

# INDIGENOUS PEOPLES PLANNING FRAMEWORK (IPPF)

Meghalaya Logistics and Connectivity  
Improvement Project (MLCIP)

Meghalaya  
Infrastructure  
Development &  
Finance  
Corporation

**Disclaimer:** This is a draft version and is being reviewed by the World Bank.

## Table of Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>INTRODUCTION</b>	<b>1</b>
1.1	Overview	1
1.2	Project Description	1
<b>2</b>	<b>OBJECTIVE OF IPPF</b>	<b>2</b>
2.1	Need and Objectives of Indigenous People Planning Framework	2
<b>3</b>	<b>APPLICABLE POLICY AND LEGAL FRAMEWORK</b>	<b>4</b>
3.1	Policy Comparison and Gap Analysis	5
<b>4</b>	<b>PROFILE OF AFFECTED INDIGENOUS PEOPLES</b>	<b>13</b>
4.1	Socio- Cultural Profile of Meghalaya Tribe	13
<b>5</b>	<b>PROCESS OF PREPARING INDIGENOUS PEOPLE DEVELOPMENT PLAN (IPDP)</b>	<b>16</b>
5.1	Step for preparation of Indigenous People Development Plan (IPDP)	16
5.2	Indicators for inclusion in consultation with Indigenous Peoples	24
5.3	Tribal Inclusion Approach	25
5.4	Gender Issues Among Tribes	27
5.5	Entitlement	27
5.6	Benefits and Mitigation of adverse impacts for Project Affected Tribal People	28
5.7	Indigenous People Development Plan	29
5.8	Suggested format for Indigenous People Development Plan	29
5.9	Disclosure	30
5.10	Monitoring and Evaluation	30
<b>6</b>	<b>GRIEVANCE REDRESS MECHANISM</b>	<b>33</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING AND TRAINING</b>	<b>35</b>
7.1	Institutional Strengthening and Training	35
<b>8</b>	<b>Budget and Financing</b>	<b>38</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>Annexures</b>	<b>39</b>
9.1	Annexure I- Proposed Subproject details	39

<b>9.2</b>	<b>Annexure II- Requirement of Free, Prior and Informed Consent aligned with the National and World Bank ESF</b>	<b>42</b>
<b>9.3</b>	<b>Annexure III- Scheduled Tribes: Screening Checklist</b>	<b>48</b>

## List of Tables

Table 2-1 Risk Categories .....	2
Table 3-1: Policy Analysis and Gap Filling Measures .....	5
Table 5-1: Steps of preparation of IPDP .....	16
Table 5-2: Indicators of IP involvement during consultation .....	24
Table 5-3: Project Approach and Strategy for Tribal Development .....	25
Table 5-4: Sample Monitoring Indicators .....	31
Table 7-1: Training Program for Safeguards Compliances & Reporting .....	35
Table 9-1: Proposed Subproject details .....	39
Table 9-2 FPIC.....	43
Table 9-3: Application of Free Prior informed Consent (FPIC).....	44

**Disclaimer:** This is a draft version and is being reviewed by the World Bank.



## 2 INTRODUCTION

### 2.1 Overview

Meghalaya, a hilly state located in the northeastern region of India, has an estimated population of approximately 2.9 million. Based on projected growth trends, the state's population is expected to reach around 3.9 million by the year 2025. The state is predominantly inhabited by Indigenous communities recognized under the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order, 1950 comprising nearly 86% of the total population. The Khasis, Garos and Jaintias are the three principal Indigenous groups, representing about 40-45%, 30-35% and 10-15% respectively of the state's Scheduled Tribe population. Smaller tribal communities such as the Hajong, Koch, and Rabha collectively constitute around 2% of the tribal population. Additionally, minor tribes including the Kukis, Mizos, Hmars, and others each represent approximately 0.1% or less of Meghalaya's tribal population.

Governed by the Sixth Schedule, which recognizes tribal communities comprising approximately 86% of Meghalaya's population as custodians of land, forests, and natural resources, any infrastructural improvement initiative must align with customary governance and land tenure systems. With over 90% of land under community or individual tribal ownership, encouragement of local participation is essential to ensure sustainable development and environmental stewardship within growing infrastructural pressures. However, land ownership restrictions, while safeguarding indigenous rights, pose challenges for securing right-of-way, formalizing project sites, and attracting stable investment. The matrilineal societal structure and decentralized governance rooted in tribal customary laws require culturally sensitive interventions that reduce the burden on women, enhance mobility for vulnerable groups, and deliver inclusive benefits. Road connectivity must be designed not only to improve access and economic opportunity, but also to respect traditional landholding patterns and strengthen community resilience.

The road and bridge infrastructure in Meghalaya serves as a vital lifeline, connecting the state's diverse topography and enabling inclusive socio-economic growth. Through systematic upgrading and expansion of the road and logistic network, the Government of Meghalaya is enhancing the movement of goods and people, bridging remote tribal regions with urban centers and market hubs. Despite persistent challenges posed by heavy monsoons, hilly terrain, and riverine landscapes, ongoing infrastructure initiatives have significantly improved connectivity, reduced travel time, and strengthened access to essential services including education, healthcare, agriculture, and local industries. These improvements are not only fostering regional integration but also creating new opportunities for livelihood, resilience, and equitable development across the State.

### 2.2 Project Description

Considering the holistic approach, Government of Meghalaya through Government of India (GoI) has applied loan from the World Bank for improvement of 240 Km. Road and construction of 8 bridges

considered as priority under the 30% readiness criteria. The proposed subproject details are given in **Annexure I**

## 3 OBJECTIVE OF IPPF

### 3.1 Need and Objectives of Indigenous People Planning Framework

An Indigenous Peoples Planning Framework (IPPF) has been developed in accordance with the World Bank's Environmental and Social Standard 7 (ESS7) to guide the identification, assessment, and management of potential impacts on Indigenous Peoples during project implementation. The IPPF provides policy guidance, procedural steps, and institutional arrangements to ensure that any future subprojects or activities that may affect Indigenous Peoples are prepared and implemented in a culturally appropriate, inclusive, and participatory manner. It outlines the process for conducting social assessments, engaging in meaningful consultations—including Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC) where applicable—and preparing site-specific Indigenous Peoples Development Plans (IPDPs) to ensure equitable benefits and safeguard traditional rights and livelihoods.

The requirement for an Indigenous Peoples Planning Framework (IPPF) and subsequent Indigenous Peoples Development Plans (IPDPs) is determined through the World Bank's environmental and social screening process, in accordance with ESS7. This process assesses the presence of Indigenous Peoples in the project area and the nature and scale of potential impacts. Projects are not assigned fixed categories (A, B, C) under the ESF; instead, they are classified by risk level—High, Substantial, Moderate, or Low—based on the significance of environmental and social impacts, including those on Indigenous People.

Based on the Social and Indigenous people focus project are classified into four risk categories.

**Table 3-1 Risk Categories**

Risk Level	Description
High Risk	Significant adverse impacts likely; complex mitigation required. May involve land acquisition, displacement, or impacts on Indigenous Peoples' cultural heritage.
Substantial Risk	Moderate to significant impacts; mitigation is feasible but requires strong capacity and oversight.
Moderate Risk	Limited adverse impacts; predictable and reversible with standard mitigation.
Low Risk	Minimal or no adverse social/environmental impacts.

The objectives of the Indigenous People Planning Framework (IPPF) are:

- **Respect for Indigenous Rights and Identity:** To ensure that development initiatives uphold and promote the human rights, dignity, cultural identity, aspirations, and natural resource-based livelihoods of Indigenous Peoples.
- **Impact Prevention and Mitigation:** To prevent adverse impacts of development projects on Indigenous communities. Where avoidance is not feasible, the aim is to minimize, mitigate, and/or provide appropriate compensation for such impacts.
- **Inclusive and Sustainable Development:** To foster sustainable development outcomes that are inclusive, culturally sensitive, and accessible to Indigenous Peoples.
- **Participatory Project Design:** To enhance project effectiveness and community support by establishing and maintaining continuous, meaningful engagement with Indigenous Peoples throughout the entire project lifecycle.
- **Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC):** To secure FPIC from affected Indigenous communities in the specific circumstances outlined in this Environmental and Social Standard (ESS).
- **Preservation of Cultural Heritage and Adaptive Capacity:** To recognize, respect, and safeguard the cultural heritage, traditional knowledge, and practices of Indigenous Peoples, while enabling them to adapt to evolving conditions in a manner and timeframe that aligns with their values and preferences.

Indigenous Peoples in the Meghalaya context may be particularly vulnerable to the loss of, alienation from, or exploitation of their land and access to natural and cultural resources due to the implementation of the MLCIP. In recognition of this vulnerability, in addition to the General Requirements of this ESS 7 and those set out in ESSs 1 and 10, the Project through the PMU/PIU will obtain the FPIC of the affected Indigenous Peoples in accordance with paragraphs 25 and 26 in circumstances in which the project will:

- (a) Have adverse impacts on land and natural resources subject to traditional ownership or under customary use or occupation;
- (b) Cause relocation of Indigenous Peoples/Sub-Saharan African Historically Underserved Traditional Local Communities from land and natural resources subject to traditional ownership or under customary use or occupation; or
- (c) Have significant impacts on Indigenous Peoples' cultural heritage that is material to the identity and/or cultural, ceremonial, or spiritual aspects of the affected Indigenous Peoples' lives.

Considering these circumstances, the FPIC procedure is aptly applied as the MLCIP will trigger the circumstance a. and b. and therefore carefully designed steps (although there is no universal template) will be incorporated to ensure the FPIC process is followed diligently for this project.



