



Concept Environmental and Social Review Summary

Concept Stage

(ESRS Concept Stage)

Date Prepared/Updated: 02/07/2023 | Report No: ESRSC03243



BASIC INFORMATION

A. Basic Project Data

Country	Region	Project ID	Parent Project ID (if any)
Argentina	LATIN AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN	P180092	
Project Name	Food Security Programs Improvement Project		
Practice Area (Lead)	Financing Instrument	Estimated Appraisal Date	Estimated Board Date
Social Protection & Jobs	Investment Project Financing	5/30/2023	8/8/2023
Borrower(s)	Implementing Agency(ies)		
Argentine Republic	General Directorate of Special Projects and International Cooperation (DGPEyCI) - Ministry of Social, Ministry of Social Development		

Proposed Development Objective

The development objectives of the project are a) to improve the coverage and adequacy of the Food Benefit program; and b) to enhance the efficiency and traceability of the community kitchens food programs.

Financing (in USD Million)	Amount
Total Project Cost	300.00

B. Is the project being prepared in a Situation of Urgent Need of Assistance or Capacity Constraints, as per Bank IPF Policy, para. 12?

No

C. Summary Description of Proposed Project [including overview of Country, Sectoral & Institutional Contexts and Relationship to CPF]

This project will support the food programs combatting food insecurity in a period in which cash transfers are insufficient to fully cushion the impact of negative external shocks like the price increase of food, in a country with pre-existing high inflation rates.



The development objectives of the project are to improve the coverage and adequacy of the Food Benefit program and to enhance the efficiency and traceability of the Community Kitchens food program. The Prestacion Alimentar program (Food Benefit -FB) is largest food program run by the Ministry of Social Development (MDS) and is cash transfer program paid directly to the final beneficiary. The current coverage of FB almost fully overlaps Asignación Familiar por Hijo program (AUH) with the exception of children between the ages of 15 to 17. The second largest food program run by MDS is the Programa de Comedores Comunitarios (or Community Kitchens program -CKP), implemented through civil society organizations (CSO). The project is aiming to support MDS at launching a new approach to decentralize the food procurement to CSOs.

The lending instrument proposed is an Investment Project Financing for an amount of US\$300 million over five years, targeted at economic vulnerable populations. The Project would support three components:

Component 1. Improving the design of food programs run by MDS: This component aims to improve and strengthen the design, capacity and quality of the two largest food programs in Argentina. Regarding the FB, this component will provide technical assistance to MDS in the mobility indexation mechanism to periodically update the benefit amount and avoid losses in purchasing power; and the expansion of coverage to children aged 15 to 17 years old under the AUH program. With respect to the CKP implemented through CSOs, this component will support the development of a new decentralized method that will allow CSOs to procure food locally, improving the transparency and efficiency of the program.

Activities supported by this component also include the institutional strengthening of MDS in the areas responsible for the implementation of food programs. As such, this component will finance activities including the carrying out of project audits, as well as consultant and non-consultant services, training, goods (IT equipment, hardware, and software) and operating costs. In addition, this component will finance activities aimed at improving environmental and social management as needed as well as grievance mechanisms and citizen engagement related to food programs.

Component 2. Decentralized Community Kitchen food program financing. This component aims at providing financial support to the decentralized implementation of the Community Kitchens food program. The Project will finance the expenditure incurred under the new supply method, which will progressively replace part of the centralized procurement of staple food goods with a decentralized method that will allow CSOs to procure food locally through a debit card.

Component 3: Food Benefit (FB) program financing. This component will finance the provision of FB grants to FB beneficiaries. The grants will be paid under the FB, and this Component is expected to reimburse approximately 2.5 percent of the program spending during the project implementation.

