



Project Information Document/ Integrated Safeguards Data Sheet (PID/ISDS)

Concept Stage | Date Prepared/Updated: 13-Jul-2016 | Report No: PIDISDSC19128

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BASIC INFORMATION

A. Basic Project Data

Country Madagascar	Project ID P160071	Parent Project ID (if any)	Project Name Madagascar-Statistical Capacity Building (P160071)
Region AFRICA	Estimated Appraisal Date Nov 14, 2016	Estimated Board Date Mar 16, 2017	Practice Area (Lead) Poverty and Equity
Lending Instrument Investment Project Financing	Borrower(s) Ministry of Finance and Budget (MFB)	Implementing Agency INSTAT	

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Financing (in USD Million)

Financing Source	Amount
Borrower	6.30
International Development Association (IDA)	20.00
Borrowing Country's Fin. Intermediary/ies	10.30
Total Project Cost	36.60

Environmental Assessment Category
C-Not Required

Concept Review Decision
Track II-The review did authorize the preparation to continue

Other Decision (as needed)

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B. Introduction and Context

Country Context

1.Madagascar is the fourth-largest island in the world and the majority of its population live in rural areas. Located in the western Indian Ocean, Madagascar has a surface area of about 587,295 square kilometers and 4,828 km of coastline. The population is estimated at about 24.2 million in 2015, but actual data are outdated—the most recent baselines from a population census are over two decades old. Its population is predominately located in rural areas (close to 80 percent) and is overwhelmingly young; over 57% are under the age of nineteen and less than 4% are 60 and above.

2.Despite its economic potential Madagascar development has been hampered by political instability and vulnerability to disasters. The country is endowed with many assets: a great potential for agriculture, fisheries, mineral resources, abundant unparalleled biodiversity, and relatively literate labor. However, its economy is largely



based on subsistence agriculture and informal sectors –where a vast majority of the population work—and a small but relatively diversified formal sector. The country is prone to frequent weather-related disasters and its economic potential has been held back by cycles of political instability since its independence. Over the last fifty years, all heads of state have gained or lost power in the context of an unconstitutional event. The most recent crisis began with the regime change in March 2009 and lasted five years, interrupting a period of economic growth that averaged 7.4 percent between 2003-2008, with devastating effects on the economy, poverty rates and social outcomes.

3.As a result, Madagascar’s GDP per capita has halved since 1960 and a vast majority of the Malagasy are poor. The GDP per capita in current prices is less than \$400 and the Gini is 42.6 percent. Inequality is particularly sharp between urban and rural areas. The strong overall growth between 2003 and 2008 coincided with strong consumption growth, particularly for the poorer segments of the population; however, it did not seem to have improved poverty rates significantly, possibly due to the depth of poverty of the poorer segments of the population. Nearly 78 percent of its population live with less than \$1.9 per day and poverty in rural areas is almost twice as high as in the urban areas.

4.The expected economic recovery following the establishment of the democratically elected government in early 2014 fell short of initial expectations due to unfavorable domestic and external conditions. The end of the most recent political crisis and drafting of the National Development Strategy was an opportunity for the country to embark on a path of inclusive, sustainable and accelerated growth. However, continuing political instability, worsening shortages of electricity and bad weather conditions have hampered the economic outcomes, and GDP growth in 2014 and 2015 was about 3 percent. Growth is expected to be around 3.7 percent throughout 2018, assuming the implementation of structural and governance reforms materialize. Living standards of the poor are likely to progress only marginally with estimates of about 77.5 percent of the population remaining in extreme poverty and 90.3 percent in poverty through 2017.