## 4 APPLICABLE POLICY AND LEGAL FRAMEWORK

The project is governed by a comprehensive policy and legal framework designed to safeguard the rights, lands, cultures, and livelihoods of Scheduled Tribes and other indigenous communities in Meghalaya. This includes relevant provisions of the Constitution of India (particularly the Fifth and Sixth Schedules), the autonomous governance structure and law-making powers of the three Autonomous District Councils under the Sixth Schedule, the Meghalaya Transfer of Land (Regulation) Act, 1971, the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013 (along with the Meghalaya RFCTLARR Rules, 2015), the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006, the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, the respective ADC forest management acts, and the World Bank's Environmental and Social Standard 7 (ESS7) on Indigenous Peoples, including the requirement of Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) where applicable. A detailed description and analysis of all applicable laws, regulations, and standards are provided in Chapter 2 (Existing Policy & Legal Framework) of the Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF), to which reference may kindly be made.

## 4.1 Policy Comparison and Gap Analysis

**Table 4-1: Policy Analysis and Gap Filling Measures**

Sl. No	Activity	World Bank ESS7	Indian Regulatory Framework	Measures Adopted for This Project
1	Social Screening.	Para 10 of World Bank ESS 7	<p>Under Section 4(I) of the RFCTLARR Act, the government must conduct a Social Impact Assessment (SIA) before acquiring land for public purposes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This SIA must be carried out in consultation with the relevant local body—Heads of Traditional Institutions, Municipality, or Municipal Corporation—at the village or ward level in the affected area.</li> <li>The Meghalaya Transfer of Land (Regulation) Act, 1971 does not contain any provision for such assessments.</li> </ul>	<p>Apply the checklist to assess:</p> <p>Tribal Settlements</p> <p>Identify areas predominantly inhabited by tribal communities recognized under constitutional and state provisions, based on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Self-identification as IP groups</li> <li>Attachment to distinct habitats or ancestral territories</li> <li>Presence of unique cultural, social, or political institutions</li> <li>Use of distinct languages or dialects</li> </ul> <p>Land Ownership in Autonomous Council Areas</p> <p>Determine status of land—community-owned, customary use, or privately held.</p> <p>Land Use Patterns</p> <p>Evaluate access to natural resources, practices like shifting cultivation,</p>

**Disclaimer:** This is a draft version and is being reviewed by the World Bank

Sl. No	Activity	World Bank ESS7	Indian Regulatory Framework	Measures Adopted for This Project
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No other relevant government regulations currently apply to this requirement in Meghalaya</li> </ul>	<p>and overall land utilization.</p> <p>Cultural and Structural Impact</p> <p>Assess potential effects on physical structures and cultural heritage sites within the project area.</p> <p>Affected Households and Resources</p> <p>Identify impacted families and common property resources</p> <p>Grievance Redressal Mechanism</p> <p>Confirm existence and functionality of local systems for addressing community concerns.</p> <p>Conduct a comparative analysis of project alternatives by weighing social and financial costs linked to Indigenous Peoples' displacement.</p> <p>Assess land requirements, identify households reliant on land for livelihood and shelter, and account for common property resources.</p> <p>Prepare a budget.</p>
2	Social Impact Assessment	Para 11 of World	Applies under RFCTLARR Act, 2013 (Chapter II)	Carry out targeted social assessment as a part of the ESIA. In case the project involves three circumstances related to adverse impacts on cultural heritage, land and natural resources, and relocation— then

**Disclaimer:** This is a draft version and is being reviewed by the World Bank.

Sl. No	Activity	World Bank ESS7	Indian Regulatory Framework	Measures Adopted for This Project
		Bank ESS 7	<p>No provision under Meghalaya Transfer of Land (Regulation) Act, 1971.</p> <p>No other relevant government regulations</p>	<p>Free Prior and Informed Consent is required (Refer to the next section). Targeted social assessment includes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Mapping customary norms, practices and institutional framework applicable to IP within the PIA.</li> <li>2. Baseline survey of demographic, social, cultural, and political characteristics of IP; including data on land and territories that they have traditionally owned or customarily used or occupied; and the natural resources on which they depend.</li> <li>3. Assessing the tenurial arrangements and traditional use of land by IP for their livelihoods (seasonal or cyclical use) or for any other purposes within the PIA, particularly women's role in the management and use of these resources.</li> <li>4. Identifying any potential significant impacts on the cultural heritage of IP, and whether the cultural heritage is material to the identity and/or cultural, ceremonial, or spiritual aspects of their lives.</li> <li>5. Identifying project benefits and measures to mitigate adverse impacts in a culturally appropriate manner and to promote long-term sustainability of natural resources on which they depend               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Stakeholder consultations</li> <li>b) Meaningful consultation with key stakeholders, including affected</li> </ol> </li> </ol>

Sl. No	Activity	World Bank ESS7	Indian Regulatory Framework	Measures Adopted for This Project
				<p>tribal households, NGOs/CSOs, Heads of Traditional Institutions (Rangbah Shnongs, Wahch Chnong, Nokmas), PWD representatives, and revenue officials. These engagements should be tailored to the social and cultural context of tribal communities to ensure meaningful participation and accurate information gathering.</p> <p>c) <b>Note:</b> For land under the jurisdiction of Autonomous District Councils or held under customary community rights in Meghalaya, obtaining a No Objection Certificate (NOC) from the Village Council is mandatory. As part of the Social Impact Assessment (SIA) process, consultations must be conducted with affected households, their representatives, ADC officials, Village Head, PWD representatives, and revenue officials. Written consent from the affected villagers should be secured in the presence of the village head and other customary land users, alongside the formal NOC from the Autonomous District Council.</p>
3	Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC)	Para 24 of World Bank ESS7	Section 41 (3) of RFCTLARR Act, Section 3(2) of FRA 2006, and Schedule IV of the RFCTLARR Act	Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC) must be obtained when a project affects Indigenous Peoples (IP) through land/resource impacts, relocation, or cultural heritage disruption—across both tribal and non-tribal areas. The consent process must be documented in writing, with inputs from directly affected parties during the Social

**Disclaimer:** This is a draft version and is being reviewed by the World Bank.

Sl. No	Activity	World Bank ESS7	Indian Regulatory Framework	Measures Adopted for This Project
				Impact Assessment (SIA), alongside the Dorbar Shnong and Nokma resolutions. Project components lacking established consent from affected IP will not proceed.
4	Preparation of Indigenous Peoples Plan	Para 17 of World Bank ESS 7	RFCTLARR Act, 2013 (Chapter II), No provision under Meghalaya Transfer of Land (Regulation) Act, 1971	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Following the completion of the Social Impact Assessment (SIA), a stand-alone Indigenous Peoples Development Plan (IPDP) document will be formulated to address the specific needs and concerns of tribal communities affected by the road project. The IPDP will include:</li> <li>Summary of the Targeted Social Assessment, highlighting key findings related to Indigenous Peoples (IP) within the project influence area.</li> <li>Summary of meaningful consultations, including outcomes of the Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC) process if the project involves:</li> <li>Adverse impacts on IP land and natural resources</li> <li>Relocation of IP</li> <li>Significant impacts on IP cultural heritage</li> <li>Consultation strategy during project implementation, ensuring continued engagement with tribal stakeholders.</li> </ul>

**Disclaimer:** This is a draft version and is being reviewed by the World Bank

Sl. No	Activity	World Bank ESS7	Indian Regulatory Framework	Measures Adopted for This Project
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Culturally appropriate and gender-sensitive benefit measures, including provisions to strengthen the capacity of implementing agencies where needed.</li> <li>• Mitigation measures to avoid, minimize, or compensate for adverse impacts identified during the social assessment.</li> <li>• Dedicated budget for IPDP implementation, aligned with project timelines and funding mechanisms.</li> <li>• Grievance Redressal Mechanism, tailored to tribal governance structures and local institutions.</li> <li>• Monitoring, evaluation, and reporting framework to track IPDP implementation and ensure accountability.</li> <li>• Draft versions of the ESIA, RAP, IPDPs, LMPs will be shared during stakeholder consultations, ensuring inclusive participation from Affected parties, Indigenous households, Village Councils, and other relevant groups.</li> </ul>
5	Land Acquisition, Livelihood Restoration	Para 31 of World Bank ESS 7	RFCTLARR Act 2013, RFCTCARR Rules 2015. Article 366(25), Article 244(1) of Indian Constitution & MSIPF) Act, 2024	For land acquisition in sixth schedule areas, land acquisition will be done in coordination with Village Councils empowered by the respective Autonomous Councils.

