



INTERNATIONAL BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT

**ENVIRONMENT AND SOCIAL SYSTEMS  
ASSESSMENT  
(ESSA)**

**FOR**

**MAHARASHTRA STRENGTHENING  
INSTITUTIONAL CAPABILITIES IN DISTRICTS  
FOR ENABLING GROWTH  
(MahaSTRIDE)**

**(P181463)**

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>Executive Summary .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Introduction.....</b>	<b>14</b>
1.1. Background and Context.....	14
1.2. Program Design and Components .....	15
1.3. Program Development Objective (PDO) and PDO Level Results Indicators .....	16
1.4. Result Areas .....	16
1.5. Government Program and Bank Financed Program (P Vs p) .....	19
1.6. Program Financing .....	21
1.7. Disbursement link indicators (DLIs).....	21
1.8. Program Expenditure Framework.....	22
1.9. Institutional and Implementation Arrangements .....	23
1.10. Environment and Social Systems Assessment (ESSA) .....	24
1.11. Methodology Adopted for ESSA.....	25
<b>STATE BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT .....</b>	<b>27</b>
2.1. Location.....	27
2.2. Administrative Setting.....	27
2.3. Demographic Characteristics .....	27
2.4. Environmental Characteristics .....	28
2.5. Economic Characteristics .....	29
2.6. Social Characteristics.....	30
<b>Potential Environmental and Social Effects of the Program .....</b>	<b>31</b>
3.1 Likely Environmental and Social Benefits.....	31
3.2 Potential Environmental Risks or Impacts .....	31
3.3 Potential Social Risks or Impacts.....	32
3.4 Environmental and Social Risks/Impacts and Benefits Matrix .....	33
3.5 Potential Cumulative Risks and Impacts .....	41
<b>Assessment of Environmental and Social Management Systems, Capacity and Performance .....</b>	<b>45</b>
4.1 Assessment of Existing Systems.....	45
4.2 Assessment of Institutional Capacity and Gaps .....	46
4.2.1 Implementation Arrangements .....	46
4.2.2 Institutional Capacity and Gaps .....	47
4.3 Legal and Regulatory System .....	53
4.3.1 Environmental Policies, Laws, and Regulations .....	53
<del>    4.4 Environmental and Social Management Systems Assessed Against Core Principles .....</del>	<del>56</del>

Core Principle 1: Program E&S Management System .....	56
Core Principle 2: Natural Habitat and Physical and Cultural Resources .....	57
Core Principle 3: Public and Workers Safety .....	58
Core Principle 4: Land Acquisition and Resettlement .....	59
Core Principle 5: Rights and Interests of Indigenous People .....	60
Core Principle 6: Social Conflict.....	61
4.5 Climate .....	61
4.6 Citizen Engagement: Beneficiary Feedback and Grievance Redressal Mechanism .....	62
4.7 Gender .....	64
4.8 Gender Based Violence (GBV).....	65
<b>Stakeholder engagement and information Disclosure .....</b>	<b>66</b>
5.1 Stakeholder Mapping.....	66
5.2 Stakeholder Engagement .....	66
5.3 Consultations with Stakeholders.....	67
5.4 State Level ESSA Consultations .....	68
5.5 Disclosure of ESSA.....	68
<b>KEY Recommendations and Measures for inclusion In the Program Action Plan .....</b>	<b>70</b>
6.1 Exclusion of High-Risk Activities .....	70
6.2 Major Gaps Identified .....	71
6.3 Key Recommendations.....	71
6.4 Measures for Inclusion in the Program Action Plan.....	73
6.5 E&S Entry Points in the Program Design and Results Framework .....	74
 Annexture 1: List of Documents Reviewed.....	 75
Annexture 2: Review of Applicable Legal and Regulatory Framework.....	76
Annexture 3: Summary Note on State Level Consultations on ESSA.....	87

## ABBREVIATIONS

ACBP	Annual Capacity Building Plan
ASI	Archaeological Survey of India
BPL	Below Poverty Line
BRAP	Business Reforms Action Plan
CRZ	Coastal Regulation Zone
DAP	District Annual Plan
DC	District Collector
DES	Directorate of Economics and Statistics
DGGI	District Good Governance Index
DLI	Disbursement Linked Indicator
DMO	Destination Management Organizations
DMP	Destination Management Plan
DPC	District Planning Committee
DSER	District-Socio Economic Review
DSO	District Statistics Office
DSP	District Strategic Plan
DSU	District Strategic Unit
E&S	Environmental and Social
ESIA	Environmental and Social Impact Assessment
ESSA	Environment and Social Systems Assessment
G2B	Government to Businesses
G2C	Government to Citizens
GAD	General Administration Department
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GIS	Geographic Information System
GIS	Geographic Information System
Goi	Government of India
GoM	Government of Maharashtra
GRM	Grievance Redressal Management
GSDP	Gross State Domestic Product
IEC	Information, Education, and Communication
IEC	Information, Education, and Communication
iPAS	Integrated Planning Office Automation System
IPF	Investment Project Financing
ITDP	Integrated Tribal Development Projects

LiFE	Lifestyle for Environment
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MADA	Modified Area Development Approach
MAHA-IT	Maharashtra Information Technology Corporation Limited
MAITRI	Maharashtra Industry, Trade, and Investment Facilitation Cell
MIS	Management information system
MITRA	Maharashtra Institute for Transformation
MoEFCC	Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change
MRSAC	Maharashtra Remote Sensing Application Centre
MSME	Micro, Small, and Medium-sized Enterprises
NeSDA	National e-Governance Service Delivery Assessment
OTD	One Trillion Dollar
PCC	Program Coordination Committee
PEF	Program Expenditure Framework
PforR	Program for Results
OIU	Operation Implementation Unit
PMC	Project Management Consultancy
OMU	Operation Management Unit
PwD	People with Disabilities
RTI	Right to Information
RTS	Right to Services
SBR	Statistical Business Register
SC	Scheduled Caste
SCP	Special Component Plan
SDA	State Data Authority
SSC	State Steering Committee
ST	Scheduled Tribe
TCAD	Tourism & Cultural Affairs Department
TSP	Tribal Sub-Plan
USK	Udyog Seva Kendra
YASHDA	Yashwantrao Chavan Academy of Development Administration
ZP	Zilla Parishad

---

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

---

### E.1 Background

1. The Government of Maharashtra (GoM)'s 'Vision 2030', the 'State Growth Roadmap to Becoming a One Trillion Dollar Economy' and the 'Manual for Good Governance' aim at promoting sustainable, balanced, and all-inclusive socio-economic growth of the State. Vision 2030 proposes a five-pillar strategy by developing time-bound Action Plans for the sectors of agriculture and allied activities, industry, infrastructure, social sector, and governance. The OTD roadmap targets increased annual growth rates of 14-15 percent and recommends (i) capacitating districts to provide the bottom-up push to growth (ii) improving delivery of government services for providing an enabling environment for catalyzing private investments. The Manual of Good Governance advocates, inter alia, for creating a robust, reliable, and integrated data ecosystem that facilitates evidence-based policy formulation, data driven planning and close to real-time performance monitoring of schemes. The Planning Department, Maharashtra Institute for Transformation (MITRA), and the General Administration Department (GAD) have been assigned the responsibility to lead implementation of the Vision 2030, OTD Roadmap, and the Manual, respectively.

2. The World Bank loan for Maharashtra Strengthening Institutional Capabilities in Districts for Enabling Growth (MahaSTRIDE) Operation is aimed to strengthen institutional capabilities, services, and the data ecosystem for enabling district led inclusive economic growth in the state of Maharashtra. The Operation will support the Government of Maharashtra to implement the (i) OTD Roadmap which seeks to create more than 15 million new jobs with clearly identified avenues to drive up women labour force participation. The Program uses both the Program for Results (PforR) and the Investment Project Financing (IPF) lending instruments. The PforR instrument will be used to support interventions that require a whole-of-government approach and an incentive framework which encourages coordination not only across sectors but also across levels of government. The IPF instrument will be used to provide technical assistance support to key implementing agencies. The Government Program ('p') has an estimated budget of US\$2.06 billion over the period FY 2024-30. The World Bank Program ('P') loan in the amount is US\$188.28 million.

### E.2 Environmental and Social Systems Assessment (ESSA)

3. An Environmental and Social Systems Assessment (ESSA) was undertaken by the Bank to understand the environmental and social impacts, risks, benefits, and opportunities associated with the proposed operation. The main objectives of ESSA were to: (i) identify the Program's environmental, health, safety, and social effects; (ii) assess the legal and policy framework for environmental and social management, including a review of relevant legislation, rules, procedures, and institutional responsibilities that are being used by the Program; (iii) assess borrower's institutional capacity to manage the potential adverse environmental and social impacts; (iv) and to recommend specific actions to address gaps in the Program's environmental and social management system.

### E.3 Methodology Adopted for ESSA

4. The ESSA describes the extent to which the applicable government environmental and social policies, legislations, program procedures and institutional systems are consistent with the six ESSA core principles and recommends actions to address the gaps and enhance performance during Program implementation. Consultations were undertaken with key officials from MITRA, Department of Planning, including the Directorate of Economics and Statistics (DES), Directorate of Industries, Directorate of Tourism, Directorate of Accounts and Treasury, and Maharashtra Information Technology Corporation Limited (MahaIT), along with field visit and consultations with district planning teams including District Collectors and key district level departments in Palghar and Raigad districts during May and June 2024. The report and key findings were disclosed on MITRA and WB portal on July 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024. A multi-stakeholder state level (hybrid) consultation was held in Mumbai on Aug 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024, to discuss the findings and recommendations. Based on the feedback and discussion, ESSA was revised.

### E.4 Key E&S Impacts/Effects

5. Based on the assessment carried out for ESSA preparation, environment, and social risk ratings for the PforR operation are rated 'moderate'. Over-all, the impacts/effects of the Program are likely to be positive owing to benefits from: (i) strengthened state and district-level institutional capacities on planning for economic growth, (ii) integration of environment and social indicators in data fields/information systems for evidence-based policy and decision making, (iii) enabling job creation, (iv) improving resource efficiency in production systems, (v) upscaling/replicating successful Mission LiFE projects at the district level (Lifestyle for Environment – a pro-Planet movement to nudge individuals and communities for environment protection), (vi) improved access to time-bound e-government services and, (vii) improved capacity and coordination for growth initiatives.

6. Based on the assessment, the legal framework for environmental and social systems is adequate and backed by a set of comprehensive laws, regulations, technical guidelines, and standards that are applicable state-wide. While the provisions are adequate, effective implementation requires enabling institutional and technical capacity to ensure optimum and timely risk management and management – this varies significantly across the regions and districts of the state.

7. **Environmental Aspects:** The Program does not anticipate any diversion of forest land or any direct impact on natural habitats on account of proposed interventions. Key environmental risks and issues associated with the proposed program include: (i) inadequacies on environmental, health, safety and resilience considerations in the planning, implementation and monitoring processes of District Strategic Plans; (ii) concerns associated with civil works - both during design (not adequately factoring-in water and energy efficiency, natural light/ventilation, universal access, sanitation, fire safety etc.) and construction stage (resulting from deficiencies in worksite safety/OHS management, dust, noise and waste management), (iii) issues pertaining to e-waste management (including storage and disposal) since several proposed interventions are related to upgrading/revamping and improving data/digital ecosystems and, (iv) gaps in adherence to regulatory requirements/conditions. Overall, the environmental impacts/effects are likely to be site-specific/localized, limited in scale and can be mitigated with improved capacity

for proper planning/design, and adoption of good standards/practices for construction and maintenance of facilities.

8. **Social Aspects:** The Program does not support any land acquisition and/or involuntary resettlement and the social risks are mostly related to: (i) inequitable growth opportunities and monitoring mechanisms for improving outcomes for the vulnerable communities including Scheduled Castes (SC), Scheduled Tribes (ST), minorities, and women in the DSPs and Destination Management Plans (DMPs); (ii) temporary restriction during upgradation and transition of technology and any change in online/physical service centers; and (iii) weak institutional capacity to mainstream inclusion, citizen engagement, safety, and sustainability by DSUs and DMOs (for tourism interventions) Through adequate social indicators in the data fields, indicator design and MIS developed under the program, social outputs and outcomes will be mainstreamed and monitored.

9. The support for a revised State Tourism Policy and preparation of DMPs under the Program opens an opportunity for eco- friendly/green, low carbon, resilient, safe, and responsible tourism led growth in four selected destinations/areas in the state (to be identified through a Destination Readiness Assessment), for which recommendations have been provided in the ESSA and technical support included in the IPF-TA component. Potential adverse impacts/ effects due to unmanaged tourism activities (such as on natural environment, tangible and intangible heritage, influx, safety of locals and tourists, pressure on existing civic infrastructure etc.) needs to be factored into Destination Management Plans.

## **E.5 Major Gaps Identified**

10. Districts face varied levels of capability gaps in understanding across sectoral planning, integrating Mission LiFE principles, sustainable development planning, and regulatory mechanisms, including environmental and social aspects. This is a constraint for appropriate planning, convergence, and coordination for sustainably driving growth. District Support Units need to be capacitated to handle/strengthen management of environment, health and safety, social inclusion, citizen engagement and climate change impacts – which are critical for the planning process and sustainability. Also, with changes in systems, procedures, technology, and roles, both temporary inconvenience as well as long term access and awareness generation needs to be taken care of.

11. The current Tourism Development Planning processes do not screen any adverse environmental and social risks and impacts and use opportunities for creating optimal tourism models. This needs to be instituted to move towards sustainable tourism practices. Also, there is a need for coordination with and between various stakeholders such as the Forest Department, Public Works Department, Archeological Survey of India, existing tourist operators, the hospitality industry, the broader community groups, and local administration while preparation of Destination Tourism Plans.

12. The mechanism of integrating Tribal Sub-Plan as part of the District Plan has been in place, however, analysis of some of the district strategic plans (DSPs) of tribal districts and visits to tribal districts suggests inadequate and inequitable focus on tribal areas for development. This may further widen inequalities among tribal and non-tribal populations in those districts. There is a need to relook at strategies and have wider consultations with tribal community groups and agencies working among tribal populations including civil society to identify their needs and opportunities for development.



## E.6 Exclusions of High-Risk Activities from an Environment and Social Perspective

13. The Program will exclude activities that do not align with the World Bank policy on eligibility requirements for PforR financing<sup>1</sup>. The Program will not finance any high and substantial risk activity that may have significant adverse environmental and/or social risks/impacts, particularly associated with potential loss or conversion of natural habitats, significant pollution or other significant externalities, and major changes in land or resource use. The Program will exclude any high-risk activities that require land acquisition and/or involuntary resettlement. It will not support any significant physical infrastructure aspects, and potential negative impacts on vulnerable communities.

14. To elucidate, activities such as new or major expansion of: Power plants; Major transport infrastructure (highways, expressways, airports, mass transit); Operations in extractive industries (mining, mineral processing); Commercial or industrial logging; Water resource management structures (dams, water conveyance, groundwater extraction); Manufacturing and industrial processing facilities etc. will not be supported under the Program. More specifically, the exclusions include (but not limited to):

- i. Activities that are non-compliant with central and state environmental and social legislations.
- ii. Entail large scale changes in land use or access to land and/or natural resources.
- iii. Adverse E&S impacts covering large geographical areas, including transboundary impacts, or global impacts such as greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.
- iv. Significant conversion or degradation of critical natural habitats or critical cultural heritage sites.
- v. Convert or encroach upon forests, notified wetlands, or eco-sensitive areas, and/or construction within all protected/forest areas (national parks, wildlife sanctuaries and corridors) and, within eco-sensitive zones for which final or draft notifications have been published by the MoEFCC, Govt. of India.
- vi. Any land acquisition, physical relocation, and/or involuntary resettlement impacts.
- vii. Any activity with adverse impact on Indigenous People/Tribal population or their territories especially in Scheduled V areas
- viii. Any activity requiring Free Informed Prior Consent (FPIC)
- ix. Construction or demolition within 100-meter radius of protected monuments identified by the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) and without due permission within 300-meter radius of such structures.
- x. Construction and/or renovation involving 'asbestos-containing material'.
- xi. Engage in production, promotion, and/or procurement of weapons, alcohol, radioactive material, any prohibited and/ or unlawful activities as per GoM/ Gol regulations.

---

<sup>1</sup> Activities that are judged to have significant adverse impacts that are sensitive, diverse, or unprecedented on the environment and/or affected people are not eligible for financing and are excluded from the Program

- xii. Activities that involve the use of forced or child labour and workplace conditions that expose workers to significant risks of health and personal safety.

## E.7 Key Recommendations

S.No	Main Recommendations	Department/ Agency
1	Competent staff and consultants deputed and retained at State, Department, and District levels with expertise in environmental and social management as well as regulatory requirements	MITRA
2	Exclusion list to be administered for design and finalization of activities under the Program	MITRA, TCAD
3	Environmental and Social indicators are integrated in Maha Data Bank to inform the planning process, monitor implementation and growth. The project MIS to also have modules on environmental and social management.	MITRA, DES
4	Based on the interventions on DSPs, Tourism Plans, Data Bank and capacity development, good practices to be documented - highlighting mainstreaming of E&S management, good practices and improved outcomes.	MITRA
5	Preparation of Tourism Destination Plans to be informed by Environmental and Social Risk and Impact Assessment (ESIA) and shall include consultations with a wide range of stakeholders, including local communities.	MITRA, TCAD
6	Program to track access of the services (upgraded RTS portal, MAITRI 2.0 and USKs) by vulnerable and create mechanisms for their feedback.	MITRA
7	Program to report on number of grievances received, resolved, time taken for resolution and analysis on types of grievances received through multiple mediums (online, toll-free helpline, and physical desks)	MITRA
8	Explore potential options for development in tribal areas/districts based on wider consultations with civil society groups, think tanks, academic institutions, and tribal community groups to identify needs and opportunities contributing to district development.	MITRA
9	Preparation/revision of guidance manual for District Development Plan integrating Mission LiFE principles and environmental & social aspects for sustainable development planning keeping in mind the key sectors that are emerging from District Strategic Plans.	MITRA, DES
10	Training/orientation of relevant stakeholders at district and state level – new staff at MITRA, Tourism Development Planning team, DMOs and DSUs on environmental and social management, including planning, monitoring and reporting	MITRA and WB

S.No	Main Recommendations	Department/ Agency
11	Ensure requisite E&S inclusions in RFPs, ToRs and Contract documents of various services and works supported under the operations	MITRA and WB

## E.8 Measures for Inclusion in the Program Action Plan

15. Based on the assessment carried out during ESSA preparation, the following measures have been suggested for inclusion in the Program Action Plan (PAP), for which details are given in the table below:

Action Description	Timeline	Responsibility	Completion Measurement
1. Tourism destination management plan (DMP) preparation to be informed by Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA)	To be aligned with Destination Tourism Plan Preparation	MITRA, TCAD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ESIA ToR prepared (in consultation with the World Bank)</li> <li>• ESIA conducted and report prepared with clear recommendations.</li> <li>• Destination tourism plans incorporate ESIA recommendations after suitable consultations.</li> <li>• Recommendations for Statewide Tourism Policy</li> </ul>
2. Preparation/revision of guidance manual for district strategic plans (DSPs) to factor in E&S considerations- sustainable development planning and mainstreaming stakeholder engagement	9 months from effectiveness and continuous	MITRA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Guidance manual prepared and notified for adoption.</li> <li>• E&amp;S aspects in DSPs tracked by MITRA.</li> <li>• Inclusion of E&amp;S parameters in the evaluation of DSP performance</li> </ul>
3. Key environmental, disaster management and socio-economic vulnerability related data included in geo-spatial layers developed for districts	Continuous	MITRA, MRSAC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aligned with the roll out of work on strengthening geo-spatial platforms (both state and district level)</li> <li>• Bi-annual tracking</li> </ul>

Action Description	Timeline	Responsibility	Completion Measurement
4. E&S capacity augmented for planning, implementation, and monitoring for IAs under MahaSTRIDE	Continuous	MITRA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Training Needs Assessment and preparation of Training Calendar</li> <li>• Development of modules</li> <li>• Roll out of training and feedback</li> </ul>

## E.9 E&S Entry Points in the Program Design and Results Framework

Disbursement Linked Indicator	Non-Disbursement Linked Indicator
<p><b>Result Area I: Strengthen district-level systems for enabling growth.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improved performance of districts linked to implementation of DSPs (to include E&amp;S parameters)</li> <li>• Integrated geospatial, statistical, and financial data systems for improved district-level decision-making (to include E&amp;S data/information)</li> </ul> <p><b>Result Area II: Improve access for businesses to time-bound e-government service.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strengthened policy and institutional framework for tourism development in districts (to include E&amp;S parameters)</li> </ul> <p><b>Result Area III: Strengthen state institutions for data-driven policy and decision-making.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase in delivery channels for providing services to businesses (Labour, Revenue and Pollution Control to be added)</li> <li>• Improved use of data for monitoring economic growth and development (E&amp;S data fields to be added)</li> <li>• Strengthened capacity of MITRA for policy making, coordination and implementation (E&amp;S capacities to be enhanced for planning, implementation and monitoring)</li> </ul>	<p><b>Result Area I: Strengthen district-level systems for enabling growth.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improved availability and use of socio-economic data for DSPs</li> </ul> <p><b>Result Area II: Improve access for businesses to time-bound e-government service:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identified services where Government Process Re-engineering (GPR) is completed (Departments to be added for improved clearances and compliance monitoring: Labour, Revenue and Environment/Pollution Control)</li> <li>• Beneficiary feedback on quality of 'identified' services delivered.</li> <li>• People using digitally enabled services including for female and youth.</li> </ul> <p><b>Result Area III: Strengthen state institutions for data-driven policy and decision-making.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Missing UNSD EDGE indicators reduced ( Gender disaggregated data)</li> <li>• Statistical / Evidence-base for Tourism enhanced (E&amp;S fields to be added)</li> <li>• Increase the number of data layers on the integrated district data portal)</li> </ul>

## **E.10 Consultations with Key Stakeholders**

16. As part of ESSA preparation, consultations were undertaken with key officials from MITRA, Department of Planning, including the Directorate of Economics and Statistics (DES), Directorate of Industries, Directorate of Tourism, Directorate of Accounts and Treasury, and Maharashtra Information Technology Corporation Limited (MahaIT), along with field visits and consultations with district planning teams including those with District Collectors and key district level departments at Palghar and Raigad districts between May and June 2024 on key environmental and social practices around the core ESSA principles.

17. Additionally, the interaction with District Officials, key line departments, academicians, citizens, and beneficiaries during preparation of other recent Bank funded projects in the state (such as P177965 - Development of Applied Knowledge and Skills for Human-Development in Maharashtra and P506340 - Maharashtra Resilience Development Project) has also been utilized for the preparation of ESSA for MahaSTRIDE.

18. A state level multi-stakeholder/multi-sectoral half-day consultation workshop was organized with support from MITRA at Sahyadri, Mumbai on August 9, 2024, to discuss the key findings and recommendations of the draft ESSA for MahaSTRIDE. Specifically, inputs were sought on the assessment and key findings of the report as well as on the recommendations made on environment and social management for achieving Program's development objective and strengthening the intended outcomes.