Disbursements under this component will be linked to results through Performance Based Conditions (PBCs). At this stage, the definition of PBC still remains in draft form and will be validated with the Government during appraisal stage. Draft ideas on PBCs comprise:

- a. PBC1: The disbursement of PBC1 will be authorized against the implementation of a benefit indexation mechanism that will regularly adjust the benefit amount.
- b. PBC2: the disbursement linked to PBC2 will be authorized once the coverage of the FB program is effectively extended to those beneficiaries of AUH aged 15-17 years.
- c. PBC3: implementation of a pilot program including the use of a debit card and a mechanism to gather the individual information of CKP beneficiaries. I.e., the PBC3 is included to reflect the design and implementation of the



basic milestones of the decentralized modality in a pilot program (e.g., operations manual, functioning of debit card system, etc.), which is scheduled to be disbursed upon effectiveness as part of the retroactive financing of the Project. Note: as mentioned, the pilot program covers in general terms the development of basic software and operational procedures. It is foreseen to be design and implementing during the preparation stage of the Project and to be finalized by effectiveness.

d. PBC4: This PBC will reimburse the expenditure of the FB program, against the achievement of quarterly targets that reflect the improvement in the implementation of the CKP. The disbursement of the FB is scheduled to be a decreasing amount over the first fifteen quarters. At this stage, PBC4 is envisioned as the cumulative number of debit cards used by CSOs and community kitchens that procure food through CKP's debit cards

e. PBC5: cumulative number of beneficiaries that participate in the CKP and whose IDs are recorded through digital tools. PBC5 will reimburse the expenditure of the CKP according to an increased schedule over eight quarters towards the end of the lifetime of the project. At this stage, this PBC is designed as the cumulative number of beneficiaries that participate in the CKP and whose IDs are recorded through digital tools

This series of PBCs reflects (i) the critical milestones along the results chain without which the PDO will not be achieved; and (ii) incentives that reward the progress of Government's efforts to adopt better, more efficient and traceable mechanisms to protect benefit in an inflationary context as well as provide transparency to Social Protection (SP) expenditures and integration of the CKP with the rest of the SP system.

D. Environmental and Social Overview

D.1. Detailed project location(s) and salient physical characteristics relevant to the E&S assessment [geographic, environmental, social]

The proposed Project will be implemented at the national level. The project will be implemented centrally by the Ministry of Social Development (MDS), which will use the different mechanisms already deployed in the national territory to strengthen the articulation with subnational agencies and local actors. In particular, the MDS' Reference Centers (CDRs), which are local management spaces located in different parts of our country (covering the 24 main jurisdictions, 23 provinces and the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires), to bring public policies closer to the population and promote social rights. There are 56 CDRs made up of professional teams that work in coordination with provincial and municipal governments, organizations and social movements.

The Project seeks to improve the efficiency of existing food programs. Specifically: a) cash transfer programs directly paid to beneficiaries, through i) the design and implementation of an instrument that allows the periodic updating of the benefit amount, in a highly inflationary context, to avoid losses in the purchasing power of benefits; ii) the coverage expansion of the benefit to families with children in the age range 15-17 years; and, iii) implementation of a traceable payment instrument specifically designed to buy food items; and b) programs implemented through civil society organizations (CSOs), by decentralizing food procurement process to the CSOs that cook, process and delivers meals at the Community Kitchens.

Activities related to the cash transfer programs will have a national coverage, according to the beneficiaries of such programs: persons in a situation of social vulnerability and food insecurity, prioritizing households with children and adolescents up to 14 years old inclusive and mothers with seven or more children up to 14 years old inclusive (which the proposed Project seeks to expand to include the range 15-17 years old inclusive), pregnant women, households with disabled persons without age limit; and who respectively receive through the National Social Security



Administration (ANSES) the corresponding non-contributory allowances. Activities will basically comprise digital developments and related technical assistance to put them in practice.

Activities related to CSOs programs will be basically linked to the development of information systems for the implementation of the decentralized food procurement modality, and the associated technical assistance activities (strengthening, training, studies) that this implies. The topics to be addressed through training will be developed once the details on Project activities and the changes to be made in existing processes have been defined. Initially, the possibility of working on bromatological safety, food handling, institutional capacity for fund management, etc., is envisaged. These activities will indirectly involve certain new activities in the Community Kitchens, such new food logistics and storage arrangements based on the decentralized procurement of food. As per available information to date, these Project activities would initially address urban and peri-urban areas. The deployment of this new mechanism will be implemented progressively over time and territory over the course of five years, but it is not expected to reach rural areas within the lifetime of the Project. Also, considering that the majority of the population that attends the Community Kitchens are children and mothers, these Project activities will have a greater impact on these vulnerable groups.

