



# Concept Environmental and Social Review Summary

## Concept Stage

### **(ESRS Concept Stage)**

Date Prepared/Updated: 03/25/2022 | Report No: ESRSC02683



**BASIC INFORMATION**

**A. Basic Project Data**

Country	Region	Project ID	Parent Project ID (if any)
Ecuador	LATIN AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN	P178564	
Project Name	Strengthening the National Statistical System in Ecuador		
Practice Area (Lead)	Financing Instrument	Estimated Appraisal Date	Estimated Board Date
Poverty and Equity	Investment Project Financing	4/21/2022	7/29/2022
Borrower(s)	Implementing Agency(ies)		
Republic of Ecuador	Instituto Nacional de Estadística y Censos - INEC, Instituto Nacional de Estadística y Censos (INEC)		

**Proposed Development Objective**

The Proposed Project Development Objective is to improve the national statistical capacity of Ecuador in the production and dissemination of timely and high-quality economic and sociodemographic statistics for evidence-based policymaking.

Financing (in USD Million)	Amount
<b>Total Project Cost</b>	<b>85.00</b>

**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 aims to assist the Government of Ecuador in strengthening its National Statistical System to enhance the effectiveness of public policies based on updated, reliable, and publicly available statistics. This program will support the National Statistical Office (INEC acronym in Spanish) in implementing the next Population and Housing Census and updating Ecuadorian consumption patterns with a new income and expenditure survey. This last survey will help



correct the basic food basket, monetary poverty thresholds, and consumer price index. The program will build capacity and innovate in producing official statistics by exploiting administrative records and georeferenced statistics to monitor and evaluate programs.

Updated information on the population distribution and living conditions is critical for designing, implementing, monitoring, and evaluating public policies. Updated Census data will help the Government of Ecuador support policies to fight chronic malnutrition and gender violence, create new jobs, strengthen the social protection system, and improve the living conditions of minorities and indigenous populations. It will also help national and regional governments improve service delivery in rapid urbanization contexts by quickly identifying access gaps in infrastructures, such as water, sanitation, and transport.

#### D. Environmental and Social Overview

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

With a total area of 283,561 km<sup>2</sup>, Ecuador lies between latitudes 2°N and 5°S. Ecuador has four geographic regions: (i) The Coast, which is the western region bordering the Pacific Ocean and includes the western provinces of the Andean mountain range – seven provinces (ii) The Sierra, which consists of the provinces of the Andean and inter-Andean highlands – ten provinces, (iii) The Amazon, formed by the provinces of the Amazon jungle – six provinces, and (iv) The Insular Region that includes the Galápagos Islands, about 1,000 kilometers west of the continent in the Pacific Ocean.

The scope of the proposed project is nationwide; its main activity is the planning and implementation of data collection for the “VIII Population Census and VII Housing Census” of Ecuador, covering all households, both in urban and rural areas. The project also proposes to support data collection for other surveys (“National Income and Expenditure”, “New Labor Force”, and “Agricultural Integrated Survey”). Ecuador’s Constitution recognizes the plurinational and multicultural nature of its heterogeneous population. According to the last population census (2010), in Ecuador the majority of the population self-identified as Mestizo (72 percent), White (6.1 percent) or Other (0.4 percent), whereas 21 percent of the Ecuadorian population self-identified as part of an ethnic group: Indigenous (7 percent), Afro-descendant (7.1 percent), or Montubio (7.4 percent). Indigenous peoples (IPs) were found to live predominantly in rural areas in the highlands and Amazon (80 percent), Montubios along the coast, and three-quarters of Afro-Ecuadorians (AEs) in urban areas. During the last decade, Ecuador has gone through several events that could have modified the socioeconomic conditions: an earthquake (2016), a strong influx of foreign migrants (2017-2019), economic crises due to falling oil prices (2014, 2020), and the COVID-19 pandemic, among others, which have generated different dynamics in socioeconomic indicators such as employment, poverty, and labor market composition. For this reason, socioeconomic and demographic information as a basis for territorial planning and public policy making, is outdated, due a two-year delay in the implementation of the latest census due to the pandemic.

