection in accordance with the legislation of the Kyrgyz Republic.
- demand the appointment of a state ecological expert to present the ecological platform in print, on radio, and on television.
- carry out public ecological expertise.
- participate in inspections of compliance with the requirements of environmental legislation.

- **Article 46. Rights and obligations of citizens in the field of environmental protection**

Citizens have the right to:

- participate in the development and implementation of measures for environmental protection, and rational and integrated use of natural resources, including the legislative process.
- receive complete and reliable information about the state of the environment and the health of the population, and about production facilities planned for construction.
- participate in the conduct of public environmental expertise.

- **Article 50. Information about the environment**

Every citizen or organization has the right to access information on the environment held by state bodies in accordance with the provisions of this law. For these purposes, environmental bulletins are published quarterly in periodicals.

Ministries, administrative departments, and other bodies that have information on the environment are obliged to provide information at the request of citizens and organizations.

Information about the environment is provided by state bodies at the written request of the applicant for a fee not exceeding the technical (photocopying, diskettes, etc.) and labor costs for its preparation.

The term for consideration of the application is six weeks.

**Law No. 213 of the Kyrgyz Republic “On Access to Information under the Jurisdiction of State Bodies and Local Self-Government Bodies of the Kyrgyz Republic” dated December 28, 2006**

- **Article 3. Guarantees and principles of freedom of access to information**

Everyone is guaranteed the right of access to information held by state bodies and local self-government bodies.

The main principles of freedom of access to information are general availability, objectivity, timeliness, openness, and reliability of information.

- **Article 6. Information providing methods**

1. The main ways of providing information by state bodies and local authorities are:

- 1) publication and distribution of relevant materials;
- 2) provision of information to individuals and legal entities on the basis of their request;
- 3) publication of information on the activities of state bodies and local self-government bodies;
- 4) ensuring direct access to documents and materials of state bodies and local self-government bodies;
- 5) ensuring direct access to open meetings of the state body and local self-government bodies.

2. State bodies and bodies of local self-government have the right to use any other methods not prohibited by the legislation of the Kyrgyz Republic to inform the population about their activities.

**Law No. 89 of the Kyrgyz Republic “On Guarantees and Freedom of Access to information” dated December 5, 1997**

- **Article 3. Guarantees of access to information**

Everyone is guaranteed the right to access information.

The state protects the rights of everyone to search, receive, research, produce, transfer, and disseminate information.

Restrictions on access and distribution of information are established only by law.

- **Article 4. Basic principles of freedom of access to information**

The main principles of freedom of access to information are general availability, objectivity, timeliness, openness, and reliability of information.

- **Article 5. Request for information**

Everyone has the right, either directly or through his legal representatives, to apply for information.

A request for information may be in writing.

The written request must contain the last name, first name, patronymic and address of the applicant, the name of the requested information or its nature. Written requests are subject to registration.

**Law No. 27 of the Kyrgyz Republic “On Commercial Secrets” dated March 30, 1998**

- **Article 5. Objects of commercial secrets**

3. Objects of commercial secrets may not include:

g) information about environmental pollution, violation of antimonopoly legislation, non-observance of labor protection rules, sales of products that harm the health of consumers, as well as other violations of legislation and the amount of damage caused.

**Law No. 1476-XII of the Kyrgyz Republic “On the Protection of State Secrets of the Kyrgyz Republic” dated April 14, 1994**

- **Article 4. Restrictions on classifying information**

Information not subject to classification:

- about natural disasters and emergencies that threaten the health of citizens;
- about disasters and their consequences;
- on the state of affairs in the environment, use of natural resources, health care, sanitation, culture, agriculture, education, trade, and law enforcement;
- on the facts of violation of the law by state bodies and officials;
- facts that infringe on the rights and legitimate interests of citizens, or pose a threat to their personal safety.

**Law No. 89 of the Kyrgyz Republic “On Production and Consumption Waste” dated November 13, 2001**

- **Article 4. Powers of local government bodies**

To provide the population with information on waste management, and on the state of waste storage and processing in the region.

- **Article 5. Powers of the competent authority**

To ensure public access to information on waste management.

**Law No. 1372-XII of the Kyrgyz Republic “On Urban Development and Architecture of the Kyrgyz Republic” dated January 11, 1994**

- **Article 8. State and non-state systems of management, coordination, control over urban planning activities**

Citizens, public associations, legal entities have the right to take part in any stage of urban planning activities if their rights and interests are affected.