Project activities do not entail civil works, infrastructure investments or any other kind of physical interventions. Basic IT equipment upgrade is foreseen for the MDS and the CDRs, which would entail the possibility of generating e-waste.

D. 2. Borrower's Institutional Capacity

The execution of the Project within the National Ministry of Social Development (MDS) will be under the responsibility of the General Directorate of Special Projects and International Cooperation (DGPEyCI), with organizational dependence of the Secretariat of Administrative Management.

For the execution of all the functions and competencies corresponding to the DGPEyCI, the Directorate of Management and Monitoring of Special and Sector Programs and Projects is in charge of the operational execution of the Programs (including environmental, social, health and safety risk management aspects, ESHS), while the financial, accounting and budgetary administration will be carried out through the Directorate of Administration, Finance and Budget. Currently, the Directorate has professionals in the fields of social work, anthropology, sociology, philosophy and social communication, with experience in the implementation of social programs and projects. The DGPEyCI is also in the process of incorporating a new environmental professional (covering also health and safety), given that the person who had been performing these tasks has recently left the team; it is expected that the new EHS professional will be on duty before the end of the calendar year 2022.

For the specific implementation of the Project, the DGPEyCI will coordinate activities with other units within the MDS, in particular with the ones in charge of the FB Program and the Community Kitchens Program.

The project will be implemented centrally by the MDS, which will use the different mechanisms already deployed in the national territory to strengthen the articulation with subnational agencies and local actors. In particular, the MDS' Reference Centers (CDRs) will be considered, which are local management spaces located in different parts of the country (covering the 24 subnational jurisdictions, 23 provinces and the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires), to bring public policies closer to the population and promote social rights. There are 56 CDRs made up of professional teams that work in coordination with provincial and municipal governments, organizations and social movements. They coordinate various lines of action, plans and programs of the MDS at the local level.



The MDS has a positive track record in executing Bank financed operations. The Ministry is currently implementing the Children and Youth Protection Project – AUH (P158791 and its two Additional Financing P167851 and P173081), which has been rated “Satisfactory” in safeguards during all the implementation period of the project.

For this new operation, social and environmental standards are expected to continue being managed by the abovementioned qualified specialists. The need of strengthening the ESHS management capacities, particularly considering that this will be the first project of the MDS under the Bank's Environmental and Social Framework (ESF), will be further analyzed during preparation as more details on Project activities become available. The outcome of the Bank’s capacity assessment will be presented in the Appraisal ESRS and the corresponding actions will be reflected in the Environmental and Social Commitment Plan (ESCP). The implementation of any measure dammed necessary for the strengthening of the environmental and social management capacity of the MDS will be funded under Component 1. These measures may include, inter alia, training to staff in DIGEPPSE and provincial and municipal teams on issues like grievance mechanisms, use of codes of conduct, emergency preparedness and response, and occupational health and safety measures.

II. SCREENING OF POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL (ES) RISKS AND IMPACTS

A. Environmental and Social Risk Classification (ESRC)

Moderate

Environmental Risk Rating

Low

Preliminary findings suggest that this operation does not entail serious risks to the environment. The Project does not finance land acquisition. It has not also entail remodeling, rehabilitation or construction of new infrastructure. The actions of the project will be carried out within existing facilities, and will not intervene in sensitive or protected areas, nor will it carry out actions or generate effects that put biodiversity, or cultural heritage at risk . The overall risks to and potential adverse impacts on the environment are likely to be minimal or negligible. Furthermore, the Project would result in valuable outcomes such us: i) reducing the carbon footprint produced by the logistics transport as per the local food procurement versus food distribution from the province of Buenos Aires to the rest of the provinces of Argentina; ii) addressing problems that arise in food purchasing procedures in inflationary contexts. This fact not only causes problems in which purchases are made, but also ends up generating a delay in the distribution of food, as well as an insufficient supply of food that does not end up covering the demand by the community kitchens; iii) strengthening the food management and meal planning capacity of the community kitchens, thus promoting the delivery of meals with higher nutritional content and with adaptations according to the region and its nutritional needs (nutritional content of the meals is expected to improve as the fresh food items are included among those eligible items procured at the local level); and, iv) reducing the stocks of food stored either at MDS warehouses or at the community kitchens, increasing the number of CSOs that could be reached monthly through the use of rotating funds. Based in available information to date, the Project will finance basic computer equipment and will provide education and training for the use of software and hardware, as part of an upgrade of IT resources (in the MDS and/or the CDRs); the potential replacement of obsolete electronic equipment would have then the potential to generate e-waste and, accordingly, the need of its proper handling/disposal.

