CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE FOR SUSTAINABLE PROCUREMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL STANDARDS ENHANCEMENT (SPESSE)

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL MANAGEMENT PLAN (ESMP) FOR THE REMODELING OF SPESSE BUILDING, UNIVERSITY OF BENIN, BENIN CITY, EDO STATE, NIGERIA.

FINAL REPORT

February, 2024

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LIST OF ACRONYMS AND THEIR DEFINITIONS

°C	Degree Celsius
<	Less than
BOD	Biological Oxygen Demand
CE	Centers for Excellence
CoC	Code of Conduct
CRF	Complaint registers form
CSW	Commercial Sex Workers
EDMES	Edo State Ministry of Environment and Sustainability
ESF	Environmental and Social Framework
ESMP	Environmental and Social Management Plan
ESS	Environmental and Social Standard
EWMB	Edo State Waste Management Board
FMEnv	Federal Ministry of Environment
FMU	Facility Management Unit
GBV	Gender Based Violence
GPS	Geographical Positioning System
GRC	Grievance Redress Committee
GRM	Grievance Redress Mechanism
HSE	Health Safety and Environment
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
HSE	Safety, Health and Environmental
LGA	Local Government Area
OHS	Occupational Health and Safety
pH	Hydrogen ion concentration
PPE	Personal Protective Equipment
PWD	People with Disabilities
RAM	Risk Assessment Matrix
SEA	Sexual Exploitation & Abuse
STD	Sexually Transmitted Disease
SPESSE	Sustainable Procurement, Environmental and Social Standards Enhancement
SPM	Suspended Particulate Matter
STIs	Sexually Transmitted Diseases
UNIBEN	University of Benin

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

ES1 Introduction

The Centre for Excellence in Sustainable Procurement, Environmental and Social Standards Enhancement, University of Benin (SPESSE-UNIBEN) is one of the Six Centres for Excellence (CE) spread across Nigeria with the goal of contributing to the development of Nigeria. SPESSE –UNIBEN intends to remodel and renovate its building located within the College of Medical Sciences, University of Benin, Benin City, Edo State, Nigeria. Therefore, in compliance with World Bank Environmental and Social Framework, the CE is conducting an Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) to evaluate the environmental and social baseline conditions of the proposed project site, identify and analyses the potential impacts (positive and negative) of the project and provide practical plans to manage the potential environmental and social unintended negative impacts associated with the project's activities. The field survey of both the physical and socio-economic environment was conducted between the 13th and 15th of November, 2023. Based on the primary screening for the project, the risks associated with the remodeling of the SPEESE building under this ESMP is rated as moderate.

ES2 Project location

The project site is located on a 9900sqm piece of land opposite the nursing building, University of Benin, Ugbowo campus on coordinates 05.62346° and 06.39451°

ES3 Applicable World Bank Environmental and Social Standards

The Environmental and Social Standards relevant to the Project are ESS 1, 2,4 and 10.

ES4 Positive Impacts of the Project

The impacts of the project include:

Positive Impact	Negative Impacts
increase in business opportunities	impairment of air quality

employment opportunities for locals and residents of the immediate community	increase in particulate matter (dust) and noise levels
Provision of additional facilities will help to bridge the gap in infrastructure in the education sector	potential blockage of drainage patterns
Construction of toilets and WASH facilities will promote hygiene and sanitation in the school and thus better health status for students.	increase in GBV, SEA AND STI incidences
Enhance the quality of postgraduate education	occupational and traffic hazards and accidents
	contamination of soil and acceleration of soil erosion
	increase in social vices
	influx of labour workers
	Increased demand on infrastructure
	waste generation (domestic, construction, chemical and sewage)

ES 5 Environmental and Social Management Plan

The Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) for all phases of the project of the proposed SPESSE Building has been designed. (see section 4 of the report). The estimated cost for the implementation of the recommended ESMP is ₦4,620,000.

ES6 Stakeholders Engagement

The Engagement and consultations which was held on the 14th and 15th of November, 2023 was performed with all stakeholders to address their concerns and expectations which were captured in the ESMP. All consultations were preceded by disclosure of adequate project information and environmental and social information to ensure that participants are fully informed.