## **E.11 Disclosure of ESSA**

19. The draft ESSA was disclosed in-country at the MITRA, Govt. of Maharashtra website (<https://mahamitra.org/en/mahastride/>) and on the World Bank's external website in July 2024 (before appraisal of the proposed operation), to serve as the basis for discussion and receipt of feedback and comments. The ESSA (this report) has factored-in the comments, feedback and suggestions received during the various consultation forums, including the state level workshop in August 2024. The revised/final ESSA will also be disclosed for use and reference of all interested stakeholders and parties.

## **E.11 IPF-Technical Assistance Component**

20. Activities under the proposed IPF-TA component are not expected to have any adverse environmental and social impacts. These will be restricted to capacity strengthening of nodal state and district implementing agencies and procurement of technical support agencies, advisory services, and consultants to render technical support to the main operation (PforR). The TA will not involve any construction works or activities with a significant physical footprint. An ESCP has been prepared (will be disclosed before Appraisal) keeping in mind Bank's ESF requirements and various provisions under Borrower's Framework/Systems. The requirements of SEP (also embedded in PforR design) and LMP stand integrated in the ESCP. The SEA/SH risk rating is currently low, for which commensurate mitigation measures have been included in the ESCP.

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1. Background and Context

1. Maharashtra is geographically the third largest and second most populous<sup>2</sup> state of India. As of FY22/23, it is the largest economy with a Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) of INR 3,527,084 crores (approximately US\$425 billion) with GSDP per capita of INR 242,247<sup>3</sup> which is higher than India's average of INR 115,746<sup>4</sup>. The state's fiscal deficit is sustainable, and for FY23/24 it is projected at 2.5 percent of GSDP<sup>5</sup>. It performs high on literacy, education, health, women's workforce participation and other development indicators. Only 17.3 percent of the state's households are classified as Below Poverty Line (BPL) compared with the national average of 22 percent<sup>6</sup>. On the composite SDG India 2020-21 Index, Maharashtra is in the 'front-runners' category of performers (scoring in the range of 65-99, including both) with a score of 70 against the all-India score of 66<sup>7</sup>. Besides, there is large variation in economic growth across the districts. Average annual growth rates between FY12/13 and FY19/20 range from 4.2 to 7.9 percent of all districts, while per capita GSDP in FY19/20 (in constant prices) was between US\$966 (Nandurbar) and US\$3,720 (Mumbai).

2. Maharashtra aims to become a 'One Trillion Dollar (OTD) economy' by 2027. In 2018, the Planning Department of the Government of Maharashtra (GoM) published its Vision 2030 document, aimed at promoting sustainable, balanced, and all-inclusive socio-economic growth of the State. This Vision has been further detailed through the 'Roadmap to Becoming a OTD Economy' and the 'Manual for Good Governance' prepared and released by the Government in 2023. The roadmap targets increased annual growth rates of 14-15 percent from current CAGR of 8-9 percent (FY14 - 22). It identifies policies and investments required to accelerate growth over the next five years and recommends (i) capacitating districts to provide the bottom-up push to growth (ii) improving delivery of government services for providing an enabling environment for catalyzing private investments. The Manual of Good Governance advocates, inter alia, for creating a robust, reliable, and integrated data ecosystem that facilitates evidence-based policy formulation, data driven planning and close to real-time performance monitoring of schemes.

3. There is a growing recognition of the need for a bottom-up approach for achieving inclusive and sustainable economic growth and districts will have to lead the agenda. Districts envisioned to be fulcrums of growth, face serious capability gaps that constrain planning, convergence, and coordination for driving growth. There is a lack of requisite tools, systems, or incentives to (i) coordinate, or ensure convergence across sectoral interventions, and (ii) partner with the private sector on jobs-creating economic activities. The data collected by sector departments is predominantly used for singular purposes such as scheme administration, compliance, and monitoring. Unit records related to individuals, households, commercial establishments, land, and real property are thus rarely shared outside of the concerned departments (including district collectors). This leads to inefficiencies through

<sup>2</sup> Census of India, 2011

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1942055>

<sup>4</sup> <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseDetailm.aspx?PRID=1928682>

<sup>5</sup> Fiscal deficit was 2.1 percent as per the actuals in 2021-22. It is expected to be 2.7 % as per revised estimates of 2022-23.

<sup>6</sup> Census, 2011; GoI

<sup>7</sup> <https://sdgindiaindex.niti.gov.in/#/ranking>

duplicative data collection, storage, and processing. In addition, the transformation of raw data into aggregate information is largely a manual process leading to extensive time lags between the initial data capture and availability of information for decision making.

4. Maharashtra ranked twelfth amongst the eighteen general category states in National e-Governance Service Delivery Assessment (NeSDA) Report, 2019<sup>8</sup>. In the assessment of Ease of Doing Business reforms under the Business Reforms Action Plan (BRAP) 2020, the State was placed in the second-ranking category, behind seven top performing states.<sup>9</sup> Both the service delivery platforms used by the State Government for these services – MAITRI (Maharashtra Industry, Trade & Investment) portal, and RTS portal (for services notified under the Maharashtra Right to Services Act - MRTS Act) do not have adequate backend integration and effective offline delivery channels in districts. The weak performance of the State in delivery of services was also corroborated by the recent performance audit of the implementation of State RTS Act by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India which highlighted the need (i) to improve the timeliness in delivery of services, (ii) to increase the access to services, and (iii) expand outreach through information, education, and communication initiatives.

5. The proposed operation will pilot tailored solutions to address these three challenges in the tourism sector. While the State receives the highest foreign arrivals in the country, it has not been able to leverage these arrivals and push them towards tourism activities, especially to lesser explored destinations. In districts (i) there is inadequate expertise for developing tourism destinations, and (ii) absence of an institutional approach for ensuring coordination across the various stakeholders (such as forest department, public works department, Archeological Survey of India, existing tourism operators the hospitality industry, the broader community, and neighboring districts) for promoting tourism.

6. While implementation of these strategies will require all sector departments to participate, Planning Department, Maharashtra Institute for Transformation (MITRA), and the General Administration Department (GAD) have been assigned the responsibility to lead implementation of the Vision 2030, OTD Roadmap, and the Manual, respectively. For this operation, the Government Program has been defined to cover (i) funds allocated to districts by the Planning Department for providing services and driving economic growth, and (ii) expenditure incurred by GAD for delivering services to citizens and businesses for the period FY 2024-30.

7. The Government Program ('p') has an estimated budget of US\$2.06 billion over the period FY 2024-30. The World Bank Program ('P') loan in the amount is US\$188.28 million.

## 1.2. Program Design and Components

8. The Maharashtra Strengthening Institutional Capabilities in Districts for Enabling Growth (MahaSTRIDE) Operation seeks to strengthen the Government's own systems and will contribute strengthening public sector institutions by (i) strengthening core government systems at the state and district level, (ii) collection and effective use of data to support planning, policy formulation and implementation; and (ii) developing accountability mechanisms for delivery of select Government to Citizens (G2C) and Government to

<sup>8</sup> Published by Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances, Government of India

<sup>9</sup> Published by Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade, Government of India



Businesses (G2B) services. The operation will also strengthen accountability and transparency by improving the availability of data in the public domain, facilitating convergence across data sets, and introducing concurrent evaluations for key investments.

9. The PforR instrument will be leveraged for supporting interventions that require a whole-of-government approach and an incentive framework which encourages coordination not only across sectors but also across levels of government. A smaller component will use the IPF instrument to provide technical assistance support to key implementing agencies. The PforR instrument is suited given the State's strong focus on impact, innovation, and accountability for results.

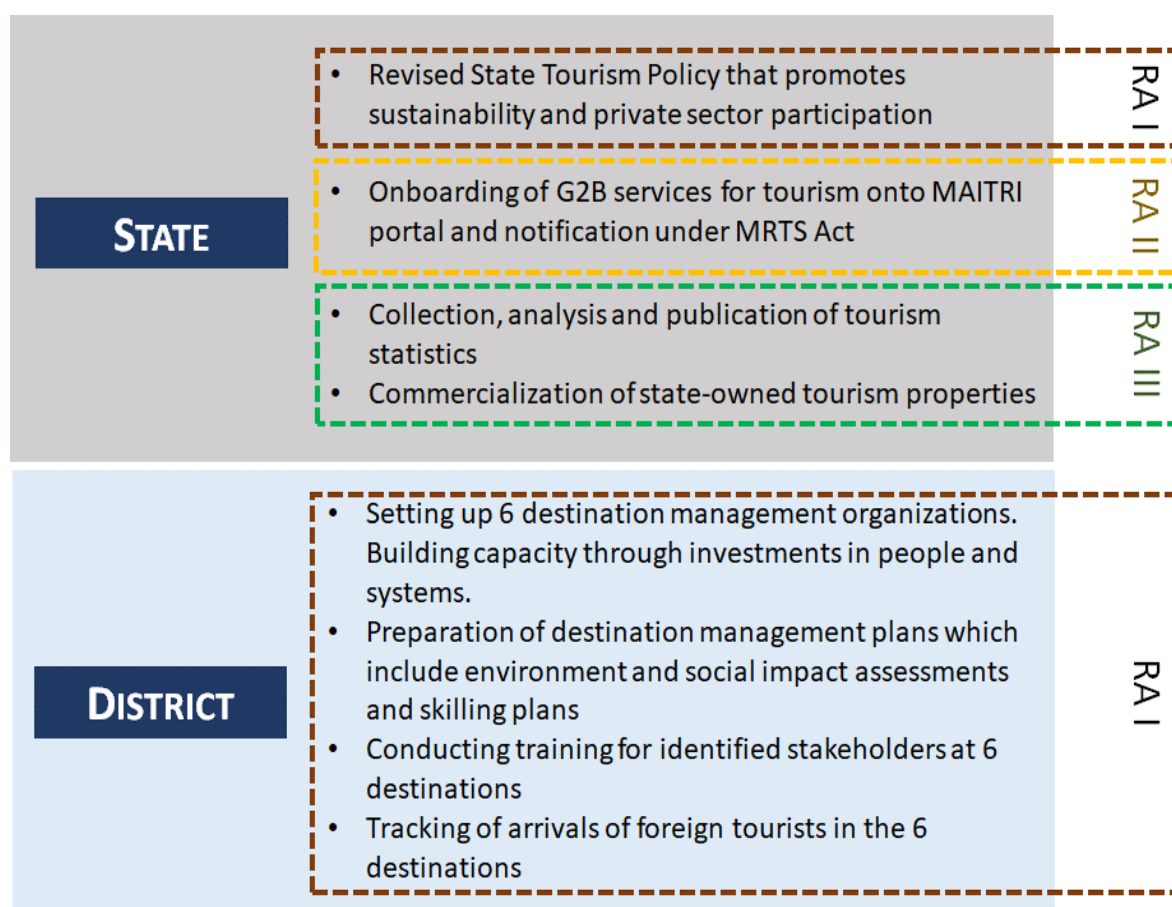
### 1.3. Program Development Objective (PDO) and PDO Level Results Indicators

10. The program development objective is to strengthen institutional capabilities, services, and the data ecosystem for enabling inclusive growth in districts of Maharashtra. The PDO-level results indicators include the following:

1. Improved performance of districts linked to implementation of the DSPs (number).
2. Increase in online services for businesses (number).
3. Increase in statistical outputs that address priorities of the DSPs (number).

### 1.4. Result Areas

11. The interventions across all RAs in the tourism sector have been shown in the Figure below.





12. **Results Area (RA) I: Strengthened district-level systems for enabling growth.** RA I will incentivize coordination, evidence-based planning, partnerships with private sector, and strong monitoring and evaluation (M&E) systems. Specifically, it will enable the following results:

- **Strengthened implementation of growth initiatives in districts:** The operation will support implementation of the five-year rolling DSPs. The first set of DSPs were prepared in FY23/24. The operation sets up an incentive framework that will trigger fiscal rewards to districts that achieve targets on: (i) interventions that have been completed, (ii) utilization of budgetary resources available under existing schemes and programs, (iii) private investments mobilized for financing interventions, and (iv) public disclosure of the plans. The detailed criteria for fiscal incentives will be included in the Operations Manual (OM). Districts will be supported in implementation of DSPs through (i) district strategic units (DSUs) that will be created and staffed with core specialists and sector experts to support the sectors prioritized in the DSPs; (ii) rationalization of existing schemes and alignment of expenditures with DSP targets; (iii) identifying and addressing competency gaps across select district agencies; and (iv) annual evaluations of the DSPs to ensure that implementation challenges are addressed in a timely manner.
- **Improved district data systems for planning and monitoring:** The Operation seeks to provide district administrations with the data and evidence required for decision making and for monitoring implementation of DSPs. This will involve (i) linking existing MIS to enable a consolidated information on fund flows and details of schemes under implementation in districts; (ii) digitalizing existing databases containing district statistics; (iii) building a dynamic statistical business register (SBR) to enable tracking of district level business development and economic activity; (iv) collecting data on new socio-economic indicators through new surveys; and (v) launching a geo-portal for districts using the geo spatial data layers developed by the Maharashtra Remote Sensing Application Centre (MRSAC). All these data sets will feed into an integrated district data dashboard that will allow tracking of physical and financial progress of DSP implementation. The dynamic SBR will have the added benefit of enabling a more robust estimation of district domestic products.
- **Strengthened policy and institutions for tourism:** The operation will pilot deconcentrating of the planning and implementation of developmental activities in the tourism sector. Tourism has been identified as a priority sector for driving growth in over 30 of the 36 DSPs. The operation supports (i) revision of the state tourism policy that would provide for creation of destination management organizations (DMOs) and preparation of climate-risk informed and sustainable destination management plans (DMPs), (ii) setting up of DMO and preparation of DMPs for six destinations. The operation also involves identifying and addressing skills gaps of relevant stakeholders under the DMPs. Program activities under this result area are expected to lead to an increase in foreign tourism visits in the select destinations.

13. **Results Area II: Improved access for businesses to time-bound e-government services.** The operation will focus on government services captured under the BRAP issued periodically by Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade, Government of India; the NeSDA conducted by the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public

Grievances, Government of India; and the services available on GoM's MAITRI portal. Activities under RA II focus on the following results.

- **Improved access for identified services:** The Program will support (i) strengthening the online service delivery portals – MAITRI 2.0 (used only for G2B and select G2B+C services) and upgraded RTS portal (used for all government services); (ii) increasing the number of delivery channels including setting up Udyog Seva Kendras (USKs) that will be housed within existing district industries centers and will serve as offline delivery channels; and (iii) bringing more services onto the MAITRI portal and ensuring these are notified under the MRTS Act to make delivery timelines legally binding. The operation will prioritize onboarding of government services in the tourism sector onto the MAITRI portal.
- **Improved delivery timelines and accountability:** The Operation will include conducting process reengineering to streamline processes and eliminate unnecessary approvals and other bottlenecks. This will help shorten delivery timelines, where possible and reduce delays and errors; Other activities include (i) closer monitoring of the timeliness of service delivery; and (ii) gathering and disclosing beneficiary feedback on services delivered to improve transparency and accountability.

14. **Results Area III: Strengthened state institutions for data-driven policy and decision-making.** Activities under RA III aim to build capacity in the State for data management, sharing, dissemination and use through a new policy framework (State Data Policy), creation of a new institution (the State Data Authority) and strengthening capabilities of the DES and MRSAC. It also seeks to strengthen capabilities in MITRA to enable it to lead coordination in implementation of the recommendations of the OTD Roadmap. Specifically, it will enable the following results.

- **Strengthened institutions and policies for data:** The Operation aims to create a conducive data governance architecture in the State to facilitate the integration of digital data flows at the state and district levels while safeguarding data privacy and security. It supports establishment of the State Data Authority (SDA) which will serve as the primary regulator for public sector data in Maharashtra. The SDA will be tasked with formulating a comprehensive State Data Policy, ensuring compliance with data standards and exchange protocols, and enhancing data interoperability. The Program also supports the introduction of a 'data stewardship' program through the SDA to coordinate significant data initiatives and build capacity at the state and district level. The Program will support line departments to digitize and publish essential datasets in an open, machine-readable format.
- **Improved use of data and capacity for evidence-based policymaking:** The Operation will support capacity building initiatives through which the state and district agencies can attract, retain, and continuously train diverse teams of specialists. The Program includes a suite of transformative statistical projects, leveraging international best practice and technological advancements in data systems for developing new statistical products and services tailored to the specific needs of state and district decision makers. Data projects supported under the Program include district-level representative household surveys for monitoring labour market dynamics and scheme performance, and the introduction of a Unified Master Indicator Platform ('Maha Data Bank'), incorporating SDG, state indicator framework, and district indicator framework. A key activity proposed under this result area is establishing a framework for collection of tourism statistics through periodic

surveys and release of analytical reports on tourism that draw on the data sets collected from the surveys.

- **Improved state capacity and coordination for growth initiatives:** The Operation targets building domain competencies within MITRA to enable it to lead dialogue and coordinate with concerned line departments and the state decision making agencies on policy reforms, as outlined in the OTD Roadmap. The operation specifically support preparation and roll-out of an Asset Monetization (AM) Policy that has the potential to create fiscal space for other investments that can drive growth. As under the other program result areas, the operation pilots the implementation of the AM policy in the tourism sector through commercialization of state government owned tourism properties.

### 1.5. Government Program and Bank Financed Program (P Vs p)

15. The Government Program is based on GoM's 'Vision 2030', the 'State Growth Roadmap to Becoming a OTD Economy' and the 'Manual for Good Governance'. Vision 2030 prepared by the Planning Department of GoM is aimed at promoting sustainable, balanced, and all-inclusive socio-economic growth of the State. For creating an enabling environment necessary for realizing this Vision, it proposes a five-pillar strategy by developing time-bound Action Plans for the sectors of agriculture and allied activities, industry, infrastructure, social sector, and governance.

16. The OTD Roadmap, prepared by a specially constituted Economic Advisory Council (EAC), suggests policy and implementation related reforms for enabling and accelerating economic growth by FY 2028 by pursuing a balanced mix of top-down and bottom-up approaches. It focuses on generating fifteen million new employment opportunities in identified sectors and on providing an enabling environment for stimulating private investments in the State. Emphasizing on jobs, the roadmap proposes interventions in enhancing employability, improving skillsets, promoting entrepreneurship programs, and bringing synergies among these.

17. The Manual of Good Governance, advocates for (i) creating a robust, reliable, and integrated data ecosystem that facilitates evidence-based policy formulation, data driven planning and performance monitoring of services and schemes, (ii) strengthening the implementation of MRTS Act, (iii) promoting administrative innovations including through digital transformation of the government, (iv) introducing employment budgets at department level complementing financial and physical budgets, and (v) following a systematic approach for developing individual and organizational competencies and capabilities through training and capacity building.

18. While implementation of these strategies will require all sector departments to participate, Planning Department, MITRA, and the General Administration Department (GAD) have been assigned the responsibility to lead implementation of the Vision 2030, OTD Roadmap, and the Manual, respectively. For this operation, the Government Program has been defined to cover:

- (i) funds allocated to districts by the Planning Department for providing services and driving economic growth, and
- (ii) expenditure incurred by GAD for delivering services to citizens and businesses for the period FY 2024-30.

19. This Government Program ('p') has an estimated budget of US\$2.06 billion over the period FY 2024-30. Table 1.1 provides an overall linkage of the Government's program and the World Bank's PforR Program. The PforR will support a subset of the government program's objectives:

**Table 1.1: Linkage between GoM's Program and Bank's PforR Program**

	Government program	Program supported by the PforR	Reasons for non-alignment
<b>Objective</b>	Vision 2030 to promote sustainable, balanced, and all-inclusive socio-economic growth. Adopted ambitious target to become a 'trillion-dollar economy' by 2028 by leveraging the critical role of districts in inclusive growth and supported by administrative governance reforms as articulated in 'Manual of Good Governance'.	To strengthen institutional capabilities, services, and the data ecosystem to accelerate inclusive economic growth in districts	Aligned.
<b>Duration</b>	2024-2030	2024-2030	Aligned.
<b>Geographic coverage</b>	All of Maharashtra	All of Maharashtra	Aligned.
<b>Results Areas</b>	Vision 2030: broad-based across five pillars. OTD Roadmap - Accelerated inclusive economic growth by focusing on 8 major sectors/enablers, job creation, strengthened institutional capabilities for sustaining growth, private capital enablement & private capital mobilization. Manual of Good Governance - improved transparency & accountability in government operations; efficient, citizen centric & corruption free governance	RA I: Strengthen district-level systems for enabling growth. RA II: Improve access for businesses to time-bound e-government services. RA III: Strengthen State institutions for data-driven policy and decision-making	The result areas of the government program are broader in scope as these focus on all sectors and a wide range of administrative reforms and innovations. The PforR Program focuses on strengthening institutional capabilities, a narrower set of sectors (tourism) and services (G2B services), and data related reforms.
<b>Overall Financing</b>	US\$2.06 billion	US\$268.97 million (US\$67.83 million GoM for PforR; US\$12.86 million GoM for IPF; US\$157.81 million IBRD for PforR; US\$30 million IBRD for IPF; and US\$0.47 million IBRD front-end fee)	

## 1.6. Program Financing

Source	Amount (US\$, Millions)	% of Total
Counterpart Funding	80.69 (including GoM contribution to IPF)	30.0
IBRD	188.28 (157.81 PforR; 30 IPF; and 0.47 IBRD Front End Fee)	70.0
<b>Total Operation Financing</b>	<b>268.97</b>	<b>100</b>

20. Key activities supported under the IPF Component include engagement of technical support agencies for the (i) DSUs in all 36 districts, (ii) SDA including the Chief Data Officer, (iii) operation implementation units (OIUs) in key implementing agencies and the operation management unit (OMU) in MITRA; (iv) concurrent evaluations of DSPs; and (v) preparation of annual capacity building plans for select district agencies. The IPF Component will also be leveraged from conducting the survey program for collection of tourism statistics and setting up twinning partnerships between leading global statistical agencies and DES.

## 1.7. Disbursement link indicators (DLIs)

35. Disbursement under the Operation will be conditional on the achievement of specific results, measured by the DLIs. The choice of each DLI and the DLI values for each year are based on: (a) link with a critical activity, output, or outcome in the results chain; (b) the perceived need to introduce a strong financial incentive to deliver the activity, output, or outcome; (c) practical aspects of verifying achievement; and (d) GoM's capacity to achieve the DLI during the implementation period. The summary of DLIs has been given in Table 1.2.

