

INTEGRATED SAFEGUARDS DATA SHEET

IDENTIFICATION / CONCEPT STAGE

Report No.: ISDSC13897

Date ISDS Prepared/Updated: 15-Jul-2015

I. BASIC INFORMATION

A. Basic Project Data

Country:	Afghanistan	Project ID:	P156225
Project Name:	Support to the Afghanistan Independent Land Authority		
Team Leader(s):	Asta Olesen		
Estimated Date of Approval:	28-Sep-2015		
Managing Unit:	GSU04	Lending Instrument:	Lending Instrument
Sector(s):	General agriculture, fishing and forestry sector (25%), Public administration- Agriculture, fishing and forestry (25%), Public administration- Other social services (25%), Other Mining and Extractive Industries (15%), General industry and trade sector (10%)		
Theme(s):	Other public sector governance (20%), Other rule of law (15%), Other social development (15%), Other rural development (15%), Land administration and management (35%)		
Financing (in USD Million)			
Total Project Cost:	4.95	Total Bank Financing:	0
Financing Gap:	0		
Financing Source			Amount
Afghanistan Reconstruction Trust Fund			4.95
Environment Category:	B - Partial Assessment		

B. Project Development Objective(s)

The Project Development Objective (PDO) is to support the Afghan Government to develop the policy and regulatory framework and build capacity to deliver transparent, pro-poor land services, through (a) raising public awareness, knowledge and understanding about laws and regulations governing the land sector; (b) developing processes and service standards for Arazi's core functions

C. Project Description

The project is designed as primarily a technical assistance (TA) project that will prepare and strengthen the newly independent Arazi for its tasks as a transparent and responsive service provider in the land sector. Development of policies, regulations and implementation procedures and respective staff capacity will be driven by a gender-sensitive and pro-poor approach, which will facilitate the role of the land sector in equitable economic growth and employment generation. The

project will build on the assistance and earlier achievements of land sector support interventions. This particularly includes the assistance to Arazi provided under ARCP. The LGAF, currently being conducted will provide further guidance for the detailed project design. As part of the Lessons-Learned documentation, during preparation phase a comprehensive Social Assessment taking stock of earlier analytical work and pilots in dispute resolution, land registration, as well as identification of major stakeholder and political economy dimensions of land governance reforms will be conducted.

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

The project is designed as primarily a technical assistance (TA) project that will prepare and strengthen the newly independent Arazi for its tasks as a transparent and responsive service provider in the land sector. Specifically, the proposed project will consist of four components focused on institutional strengthening and capacity building of Arazi through the development of an administrative system of land registration, policy and land access. These interventions will be consistent with the Government's and World Bank's safeguards policies and guidelines and consultants' Terms of References (ToRs) will be drafted accordingly. As the proposed activities under this project will only involve technical and analytical assistance, advisory services, and building capacity of Arazi to deliver its services to support the land administration and management, there will be no civil works or tangible investment with salient physical characteristics to be supported under this project.

E. Borrower's Institutional Capacity for Safeguard Policies

Borrower is national Land Authority and thus has custodianship of the national Law on Land Expropriation, which is currently under amendment in order to be compliant with goods international standards. Substantial training will be required of Arazi staff to handle implementation of amended law at national level. Arazi does not have any mandate with regard to environmental issues, but as the government's designated lead agency in the land sector, Arazi will consult and coordinate with other land-related agencies, in particular Ministry of Mines, and National Environmental Protection Agency (NEPA).

F. Environmental and Social Safeguards Specialists on the Team

Obaidullah Hidayat (GENDR)

II. SAFEGUARD POLICIES THAT MIGHT APPLY

Safeguard Policies	Triggered?	Explanation (Optional)
Environmental Assessment OP/BP 4.01	Yes	The Environmental Assessment policy(OP/BP 4.01) is triggered as it can not be rules out that the PPG will comprise drafting of policies and procedures which may have down-strema enviroment impact. All legal amendments, regulations and procedures Each set of draft policies and guidelines for Land Access drafted under the project will be subject to a Social and environmental Assessment to assess downstream social and environmental impacts (SEA). The ToRs of the SEAs will include environmental and social elements which will

		be informed by policy requirements of OP 4.01 and other relevant applicable Bank safeguard policies. The relevant ToR will be cleared by the Bank. To ensure holistic safeguard approach, the project will coordinate with NEPA, MoLSAMD and other relevant line ministries
Natural Habitats OP/BP 4.04	No	This policy is not triggered, as the activities and policies funded under this PPG will not entail implication to Natural Habitats. The prevailing Environmental Law includes a negative list where all identifies Natural Habitats are listed and are declared as preserved area
Forests OP/BP 4.36	No	OP/BP 4.36 (Forests Policy) is not triggered since, policies and procedures that are ultimately adopted by Arazi will have no applicability with the land under forest. The country has a Forest Law and clear guidelines and procedures are already applicable and in place, and under the mandate of Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock.
Pest Management OP 4.09	No	OP 4.09 (Pest Management) policy is not triggered because Project activities will not involve purchase, use or storage of pesticides, nor will it support the procurement, or use of, or lead to the increased use of other agricultural chemicals.
Physical Cultural Resources OP/BP 4.11	No	The Arazi Support Project does not finance any civil works
Indigenous Peoples OP/BP 4.10	No	The Arazi Support Project does not have any activity in any area of indigenous people.
Involuntary Resettlement OP/BP 4.12	Yes	Although the Project will not involve any relocation or involuntary resettlement per se, the Involuntary Resettlement Policy is triggered due to the potential downstream impacts that could arise from any laws, policies, procedures and guidelines on Involuntary Resettlement that are ultimately adopted by the government. Activities strengthening Land Policy and Regulatory Framework would support the review and where applicable the revision of the land policies and laws, including laws and implementing regulations to enable Arazi to implement its mandate under the Law on Land Management Affairs and other laws, including

		the Land Expropriation Law, in a consistent framework and in accordance with pro-poor land policies and good land governance. All legal amendments, regulations and procedures Each set of developed laws, policies and guidelines drafted under Land Policy and Regulatory Framework drafted under the project will be subject to a Social and Environmental Assessment to assess downstream social and environmental impacts. (SEA) as well as a legal review by the WB. The Project will facilitate future Bank and other partner operations by having commonly accepted standards in place. Broad consensus on these issues will be sought through inter-ministerial cooperation, in particular through the High Council of Land and Water.
Safety of Dams OP/BP 4.37	No	The Project does not have any activity involving dams.
Projects on International Waterways OP/BP 7.50	No	The Project does not involve any activity that will affect international waterways.
Projects in Disputed Areas OP/BP 7.60	No	The Project does not involve any activity in any know disputed area.

III. SAFEGUARD PREPARATION PLAN

Appraisal stage ISDS required?: No

IV. APPROVALS

Team Leader(s):	Name: Asta Olesen	
<i>Approved By:</i>		
Safeguards Advisor:	Name: Maged Mahmoud Hamed (SA)	Date: 23-Jul-2015
Practice Manager/ Manager:	Name: Markus Kostner (PMGR)	Date: 23-Jul-2015

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.