ES7 Grievance Redress Mechanism

A grievance redress mechanism has already been developed by SPESSE-UNIBEN to handle concerns, conflicts, disturbances, accidents etc. A standalone procedure for responding to allegations of GBV/sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA)/ sexual harassment (SH) has been established which adopts the Survivor's centered approach and confidentiality and relies on the existing UNIBEN sexual harassment policy 2019

ES8 Conclusion and Recommendations

The proposed building project will bring economic and social benefits to the host University community and Edo State, However, the negative social and environmental impacts that have been identified and are associated with the implementation of this project are minimal and could be addressed by implementing the mitigation measures proposed to ensure that they pose no threat to the environment and to the immediate community. To this end, some recommendations have been made in the body of the report

CHAPTER ONE

1.0 Introduction

The Centre for Excellence in Sustainable Procurement, Environmental and Social Standards Enhancement, University of Benin (SPESSE-UNIBEN) is one of the Six Centres for Excellence (CE) spread across Nigeria with the goal of contributing to the development of Nigeria through the regeneration of performance indicators in the field of procurement, environment and social standards. SPESSE –UNIBEN intends to remodel and renovate its building located within the College of Medical Sciences, University of Benin, Benin City, Edo State, Nigeria. Therefore, in compliance with the World Bank Environmental and Social Framework, the CE is preparing an Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) which will provide an overview of the environmental and social baseline conditions of the proposed project site, identify and analyses the potential impacts (positive and negative) of the project and provide practical plans to manage the potential environmental and social unintended negative impacts associated with the project's activities, as well as allow for meaningful and inclusive multi-stakeholder consultations and engagement throughout the lifecycle of the project.

The remodeling of the SPEESE building will be implemented by a qualified contractor. After due environmental and social screening and scoping of the project, a detailed research and field survey of both the physical and socio-economic environment was conducted between the 13th and 15th of November, 2023 providing an environmental baseline of the University of Benin, Ugbowo campus.

The risks associated with the remodeling of the SPEESE building under this ESMP is rated as moderate based on the primary screening and the study of the anticipated risks and impacts, considering that no significant adverse environmental and social, and occupational health and safety impacts are anticipated and any potential impacts that may emerge during the sub-projects life cycle will be managed properly to an acceptable manner to the project ESMF and WB ESF.

Table 1: Introduction and General Information

Name of the Subproject:	Remodeling of the SPESSE Building
Subprojects ID:	
Subprojects Location	University of Benin, Ugbowo, Benin City, Edo State, Nigeria.
Sector and Type of Subproject:	Construction/Renovation of Building
Implementing of the Subproject:	Tessy Development Engineering Consultancy Service Limited.
Estimated cost of the subproject	US$ 7,750,000
Total Estimated ESMP implementation Cost	US$ 2,900 (₦4,620,000)
Field Visit (Yes/No; Include Date):	Yes- 13th -15th November 2023 or physical screening
Was Consultation Carried out? (Yes/No):	YES
Implementation Period	July 2023
Proposed Class of Subproject (Low to High):	Moderate
Implementation Modality	

CHAPTER TWO

2.0 Project Description

The proposed works is for the remodeling of the SPESSE building complex. The proposed building being remodeled is hosted within the University of Benin (UNIBEN), Ugbowo campus, Benin City, Edo State. The proposed remodeling/construction works includes civil, electrical and plumbing works. Specific project works include:

- Clearing and land scraping/leveling.
- Construction of drainage system.
- Sinking of Borehole
- Temporary electrical fittings and connections (in case of working hour extending beyond day light period).
- Temporary structures such as cabins (possibly to serve as storage facility) and mini canteen.

The sub-project activities would precede the remodeling of the SPEESE building. This would be designed to accommodate the following functions: 4 classrooms, 1 conference room, 2 seminar halls, 1 library, 10 offices, 1 laboratory, 1 business centre and 1 kitchenette

2.1 Project Location

The project site is located on a 9900sqm piece of land opposite the nursing building, University of Benin, Ugbowo campus on coordinates 05.62346° and 06.39451°. It is about 2.4km from the University's main gate. The University is located within the Ovia North-East Local Government Area of Benin City, the capital of Edo State. Figures 1 to 3 display the project location's coordinates and map.