**Table 1.2: Disbursement Linked Indicators presented Results Area-wise (allocations in US\$ million)**

Results Area	DLI No.	Disbursement Linked Indicator	Financial Allocation	Relevant IAs
<b>RA I: Strengthen district systems for enabling growth</b>	1	Improved performance of districts linked to implementation of DSPs	46.80	Offices of DCs, Planning Dept., DES, MITRA
	2	Integrated geospatial, statistical, and financial data systems for better district planning.	12.91	Planning dept., DES, MRSAC, Finance Dept.
	3	Strengthened policy and institutional framework for tourism development in districts	12.50	Tourism Dept.
<b>RA II: Improve access for</b>	4	Increase in delivery channels for providing and monitoring services to businesses	19.60	Industries Dept., GAD

Results Area	DLI No.	Disbursement Linked Indicator	Financial Allocation	Relevant IAs
businesses to time-bound e-government services	5	Increase in online services for businesses	20.00	Industries Dept., Tourism Dept., RTS Commission
RA III: Strengthen state institutions for data-driven policy and decision-making	6	Strengthened state data governance architecture	16.00	MITRA, Planning Department
	7	Improved use of data for monitoring economic growth and development	15.00	DES, MRSAC
	8	Increase in statistical outputs that address the priorities of the DSPs	10.00	DES
	9	Strengthened capacity of MITRA for policy making, coordination and implementation	5.80	MITRA, Tourism Dept.
Sub-Total			157.81	
Add: IPF Technical Assistance Component			30.00	
Add: Front End Fee			0.47	
Total (IBRD)			188.28	

### 1.8. Program Expenditure Framework

21. The Maharashtra Strengthening Institutional Capabilities in Districts for Enabling Growth program (MahaSTRIDE) supports a sub-set of activities under the Government Program and focuses on interventions that strengthen institutional capabilities and services in districts and improve the state data ecosystem. Based on the PEF, the IAs are expected to incur expenditures in the following percentages:

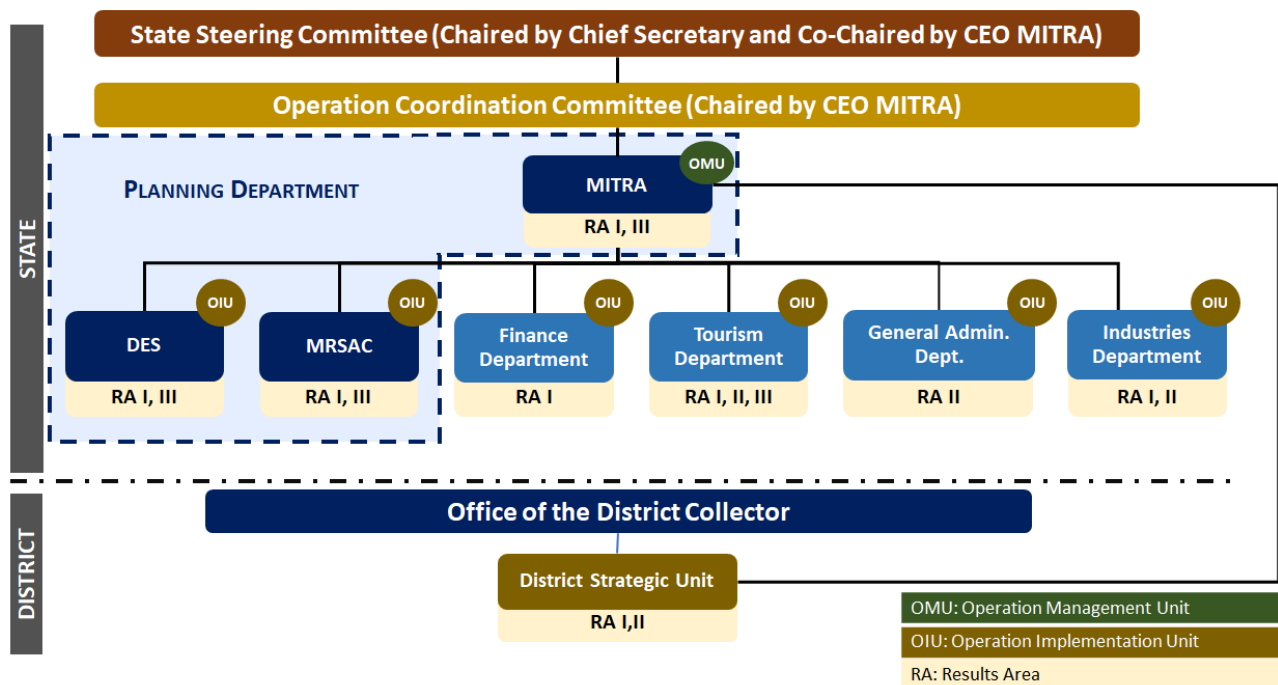
**Table 1.3: Agency wise Program Expenditure**

S. No.	Implementing Agencies	Total Expenditure (INR, crore)	Total Expenditure (US\$, million) 1 US\$=Rs.83	Percentage of PEF (%)
1	Planning Department and its following agencies	1,643.53	198.02	87.8
1.1	Planning Department	2.49	0.30	0.1
1.2	DES, Planning Department	521.73	62.86	27.9
1.3	MITRA, Planning Department (Nodal agency)	190.85	22.99	10.2
1.4	MRSAC, Planning Department	538.46	64.88	28.8
1.5	Office of District Collectors	390.00	46.99	20.8
2	Industries Commissionerate	161.05	19.4025.9	8.6
3	Tourism Department	66.56	8.02	3.6
4	Finance Department	1.66	0.20	0.1
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1,872.80</b>	<b>225.64</b>	<b>100.0</b>

22. The PforR Program cost is estimated at US\$225.64 million, of which the World Bank will finance US\$188.28 million and the GoM will finance US\$67.83 million over the implementation period (FY24/25–FY29/30). The PEF relates to a combination of existing and new key programs in the implementing agencies. The Program intends not to support any significant physical infrastructure aspects, and/or any land acquisition. The table below outlines the PEF for each of the implementing agencies over the project period.

### 1.9. Institutional and Implementation Arrangements

23. MITRA is the nodal implementation agency for the MahaSTRIDE Program. It will be responsible for overall planning, implementation, and monitoring of the activities, results, and funds flows. It will host and be supported by a PMU. Other implementing agencies include DES and MRSAC (under the administrative control of the Planning Department), Finance Department, Industries Department, and Tourism Department.



24. Each implementing agency will set up a OIU for implementation support including in procurement, implementation of activities for achievement of DLIs, regular monitoring, and supporting the Program independent verification agency (IVA).

25. A State Steering Committee (SSC) and Operation Coordination Committee (OCC) have been established for the Program to facilitate interdepartmental coordination. At the district level, the District Planning Committee, supported by the district planning officer and district statistical officer will lead implementation of the DSPs. The DSUs will be based in the Offices of the DC and will coordinate with all sector implementing agencies on DSP interventions. MITRA will be responsible for procuring necessary consultancy support for the DSUs and for the overall oversight of DSU operations.

### 1.10. Environment and Social Systems Assessment (ESSA)

26. This Environmental and Social Systems Assessment (ESSA) has been prepared by the World Bank for the proposed Maharashtra District Growth and Institutional Capabilities Program operation, in accordance with the requirements of the World Bank Policy for Program-for-Results (PforR) Financing. The PforR Policy requires that the Bank conducts a comprehensive ESSA to assess the degree to which the PforR Program promotes environmental and social sustainability and to ensure that effective measures are in place to identify, avoid, minimize, or mitigate any environmental, health, safety, and social impacts. Through the ESSA process, recommendations to enhance environmental and social management outcomes within the program are developed, which become part of the overall Program Action Plan (PAP).

27. The proposed Program is a hybrid operation. While the Program for Results (PforR) instrument will be leveraged for supporting interventions that require a whole-of-government approach and an incentive framework that encourages coordination not only across sectors but also across levels of government, a smaller component will use the Investment Project Financing (IPF) instrument to provide technical assistance support to key implementing agencies mainly towards institutional strengthening and capacity building.

28. The main objectives of this ESSA are to:

- a) Identify the Program's environmental, health, safety, and social effects.
- b) Assess the legal and policy framework for environmental and social management, including a review of relevant legislation, rules, procedures, and institutional responsibilities that are being used by the Program.
- c) Assess borrower's institutional capacity to manage the potential adverse environmental and social impacts and,
- d) To recommend specific actions to address gaps in the Program's environmental and social management system.

29. The ESSA describes the extent to which the applicable government environmental and social policies, legislations, program procedures and institutional systems are consistent with the six ESSA 'core principles' and recommends actions to address the gaps and enhance performance during Program implementation. These six core principles are listed below and further defined in this report:

- a. **Core Principle 1: Environmental and Social Management:** Environmental and social management procedures and processes are designed to: (a) promote environmental and social sustainability in Program design; (b) avoid, minimize, or mitigate against adverse impacts; and (c) promote informed decision making related to a Program's environmental and social effects.
- b. **Core Principle 2: Natural Habitats and Physical Cultural Resources:** Environmental and social management procedures and processes are designed to avoid, minimize, and mitigate any adverse effects (on natural habitats and physical and cultural resources) resulting from the Program.
- c. **Core Principle 3: Public and Worker Safety:** Program procedures ensure adequate measures to protect public and worker safety against the potential risks associated with: (a) construction and/or operations of facilities or other operational practices developed or promoted under the Program; and (b) exposure to toxic chemicals, hazardous wastes,



---

and otherwise dangerous materials.

- d. **Core Principle 4: Land Acquisition:** Land acquisition and loss of access to natural resources are managed in a way that avoids or minimizes displacement, and affected people are assisted in improving, or at least restoring, their livelihoods and living standards.
- e. **Core Principle 5: Indigenous Peoples and Vulnerable Groups:** Due consideration is given to cultural appropriateness of, and equitable access to, Program benefits, giving special attention to the rights and interests of indigenous peoples and to the needs or concerns of vulnerable groups.
- f. **Core Principle 6: Social Conflict:** Avoid exacerbating social conflict, especially in fragile states, post-conflict areas, or areas subject to territorial disputes.

### 1.11. Methodology Adopted for ESSA

30. ESSA refers both to the process for assessing the acceptability of the borrower's system for managing the Program's environmental and social (E&S) risks in the operational context, and to the final report that is an output of that process. The ESSA process is a multistep methodology in which the World Bank team analyses the E&S effects, including indirect and cumulative effects, of activities associated with the defined Program; analyses the borrower's systems for managing the identified E&S effects, including reviewing practices and the performance track record; compares the borrower's systems - laws, regulations, standards, procedures, and implementation performance. This is done against the core principles and key planning elements to identify any significant differences between them that could affect Program performance; and recommends measures to address capacity and performance on policy issues and specific operational aspects relevant to managing the Program risks such as staff training, implementing institutional capacity building programs, developing, and adopting internal operational guidelines.

31. The ESSA intends to cover a comprehensive review of relevant existing information and data sources, complemented by consultations, interviews/ discussions with implementing agencies including district level planning teams and key stakeholders to capture opinions, anecdotal evidence, functional knowledge, and concerns. It involves (a) a comprehensive review of government policies, legal frameworks, program documents applicable to the program and other relevant information and assessments of Government of Maharashtra and Government of India's environmental and social management systems (b) interviews and consultations planned to be conducted with relevant experts and officials from MITRA, Department of Planning (GoM) including Directorate of Economics and Statistics (DES), Maharashtra Remote Sensing Application Centre (MRSAC), Industries Commissionerate and Tourism and Cultural Affairs Department (c) field visits and, (d) consultations with District Collectors and their team in select districts.

## STATE BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

---

### 2.1. Location

1. Maharashtra occupies the western and central part of India and has a long coastline stretching nearly 720 kms. It is bordered by the Arabian Sea to the west, the Indian states of Karnataka and Goa to the south, Telangana to the southeast and Chhattisgarh to the east, Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh to the north, and the union territory of Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu to the northwest.

### 2.2. Administrative Setting

2. Based on socio-political and other geographical considerations, the State is divided into five main regions: Vidarbha (north-eastern region), Marathwada (south-central region), Khandesh (north-western region), Northern Maharashtra and Western Maharashtra (Konkan). For administrative convenience, the State has been divided into 36 districts and six revenue divisions namely Aurangabad, Amravati, Konkan, Pune, Nashik, and Nagpur divisions. The state capital Mumbai is the most populous urban area in India.

---

### 2.3. Demographic Characteristics

3. Maharashtra is the third largest State in India accounting for 9.4 percent (307,731 sq.km) of the total geographical area of the country and the second most populous State with a population of about 112 million (2011 Census), which was 9.3 percent of the All-India

population. About 54.78 percent of the total population of Maharashtra state live in rural areas. It was the second largest populous State in India after Uttar Pradesh. The population density is 365 per sq.km, which is less than the national average of 382 per sq.km.

4. In terms of other key demographic indicators, 82 percent of the population is literate; 55 percent reside in rural and 45 percent in urban areas; 11.8 percent are scheduled castes; 9.3 percent are scheduled tribes and 10 percent constitute slum population. The sex ratio is 929 females per 1000 males and the child sex ratio is 894.

#### **2.4. Environmental Characteristics**

5. The dominant physical feature of the state is its plateau character, which is separated from the Konkan coastline by the mountain range of the Western Ghats, which runs parallel to the coast from north to south. The Western Ghats, also known as the Sahyadri Range, has an average elevation of 1,200 metres (3,900 ft); its slopes gently descending towards the east and southeast. The Western Ghats (or the Sahyadri Mountain range) provide a physical barrier to the state on the west, while the Satpura Hills along the north and Bhamragad- Chiroli-Gaikhuri ranges on the east serve as its natural borders. To the west of these hills lie the Konkan coastal plains, 50 to 80 km (31–50 mi) in width. To the east of the Ghats lies the flat Deccan Plateau.

6. The Western Ghats is not only the prominent biodiversity resource for the region and an important climatic divide (average elevation of 1200 meters), but also forms one of the three watersheds of the State from which originate several important rivers, including Godavari and Krishna. The main rivers of the state are the Krishna, and its tributary, Bhima, the Godavari, and its main tributaries, Manjara, and Wardha-Wainganga and the Tapi, and its tributary Purna. The forest cover in the state is about 16.47 percent of the state's geographical area.

7. Maharashtra is divided into five geographic regions. Konkan is the western coastal region, between the Western Ghats and the sea. Khandesh is the north region lying in the valley of the Tapi, Purna river. Nashik, Malegaon Jalgaon, Dhule and Bhusawal are the major cities of this region. Marathwada, which was a part of the princely state of Hyderabad until 1956, is in the southeastern part of the state. Aurangabad and Nanded are the main cities of the region. Vidarbha is the easternmost region of the state, formerly part of the Central Provinces and Berar. Maharashtra has been divided into nine agro-climatic zones based on annual rainfall soil types, vegetation and cropping pattern. Drought conditions, declining green cover, rapid industrialization, disposal of Municipal Solid Waste, and uneven distribution of growth are other issues faced by the state.

8. Maharashtra is highly vulnerable to climate induced disasters and extreme weather events. With 28 of its 36 districts prone to extreme droughts, and 8 districts prone to extreme floods, the State is likely to face the twin challenges of high temperatures as well as water scarcity and large-scale flooding due to rapid climate change. These risks have been highlighted in the Maharashtra State Climate Adaptation Action Plan (MSCAAP) which noted an increase (a near doubling) in the number of hot days in the State during the period 1971 to 2020, with projections indicating continued increases in temperature in the 2030s. Economic activities in the tourism sector are particularly vulnerable, given that climate change related events impact the appeal of tourist destinations through concerns such as

safety, damage to tourist sites, impact on civil infrastructure, water shortages and impact on biodiversity.

9. The state is home to six UNESCO World Heritage Sites: Ajanta Caves, Ellora Caves, Elephanta Caves, Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus (formerly Victoria Terminus), The Victorian Gothic and Art Deco Ensembles of Mumbai and The Western Ghats, a heritage site made up of 39 individual properties of which 4 are in Maharashtra.

## **2.5. Economic Characteristics**

10. Maharashtra is one of the most industrialised states in India. The state's capital, Mumbai, is India's financial and commercial capital. India's largest stock exchange Bombay Stock Exchange, the oldest in Asia, is located in the city, as is National Stock Exchange, which is the second largest stock exchange in India and one of world's largest derivatives exchanges. The state has played a significant role in the country's social and political life and is widely considered a leader in terms of agricultural and industrial production, trade and transport, and education. Maharashtra is the ninth-highest ranking among Indian states in the human development index.

11. It is the single largest contributor to India's economy with a share of 14 percent to national Gross Domestic Product (GDP). While Maharashtra is one of the most industrialized states in India, the service sector dominates the state's economy, accounting for 69.3 percent of the output value. The state performs high on literacy, education, health, women's workforce participation, and other development indicators. Only 17.3 percent of the state's households are classified as Below Poverty Line (BPL) compared with the national average of 22 percent.

12. Although the State is one of the most industrialized states in the country contributing to about 20 percent of the national industrial output and 46 percent of the Gross State Domestic Product, agriculture and allied activities are still predominant with more than 50 percent of the population employed in agriculture and allied activities, thus making the state primarily agrarian.

13. Dependency on weather conditions, increasing number of marginal and small farmers and reduction in operational holdings, low productivity, high expenses leading to non-profitability, and market uncertainty continue to be the prime concerns creating economic uncertainties for the farmers and the state.

14. There is large economic diversity across regions in Maharashtra and high intra-state variations are witnessed in Maharashtra. The region-wise performance on the social development index<sup>10</sup> (SDI) highlights the regional imbalance in Maharashtra. The state has enjoyed a high level of per capita income made possible by rapid growth in the non-agricultural sector. This aspect, along with the restricted geographical spread of economic development has meant that both the average level of income and the degree of inequality in the distribution of income to individuals in the state have remained high.

---

<sup>10</sup> The SDI covers six dimensions of development: demography, education, health, basic amenities, economic deprivation, and social deprivation. Detailed in "Disparities in Social Development in Maharashtra – A District-level Analysis. Economic and Political Weekly, Vol. 57, Issue No. 29, 16 Jul 2022. Available at <https://www.epw.in/journal/2022/29/special-articles/disparities-social-development-maharashtra.html>

15. Marathwada and Vidarbha regions have deficient rainfall and are majorly monsoon-dependent for agriculture. Any fluctuation in the monsoon rains leads to an adverse impact on the agricultural sector. Vidarbha, Marathwada, and Khandesh are severely prone to droughts. Since 2009, the rainfall has been low in these regions, with 2012 and 2014–16 witnessing severe droughts. While most of the farmers of western Maharashtra (a well-irrigated area) shifted from cotton to sugarcane, the main crop in Vidarbha, Marathwada, and Khandesh regions remains cotton, whose price has witnessed a decline over time. In addition, sugarcane has the advantage. To conclude, Maharashtra is a mixed picture of prosperity and deprivation, and these paradoxes are critical to rethink parameters and pathways to “growth.”

## 2.6. Social Characteristics

16. The benefits of growth have not spread equally across social groups or regions. The Oxford Poverty & Human Development Initiative (OPHI) estimates that 16.8% of the population in Maharashtra is multidimensionally poor with an MPI value of 0.07011. Scheduled castes, minorities, tribal and slum populations show incidences of malnutrition, inadequate sanitation, and poor access to water supply and health facilities.

17. The Western region is the most developed and gets one of the largest shares of the state’s funding, and their locational advantage leads to the region being abundant with industries (almost three-fourths industries of the state are in this region). This concentration of industries, results in the migration of people from neighbouring backward districts in search of opportunities. The three regions of Marathwada, Vidarbha, and Khandesh are quite underdeveloped (in terms of social development) as compared to the rest of Maharashtra.

---

<sup>11</sup> National Multidimensional Poverty Index. Niti Aayog, 2023. Available at [https://www.niti.gov.in/sites/default/files/2021-11/National\\_MPI\\_India-11242021.pdf](https://www.niti.gov.in/sites/default/files/2021-11/National_MPI_India-11242021.pdf)

## POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL EFFECTS OF THE PROGRAM

---

### 3.1 Likely Environmental and Social Benefits

1. The program aims towards strengthening the institutional capabilities, services, and the data ecosystem for enabling district led inclusive economic growth. The program activities are limited to building institutional capacity, and system and processes towards evidence based sectoral and district planning process in Maharashtra. While the scope of the program is limited to strengthening the planning activities, execution of the plans supported under the program is mainly in the domain of the line departments and/or sector specific agencies.
2. The Program aims to build the adaptive capacity of Maharashtra by promoting principles of the LiFE initiative, improving digital delivery of services, and enabling access to climate indicators to district and state decision makers. The Program is expected to contribute to reduction in carbon footprint generated (i) by citizens travelling to government offices to avail services; and (ii) by government through transition to paperless and workflow based digital processing of applications. Climate indicators captured by the district dashboards have the potential to improve collection and usability of climate related data for decision making.
3. There are several environmental and social benefits of the proposed program which includes strengthened capacity of state and district-level institutions in evidence-based planning towards economic growth, enabling job creation, leveraging local untapped resources and production systems, promoting tourism, convergence, and coordination across the government and private sector, and upscaling/replicating successful Lifestyle for Environment (LiFE) projects at the district level.

### 3.2 Potential Environmental Risks or Impacts

4. The Program does not anticipate any diversion of forest land or any direct impact on natural habitats on account of proposed interventions. Key environmental risks and issues associated with the proposed program include:
  - (i) Inadequacies on environmental, health, safety and resilience considerations in the planning, implementation and monitoring processes of District Strategic Plans;
  - (ii) Concerns associated with civil works - refurbishments of the Udyog Seva Kendras (USK) at the district-level - both during design (not adequately factoring-in water and energy efficiency, natural light/ventilation, universal access, sanitation, fire safety etc.) and construction stage (resulting from deficiencies in worksite safety/OHS management, dust, noise and waste management),
  - (iii) Issues pertaining to e-waste management (including storage and disposal) since several proposed interventions are related to upgrading/revamping and improving data/digital ecosystems and,
  - (iv) Gaps in adherence to regulatory requirements/conditions.
5. Overall, the environmental impacts/effects are likely to be site-specific/localized, limited in scale, and can be mitigated with improved capacity for proper planning/design, and adoption of good standards/practices for construction and maintenance of facilities.

6. The support for a revised State Tourism Policy and preparation of Destination Management Plans (DMPs) under the Program opens an opportunity for eco-friendly/green, low carbon, resilient, safe, and responsible tourism led growth in four selected destinations/areas in the state (to be identified through a Destination Readiness Assessment), for which technical support has been included in the IPF-TA component. However, potential adverse impacts/ effects due to unmanaged tourism activities (such as on natural environment, tangible and intangible heritage, influx, safety of locals and tourists, pressure on existing civic infrastructure etc.) needs to be factored into Destination Management Plans.

7. Likewise, risks and impacts on natural resources in districts due to implementation support for District Strategic Plans (that haven't factored-in environmental considerations) and risk of developing activities in an area that is Critically Polluted (identified by Central Pollution Control Board) are potential concerns.

### **3.3 Potential Social Risks or Impacts**

8. The program does not support any land acquisition and/or involuntary resettlement beyond its existing footprint. The civil works under the program will be limited to refurbishments of the Udyog Seva Kendras (USK) at the district-level where required.

9. The social risks are mostly related to:

- (i) Inadequate social indicators in the data fields, indicator design and MIS developed under the program.
- (ii) Inequitable growth opportunities and monitoring mechanisms for improving outcomes for the vulnerable communities including Scheduled Castes (SC), Scheduled Tribes (ST), minorities, and women.
- (iii) Temporary restriction during upgradation and transition of technology and any change in online/physical service centers; and
- (iv) Weak institutional capacity to mainstream inclusion, citizen engagement, safety, and sustainability by District Strategic Units and Destination Management Organizations (for tourism interventions).

10. In addition, there is a need to further strengthen the grievance redressal management (GRM) system. The overall social risk of the program is rated as moderate.



### 3.4 Environmental and Social Risks/Impacts and Benefits Matrix

11. The component-wise environmental and social effects of the program, including the potential benefits, risks and impacts are presented in the Table 3.1 below.

