

**INTEGRATED SAFEGUARDS DATA SHEET
APPRAISAL STAGE**

Report No.: . 31150

Date ISDS Prepared/Updated: December 8, 2004

I. BASIC INFORMATION

A. Basic Project Data

Country: Morocco	Project ID: P043412
Project Name: Basic Education Reform Support Program / Programme d'appui à la réforme du système éducatif marocain (PARSEM)	Task Team Leader: Michel J. Welmond
Estimated Appraisal Date: December 10, 2004	Estimated Board Date: January 25, 2005
Managing Unit: MNSHD	Lending Instrument: Sector Investment Loan (SIL), Sector Wide Approach (SWAp)
Sector: General education sector (75%); Central government administration (25%)	Theme: Education for the knowledge economy (P); Education for all (P); Administrative and civil service reform (S)
Safeguard Policies Specialists in the task team: Hocine Chalal, Environment Specialist ; Concepcion Esperanza Del Castillo, Senior Social Scientist	
Loan/Credit amount (\$m.): IBRD: 50	
Other financing amounts by source:	(\$m) -

B. Project Objectives

The principal objective of PARSEM is to support Government efforts to provide a primary and lower-secondary education of improving quality to all children ages 6-15 in a financially sustainable manner. To meet this objective, PARSEM supports the institutionalization of practices, mechanisms, and approaches that will improve the capacity of the education system in an on-going basis.

C. Project Description

Component One: Generalize basic education [estimated cost: US\$ 174.74 million]: This component's objective is to ensure that basic education is available to most school-age children by 2008. Its overall strategy is to increase the provision of schooling in a cost-effective manner by using new construction norms and promoting partnerships with local stakeholders to provide

social services for under-served students (boarding facilities, school transport). Demand for schooling will be strengthened through the promotion of pre-school education.

Component Two: Improve the quality of education [estimated cost: US\$ 57.06 million]: The main objective of this component is to improve student learning and reduce dropout and repetition rates. The principal strategy implemented through this component is to establish the institutions and the capacity necessary to ensure ongoing improvements in the quality of education: systematic evaluation of student achievement; cost-effective in-service training and teacher support services; setting and using quality standards to support and monitor school efforts to improve quality; and the development of a regularly programmed research agenda for the development of quality enhancement innovations.

Component Three: Build institutional capacity [estimated cost: US\$ 16.38 million]: This component aims to reinforce the institutional capacity associated with the sector's decentralization process at the central, regional, provincial, and local levels. It also introduces two important innovations. First, it will help implement at the sector level the government-wide public administration reform, which foresees the introduction of program budgeting and personnel deployment based on new job descriptions. Second, it improves key systems to meet the fiduciary and safeguard standards of the Bank (procurement, financial management, environment, and social protection).

D. Project location

National education reform program will be implemented throughout the national territory. The government selects sites for specific intervention based on various information systems (school maps, regional plans, etc.). Project to be implemented in the following regional academies (regional education jurisdictions): Grand Casablanca, Chaouia-ourdigha, Doukala-Abda, Fès-Boulmane, Gharb-chrarda-bani hassan, Marrakesh-Tansift-Alhaouz, Meknes-Tafilalt, L'Orientale-Oujda, Rabat-Salé-Zemmour-Zair, Souss-Massa-Draa, Tadla-Azilal, Tanger-Tetuan, Taza-El Houseima-Taounate.

E. Borrower's Institutional Capacity for Safeguard Policies

The key implementation agency is the Department of National Education (DEN) and the AREF. PARSEM was classified as Category B according to the Environmental Assessment Safeguards Policy 4.01. This assessment addressed environmental as well as social safeguards concerns mainly related to the construction of new schools. An Environmental and Social Safeguards Framework (ESSF) was prepared during this assessment process, which details the mitigating as well as monitoring measures that needs to be carried out during project implementation. It also identifies ways to improve capacity of the implementing agency(ies). This Safeguards framework document is fully in compliance with the applicable safeguards policies (O.P. 4.01 and O.P. 4.12) and takes into consideration the current institutional and regulatory framework in Morocco as applicable and necessary in a Sector-Wide Approach (SWAp) operation.

II. SAFEGUARD POLICIES THAT MIGHT APPLY

Applicable?	Safeguard Policy If Applicable, How Might It Apply?
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>Environmental Assessment (OP/BP 4.01)</u>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Natural Habitats (OP/BP 4.04)</u>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Pest Management (OP 4.09)</u>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<u>Involuntary Resettlement (OP/BP 4.12)</u>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Indigenous Peoples (OD 4.20)</u>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Forests (OP/BP 4.36)</u>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Safety of Dams (OP/BP 4.37)</u>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Cultural Property (draft OP 4.11 - OPN 11.03)</u>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Projects in Disputed Areas (OP/BP/GP 7.60)*</u>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Projects on International Waterways (OP/BP/GP 7.50)</u>

Environmental Assessment Category:

A B C FI TBD (to be determined)

Environmental assessment was triggered because of the construction of new schools.

Involuntary Resettlement was triggered because of the issues of arrears related to payment of land acquired for construction of schools.



The above-mentioned two policies are addressed in the Environmental and Social Safeguards Framework (ESSF).

III. SAFEGUARD PREPARATION PLAN

- A. The target date for preparing the PAD-stage ISDS is December 5, 2004.
- B. Completion of studies and their timing:
- Completion of the environmental and social safeguards assessment: March 29, 2004
 - Draft version of the Environmental and Social Safeguards Framework (ESSF): June 10, 2004
 - Disclosure of the ESSF in the country: December 7, 2004
 - Disclosure of the ESSF at InfoShop: December 8, 2004

* By supporting the proposed project, the Bank does not intend to prejudice the final determination of the parties' claims on the disputed areas

IV. APPROVALS

<i>Signed and submitted by:</i>		
Task Team Leader:	Michel J. Welmond 	12/8/04 Date
<i>Approved by:</i>		
Regional Safeguards Coordinator:	Sherif Arif	Date
Comments: The project has been transferred to the TTL on March 1, 2004. Therefore, a signature from the RSC is not needed.		
Sector Manager:	Regina Bendokat 	Date
Comments		12/9/04