

INTEGRATED SAFEGUARDS DATA SHEET CONCEPT STAGE

Report No.: ISDSC8772

Date ISDS Prepared/Updated: 03-Mar-2015

Date ISDS Approved/Disclosed: 14-Mar-2015

I. BASIC INFORMATION

A. Basic Project Data

Country:	India	Project ID:	P150394
Project Name:	MP Higher Education Reforms Project (P150394)		
Task Team Leader(s):	Tobias Linden,Sangeeta Goyal		
Estimated Appraisal Date:	06-Apr-2015	Estimated Board Date:	16-Jun-2015
Managing Unit:	GEDDR	Lending Instrument:	Investment Project Financing
Sector(s):	Tertiary education (100%)		
Theme(s):	Education for the knowledge economy (100%)		
Financing (In USD Million)			
Total Project Cost:	430.00	Total Bank Financing:	300.00
Financing Gap:	0.00		
Financing Source			Amount
BORROWER/RECIPIENT			130.00
International Development Association (IDA)			300.00
Total			430.00
Environmental Category:	B - Partial Assessment		
Is this a Repeater project?	No		

B. Project Objectives

The proposed Project Development Objective is to improve quality of and equity in education outcomes for students in higher education, and to increase the effectiveness of the higher education system in Madhya Pradesh.

C. Project Description

1. The project design is based on analytical work conducted by the World Bank, in support of the GoMP. The project would seek a comprehensive reform of the higher education system in the State,

around four areas: (i) innovation and quality improvement; (ii) governance reforms; (iii) more effective use of public funding; and, (iv) increasing equity and access. Additionally, the project will support sound project management and monitoring and evaluation structures for project implementation.

2. The original project proposal sent by the GoMP to the Government of India (DEA) proposed a World Bank Credit of US\$500 million; the proposal contained a large number of activities across multiple stakeholders and institutions. However, the Credit amount ceiling approved by DEA is US \$300 million (which would be 70% of total project costs). Therefore, given this reduction in the financing envelop, discussions with the Government during project preparation need to address which activities can be included; the task team has already flagged to the GoMP that major civil works is likely not an area of the Bank's greatest value added.

3. It is proposed that the project use either a Disbursement Linked Indicators (DLIs) or a P4R approach, as this would focus the operation on the outcomes to be achieved and promote piloting of different combinations of activities to achieve specific goals. Both the Department of Higher Education and the Department of Institutional Finance has agreed to this approach.

4. The project will have 2 components, as follows:

(a) Enhancing Quality and Equity (Bank support - \$290 mill; Total component cost - \$415 mill.)
Key areas of support under each area include:

i. Innovation and quality improvement: pedagogical and other training for faculty; grants to support institutional development plans to prioritize investments; new fields of study/curricula with better employment prospects; and mechanisms for tracking of graduates.

ii. Governance reforms: establishment of independent State Higher Education Council and governing bodies for institutions; support for reform of examination system; streamlining of the affiliation system; new rules of internal decision-making and financial management to support institutional autonomy

iii. More effective use of public funding: new funding formula for state budget resources for both teaching and research; targeted scale-up of successful programs; and incentives for institutions to increase private resources

iv. Increasing equity: institutional incentives to increase enrollment of girls/disadvantaged groups; development of technology based distance learning; and girls hostels.

(b) Technical Assistance to DHE (Bank support - \$10 mill.; Total component cost -\$15 mill.)

15. Under this component, technical assistance will be provided to the implementing agency and the DHE in areas in project management, monitoring and evaluation, and in the establishment of robust project information systems.

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

Madhya Pradesh, statewide. Specific locations will be identified after competitive selection of institutions. Around -- educational institutions are expected to participate from 50 districts.

E. Borrowers Institutional Capacity for Safeguard Policies

Borrower has some experience in implementation of Bank's Safeguard Policies through Technical Engineering/ Education Quality Improvement Project and will have people dedicated to do so at the state level. Ensuring adequate capacity will be part of project design and implementation.

F. Environmental and Social Safeguards Specialists on the Team

Neha Pravash Kumar Mishra (GENDR)

Satya N. Mishra (GSURR)

II. SAFEGUARD POLICIES THAT MIGHT APPLY

Safeguard Policies	Triggered?	Explanation (Optional)
Environmental Assessment OP/BP 4.01	Yes	The project will support only minor repairs and refurbishments of the existing infrastructure. An Environment Assessment will be undertaken and based on findings from this exercise, an Environment Management Plan/Framework will be prepared to guide/improve the management of environment, health and safety aspects on the campuses of Higher Education institutions supported/covered under the project.
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	Yes	The policy is triggered given the project is state-wide and the available data indicating that the enrolment of students belonging to Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs) is well below their share of the population. A Social Assessment (SA) has been commissioned and based on the findings, the project will develop a tribal development plan (TDP) and equity guidelines to ensure that students from tribal and other disadvantaged groups who enter the participating higher education institutions are provided with equitable benefits.
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

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.

A. Tentative target date for preparing the PAD Stage ISDS: 31-Mar-2015

B. Time frame for launching and completing the safeguard-related studies that may be needed. The specific studies and their timing¹ should be specified in the PAD-stage ISDS:

(a) OP/ BP 4.10 is triggered under the project. A Social Assessment (SA) has been commissioned and based on the findings, the project will develop a tribal development plan (TDP) and equity guidelines to ensure that students from tribal and other disadvantaged groups who enter the participating higher education institutions are provided with equitable benefits.

(b) OP/ BP 4.01 is triggered under the project. An Environment Assessment will be undertaken and based on findings from this exercise, an Environment Management Plan/Framework will be prepared to guide/improve the management of environment, health and safety aspects on the campuses of HE institutions supported/covered under the project.

IV. APPROVALS

Task Team Leader(s):	Name: Tobias Linden,Sangeeta Goyal	
<i>Approved By:</i>		
Safeguards Advisor:	Name:	Date:
Practice Manager/ Manager:	Name:	Date: