

INTEGRATED SAFEGUARDS DATA SHEET CONCEPT STAGE

Report No.: ISDSC12155

Date ISDS Prepared/Updated: 16-Mar-2015

Date ISDS Approved/Disclosed: 17-Mar-2015

I. BASIC INFORMATION

A. Basic Project Data

| | | | |
|---|---|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Country: | India | Project ID: | P154523 |
| Project Name: | Technical Education Quality Improvement Project III (P154523) | | |
| Task Team Leader(s): | Tobias Linden, Tara Beteille | | |
| Estimated Appraisal Date: | 18-Jan-2016 | Estimated Board Date: | 31-Mar-2016 |
| Managing Unit: | GEDDR | Lending Instrument: | Investment Project Financing |
| Sector(s): | Tertiary education (100%) | | |
| Theme(s): | Education for the knowledge economy (70%), Export development and competitiveness (10%), Technology diffusion (10%), Decentralization (10%) | | |
| Financing (In USD Million) | | | |
| Total Project Cost: | 600.00 | Total Bank Financing: | 300.00 |
| Financing Gap: | 0.00 | | |
| Financing Source | | | Amount |
| BORROWER/RECIPIENT | | | 300.00 |
| International Development Association (IDA) | | | 300.00 |
| Total | | | 600.00 |
| Environmental Category: | B - Partial Assessment | | |
| Is this a Repeater project? | No | | |

B. Project Objectives

The proposed Project Development Objective is to improve the performance of technical education institutions, in terms of efficiency, quality and equity.

C. Project Description

TEQIP III is expected to have 2 components:

- (I) Enhancing Institutional Quality, Equity and Governance (Bank support - \$290 mill; Total

component cost - \$550 mill.). There would be 3 sub-components:

(i) Institutional Development Grants to competitively-selected colleges. These grants would have a strong performance element. Activities to be covered include: pedagogical and other training for faculty; new fields of study/curricula with better employment prospects; student placement cells; mechanisms for tracking of graduates; supporting institutional autonomy; student placement; incentives to increase enrollment of girls/disadvantaged groups; development of technology based distance learning; and girls hostels.

(ii) Quality Enhancement Grants to competitively-selected affiliating universities: to support curriculum reform, encourage institutions to acquire and exercise autonomy status, improve student placement and enhance quality assurance procedures. Since affiliating universities cater to large numbers of private colleges, this is an important mechanism to improve the quality of engineering education across the board.

(iii) Centers of Excellence Grants to competitive-selected institutions to scale up innovation and multi-disciplinary teaching and research partnerships with industry.

(II) Technical Assistance to the Ministry of Human Resource Development and State Governments (Bank support - \$10 mill.; Total component cost -\$15 mill.)

Under this component, technical assistance will be provided to the Department of Higher Education in areas in project management, monitoring and evaluation, and in the establishment of robust project information systems. In addition, central initiatives to support institutional development, using the IITs and IIMs, will be supported. These activities will be made available to non-TEQIP institutions.

In addition, for institutions and governments of low-income states, new activities need to be developed during preparation to address their specific needs. The intention would be to build capacity of groups of institutions for self-improvement and of governments to support institutional development and technical education reform at the state level. These activities will impact non-TEQIP institutions as well.

D. Project location and salient physical characteristics relevant to the safeguard analysis (if known)

Countrywide (India). Specific locations will be identified after competitive selection of institutions. Around 250 institutions are expected to participate from across the country.

E. Borrowers Institutional Capacity for Safeguard Policies

Borrower has experience in the implementation of phase I and II of Technical Engineering/ Education Quality Improvement Project and will have people dedicated to do so at the National and State level. Ensuring adequate capacity will be part of project design and implementation. The Client has established reasonable capacity to manage the social and environmental safeguards for the proposed operation which shall be further strengthened during the phase-III. This was observed during the implementation of TEQIP I and II projects that the safeguards implementation was varied in quality and outcome at the local level and this requires enhancing capacity and monitoring results at specific local levels. This will be emphasized in the safeguards management planning for the Phase-III.

F. Environmental and Social Safeguards Specialists on the Team

Neha Pravash Kumar Mishra (GENDR)

Satya N. Mishra (GSURR)

II. SAFEGUARD POLICIES THAT MIGHT APPLY

| Safeguard Policies | Triggered? | Explanation (Optional) |
|--|-------------------|--|
| Environmental Assessment OP/BP 4.01 | Yes | The project will support only minor repairs and refurbishments of the existing infrastructure. An Environment Assessment will be undertaken and based on findings from this exercise, an Environment Management Plan/Framework will be prepared to guide/improve the management of environment, health and safety aspects on the campuses of TEQIP III institutions supported/covered under the project. |
| Natural Habitats OP/BP 4.04 | No | |
| Forests OP/BP 4.36 | No | |
| Pest Management OP 4.09 | No | |
| Physical Cultural Resources OP/BP 4.11 | No | |
| Indigenous Peoples OP/BP 4.10 | Yes | The policy is triggered given the project is country-wide and the beneficiaries would also include students belonging to Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs) and other disadvantaged groups. A Social Assessment (SA) has been commissioned and based on the findings, the project will develop a Tribal Development Framework/ Plan and equity guidelines to ensure that students from tribal and other disadvantaged groups who enter the participating TEQIP III institutions are provided with equitable benefits. |
| Involuntary Resettlement OP/ BP 4.12 | No | This policy has not been triggered given that project activities will focus on improving the quality and access of technical education and will only support minor repairs and refurbishments of existing infrastructure. Therefore project activities are not expected to require any land acquisition and are not expected to cause any type of physical or economic displacement or restriction of access to natural resources. |
| Safety of Dams OP/BP 4.37 | No | |
| Projects on International Waterways OP/BP 7.50 | No | |
| Projects in Disputed Areas OP/ BP 7.60 | No | |

III. SAFEGUARD PREPARATION PLAN

¹ Reminder: The Bank's Disclosure Policy requires that safeguard-related documents be disclosed before appraisal (i) at the InfoShop and (ii) in country, at publicly accessible locations and in a form and language that are accessible to potentially affected persons.

- A. Tentative target date for preparing the PAD Stage ISDS: 30-Sep-2015**
- B. Time frame for launching and completing the safeguard-related studies that may be needed. The specific studies and their timing¹ should be specified in the PAD-stage ISDS:**

(a) OP/ BP 4.10 is triggered under the project. A Social Assessment (SA) has been commissioned and based on the findings, the project will develop a tribal development framework/plan and equity guidelines to ensure that students from tribal and other disadvantaged groups who enter the participating TEQIP III institutions are provided with equitable benefits. A National level Tribal Development Framework based on which state/ specific local level Tribal Development Plans and Equity Plans will be prepared and implemented. The Tribal Development Framework will build on the Equity Action Plan prepared for TEQIP II project and lessons learned from the implementation of this Plan with addressing any gaps identified during the implementation process. The client shall carry out free, prior, and informed stakeholder consultations with the primary beneficiaries with special focus on the SC and ST groups and CSOs representing their interests and working with them to prepare and validate the Tribal Development Framework. The client will establish monitoring and evaluation information systems in the Department of Higher Education, to monitor progress in achieving social inclusion with indicators disaggregated by gender, and ethnicity (SC, ST).

(b) OP/ BP 4.01 is triggered under the project. An Environment Assessment will be undertaken and based on findings from this exercise, an Environment Management Plan/Framework will be prepared to guide/improve the management of environment, health and safety aspects on the campuses of TEQIP III institutions supported/covered under the project.

IV. APPROVALS

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|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------|
| Task Team Leader(s): | Name: Tobias Linden,Tara Beteille | |
| <i>Approved By:</i> | | |
| Safeguards Advisor: | Name: Francis V. Fragano (SA) | Date: 16-Mar-2015 |
| Practice Manager/ Manager: | Name: Halil Dundar (PMGR) | Date: 17-Mar-2015 |