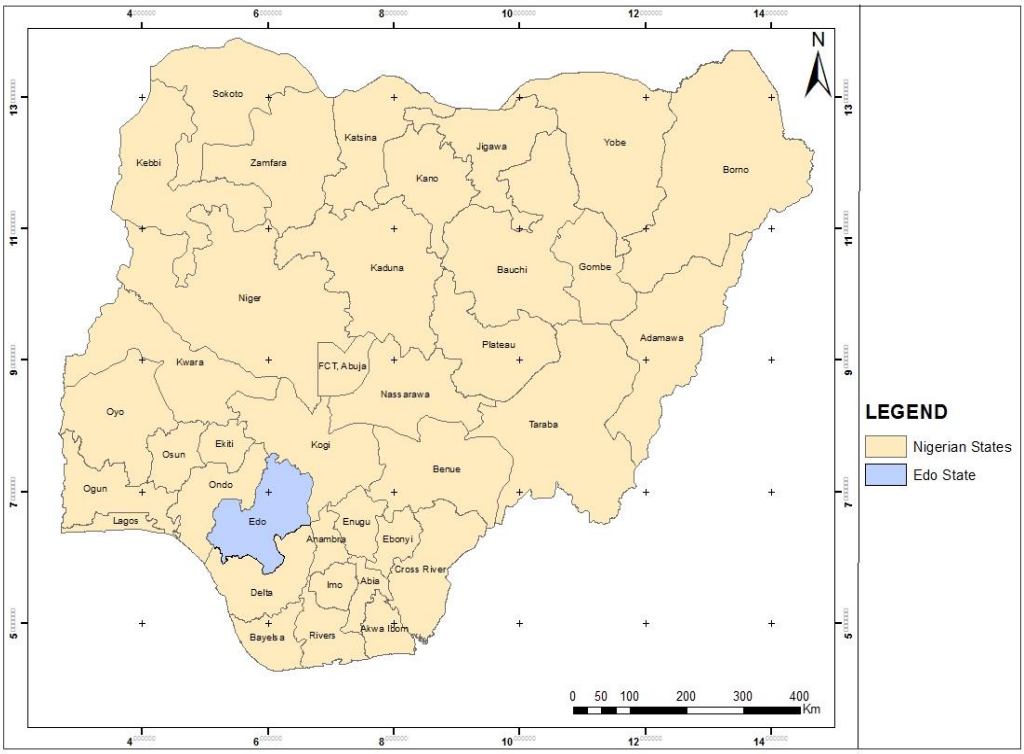

Figure 1: Map of Nigeria showing Edo state.

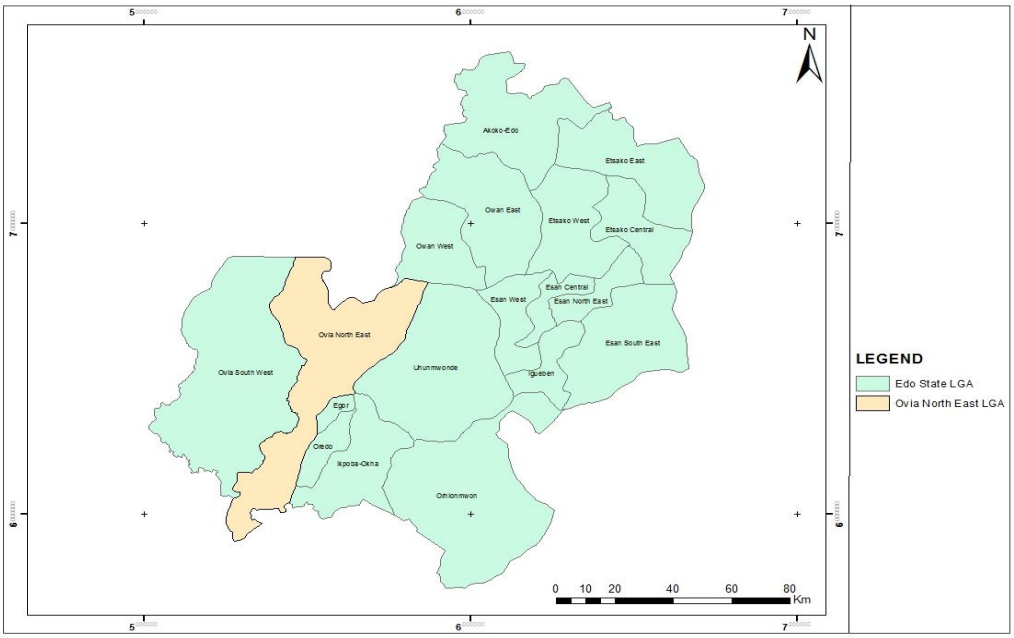

Figure 2: Map of Edo state showing the host Local Government Area (Ovia North-East L.G.A)