**Table 3.1: Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts of Proposed Activities under the Program**

Result Area	Proposed Activities	Potential Environmental and Social Benefits	Potential Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts
<b>Result Area I: Strengthening District Systems for Enabling Growth</b>			
RA 1.1: Support for implementation of growth initiatives in districts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Preparation of Annual Action Plans &amp; update of 5-year Action Plans of DSPs (Offices of District Collectors)</li> <li>Set up DSUs (District Strategic Units) in DC offices to augment capacity for implementing &amp; monitoring DSPs (DC Offices, MITRA for central command office)</li> <li>Leverage/step-up utilization of existing sources of funds (e.g. GoI, District Annual Plan) for achieving DSPs through measures like rationalization of District Annual Plan (General) schemes to align with DSPs (Planning Department)</li> <li>Leverage incentive funds for implementation of projects aligned with Mission LiFE principles (DC offices)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improved capacity of districts will lead to better planning and utilization of resources for overall development of the district and will enhance (a) implementation of development schemes (b) access to benefits and resources (c) skills in data-based planning (d) enhance employment opportunities (e) bridge infrastructure gaps and (f) improve reporting and monitoring.</li> <li>Promoting LiFE principles through influencing individual behaviors, leveraging local cultures, and sourcing best knowledge and minds will contribute towards (a) improved or more sensitive behaviours for living in harmony with nature, (b) promote responsible consumption e.g. reducing household energy and water wastage, (c) encourage circular economy with reuse and recycling, (d) improved resource management, and (e) promote knowledge exchange, adoption of best practices and conserving traditional knowledge systems.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In the absence of E&amp;S capacities and indicators, the possible benefits listed can be undermined and may have a muted impact.</li> <li>Monitoring of E&amp;S performance at the district level will not be adequate to address gaps in a timely manner. However, capacity building plans can be used to enhance the sensitivity of the decision-makers in the matters of sustainability.</li> </ul>

Result Area	Proposed Activities	Potential Environmental and Social Benefits	Potential Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify competency gaps at district level &amp; prepare Annual Capacity Building Plans (ACBPs) (MITRA)</li> </ul>		
RA 1.2: Improve district data systems for planning and monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Link existing MIS platforms (DSP Monitoring Dashboard, iPAS, MPSIMS, BEAMS, PFMS) (Planning and Finance Departments)</li> <li>Create integrated district data dashboard that draws upon relevant layers including geospatial layers from MRSAC, indicators from District Socio-economic Review and SDG District Indicator Framework (Planning Dept, MRSAC, MahaIT)</li> <li>Build a dynamic Statistical Business Register (DES)</li> <li>Produce key labour, employment, economic and welfare statistics at district level through a new survey program (DES) and using existing administrative data sources</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An improved district data system for planning with will help in informed decision-making and enhance considerations of E&amp;S aspects during formulation and implementation of plans and programs.</li> <li>Availability of real time data availability will help tracking environmental and social impacts and benefits in a real time manner.</li> <li>Over-all, a more targeted/focused approach for sustainable development is likely to be promoted.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The key social indicators that need to be tracked and an absence of which will not help monitor equity, access, and inclusion across socio-economic groups including ST, SC, minority, women etc. and includes: (a) household income and livelihood; (b) level of poverty; (c) access to quality health and education; (d) access to basic infrastructure - water, sanitation, housing, electricity, roads etc.; (e) employment and skill development; (f) gender parity; and (g) voice and accountability etc.</li> <li>The key environmental indicators that need to be tracked and an absence of which will not help in appropriate decision making and monitor performance include: a) quantity and quality of water available for various uses, b) air quality index, c) percentage and quality of forest, green cover and</li> </ul>

Result Area	Proposed Activities	Potential Environmental and Social Benefits	Potential Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts
			green spaces, d) biodiversity index, e) number of industrial pollution cases/incidences and, f) amount of solid wastes and sewage generated and treated, among others.
RA 1.3: Strengthen policy and institutions for tourism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Operationalization of Destination Tourism Councils in six locations (Tourism Department)</li> <li>Preparation of Destination Tourism Plans for select 6 locations (DMCs, Tourism Dept)</li> <li>Conduct of skill &amp; training programs in the select 6 destinations (Tourism Department)</li> <li>Database and dashboard developed for capturing key statistics on tourism</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Draft Tourism policy makes any land acquisition and resettlement and rehabilitation package as non-admissible components for support under the program by the Tourism department, and where required, will have to be funded by the other Central, State Government or sources other than MAHA Destination Development Programs.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Though there are many benefits of the destination tourism, the key environment and social risks emerge from (a) increased influx of tourists can lead to changes in values, lifestyles, and social norms within the local community; (b) unregulated development and commercialization can harm natural and cultural heritage sites; (c) over commercialization of services may lead to price rise as well as non-availability of goods and services for local community; (d) increase in waste and pollution load, (e) conflict between locals and tourists due to improper management of resources; (f) potential culture clashes due to differences in behavior and expectations between tourists and local community; and (g) increase in crime rates if not</li> </ul>

Result Area	Proposed Activities	Potential Environmental and Social Benefits	Potential Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts
			<p>regulated properly along with safety and security measures.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The development of tourism destinations, if not matched with capacity building and provision of required infrastructure/facilities will come with risks like a) over extraction of ground and surface water, b) strain on existing infrastructure c) mismanagement of storm water c) creation of more Municipal Solid Waste beyond the capacity of already stretched present systems, d) unplanned activities affecting biodiversity and natural habitats, including those of tourists, e) untreated/ partially treated sewage creating health hazards and, (f) traffic congestion and parking issues.</li> <li>• The Destination Management Plans for promoting Tourism need to be cognizant of the above risks, and plan for: (a) awareness creation for all key stakeholders involved, including local community, (b) necessary skill sets, (c) creating opportunity and incentives for local community for</li> </ul>

Result Area	Proposed Activities	Potential Environmental and Social Benefits	Potential Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts
			shops and services, (d) building regulations and systems for sustainable tourism, including necessary measures for (i) protecting cultural heritage, (ii) waste management, (iii) traffic management, parking and signage, (iv) local traditions and customs, (v) enhanced accessibility especially for elderly and PwD, (vi) equitable distribution of resources and, (vii) safety and security of tourists as well as local residents.
<b>Result Area II: Improve access for businesses to time-bound e-government services</b>			
RA 2.1: Improved access to services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support process reengineering to shorten timelines for delivery of identified services (GAD, Industries Department)</li> <li>Operationalize Business Facilitation Centres as an offline channel for delivery of services with a desk for services notified under MRTS Act; Setting up women help desks in these Kendras (Industries Department)</li> <li>Institute mechanism/channels for</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Delivery of services in shorter timeline and institutionalizing beneficiary feedback mechanism will further benefit citizens/beneficiaries.</li> <li>Strengthening and bringing more areas of service delivery such as necessary approvals and clearances as per regulatory mechanisms on pollution control, land transfers, and labour related aspects through a single window mechanism of upgraded RTS portal will enhance G2B services and cut unnecessary delays and overlaps. This is expected to improve services but will also have a positive impact on enhanced employment.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Social risks of access and use may arise if the physical location, path, technology is not adequately designed to include the poor, non-literates, elderly, and people with special needs.</li> <li>While setting up women help line will contribute to enhanced opportunity and improved access for women, capturing data and feedback that is disaggregated for different beneficiary categories</li> </ul>

	capturing, tracking, analyzing		
--	--------------------------------	--	--

Result Area	Proposed Activities	Potential Environmental and Social Benefits	Potential Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts
	beneficiary feedback on service delivery (GAD)		will further help plan and improve in targeted approach for women.
RA 2.2: Improved delivery timelines, timeliness, and accountability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Upgrading the RTS portal to improve citizen access and monitoring of delivery of services (MahaIT, GAD)</li> <li>Developing the MAITRI portal 2.0 with improved backend integration of services (MahaIT, Industries)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased online availability and access to identified services with improved tracking, transparency, and monitoring of timeliness in delivery and grievance redressal will benefit citizens and enhance their trust in the system.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The likely risks for online services and grievance mechanisms could be lack of access and use if the platform and technology is complex, and require specific operating systems, predominantly IVR or AI dependent.</li> </ul>
<b>Result Area 3: Strengthen State Institutions for Data-Driven Policy &amp; Decision Making</b>			

RA 3.1: Strengthen institutions & policies for data	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Operationalize State Data Authority through appropriate staffing, mandate, and funding (MITRA)</li> <li>• Evolve and adopt a State Data Policy (MITRA, SDA &amp; Planning Deptt.)</li> <li>• Launch Data Stewardship Program (MITRA, SDA)</li> <li>• Develop a State Data Catalogue Repository (Interoperability platform) (MITRA, SDA)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A lot of environment and social data that is available are scattered among different departments and stakeholders and often not available in a usable manner as needed by the different levels of planning from state, district, and sectoral levels. The proposed activities provide an opportunity to integrate and make E&amp;S data available and streamlined for all planning, implementation, and monitoring purposes.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No specific E&amp;S risks</li> </ul>
--	---	--	---

Result Area	Proposed Activities	Potential Environmental and Social Benefits	Potential Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts
RA 3.2 Promote use of data and build capacity for evidence-based policymaking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create User Forums (DES)</li> <li>• Automate data production process (DES)</li> <li>• Launch MahaData Bank w. new and updated indicators (DES)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The activity provides an opportunity to integrate E&amp;S data and indicators into the Data Bank, and M&amp;E system.</li> <li>• Dissemination of E&amp;S data and performance based on M&amp;E indicators will help improve E&amp;S risks</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Non-inclusion or partial inclusion will lead to skewed planning and implementation decisions – which ultimately will affect economic growth in being sustainable and long term.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strengthen scheme and program M&amp;E and state analytical functions (MITRA and/or DES)</li> <li>Built analytical capabilities of DES to produce insights for policy and decision making (DES) (focus on Tourism, Labour Markets, Business Demographics and Resilience)</li> <li>Develop dissemination and outreach program for enhancing the impact of statistics produced (DES)</li> <li>Establish a framework to collect, curate and analyze tourism statistics for better planning and monitoring (Tourism Deptt)</li> <li>Enhance &amp; build new skills in DES &amp; MRSAC (&amp; YASHADA)</li> <li>Establish a twinning partnership with leading statistical agency (DES)</li> </ul>	<p>identification and management during sectoral and district level planning.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Social indicators need to cover (a) access to basic infrastructure such as water, sanitation, housing, electricity, roads etc.; (b) income, livelihood, and poverty related programs; (c) access to quality of health and education; (d) employment and skill development; (e) gender equality; (f) voice and accountability; (g) safety and security, (h) water management, (i) waste management, (j) pollution prevention and control etc.</li> <li>Environmental indicators need to cover (in the least) a) quantity and quality of water available for various uses, b) Air Quality Index, c) percentage and quality of forest/green cover, d) biodiversity index, e) number of industrial pollution cases/incidences and, f) amount of solid waste and sewage generated and treated.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Status and information on the indicators need to be disaggregated by gender and community groups such as ST, SC and other vulnerable groups in a geospatial manner.</li> </ul>
--	--	---	---

Result Area	Proposed Activities	Potential Environmental and Social Benefits	Potential Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support MITRA in concurrent evaluation of DSPs</li> </ul>		

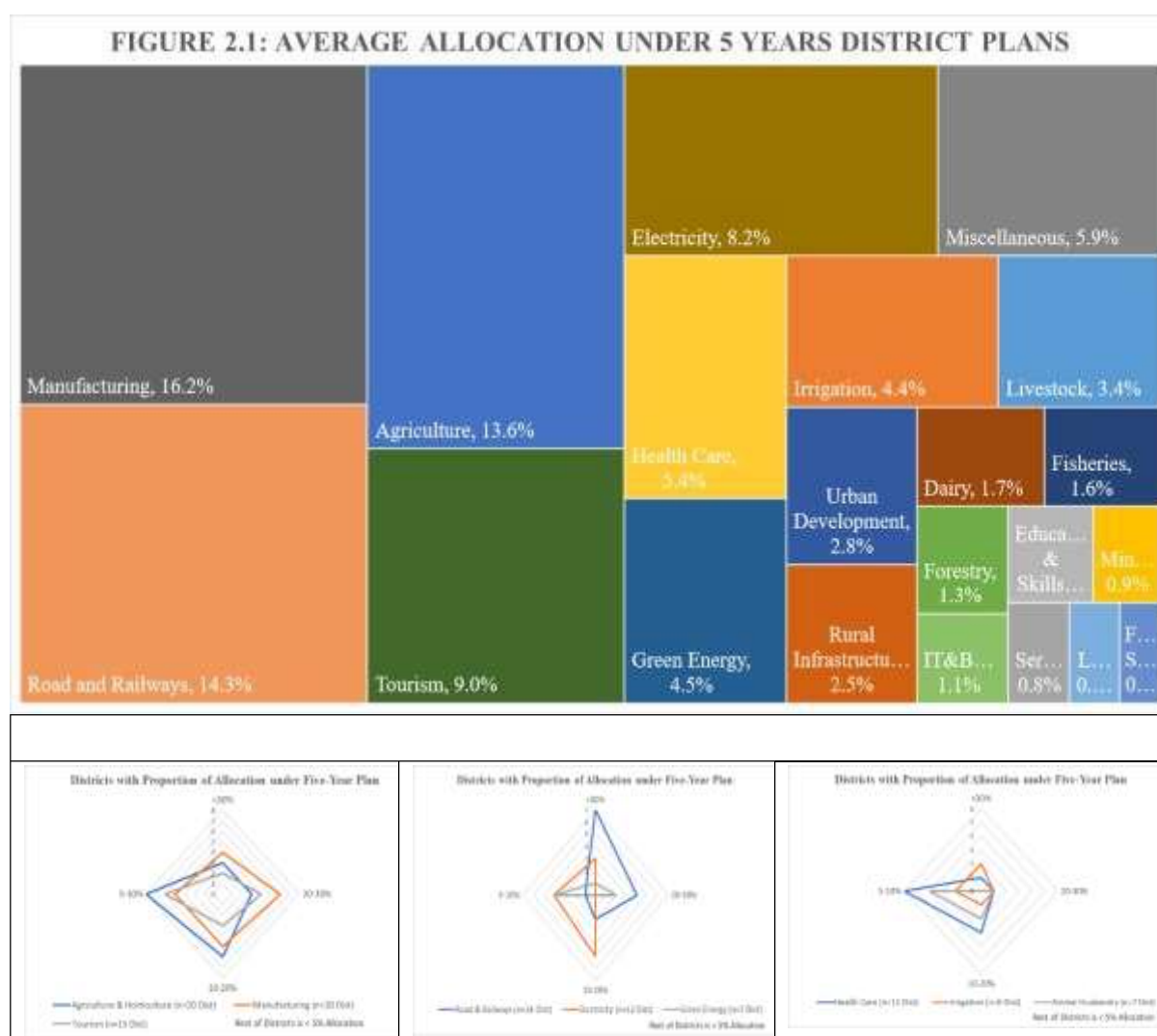


<p>RA 3.3: Improve state capacity &amp; coordination for growth initiatives</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support MITRA in formulating State's Policy on Asset Monetization &amp; Asset Recycling, with implementation of select initiatives for properties of Maharashtra Tourism Development Corporation (MTDC)</li> <li>• Support MITRA for implementation of prioritized recommendations of the State's Growth Roadmap</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The proposed activities provide an opportunity to integrate and streamline E&amp;S considerations during the roll out of prioritized recommendations of the State's Growth Roadmap ... thereby avoiding unwarranted impacts/issues and enhancing the opportunities for making economic growth more sustainable.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implementation of prioritized recommendations should also focus on access and inclusion of services to marginalized population groups including ST, SC, women and other vulnerable groups.</li> <li>• Implementation of prioritized recommendations should consider relevant environment, health, and safety aspects.</li> <li>• Non-consideration of appropriate environment and social aspects can make lessen or make the intended outcomes sub-optimal.</li> </ul>
---	--	---	---

### 3.5 Potential Cumulative Risks and Impacts

12. The project activities are limited to strengthening institutions, systems, and processes of planning at district and state level and will not support any high-risk activities including any significant physical infrastructure aspects, and no land acquisition or forest land diversion will take place under the Program. However, the implementation of the plans prepared, which is largely by different line departments at the district level may have varied environmental and social risk factors depending on the nature, magnitude, and scale of the planned activities.

13. The analysis of District Strategic Plans (DSPs) for five years, suggests, manufacturing, agriculture, roads and railways, tourism, electricity and green energy, health care, animal husbandry, and irrigation are the key priority sub-sectors for spending. While the other sub-sectors are equally important but have been accorded relatively lower priority within the DSPs. The figure below shows the mapping of the sub-sectors emerging from the analysis of five-year district plans in Maharashtra.



14. Among the sectors/sub-sectors that emerged from the analysis of DSPs are manufacturing, road and railways, agriculture and irrigation, tourism, electricity and green

energy, health care, livestock, and fisheries development, and urban development are the key sectors prioritized for investment towards growth.

15. Based on the priority sub-sectors proposed under the DSPs, and the analysis of activities within them suggest varied levels of environmental and social risks of the planned activities. These may vary based on the scale and scope of the operations planned, however, a broad set of typical environmental and social risks emerging from these sub-sectors are mentioned in Table 3.2 below.

**Table 3.2: Typical Sub-sector Specific Environmental and Social Risks**

Sub-Sector	Social Risks	Environmental Risks
Manufacturing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Land Acquisition and/or resettlement.</li> <li>• Temporary reversible adverse impacts</li> <li>• Labour and employment issues</li> <li>• Forced labour and Child labour.</li> <li>• Discrimination</li> <li>• Gender equality and wage parity</li> <li>• Freedom of association</li> <li>• Community health and safety related issues</li> <li>• Lack of or weak grievance redressal mechanism</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Over extraction of ground water/competitive use of ground and surface water</li> <li>• Air and water pollution, especially contamination of surface and ground water</li> <li>• Untreated/partially treated industrial and hazardous waste.</li> <li>• Industrial accidents creating hazardous situation for nearby population.</li> <li>• Health, safety, and hygiene related issues.</li> </ul>
Roads and Railways	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Land Acquisition and/or resettlement.</li> <li>• Issues related to temporary clearing of encroachments, squatters, and vendors and hawkers.</li> <li>• Temporary blockage or restriction due to road repair and/ or widening of roads.</li> <li>• Labour and employment issues</li> <li>• Gender equality and wage parity</li> <li>• Forced labour and Child labour.</li> <li>• GBV, SEA/ SH issues</li> <li>• Community health and safety related issues</li> <li>• Lack of or weak grievance redressal mechanism</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Disturbance to surface hydrology creating water logging/ flooding situation.</li> <li>• Bifurcation of habitats and impact on biodiversity</li> <li>• Incremental Air Pollution</li> <li>• Loss of trees/ local habitat</li> <li>• Unregulated disposal of Construction &amp; Demolition Waste</li> <li>• Over extraction of ground water/ contamination of surface water during construction phase</li> <li>• Health, safety, and hygiene related issues</li> </ul>
Agriculture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Access to credit and services</li> <li>• Equity and inclusion related issues</li> <li>• Issues related to encroachments.</li> <li>• Labour and employment issues</li> <li>• Gender equality and wage parity</li> <li>• Forced labour and Child labour.</li> <li>• Lack of or weak grievance redressal mechanism</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Overuse of pesticides and fertilizers contaminating surface/ ground water</li> <li>• Health and safety issues</li> </ul>

Sub-Sector	Social Risks	Environmental Risks
Irrigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Land Acquisition</li> <li>• Issues related to encroachments.</li> <li>• Equitable sharing</li> <li>• Community health and safety related issues</li> <li>• Lack of or weak grievance redressal mechanism</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bifurcation of habitats and impact on biodiversity</li> <li>• Loss of trees/ local habitat</li> <li>• Unregulated disposal of Construction &amp; Demolition waste</li> <li>• Over extraction of ground water/ contamination of surface water during construction phase.</li> </ul>
Tourism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Land Acquisition and/or resettlement.</li> <li>• Issues related to clearing of encroachments, squatters and vendors/ hawkers.</li> <li>• Unregulated development and commercialization leading to harming natural and cultural heritage sites, additional pressure on public utilities and resources such as electricity, water, municipal services etc.</li> <li>• Access, equity, and inclusion related issues</li> <li>• Labour and employment issues</li> <li>• Gender equality and wage parity</li> <li>• GBV, SEA/ SH issues</li> <li>• Forced labour and Child labour.</li> <li>• Lack of or weak grievance redressal mechanism</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Over extraction of ground water/ competitive use of ground and surface water</li> <li>• Air and water pollution, especially contamination of surface and ground water</li> <li>• Untreated/ partially treated Municipal Solid Waste</li> <li>• Bifurcation of habitats and impact on biodiversity</li> <li>• Incremental Air Pollution</li> <li>• Loss of trees/ local habitat</li> <li>• Unregulated disposal of Construction &amp; Demolition waste</li> <li>• Contamination of ground/ surface water during construction/ operation phase due to untreated sewage</li> <li>• Safety and security of tourist and residents.</li> <li>• Health, safety, and hygiene related issues.</li> </ul>
Electricity and Green Energy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Land Acquisition and/or resettlement.</li> <li>• Labour and employment issues</li> <li>• Forced labour and Child labour.</li> <li>• GBV, SEA/ SH issues</li> <li>• Community health and safety related issues</li> <li>• Lack of or weak grievance redressal mechanism</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Untreated/ partially treated Municipal Solid Waste/ E Waste</li> <li>• Bifurcation of habitats and impact on biodiversity</li> <li>• Loss of trees/ local habitat</li> <li>• Unregulated disposal of Construction &amp; Demolition waste</li> <li>• Health, safety, and hygiene related issues</li> </ul>
Health Care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Access, equity, and inclusion related issues</li> <li>• Gender equality</li> <li>• Lack of or weak grievance redressal mechanism</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Untreated/ partially treated Bio Medical Waste</li> <li>• Loss of trees/ local habitat</li> <li>• Unregulated disposal of Construction and Demolition waste</li> <li>• Contamination of ground/ surface water during construction/</li> </ul>

Sub-Sector	Social Risks	Environmental Risks
		operation phase due to untreated sewage/wastewater • Health, safety, and hygiene related issues.
Education and Skill Development	• Access, equity, and inclusion related issues • Gender equality • Lack of or weak grievance redressal mechanism	• Water pollution from workshops • Loss of trees/ local habitat • Unregulated disposal of Construction & Demolition waste • Contamination of ground/ surface water during construction/ operation phase.

16. The overall risks emerging from the institutional capacity at the state level and at the district level point to the need for capacity augmentation on timely identifying and managing environmental and social risks. While the proposed operation aims to strengthen the institutional capacity of the institutions involved in planning at the state level and at the district level, it is important to strengthen existing mechanisms for environment and social planning, implementation, monitoring and reporting at the district level.

## ASSESSMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS, CAPACITY AND PERFORMANCE

### 4.1 Assessment of Existing Systems

1. As mentioned earlier, the Program for Results (PforR) Policy of the Bank requires the proposed Program to operate within an adequate environmental and social management system that can manage environmental and social effects (particularly adverse impacts and risks) identified during the ESSA process. This includes:

- a) An adequate legal and regulatory framework and institutional setting to guide environmental and social impact assessment and the management of environmental and social effects, and
- b) adequate institutional capacity to effectively implement the requirements of the system including staffing, resources and process and practices in place.