**Disclaimer:** This is a draft version and is being reviewed by the World Bank.

Sl. No	Activity	World Bank ESS7	Indian Regulatory Framework	Measures Adopted for This Project
	and Relocation			<p>If the project results in loss of access to and loss of natural resources, ensuring continued access to natural resources or identifying the equivalent replacement resources or identifying alternative livelihoods for the affected IPs, wherever possible.</p> <p>Relocation may be considered only if it has been established that there is no feasible alternative and the FPIC of the affected IP has been obtained. If relocation is unavoidable, allocate land preferably in the same tribal area to reside including for community and social gathering. Should the cause of their relocation cease to exist, they should be allowed to return to their traditional or customary land.</p>
6	Grievance Redressal	Para 34 of World Bank ESS 7	Art 18 & 19 of Right to Information (RTI) Act, 2005	Project will follow the procedure on grievance mechanism in accordance with the standard GRM adopted for this project. Project will consider the availability of judicial recourse and customary dispute settlement mechanisms prevalent in the PIA.
7	Monitoring and Reporting	Para 15 of World Bank ESS 7	Implementation of IPDP and RAP prepared for the project require monitoring as per the RFCTLARR Act.	<p>Construction monitoring, including field inspections and surveys, will be carried out by Meghalaya PWD to ensure that social and environmental mitigation measures are taken.</p> <p>Reporting Indicators</p>



**Disclaimer:** This is a draft version and is being reviewed by the World Bank

Sl. No	Activity	World Bank ESS7	Indian Regulatory Framework	Measures Adopted for This Project
				<p>For Vulnerable groups - No. of affected IP (disaggregated by gender, BPL), types of impacts, consultations undertaken, disbursement of compensation, R&amp;R and relocation.</p> <p>Grievance Mechanism- No. of complaints resolved within a stipulated time, no. of RTI applications filed, SEA/ SH complaints filed.</p> <p>FPIC- Affected IP, FPIC established, collective attachment identified</p>

## 5 PROFILE OF AFFECTED INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

### 5.1 Socio- Cultural Profile of Meghalaya Tribe

The three major tribes of Meghalaya—the Khasi, Garo, and Jaintia—primarily inhabit distinct regions of the state known as the Khasi Hills, Garo Hills, and Jaintia Hills, respectively. Each region is administratively governed by its own Autonomous District Council (ADC). All three tribes follow a matrilineal system and possess strong traditional institutions, though the structure and functioning of these institutions differ significantly across tribes. In Meghalaya, the hierarchical decision-making bodies related to forest management and community development are deeply rooted in the traditional institutions of the Khasi, Garo, and Jaintia communities. These institutions operate under the regulatory framework of their respective Autonomous District Councils.

**The Khasi:** The Khasis are regarded as one of the earliest Mongoloid groups to have migrated into India, primarily inhabiting the eastern region of Meghalaya. Among the Indigenous communities of Meghalaya, the Khasi constitute the largest group and are generally considered to be more socially and economically advanced. Approximately 48% of Khasi people recorded out of the total population Meghalaya

The traditional institutions of the Khasi tribe are notably more elaborate in structure and composition compared to those of the Garo and Jaintia tribes. A typical Khasi traditional institution namely “**Syiemship**”, a three-tiered political system unique to the Khasis.

The first tier is known as the “**Hima**” which function as the territorial unit. The governing unit is the “**Dorbar Syiem**”- a council of Syiem headed by the “**Syiem**” (Chief). The Syiem holds broad administrative responsibilities over Hima including regulation and taxation of local markets, Issuance of land pattas where available and resolution of disputes within the jurisdiction.

The second tier is known as “**Raid**” a group of Shnongs. The governing unit is “**Dorbar Raid**”- a council of Raid headed by **Lyngdoh** (Priest) or **Basan**. The Lyngdoh or Basan holds broad administration on the raid lands, mostly religious in nature.

The third tier is known as “**Shnong**” -village. The governing unit is “**Dorbar Shnong**”- a village council headed by “**Rangbah Shnong**”- the village headman. The Rangbah Shnong hold broad administration in the village, witness to the land transactions, mediation of disputes, aiding organisation of social and religious functions.

Within the clan system, the clan chief holds distinct authority over internal clan matters, particularly those related to land and forest governance. Clan-owned forests are administered by the clan head in consultation with elder members. Although the Khasi follow a matrilineal lineage system—where descent is traced through the mother—the father plays a significant role in household decision-making. The head of each family also participates in the village council, ensuring representation at the community level.

**The Jaintia:** Although the Jaintia and Khasi tribes share a common ancestry, speak closely related languages, and exhibit overlapping cultural practices, they differ significantly in their traditional institutions, land tenure systems, and economic orientation. Within the Jaintia Hills, the central inhabitants are referred to as Pnars, while those in the southern and northern regions are known as Wars and Bhois, respectively.

A typical Jaintia's traditional institution namely "Doloiship", a three-tiered political system unique to the Jaintias.

The first tier is known as the "**Elaka**" -the province. The governing unit is the "Dorbar Elaka"- a council of Elaka headed by the "Doloi" (Chief). The Doloi holds broad administrative responsibilities over Elaka including administration of land and maintenance of land records.

The second tier is known as "**Raid**" a group of Shnongs. The governing unit is "**Dorbar Raid**"- a council of Raid headed by Lyngdoh (Priest) or Basan. The Lyngdoh or Basan holds broad administration on the raid lands, mostly religious in nature.

The third tier is known as "**Shnong**" -village. The governing unit is "Dorbar Shnong"- a village council headed by "**Waheh Chnong**"/"**Rangbah Shnong**"- the village headman. The Waheh Chnong /Rangbah Shnong hold broad administration in the village, witness to the land transactions, mediation of disputes, aiding organisation of social and religious functions.

The head of the Elaka called as the Doloi, a position held for life and filled through election from among the senior members of a designated clan. This system is governed by strict customary rules, and the Doloi may be removed from office by the community in cases of misrule or corruption.

Supporting the Doloi is the *U Basan* (elder), also elected for life, with the number of Basans varying according to the size and population of the Elaka. The institution of the Doloi serves as the custodian of all natural resources within the Elaka, including forests, and plays a central role in resource governance and community affairs.

**The Garo:** The Garo people primarily inhabit the western region of Meghalaya and are ethnologically classified under the Tibeto-Burman branch of the Mongoloid racial group. Their language also belongs to the Tibeto-Burman linguistic family. Similar to the Khasi and Jaintia tribes, the Garo follow a matrilineal system of inheritance, wherein individuals derive their clan identity from their mothers. Traditionally, property is inherited by the youngest daughter, known as **Nokmechik**, and upon marriage, the husband resides in his wife's household. Although women are the legal owners of property, men typically manage domestic affairs and exercise authority in societal governance.

In Garo society, land and all associated resources are communally owned by the clan and referred to as A'king land. This land is held in trust by a female custodian known as the Nokma. While the Nokma is the nominal head, her husband often acts on her behalf in clan-related decision-making. However, decisions regarding land use and management are not made unilaterally; they are

collectively determined by a council of clan representatives known as the **Chra**, which includes the Nokma's maternal uncles and brothers.

The Nokma does not possess the authority to sell or transfer any portion of the clan's territory without the explicit consent of the Mahari—a kinship institution composed of members closely related through maternal lineage. In practice however, the Nokma can take the penultimate decision in the selling or transfer of any portion of the Clan's territory without any consent as such. The Mahari plays a vital yet a nominal role in safeguarding family property and ensuring the welfare and conduct of its members. Consequently, the governance of natural resources within Garo villages is a collective endeavour, with decisions made to serve the interests of the entire community.

A typical Garo traditional institution namely "**Nokmas**", a two-tier political system unique to the Garos.

The first tier is known as the "**A'king**" -the area under A'king Nokma. The governing unit is headed by the "**A'king Nokma**" the head of the clan. The A'king Nokma holds broad administrative management of A'king land; regulation of jhum cultivation; participate in religious and cultural affairs; settlement of disputes.

The second tier is known as "Song". The governing unit is headed by "**Nokma**"- the village headperson. The Nokma holds broad administration of village, settlement of disputes.

## 6 PROCESS OF PREPARING INDIGENOUS PEOPLE DEVELOPMENT PLAN (IPDP)

The Indigenous Peoples Planning Framework (IPPF) ensures that Indigenous Peoples are actively informed, consulted, and involved in project planning to promote fair benefit-sharing and safeguard against negative impacts. Through the Indigenous Peoples Development Plan (IPDP), it incorporates screening, social impact assessment, and action planning to guide culturally respectful interventions. Meaningful consultations with Indigenous communities, their leaders, organizations, and local authorities to uphold their rights and traditions throughout the project lifecycle.

### 6.1 Step for preparation of Indigenous People Development Plan (IPDP)

The following steps for preparation of IPDP to be implemented by Project PMU (Social Specialist) in consultation with the community.

**Table 6-1: Steps of preparation of IPDP**

Sl. No.	Action	Responsibility
1	<b>Information disclosure</b>  Prior to the investment specific Social Assessment (SA), the project will disseminate project information to all stakeholders through various means, such as community level meetings, mass media, project brochures/posters and a dedicated project site on the internet.	ESMF and ESIA consultant through the PWD
2	<b>Screening</b>  A screening will be conducted to determine if tribal families or communities are present or have collective attachment in the area of influence of the proposed projects. Where tribal communities are found to be present or have collective attachment, the ESS 7 will be applicable and the following steps will be taken even if no negative impact is likely to occur.  The identification of tribal families/communities will be as per ESS 7. The determination as to whether a group is to be defined as Tribal peoples is made by reference to the presence (in varying degrees) of four identifying characteristics:	ESIA Consultant

Sl. No.	Action	Responsibility
	<p>Self-identification as members of a distinct tribal cultural group and recognition of this identity by others;</p> <p>Collective attachment to geographically distinct habitats or ancestral territories in the project area and to the natural resources in these habitats and territories;</p> <p>Customary cultural, economic, social, or political institutions that are separate from those of the dominant society and culture; and</p> <p>Any tribal language, often different from the official language of the country or region.</p>	
3	<p><b>Social Assessment (SA) and Consultation with the Indigenous Peoples<sup>1</sup></b></p> <p>Based on the screening, the Bank concludes that Indigenous Peoples are present in, or have collective attachment to, the project area, social assessment will be conducted to evaluate the project's potential positive and adverse effects on the Indigenous Peoples, and to examine project alternatives where adverse effects may be significant. The social assessment will:</p> <p>Identify key stakeholders of affected tribal community and establish an appropriate framework for their participation in the selection, design, implementation, and monitoring and evaluation of the relevant project activities;</p> <p>Assess the demographic, socioeconomic, cultural and other relevant characteristics of affected people on and near the project sites, establish social baseline and identify potential barriers to their full participation in benefiting from project activities;</p> <p>Review relevant legal and institutional framework applicable to tribal community.</p> <p>Based on thorough assessments and free, prior, and informed consultations, specific measures should be proposed to ensure that</p>	ESMF and ESIA consultants

---

<sup>1</sup> Free Prior Informed Consent is required in this project as tribal community will be adversely impacted. The Borrower is required to obtain FPIC of the affected tribal community when project will (a) impact lands and natural resources traditionally owned, used, or occupied by tribes; (b) cause relocation of tribal community; or (c) have significant impacts on tribal community's cultural heritage. The Borrower will document the mutually accepted process as well as evidence of agreement between the parties.