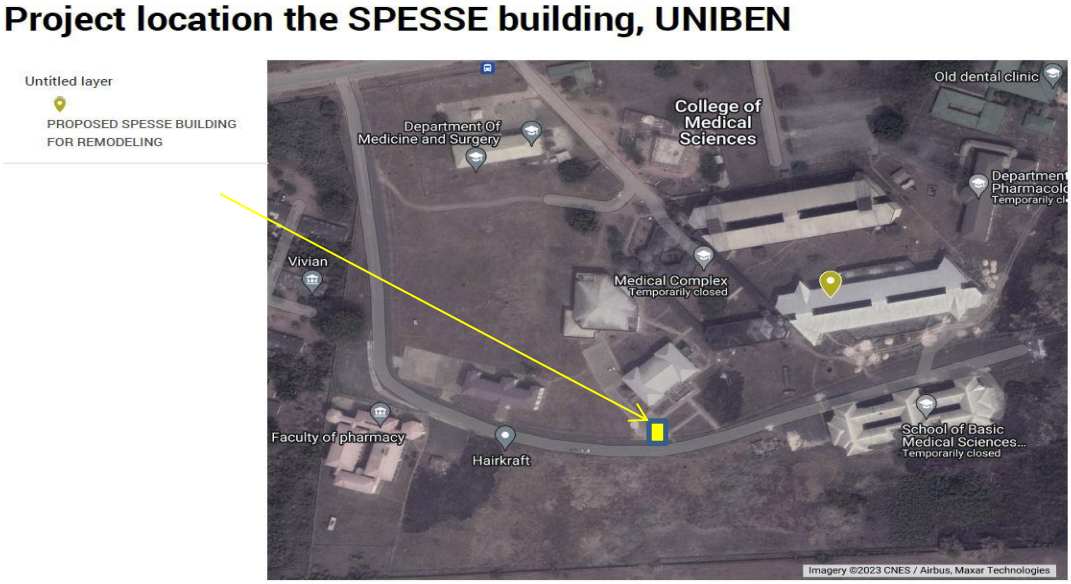

Figure 3: Google Map Imagery showing the location of the SPESSE building. Source: google maps, 2023

CHAPTER THREE

3.0 Environmental and Social Impact Assessment

3.1 Applicable World Bank Environmental and Social Standards

The Environmental and Social Standards relevant to the Project are described in Table 2 below:

Table 2: WB Environmental and Social Standards

Applicable Environmental and Social Standards (ESS)	**Reason for applicability**	**Applicability to the UNIBEN SPESSE Project**	
		Yes	**No**
ESS 1: Assessment and Management of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts	The sub project will have negative impacts as well as some positive impacts on the environment and the immediate community. it is important to evaluate these impacts and mitigate or enhance them as appropriate	[x]	[]
ESS 2: Labour and Working Conditions	The sub project will require a labour force to be employed during all phases in its lifecycle.	[x]	[]
ESS 4: Community Health and Safety	The construction activities will have an impact on the workers and community. it will expose them to disease, security risks and accidents.	[x]	[]
ESS 10: Stakeholder Engagement and Information Disclosure	The stakeholders of the project must be engaged. Their contributions are essential to the preparation and implementation of the ESMP	[x]	[]

3.2 Environmental and Social Screening:

The Screening exercise for the ESMP was conducted by the SPESSE ESF staff (including the E &S officer), field staff, and design engineers through site visits to the sub-project site, using a screening checklist attached (see annex-1). From a security perspective and the subproject screening, SPESSE-UNIBEN has concluded that the subprojects sites are safe and there are no security concerns that require specific additional attention.

1. **Positive Impacts**

Based on the screening conducted (Annex 1), the sub-project may trigger some positive impacts. These include:

a. Increase in business opportunities

b. Employment opportunities for locals and residents of the immediate community

c. Provision of additional facilities, which will help to bridge the gap in infrastructure in the education sector

d. Construction of toilets and WASH facilities, which will promote hygiene and sanitation in the school and thus better health status for students.

e. Enhance the quality of postgraduate education

2. **Negative impacts**

a. Impairment of air quality

b. Increase in particulate matter (dust) and noise levels

c. Potential blockage of drainage patterns

d. Contamination of soil

e. Acceleration of soil erosion

f. Increase in GBV, SEA AND STI incidences

g. Increase in social vices

h. Influx of labour workers

i. Occupational harzards and accidents

j. Traffic harzards and accidents

k. Increased pressure and demand on infrastructure

l. Waste generation (domestic, construction, chemical and sewage)

3.3 Screening Outcomes:

The screening outcomes are outlined and discussed in the subsections below.

3.3.1 Impairment of air quality

Air quality will be impaired due to emissions from heavy-duty machinery and equipment that will be used on site. Trucks that convey materials to and from the project site will also emit gaseous pollutants into the atmosphere. This impact is rated low for all phases.

3.3.2 Increase in particulate matter (dust) and noise levels

Construction, operation and decommissioning activities will cause an increase in dust and noise levels. This impact is rated low as the impact can be easily mitigated

3.3.3 Potential blockage of drainage patterns

During the construction and decommissioning works, drainages might be blocked by building materials, construction debris, dismantled structures etc. This impact is rated low as the impact is for a short term and can easily be mitigated

3.3.4 Contamination of soil

Fuel and oils might spill on soil surface. Mixed concrete might also affect soil characteristics. This impact is rated low as it can easily be mitigated

3.3.5 Acceleration of soil erosion

If not properly managed, construction activities might lead to soil erosion if the existing drainages are blocked or if new ones are not constructed to connect to the existing ones. This impact is rated low as it can easily be mitigated

3.3.6 Increase in social vices, GBV, SEA AND STI incidences

The influx of workers due to the construction and operation of the project might cause an increase in social vices, GBV, SEA AND STI incidences. This impact is rated low as it can easily be mitigated.

