

# INTEGRATED SAFEGUARDS DATA SHEET CONCEPT STAGE

**Report No.:** ISDSC1851

**Date ISDS Prepared/Updated:** 19-Nov-2013

**Date ISDS Approved/Disclosed:** 26-Sep-2014

## I. BASIC INFORMATION

### A. Basic Project Data

<b>Country:</b>	Argentina	<b>Project ID:</b>	P133129
<b>Project Name:</b>	Argentina Youth Employment Support Project (P133129)		
<b>Task Team Leader:</b>	Rafael P. Rofman		
<b>Estimated Appraisal Date:</b>	15-Oct-2014	<b>Estimated Board Date:</b>	13-Jan-2015
<b>Managing Unit:</b>	GSPDR	<b>Lending Instrument:</b>	Investment Project Financing
<b>Sector(s):</b>	Public administration- Other social services (50%), Vocational training (25%), Other social services (25%)		
<b>Theme(s):</b>	Improving labor markets (33%), Social Inclusion (33%), Education for the knowledge economy (17%), Education for all (17%)		
<b>Financing (In USD Million)</b>			
<b>Total Project Cost:</b>	735.00	<b>Total Bank Financing:</b>	400.00
<b>Financing Gap:</b>	0.00		
<b>Financing Source</b>			<b>Amount</b>
Borrower			335.00
International Bank for Reconstruction and Development			400.00
Total			735.00
<b>Environmental Category:</b>	C - Not Required		
<b>Is this a Repeater project?</b>	No		

### B. Project Objectives

The development objective of the proposed project is to improve access and employability of vulnerable youth population to labor markets, by supporting the expansion and strengthening of Government employment programs and improving the policy making and implementation capacity of MTESS.

### C. Project Description

The lending instrument proposed is a specific sector investment loan for an estimated amount of US \$400 million. To achieve its objectives, the project would support the following activities through three components: i) coverage expansion and operational strengthening of the Youth Employment Program (JMyMT), ii) improvement of orientation and training services offered to program participants aimed at increasing their employability and likelihood for job placement and job mobility; iii) strengthening and expanding the network of Municipal Employment Offices.

The project will include three components:

**Component 1: Coverage Expansion and Operational Strengthening of the JMyMT:** This component would aim at increasing the program's coverage to young people by the end of the project, expanding coverage and improving the MTESS capacity to implement it by: a) financing cash transfers/grants to youth (between 18 and 24 years) enrolled in the program and participating in program activities including, among others, labor orientation, completion of basic education, professional training, work experience, job search; and b) financing technical assistance to the Ministry of Labor to enhance its monitoring and evaluation systems for the JMyMT Program, including specific studies and activities associated with the development of an information platform.

Activities of this component would also include optimizing the management of the employment and vocational training policies and the labor intermediation processes through the improvement of tools for obtaining and managing information at the local and national levels. During project preparation agreement would be reached with the Ministry of Labor on the design and arrangements for carrying out impact evaluations on several project interventions, including youth orientation/training and work experience scheme. The estimated amount to be financed through this component is US\$185 million.

**Component 2: Improvement of orientation and training services offered to program participants.** This component would aim at improving the quality and relevance of orientation and training services offered to program participants, by financing the provision and improvement of these services. Activities to be funded would include the design and implementation of workshops and training courses, development of competency standards, training of evaluators, improvement and certification of training institutions, curriculum design, teacher training, and strengthening of Sector Councils responsible for overseeing training programs.

The component would also finance the expansion and strengthening of a job competency-based certification system. The certification implies the definition and validation of competency-based standards, the standardization of certified competency-based training, and the issuing of competency-based certificates. These activities will continue those that were supported by the Lifelong Learning Project since 2007, expanding coverage to new sectors of the economy (defined considering their size and potential generation of formal job opportunities). In particular, this component would finance: the development of 50 labor competency based standards; the evaluation and certification of 10,000 youth in competency-based standards; the training of 200 evaluators; the strengthening of 150 training institutions by providing basic equipment; the quality certification of 75 training institutions using IRAM (the national institution in Argentina responsible for standard certification) standards; the design of 50 curriculums with their corresponding teaching materials; and the training of 1,500 teachers. Most of these activities would be financed through results-based mechanisms, using a design that will be developed during project preparation. The component would also finance technical coordination and implementation for the project. The estimated amount to be financed by this component is US\$ 145 million.