Sl. No.	Action	Responsibility
	<p>affected tribal communities participate meaningfully and in culturally appropriate ways in project activities, and equitably benefit from them. These measures and actions must be developed in close collaboration with tribal stakeholders under each sub-project. The Indigenous Peoples Development Plan (IPDP) should include annexed records of all consultations, and clearly present key findings within the main text. It should also outline the timeline for conducting consultations and finalizing sub-project activities, as agreed upon with community members and tribal leaders.</p> <p>Develop institutional arrangements and implementation procedures to assist tribal farmers to voice grievances and have them addressed in ways that are socially sound, in line with the procedures described in this IPPF.</p> <p>In case of any project which incorporates modernization/ expansion or augmentation of any existing infrastructure which involved any displacement when constructed, the nature, scale and scope of displacement are to be assessed as part of the due diligence. The current state of the livelihood of the formerly displaced tribal population is also to be assessed.</p> <p>The breadth, depth, and type of analysis in the social assessment shall be proportional to the nature and scale of the proposed project's potential effects on the tribal community, whether such effects are positive or adverse.</p> <p><b>Free Prior Informed Consultation and Participation:</b> To ensure such consultation, it is necessary to:</p> <p>establish an appropriate gender and intergenerationally inclusive framework that provides opportunities for consultation at each stage of project preparation and implementation among the affected tribal communities, any organization that works for the tribal community if any, and other local civil society organizations (CSOs) identified by the affected tribal communities;</p> <p>use consultation methods appropriate to the social and cultural values of the affected tribal communities and their local conditions and, in</p>	

Sl. No.	Action	Responsibility
	<p>designing these methods, gives special attention to the concerns of tribal women, youth, and children and their access to development opportunities and benefits; and</p> <p>provide the affected tribal communities with all relevant information about the project (including an assessment of potential adverse effects of the project on the affected tribal communities) in a culturally appropriate manner at each stage of project preparation and implementation.</p> <p>The project before proceeding with the intervention will ensure that affected tribal communities provide their broad support to the project. Where there is such support, the project will prepare a detailed report on FPIC (refer to Appendix -1) that documents:</p> <p>the findings of the social assessment;</p> <p>the process of free, prior, and informed consent with the affected tribal communities;</p> <p>additional measures, including project design modification, that may be required to address adverse effects on the tribal and to provide them with culturally appropriate project benefits;</p> <p>recommendations for free, prior, and informed consent with and participation by tribal communities during project implementation, monitoring, and evaluation; and</p> <p>any formal agreements reached with tribal communities.</p> <p><b>Mechanism for FPIC:</b> In occurrences where a project may have implications for tribal communities (refer to Para 26 of ESS7), the Borrower shall ensure that free, prior, and informed consultations are conducted with affected groups throughout the entire project cycle.</p> <p><b>Brief summary of the FPIC process:</b></p> <p>Step 1: Preliminary meetings. Initial meeting with representatives of village level traditional institutions (Rangbah Shnong/Nokma/Waheh Chnong) of the Project area informing them about the proposed consultations and FPIC process prior to E&amp;S screening for the feasibility</p>	



Sl. No.	Action	Responsibility
	<p>study of each road package. Internal discussion and consensus with the representative of the traditional institutions on the FPIC approach, to be documented in Minutes of Meeting (MoM) and countersigned by the traditional institution representatives.</p> <p>Step 2: First round of consultations. A first round of consultations will be undertaken with the community representatives, including village heads (Rangbah Shnong/Nokma/Waheh Chnong) and community members, to raise awareness about the Project and the need for FPIC during the feasibility study of each package, to be documented in MoM and countersigned by the village representatives.</p> <p>Step 3: Second round of consultations. A second round of consultations will be carried out to further discuss Project design, benefits, and impacts, and to provide the communities' priorities and inputs to the drafting of IPDP. The Indigenous Peoples' written consent and dissent (if any) to proceed with the Project and agreements reached with the Indigenous Peoples will be recorded through a Resolution or Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). The resolution or MoU (annexed with attendance sheets, photos, etc.) will be countersigned by all the participants of the consultation and endorsed by the village head (Rangbah Shnong/Nokma/Waheh Chnong).</p> <p>Step 4: Third round of consultations. At the third round of consultations, the findings of the previous consultations, along with the MoU/resolution (s) endorsed by the village head (Rangbah Shnong/Nokma/Waheh Chnong), will be shared with indigenous communities residing in the sub project areas, and a formal Declaration/No Objection Certificate (NOC) [signed letter] consenting to the Project on behalf of the tribal communities will be sought during finalization of the DPR of each package.</p> <p>Step 5: Fourth round of consultations. A fourth round of consultation will be carried out to disclose and to seek feedback on the draft IPDP [to be documented in MoM, attendance sheets, photos, etc.], and to finalize the IPDP for redisclosure.</p> <p><b>Scope of the Borrower's FPIC process:</b></p> <p>Dialogues with IPs and traditional institutions (Rangbah Shnong, Nokma, Waheh Chnongetc.) during the FPIC consultations must include</p>	

Sl. No.	Action	Responsibility
	<p>discussion on project design, implementation arrangements and expected outcomes related to risks and impacts on the affected IP Communities, including the draft IPDP.</p> <p><b>Evidence that FPIC processes was free of external manipulation, interference, coercion:</b></p> <p>In the first round of consultations minutes of the meetings (MOMs) will be prepared and counter-signed by the participants.</p> <p>In the second round of consultations, IPs’ written consent and dissent (if any) to proceed with the Project and agreements reached with the IPs needs to be recorded through a resolution or Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) and countersigned by the participants, with attendance sheets, photos, etc, and endorsed by the village head (e.g., Rangbah Shnong- Khasi hills, Waheh Chnong- Jaintia hills and Nokma-Garo hills)</p> <p><b>Information dissemination in a culturally appropriate manner:</b> The information on the project will be disseminated through advertisements, radio jingles, through the village level traditional institutions (Dorbar Shnong/ Nokma/ Waheh Chnong) and any other methods as appropriated by the Village Heads. The consultations may be carried out using PPTS (wherever possible), diagrams, maps, and FAQs which will be translated in local language. Further, interpreters and community mobilizers will be used by the ESIA consultants during the consultations.</p> <p><b>Process of good faith negotiation:</b> The ESIA consultant must ensure that IP Communities have sufficient time for decision-making and that all agreements and compromises are thoroughly documented. The key stages of good faith negotiation include:</p> <p>1. Preparation and capacity-building</p> <p><b>Establish ground rules:</b> The ESIA consultant, in collaboration with the Indigenous community, must jointly establish the protocols for the negotiation process. This includes setting a mutually agreeable schedule with village representatives such as Rangbah Shnong/Nokma/Waheh Chnong and ensuring the process is culturally appropriate. [Refer to Step 1]</p>	

Sl. No.	Action	Responsibility
	<p><b>Ensure inclusive representation:</b> The participants from the community for the first and second round of consultations [Step 2 and 3] should be selected through an inclusive and transparent process to ensure they genuinely represent the collective interests of the Indigenous group.</p> <p>2. Information disclosure and transparency</p> <p><b>Provide accessible information:</b> The ESIA consultant must provide all relevant project information in a format (preferably in local language) that is understandable and accessible to the Indigenous community. This includes the project description, ESIA, draft IPDP, and RAP as well as clear explanations of potential impacts, risks, and proposed mitigation measures.</p> <p><b>Share information early:</b> Information must be disclosed well in advance of meetings (approx. 15 days) to give the community sufficient time to review and discuss the materials internally before engaging with the consultants or project proponents.</p> <p><b>Provide a transparent process:</b> All interactions should be transparent, honest, and free from any attempts at manipulation or coercion. One strategy is to conduct meetings within or near the Indigenous community, with observers present.</p> <p>3. Meaningful consultation and bargaining</p> <p><b>Prioritize community issues:</b> The negotiation must prioritize the issues most important to the Indigenous community, including impacts on livelihoods, culture, and traditional land use.</p> <p><b>Explore all issues:</b> The consultant must explore the community's key issues and concerns in depth and demonstrate a genuine willingness to consider different approaches.</p> <p><b>Show flexibility and compromise:</b> Good faith requires a willingness from all parties to modify their initial positions and make reasonable compromises in order to reach an equitable agreement.</p> <p>4. Documentation and agreement</p> <p><b>Create a clear agreement:</b> All negotiations, agreements, and decisions must be thoroughly and transparently documented. This can include a Resolution or MoU that is signed by all parties attending the</p>	