5.The design and implementation of needed structural and governance reforms call for timely and quality data for evidence based policy making. The National Development Strategy 2015-2019 recognizes that the availability of reliable, accessible, and timely data relevant to the realities of the country, and internationally comparable, is important to inform the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the development policies and programs that will support the foundation for sustained economic recovery and poverty reduction. The National Strategy for Development Statistics (NSDS) 2008-2012 called for the modernization of the governance and the strengthening of the capacities of the National Statistical System (NSS). During its implementation, efforts were oriented toward the installation of regional statistical services which are now in operation in the 22 regions of Madagascar. A center for the training of middle level statisticians was also created. However, key recommendations of the NSDS, such as the coordination of the statistical system, are still pending and new challenges have emerged since its adoption.

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Sectoral and Institutional Context

1.The National Statistics Institute (INSTAT for its acronym in French) is the main official provider of statistics in Madagascar. INSTAT was created in 1947 with the mandate to conduct the main national censuses and surveys as well as the production of main economic and demographic statistics. INSTAT in its current form was restructured under the statute of Public Enterprise with industrial and commercial character (EPIC) on April 21, 1989 (Decree No. 98-290). The Institute is in charge of coordinating the national policy on statistics and its application in the economic, demographic and social domains. INSTAT has led the design of the NSDS and is in charge of coordinating its implementation. Decree 1989-016 issued in 1989 created the Committee for the Coordination of Statistical Information but it was never implemented.

2.The overall capacity of Madagascar National Statistics System is limited and the action plan defined in the NSDS has fallen behind. The statistical regulatory framework is outdated and doesn’t comply with international



standards. It dates back to 1967 and does not meet international principles on production of official statistics, such as the 1974 fundamental principles of the United Nations related to official statistics (revised in 2013), and the 2009 African Charter on Statistics. The flow of information between different government agencies and INSTAT is not clearly defined, hindering the creation of a management system that allows for better coordination among entities. Furthermore, the enforcement of obligations to provide information is not sufficiently strong. Penalties for non-response are currently too low, and often key information providers prefer to pay the fee than provide the required information.

3. Moreover, inadequate financial, human, and infrastructure resources weakens the capacity of INSTAT to fulfil its mandate. The industrial and commercial status given to INSTAT, requires partial self-financing of its operations. As a result, priority has been given to revenue generation activities, such as contracting with development partners to carry out surveys, neglecting the production of core economic statistics. In addition, the low salary offered at INSTAT is not sufficient to attract and retain qualified statisticians; and only a handful of the approximately 470 staff have the required qualifications. INSTAT is currently supporting the training of statisticians and demographers at the African regional statistical schools and has partnered with the National School of Statistics and Applied Economics of Abidjan (ENSEA) and the National School of Administration (ENA) to locally train assistant statisticians. However, as long as the INSTAT's scale salary remains low, retaining trained students will continue to be challenging. In terms of infrastructure, the facilities needed to carry out statistical activities are suboptimal, and operations are severely constrained by a shortage of IT hardware and physical infrastructure. Internet access is unreliable and there isn't enough computers for technical staff. In addition there is an acute office furniture shortage, including desks and chairs.

4. Madagascar's limited statistical capacity is reflected in a low Statistical Capacity Index (SCI) score. According to the World Bank's 2015 Country Statistical Information Database, Madagascar has an overall score of 58.9, below the Sub-Saharan Africa average of 60. International best practices recommend that population census are carried out at least once every 10 years; however, following Madagascar declaration of independence in 1960, only 2 population census have been carried out: the first one in 1975, and the second one in 1993. Household surveys have been conducted on a more frequent basis, with the latest survey dating back to 2012, but have recently fallen behind the recommended schedule of at least one survey every three years. As a result, the information available regarding the structure and geographical distribution of the population, and the characteristics of the poor do not reflect the current state of affairs, thus hampering the design of effective poverty eradication programs and development policies. The existing sectoral statistics are insufficient to assess the performance of the economy and the national accounts are currently based on the 1968 system of national accounts. Demographic and migration statistics, monetary and financial statistics, trade statistics, and price statistics are scarce and of low quality.