Component 3: Strengthening and expanding the network of Municipal Employment Offices (OEM): This component would aim at strengthening the capacity and quality of the employment services offered by the Municipal Employment Offices to program participants by incorporating new methodologies and management practices of OEMs already incorporated in the network and new offices to be incorporated.

The activities supported by this component include the provision of training to OEM staff, technical assistance to improve efficiency and monitor results, and IT resources, as necessary. Financial support from MTESS to the offices would be designed as a results based scheme, where transfers would be linked to a set of performance indicators, to generate efficiency incentives within the system. The World Bank's financing would also use a result-based financing mechanism, linking disbursements to the MTESS to progress in a set of key performance indicators in service delivery, to be defined during project preparation. The estimated amount to be financed by this component is US \$ 70 million.

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

The project activities have national coverage. Municipal Employment Offices offering the Youth with More and Better Jobs Program exist in 274 locations with a targeted expansion to 320.

The project will benefit indigenous communities and rural populations. Direct beneficiaries will be youth between 18 and 24 years. 20 of the 24 provinces in Argentina have been identified to include indigenous populations (IP). According to the 2010 census the IP between 18 and 24 years is 118,021 (59,207 males and 58,814 females). 69% of the overall indigenous population is in the age range of 20-24 years (50.4% are male and 49.6% female). IPPs have been developed under the Lifelong Learning Project (LLL), AR Basic Project (ABP) and AF Basic Protection projects for the provinces that include IPs.

According to a survey conducted in June 2012, the Ministry of Labor serves about 4,000 indigenous people in the 12 provinces where the IPPs are being implemented. 53% are female, and 57% belong to the age group ranging from 18 to 35 years and 37% between 35 and 55. The same survey highlighted that while the goal of incorporating indigenous people was met (and surpassed) in the provinces surveyed, a large number of beneficiaries – both indigenous and non-indigenous - could not enter the system due to lack of employment offices and/or agencies in all municipalities. The proposed project would take this issue into account and consider barriers that indigenous peoples may experience.

#### **E. Borrowers Institutional Capacity for Safeguard Policies**

Argentina has extensive experience in the management of Indigenous Peoples safeguards for World Bank projects in the social sectors, as exemplified by the Lifelong Learning (LLL) and the Argentina Basic Protection (ABP) projects, currently under execution and close related with this proposal. The team in charge of implementing activities based on the Indigenous Peoples Plans (IPPs) for the above-mentioned projects has demonstrated strong capacity in this area, and was assigned the same responsibility for the proposed Youth Employment Support Project. The implementation of the IPPs under LLL and ABP is underway with satisfactory results and the social assessments at provincial level are updated annually.

It is important to point out that, as a result of lessons learned from the project mentioned above this

Project would consider the inclusion of a specific budget to allow for the implementation of the IPPs, aimed at further strengthening the country's capacity to execute activities under the triggered safeguard.

The existing projects have guaranteed that indigenous people will benefit from the activities of the project.

#### **F. Environmental and Social Safeguards Specialists on the Team**

Isabel Tomadin (GSURR)