Sl. No.	Action	Responsibility
	<p>consultation.</p> <p><b>Ensure enforceability:</b> The agreement should be meaningful and enforceable. It should outline how commitments will be monitored and met over the life of the project.</p> <p><b>Establish a grievance mechanism:</b> A clear and culturally appropriate grievance redress mechanism must be established. This allows the community to address concerns that arise during the project's implementation if the agreement is not followed.</p> <p>The FPIC obtained from communities in each package will be documented in a detailed FPIC report that can be annexed in the sub-project IPDP.</p>	
4	<p><b>Preparation of Sub-Project Specific IPDPs:</b></p> <p>If the screening process under the Indigenous Peoples Planning Framework (IPPF) identifies the presence of tribal communities or their collective attachment to a sub-project area, the project shall ensure that a comprehensive social assessment is conducted prior to implementation. Based on the findings, a sub-project-specific Indigenous Peoples Development Plan (IPDP) will be prepared in alignment with the provisions and requirements outlined in this framework.</p>	ESIA Consultant
5	<p><b>Disclosure:</b> The social assessment report and draft Indigenous Peoples Development Plan (IPDP) will be disclosed to affected indigenous communities in a format, language, and manner that is culturally appropriate and accessible. To ensure effective dissemination, the project will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Translate the draft IPDP into the local language</li> <li>- Distribute hard copies to tribal communities within the sub-project area</li> <li>- Present and explain the plan during community meetings such as Dorbar and Nokma, with adequate prior notice</li> </ul> <p>Following the finalization of the IPDP, the approved document will be shared with the affected communities using the same methods as those</p>	ESIA/ PWD

Sl. No.	Action	Responsibility
	employed during the draft disclosure process.	

## 6.2 Indicators for inclusion in consultation with Indigenous Peoples

Involvement of IPs in problem identification and design of solutions has to be ensured through the entire cycle of project interventions.

**Table 6-2: Indicators of IP involvement during consultation**

Project Stage	Procedures	Process and outcome Indicators	Remarks
Preparatory Phase	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify locations of dominant indigenous population in the sub- project sites.</li> <li>Identification of indigenous community stakeholders at site;</li> <li>Sensitization and meaningful consultation through focus group discussions with indigenous communities.</li> <li>Identification of environmental and social issues of the indigenous population and possible impacts because of the project.</li> <li>Meaningful consultations to establish existing concerns related to:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Land availability and Tenure System.</li> <li>Access to infrastructure facilities</li> <li>Existing Government</li> </ol> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>IP screening checklist</li> <li>List of all Indigenous communities in the project areas.</li> <li>Documentation on number of discussions and minutes of the meetings.</li> <li>Documentation of the issues.</li> <li>Justifications for preparing IPDP.</li> <li>List of spatial and non- spatial issues.</li> </ul>	PWD /PMU with assistance from DPR consultant and ESIA consultant.

Project Stage	Procedures	Process and outcome Indicators	Remarks
	schemes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dependency on common property resources</li> </ul>		
Project Implementation Stage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implementation of safeguards measures as per IPDP</li> <li>Monitoring and reporting of measures suggested in IPDP</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Measures undertaken as suggested in IPPF/IPDP</li> </ul>	PWD /PMU with assistance from Project Management Consultant and Construction Supervision Consultant

### 6.3 Tribal Inclusion Approach

The project will have exclusive strategic focus for greater inclusion and representation of tribal in scheduled areas and their active association in project interventions. The strategy proposed for inclusion of tribal communities is discussed below.

**Table 6-3: Project Approach and Strategy for Tribal Development**

Project Stage	Project Approach and Strategy	Expected Outcome
Preparatory Phase	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discussion with tribal persons/ families of the project area in general and exclusively in scheduled areas on project component and activities;</li> <li>Identifying key issues in the way of their greater involvement and benefitting from the project intervention;</li> <li>Developing a prioritize action plan that reflects the concerns and interests of tribal individuals and families in the project area, with a focus on implementing the agreements mutually established during the FPIC process. This will be established through signed agreements between the IP</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Key intervention areas are identified and guidelines prepared for improved participation of tribal in general</li> <li>List of actions finalized for implementation to ensure</li> </ul>

Project Stage	Project Approach and Strategy	Expected Outcome
	<p>Community and the PIU.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Preparing project specific plan of action for better inclusion of tribal in different activities that are feasible for their greater participation. The strategy must be embedded across key project document and implementation stages.</li> <li>i) <b>DPR:</b> Include a dedicated chapter or appendix outlining tribal engagement strategies. Document tribal population distribution, skill levels, and socio-economic conditions. Identify activities suitable for tribal participation (e.g., asset maintenance, afforestation, water conservation). Allocate funds for capacity building, training, community mobilization and construction activities as desired by the IP community.</li> <li>ii) <b>Contract/ Bid Documents for Civil Works:</b> Specific condition to mandate local tribal labour engagement for specific tasks. Encourage contractors with experience in community based or tribal engagement.</li> <li>iii) <b>Employment and livelihood opportunities:</b> Engage tribal groups in construction activities, maintaining roads, water bodies or public assets. Promote tribal -run enterprises for supply of materials e.g. sand, stone, tools etc.</li> </ul>	<p>greater involvement and participation of tribal by activities</p>
Project Implementation Stage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implementing priority actions that are finalized during preparatory phase;</li> <li>Initiatives for convergence with tribal development schemes of Government at the village / block level;</li> <li>Priority action in inaccessible scheduled areas (project village) for establishment of infrastructures (such as community market places, community toilets, safe playgrounds, ropeways, hubs,</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Participation of tribal in different activities implemented under the project;</li> <li>Project supported</li> </ul>

Project Stage	Project Approach and Strategy	Expected Outcome
	<p>weighbridges) that are planned under the project, based on feasibility;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Equal opportunity to dispersed tribal (living in a mixed community) for accessing project benefits, as per the plan under entitlement coverage;</li> <li>• Ensuring greater participation of tribal community in activities / sub-activities taken up under each component / sub- components of the project;</li> <li>• Taking measures, adhering to the scope of the project, to build the capacity of tribal people in maintaining public assets as per the project requirements;</li> <li>• Monitoring of actions taken under the project for inclusion of tribal by project component / sub-components and initiating corrective measures accordingly;</li> <li>• Documenting success and learning from different initiatives undertaken by the project that ensures greater participation of tribal.</li> </ul>	<p>infrastructure and services in less accessible scheduled areas/tribal dominated areas;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inclusion of tribes and their active involvement ensured with better operational and management capabilities</li> </ul>

## 6.4 Gender Issues Among Tribes

The tribal women in Meghalaya play an important role in the community and family development. Women constitute about 49.7% of the state's population. Meghalaya being the state with a matrilineal society, women are empowered but not necessarily well educated about human and tribal rights.

In IPDP, therefore, efforts should be made to create an institutional framework to make gender sensitive decisions. Project in consultation with Government Departments should identify Women Self-help Groups (WSHGs) within project associated villages and together identify awareness programs on “women’s role in development and maintenance of public assets

## 6.5 Entitlement

Based on the ESS7 of the World Bank and as one of its significant R&R requirements; special provisions for the Scheduled Tribes (ST) as given in Chapter 2 of the ESMF document in Table no: 7 (Social Legislations and Regulatory Requirements) such as entitlement for women headed



households, single mothers, have been made in the project RPF, apart from the general compensation and assistance to be received as Project Affected Persons (PAPs) of proposed project activities for loss of assets. Apart from compensation at replacement value and R&R assistance for any adverse impact, each Tribal family will be entitled to additional benefits as a one-time grant.

## 6.6 Benefits and Mitigation of adverse impacts for Project Affected Tribal People

The MLCIP project in Meghalaya, funded by the World Bank, will deliver significant socio-economic and cultural benefits to Indigenous Peoples. Through improved road and bridge connectivity, tribal communities will gain better access to markets, education, and healthcare, while reducing travel costs and time. The Agro-logistics component will enhance traditional livelihoods by strengthening value chains for perishable goods, offering improved storage, processing, and marketing. Training programs especially designed for SHGs will promote sustainable farming and long-term income security. Together, these efforts foster inclusive development, economic resilience, and active participation in governance, while preserving cultural identity and land traditions.

The Indigenous Peoples Development Plan (IPDP) is designed to address development challenges faced by tribal communities, with particular attention to their marginal status. It proposes inclusive development strategies that respond to community-specific needs while honouring the socio-cultural distinctiveness of indigenous peoples.

The IPDP seeks to enhance the capacity of affected tribal groups to actively participate in and benefit from project interventions. Depending on the nature and significance of project impacts, affected Indigenous Peoples (IPs) will be eligible for compensation packages consistent with those outlined in the approved Resettlement Framework of the program.

The traditional land rights of IPs will be recognized and respected. The absence of formal land titles will not disqualify them from receiving compensation or project-related benefits.

Additionally, as a vulnerable group, Indigenous Peoples are entitled to targeted support aimed at both restoring and enhancing their income and livelihood. Equally important, such assistance must safeguard their distinct cultural identity and promote its continued preservation.

The resettlement and rehabilitation (R&R) benefits for tribal families is as under:

- Each Project Affected Family of ST category shall be given preference in allotment of land.
- Tribal PAFs will be re-settled close to their natural habitat in a compact block so that they can retain their ethnic/linguistic and cultural identity
- The Tribal Land alienated in violation of the laws and regulations in force on the subject would be treated as null and void and-the R&R benefits would be available only to the original tribal land owner.

