INTEGRATED SAFEGUARDS DATA SHEET
APPRAISAL STAGE

Report No.: ISDSA15307

Date ISDS Prepared/Updated: 09-Nov-2015

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I. BASIC INFORMATION

1. Basic Project Data

Country:	Tunisia	**Project ID:**	P151059
Project Name:	Tunisia Tertiary Education for Employability Project (P151059)		
Task Team Leader(s):	Nina Arnhold,Karine M. Pezzani		
Estimated Appraisal Date:	05-Oct-2015	**Estimated Board Date:**	15-Feb-2016
Managing Unit:	GED05	**Lending Instrument:**	Investment Project Financing
Sector(s):	Tertiary education (80%), Vocational training (10%), Other social services (10%)		
Theme(s):	Education for the knowledge economy (80%), Improving labor markets (20%)		
Is this project processed under OP 8.50 (Emergency Recovery) or OP 8.00 (Rapid Response to Crises and Emergencies)?		No	
Financing (In USD Million)			

Total Project Cost:	75.00	Total Bank Financing:	70.00
Financing Gap:	0.00		

Financing Source	Amount
Borrower	5.00
International Bank for Reconstruction and Development	70.00
Total	75.00

Environmental Category:	C - Not Required
Is this a Repeater project?	No

2. Project Development Objective(s)

The objective of the Tertiary Education for Employability Project (TEEP) is to improve the employability of tertiary graduates and strengthen the management of higher education.

3. Project Description

The project would have two main components: (i) improving employability of graduates and (ii)

modernizing the management of higher education through technical assistance and capacity building to support the implementation of a comprehensive quality assurance system, increased autonomy of universities and the development of a performance-based steering approach, e.g. through performance contracts and a performance-based financing (PBF) mechanism. Supporting effective project management would form part of the second component. More specifically, the components would be described as follows:

Component 1: "Improving employability of graduates" would support a competitive grant scheme (that will build on an existing model developed under the recently closed PARES II project) supporting innovation, enhancement of curricula and learning environments, school-to-work transition programs, entrepreneurship and public private partnerships (PPPs). The grant scheme would consist of two types of grants ("PAQ 1" and "PAQ 2").

☐ "PAQ 1" grants would support projects related to: (i) university autonomy and reinforcement of their capacity in management (especially for HEIs with an EPST status) ; (ii) modernization of teaching and learning with a focus on general and specialized skills expected to enter the labor market ; (iii) application of the Bologna Process (in the form of LMD – described earlier); (iv) research and innovation (including for higher education); (v) entrepreneurial university, education and training of self-entrepreneurs ; (vi) 'young' universities and HEIs contributing to regional development ; (vii) transition programs and any other activities supporting the transition between secondary and higher education ; (viii) internships and other activities linking higher education to the labor market. The competition would be open to all HEIs, including the ISETs, and would give preference to projects promoting public-private partnerships.

☐ "PAQ 2 grants" would support the reinforcement of co-constructed programs (prepared in collaboration with employers and HEIs) which were developed and piloted under the PARES II with the aim to align higher education with labor market needs.

As under PARES II, PAQ grants could also finance the provision of needed equipment and materials for labs and the renovation of obsolete installations.

This component could possibly be opened to vocational training institutions.

A total of 50 million US$ would tentatively be allocated to Component 1.

Component 2: "Modernizing the management of higher education" would seek – under a sub-component 2.1 of technical assistance and capacity building - to support:

(i)   the full implementation of a university internal and external quality assurance system (including a fully-developed Bologna-compatible quality assurance agency and revitalization of university-internal quality assurance units);

(ii)   increased autonomy of universities, inter alia through the creation of external advisory boards to reinforce the relationship between employers and other external entities and HEIs and support of legislative measures to allow universities to access the EPST status mentioned above; and

(iii)   development of performance-based steering mechanisms for the higher education sector, e. g. through the (re-)introduction of performance contracts and development and piloting of performance-based financing (PBF) mechanisms.

Sub-component 2.2. "Supporting effective project management" would assist the Coordination Unit ("Unité de Coordination", UC), which is the implementation agency for previous donor-financed projects, including PARES II, to reinforce its coordinating capacity by recruiting - on a competitive basis – additional qualified and experienced technical staff fully dedicated to project components and/or sub-components. The detailed activities to be financed under this component will be further discussed during project preparation.

A total of US$ 20 million would tentatively be allocated to Component 2.

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

The Project will benefit all higher education institutions in Tunisia and will mostly focus on technical assistance and training, with - through the PAQ grants - some provision of equipment and potentially minor renovations (such as upgrade of electrical installations, minor repairs to ensure minimum working conditions, etc.). No construction or land acquisition is planned under the project, and such impacts will be screened out. The Project will finance minor renovation works in accordance with the eligibility criteria and environmental and social mitigation measures set forth in the Project operational manuals.

5. Environmental and Social Safeguards Specialists

Markus Friedrich Vorpahl (GSURR)

6. 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	No activities are planned that trigger physical or economic displacement. Mechanisms will be put in place to handle any unforeseen impacts.
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	

II. Key Safeguard Policy Issues and Their Management

A. *Summary of Key Safeguard Issues*

1. Describe any safeguard issues and impacts associated with the proposed project. Identify and describe any potential large scale, significant and/or irreversible impacts:
None.
2. Describe any potential indirect and/or long term impacts due to anticipated future activities in the project area:
None.
3. Describe any project alternatives (if relevant) considered to help avoid or minimize adverse impacts.
NA
4. Describe measures taken by the borrower to address safeguard policy issues. Provide an assessment of borrower capacity to plan and implement the measures described.
Screening mechanisms will be put in place to screen out activities which would induce safeguard-relevant impacts, in particular under the grant component 1.1.
5. Identify the key stakeholders and describe the mechanisms for consultation and disclosure on safeguard policies, with an emphasis on potentially affected people.
NA

B. *Disclosure Requirements*

If the project triggers the Pest Management and/or Physical Cultural Resources policies, the respective issues are to be addressed and disclosed as part of the Environmental Assessment/ Audit/or EMP.
If in-country disclosure of any of the above documents is not expected, please explain why:
NA

C. *Compliance Monitoring Indicators at the Corporate Level*

The World Bank Policy on Disclosure of Information	
Have relevant safeguard policies documents been sent to the World Bank's Infoshop?	Yes [×] No [ ] NA [ ]
Have relevant documents been disclosed in-country in a public place in a form and language that are understandable and accessible to project-affected groups and local NGOs?	Yes [×] No [ ] NA [ ]
All Safeguard Policies	
Have satisfactory calendar, budget and clear institutional responsibilities been prepared for the implementation of measures related to safeguard policies?	Yes [ ] No [ ] NA [×]
Have costs related to safeguard policy measures been included in the project cost?	Yes [ ] No [ ] NA [×]
Does the Monitoring and Evaluation system of the project include the monitoring of safeguard impacts and measures related to safeguard policies?	Yes [ ] No [ ] NA [×]
Have satisfactory implementation arrangements been agreed with the borrower and the same been adequately reflected in the project legal documents?	Yes [×] No [ ] NA [ ]

III. APPROVALS

Task Team Leader(s):	Name: Nina Arnhold,Karine M. Pezzani	
Approved By		
Practice Manager/ Manager:	Name: Safaa El Tayeb El-Kogali (PMGR)	Date: 11-Nov-2015