The project aims to improve the national statistical capacity of Ecuador in the production and dissemination of timely and high-quality economic and sociodemographic statistics for evidence-based policymaking, based on 4 components: (1) strengthening demographic information through the implementation of the VII Housing and VIII Population Census, (2) improving data production and dissemination covering the income and expenditure and employment surveys, plus employment survey, and agriculture integrates survey as well as updating statistical products based on



their results, (3) strengthening statistical production through administrative records, and (4) providing project management, monitoring, and evaluation. According to the current information the activities comprising the project’s components are mostly of an administrative nature, activities that do not pose significant environmental or social risks according to the ESF. The main project activities that may potentially generate environmental and social risks are: (i) under Component 1 – activities corresponding to the physical deployment of the census in its enumeration phase, when personnel contracted by the project would undertake physical visits throughout the country to obtain firsthand information; (ii) under Component 1 – the provision of almost 18,000 tablets to the personnel in charge of field activities related to the census implementation and supervision; and (iii) under Component 3 – the purchasing of a physical server and the implementation of minor upgrades to improve existing laboratory facilities, including their security features (in terms of access) and office equipment.

**D. 2. Borrower’s Institutional Capacity**

The implementing agency will be the National Institute of Statistics and Census (INEC), which is the institution that has historically carried out censuses in Ecuador. INEC is permanently collecting data for the production of statistics related to Ecuador; in addition to being used to this type of work, it has procedures in place for managing the risks inherent in the types of activities included in the project, especially those related to occupational health and safety of the staff involved in the data collection and analysis process, as well as to individuals belonging to households, communities, organizations, etc. from whom information is collected for statistical production during the execution of the census and the surveys associated with the project. Existing procedures regarding occupational health and safety will be assessed during project preparation, and any updates needed to ensure that they reflect the relevant ESSs will be included within the LMP and SEP.

As of now, INEC is working with part of its own staff to prepare the project; however, a Project Implementation Unit (PIU) will be created at a time to be determined during project preparation. As part of the staffing of the PIU, a qualified social/environmental specialist will be contracted to oversee E&S matters. Otherwise, despite the technical experience of INEC in conducting surveys and data collection, this is the first time that it will implementing a project under the ESF. As such, the client’s capacity to implement the project in accordance with the ESF is limited. The Institute’s capacity for environmental and especially social issues management will be further assessed during project preparation once more information becomes available. This assessment will guide the definition of the staffing, training, and other capacity buildings activities needed to manage the project in accordance with the ESF, and its results which will be reflected in the project’s ESCP. The Appraisal Stage ESRS will provide examples of how practices, procedures, and tools developed for past censuses (training modules, codes of conduct, etc.) will be updated to meet the requirements of the relevant ESF Standards.

Public Disclosure

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

**A. Environmental and Social Risk Classification (ESRC)**

Moderate

**Environmental Risk Rating**

Moderate

Based on the available information, the proposed environmental risk classification for the project is Moderate under the ESF. This classification is based on the following: (i) the environmental risks resulting from the physical census execution are not significant as the activities refer to basic logistics and simple social interrelationships; (ii) tasks related to the improvement of the information processing laboratory do not represent significant environmental risks, either in terms of space and equipment; (iii) the operation will neither finance or require large civil works



activities nor will it support other activities likely to cause environmental harm; and (iv) the project includes the purchase of information technology equipment (approximately 18,000 tablets and a physical server) for the execution of the census, which could lead to adverse environmental impacts in the event of inadequate or improper handling or disposal, or disposal that differs from local legislation and the procedures recommended by the manufacturers. In order to manage this last risk, during project preparation INEC will identify a procedure for the proper management of potential electronic waste, including measures for prevention and mitigation in accordance with local environmental legislation and the ESF. At this time, no specific environmental studies will be required.

**Social Risk Rating**

Moderate

Based on the available information, the proposed social risk classification for the project is Moderate. The activities to be carried out as part of the project do not involve any physical impacts on territories or communities, since they will essentially require information gathering from households to produce aggregated statistical data at the national level. The project will also finance the implementation of minor physical upgrades to laboratory facilities and office equipment, and refurbishments that will take place within the existing footprint of INEC’s headquarters. The main social risks associated with this project are: (i) risks to community health and safety during census execution, when household members may be exposed to COVID-19 virus transmission, sexual harassment and assault, and become victims of criminals posing as enumerators; (ii) risks associated with occupational health and safety, since the health and/or physical integrity of INEC’s field team during the data collection phase could be placed at risk when they work in unsafe neighborhoods or conflict areas, in addition to the risk posed by the transportation of personnel through unsafe roads; (iii) risks of sexual harassment and discrimination in the workplace, particularly resulting from the hiring of a significant number of enumerators, supervisors, and administrative staff, many of which will need to travel and use temporary accommodations; (iv) risks associated with the cultural sensitivity of the population, especially in indigenous communities, during the field visits and in communication campaigns; and (v) risks associated with the use of security forces, considering that INEC has mentioned that it will work with military security forces to provide support during the field phase, which may pose a risk to communities and individuals. These risks are associated with a context where the ability of the PIU to effectively monitor compliance with the relevant ESF provisions during the execution of the Project may be limited, particularly given the ongoing pandemic restrictions, along with the national scale of the project, in a country characterized by a high proportion of ethnic and racial minorities such as indigenous peoples, Montubios, and Afro-descendants (IPAMs), as well as other vulnerable groups.