3.3.7 Influx of labour workers

Workers will be employed to work on the project throughout its lifecycle, as such an influx of workers from other areas is anticipated. This influx may bring about an increase in social vices, GBV, SEA AND STI incidences

3.3.8 Occupational hazards and accidents

The construction and decommissioning activities of the project might cause harm to the workers on site and the community if not properly managed.

3.3.9 Traffic hazards and accidents

The movement of materials to and from the site during the construction and decommissioning phases may lead to traffic hazards and accidents.

3.3.10 Waste generation (domestic, construction, chemical and sewage)

Waste will be generated at all phases of the project. the waste generated must be sorted and segregated.

CHAPTER FOUR

4.0 Environmental and Social Action Plan

4.1 Environmental and Social Management Plan:

Environmental and social management plan (ESMP) is a tool for managing the predicted environmental and social impacts of a project. This ESMP details (a) the measures to be taken by the project during preconstruction, construction, and operation phases to eliminate or offset adverse environmental and social impacts, or to reduce them to acceptable levels; and (b) the actions needed to implement these measures.

Table 3: *Environmental and Social Management Plan (Preconstruction phase)*

S/No	Activities	Potential Impact	Mitigation Measures	Responsibility for Mitigation	Mitigation Cost (NGN)
1A	Preconstruction	- Air pollution from exhaust fumes of vehicles and equipment - Increase in noise levels - Increase in particulate matter	- Ensure that all vehicles are serviced; undergo vehicle emission testing (VET) and vehicle exhaust screening (VES). - Use fuel efficiency techniques, catalytic converters etc. on machinery - Use road worthy vehicles/ maintain regularly - Maximize off-work hours, especially for activities with potentially high noise generation - Use tarpaulin to properly cover materials conveying truck.	Contractor	600,000
2A		Destruction of vegetation:	- Limit land clearing to specific zone needed for the construction work. - Segment a safe and specific area for equipment parking	Contractor	150,000

3A		Temporary removal of topsoil, Oil leakages from stacked equipment and dis-colouration of topsoil	- Service equipment and install a non-permeable membrane or drip pan.	Contractor	150,000
4A		Traffic incidents and accidents	- Ensure that materials are tightly packed and belted firmly to avoid rolling off the truck. - Convey materials using most suitable trucks. - Ensure caution tapes are attached to the ends of protruded rods /woods in transit to notify oncoming vehicles and road users. - Limit movement to off-peak hours (peak hours are: 7:30AM – 10:00AM; and 4:00PM – 5:30PM; Mondays – Fridays) - Liaise with the personnel at the security checkpoint for traffic management - Ensure contractor drivers adhere strictly to traffic management plan (TMP) and road safety rules.	Contractor	Part of contractor cost

			- Avoid night hours for fleet movement, use trained drivers, ensure drivers do not use substances, comply with fleet management standards - Vehicles should not be overloaded with materials - Enforce the use of flagmen and safety cautions in built up areas, limit movement during religious activities such as Fridays etc.		
5A		Occupational hazards and accidents	- Submit and implement company HSE Manual/ Implement site specific Occupational Health and Safety Management Plan (OHSMP) - Provide adequate first aid, first aiders, PPE, safety signages - Ensure qualified HSE officer on every team - Conduct daily induction/toolbox for workers before work commences - Use reflective tapes and signage integrated at site for safety at night	Contractor	Part of contractor cost

6A		Third party agitation	- Ensure collaboration with community leadership for recruitment of local labour. - Establish effective GRM for receiving and resolution of complaints - Special consideration and less stringent recruitment requirement for women and PWD to encourage women participation. - Ensure adequate sensitization of the GRM process and the Complaint form - Provision of cultural sensitization training for workers regarding engagement with local community.		900,000
7A		Waste generation	- Collaborate with FMU and EWMB for timely removal of waste materials from site		200,000
Total Preconstruction Phase (Environmental & OHS and Social)					2,000,000