5. The outdated population census impacts much of the statistical system and reduces the credibility of development planning, monitoring and management. The accuracy of statistics that incorporate population dimensions, including macroeconomic statistics (such as GDP per capita), service access, and poverty measurements, is questionable. The Government issued a decree to proceed with the preparation of the third census in 2008 (Decree 2008-1059 and order 21529-08), and a pilot census took place in 2008, with data collection expected in 2009. However, the deterioration of the socio-political environment led to lack of external funding and the implementation was put on hold. Following the recent elections, a new decree was issued in 2015 to proceed with the census in 2016, and to establish the institutional Governance structure, including the nomination of INSTAT as the national institution to manage the design and implementation. A National Census Council –a policy decision making body, chaired by the Prime Minister; and a Census Technical Committee, to guide technical questions have already been established.

6. The poverty welfare monitoring surveys are conducted on a more regular basis but rely on projections from outdated data. Since the early 90s, INSTAT has organized regular poverty household surveys with the support of development partners to monitor the living conditions of the population including in 1993, 1997, 1999, 2001, 2002, 2004, 2005, 2010 and 2012. Demographic and Health Survey (DHS) and the Multiple Indicators Cluster Survey (MICS) are also conducted frequently and the last labor force survey was in 2015. However, the absence of an updated



population census forces the sampling frame for household surveys to rely on population data based on projections from 1993, making it questionable.

7. The national accounts currently produced by INSTAT are of insufficient quality to adequately reflect the economic activity of the country. INSTAT is yet to fully adopt the 1993 System of National Accounts (SNA) and for the most part uses the 1968 SNA. While international best practices require that national accounts are rebased once every five years, the base year of the accounts dates back to 1984. In addition, data sources on businesses and agriculture are incomplete. With the assistance of the IMF and the World Bank, a rebasing exercise, along with the incorporation of the 1993 SNA recommendations started in 2014. New GDP estimates with 2007 as the new base year are available at INSTAT but are yet to be validated and made official. The accounts from 2008 to 2015 consistent with the SNA 93 and the new base year are yet to be prepared. Price statistics are relatively more reliable and the consumer price index is produced regularly on a monthly basis covering the capital as well as other main cities. It uses 2010 as the base year and an up to date product classification. To comply with the every five years rebasing recommended by international best practices, INSTAT intends to rebase the index after the completion of the next household survey.

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Relationship to CPF

1. The project is closely aligned to the objective of improving Public Sector Governance –a key priority in the most recent country strategies (2012 INS and the upcoming 2017 CAS)—and is anchored in the Government’s National Development plan 2015-2019 and the analytical underpinnings of the recent SCD and policy notes. The access to quality data and statistics is essential for the design, management and monitoring of effective development strategies, policies and programs and for the improvement of Public Sector Governance. By strengthening the capacity to produce better statistics and open data, the proposed project will provide the basis for evidence-based decision making and will support good governance to improve development outcomes. The operation supports the WBG’s commitment to fill the data gaps that are key to monitor progress on Poverty and Shared Prosperity and the SDGs. More broadly, it aims at building capacity to promote greater use of statistics for informed decision making and social accountability with a focus on institutional reform, human capacity development, and data production and dissemination activities.

2. The project also contributes generally to World Bank’s activities and planned operations in Madagascar. The improvement of national accounts supports monitoring of macro-fiscal management in Madagascar. The welfare monitoring system with its Household Budget and Employment survey contributes to the World Bank’s poverty monitoring activities as well as social protection activities by improving the data that is the basis for the targeting of social programs. The population census provide basic information on agriculture and fisheries, key for several projects under preparation and implementation.

C. Proposed Development Objective(s)

To strengthen the capacity of the National Statistics Institute to produce quality statistics and make them accessible in a timely manner to policy makers and the public.

Key Results (From PCN)



1. The main outcome will be improved quality and reliability of key statistics produced and disseminated by INSTAT to inform policy making, good governance, and design and monitoring of programs and policies. The progress towards the PDO will be measured by:

- 1) Increase in the Statistical Capacity Index (SCI) score.
- 2) Percentage of surveys that are designed and implemented in line with the most recent international standards
- 3) Percentage of survey and population census micro-datasets (anonymized) that are publically available
- 4) Percentage of national accounts statistics that use the 1993 SNA and that are publically available
- 5) Percentage micro-datasets that are produced and disseminated according to the formal calendar from 2016 onwards.

2. The key outputs of the project will be:

- a) Updated regulatory framework
- b) Better trained workforce at INSTAT
- c) Improved physical and statistical infrastructure
- d) Published reports with results of the population census
- e) Published reports with results of a new national welfare survey
- f) Published description of sources and methods for the compilation of the national accounts
- g) Timely publication of key national accounts statistics

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D. Concept Description

1. The proposed project activities will focus on the core features to produce quality, timely and reliable statistics. INSTAT is identified as the designated implementing agency in its role of provider of official statistics in Madagascar. The project is expected to have a duration of five years from the WBG Board approval, assuming no effectiveness delays. Project activities are anchored in the NSDS and selected according to the Government demand and in line with the following three criteria: (i) core features of a modern statistical system; (ii) aligned with the WBG's comparative advantage in technical assistance; and (iii) closing critical data gaps. The proposed project is structured into the following components: (i) Institutional Reform and Capacity Building; (ii) Data Collection, Analysis and Dissemination; (iii) Project Management.

Component 1: Institutional Reform and Capacity Building (US\$ 1.3 million)

2. The aim of this component is to support the transformation of INSTAT to be able to fulfill its mandate. This component will include the institutional reform to improve INSTAT's organizational structure and political autonomy, improvements of ICT and statistical infrastructure to create a more effective institution, and enhanced human capacity for the production, analysis and dissemination of quality statistics.

Subcomponent 1.1: Institutional Reform (US\$ 0.3 million)

3. An institutional assessment will provide the foundation for the institutional reform. The institutional assessment will include an analysis of the statistical governance framework, including the existing regulatory framework and complementary regulations and inter-agency agreements that support its implementation. The Statistics Law dates back to 1967 and is deficient and insufficient to enforce its implementation for the modernization of the statistics system. The assessment will also take into consideration the 2006 diagnosis of Madagascar's National Statistics System, and the 2008 proposal for restructuring, and will include an analysis of the existing organizational structure and HR



capacity as the basis of INSTAT's reform. In addition, the project will support a committee and forum for statistical coordination among Government institutions and development partners.

Subcomponent 1.2: ICT and Statistical Infrastructure (US\$ 0.5 million)

4. The availability of timely and quality statistics requires the technical set up to collect, process and disseminate data. Following an assessment of the existing Infrastructure and Communication Technologies at INSTAT, the project will finance the needed upgrade of the ICT infrastructure to ensure efficient workflows for data collection, processing, analysis, dissemination and archiving. Additionally, the project will support the definition of standards, and a data dictionary to ensure comparability of country statistics. It will also support INSTAT in its role of custodian of official statistics and the simplification of the flow of data from other sources and government agencies.

Subcomponent 1.3: Improving human resources technical capacity (US\$ 0.5 million)

5. A skilled workforce is another key element for the development of high quality statistics and for the sustainability of the project outcomes. Through this sub-component, the project will invest in: (i) strengthening the Human Resource profile of the NSS; (ii) implementing a training and skill enhancement program for existing staff; and (iii) providing scholarships to successful candidates in statistics. The training program will be conducted primarily in-house; will be designed by experts to fit the specific needs for Madagascar; and will focus on the statistical skills that are directly linked to data collection or statistical production activities supported by the project.