Social Risk Rating

Moderate



As stated above, the proposed project would improve the design, coverage, traceability, and efficiency of selected Food Programs implemented by the MDS. In addition to the positive outcomes mentioned in the environmental risk section, by improving the traceability of the food programs implemented through CSOs, the Project will introduce a tool to replace the discretionary criteria currently used to distribute the procured goods, by a bottom-up driven criterion, driven by traceable demand at the community kitchens. In this sense, the Project is expected to have only positive social impacts on vulnerable and systematically excluded groups and no negative social effects. The main social risks are associated with the potential exclusion of vulnerable groups from participating in the benefits of the Project and with possible weakness in communication, participation and engagement capacity of the Ministry of Social Development. These risks will be assessed through the preparation of an Environmental and Social Assessment (ESA) which will also incorporate mitigation measures and propose actions to improve its design and/or implementation. The ESA will inform the Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) too, which will cover risks related to exclusion in participation of vulnerable groups through the planning and implementation of proper strategies of information disclosure and consultation in a timely and culturally appropriate manner. In addition, the MDS has an active GRM in place with different channels to address questions, complaints, and grievances. It is called Sistema Integrado de Comunicación Institucional (SICOI) and it allows the MDS to have integrated records of the communications received, and the follow-up of each case until it is responded and resolved.

B. Environment and Social Standards (ESSs) that Apply to the Activities Being Considered

B.1. General Assessment

ESS1 Assessment and Management of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts

Overview of the relevance of the Standard for the Project:

This standard is relevant to address moderate social and low environmental risks.

In order to guarantee food security and sovereignty for the most economically and socially vulnerable sectors, the Government launched in 2019 the National Plan "Argentina contra el Hambre". In this context, the food assistance policy in Argentina is comprised of a series of programs run by the Ministry of Social Development (MDS) with unequal coverage and budgetary dimensions. The Prestacion Alimentar program (Food Benefit -FB) is the largest. It was originally introduced in late 2019 as a cash transfer program paid directly to the final beneficiary through an independent debit card, and later on, replaced the debit card for an additional cash transfer of the non-contributory Family Allowance Program Asignación Familiar por Hijo (AUH). The second largest food program run by MDS is the Programa de Comedores Comunitarios (or Community Kitchens program -CKP), implemented through civil society organizations (CSO), which follows the rationale of programs designed to address natural disasters; for the CKP, the MDS procures, stores and distributes staple food items, that are later on either cooked and processed in the form of meals or fractioned and delivered as food boxes by the CSOs. Finally, the "Programa de Abordaje Comunitario" under the Secretariat of Social Inclusion of the MDS, accompanies and finances community organizations (the MDS transfers cash to pre-screened CSOs bank accounts with the exclusively purpose of buying food) with the mission of ensuring access to food for the most vulnerable people and/or family groups in the country, promoting coordination with provinces, municipalities, governmental and non-governmental organizations.

It is expected that the MDS will carry out and disclose an advanced draft of an ESA prior to appraisal, to assess the risks associated with the proposed activities under the Project, incorporate mitigation measures and propose actions



to improve its design and/or implementation. Project design would consider factors of inequality, to ensure they are not exacerbated by the introduction of new digital systems and that access for vulnerable groups is guaranteed. The ESA will identify any potential barriers that groups like individuals belonging to Indigenous Peoples, Afro descendants, people with disabilities, persons within the LGBTI community, migrants and elders among others, may face to have access to the activities financed by the Project and look for ways to ensure that: (i) these groups are afforded opportunities to participate in planning and/or implementation of activities that affect them; and (ii) opportunities to provide such groups with culturally appropriate benefits are considered. Based on the results of the ESA, the Project will incorporate any measure that may be needed to ensure that people belonging to the vulnerable groups identified above will participate in its benefits. The ESA will also assess any potential risk associated with the deployment of digital devices to track beneficiaries of community kitchens through national IDs under Component 1, in order to make sure personal data will be protected, and will incorporate mitigation measures to address such risks and that the systems to be used will comply with the Bank standards on cybersecurity. In addition the Project will incorporate measures to make sure that beneficiaries without a National ID will not be excluded from the benefits of the Project and will also receive support from the MDS to get access to this document.

Regarding the environmental risks and potential impact related to the potential upgrade of IT resources (in the MDS and/or the CDRs), an e-waste management procedure would potentially be required due to the replacement of obsolete electronic equipment. If needed, and aiming at generating a proportionate to the risks / fit-for-purpose instrument, this e-waste management procedure would be based in the applicable regulation (as corresponds), built on any existing related procedure that the MDS/CDRs may have, and taken into account, as necessary, the good practice document “Integrated e-Waste Management Manual” (prepared by the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development of the Nation; Country Office of the International Labor Organization Argentina, 2020).

Although the definition of PBC still remains in draft form and will be validated with the Government during preparation, it is envisioned that the Performance Based Conditions linked to disbursements of Component 3 cover the proper execution of activities under all the Components (see section C – Project Description). In that context, the environmental and social measures developed and established in the ESA will need to be also properly implemented to achieve the corresponding expected results for authorizing disbursements.

Regarding the envisioned PBC3, in particular, as it would involve a pilot program foreseen to be implemented during the preparation stage and to be finalized before effectiveness, the results of the assessments of its implementation performance by appraisal will be reflected in the Appraisal-ESRS and will also inform the actions to be agreed in the ESCP.

The ESCP will include any additional measures that may be necessary to address risks identified in the ESA, which final version, following consultations and disclosure, will be disclosed within 90 days of project effectiveness (estimated). A draft ESCP, agreed between the borrower and the Bank, will be prepared and disclosed prior to appraisal and finalized and re-disclosed by negotiations.

Areas where “Use of Borrower Framework” is being considered:

None

ESS10 Stakeholder Engagement and Information Disclosure



This standard is relevant. A SEP will be prepared to ensure the access of all key stakeholders to the relevant information and the beneficiary feedback mechanisms that are available. The SEP will be informed by the findings of the ESA and will include the mapping of relevant stakeholders, a strategy for disclosure and a plan for consultations with them, including other government institutions and civil society organizations that represent the identified vulnerable groups. Risks associated with inadequate communication and dissemination of information will be addressed through actions defined in the SEP.

The SEP will also assess the existing Grievance Mechanism (GM) to make sure that is in place for addressing all project-related concerns and grievances during the project preparation and implementation. In this sense, the SEP will benefit from the GM that the MDS has already in place, that will be assessed and if necessary strengthened during Project implementation. The assessment will make sure that, inter alia, the GM has culturally appropriate channels to address grievances from IPs, and will also confirm that relevant SEA/SH considerations are incorporated. The Appraisal ESRS will include the results of the assessment and will also describe any action that may have been agreed to strengthen the GM, which will also be detailed in the SEP.

A first version of a draft SEP with the mentioned information will be prepared and disclosed by Appraisal, and will be consulted and redisclosed within 90 days after the Project Effective Date. The final version of the SEP will incorporate inputs received by all relevant stakeholders including representatives from Indigenous Peoples and other vulnerable groups identified above, in a culturally appropriate manner.

The Project will have several channels to ensure dissemination of relevant information about its activities to different key stakeholders. It will be implemented under the umbrella of the Federal Council for Social Development (COFEDES), chaired by the MDS and made up of representatives of the Ministries of Social Development of each of the country's 24 jurisdictions. COFEDES's mission is to coordinate social policies among the different jurisdictions, aimed at assistance, promotion, care and social inclusion, food security, poverty reduction and development of equal opportunities for the most vulnerable sectors.

The objectives of the CDRs are: i) to bring national public policies closer to the population, facilitating access to different programs, services and training; ii) to advise citizens, articulating issues related to social programs and those of other national, provincial or municipal agencies; iii) to strengthen the capacity to generate local policies from a comprehensive approach.