Table 4: *Environmental and Social Management Plan (construction phase)*

S/No	Activities	Potential impact	Mitigation measures	Responsible for mitigation	Cost (NGN)
1B	Construction	Generation of waste (domestic and industrial)	- Ensure proper sorting; storage and final disposal of waste, liaise with FMU to collaborate with EWMB - Implement Waste Management Plan. - Ensure recycling of removed materials from site through approved recycling facilities to conserve resources. - Ensure no waste is left behind at project site after construction	Contractor	350,000
2B		Occupational hazards and accidents	- OHS training and education, implementation of OHSMP: - Provision of Hazard Communication Procedures (HAZCOM) - Provision of adequate first aid, first aiders, PPE, safety signages (Bini, Ishan and English languages). - Workers should get a daily induction/toolbox before work commences, use of hazard signs	Contractor	Part of Contractor cost

3B		Traffic hazards and accidents	- Limit movement to off-peak hours (peak hours are: 7:30AM – 10:00AM; and 4:00PM – 5:30PM; Mondays – Fridays) - Ensure contractor drivers adhere strictly to road safety rules. - Liaise with the personnel at the security along the route and in the school for traffic management. - Avoid night hours for fleet movement, use trained drivers, ensure drivers do not use substances - Comply with fleet management standards - Vehicles should not be overloaded with materials, - Use of flagmen and safety cautions in built up areas - Limit movement during religious activities such as Fridays etc.		

4B		Third party/Workers agitation	- Comply with and implement the Labor Management Plan in the ESMP including: inclusive recruitment especially for women and PWD (where feasible), safe work conditions, provision of basic amenities etc. - Workers will have freedom of association and should be sensitized on the available grievance redress channels	Contractor	Cost as part of 6A
5B		Labour influx	- Ensure that children and minors are not employed directly or indirectly on the project by requesting legal proof of age during recruitment process - Implement sensitization campaign against child labour - Regular stakeholders' meetings - All employees and contractor must sign the code of conduct - Engage local workforce especially as unskilled workers		800,000

			- Provide basic amenities for workers like water, health, toilets etc. implement labor influx plan - Sourcing of local workforce from project communities - Provide cultural orientation/sensitization training to improve awareness of and sensitivity of workers to local cultures, traditions, and lifestyles. - Ensure implementation of the GBV-GRM protocol and appoint GBV focal persons in the project sites		
6B		Increase in social vices, SEA, GBV	- Sensitise staff, Community leaders, women group, youth group on SEA/SH preventive measures and response plan - Signages against tolerance for SEA/SH/GBV to be installed along the project communities/corridor		200,000
	Total Construction Phase (Environmental & OHS and Social)				1,550,000

Table 5: *Environmental and Social Management Plan (Operation phase)*

S/No	Activities	Potential Impact	Mitigation Measures	Responsibility for Mitigation	Mitigation Cost (NGN)
3A	Operation	Waste generation	- Provide colour coded waste bins that are immovable but can be easily tipped off from down or up - FMU in collaboration with EMWB to ensure routine removal of waste - Recyclable waste to be sent to recycling centers Sewage evacuation as may be needed periodically - Provide covered waste bins for disposable of sanitary pads	SPEESE FMU	500,000
3B		Occupational hazards and accidents such as electrical shocks, slips, falls from stairs, falling of storage water tank	- Stanchion for water tank should be adequate and well installed to prevent tank from falling.	Contractor SPESSE/FMU	Part of project installation costs

			- The tank should be galvanized to prevent rust and should be periodically washed out to remove sludge. - Ensure proper termination of electrical points, and efficient insulation of cables. Ensure all electrical appliances are properly earthed. - Installation of breakers - Routine inspections and maintenance of electrical appliances		FMU Budget
3C		Water contamination from laboratory processes	- Provide treatment of wastewater before discharge - Implement WMP - Liaise with FMU for maintenance works and continuous waste removal; Ensure proper handling of hazardous wastes.	Contractor	SPEESE/FMU routine maintenance budget
	Total Construction Phase (Environmental & OHS and Social)				500,000

Table 6: *Environmental and Social Management Plan (Decommissioning phase)*

S/No	Activities	Potential Impact	Mitigation Measures	Responsibility for Mitigation	Mitigation Cost (NGN)
4A		- Air pollution from exhaust fumes of vehicles and equipment - Increase in noise levels - Increase in particulate matter	- Ensure that all vehicles are serviced; undergo vehicle emission testing (VET) and vehicle exhaust screening (VES). - Use fuel efficiency techniques, catalytic converters etc. on machinery - Use road worthy vehicles/ maintain regularly - Maximize off-work hours, especially for activities with potentially high noise generation - Use tarpaulin to properly cover materials conveying truck.	Contractor	Part of contractor cost
4 4B		Destruction of vegetation	- Limit land clearing to specific zone needed for the demolition work. - Segment a safe and specific area for equipment parking	Contractor	150,000

