



Integrated Safeguards Data Sheet Identification / Concept Stage (ISDS)

Concept Stage | Date ISDS Prepared/Updated: 16-Feb-2018 | Report No: ISDSC23287



BASIC INFORMATION

A. Basic Project Data

Project ID	Project Name	Environmental Category	Country
P165630	Implementation of the International Comparison Program (ICP) in Western Asia	C - Not Required	World
Team Leader(s)	Estimated Date of Approval	Managing Unit	Financing Instrument
Mizuki Yamanaka		DECAE	Investment Project Financing

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Financing (in USD Million)

SUMMARY

Total Project Cost	0.00
Total Financing	0.00
Financing Gap	0.00

DETAILS

B. Project Development Objective(s)

The overall project development objective of the proposed project is to ensure the successful implementation and completion of the ICP activities in the Western Asia region, and to further institute the ICP as a permanent element in the regional and national statistical programs, as per the UNSC recommendation. Furthermore, the project aims at enhancing statistical capacity of NSOs of countries in the Western Asia region, especially in economic statistics. These steps will, in turn, advance the statistical foundation for measuring sustainable development and supporting evidence-based policymaking.

C. Project Description

To achieve the proposed objectives, the project includes components and activities described below.

Regional training workshops

This component involves conducting regional training workshops that cover the following topics: (i) designing and conducting ICP price surveys and estimating PPPs; (ii) compiling GDP expenditures; (iii) establishing



synergies between ICP processes and ongoing CPI survey activities; (iv) compiling HCPIs; and (v) promoting the uses of PPPs and sub-national indices.

Technical assistance missions for the production of sub-national PPPs

This component will include technical assistance missions for the computation of sub-national PPPs.

Workshops for capacity building of lower-capacity countries

Intensive capacity building efforts will be exerted for supporting countries with insufficient resources in data entry, data validation, training on the ICP software, and other areas of difficulty.

Participation of regional/national experts in international meetings

This component aims at ensuring the inputs and contributions of regional and national experts from participating countries in technical activities undertaken globally and building the capacity of these experts through exposure to latest methodologies and techniques.

Preparation of knowledge/training materials

This component involves the preparation of knowledge and training material that will be used for facilitating the regional training workshops and in technical assistance missions.

Preparation of interim progress reports

Interim progress reports will be prepared on a semi-annual basis, highlighting the progress made in the different activities conducted during the course of the project.

A final report (publication) for PPP results

At the end of the activity cycle and after endorsement of the final results, a report illustrating the results of the corresponding ICP cycle in Western Asia will be published.

SAFEGUARDS

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

No physical intervention is included in the project activities. The meetings and workshops with clients and relevant agencies will be typically held at hotels and government offices in the capital cities of the countries that hold regional workshops, international meetings or country visits.



E. Borrower’s Institutional Capacity for Safeguard Policies

The borrower, UN-ESCWA, sets in place an evaluation policy that focuses on expected and achieved accomplishments, examining the results chain, processes, contextual relevance, impact, effectiveness, efficiency and sustainability of the interventions and contributions of the organizations of the UN system.

F. Environmental and Social Safeguards Specialists on the Team

Takeaki Sato, Environmental Safeguards Specialist
Fawah Ngeniform Akwo, Social Safeguards Specialist

G. Policies that might apply

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Safeguard Policies Triggered by the Project	Triggered?	Explanation (Optional)
Environmental Assessment OP/BP 4.01	No	No physical intervention is expected from the project. No procurement of equipment/goods will be made as well.
Natural Habitats OP/BP 4.04	No	The project does not contemplate rehabilitation or new works in areas of natural habitats or that would significantly impact natural habitats.
Forests OP/BP 4.36	No	The project will not finance activities in forests or that could potentially affect forest resources or their management.
Pest Management OP 4.09	No	The project does not involve purchase or use of pesticides or finance any activities that could lead to changes in pesticide use or pest management practices.
Physical Cultural Resources OP/BP 4.11	No	The project does not contemplate rehabilitation or new works that could potentially affect physical cultural resources.
Indigenous Peoples OP/BP 4.10	No	The project will strengthen the statistical capacity of government institutions, and as such will not finance any activities affecting areas where indigenous communities are present or to which they have a collective attachment.
Involuntary Resettlement OP/BP 4.12	No	The project will strengthen the statistical capacity of government institutions and as such will not finance any activities that



		might lead to land acquisition, resettlement, or the restriction of access to natural resources.
Safety of Dams OP/BP 4.37	No	The project will neither support the construction or rehabilitation of dams nor will it support other investments which rely on services of existing dams.
Projects on International Waterways OP/BP 7.50	No	The project will not finance activities involving the use or potential pollution of international waterways.
Projects in Disputed Areas OP/BP 7.60	No	The project will not finance activities in disputed areas as defined in the policy.

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H. Safeguard Preparation Plan

Appraisal stage ISDS required? No

APPROVALS

Team Leader(s):	Mizuki Yamanaka
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Approved By

Safeguards Advisor:	Nina Chee	09-Feb-2018
Practice Manager/Manager:	Grant James Cameron	09-Feb-2018

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