Also, within the framework of the "Alimentar Saberes" program, the Secretariat of Social Inclusion of the MDS provides training workshops for the training of promoters of healthy, safe and sovereign food; as well as carrying out different activities through territorial teams, throughout the country. These mechanisms may be key to the dissemination of project activities.

B.2. Specific Risks and Impacts

A brief description of the potential environmental and social risks and impacts relevant to the Project.

ESS2 Labor and Working Conditions



This standard is relevant. Based on available information to date, the Project will be mainly implemented by public servants (staff of the MDS). Other possible types of project workers would include: i) consultants hired by the MDS to support the Project Management Unit; ii) consulting firm to review the financial statements; iii) consulting firm to evaluate project results. In addition, Component 2 will fund activities associated with the process of decentralization of the Community Kitchens Food Program financing that will imply the direct involvement of CSOs and, accordingly, the involvement of community workers as per ESS2 definitions (CSO's active referents).

Based on the results of the ESA, the Project will prepare Labor Management Procedures (LMP) that will include measures to ensure the compliance with the regulatory framework, and any additional measure required to cover the key aspects of working conditions and occupational health and safety of the different workers involved in the activities implemented under the Project. As relevant and applicable, specific occupational health and safety and working conditions aspects related to the handling/processing of food will take into account the WBG Environmental, Health, and Safety Guidelines on Food and Beverage Processing (2007). The LMP will be prepared no later than 60 days after the Effective Date, or prior to the recruitment of any project worker, whichever comes first.

The LMP will describe the type of workers involved, identify the main labor requirements and risks associated with the Project, and determine the necessary resources to address Project related labor issues, including sexual exploitation and abuse and sexual harassment (SEA/SH), non-discrimination, and health and safety issues. The LMP shall also include measures to ensure that civil servants working on the project, direct workers, contracted workers and community workers have a general understanding of occupational health and safety requirements and the protection of employees.

The LMP will also incorporate a separate grievance mechanism specifically for project workers, including the MDS staff involved in the project. During project implementation, the LMP may be revisited and updated as required, as additional labor-related risks or issues unfold.

ESS3 Resource Efficiency and Pollution Prevention and Management

This standard is currently relevant. Based in available information to date, the Project may finance basic computer equipment and will provide education and training for the use of software and hardware, as part of an upgrade of IT resources (in the MDS and/or the CDRs, the latter to be identified during Project implementation) foreseen under Component 3. The potential replacement of obsolete electronic equipment would have then the potential to generate e-waste and the need of its proper handling/disposal. Based on this, the MDS may need to develop an e-waste management procedure, proporcionate to the risks. This e-waste procedure would be based in the applicable regulation that may exists in involved jurisdictions as corresponds (there is no national specific national regulation on e-waste management to date), built on any existing related procedure on waste management that the MDS/CDRs may have, and taken into account, as necessary, the good practice document "Integrated e-Waste Management Manual" (prepared by the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development of the Nation; Country Office of the International Labor Organization Argentina, 2020 – which is not a regulatory instrument and mostly provides guidance on implementing circular economy aspects in connection with e-waste). The relevance of this ESS3 will be further analyzed during project preparation, as more details on projects activities become available; corresponding outcomes will be documented in the Appraisal ESRS. Any procedure on e-waste management that may be developed by the MDS, which will be part of the ESA, will be in line with the requirements of ESS3.



ESS4 Community Health and Safety

This standard is relevant. Existing Community Kitchens comply with local health and safety requirements for such kind of facilities. People that provide services in those Community Kitchens are currently handling fresh food (with the associated procedures that this implies) since, in addition to the supply currently provided by the MDS, they can receive this type of inputs through different sources such as private donations, their own resources, etc. However, it is expected that the change to the decentralized procurement modality promoted by the Project will encourage the purchase of fresh food of higher nutritional levels.

The ESA will identify and evaluate risks and potential impacts related to the abovementioned community health and safety aspects, and identify the corresponding mitigation measures as well as any action that lead to increase benefits. It is envisioned that management measures will be built on current practices of compliance with applicable regulations on community kitchen habilitation by local authorities and handling of food. As relevant and applicable, community health and safety aspects related to the handling/processing of food will take into account the WBG Environmental, Health, and Safety Guidelines on Food and Beverage Processing (2007).