- **Article 28. The rights of citizens to participate in the adoption of urban planning and architectural decisions**

Citizens have the right to:

- information on the ecological, urban planning, socioeconomic status of territories and settlements, and on the development and status of programs and projects related to changes in the organization of territories and their development.
- participate in the consideration and discussion of urban planning and architectural programs and projects affecting the rights and interests of collectives or individual citizens.
- make proposals to state authorities, local authorities, and bodies for architecture and construction to improve the living environment.
- challenge through the judicial authorities the actions of persons who violate property and other rights in the field of urban planning and architecture.



- **Article 34. Rights of public associations in the field of urban planning and architectural activities**

Public associations have the right to:

- receive timely, complete, and reliable information about the status and changes in the human environment.
- participate in the development of state programs, concepts, and schemes, carry out urban planning and architectural projects at the expense of their own and other funds.
- propose alternative projects prior to the approval of urban planning and architectural documentation.

- **Article 36. Relationships between subjects of urban planning and architectural activities**

3. At the construction stage, construction subjects are obliged to ensure that third parties are informed about the construction of an object by placing on a land plot or real estate object, in a place visible to third parties, information that indicates the type of construction intention, a graphic image of the construction object, parameters of the construction object, address object, data on the subject of construction (name, contact details, license number), a plot of the land plot indicating the development zone, the presence of a building permit, and the date of its issue.

**Law No. 51 of the Kyrgyz Republic “On the Protection of Atmospheric Air” dated June 12, 1999**

- **Article 4. Rights and obligations of citizens in the field of atmospheric air protection**

Citizens have the right to atmospheric air that is favorable for life and health, to receive reliable and timely information about the state of atmospheric air and measures taken to protect it, and to be compensated for damage in case of harm to their health and property from emissions of pollutants and biological organisms into the atmospheric air and in case of harmful physical impact.

**Regulation No. 60 “On the Procedure for Conducting Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) in the Kyrgyz Republic” dated February 13, 2015**

**Law No. 54 of the Kyrgyz Republic “On Environmental Expertise” dated June 16, 1999**

## ANNEX 2: VILLAGE/AA LISTS

### CSP VILLAGE DATA FOR GRANT DISTRIBUTION FORMULA

Table 6: VILLAGE DATA AND FINAL SUBGRANT DISTRIBUTION FOR COMPONENT 1B

#		Raion/city	AO/city	AO/city population	Corridor Village	Village population (2020) -	Poverty (%) -	Distance from TL (0.1km)	Youth population			
1	Jalal-Abad	Suzakskiy	Kyzyl-Tuu	29,882	Kyzyl-Senir	3,536	8%	0.200	1,080			
2					Talaa-Bulak	1,389	9%	0.230	344			
3					Kok-Bulak	991	18%	0.195	75			
4					Tashtak	3,268	15%	0.170	1,034			
5					Jashasyn-2	893	12%	1.247	312			
6			Kyz-kol	16,075	Kokbulak	558	45%	0.803	221			
7			Lenin	7,401	Orto-Say	1,771	17.8%	0.106	280			
8					Lenin	2,608	17.7%	0.130	555			
9			Bagysh	21,850	Besh-Bala	1,756	18.3%	0.325	535			
10					Kedey-Aryk	1,446	19.7%	0.010/0.0	456			
11					Bagysh	2,874	11.5%	0.460	928			
12			Tash-Bulak	22,270	Doskana	1,510	19%	0.923	495			
13			Yrys	42,434	Kaynar	126	47.6%	0.231	27			
14			Barpy	28,162	Choko-Dobo	2,813	22.5%	0.146	406			
15					Boz-Chychkan	1,618	15.7%	0.472	232			
16			Suzak	45,848	Kyr-Jol	805	40%	0.775	217			
17			Jalal-Abad city	Taygaraev Municipal Territorial Governance	8,848	Tosh-Kutchu	1,860	25%	0.160	441		
18						Kachkynchy	4,465	20%	1.450	1102		
19						S.Jeenbekov	1,095	22%	1.250	261		
20	Osh	Uzgen и	Tort-Kol	14,314	Ana-Kyzyl	3,278	12.1%	1.045	880			
21			Bash-Dobo	8,851	Kyzyl-Kyrman	2,244	17.8%	0.715	306			
22					Kashka-Terek	2,585	25.7%	0.346	328			
23					Kosh-Korgon	2,160	18.4%	0.831	480			
24					Jany-Jol	237	25.3%	0.358	94			
25			Karool	16,987	Orto-Aryk	804	1%	0.625	250			
26					Karool	4,410	3%	0.195	560			
27					Sherali	5,080	4%	1.380	635			
28					Myrza-Aryk	6,693	7%	0.335	836			
29			Kurshab	23,688	Shagym	2,927	27%	0.382	500			
30					Kurshab	19,378	20%	1.045	4,060			
31			Kyzyl-Oktyabr	16,792	Kyzyl-Sengir	5,024	27.4%	0.940	977			
32			Kara-Suu	Jany-Aryk	16,179	Ak-Terek	1,060	8%	0.515	175		
33						Katta-Taldyk	16,295	Kyzyl-Ordo	1,311	24%	0.040/0.0	282
34						Joosh	29,753	Ak-Jar	1,372	30%	0.358	260