Component 2: Data Collection, Analysis, and Dissemination (US\$ 19.5 million)

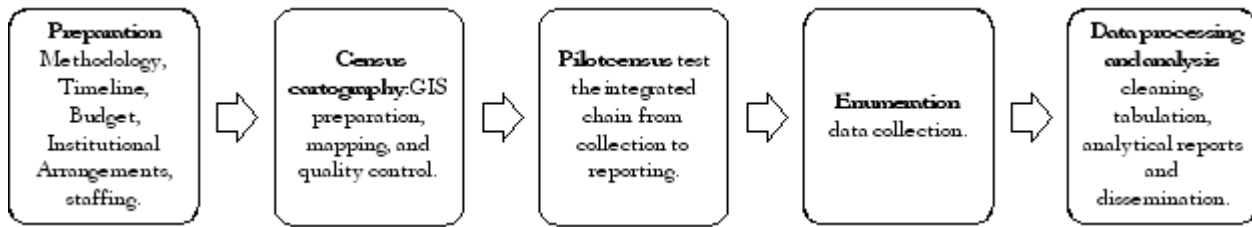
6. The key pillar of the proposed project aims at closing data gaps of key statistical data and building capacity through learning by doing. This component supports the closing of critical data gaps and the enhancement of data accessibility and dissemination practices. The focus areas selected for support under the proposed component are policy-driven and prioritize data collection and statistical products identified as most pressing. The four focus areas identified are: Population and Housing census, poverty statistics, National Accounts (NA), and micro-data dissemination.

Subcomponent 2.1: Population and Housing Census (US\$ 17 million)

7. The new population census will provide basic demographic and socio-economic data, key for the planning and monitoring of the Government's development programs. The Government launched the third population census in February 2015 through the Decree 2015-096 with an estimated duration of 46 months. The objective is to update the socio-economic and demographic characteristics of Madagascar population, which is essential for the implementation and evaluation of public policies and programs and for the poverty reduction strategy. Given the importance of the Agriculture and Fisheries Sectors in Madagascar economy, basic questions on these sectors will be added to the questionnaire, to be complemented eventually by a full Agriculture Survey. Additionally, the data and analysis will be disaggregated by gender as well as the subsequent analysis.

8. The population census consists of several phases that include the cartography, pilot census, enumeration and data processing and analysis. Figure 1 shows the sequence and different phases of the population census.

FIGURE 1: POPULATION AND HOUSING CENSUS PHASES



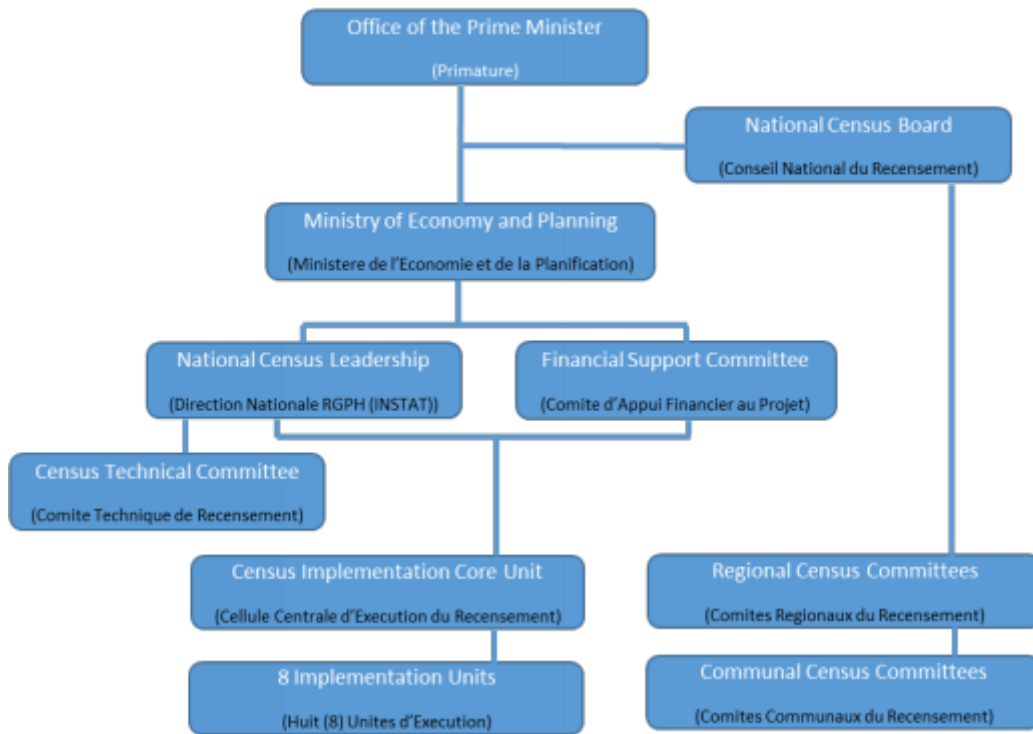
9. The timeline to complete the census is very tight and activities in the critical path are expected to start in the next few months in order to meet the desired timeframe. The time available for the completion of the census is limited by the upcoming Presidential elections of 2018 and by the difficulty to carry out the field work during the rainy season that goes from October to March. This reduces the overall time for the census implementation, and highlights the urgency to start with the cartography as soon as possible.

