

INTEGRATED SAFEGUARDS DATA SHEET

IDENTIFICATION / CONCEPT STAGE

Report No.: ISDSC16202

Date ISDS Prepared/Updated: 11-Dec-2015

I. BASIC INFORMATION

A. Basic Project Data

Country:	Iraq	Project ID:	P158493
Project Name:	SWIFT KRSO Kurdistan-Iraq		
Team Leader(s):	Nandini Krishnan,Sergio Daniel Olivieri		
Estimated Date of Approval:	31-Jan-2016		
Managing Unit:	GPV05	Lending Instrument:	Lending Instrument
Sector(s):	Central government administration (30%), General public administration sector (30%), Other social services (40%)		
Theme(s):	Economic statistics, modeling and forecasting (30%), Poverty strategy, analysis and monitoring (50%), Social Protection and Labor Policy & Systems (10%), Conflict prevention and post-conflict reconstruction (10%)		
Financing (in USD Million)			
Total Project Cost:	0.1	Total Bank Financing:	0
Financing Gap:	0		
Financing Source			Amount
Trust Fund for Statistical Capacity Building			0.1
Environment Category:	C - Not Required		

B. Project Development Objective(s)

The PDO of this grant is to support the Kurdistan region Statistics Office of the Government of Iraq in collecting and analyzing a SWIFT survey for poverty monitoring in 2016. SWIFT is a short, tablet based survey that estimates poverty headcount rates based on a modeling exercise using most recently available household survey data. This survey will likely exclude the three governorates currently under the influence of the Islamic State, unless the security situation improves significantly. Currently, the Central Statistical Office (CSO) is implementing a SWIFT pilot for Baghdad, and have secured some resources for the full survey. A separate grant supports the CSO. This grant is to support the Kurdistan region statistics office for the SWIFT survey in the three governorates of Iraqi Kurdistan.

C. Project Description

Iraq implemented two large household surveys (IHSES) in 2007 and 2012. In 2014, an annual survey was implemented on a sub-sample with comparable questionnaire design but fieldwork was

interrupted due to the rapidly deteriorating security situation. The ongoing security and budget crisis imply that large household surveys are not feasible in the near future. The next IHSES planned for 2017 is unlikely to take place on time. At the same time, it is more important than ever to monitor poverty and key socio-economic indicators, given the scale of the crises, and the high concentration of the population close to the poverty line. Iraq has made both large household surveys (IHSES) publicly available through the LSMS survey database.

This grant will provide complementary financing for a SWIFT survey for poverty monitoring during this crisis situation. SWIFT is a new household survey instrument that projects consumption based on collecting 10 to 15 simple questions on poverty correlates such as education of the household head, ownership of consumer durables, household head's employment status, among others. The identification of these correlates is based on estimates obtained from implementing a model using the latest available household survey in the country. The main advantages of using SWIFT are saving time and reducing survey implementation costs. Additionally, SWIFT has adopted recent innovations in data collection, like Computer Assisted Personal Interview (CAPI) and data cloud. 18 SWIFT surveys have been successfully completed or are ongoing in 14 countries across all regions.

This survey will likely exclude the three governorates currently under the influence of the Islamic State, unless the security situation improves significantly. Currently, the Central Statistical Office (CSO) is implementing a SWIFT pilot for Baghdad, and have secured some resources for the full survey. However this is inadequate, and in particular, the Kurdistan region statistical office (KRSO) has no resources for implementing SWIFT. Both CSO and KRSO have demonstrated ability to collect high quality data, and will be ready to complete fieldwork as soon as resources are made available.

For more details please see the technical concept note attached to this package.

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

In Kurdistan, the survey will cover the governorates of Erbil, Duhouk and Sulaimaniya. The security situation will determine the geographic scope of the survey. However, the pilot, which has been completed, tested the modalities in the relatively insecure parts of rural Baghdad, with considerable success. As with the CHS 2014, the security of the field teams will not be compromised. The CSO and KRSO face security risks on a daily basis and have developed protocols over the last decades to accurately judge and mitigate these risks. These and more abundant precautions will be followed with safety and security being the most important element in the decision to undertake fieldwork in any area. SWIFT significantly reduces the risk of exposure to an insecure situation as each interview takes no more than 10 to 15 minutes relative to the IHSES surveys that take 4 visits of an hour each over three months.

E. Borrower's Institutional Capacity for Safeguard Policies

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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	This activity comprises solely of training for, piloting and implementation of a household survey. This involves in person interactions of roughly 10 minutes per household to complete the survey. The data is immediately uploaded to a cloud. Given the nature of this task, OP/BP 4.01 is not triggered - there are no adverse environmental consequences of any element of this activity
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	The survey will not enter any areas that are insecure or pose risks to fieldworkers or households, including disputed areas. the security of the field teams will not be compromised. The CSO and KRSO face security risks on a daily basis and have developed protocols over the last decades to accurately judge and mitigate these risks. These and more abundant precautions will be followed with safety and security being the most important element in the decision to undertake fieldwork in any area. SWIFT significantly reduces the risk of exposure to an insecure situation as each interview takes no more than 10 to 15 minutes relative to the IHSES surveys that take 4 visits of an hour each over three months.

III. SAFEGUARD PREPARATION PLAN

Appraisal stage ISDS required?: No

IV. APPROVALS

Team Leader(s):	Name: Nandini Krishnan,Sergio Daniel Olivieri	
<i>Approved By:</i>		
Safeguards Advisor:	Name: Brandon Enrique Carter (SA)	Date: 11-Dec-2015
Practice Manager/ Manager:	Name: Benu Bidani (PMGR)	Date: 11-Dec-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.