

**INTEGRATED SAFEGUARDS DATA SHEET
APPRAISAL STAGE**

Report No.: ISDSA9088

Date ISDS Prepared/Updated: 19-Jun-2014

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I. BASIC INFORMATION

1. Basic Project Data

Country:	Dominican Republic	Project ID:	P147483
Project Name:	Caribbean Regional Communications Infrastructure Prog - Dominican Rep. (P147483)		
Task Team Leader:	Elena Gasol Ramos		
Estimated Appraisal Date:	19-May-2014	Estimated Board Date:	28-Aug-2014
Managing Unit:	TWICT	Lending Instrument:	Investment Project Financing
Sector(s):	Telecommunications (50%), Information technology (50%)		
Theme(s):	Regional integration (10%), Regulation and competition policy (30%), Infrastructure services for private sector development (60%)		
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:	30.00	Total Bank Financing:	30.00
Financing Gap:	0.00		
Financing Source			Amount
Borrower			0.00
International Bank for Reconstruction and Development			30.00
Total			30.00
Environmental Category:	B - Partial Assessment		
Is this a Repeater project?	No		

2. Project Development Objective(s)

The project development objective (PDO) of the Dominican Republic CARCIP is fully consistent with the overall regional program development objective and seeks to increase access to regional broadband networks and advance the development of ICT-enabled services in the Caribbean Region.

CARCIP's objective is expected to be achieved through: (a) targeted investments in ICT infrastructure that fill the gaps at the national and municipal level, preferably in partnership with the private sector; (b) creating an open innovation ecosystem that fosters the development of ICT skills and ICT enabled services; and (c) strengthening institutional capacity/arrangements to ensure effective program implementation and outcomes.

3. Project Description

The program is being implemented in phases, based on country demand and readiness. Phase 1 of CARCIP includes four countries (Grenada, Saint Lucia and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines under sub-Phase APL 1A, joined by the Dominican Republic under sub-Phase SOP 1B), and initiated in FY13. Other eligible CARIFORUM countries may join in subsequent phases, and would be targeted for development in FY13-14. The components for SOP 1B will be as follows:

1. Component 1: Regional Connectivity Infrastructure (\$25 million). This component will support the reduction of connectivity gaps between rural and urban, and poor and developed areas in the Dominican Republic, through the deployment of a National Fiber Optic Network. This network will provide high-speed fiber optic connectivity to several municipalities in the country. The infrastructure will contribute to increase access to more affordable high-speed connectivity in the Dominican Republic. The fiber optic network will reach interconnection points with regional and global backbone networks, as part of CARCIP's regional strategy.

There are two subcomponents: (A) Enabling Environment (US\$1million); and (B) Broadband Backbone Network (US\$24million). Subcomponent 1A will provide technical support to ensure that the legal and regulatory framework is aligned with the project, as well as design the PPP bidding process to leverage the project funds with private sector investment. Subcomponent 1B will roll out the connectivity infrastructure according to the proposal awarded in the competitive bidding process.

2. Component 2: Open Innovation Hub (\$3.5 million). This component will provide targeted support for human capacity and business development, while facilitating the creation of a culture of use and adoption of ICTs throughout the general public. Funds under this component would also contribute to collaboration with the private sector for targeted skills development, building on top of INDOTEL's social programs (e.g. telecenters).

3. Component 3 (\$1.5 million): Implementation Support. This component will provide resources for the establishment and logistic support for a core PCU staff to administer and coordinate the project's implementation and conduct monitoring and evaluation. It will also support oversight arrangements and capacity building for key Policy and Regulatory institutions.

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

The physical components of terrestrial connectivity to be financed under the Program will likely include construction of ducts, poles and deployment of earthed and unearthed cables, to form networks at the national, governmental, and rural levels. The most cost-effective option identified for the land-based National Optical Fiber Backbone Infrastructure is the adaptation of existing capacity, such as in the country's national electricity transmission company, ETED (Empresa de Transmisión Eléctrica Dominicana). Use of the existing land network would also minimize environmental and social impacts by reducing the need for excavation and construction of new cable segments; however, emplacement of new buried cables would still be necessary where the existing infrastructure does not extend. Most of the cables would be located along existing rights-of-way and/or roadways, which again would serve to minimize environmental and social effects. There are

existing cables across the island, reaching the western border of the Dominican Republic with Haiti at several points. Expansion of the system to reach new areas may occur in future phases of the project. Trenching activities will require environmental management for runoff control, traffic safety, dust control, vegetation clearing, laydown areas and access points, and other standard environmental provisions. Additional construction or rehabilitation works may include communications centers or other buildings, landing stations, and towers.

Several existing submarine cables extend from Landing Stations on the north, east, and south coasts, near Puerto Plata, Punta Cana, and Santo Domingo respectively, and reach landing points which are already existing and in operation, therefore any civil works in coastal areas will be excluded. The cost of new submarine cables is considerable, therefore existing cable capacity will be utilized and no new submarine cables will be constructed

Given the nature of the planned investments (new construction and rehabilitation) small-scale land acquisition is anticipated in the project. OP/BP 4.12 (Involuntary Resettlement) is therefore triggered. The exact nature and extent of acquisition is unknown during project preparation since the specific project sites have not yet been determined. A Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF) has been prepared to guide the implementation of land acquisition during the lifetime of the project. During implementation, land acquisition will be assessed on a sub-project specific basis. When involuntary land acquisition and/or resettlement is confirmed, and specific program areas are known, Land Acquisition and Resettlement Plans will be prepared, according to the guidelines set out by the Involuntary Resettlement Framework, and submitted to the Bank for no objection prior to sub-project financing. Major impacts are not anticipated given that facilities are expected to follow existing rights of way, especially roads; however, irregularities in land titling or rights-of-way may require land acquisition and/or title regularization, particularly along rural roads

Screening and scoping of proposed project areas indicates that Indigenous Peoples with the four characteristics outlined in OP/BP 4.10 are not located within the project area, and thus cannot benefit or be adversely affected by the Project. The Indigenous Peoples Policy is therefore not triggered.

The Program is expected to have positive social impacts by improving access to communications; the development of ICT enabled services, and improved government decentralized service delivery. Particularly, the program is expected to: (i) enable ICT to become a driver for sustainable economic growth; (ii) increase employment opportunities through the development of ICT-based services; (iii) enable the government to use ICT to provide decentralized services; (iv) improved access and quality of ICT services for the population, business, and government; (v) reduce isolation and enhance economic activities in rural areas; and (vi) create additional opportunities for women entrepreneurs to develop ICT-related careers.

5. Environmental and Social Safeguards Specialists

M. Yaa Pokua Afriyie Oppong (LCSSO)

Michael J. Darr (LCSN)

6. Safeguard Policies	Triggered?	Explanation (Optional)
Environmental Assessment OP/BP 4.01	Yes	Deployment of terrestrial broadband telecommunications infrastructure will not have significant adverse environmental impacts due to the use of existing cable systems when possible,

		as well as the small footprint of the cable and its positioning along existing roadways where possible. New sections of cable will require environmental management of trenching activities, and/or using existing power poles, ducting or other infrastructure. Construction or upgrading of towers could create impacts from road improvements and/or associated civil works. The project will connect to existing landing points on shore and will install no submarine cables or landing stations. The project is assigned to environmental category B, and an Environmental and Social Management Framework (ESMF) laying out the applicable policies and guidelines will be prepared and disclosed in the Dominican Republic. The ESMF is based on the existing CARCIP regional ESMF but adapted to the context of the Dominican Republic and this project. The ESMF also contains environmental management plans (EMPs) to identify, mitigate, manage and offset potential environmental impacts from civil works.
Natural Habitats OP/BP 4.04	Yes	Most project activities are not expected to affect natural habitats, especially those involving cables along existing roadways and rehabilitation of towers and structures. However, since the exact scope of the network will only be decided through the network's bidding process a screening criterion to avoid negative impacts in Natural Habitats and avoid critical natural habitats has been included in the ESMF.
Forests OP/BP 4.36	No	This policy is not triggered given that project activities will not include forest management and that any impacts are likely to be of small scale due to the small footprint of the cable and its positioning along existing roadways where possible.
Pest Management OP 4.09	No	Any incidental pesticide use for building maintenance may be managed by including it in the appropriate EMPs (e.g. use of licensed and registered service providers for termite treatments, and other incidental use).
Physical Cultural Resources OP/ BP 4.11	Yes	This policy is triggered given that some physical interventions would result in earthworks or excavations and could therefore involve chance finds of physical cultural resources, for which the

		he ESMF includes provisions and guidance on the chance finds procedures within the EMP and contracting documents.
Indigenous Peoples OP/BP 4.10	No	OP/BP 4.10 is not triggered. Screening and scoping of proposed project areas indicates that Indigenous Peoples with the four characteristics outlined in OP/BP 4.10 are not located within the project area, and thus cannot benefit or be adversely affected by the Project. The Indigenous Peoples Policy is therefore not triggered.
Involuntary Resettlement OP/BP 4.12	Yes	Small-scale land acquisition is anticipated in the project, therefore OP/BP 4.12 (Involuntary Resettlement) is triggered and a Resettlement Policy Framework (RPF) has been prepared. Major impacts are not anticipated given that facilities are expected to follow existing rights of way, especially roads; however, irregularities in land titling or rights-of-way may require land acquisition and/or title regularization, particularly along rural roads. When involuntary land acquisition and/or resettlement is confirmed, Resettlement Plans will be prepared, prior to sub-project financing
Safety of Dams OP/BP 4.37	No	This policy is not triggered as the project will neither support the construction or rehabilitation of dams nor will it support other investments which rely on services of existing dams.
Projects on International Waterways OP/BP 7.50	No	OP 7.50 is not triggered since the project will not build any submarine cables.
Projects in Disputed Areas OP/BP 7.60	No	This policy is not triggered as the project will not work in such areas as defined under the policy.

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:
2. Describe any potential indirect and/or long term impacts due to anticipated future activities in the project area:
3. Describe any project alternatives (if relevant) considered to help avoid or minimize adverse impacts.
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.

5. Identify the key stakeholders and describe the mechanisms for consultation and disclosure on safeguard policies, with an emphasis on potentially affected people.

B. Disclosure Requirements

Environmental Assessment/Audit/Management Plan/Other	
Date of receipt by the Bank	22-May-2014
Date of submission to InfoShop	22-May-2014
For category A projects, date of distributing the Executive Summary of the EA to the Executive Directors	
"In country" Disclosure	
Dominican Republic	22-May-2014
<i>Comments:</i>	
Resettlement Action Plan/Framework/Policy Process	
Date of receipt by the Bank	22-May-2014
Date of submission to InfoShop	22-May-2014
"In country" Disclosure	
Dominican Republic	22-May-2014
<i>Comments:</i>	
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:	

C. Compliance Monitoring Indicators at the Corporate Level

OP/BP/GP 4.01 - Environment Assessment	
Does the project require a stand-alone EA (including EMP) report?	Yes [<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>] No [<input type="checkbox"/>] NA [<input type="checkbox"/>]
If yes, then did the Regional Environment Unit or Sector Manager (SM) review and approve the EA report?	Yes [<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>] No [<input type="checkbox"/>] NA [<input type="checkbox"/>]
Are the cost and the accountabilities for the EMP incorporated in the credit/loan?	Yes [<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>] No [<input type="checkbox"/>] NA [<input type="checkbox"/>]
OP/BP 4.04 - Natural Habitats	
Would the project result in any significant conversion or degradation of critical natural habitats?	Yes [<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>] No [<input type="checkbox"/>] NA [<input type="checkbox"/>]
If the project would result in significant conversion or degradation of other (non-critical) natural habitats, does the project include mitigation measures acceptable to the Bank?	Yes [<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>] No [<input type="checkbox"/>] NA [<input type="checkbox"/>]
OP/BP 4.11 - Physical Cultural Resources	
Does the EA include adequate measures related to cultural property?	Yes [<input type="checkbox"/>] No [<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>] NA [<input type="checkbox"/>]

Does the credit/loan incorporate mechanisms to mitigate the potential adverse impacts on cultural property?	Yes [] No [] NA [×]
OP/BP 4.12 - Involuntary Resettlement	
Has a resettlement plan/abbreviated plan/policy framework/process framework (as appropriate) been prepared?	Yes [×] No [] NA []
If yes, then did the Regional unit responsible for safeguards or Sector Manager review the plan?	Yes [×] No [] NA []
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:	Name: Elena Gasol Ramos	
Approved By		
Sector Manager:	Name: Randeep Sudan (SM)	Date: 26-Jun-2014