10. Preparatory activities are well advanced but the Government requires financing to proceed with the next set of activities. With financial and technical assistance from UNFPA, INSTAT has completed the establishment of the Governance Structure, the proposed methodology, and a detailed budget and timeline, which has already been approved by the Population Census National Council –the coordination body chaired by the Prime Minister and established in the 2015-096 decree of February 2015, and the related 14 186/2015 order. Additionally, a pilot cartography was carried out in 2015 and a pilot census to test the questionnaire is planned for August 2016. The cartography work, aiming to produce enumeration areas for the general data collection phase, will collect GIS coordinates for almost all the public services facilities. The enumeration phase is expected to last 2 weeks. Financing for the upcoming activities is yet to be secured, and the Government and the Bank are exploring several options, including an IDA preparation advance and/or retroactive financing. The procurement processes should start immediately in order to meet the proposed calendar.

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INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK OF THE 3RD GENERAL POPULATION CENSUS (RGPH)



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11. Government financing for the population census will be complemented with resources from several donors. The overall cost of the census is estimated at approximately US\$ 27.6 million. The Government expected contribution is approximately US\$ 6 million and the contribution from partners announced to date is about US\$21, including: (i) Approximately \$10 million from the Bank’s IDA credit; (ii) € 6 million (about US\$ 7 million) from the EU through an RETF managed by the Bank; US\$ 1.8 million from USAID (likely to go down to US\$600,000); and approximately US\$ 2 million from UNFPA and the UNDP (likely to go down to US\$1.8 million from UNFPA only). Negotiations with other donors are currently underway. The Population Census Financial Support Committee (CAFP for its acronym in French), chaired by the Director General at INSTAT, has been created to plan, manage, coordinate and monitor the financial support and contributions for the project co-financiers. Should the donors contribution not materialize, the financing gap could be closed through an additional financing of the IDA credit.

12. Several of these phases require mobilization of human, financial, and material resources in a relatively short period of time, which is likely to test INSTAT absorptive capacity. The enumeration phase of the census will mobilize more than 30,000 people, including 24,000 enumerators and 5000 supervisors and controllers and more than 5 million paper questionnaires to be dispatched around the different regions of the country. Timely delivery and payment require mature logistics processes and full time staff dedication. The proposed methodology for the enumeration phase, considers a combination of paper questionnaires in rural and small cities areas (88% of the population), and Computer Assisted Personal Interviewing (CAPI) in the main urban centers (12% of the population). The rationale for this hybrid model is based on the limited internet connectivity and access to electricity in rural areas as well as the limited IT skills capacity at INSTAT to manage a full CAPI implementation for such large scale operation. The Bank is evaluating the pros and cons of the proposed approach and the potential mitigation measures to implement to address potential comparability issues.