2. This section assesses whether the program's environmental and social management systems are consistent with the core principles and key planning elements contained in the PforR Policy and whether the involved institutions have the requisite capacity to implement the requirements of these systems. Both elements (e.g., program systems and capacity) are necessary towards ensuring that the environmental and social effects identified in Chapter-2 of this document are effectively managed. Through the analysis, the ESSA team has identified some gaps, which can be addressed through actions recommended.

3. A program system is constituted by the rules and "arrangements within a program for managing environmental and social effects<sup>12</sup>, "including institutional, organizational, and procedural considerations that are relevant to environmental and social management<sup>13</sup>" and that provide "authority" to those institutions involved in the program "to achieve environmental and social objectives against the range of environmental and social impacts that may be associated with the Program<sup>14</sup>." This includes existing laws, policies, rules, regulations, procedures, and implementing guidelines, etc. that are applicable to the program or the management of its environmental and social effects. It also includes inter-agency coordination arrangements if there are shared implementation responsibilities in practice<sup>15</sup>.

4. Program capacity is the "organizational capacity" of the institutions authorized to undertake environmental and social management actions to achieve effectively "environmental and social objectives against the range of environmental and social impacts that may be associated with the Program." This ESSA has examined the adequacy of such capacity by considering, among other things, the following factors:

- a. Adequacy of human resources (including in terms of training and experience), budget, and other implementation resources allocated to the institutions.

<sup>12</sup> Drawn from Program-for-Results Financing: Interim Guidance Notes on Staff Assessments, "Chapter Four: Environmental and Social Systems Assessment Interim Guidance Note," Page 77, paragraph 1

<sup>13</sup> Ibid, page 82, paragraph 12

<sup>14</sup> Ibid., Page 77, paragraph 2, and page 82 paragraph 12.

<sup>15</sup> Based "Chapter Four: Environmental and Social Systems Assessment Interim Guidance Note," Program-for Results Financing: Interim Guidance Notes on Staff Assessments

- b. Adequacy of institutional organization and the division of labour among institutions.
- c. Effectiveness of inter-agency coordination arrangements where multiple agencies or jurisdictions are involved; and
- d. The degree to which the institutions can demonstrate prior experience in effectively managing environmental and social effects in the context in projects or programs of similar type and magnitude.
- e. Capacity to identify and map risks, manage them and monitor compliance including leveraging opportunities to enhancing environmental and social benefits.

## 4.2 Assessment of Institutional Capacity and Gaps

### 4.2.1 Implementation Arrangements

5. MITRA is the nodal implementation agency for the MahaSTRIDE Operation and will be responsible for overall planning, implementation, and monitoring of the activities and results. It will host and be supported by an OMU. MITRA will prepare and adopt the OM that will guide implementation of the operation and will detail the Program Action Plan (PAP); the World Bank Anti-Corruption Guidelines (ACG) Protocol; the Verification Protocol; and the framework for the compliance with fiduciary, environmental, and social requirements.

6. Other implementing agencies include DES and MRSAC (under the administrative control of the Planning Department), Finance Department, Industries Department, and Tourism Department.<sup>24</sup> MRSAC is the only program implementing agency that lies outside the core state government apparatus and is registered under the State's Society Act. Each implementing agency will set up an operation implementation unit (OIU) for support and coordination. The MRTS Commission under the GAD will be responsible for the outputs under RA 2 but will not incur any program expenditure. MITRA will undertake all identified expenditures for the Commission.

7. At the district level, the DSUs will be based in the Offices of the DC and will work with the district planning committee (DPC) to coordinate with all sector agencies on DSP interventions. MITRA will be responsible for procuring necessary consultancy support for the DSUs and for the overall oversight of DSU operations. The Program will be fully integrated into the GoM administration, and implementation is designed to promote the use of existing GoM structures at the state, regional, and district level.

8. A State Steering Committee (SSC) and Operation Coordination Committee (OCC) have been established for the Program to facilitate interdepartmental coordination. The SSC will inter alia, (i) review and guide program implementation, (ii) approve the annual program action and provide financial and administrative sanction for program activities; and (iii) provide strategic policy advice and orientation. The OCC will support the SSC and (i) review and monitor program implementation and provide guidance to the OMU; (ii) oversee fund flow and disbursements for smooth implementation; (iii) facilitate timely decision making and course correction across all implementing agencies; and (iv) endorse the achievement of results as verified by the independent verification agency (IVA).

9. MITRA will lead the monitoring efforts in coordination with the other key implementing agencies. MITRA will hold quarterly review meetings with the OIUs to track programmatic and

financial progress. MITRA will submit two semiannual reports on the operation covering implementation of activities, expenditures, bottlenecks, implementation of the Program Action Plan (PAP), and progress toward results as outlined in the Program Results Framework. MITRA will also report on DLI achievements with supporting evidence, which will then be verified by the IVA using the agreed verification protocols. In addition, MITRA will commission impact assessments at midterm and end of term of the operation and an endline survey.

#### 4.2.2 Institutional Capacity and Gaps

10. Analytical studies<sup>16</sup> conducted by the Bank confirms that the expansion in the responsibilities of the district administration over the past few decades has not been accompanied by a commensurate increase in investments in institutional capabilities. It suggests that districts face serious capability gaps including on environmental and social aspects that constrain planning, convergence, and coordination. The office of the district collector, for example, is now not only responsible for the administration of de jure regulatory functions (law and order, land revenue/ reforms, excise, registration, treasury, and civil supplies) but also for monitoring the implementation of flagship government welfare programs and in more recent times, for driving economic development in districts. In the absence of an overarching framework that brings all administrators together, districts today do not function as an integrated administrative unit but often only as a geographical co-location of the several agencies operating within their mandates. Similar has been the case with various line departments where they work in silos in the same geography without any convergence and coordination.

11. This is the first World Bank operation being undertaken by the Planning Department (including MITRA, MRSAC and DES). Hence, the implementation agencies will receive capacity building to strengthen the oversight functions required by the project. The OMU and the OIUs will be staffed with the requisite safeguard specialists to ensure that they have the skills required to deliver the desired results. The nodal officers and coordinators of the participating line departments have been identified and deputed to the operation. The Program will be fully integrated into the GoM administration, and implementation is designed to promote the use of existing GoM structures at the state, regional, and district level.

12. The E&S risks emerge from weak institutional capacity to identify and mitigate E&S risks during planning and potential execution of the plans. There is an urgent need for strengthening the capacity at the OMU, OIU and DSU on environmental and social management, including adherence to national and state regulatory systems by developing E&S guidance and tools along with training on the same. In addition, there is a need to make the OIUs aware of Mission LiFE initiatives and potential opportunities that could be tapped during planning.

13. Any substantial or high-risk activities under the plan may require to be informed by an Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) for mitigation planning, and hence, the OIUs must be aware of such tools and requirements that inform the planning and its implementation.

---

<sup>16</sup>The most recently completed study was for the aspirational district of Osmanabad in Maharashtra



14. The institution-wise environmental and social risks and capacity is presented in Table 4.1 below.

**Table 4.1: Institution-wise Environmental and Social Risks and Management Capacity**

Key Institution/ Department	Proposed Activities under the Program	Potential Environmental and Social Risks and Management Capacity
Offices of District Collector	<p>Districts qualifying for receiving fiscal incentives based on performance assessment on pre-agreed criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Spending of fiscal incentives by districts on the implementation of district strategic plans (DSPs) - will be guided by the broad guidelines developed including an exclusion list.</li> <li>• Prepare &amp; implement Annual Action Plans &amp; update 5-year Action Plans of DSPs</li> <li>• Hire sector specialists as per requirements of DSP in the District Strategic Units (DSUs)</li> <li>• Use incentive funds for implementation of projects aligned with LiFE initiatives.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• E&amp;S risk emerges from weak institutional capacity to identify and mitigate E&amp;S risks during planning and execution of plans, as evident from the analytical study of Osmanabad district.</li> <li>• The District Planning Officer, assisted by the District Statistical Officer, leads district planning activities under the guidance of the District Collector. However, the availability of real-time district and block-level information has been an issue including on E&amp;S aspects among others, as well as the capacity of the district planning office to identify E&amp;S risks and plan mitigation and how to integrate LiFE principles into planning.</li> <li>• Need to strengthen the capacity of DSUs on environmental and social safeguards including through developing E&amp;S guidance and tools along with training on the same, and on LiFE initiatives.</li> </ul>
Planning Department	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rationalization and re-orientation of existing schemes in the portfolio of DAP.</li> <li>• Linking existing MIS platforms e.g. MPSIMS, iPAS, DSP M&amp;E Dashboard, BEAMS</li> <li>• Evolve State Data Policy and submit for Cabinet approval</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vision 2030 and the District Good Governance Index (GDI) 2023 prepared by the Planning Department, GoM, is aimed at promoting sustainable, balanced, and all-inclusive socio-economic growth. Hence, rationalization of the existing portfolio and creating space for new schemes is expected to be in line with Vision 2030 and GDDI 2023.</li> <li>• However, to promote sustainable balanced, and all-inclusive growth, it is important that mechanisms (procedures,</li> </ul>

Key Institution/ Department	Proposed Activities under the Program	Potential Environmental and Social Risks and Management Capacity
		<p>systems, and tools) be developed and deployed along with E&amp;S data sets as part of the planning process to address (a) equity, access, and inclusion related issues, especially to ST, SC, minority and women groups; (b) gender equality; (c) voice and accountability related issues; (d) mechanism for citizen engagement and grievance redressal; and (e) environmental and social sustainability-related issues.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Need to strengthen data transparency between decision-makers and other agencies viz. Pollution Control Board, Forest Department, Groundwater Survey and Development Agency etc.</li> </ul>
MITRA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MITRA will have Operation Management Unit (OMU) for the proposed program</li> <li>• OMU - hire core specialists (e.g. M&amp;E, private capital, general project management) for</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The OMU shall also have an Environmental Expert, and a Social Expert to plan and oversee E&amp;S activities and implementation of ESSA recommendations.</li> </ul>

Directorate of Economics and Statistics (DES)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Build data collection capabilities in the district statistics offices (DSOs) through technological innovations.</li><li>• Create Maha databank – support project preparation and management; establishing central data management office; trainings on data management and dissemination; digitization of DES products; user engagement; technology implementation; transition of DES products to the new platform; documentation and knowledge sharing.</li><li>• Build a dynamic Statistical Business Register – support project preparation and management; developing an operational statistical business register; inventory,</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Non availability of E&amp;S data for district and sectoral planning poses risks of overlooking them and bringing them into planning fold for mitigation. Hence, the data bank should include specific E&amp;S data required for planning and mitigation of E&amp;S risks. Also, DSOs are to be trained in collection and interpretation of the same.</li><li>• District monitoring system should also monitor E&amp;S performance of the DSPs, Five-year plans, and Annual Action plan implementation.</li><li>• District E&amp;S performance should also be part of the district dashboard for informed decision making.</li></ul>
---	--	---

Key Institution/ Department	Proposed Activities under the Program	Potential Environmental and Social Risks and Management Capacity
	<p>assessment and use of administrative data sources and building relations; preparing, conducting and use (optional publish) selective establishment listings; development of an expanded work program in business and economic statistics.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Expand district monitoring system including developing new indicators on labour &amp; employment, economic &amp; business, social development and the environment.</li> <li>• Expanding Survey Program – Survey program preparation, engagement of agencies for conducting surveys and collecting data, consultant hiring for analyzing data collected and preparing analytical reports.</li> <li>• Hire Project Management Consultancy (PMC)</li> <li>• Establish twinning partnerships, knowledge partnerships.</li> <li>• Build district dashboards - with (i) DSPs, (ii) geospatial info &amp; (iii) indicators from District Socio-economic Review and SDG District Indicator Framework</li> </ul>	
Maharashtra Remote Sensing Application Center (MRSAC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GeoPortal for District Collectors - develop, customize, provide geospatial info/ layers to districts.</li> <li>• Cloud-hosting of data.</li> <li>• Establish partnerships with State universities/ institutions.</li> <li>• Institutional strengthening - hardware and manpower for project office at MRSAC</li> <li>• Hire GIS specialists for districts in DSUs.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Availability of geospatial environmental and social data will be important for identifying E&amp;S risks and for planning appropriate mitigation measures.</li> <li>• GIS specialists at DSUs to be trained in interpreting E&amp;S information and support in identifying E&amp;S risks.</li> <li>• The possibility of using remote sensing data to monitor environmental parameters should be explored.</li> </ul>

Key Institution/ Department	Proposed Activities under the Program	Potential Environmental and Social Risks and Management Capacity
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Training of district officials on GIS; developing and conducting training programs</li> </ul>	
General Administrative Department (GAD)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support process reengineering to shorten timelines for delivery of select services.</li> <li>• Increase awareness through focused IEC campaigns.</li> <li>• Increase availability and access to G2B services</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IEC campaign should also create awareness about E&amp;S good practices and showcase district-level E&amp;S performances to mainstream them.</li> </ul>
Industries Commissionerate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Operationalize Udyog Seva Kendras &amp; setting up women help desks in these Kendras</li> <li>• Design and development of MAITRI 2.0 portal including legacy data extraction and cleansing, development of web portal, manpower costs for training, setting up of help desk, PMC, and data migration, cloud infrastructure; Operation and maintenance, training, manpower, operations, and cloud infrastructure.</li> <li>• Support cluster development in 95 talukas.</li> <li>• Capacity building of field-level officers of the Industries Commissionerate.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Capacity building of field level officials, and district officials on E&amp;S risks assessments and mitigation will be important to mitigate any risks to natural resources, coastal ecosystem, and pollution prevention and management.</li> <li>• While the proposed Program does not support any land acquisition, however, if the need arises for any large-scale land acquisition and/or involuntary resettlement from planned activities, it should seek necessary guidance from state authorities to adhere to national and state regulations.</li> <li>• A special cell should be created to monitor industries storing hazardous chemicals and gases at the district level.</li> </ul>
Tourism and Cultural Affairs Department	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support in the preparation of Action Plans for the short, medium &amp; long-term, in sync with the draft Tourism Policy of the State</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• At the district level, the Deputy Collector (General) has been given the additional charge of Tourism as there is no designated institution looking after Tourism plans. At the</li> </ul>

Key Institution/ Department	Proposed Activities under the Program	Potential Environmental and Social Risks and Management Capacity
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preparation of destination management plans including setting up suitable governance mechanisms (e.g., district management committee/ organization).</li> <li>• Preparation of a framework for data collection on visiting tourists</li> <li>• Develop State Tourism dashboard - set up a marketing and data analytics unit in Tourism Department</li> <li>• Operationalizing of 6 Destination Tourism Councils including personnel costs, office set-up expenses; skill gap assessment studies and implementing skill training programs; hiring consultancies for developing Destination Tourism Plans.</li> </ul>	<p>Division level, the Deputy Director of Tourism is placed for each division.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Under the program, Destination tourism councils and/or suitable governance mechanisms are planned at select destinations for planning, implementation, and operationalization of the plan.</li> <li>• While it is recommended that each of the destination tourism plans be informed by the Environmental and social impact assessment (ESIAs), there is a need to also make the Destination tourism councils aware of the potential E&amp;S risks including any risks or impacts to heritage/ archaeological sites especially in case of any enhancement of historically important tourism sites, impact due to tourism influx on existing infrastructure and environment etc.</li> <li>• The capacity of Destination tourism councils needs to be enhanced concerning the identification of potential E&amp;S risks and mitigation.</li> </ul>

### 4.3 Legal and Regulatory System

15. ESSA reviewed the applicable Government of India, and the state government laws, regulations, policies, programs, and procedures relevant to managing the environmental and social effects of the proposed program and included environmental and social protection laws and policies also<sup>17</sup>. The legal framework for environmental and social systems is adequate and backed by a set of comprehensive laws, regulations, technical guidelines, and standards that apply nationwide and to participating states. While the provisions of the existing environmental and social legal and regulatory framework are adequate, effective implementation requires enabling institutional and technical capacity to ensure optimum and timely risk management and management.

16. In addition, micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) are amongst the most important sectors of India's economy. Owing to their labour-intensive operations, they provide employment opportunities for millions of individuals and have contributed largely towards the economic development of the nation. High shop floor pollution, occupational health hazards, hazardous waste generation, toxic emissions and effluent discharge, low energy efficiency, polluting processes, etc. are some key environmental issues of the MSME sector. Social issues in the Indian MSME sector are related to the use of child or forced labour; exploitation of the workforce vis-à-vis payments and work hour structure continues to prevail in some units within the MSME sector.

17. The Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEFCC), GoI, periodically formulates/updates environmental acts, which are further supplemented by rules and regulations. Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) acts as the central agency for overall coordination with state agencies, State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs), are mandated to enforce provisions of the rules. SPCB however, has been vested with authority to make those rules more stringent as per the requirement of the state.

#### 4.3.1 Environmental Policies, Laws, and Regulations

18. The key Environmental Policies, Laws, and Regulations are listed below:

- National Environment Policy, 2006
- Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 (as amended in 1991) and Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986
- Environmental Impact Assessment Notification, 2006 and subsequent amendments
- Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 (as amended in 1988) & Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Rules, 1975 (as amended in 2011)
- Water Cess (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1977 (as amended in 1992) & Water Cess (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Rules, 1978.
- Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 (as amended in 1987) and Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Rules, 1982

---

<sup>17</sup> Covering protection of rights and interests of backward, scheduled caste (SC) and scheduled tribe (ST) and other marginalized communities, citizen engagement, livelihoods, inclusion, gender, labor and other sector related laws and policies.

- Noise Pollution (Regulation and Control) (Amendment) Rules, 2000
- Municipal Solid Wastes (Management & Handling) Rules, 2000
- The E-waste Management (Management & Handling) Rules, 2011
- Bio-Medical Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 2016 and 2018
- Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016
- Construction and Demolition Waste Management Rules, 2016
- Hazardous Wastes (Management, Handling and Transboundary Movement) Rules, 2008
- The Forest Conservation Act, 1980 (as amended in 1988).
- The Wildlife Protection Act, 1972 (amended in 2006)
- Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) Notification, 2011 and subsequent amendments
- The National Environment Tribunal Act, 1995
- The National Environment Appellate Authority Act, 1997
- Factories Act, 1948, Rules, Factories (Amendment) Act, 1987 and Model Rules
- Manufacture, Storage, and Import of Hazardous Chemical (MSIHC) Rules, 1989 and subsequent amendments.
- Building and Other Construction Workers (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1996 and the Cess Act, 1996
- Chemical Accident (Emergency Planning, Preparedness and Response) Rules, 1996
- Public Liability Insurance Act, 1991 amended in 1992
- Public Liability Insurance Rules 1991 amended in 1993.
- The Biological Diversity Act, 2002 and Biological Diversity Rules, 2004
- The Insecticides Act, 1968 and the Insecticide Rules, 1971.
- National Green Tribunal Act, 2010 (No. 19 of 2010)
- Disaster Management Act, 2005
- Maharashtra Water Policy, 2003
- Maharashtra Water Resource Regulatory Authority Act, 2005
- Maharashtra Felling of Trees (Regulation) Act, 1964
- Apart from these, there are guidelines:
- CPCB and SPCBs Guidelines for Classification of Industries in to Red, Organic and Green Category.
- CPCB & SPCBs Standards for Emissions or Discharge of Environmental Pollutants from Various Industries.
- Eco-sensitive Zones and Protected Area declared under Environmental (Protection) Act 1986.



#### 4.3.2 Social Policies, Laws, and Regulations

19. The key legislations that guide the social aspects under the program is mentioned below. The existing legislative framework is adequate to ensure social sustainability and inclusion of marginalized and vulnerable population including the SC and ST populations, labour welfare, and gender and inclusion but requires strengthening of institutional capacity for better compliance. The key social legislations and provisions assessed include:

- Constitution of India (Articles 15, 16 and 46)
- Fifth Schedule of the Constitution
- Panchayats Extension to Scheduled Areas (PESA) Act, 1996
- Schedule Tribes and other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006
- The Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013
- Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act 1989 and further Amendments, 2018
- The Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016
- The Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition, and Redressal) Act 2013
- National Policy for Women, 2016
- The Equal Remuneration Act, 1976, Employee Compensation Act, 1923 and 2009, Personal Injuries (Compensation Insurance) Act, 1963, The Minimum Wages Act, 1948, Payment of Wages Act, Maternity Benefit Act, 1961
- The Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act 1986 and Rules 1988
- Building and Other Construction Workers (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1996 and the Cess Act, 1996
- Inter-State Migrant Workmen's (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1979
- The Right to Information Act, 2005
- Forest Rights Act, 2006
- The Maharashtra State Public Services (Reservation for Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, De-Notified Tribes (Vimukta Jatis), Nomadic Tribes, Special Backward Category and Other Backward Classes) Act, 2001.
- The Maharashtra Right to Public Service Act, 2015
- Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) Act 2006

20. The assessment finds an enabling policy and legal framework that will promote decentralized planning, implementation and monitoring, active participation, and safeguarding of the interests of vulnerable sections (women, scheduled caste, and scheduled tribe communities) be it through targeting or membership in local governance institutions or

community-level groups. As a result, adverse social impacts of planned investments are found to be limited at this stage.

#### 4.4 Environmental and Social Management Systems Assessed Against Core Principles

##### Core Principle 1: Program E&S Management System

Program E&S management systems are designed to: (a) avoid, minimize, or mitigate adverse impacts; (a) promote E&S sustainability in the Program design; (b) avoid, minimize, or mitigate adverse impacts; and (c) promote informed decision-making relating to a Program's E&S effects.

##### System and Capacity Assessment

21. The Planning Department of the Government of Maharashtra (GoM) published its Vision 2030 document, aimed at promoting sustainable, balanced, and all-inclusive socio-economic growth of the State and making the state a 'One Trillion Dollar (OTD) economy' by 2027. This Vision has been further detailed through the 'Roadmap to Becoming an OTD Economy' and the 'Manual for Good Governance' prepared and released by the Government in 2023. With the policy intent, the proposed program aims to strengthen state and district-level institutions in evidence-based planning towards economic growth, enabling job creation, leveraging local untapped resources and production systems, promoting tourism, convergence, and coordination across the government and private sector, and upscaling/ replicating successful Lifestyle for Environment (LiFE) projects at the district level. The program activities are limited to building institutional capacity, and systems and processes toward strengthening the evidence-based sectoral and district planning process in Maharashtra. While the planning process encompasses all economic sectors, and the strengthened institutional capacity will also support all sectors, the program focuses more on strengthening planning for the Tourism sector and the MSME through developing accountability mechanisms for the delivery of select Government to Citizens (G2C) and Government to Businesses (G2B) services.

22. The legal framework for environmental and social systems is adequate and backed by a set of comprehensive national and state laws, regulations, technical guidelines, and standards. GoM also has well-laid systems and procedures for applying these laws and regulations. At the state level, each of the line departments responsible for their sector is well-versed with the legal and regulatory requirements and follows the same. In addition, some of the state departments and select districts also benefit from the implementation of environmental and social actions under other World Bank supported programs such as Maharashtra's Agribusiness and Rural Transformation Project (SMART), Maharashtra Project on Climate Resilient Agriculture (PoCRA), Development of Applied Knowledge and Skills for Human-Development in Maharashtra (DAKSH-M), and the Raising and Accelerating Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise Performance (RAMP) program among others.

23. The analysis of District Strategic Plans (DSPs), and further discussion with district planning teams as well as key sectoral departments at the district level suggests that at present the district planning process is largely driven by economic considerations, and at times in some cases, environmental and social realities are seen as constraints to driving growth. However, some of the DSPs have taken cognizance of the environmental and social realities and have tried to either work around them or leverage them to drive growth.