## 6.7 Indigenous People Development Plan

Based on the findings of the Social Impact Assessment (SIA) and the free, prior, and informed consultations conducted with affected tribal communities, an Indigenous Peoples Development Plan (IPDP) shall be developed to cover all project sites—potentially segregated regionally. will outline project objectives and site-specific activities, summarize consultation outcomes and community support, identify potential adverse impacts with mitigation measures, and establish frameworks for meaningful participation. It will also detail grievance redress mechanisms, monitoring and evaluation benchmarks, and a financing plan to support effective implementation.

## 6.8 Suggested format for Indigenous People Development Plan

The suggested format for the IPDP is as follows:

- Description of sub projects and implications for the indigenous community
- Gender disaggregated data on number of tribal households by impact category
- Social, cultural and economic profile of affected households
- Land tenure information
- A summary of the Targeted Social Assessment, including the applicable legal and institutional framework and baseline data.
- Documentation of consultations with the community to ascertain their views about the project design and mitigation measures.
- A summary of the results of the meaningful consultation tailored to IP/SSAHUTLC, and if the project involves the three circumstances specified in paragraph 24 of ESS7, then the outcome of the process of FPIC carried out with the affected IP/SSAHUTLC during project preparation.
- A framework for meaningful consultation tailored to IP/SSAHUTLC during project implementation.
- Findings of need assessment of the community.
- Measures for ensuring IP/SSAHUTLC receive social and economic benefits that are culturally appropriate and gender sensitive and steps for implementing them. If necessary, this may call for measures to enhance the capacity of the project implementing agencies.
- Measures to avoid, minimize, mitigate, or compensate IP/SSAHUTLC for any potential adverse impacts that were identified in the social assessment, and steps for implementing them.
- Community development plan based on the results of need assessment.
- The cost estimates, financing plan, schedule, and roles and responsibilities for implementing the IP/SSAHUTLC Plan.

- Accessible procedures appropriate to the project to address grievances by the affected IP/SSAHUTLC arising from project implementation, as described in paragraph 35 of ESS7 and in ESS10.
- Modalities to ensure regular and meaningful consultation with the community and participatory approach
- Institutional arrangement and linkage with other national or state level programmes
- Institutional mechanism for monitoring and evaluation of IPDP implementation and grievance redress.
- Mechanisms and benchmarks appropriate to the project for monitoring, evaluating, and reporting on the implementation of the IP/SSAHUTLC Plan, including ways to consider input from project-affected IP/SSAHUTLC in such mechanisms

## 6.9 Disclosure

In consideration of the project's nature and the active involvement of local communities in its implementation, the Project shall adopt appropriate and inclusive measures to ensure timely dissemination of all relevant information and documentation. This includes, but is not limited to, the Indigenous Peoples Planning Framework (IPPF), Indigenous Peoples Development Plans (IPDPs) and any other related document for the project.

Electronic versions of the IPPF and IPDPs in English will be made available on the official websites of the Public Works Department (PWD) and the World Bank. Translated versions in relevant local languages will also be uploaded to facilitate public access. In addition, hard copies will be distributed at locations accessible to affected tribal communities to ensure equitable outreach and engagement.

Key elements of the Indigenous Peoples Development Plan (IPDP)—including entitlements for Indigenous Peoples (IPs), implementation arrangements, and the Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM)—will be summarized in a user-friendly brochure. This brochure will be translated into applicable local languages (Khasi, Garo, Jaintia) and widely circulated among affected indigenous populations to promote awareness, accessibility, and informed participation.

## 6.10 Monitoring and Evaluation

Throughout the implementation period, a designated Social Officer from the DPIUs engaged in the project with the assistance of Social Experts from the PMC and CSC shall be responsible for monitoring compliance with the Bank's ESF and ESS7. The overall responsibility will lie with the E&S Cell for the monitoring and evaluation aspect of the IPDP. The experts will undertake regular site visits—at least once per month—from the planning stage up to the completion of civil works. These visits will include direct engagement with affected tribal communities to ensure inclusive participation and responsiveness to emerging concerns. Upon completion of each Indigenous Peoples Development Plan (IPDP), the Social Experts will conduct a formal assessment to confirm

that all prescribed measures have been duly implemented and that any adverse impacts on tribal communities have been effectively mitigated.

To support this process, a local monitoring group will be established in each tribal-inhabited project area. The monitoring group will comprise all village elders and/or representatives duly elected/nominated by the executive members of the Village Council. These individuals are typically selected based on their traditional roles, community standing, and involvement in local economic planning. Village elders are often recognized leaders chosen through customary practices, while the executive members are usually nominated or elected by the community to represent various economic interests and ensure inclusive decision-making. These groups will ensure that all activities follow the Indigenous Peoples Planning Framework (IPPF) and will report any irregularities to the Project Management Unit (PMU). A participatory social audit will be facilitated by the Social Expert, encouraging community members to raise unresolved issues and share grievances. These meetings will include PMU representatives and village leaders. Minutes will be recorded, and necessary actions will be taken in the next annual cycle to address concerns.

**Table 6-4: Sample Monitoring Indicators**

Monitoring Indicators	Critical factors to monitor
Demographic Profile	Summary of affected IPs by impact type, gender, age, village, income, status, and household vulnerability—including female-headed households.
Consultation and Participation	<p>Number of meaningful consultations with IP, trainings, and IEC materials (e.g., brochures, flyers) disseminated.</p> <p>% of IP women participants; vulnerable IPs attending</p> <p>Documentation of negotiation process, participants, locations, and correspondence.</p> <p>Evidence of broad support from community—records of process, participants, and agreements.</p> <p>Whether consultations were inclusive, gender-sensitive, free from coercion, and respectful of IP customs and languages.</p>
Mitigation measures	<p>Progress of implementation of beneficial measures accordance with the plan.</p> <p>Monitor the status of activities like infrastructure works, livelihood support, fund disbursements, capacity building</p> <p>% progress achieved relative to planned timelines and allocated</p>

Monitoring Indicators	Critical factors to monitor
	budget.
Grievance redress	<p>Total number of people/groups using the grievance redress procedure.</p> <p>Number of distinct people/groups. Any IP group with significantly more grievances? What were the outcomes.</p> <p>Total grievances addressed and duration of resolution process.</p>
Implementation problems	Identify causes of implementation delays and track frequency and basis for timeline revisions.
Benefit Monitoring	<p>What changes have occurred to IPs compared to pre project situation</p> <p>What changes have occurred in income and expenditure patterns compared to pre-project situation.</p> <p>Assessment of income trends among affected IPs in relation to project-related changes.</p> <p>Assessment of changes in social and cultural conditions, living standards, and overall well-being of IPs resulting from the project</p>

## 7 GRIEVANCE REDRESS MECHANISM

Grievance redressal mechanisms are vital for ensuring transparency, accountability, and inclusive governance in environmental and social management. These systems allow individuals and communities to raise concerns about adverse impacts, fostering trust between stakeholders and project authorities.

For this project, a structured grievance redressal system will be established at the PMU level through dedicated Grievance Redressal Cells (GRCs). Complaints may be submitted via multiple channels—written, verbal, email, or phone—and will be coordinated by the Social and Environmental Expert.

The primary objective of the Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) is to minimize delays and conflicts, enhance the quality of project activities and outcomes, uphold the rights of project-affected persons, and promote inclusive participation, support, and benefits for the community.

An integrated three-tier Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) is proposed for the entire project, which will also be applicable to the implementation of the Indigenous Peoples Development Plan (IPDP) across all project phases.

The project will implement a two-tier grievance redressal system, comprising:

**1. Project site level (Tier I)** - Under this project, the Village representatives nominated by the Village Council and community-level organizations will function as nodal point for the first-tier grievance redress mechanism. The local Headman will serve as the focal point responsible for receiving, documenting, and addressing complaints and feedback from stakeholders.

The Tier I Grievance Redress Cell shall operate under the Chairmanship of the Village Head or any representative nominated by the Village Councils and will include the Resident Engineer (representing the Engineer), Environmental and Social (E&S) Experts of Construction Supervision Consultant (CSC), Environmental/Social Officers and Assistant Engineers from the Divisional Project Implementation Unit (DPIU), representatives from relevant line departments, and representatives from local institutions.

Upon receipt of a grievance, the focal point shall review and assess the complaint for resolution at the local level. If the grievance or dispute cannot be satisfactorily resolved at the project level within fifteen (15) days from the date of submission, the matter shall be escalated to the Project Management Unit (PMU)/ State Level for further review and mediation.

**2. PMU level (Tier II)**- If the aggrieved person is not satisfied with the decision of the site-level Grievance Cell, the grievance may be escalated to the PMU/State-level Grievance Redress Cell (Tier II). The Tier II Cell shall be chaired by the Secretary, Department of Planning, and shall include the Chief Engineer, Project Director, and Social Development Expert of the PIU as members. The State-level Grievance Redress Cell shall review the case and provide its decision or recommendations within fifteen (15) days of receiving the grievance.

If the aggrieved person is not satisfied with the decision of the State-level Grievance Cell, they shall have the right to seek redress through the judiciary. The Project Proponent shall extend all necessary assistance and support to the aggrieved person in pursuing the matter before the judicial authorities.

The GRM arrangements for implementing the ESMF are comprehensively outlined in chapter 8 (Institutional Arrangement) section, and the same framework will be adopted for the implementation of the IPDP.

## 8 INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING AND TRAINING

The Meghalaya Logistic and Connectivity Improvement Project (MLCIP), including its Agrologistic Component, is anchored by a dedicated Project Management Unit (PMU) responsible for strategic planning, budgeting, inter-departmental coordination, and overall project monitoring. The Project Core Team, led by the Project Director and supported by MIDFC, includes Additional Project Director, Nodal Officer, Additional Chief Engineer (EAP), the E&S Cell and Divisional/District Project Directors. Institutional arrangements under the ESMF will also guide IPDP implementation, ensuring integrated environmental, social, and agrologistics safeguards. We may refer to Chapter 7 (Section 7.3 & 7.4) for the details.