#	Raion/city	AO/city	AO/city population	Corridor Village	Village population (2020) -	Poverty (%) -	Distance from TL (0.1km)	Youth population	
35	Nookat	Nariman	50,238	Karatai	3,264	30%	0.107	1,160	
36		Toloykon	30,329	Ozgur	2,283	10%	0.076	465	
37				Toloykon	4,578	10%	0.165	933	
38		Osh city	Turan MTG	283,253	kvartal № 11	3,182	60%	0.185	425
39		Aravan	Mangyt	11,646	Kyzyl-Korgon	1,021	22%	1.200	293
40		Nookat	Mirmahmudov	24,594	Kapchygay	386	20%	0.060/0.0	59
41			Kok-Jar	22,880	Jiyde	5,108	28%	0.320	2,575
42					Borbash	4,926	28%	0.475	2528
43			On-Eki-Bel	7,553	Naray	1,990	30%	0.630	376
44			Kulatov	20,805	Kojo-Aryk	8,882	30%	1.328	3,520
45					Baglan	3,578	23%	0.400	1,450
46			Yntymak	10,116	Yntymak	2,233	25%	1.260	203
47					Tash-Bulak	300	30%	0.712	78
48	Chelekchi				470	30%	1.090	116	
49	Kadamjay	Kadamjai city	13,759	Pulgon	2,936	18.2%	0.701	1,103	
50				Jiydelik	2,024	29%	0.315	247	
51		Maydan	114,262	Kara-Dobo	1,712	40%	0.450	536	
52		Alga	9,132	Shybran	532	8%	0.445	117	
53		Sovetskiy	1,463	Sovetskoe	1,463	35%	0.215	437	
54		Ak-Turpak	16,567	Chogorok	240	15%	0.760	66	
55				Tokoy	277	21%	0.073/0.0	62	
56				Ak-Turpak	716	20%	0.715	139	
57		Uch-korgon	35,366	Uch-Korgon	14,468	29%	0.151	3,064	
58				Valakysh	2,902	30%	0.115	637	
59		A. Masaliev	14,602	Alysh	2,724	21%	0.167	535	
60				Tash-Korgon	3,109	20%	0.045/0.0	410	
61		Kyzyl-Kiya city	Kyzyl-Kiya city	55,447	Kyzyl-Kiya city	55,497	23.2%	0.750	8,654
62	Jin-Jigen				1,094	23.2%	1.333	108	
63	Batken	Tort-Gul	7,676	Ak-Turpak	1,248	18%	0.235	309	
64				Ak-Otok	383	35%	0.550	118	
65		Kara-Bulak	15,023	Kara-Bulak	3,628	28%	0.710	610	
66		Aksai	8,878	Ak-Sai	1,861	29%	0.353	310	
67				Kapchygay	788	24%	1.013	168	
68		Ak-Tatyr	7,858	Ravat	2,637	23.2%	0.680	483	
69		Dara	11,265	Jany-Jer	3,158	22%	1.188	732	
70	Leylek	Leylek	7,911	Leylek	1,444	18%	0.315	390	
71				Kara-Suu	1,515	19%	0.280	331	

#	Raion/city	AO/city	AO/city population	Corridor Village	Village population (2020) -	Poverty (%) -	Distance from TL (0.1km)	Youth population			
72				Ak-Terek	1,570	23%	0.085	367			
73				Korgon	2,155	21%	0.270	480			
74				Choyunchu	1,127	22%	1.049	256			
75				Sulukta city	Sulukta city	23,913	Sulukta city	12,496	22.3%	0.087	3,395
76							Vostochniy (urban)	10,592	36.7%	0.470	1,706
77							Kolco	825	69.7%	0.230	137
	<b>8 raions, 4 city</b>	<b>41 (36 AOs, 5 city)</b>	<b>1,170,165</b>	<b>77 Village</b>	<b>271,267</b>			<b>59,712</b>			