24. Almost all DSPs have solar power component but almost none show components for biodiversity enhancement. Likewise, although many municipalities suffer from non-scientific disposal of Municipal Solid Waste, but as the DSPs are focused on economic growth, this aspect is hardly addressed. Similarly, consideration on disaster risk management and building climate resilient business ecosystems is missing from most of the DSPs.

### Key Gaps Identified

29. With districts becoming a focus for development planning, they face varied levels of capability gaps in understanding cross-sectoral planning, integrating Mission LiFE principles, sustainable development planning, and mechanisms for integrating environmental and social aspects. This constraints planning, convergence, and coordination for sustainably driving growth. Discussions with the district planning teams and key sectoral departments at the district level suggest the need for a guidance manual on integrating Mission LiFE principles, E&S aspects including timely applying regulatory mechanisms, good practices, and pathways towards sustainable development planning for some of the key sectors that are emerging from District Strategic Plans.

### Core Principle 2: Natural Habitat and Physical and Cultural Resources

Program E&S management systems are designed to avoid, minimize, or mitigate adverse impacts on natural habitats and physical cultural resources resulting from the Program. Program activities that involve the significant conversion or degradation of critical natural habitats or critical physical cultural heritage are not eligible for PforR financing.

### System and Capacity Assessment

30. As mentioned earlier, the project activities are limited to strengthening institutions and systems and processes of planning at the state and district levels, the implementation of the plans prepared which is largely by different line departments at the district level may have varied environmental and social risks depending on the nature of the planned activities. The mechanism of identifying and screening potentially important biodiversity and cultural resources does exist among the respective departments along with systems for statutory clearances as necessary by regulatory authorities, however, they require to be strengthened at the district level and brought forward in plan preparation.

31. By strengthening tourism institutions and the planning process, the program aims to contribute to Swadesh Darshan scheme of the Government which aims towards promoting sustainable and responsible tourism with objectives to (a) enhance the contribution of tourism to the local economies, (b) create jobs including self-employment for local communities, (c) enhance the skills of local youth in tourism and hospitality, (d) increasing private sector investment in tourism and hospitality, and (e) preserve and enhance the local cultural and natural resources.

32. With the above, the operation aims to support six pilots to showcase a decentralized system of planning and implementation of developmental activities in the tourism sector by creation of Destination Management Organizations (DMOs) and preparation of climate-risk-informed and sustainable Destination Management Plans (DMPs). However, the capacities of the existing institutions to undertake and support these initiatives including reworking the existing process of planning for the tourism sector, including mechanisms for identifying and

mitigating any environmental and social risks during planning and implementation of the DMPs has been identified as a major/critical need.

### Key Gaps Identified

33. Tourism has been identified as one of the focus areas for driving growth. The current mechanism of planning for developing tourism does not adequately identify and screen for impacts on environment/biodiversity/cultural heritage (especially intangible heritage), especially when it comes to developing tourism for lesser-explored destinations. This needs to be instituted to move towards 'sustainable tourism' practices.

34. At the district and even at the regional level, there is inadequate expertise for developing tourism destinations by coordination across various stakeholders (such as the Forest and Wildlife Departments, Public Works Department, Archaeological Survey of India, existing tourist operators, the hospitality industry, local community) for promoting tourism. At present the process does not involve environment/biodiversity/cultural heritage management experts in the decision-making process, with result that the opportunities of maximising benefits and avoiding unwarranted damage/impacts are lost.

### Core Principle 3: Public and Workers Safety

Program E&S management systems are designed to protect public and worker safety against the potential risks associated with (a) the construction and/or operation of facilities or other operational practices under the Program; (b) exposure to toxic chemicals, hazardous wastes, and otherwise dangerous materials under the Program; and (c) reconstruction or rehabilitation of infrastructure located in areas prone to natural hazards.

### System and Capacity Assessment

35. The Government of Maharashtra has a well-developed code of conduct and service rules for the government employees as well as for those on the contract. In addition, GoM has also adopted the new labour codes<sup>18</sup> by GoI which include (1) the Code on Wages, (2) the Code on Social Security, (3) the Occupational Safety, Health, and Working Conditions (OSH) of the workers, and (4) Code on Industrial Relations. The introduction of new labour codes by the Indian Government aims to reshape the way institutions/agencies/companies compensate, regulate, and manage their workforce.

36. It is understood that MITRA or other Government workers will remain subject to the terms and conditions of their employment and as per the GoM's Code of Conduct and service Rules. Periodically, a review of the agreement for contract employees and consulting firms to ensure compliance with the National and State labour rights, welfare, and management related legislation will help in staying on course. The terms of reference of the contract employees, and consultancies should:

- a. Provide workers with information and documentation that is clear and understandable regarding their terms and conditions of employment through written contracts setting out their rights, including, inter alia, rights related to hours of work, wages, overtime, compensation, and benefits, as well as written notice of termination of employment, and details of severance payments, as applicable.

<sup>18</sup> <https://labour.gov.in/labour-codes>

- b. Implement occupational health and safety (including personal protective equipment, and emergency preparedness and response) measures, considering the General Environmental, Health and Safety Guidelines (EHSGs), requirements under the Prevention of Sexual Harassment at the Workplace (POSH) Act, and other relevant Good International Industry Practice (GIIP) and, as appropriate, the industry specific EHSGs and other Good International Industry Practice (GIIP).
- c. Implement measures, as applicable, to, inter alia: (i) prevent the use of all forms of forced labour and child labour; (ii) enable workers to benefit from, inter alia, access to grievance and redress mechanisms without fear of retaliation and through sensitive handling of GBV/SEA/SH cases; and effective freedom to form and join workers organizations or alternative mechanisms for expressing their concerns and protect their rights related to labour and working conditions.

37. The proposed program does not support any significant infrastructure work that could directly pose any risk to community, individual, and/or workers' safety and security. The scale of civil works under the program will be limited to refurbishments and digital upgradation of USKs, DMOs and select tourist sites, and minor works in districts as per financial ceilings. Departments involved in the program's implementation have adequate checks and balances to ensure the safety of their staff and associates working at the headquarters and/ or district positions.

38. Along with legal and regulatory mechanisms, policies and guidance exists with various line departments to monitor the implementation of plans prepared. While that may vary across the implementation chain for different levels of implementation and lies in the domain of respective line departments, this is beyond the scope of the proposed project and not a concern warranting action from Bank's perspective.

### Key Gaps Identified

39. OMU/OIU should have a checklist of potential hazardous activities to be undertaken under this program, which can then be used to apply the exclusion criteria.

### Core Principle 4: Land Acquisition and Resettlement

Program E&S systems manage land acquisition and loss of access to natural resources in a way that avoids or minimizes displacement and assists affected people in improving, or at the minimum restoring, their livelihoods and living standards.

### System and Capacity Assessment

40. The Government of India and the Government of Maharashtra follow the 'The Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013 (and further amendments)', and based on the request by the respective department, Revenue Departments through the District Collector follow the procedures as laid out in the above Act and the rules.

41. The project activities are limited to strengthening institutions, systems, and planning processes at the district and state level and will not support any high-risk activities, including any significant physical infrastructure, and therefore no land acquisition is expected or proposed under the Program.

**Core Principle 5: Rights and Interests of Indigenous People**

Program E&S systems give due consideration to the cultural appropriateness of, and equitable access to, Program benefits, giving special attention to the rights and interests of Scheduled Tribe people (Indigenous Peoples) and scheduled caste people, and to the needs or concerns of vulnerable groups.

**System and Capacity Assessment**

42. Maharashtra has the second largest number of tribal populations in the country and accounts for 9.35 percent of the total population of the state spread over about 16.5 percent of the geographical area of the State. The percentage of the Scheduled caste (SC) population in the state is about 11.8 percent.

43. The tribal people constitute the most deprived and neglected section of the population in the State<sup>19</sup>. The State houses 46 Scheduled Tribes (STs) including three Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTG), namely Katkari, Kolam and Maria Gond, and the tribal population is largely concentrated in three inaccessible hilly and remote forest regions of the State, i.e., in the Sahyadris, the Satpudas, and Eastern Gondwana regions and spread over 15 districts of the State and in 73 talukas. The geographical limitations further contribute to the underdevelopment and their marginalization process. The state also has pockets covered under the Fifth Schedule of the Indian Constitution which provides for special safeguards and guarantees for the tribals. There are 39 Integrated Tribal Development Projects (ITDPs), 43 Modified Area Development Approach (MADA) pockets, and 24 Mini MADA/Clusters in Maharashtra.

44. GoM has a well-developed mechanism of Tribal Sub-Plans (TSPs) and budgets as part of the State plan and the district plans. And, as part of TSP guidelines, the District Planning

---

<sup>19</sup> Report of the High-Level Committee on Balanced Regional Development Issues in Maharashtra, October 2013

Committee (DPC) should consider certain aspects such as human development indicators, social needs, and social and physical growth of the district as part of the TSPs. While the TSP strategy was supposed to address the gaps between tribal and non-tribal populations, it has been only partially successful<sup>20</sup> due to various reasons. In addition, GoM also has a budgetary mechanism, for earmarking a Special Component Plan (SCP) for the socio-economic development of Scheduled Castes (SC) population in the State.

### Key Gaps Identified

45. While the mechanism of integrating TSP as part of the District Plan has been in place, however, analysis of some of the DSPs of tribal districts and visits to tribal districts such as Palghar suggests inadequate and inequitable focus to tribal areas for development. This may further widen inequalities among tribal and non-tribal populations in those districts. There is a need to relook at the strategies and have wider consultations with tribal community groups and agencies working among tribal populations in those areas to identify their needs and scope out plans accordingly.

46. There is a need to integrate TSP and SCP into DSP and district annual plans not only as a source of financing but also to meet the objectives and purpose for which TSP and SCP were created.

### Core Principle 6: Social Conflict

Program E&S systems avoid exacerbating social conflict, especially in fragile states, post-conflict areas, or areas subject to territorial disputes.

47. The Program interventions will not exacerbate any social conflicts as they aim towards improved institutional capacity and systems for growth. Also, the exclusion of any groups in terms of caste, religion, and/or geography by the Program activities is not expected.

### 4.5 Climate

48. The Program is consistent with India's Nationally Determined Contribution submitted to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and Long-term Low-Carbon Development Strategy and contributes to the efforts of climate change mitigation and adaptation. The Program is aligned with the above by:

- (a) endorsing a way of life based on values of conservation and moderation (LiFE – Lifestyle for Environment); and
- (b) adapting to climate change. At the sub-national level, the operation is fully aligned with the Maharashtra State Climate Adaptation Action Plan (MSCAAP).

49. Synergies between MSCAAP and the operation exist especially with respect to supporting local initiatives towards innovative application of climate resilient solutions. No specific risks with respect to the mitigation and adaptation aspects of the Paris Alignment Assessment have been identified at this stage.

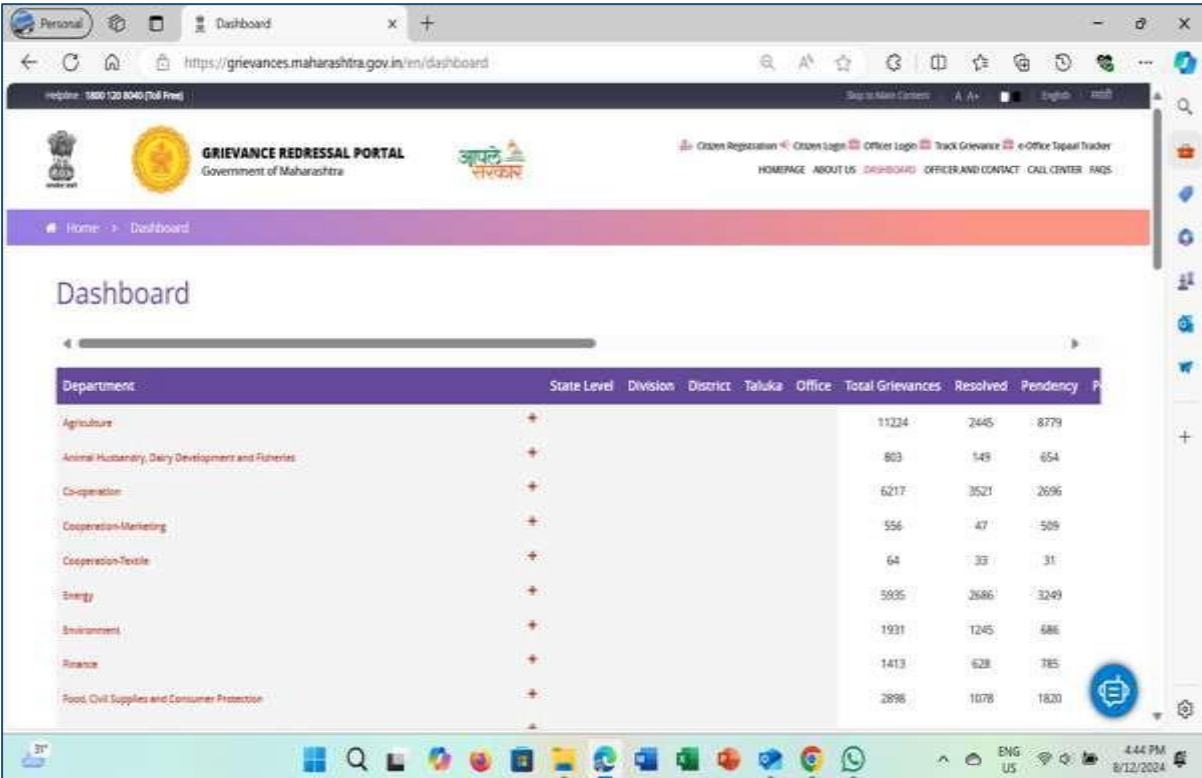
<sup>20</sup> Diagnostic Study on Tribal Sub Plan by TISS Mumbai. Available at <https://rajbhavan-maharashtra.gov.in/en/document/diagnostic-study-on-tribal-sub-plan-by-tiss-mumbai/>



#### 4.6 Citizen Engagement: Beneficiary Feedback and Grievance Redressal Mechanism

50. The GoM has set up a one-stop platform for the redressal of grievances for citizens and has a centralized grievance redressal portal (<https://grievances.maharashtra.gov.in/en>) called Aaple Sarkar grievance redress portal, where citizens can file their grievances using the web portal, call center, and app-based system. The portal can be viewed in both Marathi & English language. Once the grievance has been submitted, a unique token number is generated and allows citizens to track the status of the grievance using the token number. The grievances are addressed by the competent authority within 21 working days. In case of non-resolution, one can send a reminder on the grievance to the nodal officer, and if not resolved within 15 days after the 1st reminder, one can send the 2nd reminder. If not satisfied, then it can be escalated to the superior authority of the concerned nodal officer. In case of any assistance in filing grievances, a 24x7 call center is available (Toll-Free number 1800-120-8040), and a representative will assist and/or file the grievance on behalf of the complainant. The portal provides the facility of tracking the live status of their complaint and providing feedback based on their satisfaction with the resolution. The system also allows the Chief Minister's Office (CMO) to closely track all lodged grievances and ensure that corrective action is taken in each case.

51. The GoM centralized grievance redress portal further publicly discloses the number of grievances received and resolved among other details at its dashboard (<https://grievances.maharashtra.gov.in/en/dashboard>) as shown in the image below. The dashboard suggests that there are a total of 231,451 grievances registered across various departments, of which 105,784 were resolved and the remaining 125,667 are in the process of being resolved. In the case of the Planning Department, a total of 328 grievances were registered, of which 232 were resolved and remaining 96 are in the process of being resolved.



The screenshot shows the 'Dashboard' of the 'GRIEVANCE REDRESSAL PORTAL' for the Government of Maharashtra. The dashboard displays a table with the following columns: Department, State Level, Division, District, Taluka, Office, Total Grievances, Resolved, and Pendency. The table lists various departments and their corresponding grievance statistics.

Department	State Level	Division	District	Taluka	Office	Total Grievances	Resolved	Pendency
Agriculture	+					11224	2445	8779
Animal Husbandry, Dairy Development and Fisheries	+					803	149	654
Co-operation	+					6217	3521	2696
Co-operation-Marketing	+					556	47	509
Co-operation-Textile	+					64	33	31
Energy	+					5935	2686	3249
Environment	+					1931	1245	686
Finance	+					1413	628	785
Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Protection	+					2898	1078	1820

52. Most of the implementing agencies under the program including districts use the RTS portal for grievances along with Right to Information (RTI) (<https://rtionline.gov.in/>). In addition, the Industries Department also has MAITRI portal for feedback and grievances. Below are the details of grievance redress mechanism used by various implementing agencies under the project.

Implementing Agency	GRM System
MITRA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Aaple Sarkar Grievance redress portal</i> (<a href="https://grievances.maharashtra.gov.in/en">https://grievances.maharashtra.gov.in/en</a>); RTI (<a href="https://rtionline.gov.in/">https://rtionline.gov.in/</a>)</li> </ul>
Planning Department	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Aaple Sarkar Grievance redress portal</i> (<a href="https://grievances.maharashtra.gov.in/en">https://grievances.maharashtra.gov.in/en</a>); RTI (<a href="https://rtionline.gov.in/">https://rtionline.gov.in/</a>)</li> </ul>
DES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Aaple Sarkar Grievance redress portal</i> (<a href="https://grievances.maharashtra.gov.in/en">https://grievances.maharashtra.gov.in/en</a>); RTI (<a href="https://rtionline.gov.in/">https://rtionline.gov.in/</a>)</li> </ul>
MRSAC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MRSAC feedback system - <a href="https://mrsac.gov.in/MRSAC/feedbacks/add_feedbacks">https://mrsac.gov.in/MRSAC/feedbacks/add_feedbacks</a></li> <li>• <i>Aaple Sarkar Grievance redress portal</i> (<a href="https://grievances.maharashtra.gov.in/en">https://grievances.maharashtra.gov.in/en</a>); RTI (<a href="https://rtionline.gov.in/">https://rtionline.gov.in/</a>)</li> </ul>
Offices of District Collector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Aaple Sarkar Grievance redress portal</i> (<a href="https://grievances.maharashtra.gov.in/en">https://grievances.maharashtra.gov.in/en</a>); RTI (<a href="https://rtionline.gov.in/">https://rtionline.gov.in/</a>)</li> <li>• Manual system of complaint at District Collector's office</li> </ul>
Finance Department	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Aaple Sarkar Grievance redress portal</i> (<a href="https://grievances.maharashtra.gov.in/en">https://grievances.maharashtra.gov.in/en</a>); RTI (<a href="https://rtionline.gov.in/">https://rtionline.gov.in/</a>)</li> </ul>
Industries Commissionerate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maharashtra Industry, Trade and Investment Facilitation Cell (MAITRI) (<a href="https://maitrigrievance.mahaonline.gov.in/MaitriGrievanceForm/MaitriGrievanceForm">https://maitrigrievance.mahaonline.gov.in/MaitriGrievanceForm/MaitriGrievanceForm</a>)</li> <li>• <i>Aaple Sarkar Grievance redress portal</i> (<a href="https://grievances.maharashtra.gov.in/en">https://grievances.maharashtra.gov.in/en</a>); RTI (<a href="https://rtionline.gov.in/">https://rtionline.gov.in/</a>)</li> </ul>
Tourism & Cultural Affairs Department	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Aaple Sarkar Grievance redress portal</i> (<a href="https://grievances.maharashtra.gov.in/en">https://grievances.maharashtra.gov.in/en</a>); RTI (<a href="https://rtionline.gov.in/">https://rtionline.gov.in/</a>)</li> </ul>

53. While the GRM system is functional and the portal provides good details, it requires further improvement by ensuring that district-level data is adequately populated, types of complaints can be analysed, time period to be represented clearly etc.

54. Stakeholder mapping and engagement is embedded in the program design. The project intends to mainstream stakeholder engagement through beneficiary feedback on the quality of 'identified' services delivered under the program under Result Area 2. This includes improving efficiency, accessibility, and transparency in delivery of services under upgraded RTS portal (the online portal for services under the Maharashtra Right to Services Act) and MAITRI 2.0 (single window portal for delivery of services to businesses used by the Industries Department). Secondly, launching participatory community-led initiatives, IEC campaigns for behaviour change for implementing initiatives aligned to the LIFE principles. Thirdly, setting up Udyog Seva Kendras (USKs) in districts as offline channels of MAITRI. The Program will also report on the efficiency of existing grievance redressal system in terms of accessibility, responsiveness, and redressal rate.

#### 4.7 Gender

55. Despite improvement, there remains a large gender gap in Maharashtra. Female labour participation rate has been low in India and women tend to receive lower wages than men for the same work, constrained by limited access to resources, social norms, lack of basic infrastructures such as safe transportation and childcare facilities. These factors also result in women's higher vulnerability to climate change and natural disasters. However, there is no sex disaggregated data at the district level<sup>21</sup> that can support effective policy making targeted at women.

56. The proposed Program helps close the gender data gap for identification, policy, decision-making and public service delivery in the state. Strengthening the data systems capacity in the state allows the government units to include sex disaggregated data collection and coordination and help properly identify cross-sectoral gender gaps. The digitalization of service delivery, and availability of sex disaggregated data will help improve targeting of benefits for women.

57. Program activities will include (i) collection of data on the UNSD EDGE indicators, (ii) capturing the gender dimension in monitoring indicators through improved questionnaire and indicator design (iii) improving gender statistics from administrative sources (iv) improving data collection methodologies and tools to enhance gender data quality, including reduction of proxy response rates (v) increasing the availability of individual-level asset indicators (vi) improving the calculation of gender indicators according to international standards (vii) disseminating gender data through the preparation of gender factsheets (viii) Capacity building and training for government officials in data collection and analysis. Additionally, the project will also track applications made by women's enterprises for G2B services. Currently the government does not collect any gender disaggregated data on the

<sup>21</sup> The lack of sex disaggregated data is an impediment to estimate gaps in gender equity and frame policy that take in to account gendered needs. Of the 59 United Nations Statistics Division's Evidence and Data for Gender Equality (UNSD EDGE) indicators, India collects 29 indicators fully and 12 partially. While some of this data can be disaggregated down to the states, none of these indicators are available for districts. The lack of relevant district level data and statistics constrains assessment of the extent of gender disparities across Maharashtra, preventing adequate local policy formulation to address those gaps.

services it provides to business, the collection and availability of this data will enable the identification of gaps in services. Availability of relevant gender indicators based on high-quality and timely data will enable key stakeholders and data users to make informed decisions with respect to closing gender gaps in the state and better track progress toward this objective.

#### **4.8 Gender Based Violence (GBV)**

58. The overall risk rating for GBV is low for project activities. In Maharashtra, the legal framework for POSH (Prevention of Sexual Harassment) compliance is primarily governed by the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013. Section (4) of the Act stipulates that all government/ non-government organizations/ companies/ establishments with more than or equal to 10 employees should constitute an Internal Complaint Committee ("ICC") for redressal of complaints of sexual harassment at the workplace.

59. Most of the GoM departments and Directorates have set up mandatory ICC and have notified them. To ensure greater compliance with the Act, at various districts, District Women and Child Development Officers have issued letter asking all organizations operating in their districts (to which the Act is applicable) to have their ICCs registered as well. In addition, the Maharashtra Civil Services (Conduct) Rules 1979 and further amendments, under rule 22A provide for the prevention of sexual harassment of women at workplace.

