INTEGRATED SAFEGUARDS DATA SHEET IDENTIFICATION / CONCEPT STAGE

Report No.: ISDSC11815

Date ISDS Prepared/Updated: 04-Feb-2015

I. BASIC INFORMATION

A. Basic Project Data

Country:	World	Project ID:	P154429		
Project Name:	The Harmonization of Price Statistics and National Accounts Activities and Production of Biennial PPP Estimates in Western Asia				
Team Leader(s):	Mizuki Yamanaka				
Estimated Date of Approval:	30-Mar-2015				
Managing Unit:	DECDG	Lending Instrument	Lending Instrument		
Sector(s):	General public administration sector (100%)				
Theme(s):	Analysis of economic growth (25%), Economic statistics, modeling and forecasting (50%), Macroeconomic management (25%)				
Financing (in USD) Million)				
Total Project Cost: 0.38841		Total Bank Financing: 0			
Financing Gap:	0				
Financing Source			Amount		
Borrower			0		
Trust Fund for Statistical Capacity Building			0.38841		
Environment	C - Not Required				
Category:					

B. Project Development Objective(s)

The overall objective of the project is to build the capacity of countries in the areas of price statistics and national accounts, in order to advance the data foundation for measuring sustainable development, and to support evidence based policymaking and effective monitoring. Specific objectives include:

1. Improving the country' statistical capacity in the compilation of detailed disaggregated national accounts expenditure data, and addressing gaps identified in the 2011 round of International Comparison Program (ICP) in the compilation of GDP expenditures.

2. Harmonizing price collection activities of the countries' Consumer Price Index (CPI) activities with ICP activities and producing regular Purchasing Power Parities (PPPs).

3. Improving the countries' statistical in developing price indices for difficult areas such as housing, government services and gross fixed capital formation.

4. Promoting partnerships between national statistics offices (NSOs) and international agencies by sharing good practices and building human capital and national partnerships.

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C. Project Description

To enhance the capacity of countries' national practices and methodologies in the fields of national accounts and price statistics, and to produce indices to match the international recommendations, the project activities are mainly:

1. Workshops: these workshops will aim at (i) planning and promoting a strategic approach for the integration of CPI and ICP activities, including reviewing existing ICP and CPI item list and constructing a harmonized list; (ii) identifying and assessing the gaps encountered in the compilation of detailed disaggregated GDP expenditure data such as housing, financial services, net purchases abroad, services provided by non-profit institutions serving the households, government services, gross fixed capital formation, inventories and valuables; (iii) identifying and addressing certain areas with difficulties in price comparison such as cost of housing rentals, government services and gross fixed capital formation; and (iv) supporting data quality processes.

2. Preparation of training materials: the materials will help in (i) improving survey design and price data collection and processing methods; (ii) helping countries further understand national accounts concepts and data compilation process for detailed disaggregated level; and (iii) strengthening data quality processes.

3. Technical assistance: this activity will aim at (i) preparing a 'Needs-Assessment' evaluation for each country; and (ii) providing countries with direct technical support to ensure proper implementation and execution of the recommended methodologies with a focus on the gaps and difficulties encountered in the price statistics and expenditure data compilation.

Also, through the three activities, the project aims to strive forward with the momentum gained and leveraged through previous international efforts and investments, such as ICP 2011, in terms of human capital, national partnerships, etc.

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

E. Borrower's Institutional Capacity for Safeguard Policies

F. Environmental and Social Safeguards Specialists on the Team

II. SAFEGUARD POLICIES THAT MIGHT APPLY

Safeguard Policies	Triggered?	Explanation (Optional)	
Environmental Assessment OP/ BP 4.01	No		
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	No		

Involuntary Resettlement OP/BP 4.12	No	
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

Appraisal stage ISDS required?: No

IV. APPROVALS

Team Leader(s):	Name: Mizuki Yamanaka		
Approved By:			
Safeguards Advisor:	Name: Takeaki Sato (SA)	Date: 22-Apr-2015	
Practice Manager/ Manager:	Name: Grant James Cameron (PMGR)	Date: 22-Apr-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.