### 8.1 Institutional Strengthening and Training

PMU, with support from PMC or qualified experts, will coordinate training for PIU staff, contractors' EHS Supervisors on environmental and social safeguard management. The program will cover implementation, supervision, reporting, and grievance redress mechanisms.

**Table 8-1: Training Program for Safeguards Compliances & Reporting**

Training	Target participants	Contents	Frequency	Duration
World bank ESS and National Safeguard requirements	All staff and consultants involved in the project at PIU-PMU (combined program for all	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ESS 5, ESS7 of World Bank Safeguard.</li> <li>National and Meghalaya State applicable safeguard Law.</li> <li>IPDP provision</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Once, prior to project implementation</li> <li>after 1 year of project progress</li> </ul>	1 Day for each.
IPDP implementation and reporting	Concerned Social safeguard officer & specialist of PIU/PMU	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>IPP measures, roles and responsibilities, consultation, monitoring, supervision, reporting.</li> <li>Brief about</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Once, prior to implementation for subproject</li> </ul>	1 Day for each



Training	Target participants	Contents	Frequency	Duration
		<p>design elements to make the project interventions socially inclusive and universally accessible.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FPIC procedure.</li> <li>• Importance of the views and priorities of various communities including indigenous groups concerning the project activities through a participatory consultation process.</li> </ul>		
Grievance Redress Mechanism	Concerned social safeguard officer & specialist of PIU/PMU  Contractor's Environmental Health and Safety Expert, Community Leader	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grievance Redress Mechanism</li> <li>• Roles and responsibilities, Procedures.</li> <li>• grievances, and feedback of indigenous groups in a culturally appropriate</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Once, prior to project implementation &amp; after 1 years of project progress</li> </ul>	1 Day for each

**Disclaimer:** This is a draft version and is being reviewed by the World Bank.

Training	Target participants	Contents	Frequency	Duration
		<p>manner.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Screen and mitigate/avoid adverse impacts on indigenous communities and other vulnerable groups.</li></ul>		

The details of the Capacity Development and Training details have been incorporated in Chapter 8 of the ESMF Document

## 9 Budget and Financing

A detailed budget will be prepared by the PMU, in coordination with the technical team, covering all activities related to the formulation and implementation of the Indigenous Peoples Development Plan (IPDP).

In cases where there is no loss of property or livelihood, the IPDP budget should still account for key administrative expenses. These include costs for social assessment, stakeholder consultations, participation processes, grievance redress mechanisms, monitoring, evaluation, and reporting. Additionally, a contingency provision of 10% should be included. . The other cost of IPDP updating and capacity building for the communities are part of the project cost.

The details of the Budget for the implementation of the IPDP is given in Chapter 10 of the ESMF Budget.

## 10 Annexures

### 10.1 Annexure I- Proposed Subproject details

**Table 10-1: Proposed Subproject details**

Sl. No	Road Name	Length in Km	No of village	Zone
<b>A</b>	<b>Roads</b>			
A.1	Improvement Rongjeng - Mangsang Adokgre (RMA) road from 23rd to 44th Km	22Km	12	West Meghalaya
A.2	Upgradation of Rongsai Borjhora Bajengdoba (RBB) Road from single to intermediate lane	18.2 Km	7	West Meghalaya
A.3	Strengthening and Improvement of Songsak- Mendipathar Road	36Km	25	West Meghalaya
A.4	Improvement and Widening of Rongrenggre-Simsanggre-Nengkhra (RSN) Road including Conversion of weak Bridges to Permanent RCC bridges.	22Km	14	West Meghalaya
A.5	Improvement of Ampati to Purakhasia Road	8Km	4	West Meghalaya
A.6	Upgradation of Dkhiah - Sutnga - Saipung - Pala upto Semmasi Road	64Km	19	East Meghalaya
A.7	Upgradation of Weiloi - Mawsynram Road upto Phlangwanbroi	27Km	9	East Meghalaya
A.8	Upgradation of Umsning - Jagi Road i/c Major bridge	40Km	12	East Meghalaya

Sl. No	Bridge Name	Length in Meter	No of village	Zone
<b>B</b>	<b>Bridges</b>			
B.1	Construction of New Steel Truss Bridge (Span 1x70m = 70m) at 1.5km U/S of Existing Narrow Weak Steel Truss Bridge (Span 1 x 60m) along Umling – Patharkhmah Road in Nongpoh Division – Br. No 1.	60M	2	East Meghalaya
B.2	Construction of New RCC Arch Bridge (Span 1x34m = 34m) to Replace Existing Narrow Weak Steel Truss Bridge (Span 1 x 31.2m) along Laitkor-Pomlakrai-Laitlyngkot Road) - Br. No 2.	31.2M	2	East Meghalaya
B.3	Construction of New Steel Arch Bridge (Span 1x62m = 62m) to Replace Existing Narrow Weak RCC T- Girder Bridge (Span 10+42+10m) along Paysih-Garampani Road - Br. No 3	62M	2	East Meghalaya
B.4	Conversion of Existing SPT Bridge No. 2/1 (Span 12.3+11.5+11.3+8.4= 43.5m) to Permanent Climate Resilient RCC Integral Bridge (Span 13+19+13= 45m) along Parallel Road to Dalu Baghmara Road - Br. No 4	43.50M	2	West Meghalaya
B.5	Conversion of Existing SPT Bridge No. 21/3 (Span 11.5+12.25+10.1+10.25+10.75 = 54.85m) to RCC Integral Bridge (Span 16+22+16 =54m) along Parallel Road to Dalu Baghmara Road - Br. No 5	54.00M	2	West Meghalaya
B.6	Construction of New Steel Bow String Bridge (Span 1x44m ) To Replace Existing	38M	2	West Meghalaya

**Disclaimer:** This is a draft version and is being reviewed by the World Bank.

Sl. No	Bridge Name	Length in Meter	No of village	Zone
	Narrow Weak Steel Truss Bridge No. 52/11 (Span 1 x 38m) along Rongram-Rongrenggre-Darugre Road) – Br No 6			
B.7	Conversion of Existing SPT Bridge No. 54/3 (Span 15+9+9=33m) to RCC Box Bridge (Span 10+13+10=33m) along Ronjeng-Mansang-AdokgreRoad – Br No 7	33M	2	West Meghalaya
B.8	Construction of New RCC Integral Bridge (Span 16+22+16=54m) to Replace Existing Narrow Inadequate RCC Girder Bridge No. 15/3 (Span 25.2m) along AMPT Road – Br No 8	54M	2	West Meghalaya

## 10.2 Annexure II- Requirement of Free, Prior and Informed Consent aligned with the National and World Bank ESF

Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) applies in where a project has potential implications for tribal communities, the Borrower shall ensure that free, prior, and informed consultations and good faith negotiations are conducted with affected groups throughout the entire project cycle. These consultations shall be guided by the following principles and considerations:

**Step 1:** The village Council through the Headman (Rangbah Shnong/ Nokma/Waheh Chnong) notifies the affected tribal communities of the proposed consultations and FPIC process. The purpose of the proposed meeting is explained in a manner and language which is culturally appropriate to the indigenous community.

**Step 2:** The First Round of consultations will be held with the community representatives including village heads and community members to raise awareness about the project and the need for FPIC. This round of consultation will also allow the community to be briefed on the role of the DPR, ESMF and ESIA consultants and seek permission to meet and discuss the different components of the project activities henceforth.

In this consultation meet, appropriate measures will be taken to ensure that the method of communication will be in a manner that is culturally appropriate and as per the traditional customs and usages of the community. Translators can also be employed to ensure inclusiveness of people's participation in this consultation.

The community through the Village Council will be given enough time to decide on when to have the next round of

**Step 3:** The Second Round of consultations will be held to take valuable inputs from the indigenous communities on the overall project design, understand the impacts related to the project activities and gather input for the Indigenous Peoples Development Plan to be carried out as part of the Project activity.

In this round of consultation, all forms of consent/dissent; agreements and disagreements will be recorded in a detailed manner using tools such as MoMs, video recordings, geo tagged photographs, attendance sheets etc. The agreements/ disagreements shall be recorded via a resolution signed by all the participants in that meeting and endorsed by the Village Headman.