4C		Oil leakages from stacked equipment and dis-colouration of topsoil	- Service equipment and install a non-permeable membrane/ drip pan	Contractor	Part of contractor cost
		Traffic incidents and accidents	- Ensure that materials are tightly packed and belted firmly to avoid rolling off the truck. - Convey materials using most suitable trucks. - Ensure caution tapes are attached to the ends of protruded rods /woods in transit to notify oncoming vehicles and road users. - Limit movement to off-peak hours (peak hours are: 7:30AM – 10:00AM; and 4:00PM – 5:30PM; Mondays – Fridays) - Liaise with the personnel at the security checkpoint for traffic management - Ensure contractor drivers adhere strictly to traffic management plan (TMP) and road safety rules. - Avoid night hours for fleet movement, use trained drivers, ensure drivers do not	Contractor	Part of contractor cost

			use substances, comply with fleet management standards -Vehicles should not be overloaded with materials - Use of flagmen and safety cautions in built up areas, limit movement during religious activities such as Fridays etc.		
		Occupational hazards and accidents	- Submit and implement company HSE Manual/ Implement site specific Occupational Health and Safety Management Plan (OHSMP) - Provision of adequate first aid, first aiders, PPE, safety signages - Ensure qualified HSE officer on every team - Workers should get a daily induction/toolbox before work commences - Use reflective tapes and signage integrated at site for safety at night	Contractor	Part of contractor cost
		Third party/Workers agitation	- Establish effective GRM for receiving and resolution of complaints		Part of 6A

			- Ensure adequate sensitization of the GRM process and the Complaint form - Provision of cultural sensitization training for workers regarding engagement with local community.		
		Waste generation	- Collaborate with FMU and EWMB for timely removal of waste materials from site		Part of contractor cost
	Total decommissioning Phase (Environmental & OHS and Social)				150,000
	GRAND TOTAL				4,200,000

CHAPTER FIVE

5.0 Environmental and Social Monitoring Plan:

SPESSE-UNIBEN and the Contractor are obliged to carry out the relevant reporting by conducting the internal monitoring/audit activities required by the Project activities they perform. The implementation of the mitigation measures will be monitored through daily checks by the resident engineers, biweekly by the OHS/SES staff at the location as well as monthly visits by SPESSE E&S officer.

Table 7: *E&S Monitoring Table*

Monitoring	**Action**	**Responsibility**	**Period**	**Performance Indicator**
Internal Monitoring	Regular site visits to ensure that the mitigation measures and actions specified in the ESMP are implemented and as bound by the contract is satisfactorily implemented.	Environmental and Safeguard Officer, SPESSE-UNIBEN	During Preconstruction, Construction and Operation Phases	Monitoring Reports and documentation as described below
	Regular monitoring of the contractor performance and adherence to GBV/SEA/SH obligations	E&S Officer, SPESSE-UNIBEN, GBV Officer, Centre for Response and Prevention of Sexual and Gender Based	During Preconstruction and Construction phases	Monitoring Reports presented to the SPESSE-UNIBEN team

		Violence (CRPSGBV)		

External Monitoring	Periodic site visits to ensure the project is implemented in an environmentally and socially sustainable manner using the monitoring indicators specified in the ESMP matrix and other national and international environmental and social requirements	Environmental Management Unit, UNIBEN EDMES/ EWMB	During Preconstruction, Construction and Operation Phases	- Monitoring reports from SPESSE-UNIBEN team - Provide feedback on observations. - Enforce corrective actions where necessary.
	Periodic monitoring of timely, mandatory and confidential reporting for E&S activities	Third Party Monitors/ World Bank	During Preconstruction, Construction and Operation Phases	Monitoring Reports presented to SPESSE-UNIBEN, WB

CHAPTER SIX

6.0 Summary of Stakeholders Engagement:

Consultation meetings were held with all stakeholders between the 14th and 15th of November, 2023. The suggestions and inputs made during the meetings were documented and incorporated in this report. The engagements aided in the development of mitigation measures against negative impacts and enhancement measures for the positive impacts of the project, as well as the design of the Grievance Redress Mechanism.

The lists of stakeholders consulted with are given below:

- ✓ College of Medical Sciences (Staff and Students)
- ✓ University of Benin
- ✓ SPESSE-UNIBEN

Table 8: *Summary of stakeholder consultations*

Consultation activity	**Consultation date**	**Consulted beneficiaries**			**University leaders**
		Male	female	Total	
Consultation with SPESSE-UNIBEN project team	14th November, 2023	5	3	8	2
Consultation with College of Medical Sciences management, staff and students	15th November, 2023	21	11	32	6

6.1 Topics of the Consultations:

6.1.1 Consultation with SPESSE-UNIBEN project team

Topic of Discussion: proposed project design and implementation

Concerns and Questions Raised: questions bordered on the design of the remodeling project.