In principle, the MDS is already planning to incorporate a training module on good manufacturing practices (GMP); GMPs, included in the Argentine Food Code, are a series of measures for the correct reception of inputs, storage, handling and distribution of preparations, taking into account the country's existing regulations.

ESS5 Land Acquisition, Restrictions on Land Use and Involuntary Resettlement

This standard is not currently relevant. The outcome of E&S screening did not identify any risks and/or potential impacts relevant to ESS5. There will be no physical interventions under the Project; activities to be financed will neither require land acquisition, nor restrictions on land use or involuntary resettlement as defined under this Standard.

ESS6 Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Management of Living Natural Resources

This standard is not currently relevant. The outcome of E&S screening did not identify any risks and/or potential impacts relevant to ESS6.

ESS7 Indigenous Peoples/Sub-Saharan African Historically Underserved Traditional Local Communities

This standard is relevant. Activities under Components 1 and 2 of the Project will be implemented in urban and peri-urban areas and where there is not presence of indigenous peoples as defined under ESS7. In the case of Component 3, the Project will only reimburse expenses linked to the FB program as an incentive to improve the design and coverage of the Program. The ESA will include a section to assess the access of indigenous peoples to the benefits of the FB program, will identify any existing or potential barrier that these groups may face in this process, if any, and will propose mitigations measures to inform project design accordingly. In addition, the SEP will also include a specific consultation with indigenous peoples representatives, and monitoring indicators that will be defined based on such consultation process.



ESS8 Cultural Heritage

This standard is not currently relevant. The outcome of E&S screening did not identify any potential risks and/or impacts relevant to ESS8.

ESS9 Financial Intermediaries

This standard is not currently relevant. The Project will not involve the use of Financial Intermediaries.

C. Legal Operational Policies that Apply

OP 7.50 Projects on International Waterways No

OP 7.60 Projects in Disputed Areas No

III. WORLD BANK ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL DUE DILIGENCE

A. Is a common approach being considered? No

Financing Partners

None

B. Proposed Measures, Actions and Timing (Borrower’s commitments)

Actions to be completed prior to Bank Board Approval:

The following actions are expected to be completed prior to Bank Board Approval:

- (i) Draft ESA will be prepared consistent with ESS1 and disclosed by appraisal.
- (ii) Draft SEP will be prepared consistent with ESS10, including a GM, and disclosed by appraisal.
- (iii) Draft ESCP will be prepared and disclosed by appraisal and a negotiated version will be disclosed after Project negotiations.

Possible issues to be addressed in the Borrower Environmental and Social Commitment Plan (ESCP):

Final versions of SEP and ESA, following consultations and disclosure, within 90 days of project effectiveness (estimated). Development of the LMP, no later than 60 days after the Effective Date (estimated), or prior to the recruitment of any project worker, whichever comes first.

C. Timing

Tentative target date for preparing the Appraisal Stage ESRS 20-Mar-2023

Public Disclosure



IV. CONTACT POINTS

World Bank

Contact: Juan Martin Moreno Title: Senior Social Protection Economist

Telephone No: 5260+3615 / 54-11-4316-0615 Email: jmoreno1@worldbank.org

Contact: Gaston Mariano Blanco Title: Sr Social Protection Specialist

Telephone No: +1-202-458-2457 Email: gblanco@worldbank.org

Contact: Santiago Scialabba Title: Social Development Specialist

Telephone No: 5260+3742 / 54-11-4316-9742 Email: sscialabba@worldbank.org

Borrower/Client/Recipient

Borrower: Argentine Republic

Implementing Agency(ies)

Implementing Agency: General Directorate of Special Projects and International Cooperation (DGPEyCI) - Ministry of Social

Implementing Agency: Ministry of Social Development

V. FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

The World Bank
1818 H Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20433
Telephone: (202) 473-1000
Web: <http://www.worldbank.org/projects>

VI. APPROVAL

Task Team Leader(s): Gaston Mariano Blanco, Juan Martin Moreno, Santiago Scialabba

Practice Manager (ENR/Social) Tatiana Tassoni Recommended on 07-Feb-2023 at 19:35:22 GMT-05:00

Safeguards Advisor ESSA Angela Nyawira Khaminwa (SAESSA) Cleared on 07-Feb-2023 at 21:06:9 GMT-05:00