13. The uncertainty in the financing for the activities expected to start immediately, the need to carry out lengthy procurement processes, and the limited capacity at INSTAT are likely to delay the implementation of the census. In addition to the urgency to secure the financing for the upcoming activities, the procurement process is lengthy and should start immediately, if the census is to be completed in the proposed timeline. Financing these activities with advances from the IDA loan requires training INSTAT on the new WBG procurement guidelines, which might result in additional delays. Further delays in the next phases of the census might require that this subcomponent is postponed until after the Presidential elections and that the sequence of subcomponents 2.1 and 2.2 is reversed.

Subcomponent 2.2: Household Poverty and Living Standards Survey (US\$ 1.2 million)

14. Regular household surveys have been carried out in Madagascar since the early 90s, but have recently fallen behind the schedule to have them at least every three years. The latest Household survey took place in 2012 using sample frames based on projections from the population census of 1993. Prior surveys were regularly carried out during the years 1993, 1997, 1999, 2001, 2002, 2004, 2005, and 2010. The project will support the setup of a welfare monitoring infrastructure by establishing a flexible continuous survey system. The survey system will be implemented by a chain of major household budget surveys every three years and smaller follow-up surveys annually. The follow-up surveys will collect data on the most important determinants of poverty and track employment while carrying specialized modules, e.g. for health or education. The data from those surveys can be used to update poverty estimates annually using statistical modeling techniques.

15. The implementation of the next Household survey has been sequenced to use of up to date population samples from the new population census. Previous surveys were based on population samples derived from projections from the 1993 population census. To be able to use an up to date sample frame, the proposal is to carry out the next survey in 2018 following the completion of the population census. The core methodology of the survey module concerning the consumption data collection will be based on current best practices and will follow the World Bank endorsed approach adopted by the WAEMU countries, which is compatible with the one used in the previous round in Madagascar. However, unlike the previous round, the 2018 survey will be conducted using a CAPI methodology. In accordance with the General Data Dissemination Standard (GDDS) guidelines, publically and freely available reports with poverty numbers will be published within 9-12 months of the data collection completion. The project will finance the design and implementation of the survey as well as the analysis and dissemination. In addition, the project will provide technical assistance to generate a small-area poverty map using the 2017 population census results.

16. Should the population census be delayed, the Household survey could proceed ahead of the population census and the survey weights recalculated immediately after the census is completed. If the population census is postponed until after the Presidential elections, the results might not be available until 2020. To avoid further delays in the household surveys, this subcomponent could be advanced and implemented using projections from the existing population census. The survey weights can be recalculated immediately after the new census data is available.

Subcomponent 2.3: National Accounts and Consumer Price Indicators (US\$ 1 million)

17. The Government has requested support for the modernization of Madagascar national accounts to adapt them to the latest international methodological standards. A recent diagnosis by the IMF (January 2016) highlights the need to update the regulatory framework, strengthen the human and technological resources at the Ministry of Finance, Central Bank and INSTAT, and improve the flow of information between them to be able to implement the priorities and five year plan recommended in the diagnosis. The irregular data collection and the broken flow of information between the different government institutions has resulted in untimely statistics of questionable quality. Currently, national accounts are estimated based on incomplete data and following the 1968 System of National Accounts with 1984 as the base year. The estimates of agricultural activities (which accounts for about 80% of



employment and contributes to 25% of GDP) are poor as there is no reliable information about the size and evolution of this sector. Service activities are not properly covered and there is scarce information about the magnitude of the informal sector. The project will support the strengthening of INSTAT's capacity to produce national account statistics and close the main data gaps. The tandem approach of building technical capacity and supporting data collection will contribute towards a sustainable quality improvement of the national accounts.