Response/Remark: The Architect and the SPESSE-UNIBEN project manager clarified all concerns raised

6.1.2 Consultation with College of Medical Sciences Management, Staff and Students

Topic of Discussion: perception of the project

Concerns, Questions, Issues Raised: questions were asked concerning the potential Adverse impact of the project. Participants were excited about the SPESSE project and stated that it will help in bringing development and due attention to the college.

Response/Remark: The E&S team informed them that one of the goals of the project is inclusion, and the project is aimed at bringing development to everyone, without causing a rift to others. The team also informed participants that there will be adequate mitigation against all negative impacts.

6.1.3 Consultation with the Vice chancellor and the UNIBEN Management Team

Topic of Discussion: ESMP and its importance

Management was sensitized on the importance of the ESMP and the need for management support in implementing the ESMP.

Response/Remark: The VC, represented by the DVC Academics reiterated management's support to the project and also implementing the ESMP.

CHAPTER SEVEN

7.0 Grievance Redress Mechanism

The project is in an established institution that already has mechanisms in place for grievance redress. The grievance resolution process adopted by SPESSE-UNIBEN has been prepared in line with the existing system to provide an accessible and inclusive procedure that receives and acts on complaints and suggestions in a timely fashion and that facilitates the resolution of concerns arising from this project.

The principal steps in grievance processing and resolution are stated in Table 9

Table 9: *Steps in Grievance Handling*

S/No	Steps	Responsibility	Timeline
1	Receipt of the grievance and acknowledgement to the complainant	Environmental and Safeguard Officer (ESO)	1 day
2	Entry of the complaint into the grievance database/ logbook	ESO/ Communication Officer	1 day
3	Preliminary assessment of grievance to ascertain whether it is project related. Where it is not project-related, the complainant should be duly informed and advised on the appropriate authority to report to. This is updated in the logbook and closed	ESO	2 days
4	Convene project level committee meeting to investigate the grievance	Centre Leader/ ESO	2 days
5	Agree on a resolution strategy, timeline, costs in conjunction	Complainant/ GRC/Accused	2 – 5 days

	with all parties involved.		
6	Response letter and register in the database/logbook if the solution is accepted, resolution (including any payments) and close the case. Monitor implementation of resolution	ESO	1 - 2 weeks
7	If the resolution is not accepted by any/both parties, it is referred to the Higher-Level Committee for resolution	Centre Leader / Vice Chancellor/ Governing Council	2-4 weeks after registration of grievance
8	Resort to judicial measures	State Judiciary	At any stage in the process though complainant would be persuaded to exercise patience until thorough utilization of this mediation path

CHAPTER EIGHT

8.0 Conclusion

This ESMP has been prepared based on environmental and social assessments conducted to equip the relevant authorities, SPESSE-UNIBEN, and all other stakeholders with relevant and sufficient environmental information about the proposed SPESSE building. The proposed building project will bring economic and social benefits to the host university community and Edo State. However, the negative environmental and social impacts that have been identified and are associated with the implementation of this project are minimal and could be addressed by implementing the mitigation measures proposed to ensure that they pose no threat to the environment or to the immediate community.

8.1 Recommendations

a. The building design should consider using solar panels as a renewable energy source.
b. Green areas should be provided in the site plan.
c. Ensure toilets are well lit, ventilated, properly supplied with water, and properly labeled for male, female, and disabled at all times.
d. The positions of the laboratories should be identified at the design stage to allow for effective safety and proper waste management of chemicals and other biohazard materials. In addition, all labs should be fitted with fume cupboards, emergency showers, smoke detectors, fire extinguishers, fire-resistant ceilings, etc.
e. In addition to the provision of access ramps to allow for the inclusion of people with disabilities,
f. The ramps should be low-slope
g. Doors should be light in weight and easy to turn.
h. Entrances should be sufficiently wide to allow for wheelchair access.
i. Furniture, counters, equipment, power sockets, and plugs should be placed at suitable heights reachable by people who use wheelchairs.
j. Handrails should be easy to grasp.
k. Abandoned wells and open drainages near the building should be covered.
l. Traffic signs should be placed strategically on the access road to the building to ensure traffic control.
m. SPESSE project team to ensure continuous stakeholder engagements to provide adequate and timely information and ensure involvement and inclusion.
n. Ensure timely implementation of the actions stipulated in this ESMP.
o. The contractors and the project proponents should take into consideration all mitigation measures recommended, and they should be followed judiciously so as to address the environmental and social issues that may arise in the course of the implementation of this building project.

ANNEX

Please find attached the annexures to the report. Click here