60. All the implementing agencies under the project abide by these rules and have ICC in place. Also, the systems and procedures for any benefit transfers under the project and not based on the discretion of individual project actors. The grievance mechanism under the program shall be equipped to receive, register, and facilitate the resolution of SEA/SH complaints, including through the referral of survivors to relevant gender-based violence service providers, all in a safe, confidential, and survivor-centered manner.

## STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION DISCLOSURE

### 5.1 Stakeholder Mapping

1. The direct stakeholders include, the Planning Department, the Maharashtra Institution for Transformation (MITRA), the Directorate of Economics and Statistics (DES), the Maharashtra Remote Sensing Application Center (MRSAC), the General Administrative Department (GAD), Industries Commissionerate, Tourism and Cultural Affairs Department, Directorate of Accounts and Treasury, and Maharashtra Information Technology Corporation Ltd. (MahalIT), Offices of the District Collector(s), District Planning Office(s), key line departments at the district level, and the key academic institutions/agencies involved in supporting districts in preparing the District Strategic Plans.
2. All stakeholders as well as other agencies like Environment Department, Tribal Development, Rural Engineering Services, Urban local bodies (ULBs), Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs), Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), Academic Institutions, are other stakeholders will be either directly or indirectly engaged in the implementation of the activities under the Program.
3. The businesses and citizens at large are beneficiaries, and the latter includes vulnerable groups who will benefit from improved services. They will be involved/engaged in the planning process in a culturally appropriate and inclusive manner.

### 5.2 Stakeholder Engagement

4. Regular stakeholder engagement is embedded in the Program for Results (PforR) (main operation) design, which is critical for both the development of strategies and action plans required to meet the Project Development Objective and in the implementation of the same.
5. Various stakeholders will be engaged and consulted throughout the implementation of the IPF-TA activities too, consistent with the provisions of ESS 10. Active efforts to engage with beneficiaries in a culturally appropriate and inclusive manner, will be made in the design and implementation of Technical Assistance (TA) activities and their outcomes. Specific attention will be paid to the vulnerable and disadvantaged groups [women, Scheduled Tribes (ST)/Scheduled Caste (SC)/Other Backward Caste (OBC), persons with disabilities (PwD)]. The modes and frequency of engagement will be determined by the needs of the project activity and will be included in the Terms of References (ToRs) of the IPF-TA activities.
6. The project specifically intends to mainstream stakeholder engagement through beneficiary feedback on the quality of 'identified' services delivered under the program under Result Area 2. This includes improving efficiency, accessibility, and transparency in delivery of services under upgraded RTS portal (the online portal for services under the Maharashtra Right to Services Act) and MAITRI 2.0 (single window portal for delivery of services to businesses used by the Industries Department). Secondly, launching participatory community-led initiatives, IEC campaigns for behaviour change for implementing initiatives aligned to the Mission LiFE principles. Thirdly, setting up Udyog Seva Kendras (USKs) in districts as offline channels of MAITRI. The Program will also report on the efficiency of existing grievance redressal system in terms of accessibility, responsiveness, and redressal rate.

7. Information about the activities will be made available to stakeholders through MITRA website and considering the different access and communication needs of various groups and individuals, especially those more disadvantaged or vulnerable.
8. The District Strategic Plan preparation guidelines in Maharashtra has a well-laid process of stakeholder consultation and includes identifying stakeholders required for the preparation of DSP such as those from industry associations, experts from the field of research and academia, economists, line departments, subject matter experts, etc. at the start of the preparation phase to foster a collaborative approach to planning.
9. In addition, The District Collector can also propose invitee members to participate in the discussions and preparation of the District Development Strategy. The preparation of DSPs is expected to have a sufficient and wide range of stakeholder consultations across sectors and levels (including private sector/ industry associations/ R&D institutions/academia etc.) on each of the sectors/sub-sectors. The district visits suggest compliance with this with a wide range of stakeholder consultations as part of the DSP preparation supported by the academic institutions.

### 5.3 Consultations with Stakeholders

10. Given the geographic and socio-economic diversity and observations from some of the DSPs as well as district visits, it was felt that during planning and implementation, communities or individuals could be impacted unfairly due to remoteness, social-economic-physical vulnerabilities, to access project benefits equitably or limited access to economic opportunities and services. To ensure that the operation does not disproportionately affect the disadvantaged, vulnerable, and marginalized population groups, and include them to access benefits and positive impacts, the project will identify such community groups and individuals, and ensure consultations with such groups and communities as part of the planning process such as DSP preparation and/or destination tourism plan preparation and develop mechanisms for equitable access to economic opportunities and services.
11. As part of ESSA preparation, consultations were undertaken with key officials from MITRA, Department of Planning, including the Directorate of Economics and Statistics (DES), Directorate of Industries, Directorate of Tourism, Directorate of Accounts and Treasury, and Maharashtra Information Technology Corporation Limited (MahalT), along with field visits and consultations with district planning teams including those with District Collectors and key district level departments at Palghar and Raigad districts between May and June 2024 on key environmental and social practices around the core ESSA principles.
12. Additionally, the interaction with District Officials, key line departments, academicians, citizens, and beneficiaries during preparation of other Bank funded projects (such as P177965 - Development of Applied Knowledge and Skills for Human-Development in Maharashtra and P506340 - Maharashtra Resilience Development Project) has also been utilized for the preparation of MahaSTRIDE.
13. As part of MahaSTRIDE's preparation, consultations were undertaken during the preparation mission with the Department of Planning and MITRA and followed by bilateral discussions with many key officials. This involved understanding the capacity of the implementing institutions to identify key E&S risks emerging from the program activities, and the environmental and social practices, systems, and processes to plan mitigation. Details of

various consultations undertaken by the ESSA team in preparation of the ESSA report are as below.

Date of Consultations	Key Institutions	Key Participants
Various preparation missions over January – June 2024	MITRA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mr. Praveen Pardeshi, CEO</li> <li>Mr. D.V. Dalvi, Director</li> <li>Other key officials and consultants</li> </ul>
10-Jun-2024	Directorate of Economic and Statistics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mr. J. V. Chaudhary, Director</li> <li>Mrs. Rutuja Adwarekar, Jt Director, DES</li> <li>Key officials engaged in Planning</li> </ul>
10-Jun-2024	Directorate of Accounts and Treasury	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mr. Devram Mhaske, Deputy Director</li> </ul>
10-Jun-2024	Maha IT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mr. Rahul Surve, Sr. Technical Manager</li> </ul>
10-Jun-2024	Directorate of Tourism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mr. B.N. Patil, Director</li> <li>Mr. Swapnil Kapadnis, Joint Director</li> </ul>
13-Jun-2024	Directorate of Industries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mr. Dipendra Singh Kushwah, Development Commissioner</li> </ul>
11-Jun-2024	Visits to District Palghar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mr. Govind Bodke, District Collector</li> <li>Mr. Subhash Bhagade, Resident Deputy Collector</li> <li>Mr. Prashant Bhamre, District Planning Officer</li> <li>Key officials from various departments</li> <li>DSP consultants</li> </ul>
12-Jun-2024	Visit to District Raigad	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mr. Sandesh Shirke, Resident Deputy Collector</li> <li>Mr. Jaysingh Mhetre, District Planning Officer</li> <li>Key officials from various departments</li> <li>DSP consultants</li> </ul>

#### 5.4 State Level ESSA Consultations

14. A state level multi-stakeholder/multi-sectoral half-day consultation workshop was organized with support from MITRA at Sahyadri, Mumbai on August 9, 2024, to discuss the key findings and recommendations of the draft ESSA for MahaSTRIDE. Specifically, inputs were sought on the assessment and key findings of the report as well as on the recommendations made on environment and social management for achieving Program's development objective and strengthening the intended outcomes. A summary note has been provided in Annexure 3.

#### 5.5 Disclosure of ESSA

15. The draft ESSA was disclosed in-country at the MITRA, GoM website (<https://mahamitra.org/en/mahastride/>) and on the World Bank's external website (before

appraisal of the operation), to serve as the basis for discussion and receipt of further feedback and comments. The ESSA (this report) has factored-in the comments, feedback and suggestions received during the various consultation forums, including the state level workshop in August 2024. While the draft ESSA was disclosed on MITRA and World Bank websites in July 2024 for disseminating information about the proposed operation and soliciting feedback, the revised/final ESSA will also be disclosed for use and reference of all interested stakeholders and parties.



## KEY RECOMMENDATIONS AND MEASURES FOR INCLUSION IN THE PROGRAM ACTION PLAN

### 6.1 Exclusion of High-Risk Activities

1. The Program will exclude activities that do not align with the World Bank policy on eligibility requirements for PforR financing<sup>22</sup>. The Program will not finance any high and substantial risk activity that may have significant adverse environmental and/or social risks/impacts, particularly associated with potential loss or conversion of natural habitats, significant pollution or other significant externalities, and major changes in land or resource use. The Program will exclude any high-risk activities that require land acquisition and/or involuntary resettlement. It will not support any significant physical infrastructure aspects, and potential negative impacts on vulnerable communities.
2. To elucidate, activities such as new or major expansion of: Power plants; Major transport infrastructure (highways, expressways, airports, mass transit); Operations in extractive industries (mining, mineral processing); Commercial or industrial logging; Water resource management structures (dams, water conveyance, groundwater extraction); Manufacturing and industrial processing facilities etc. will not be supported under the Program. More specifically, the exclusions include (but not limited to):
  - xiii. Activities that are non-compliant with central and state environmental and social legislations.
  - xiv. Entail large scale changes in land use or access to land and/or natural resources.
  - xv. Adverse E&S impacts covering large geographical areas, including transboundary impacts, or global impacts such as greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.
  - xvi. Significant conversion or degradation of critical natural habitats or critical cultural heritage sites.
  - xvii. Convert or encroach upon forests, notified wetlands, or eco-sensitive areas, and/or construction within all protected/forest areas (national parks, wildlife sanctuaries and corridors) and, within eco-sensitive zones for which final or draft notifications have been published by the MoEFCC, Govt. of India.
  - xviii. Any land acquisition, physical relocation, and/or involuntary resettlement impacts.
  - xix. Any activity with adverse impact on Indigenous People/Tribal population or their territories especially in Scheduled V areas
  - xx. Any activity requiring Free Informed Prior Consent (FPIC)
  - xxi. Construction or demolition within 100-meter radius of protected monuments identified by the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) and without due permission within 300-meter radius of such structures.
  - xxii. Construction and/or renovation involving 'asbestos-containing material'.

---

<sup>22</sup> Activities that are judged to have significant adverse impacts that are sensitive, diverse, or unprecedented on the environment and/or affected people are not eligible for financing and are excluded from the Program

- xxiii. Engage in production, promotion, and/or procurement of weapons, alcohol, radioactive material, any prohibited and/ or unlawful activities as per GoM/ GoI regulations.
- xxiv. Activities that involve the use of forced or child labour and workplace conditions that expose workers to significant risks of health and personal safety.

## 6.2 Major Gaps Identified

3. Districts face varied levels of capability gaps in understanding across sectoral planning, integrating Mission LiFE principles, sustainable development planning, and regulatory mechanisms, including environmental and social aspects. This is a constraint for appropriate planning, convergence, and coordination for sustainably driving growth. District Support Units need to be capacitated to handle/strengthen management of environment, health and safety, social inclusion, citizen engagement and climate change impacts – which are critical for the planning process and sustainability. Also, with changes in systems, procedures, technology, and roles, both temporary inconvenience as well as long term access and awareness generation needs to be taken care of.

4. The current Tourism Development Planning processes do not screen any adverse environmental and social risks and impacts and use opportunities for creating optimal tourism models. This needs to be instituted to move towards sustainable tourism practices. Also, there is a need for coordination with and between various stakeholders such as the Forest Department, Public Works Department, Archeological Survey of India, existing tourist operators, the hospitality industry, the broader community groups, and local administration while preparation of Destination Tourism Plans.

5. The mechanism of integrating Tribal Sub-Plan as part of the District Plan has been in place, however, analysis of some of the DSPs of tribal districts and visits to tribal districts suggests inadequate and inequitable focus on tribal areas for development. This may further widen inequalities among tribal and non-tribal populations in those districts. There is a need to relook at strategies and have wider consultations with tribal community groups and agencies working among tribal populations including civil society to identify their needs and opportunities for development.

## 6.3 Key Recommendations

S.No	Main Recommendations	Department/ Agency
1	Competent staff and consultants deputed and retained at State, Department, and District levels with expertise in environmental and social management as well as regulatory requirements	MITRA
2	Exclusion list to be administered for design and finalization of activities under the Program	MITRA, TCAD
3	Environmental and Social indicators are integrated in Maha Data Bank to inform the planning process, monitor implementation	MITRA, DES

S.No	Main Recommendations	Department/ Agency
	and growth. The project MIS to also have modules on environmental and social management.	
4	Based on the interventions on DSPs, Tourism Plans, Data Bank and capacity development, good practices to be documented - highlighting mainstreaming of E&S management, good practices and improved outcomes.	MITRA
5	Preparation of Tourism Destination Plans to be informed by Environmental and Social Risk and Impact Assessment (ESIA) and shall include consultations with a wide range of stakeholders, including local communities.	MITRA, TCAD
6	Program to track access of the services (upgraded RTS portal, Maitri 2.0 and USKs) by vulnerable and create mechanisms for their feedback.	MITRA
7	Program to report on number of grievances received, resolved, time taken for resolution and analysis on types of grievances received through multiple mediums (online, toll-free helpline, and physical desks)	MITRA
8	Explore potential options for development in tribal areas/districts based on wider consultations with civil society groups, think tanks, academic institutions, and tribal community groups to identify needs and opportunities contributing to district development.	MITRA
9	Preparation/revision of guidance manual for District Development Plan integrating Mission LiFE principles and environmental & social aspects for sustainable development planning keeping in mind the key sectors that are emerging from District Strategic Plans.	MITRA, DES
10	Training/orientation of relevant stakeholders at district and state level – new staff at MITRA, Tourism Development Planning team, DMOs and DSUs on environmental and social management, including planning, monitoring and reporting	MITRA and WB
11	Ensure requisite E&S inclusions in RFPs, ToRs and Contract documents of various services and works supported under the operations	MITRA and WB

## 6.4 Measures for Inclusion in the Program Action Plan

6. Based on the assessment carried out during ESSA preparation, the following measures have been suggested for inclusion in the Program Action Plan (PAP), for which details are given in the table below:

Action Description	Timeline	Responsibility	Completion Measurement
1. Tourism destination management plan (DMP) preparation to be informed by Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA)	To be aligned with Destination Tourism Plan Preparation	MITRA, TCAD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ESIA ToR prepared (in consultation with the World Bank)</li> <li>• ESIA conducted and report prepared with clear recommendations.</li> <li>• Destination tourism plans incorporate ESIA recommendations after suitable consultations.</li> <li>• Recommendations for Statewide Tourism Policy</li> </ul>
2. Preparation/revision of guidance manual for district strategic plans (DSPs) to factor in E&S considerations-sustainable development planning and mainstreaming stakeholder engagement	9 months from effectiveness and continuous	MITRA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Guidance manual prepared and notified for adoption.</li> <li>• E&amp;S aspects in DSPs tracked by MITRA.</li> <li>• Inclusion of E&amp;S parameters in the evaluation of DSP performance</li> </ul>
3. Key environmental, disaster management and socio-economic vulnerability related data included in geo-spatial layers developed for districts	Continuous	MITRA, MRSAC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aligned with the roll out of work on strengthening geo-spatial platforms (both state and district level)</li> <li>• Bi-annual tracking</li> </ul>
4. E&S capacity augmented for planning, implementation, and monitoring for IAs under MahaSTRIDE	Continuous	MITRA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Training Needs Assessment and preparation of Training Calendar</li> <li>• Development of modules</li> <li>• Roll out of training and feedback</li> </ul>

## 6.5 E&S Entry Points in the Program Design and Results Framework

Disbursement Linked Indicator	Non-Disbursement Linked Indicator
<p><b>Result Area I: Strengthen district-level systems for enabling growth.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improved performance of districts linked to implementation of DSPs (to include E&amp;S parameters)</li> <li>Integrated geospatial, statistical, and financial data systems for improved district-level decision-making (to include E&amp;S data/information)</li> </ul> <p><b>Result Area II: Improve access for businesses to time-bound e-government service.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strengthened policy and institutional framework for tourism development in districts (to include E&amp;S parameters)</li> </ul> <p><b>Result Area III: Strengthen state institutions for data-driven policy and decision-making.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase in delivery channels for providing services to businesses (Labour, Revenue and Pollution Control to be added)</li> <li>Improved use of data for monitoring economic growth and development (E&amp;S data fields to be added)</li> <li>Strengthened capacity of MITRA for policy making, coordination and implementation (E&amp;S capacities to be enhanced for planning, implementation and monitoring)</li> </ul>	<p><b>Result Area I: Strengthen district-level systems for enabling growth.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improved availability and use of socio-economic data for DSPs</li> </ul> <p><b>Result Area II: Improve access for businesses to time-bound e-government service:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identified services where Government Process Re-engineering (GPR) is completed (Departments to be added for improved clearances and compliance monitoring: Labour, Revenue and Environment/Pollution Control)</li> <li>Beneficiary feedback on quality of 'identified' services delivered.</li> <li>People using digitally enabled services including for female and youth.</li> </ul> <p><b>Result Area III: Strengthen state institutions for data-driven policy and decision-making.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Missing UNSD EDGE indicators reduced (Gender disaggregated data)</li> <li>Statistical / Evidence-base for Tourism enhanced (E&amp;S fields to be added)</li> <li>Increase the number of data layers on the integrated district data portal)</li> </ul>

## Annexure 1: List of Documents Reviewed

1. Maharashtra Economic Advisory Council Report 2023: Implementation framework for becoming a \$1 trillion economy. Available at [https://mahasdb.maharashtra.gov.in/files/DSP/home/Maharashtra%20EAC%20report\\_English%20Version.pdf](https://mahasdb.maharashtra.gov.in/files/DSP/home/Maharashtra%20EAC%20report_English%20Version.pdf)
2. Census Report, 2011
3. Capacity Gap Assessment Report and Capacity Building Plan of Osmanabad District. Consultancy study supported by World Bank. 2024
4. Vision 2030. Planning Department, Government of Maharashtra. Available at [https://plan.maharashtra.gov.in/Sitemap/plan/pdf/final\\_Vision\\_Eng\\_Oct2017.pdf](https://plan.maharashtra.gov.in/Sitemap/plan/pdf/final_Vision_Eng_Oct2017.pdf)
5. Maharashtra Economic Advisory Council Report 2023. Available at [https://plan.maharashtra.gov.in/Sitemap/plan/pdf/Maharashtra\\_Economic\\_Advisory\\_Council%20Report\\_Rajamayyoor\\_Sharam.pdf](https://plan.maharashtra.gov.in/Sitemap/plan/pdf/Maharashtra_Economic_Advisory_Council%20Report_Rajamayyoor_Sharam.pdf)
6. Lifestyle for Environment (LiFE) | Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, Government of India. <https://amritmahotsav.nic.in/lifestyle-for-environment-life.htm>; <https://www.niti.gov.in/life>
7. LiFE for Tourism Sector. Ministry of Tourism, Government of India. <https://tourism.gov.in/sites/default/files/2023-07/Travel%20for%20LiFE.pdf>
8. Diagnostic Study on Tribal Sub-Plan by TISS Mumbai. December 2015. Available at <http://rajbhavan-maharashtra.gov.in/Diagnostic%20Study%20on%20Tribal%20Sub%20Plan%20by%20TISS%20Mumbai.pdf>
9. Disparities in Social Development in Maharashtra – A District-level Analysis. Economic and Political Weekly, Vol. 57, Issue No. 29, 16 Jul 2022. Available at <https://www.epw.in/journal/2022/29/special-articles/disparities-social-development-maharashtra.html>
10. National Multidimensional Poverty Index. Niti Aayog, 2023. Available at [https://www.niti.gov.in/sites/default/files/2021-11/National\\_MPI\\_India-11242021.pdf](https://www.niti.gov.in/sites/default/files/2021-11/National_MPI_India-11242021.pdf)
11. Guidance Manual for District Development Strategic and Action Plan Preparation. Planning Department, Government of Maharashtra. Available at [https://mahasdb.maharashtra.gov.in/files/DSP/FAQ/DSP-GuidelineManual\\_Final.pdf](https://mahasdb.maharashtra.gov.in/files/DSP/FAQ/DSP-GuidelineManual_Final.pdf)

### Websites

1. Planning Department, <https://plan.maharashtra.gov.in/default.aspx>
2. Directorate of Economics and Statistics, <https://mahades.maharashtra.gov.in/home.do?lang=en>
3. RTS Act, Aaple Sarkar. <https://aaplesarkar.mahaonline.gov.in/>
4. Tribal Development Department, [Tribal Development Department, Government of Maharashtra, India](http://tribaldevelopment.maharashtra.gov.in/)

## Annexure 2: Review of Applicable Legal and Regulatory Framework

This section examines the applicable National and State policies and regulations on environment and social aspects that are relevant to the activities under the proposed project to achieve the key results under the Program.

The Government of India and the state government have enacted a range of laws, regulations, and procedures relevant to managing the environmental and social effects of the proposed Program. The following criteria were used to select the relevant legislation that best describes the country's system for managing the Program's effects:

- i. Environmental and social policies,
- ii. Environmental and social protection laws, and
- iii. Laws, regulations, or guidelines in the relevant sectors and subsectors that provide relevant rules or norms for environmental and social management.

Over-all, the provisions of the existing environmental and social legal/regulatory framework, including the stipulations to protect the interest of marginalized and vulnerable population such as the SCs and STs, are adequate though enabling institutional and technical capacity building is required for achieving full and more uniform compliance on the ground across districts in the state.

### A. Environment - Rules, and Regulations

The Government of India and the State Government have enacted a range of laws, regulations, and procedures relevant to managing the environmental effects (including health and safety). Of the existing environmental regulations, the following national acts/laws (also applicable to the state of Maharashtra) are applicable to the program.

Policy/Legislation	Responsible Department/Ministry	Relevance to the Program
Environment (Protection) Act, 1986	Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change	This umbrella act was enacted with the objective of providing for the protection and improvement of the environment. It empowers the Central Government to establish authorities charged with the mandate of preventing environmental pollution in all its forms and to tackle specific environmental problems that are peculiar to different parts of the country.
Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981	Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change	Any activity resulting in air emissions need to follow the law and take required permissions for the state department, as identified by the national or state laws and standards.