## **II. SAFEGUARD POLICIES THAT MIGHT APPLY**

<b>Safeguard Policies</b>	<b>Triggered?</b>	<b>Explanation (Optional)</b>
Environmental Assessment OP/ BP 4.01	No	This policy should not be triggered given that due to the nature and scope of the proposed activities no impact on the environment is expected.
Natural Habitats OP/BP 4.04	No	This policy should not be triggered since no impact is expected on natural habitats.
Forests OP/BP 4.36	No	This policy should not be triggered given that the project has no foreseen activities that will affect forests.
Pest Management OP 4.09	No	This policy should not be triggered given that no activities will include pest use or procurement of pesticides.
Physical Cultural Resources OP/ BP 4.11	No	This policy should not be triggered since the project does not foresee any investment activities that require removal of soil.
Indigenous Peoples OP/BP 4.10	Yes	<p>This policy is triggered given that this is a project with national coverage and Indigenous Peoples as defined by OP 4.10 are present in Argentina. Indigenous Peoples are among the most vulnerable groups in the labor market, and they could potentially benefit from project activities given the project's focus on the inclusion of vulnerable youth in the labor market.</p> <p>A National Indigenous Peoples Plan (NIPP) will be developed as part of the proposed Youth Inclusion Project. It will build on the existing IPPF and IPPs under the LLL, AR Basic Project and AF Basic Protection projects, as well as on lessons learned from the Projects' implementation and from the Bank experience. The NIPP will guide national level interventions and consultations with key national indigenous</p>

	<p>peoples stakeholders, and will help the project team to identify and address the specific barriers that IPs face in entering the formal labor market in Argentina and propose actions on how the intermediation services and the vocational and soft skills training offered by the MTESS can reach IPs and be offered in a way that is relevant and culturally appropriate. The Ministry of Labor will present the NIPP before the members of the Indigenous Participation Council of INAI, and before other Indigenous Peoples communities in order to provide information on the Project activities, promote the participation of Indigenous communities in its implementation, and to receive suggestions. During Project implementation, the consultations and collaboration between the Ministry of Labor and INAI and the Indigenous Participation Council would continue with the aim of improving the efficiency and cultural appropriateness of the specific activities of the Project. For those Provinces and/or Municipalities which have been, or in the future are, identified as triggering OP 4.10, the NIPP would be an integral part of the Agreements that will be signed between the Province and/or Municipalities, and the Ministry of Labor for the implementation of the Project. Each Agreement needs to be signed before loan funds are advanced to a Province and/or Municipality.</p> <p>The project will also prepare a broader social assessment to identify the vulnerable groups, such as women and other rural populations, which might require targeted interventions. Given that the project objective is to integrate vulnerable youth into the labor market and that young women have considerably higher rates of unemployment and underemployment in Argentina, the team will work to identify what are the specific barriers that women face in entering the formal labor market and plan specific actions to address these gaps. Also, the project will introduce gender disaggregated indicators.</p>
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Involuntary Resettlement OP/BP 4.12	No	This policy should not be triggered given that the project will not result in involuntary resettlement nor require land acquisition.
Safety of Dams OP/BP 4.37	No	This policy should not be triggered given that the project will neither support the construction or rehabilitation of dams nor will it support other investments which rely on the services of existing dams.
Projects on International Waterways OP/BP 7.50	No	This policy should not be triggered given that no project activities will affect international waterways.
Projects in Disputed Areas OP/BP 7.60	No	This policy should not be triggered since project activities will not take place in disputed areas.

### III. SAFEGUARD PREPARATION PLAN

**A. Tentative target date for preparing the PAD Stage ISDS:** 27-Dec-2013

**B. Time frame for launching and completing the safeguard-related studies that may be needed.**

**The specific studies and their timing<sup>1</sup> should be specified in the PAD-stage ISDS:**

The Social Assessment and the National Indigenous Peoples Plan (NIPP) will be prepared before appraisal. Since, as stated above, for those Provinces and/or Municipalities which have been, or in the future are, identified as triggering OP 4.10, the NIPP would be an integral part of the Agreements that will be signed between the Province and/or Municipalities, and the Ministry of Labor for the implementation of the Project; each Agreement will need to be signed before loan funds are advanced to a Province and/or Municipality.

### IV. APPROVALS

Task Team Leader:	Name: Rafael P. Rofman	
<b><i>Approved By:</i></b>		
Regional Safeguards Coordinator:	Name: Maria Elena Garcia Mora (RSA)	Date: 20-Nov-2013
Sector Manager:	Name: Margaret Ellen Grosh (SM)	Date: 26-Sep-2014

<sup>1</sup> 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.