18. INSTAT has started the production of GDP estimates using 2007 as base year and following the methodology of the 1993 National Accounts System. The activities are well advanced and have benefited from the technical assistance of AFS. However, statistics for years 2008 to 2015 consistent with the SNA 93 and the new base year are still pending. The project could support the improvement and maintenance of a business registry, a business survey to recalibrate the production price index, an informal sector survey and compilation of export and import price indices. These activities will be complemented by improving the quality and facilitating better access to administrative data. Since most important businesses are located in urban areas, the economic census will be limited to these areas, but will cover both informal and informal non agriculture activities. The Bank is closely coordinating with the IMF who is supporting the Government through technical assistance. The Bank will focus its support on improving data collection and source data, local training for INSTAT staff and provision of adequate equipment.

Subcomponent 2.4: Data Analysis and Dissemination (US\$ 0.3 million)

19. Open access to anonymized data is key to enable evidence-based policy making and social accountability. It also helps statistics producers to justify budget allocations, which is essential for the sustainability of the project. The project will support the development of data access and information policies and dissemination practices, especially the dissemination of micro-data by financing: (i) the formulation and adoption of data dissemination and microdata access policies and calendar; (ii) the redesign of INSTAT website to include a micro-data portal access in line with open-data principles; (iii) technical assistance and some trainings on micro-data anonymization; and (iv) the improvement of internet access at the INSTAT.

Component 3: Project Management (US\$ 1 million)

20. To strengthen the limited capacity at INSTAT, the project will finance the Project Implementing Unit (PIU) to manage all non-technical aspects of the project activities. This includes a dedicated project team composed of a project coordinator, procurement and financial management specialists, and a statistician. The team will be supported by international consultants as needed, with the focus of building the capacity of the unit during the initial phase of the project. The team is expected to be located at INSTAT, but might be initially housed in the PIU of an existing Governance project to reduce the learning curve and accelerate procurement processes needed to carry out the most urgent activities.

SAFEGUARDS

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

Activities will be implemented at INSTAT's offices in Antananarivo, with the exception of surveys and gathering of statistical data, which will take place across the country. Project benefits will be nationwide.



B. Borrower’s Institutional Capacity for Safeguard Policies

Not applicable.

C. Environmental and Social Safeguards Specialists on the Team

Paul-Jean Feno

D. Policies that might apply

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Safeguard Policies	Triggered?	Explanation (Optional)
Environmental Assessment OP/BP 4.01	No	The project focuses on statistical works. No environmental risks are foreseen.
Natural Habitats OP/BP 4.04	No	The project focuses on statistical works. No risks to natural habitats are foreseen.
Forests OP/BP 4.36	No	The project focuses on statistical works. No risks to forests are foreseen.
Pest Management OP 4.09	No	The project focuses on statistical works. No pest management plan is required.
Physical Cultural Resources OP/BP 4.11	No	The project focuses on statistical works. No risks to physical cultural resources are foreseen.
Indigenous Peoples OP/BP 4.10	No	The project focuses on statistical works. No risks to indigenous peoples are foreseen.
Involuntary Resettlement OP/BP 4.12	No	The project focuses on statistical works. No risks for involuntary resettlement are foreseen.
Safety of Dams OP/BP 4.37	No	The project focuses on statistical works. No risks to safety of dams are foreseen.
Projects on International Waterways OP/BP 7.50	No	The project focuses on statistical works and does not include works on international waterways.
Projects in Disputed Areas OP/BP 7.60	No	The project focuses on statistical works and does not include works on international waterways.

E. Safeguard Preparation Plan

Tentative target date for preparing the Appraisal Stage PID/ISDS

Nov 01, 2016

Time frame for launching and completing the safeguard-related studies that may be needed. The specific studies and their timing should be specified in the Appraisal Stage PID/ISDS

No safeguards related-studies are likely to be required.



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APPROVAL

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