Policy/Legislation	Responsible Department/ Ministry	Relevance to the Program
Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974	Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change	Any activity resulting in discharges would need to follow the law and take required permissions for the state department, as identified by the national or state laws and standards. Also, as required treatment of the discharges prior to its disposal may need to be considered, if mandated by the law.
Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Cess (Amendment) Act, 2003	Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change	There is a need to pay access by any industry that includes any operation or process, or treatment and disposal system, consumes water or gives rise to sewage effluent or trade effluent according to this Act.
Batteries (Management and Handling) Rules, 2001 and amendments	Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change	<p>Disposal of batteries used in workshop and other areas should be according to this legislation, with required forms filled, selling to registered recyclers, and ensuring appropriate transportation of batteries.</p> <p>In case procuring recycled batteries, only from registered recyclers and as per this rule. For bulk consumers, a semi-annual return in Form VIII to be submitted to the State Pollution Control Board.</p>
The Chemical Accidents (Emergency Planning, Preparedness, and Response) Rules, 1996	Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change	In case of use and storage of any chemicals identified in Schedule 1 on hazardous chemicals. This includes asbestos, which has been used in some buildings and during upgrading may need disposal. Also, these Rules will be relevant in case any other chemicals identified in the schedule are used for any workshop activity.
Manufacture, Storage, and Import of Hazardous Chemicals Rules, 1989	Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change	<p>This will be applicable for processes that use hazardous chemicals, of the specified quantities according to the schedules of this Rule.</p> <p>Asbestos, which is used as roofing material would be under the purview of this regulation. Its handling and disposal will need to be according to the legal provisions identified under these Rules.</p> <p>Chemical storage and prevention and accident</p>



Policy/Legislation	Responsible Department/ Ministry	Relevance to the Program
		site emergency plan to be to be according to the law, chemicals to be appropriately labeled and required forms filled and submitted. Workers to be trained for safety and provided with required equipment, and in case of an accident the appropriate authority notified along with identified action plan implementation
Environmental (Protection) (Third Amendment) Rules, 2013	Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change	This is applicable for new diesel generators up to 800 kW. This regulation gives limits of emission from generators which would need to be adhered to by ITIs who use such generators for provision of backup power.
Environment (Protection) Seventh Amendment Rules, 2009	Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change	These Rules identify ambient air standards for residential, industrial, rural, ecologically sensitive, and other areas, and need to be followed by ITIs. This is especially relevant where chemicals and automobile painting and other activities are carried out that may result in release of pollutants in the air.
E-Waste (Management) Rules, 2016	Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change	This Rule identifies the responsibility of e-waste generators, including its handling, storage, labelling and disposal. The disposal of e-waste identified in schedule 1 of the rules is to be done through authorized collection centers and dismantlers or recyclers. E-waste cannot be stored for more than 180 days.
The Noise Pollution (Control and Regulation) Rules, 2000	Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change	Noise levels for various activities, including construction, use of public address systems and for educational institutes, residential areas etc., should be within prescribed limits. For educational institutes, the law is applicable for the whole of the institute, and not just the building areas. Educational institutes and 100 meters around them are identified as silence zones.

Policy/Legislation	Responsible Department/ Ministry	Relevance to the Program
Plastic Waste (Management and Handling) Amendment Rules, 2011 and Plastic Waste Management Rules 2016	Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change	Consent is required for any manufacturing of plastic or plastic waste products, and its registration as required by these Rules. The rules are to apply to waste generators, producers, and manufacturers. Conditions for manufacturing, storing, distribution, labeling and waste management for plastic is identified. Producers are to segregate plastic waste at source as identified in the Solid Waste Management Rules 2015. It also identifies several other actions required for the management of plastic waste by producers. Once the Rules will be notified, it would require registration with the appropriate Pollution Control Board.
Solid Waste Management Rules 2016	Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change	This rule is applicable to producers of all sorts of waste. It identifies several responsibilities of waste generators, such as segregation at source of waste as dry, wet and domestic hazardous wastes for appropriate disposal, proper wrapping, storage and disposal of different types of waste. Institutional waste generators will need to segregate and store waste in the 3 identified waste streams separately, prior to its disposal as identified in the Rules.
Public Insurance Liability Act, 1991	Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change	It will be applicable to those who are not covered under the Worker's Compensation Act, 1923 and may suffer injury due to any accident. Where there is a need to handle any hazardous substance, the agency will need to have insurance, so that required relief is provided, in case needed.
Environmental (Protection) Second Amendment Rules, 2013	Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change	This is for generators run on petrol or kerosene up to 19 kW and the permissible emission levels. The Rules are for both air and noise emission levels.

Policy/Legislation	Responsible Department/ Ministry	Relevance to the Program
The Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958 and subsequent amendments	Department of Archaeology	Area up to a distance 100 meters from monuments listed under the act is protected and no construction can take place. Beyond it, up to 200 m near and adjoining such monuments are regulated areas, and activity would be regulated. In case of a chance finding during construction or other activities, this act identifies the processes and actions that may need to be taken. Any repair, addition or alternation and construction/reconstruction within these areas needs prior approval of the Archaeological Survey of India.
Construction and Demolition Waste Management Act and Rules, 2016	Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change	This regulation is applicable for waste like building materials, debris and rubble from construction, remodeling, repair, and demolition of any civil structure. Waste generators are responsible for all such waste. In case of at least 20 tons per day or 300 tons per project in a month the waste must be segregated according to directions of the law, submit a waste management plan, get required approvals for local authorities prior to starting work and pay the required levies. The Rules also identify the activities for the management of the construction/demolition site such as cleaning, storing and disposal.

Other state level regulations/rules/procedures would need to be applied in specific cases (depending on nature, location and type of work involved). There are also a number Bureau of Indian Standards and Other Sectoral Guidelines that will be relevant for the program.

#### B. Other Relevant Environmental Policies, Codes, Standards and Guidelines for the Program

- a) **National Policy on Safety, Health, and Environment at Workplace 2009:** The policy provides an action program that includes enforcement, national standards, compliance, awareness, occupational safety, and health development. It emphasizes that awareness generation on occupational safety needs to be done by suitably incorporating teaching inputs on safety, health, and environment at workplace in schools, technical and vocational courses.
- b) **Code on Occupational Safety, Health, and Working Conditions Bill, 2019:** This code on occupational safety, health and working conditions applies to all establishments with 10 or more workers and includes building and construction workers.

- c) **National Policy on Disaster Management, 2009:** The policy focuses on prevention, mitigation, preparedness, and response. It describes the institutional and financial arrangements, capacity development, knowledge management, etc.
- d) **National Disaster Management Guidelines on Building Safety:** This policy issued by the National Disaster Management Authority details the various activities that need to be undertaken at the state, district and local levels for safety including planning, preparation of disaster management plans, implementation of safety actions (structural and non-structural measures), capacity building of stakeholders, monitoring of risk, etc. It also details the roles and responsibilities of the various stakeholders to ensure building safety at national, state and local levels.
- e) **Environmental Impact Assessment Notification, 2006 and subsequent amendments:** aims to predict environmental impacts at an early stage in project planning and design, find ways and means to reduce adverse impacts, shape projects to suit the local environment and present the predictions and options to decision-makers. The EIA notification is an important management tool for ensuring optimal use of natural resources for sustainable development. To facilitate collection of environmental data and preparation of management plans, guidelines have been evolved and circulated to the concerned Central and State Government Departments. EIA has now been made mandatory under the Environmental (Protection) Act, 1986 for 29 categories of developmental activities involving investments of Rs. 50 crores and above.
- f) **Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) Notification 2019:** This notification is of relevance to Maharashtra. Construction activities are prohibited in the CRZ-I (Ecologically Sensitive Areas) and CRZ-IV (area covered between Low Tide Line and 12 Nautical Miles seaward). Clearance for projects/activities located in CRZ-I and CRZ-IV can only be given by the Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change (MoEFCC), GoI. The powers for clearances for CRZ-II (urban areas) and CRZ-III (rural areas) is with the state level Coastal Zone Management Authority (CZMA). Construction is permitted in CRZ-II on the landward side of existing structures. Construction is permitted in the No Development Zone of CRZ-III only after written approval of the CZMA.
- g) **Eco Sensitive Zone (ESZ) Notifications:** Areas around National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries are notified as ESZs for the purpose of regulating activities in the proximity of the protected areas. The activities that are regulated include felling of trees, erection of electrical cables, widening of roads, etc. The notifications are relevant in case of construction works in the notified of Maharashtra (20 ESZs).
- h) **Forest (Conservation) Act 1980:** This Act requires prior approval of the Central Government for use of any forest land for non-forest purposes including construction of buildings. In Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected districts, general approval is accorded for diversion of up to 40 ha of forest land for the creation of critical public utility infrastructure including schools. This Act is relevant in case of construction activity on land that is designated as 'forest land' and/or is in 'protected areas'.
- i) **Wildlife (Protection) Act 1972:** This Act prohibits destruction, exploitation or removal of any wildlife and provides for protection to listed species of flora and fauna. It is relevant in case of construction activity close to wildlife/forest areas or in areas with wildlife found beyond the protected domain.

- j) **Wetland (Conservation and Management) Rules 2017:** This act prohibits activities such as encroachment of wetlands, setting up of industries, storage or disposal of hazardous substances and construction and demolition waste, solid waste dumping, discharge of untreated wastes and effluents, etc., in wetlands.
- k) **Hazardous and other Wastes (Management and Transboundary Movement) Rules 2016:** These rules set out the procedures to be followed for safe handling, storage, transport, and disposal of hazardous waste. Persons working in the site need to be provided with appropriate training, equipment, and information necessary to ensure their safety. Such waste needs to be disposed in a secure landfill at the Common Hazardous Waste Treatment and Storage and Disposal facility. This is applicable to any activity generating hazardous wastes in the program.
- l) **Solid Waste management Rules 2016:** Every waste generator is responsible for segregation and storage of biodegradable, degradable and hazardous wastes and handling them over to authorized waste collectors as per the directions of the local authorities. This is applicable to all training institutions supported under the program.
- m) **Notification for use of fly ash 2003 and subsequent amendments:** As per this notification, fly ash needs to be used in construction works located within 300 km of coal or lignite based thermal power stations (for example, fly ash bricks).
- n) **Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006:** This Act requires all food business operators to be registered/licensed and follow basic hygiene and safety requirements. It is relevant to all institutions and hostels with food services.
- o) **Insecticides Act, 1968:** This Act governs the use of registered insecticides and non-use of banned insecticides. It is relevant to all educational/training institutions and hostels that undertake pest control operations.

**Summary:** Adequate regulatory provisions and legal frameworks are in place both at the national and state level to manage environmental risks that may emerge from the proposed program activities.

### C. Social Policies, Rules, and Regulations

This section discusses both national and state laws and policies covering relevant aspects such as social inclusion, citizen engagement, gender, welfare of workers/employees and land management applicable to all including the skilling and entrepreneurship sector. These have been explained below:

Name of Law/Policy	Relevant provisions of the Act/ Policy	Relevance
Constitution of India (Articles 15, 16 and 46)	The Indian Constitution (Article 15) prohibits any discrimination based on religion, race, caste, sex, and place of birth and contains a clause allowing the union and state governments to make any special provision for the advancement of any socially and educationally backward classes of citizens or for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Article 16 refers to the equality of opportunity in matters of public employment. Article 46	The provisions under the Constitution ensure the access, equity, and inclusiveness of the vulnerable

Name of Law/Policy	Relevant provisions of the Act/ Policy	Relevance
	directs the state to promote with special care the educational and economic interests of the weaker sections of the people, particularly of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes and directs the state to protect them from social injustice and all forms of exploitation.	groups in the Program.
Fifth Schedule of the Constitution	The Fifth Schedule of the Constitution deals with the administration and control of Scheduled Areas as well as of Scheduled Tribes in States other than Assam, Meghalaya and Tripura. This Schedule aims to hold the state accountable for the advancement of tribals' educational and economic objectives.	Program will ensure that its benefits flow to tribal-dominated districts.
Panchayats Extension to Scheduled Areas (PESA) Act, 1996	The PESA Act gives special powers to the Gram Sabha in Scheduled Areas especially for the management of natural resources.	Relevant to the overall program
Schedule Tribes and other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) act, 2006	This act recognizes and vests the forest rights and occupation in forest land in forest dwelling Scheduled Tribes and other forest dwellers who have been residing in such forests for generations but whose rights could not be recorded; to provide for a framework for recording the forest rights so vested and the nature of evidence required for such recognition and vesting in respect of forest land.	Applicable to the GPs in tribal areas
The Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act 2013	This Act regulates land acquisition and lays down the procedure and rules for granting compensation, rehabilitation, and resettlement to the affected persons.	Not applicable
Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act 1989 and further Amendments 2018	To prevent atrocities against scheduled castes and scheduled tribes. The objectives of the Act clearly emphasized the intention of the government to deliver justice to these communities through proactive efforts to enable them to live in society with dignity and self-esteem and without fear or violence or suppression from the dominant castes. With the reported misuse of the Act. In August 2018, the parliament of India passed the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Amendment Bill, 2018, to bypass the ruling of the Supreme Court of India laying down procedures for arrests under the Act.	This law promotes equity by safeguarding the rights of SC and STs, so is relevant to the program.

Name of Law/Policy	Relevant provisions of the Act/ Policy	Relevance
The Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016	The Act categorically provides for access to inclusive education, vocational training, and self-employment of disabled persons without discrimination and further states that buildings, campuses, and various facilities are to be made accessible to the PwD and their special needs are to be addressed.	Program will enhance participation and placement outcomes among disadvantaged groups including persons with disabilities (PwDs)
The Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition, and Redressal) Act 2013	Protects women workers from sexual harassment and abuse of power at their workplace and provides for constituting an Internal Complaints Committee in every organization employing 10 or more workers, including women, to look into complaints of sexual harassment. Provides guidance on redressal against such complaints, including its internal investigation in a time bound manner.	Recognizes the need for legal protection of women workers against abuse, exploitation in all government institutions.
National Policy for Women, 2016	The policy articulates various mandates for the holistic empowerment of women in the country. It includes various areas such as health, education, livelihoods, access to social protection, and protection from violence and discrimination at the core of its provisions. The policy's mandate seeks to guide governance and policy making practices across departments at the national and state level.	Guides inclusion and accessibility provisions and overall women's empowerment and SEA relevant to the program.
The Equal Remuneration Act, 1976, Employee Compensation Act, 1923 and 2009, Personal Injuries (Compensation Insurance) Act, 1963, The Minimum Wages Act, 1948, Payment of Wages Act, Maternity Benefit Act, 1961	Provide equal remuneration to men & women workers, prevent discrimination against women in matters of employment, employers to compensate workman's spouse / dependent sons, daughter in case of injury at workplace and mandatory worker insurance by employers against such liability.	Prevents gender discrimination in employment and provides for employee welfare, including social assistance against any incident/ accident.
The Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act 1986 and Rules 1988  Building and Other Construction Workers (Regulation of	These Acts mandate the employers of any establishment employing construction workers to provide basic amenities and welfare facilities. The laws also prohibit employment of child and bonded labour.	Ensures safety, welfare, and other conditions of service to construction workers employed for

Name of Law/Policy	Relevant provisions of the Act/ Policy	Relevance
<p>Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1996</p> <p>Inter-State Migrant Workmen's (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1979</p>		<p>upgradation works under the Program.</p>
<p>The Right to Information Act, 2005</p>	<p>Empowers citizens to demand information on functioning of public systems if it impacts their lives or is of public interest. Offers rights-based framework under which citizens get a legal tool with which to demand accountability and explanation from all/any public authorities; designates a Public Information Officer in all public offices to provide info; creates State /Central Information Commissions (statutory) to look into appeals regarding unsatisfactory information provided to citizens or unclear interest in demanding information.</p>	<p>Ensures transparency and accountability in the govt operations and citizen's access to public information.</p>
<p>Forest Rights Act, 2006</p>	<p>The Act gives forest rights of forest dwelling Scheduled Tribes and other traditional forest dwellers on all forest lands, namely:- (a) right to hold and live in the forest land under the individual or common occupation for habitation or for self-cultivation for livelihood by a member or members of a forest dwelling Scheduled Tribe or other traditional forest dwellers; (b) community rights over forest; (c) right of ownership, access to collect, use, and dispose of minor forest produce which has been traditionally collected within or outside village boundaries.</p>	<p>This act safeguards the rights of STs and other traditional forest dwellers, Hence, it is relevant to the program.</p>
<p>The Maharashtra State Public Services (Reservation for Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, De-Notified Tribes (Vimukta Jatis), Nomadic Tribes, Special Backward Category and Other Backward Classes) Act, 2001.</p>	<p>The Act provides for the reservation of vacancies in a public services and posts in favour of the persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, De-notified Tribes (Vimukta Jatis), Nomadic Tribes, Special Backward Category and Other Backward Classes of Citizens and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.</p>	<p>Program will ensure non-discrimination, and flow of benefits to vulnerable groups.</p>



Name of Law/Policy	Relevant provisions of the Act/ Policy	Relevance
The Maharashtra Right to Public Service Act, 2015	This Act provides that the citizens shall be provided services by the State Government in a transparent, efficient and time bound manner. In order to ensure effective implementation of this Act, the Maharashtra State Commission for Right to Services has been established. Citizens can get complete information regarding which services are available under this Act by accessing either the mobile app 'RTS Maharashtra' or 'RTS Web Portal'. Citizens can even apply online for availing these services. In case of delay in providing the services or denial of the services without adequate justification, citizens can file first and second Appeal with senior officers within the department and third and final Appeal can be filed before the Commission.	Program interventions are to further strengthen this and hence applicable.
Micro, Small And Medium Enterprises (MSME) Act 2006	The Act provides for facilitating the promotion and development and enhancing the competitiveness of micro, small and medium enterprises and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto. WHEREAS a declaration as to expediency of control of certain industries by the Union was made under section 2 of the industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951; AND WHEREAS it is expedient to provide for facilitating the promotion and development and enhancing the competitiveness of micro, small and medium enterprises and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.	Relevant as the program intends to strengthen the G2B and G2C services towards economic development.

**Summary:** It can be ascertained that adequate provisions and legal safeguards are in place both at the national and state level to manage social risks that emerge from the proposed operation. State's policy architecture secures the rights and privileges of the poor, women and socially marginalized groups and works to ensure transparent and accountable delivery of services in the skilling and entrepreneurial sector by concerned government agencies based on the principles of inclusion, participation, and equitable access. The state policies also recognize the special rights and needs of persons with disabilities, vulnerabilities of women, and secures the rights of women in their workplace.

### Annexure 3: Summary Note on State Level Consultations on ESSA

#### Objectives

A state level multi-stakeholder/multi-sectoral half-day consultation workshop was organized with support from MITRA at Sahyadri, Mumbai on August 9, 2024, to discuss the key findings and recommendations of the draft ESSA for MahaSTRIDE. Specifically, inputs were sought on the assessment and key findings of the report as well as on the recommendations made on environment and social management for achieving Program's development objective and strengthening the intended outcomes.

The ESSA (this report) has factored-in the comments, feedback and suggestions received during the various consultation forums, including the state level workshop in August 2024. While the draft ESSA was disclosed on MITRA and World Bank websites in July 2024 for disseminating information about the proposed operation and soliciting feedback, the revised/final ESSA will also be disclosed for use and reference of all interested stakeholders and parties.

#### Broad Schedule/Agenda of the Consultation Workshop

1.	Welcome Address and Opening Remarks on overall Government Program and the context for the MahaSTRIDE Program	MITRA, Govt. of Maharashtra
2.	MahaSTRIDE - Objectives, Components, and Key Activities under the Operation	Task Team Leader, World Bank
3.	Environment and Social Systems Assessment (ESSA) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>About ESSA</li> <li>Environment Systems Assessment</li> <li>Social Systems Assessment</li> <li>Key Recommendations</li> </ul>	World Bank ESSA Team
4.	Discussions and feedback on ESSA findings and recommendations	Facilitated by E&S team, World Bank with support from MITRA
5.	Summary and Closing Remarks	World Bank Team
6.	Vote of Thanks	MITRA, Govt. of Maharashtra

#### Key Participants

The participants included officials of MITRA, Department of Planning, DSE, Tourism, and other key departments such as Environment Tribal Development, Social Welfare, Revenue Departments along with district level officials and representatives of the civil society. A

google survey form was circulated to all the invitees and additional stakeholders so in the absence of their participation (due to conflicting schedules), they too have an opportunity to share their comments/inputs on the draft report. The list of participants is attached at the end of this note.

### Summary of the Discussions

The officials/participants at the State Level ESSA consultations agreed with the key findings and supported the recommendations as well as the suggested environment and social management measures for inclusion in the Program Action Plan. A few key points and additional comments that came-up during the discussions include the following:

1. The Government of Maharashtra is setting up District Climate Action Cell to make District Climate Action Plan for which required order has been recently issued. The operation should support and factor-in the integration of these elements into the relevant result areas, including those related to the data systems and District Strategic Plans.
2. Ecosystem/environmental analysis (costs and benefits) should be expressed in economic terms and should be made a part of District Development Plan/s. Also, this should be inter-woven into data and information management systems and performance report cards.
3. The project should help the Govt. of Maharashtra/MITRA to quantify the positive impacts/effects on environment. One key area of support that is required is in the reduction in environmental footprint, including carbon so that it could be used as an important parameter for decision-making and performance monitoring.
4. An Urban Observatory was established in Pune for collecting and using real time data for decision making. Some lessons can be learned from it and used for MahaSTRIDE.
5. In the MRSAC database, geospatial layers related to vulnerability can be added to support and strengthen decision making.
6. Data on drinking water quality available with all municipalities and pollution data available with Maharashtra Pollution Control Board should be automated to be part of the Data and Information Management Platforms/Systems.
7. The team/representatives from Environment Department as well as officials from MITRA, DES and Tourism acknowledged and supported that the measures suggested for strengthening and improving environmental management will be useful for the state of Maharashtra.
8. The Tribal Welfare Department shared that no negative impacts are foreseen, and the operation will enable convergence of Tribal Sub Plans and Scheduled Caste Sub Plans with the District Strategic Plans and District Annual Plans.
9. The opportunity to enhance environment and social outcomes was also recognized if the operation would integrate clearances and compliances under pollution control, labour laws, land bank, land acquisition and right of way.
10. Potential to cross fertilize environment and social data with economic growth was agreed to be a critical tool to track gaps, plan in a more inclusive manner and ensure

holistic and sustainable development.

11. One participant also tabled the idea and sought World Bank's support for including nuclear in the energy basket of the state. The Bank team clarified that the operation will not support such an activity and pointed to Bank's Policy on the matter as well as the exclusion criteria for the project.

### List of Participants

1. Sushil Khodwekar IAS (Joint CEO, MITRA)
2. Aman Mittal IAS (Joint CEO, MITRA)
3. Sudhakar Bobade, Mission Director, Environment and Climate Change
4. Pradip Chandran (IAS), ADC Industries Department
5. Dr B.N. Patil, Director, Tourism
6. Mr. Vishal Modak, US, Environment Department
7. Ketaki Belgaonkar, Deputy Director, DES
8. Sapna Deotale, MRSAC
9. Dr Prasharam Patil, MITRA Mumbai
10. Vinay T Zote, Senior Consultant
11. R. D. Katke US, Tribal Development Dept
12. Naresh Bangar, Animal Husbandry
13. Anurag Mittal, DIT
14. Amit Bajpai, DIT
15. Nalini Yadav, Environment Department
16. Rupesh Mahale, Project Officer, Environment and Climate Change
17. Pushkar Bhagoorka, Planning Department
18. Parth Joshi, Consultant, EY, DES
19. Shrutika Patade
20. Ashana Wani
21. Utsav Sodha
22. Hrushikesh Kolatkar
23. Ranjan B. Verma
24. Ms. Ranjana
25. Ms. Aashima Verma
26. Neha Gupta, The World Bank
27. Neha Vyas, The World Bank
28. Swati Dogra, The World Bank
29. Savinay Grover, The World Bank
30. Baijnath Singh, The World Bank