**Step 4:** The Third Round of Consultations will take place at this juncture where the deliberations of the previously held consultations via a resolution endorsed by the Village Headmen will be shared with the Indigenous Community and seek their inputs on the finalization of the DPR and make necessary changes that the community deems fit. Once the finalization process is agreed upon, an

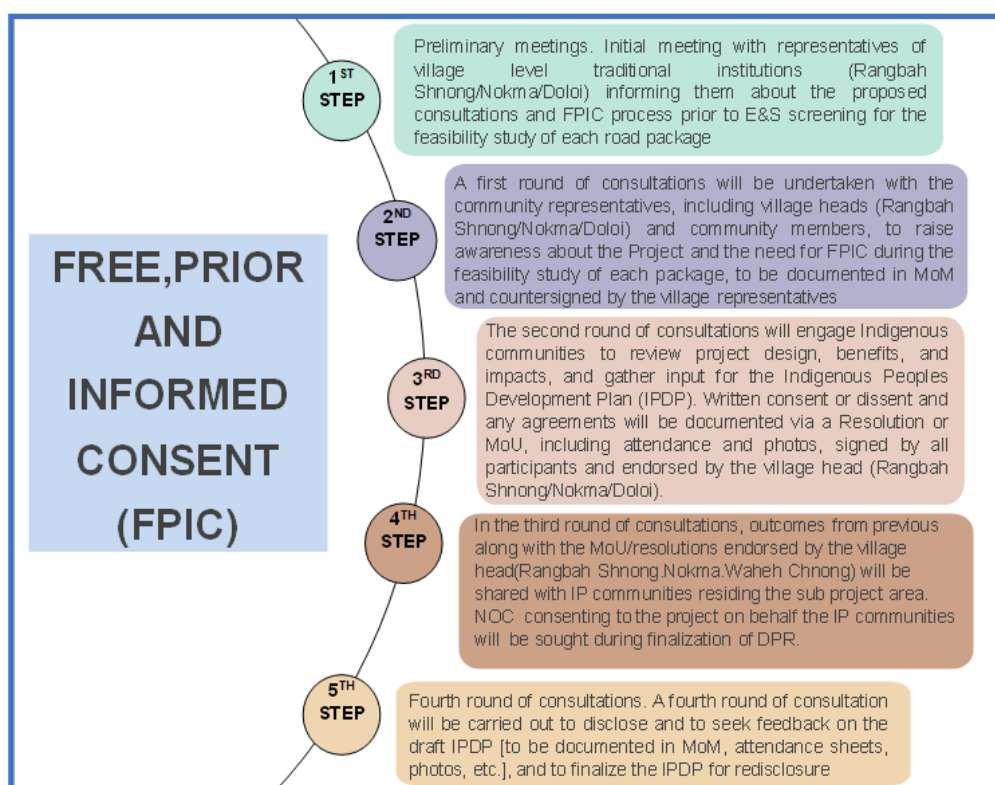
NOC/ letter of approval or any method as being followed by the indigenous communities will be sought.

**Step 5:** The Fourth Round of consultation will be carried out at a time and place as decided by the Indigenous Communities through the Village Headmen to disclose and seek feedback on the draft plans which includes the IPDP, the summary of targeted social assessment, legal framework, stakeholder engagement process, outcome of stakeholder consultations, FPIC process and its outcome, benefits and opportunities for IPs, institutional mechanism, grievance mechanism, capacity building and budget for IPDP implementation.

**Step 6:** FPIC consultations process will continue with the remainder of the 70% roads and bridges of the MLCIP to seek written consent from the stakeholders and solicit their views about the project activities, impacts and benefits.

**Important:** It is to note that the communities are given enough time (approx. 10-15 days) to decide on the respective consultations without being coerced/ forced in any manner. The Indigenous communities are given a common platform to air their concerns and aspirations and that the Consultants must utilize methods and ways to explain about the project activities, impacts, benefits and plans in a manner that is most suitable for the indigenous community.

**Table 10-2 FPIC**





**Requirements:**

**a. Application of Free Prior informed Consent (FPIC)**

**Table 10-3: Application of Free Prior informed Consent (FPIC)**

World Bank ESF	National Laws	Circumstances	Action to be taken
Para 24, 25 and 26 of ESS7	Section 41 (3) of RFCTLARR Act, Section 3(2) of FRA, and Schedule IV of the RFCTLARR Act	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Displacement of Indigenous Peoples from traditionally owned or customarily used lands and resources</li> <li>Adverse impact to traditionally owned or customarily used land and resources.</li> <li>Significant impact on Indigenous Peoples' cultural heritage vital to their identity, traditions, or spirituality.</li> </ul>	FPIC should apply not only within the Schedule area but also beyond, wherever any of the three ESS7 conditions exist. For Meghalaya the whole state is a Six Schedule area.

**b. Risk Identification for FPIC**

World Bank ESF	National Laws	Circumstances	Action to be taken
Para 24 of ESS7	Rule 5 of RFCTLARR Rules 2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Borrower will hire independent consultant to identify project risks and impacts.</li> <li>The independent organization which shall be responsible for ensuring that Social Impact Assessments are commissioned and conducted by such person or bodies other than the Requiring Body. An expert independent firm shall conduct the SIA on Indigenous Peoples' issues</li> </ul>	An expert independent firm will conduct the SIA on Indigenous Peoples' issues.

**c. Whose Consent is needed**

World Bank ESF	National Laws	Circumstances	Action to be taken
Para 26 of ESS7	Section 41 (3) of RFCTLARR Act, 2013	Consent from the Dorbar or Nokma <sup>2</sup> is mandatory, with meetings requiring a quorum of at least 50% of total members. Additionally, consent may also be obtained from the respective Autonomous District Councils. If quorum is not achieved, consultations must be reconvened within 30 days	During the Social Impact Assessment (SIA) process, the consent of all directly affected parties must be obtained. This includes formal resolutions from the local Dorbar (in Khasi and Jaintia regions) or Nokma (in Garo areas). These customary and statutory approvals are essential to support tribal land rights and ensure transparency in land acquisition.

**d. Documentation Process**

World Bank ESF	National Laws	Circumstances	Action to be taken
Para 25(C) of ESS7	Rule 17 of the RFCTLARR (SIA and Consent) Rule 2014	As per RFCTLARR, names and signatures of all members who attended the meeting must be recorded.  The terms and conditions proposed by the Requiring Body shall be clearly explained in the local language to the Dorbar (Khasi and Jaintia areas) or Nokma (Garo areas), and documented consent shall be	Process on documentation detailed as per the law and ESF to be followed.

<sup>2</sup> In Meghalaya, village-level authority rests with the Dorbar in Khasi and Jaintia areas, and the Nokma in Garo areas, instead of the Gram Sabha

World Bank ESF	National Laws	Circumstances	Action to be taken
		<p>obtained from the members of these traditional institutions.</p> <p>Agreed process and outcomes of good faith negotiations<sup>3</sup> between the Borrower and Indigenous Peoples, including both consensus and dissent.</p> <p>Following community deliberation, the Dorbar (Khasi and Jaintia) or Nokma (Garos) shall pass a majority resolution granting or denying consent, including the agreed terms committed by the Requiring Body.</p> <p>Once the resolution from the Dorbar (Khasi and Jaintia) or Nokma (Garos) is received, it shall be countersigned by the District Collector or designated officer. A signed copy will be shared with traditional representatives. All proceedings shall be video recorded, documented, translated, and disclosed at local offices and on official website.</p>	

#### e. Validity of Consent

World Bank ESF	National Laws	Circumstances	Action to be taken
Para 25 (d) and Para 27 of ESS7	Rule 17 (7) of RFCTLARR (SIA and Consent) Rule 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A resolution must be passed by majority, either granting or denying consent for the</li> </ul>	Explicit consent of the Dorbar (Khasi and

<sup>3</sup> As per ESS7 under World Bank ESF- Good faith negotiation involves, on the part of all parties: (a) Willingness to engage in a process and availability to meet at reasonable times and frequency; (b) Sharing of information necessary for informed negotiation; (c) Use of mutually acceptable procedures for negotiation; (d) Willingness to change initial positions and modify offers where possible; and (e) Provision of sufficient time for the process.

World Bank ESF	National Laws	Circumstances	Action to be taken
		<p>proposed acquisition. Any resolution lacking a clear statement of consent is deemed invalid.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If FPIC from affected Indigenous Peoples cannot be confirmed, the Bank shall not finance related project components.</li> <li>• Consent remains valid despite objections from certain individuals or groups, provided it reflects the collective decision of the recognized community authority. Explicit consent of the Dorbar (Khasi and Jaintia) or Nokma (Garos), in accordance with customary law and practice, is required</li> </ul>	<p>Jaintia) or Nokma (Garos), in accordance with customary law and practice, is required.</p>

### 10.3 Annexure III- Scheduled Tribes: Screening Checklist

Screening shall be carried out through meaningful consultations, ensuring active and informed participation of Tribal communities—particularly those directly affected.

KEY CONCERNS (Provide elaborations on the Remarks column)	YES	NO	NOT KNOWN	Remarks
<b>A. Scheduled Tribes Identification</b>				
1. Are there socio-cultural groups present in or use the project area who may be considered as "tribes" in the project area?				
2. Are national or local laws or policies that consider these groups present in or using the project area as belonging to scheduled tribes?				
3. Do such groups self-identify as being part of a distinct social and schedules tribes?				
4. Do such groups maintain collective attachments to distinct habitats or ancestral territories and/or to the natural resources in these habitats and territories?				
5. Do such groups maintain cultural, economic, social, and political institutions distinct from the dominant society and culture?				
6. Do such groups speak a distinct language or dialect?				
7. Has such groups been historically, socially, and economically marginalized, disempowered, excluded, and/or discriminated against?				
8. Are such groups represented as "Scheduled Tribes" or as "ethnic minorities" or "tribal populations" in any formal decision-making bodies at the national or local levels?				

KEY CONCERNS (Provide elaborations on the Remarks column)	YES	NO	NOT KNOWN	Remarks
<b>Identification Potential Impacts</b>				
9. Will the project directly or indirectly benefit or target Scheduled Tribes?				
10. Will the project directly or indirectly affect Scheduled Tribes' traditional socio-cultural and belief practices?  (e.g. child-rearing, health, education, arts, and governance)				
11. Will the project affect the livelihood systems of Scheduled Tribes? (e.g., food production system, natural resource management, crafts and trade, employment status)				
12. Will the project be in an area (land or territory) occupied, owned, or used by Scheduled Tribes, and/or claimed as ancestral domain?				
<b>C. Identification of Special Requirements</b>  Will the project activities include:				
13. Commercial development of the cultural resources and knowledge of Scheduled Tribes?				