Public Disclosure

**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. As mentioned under section II.A, the main environmental risks and impacts associated with the project are related to the potential mismanagement of a significant volume of tablets to be purchased and used throughout project implementation. Measures for the proper management of technological equipment will be addressed in the Project Operational Manual (POM) and, in addition, the ESCP will also establish a specific commitment related to adequate e-waste management. Under ESS3, more information is included related to the potential risks and impacts to be caused by the handling and disposal of electronic equipment and hazardous



materials. The main social risks and impacts are related to community health and safety during census execution on one hand, and to occupational health and safety for the project's numerous workers on the other (see the ESS2 section for more information).

According to the available information, INEC as the implementing agency has procedures to manage daily operations related to statistical data gathering and manipulation, considering basic E&S issues, for instance: labor management procedures, health and safety, and codes of conduct. During preparation the Bank will assess whether and how these procedures match up with the relevant ESS requirements, and develop appropriate measures to address potential gaps, which will be reflected in the project instruments and the ESCP.

As mentioned in section D.2., the implementing agency does not have experience with World Bank-financed projects under the ESF; therefore, INEC's capacity for environmental and especially social issues management is limited and will need to be further assessed during project preparation once more information becomes available. It will also be necessary to train the project's E&S specialist, once hired, along with other measures to strengthen the ability of the PIU to manage the environmental and social risks of the project in accordance with the ESF. This would include the updating of codes of conduct, COVID-19 protocols and other relevant procedures related to carrying out of the census and other project activities.

The Borrower will develop an ESCP to outline environmental and social risk management commitments and actions related to ESS1, ESS10, ESS2, ESS4 and ESS7. It will also develop an SEP, in accordance with ESS10, to describe stakeholder engagement and communications actions. Under ESS1, a brief description of the activities related to minor physical upgrades of laboratory facilities should be included in the POM, together with the measures to be taken to avoid possible environmental risks, within a timeline to be specified in the ESCP. Under ESS2, a draft version of the LMP will be prepared and published by appraisal, the date of the final version will be specified in the ESCP. Commitments related to ensure an adequate coverage of cultural sensitivity issues for indigenous peoples and other vulnerable groups under ESS7 will be included in the ESCP, and specific procedures for related tasks will be included in the POM. To mitigate identified risks related to community health and safety, a Code of Conduct for workers with provisions for preventing SEA/SH will be developed and included in the LMP, along with measures to be included in the POM. Finally, as public security forces will support the census deployment, a specific protocol regarding their interaction with the community will be committed to within the ESCP and will be prepared by the implementing agency before the census is carried out.

**Areas where "Use of Borrower Framework" is being considered:**

None.

**ESS10 Stakeholder Engagement and Information Disclosure**

This standard is relevant. Considering that this project will be implemented on a national scale, one important form of interaction with social actors and stakeholders will be based on mass communication and socialization processes, rather than on engagement with specific actors or stakeholder groups, along with the proper application of a grievance mechanism consistent with ESS10. But this will come with an appropriate level of attention to specific groups at all stages of project cycle, and in relation to all project components. INEC, as the project implementing entity, has already laid a strong foundation for stakeholder engagement (SE) during the project's preparation phase,



in the context of the deployment of the national population and housing census. As the census was supposed to be carried out in 2020, SE processes began in 2019 when, for the construction of the census survey form, some 58 workshops and meetings with civil society, academia and international organizations were held. These events, which involved some 644 participants, serve as examples of two-way engagement with well-defined feedback loops. After the 2020 census was suspended, consultative activities were restarted to shape a new pilot census to be carried out in 2020 and 2021. New pilots were conducted with the participation of international observers, and 18 focus groups with more than 242 participants from different sectors, as well as tests in other statistical operations, were held.

During the project implementation phase, INEC will carry out stakeholder engagement activities with vulnerable groups, such as the elderly, indigenous peoples (IP), Afro-descendants, people with disabilities, the LGBTI+ community, migrants (documented and undocumented), people living in remote areas, etc. With respect to undocumented migrants, the lack of a national ID card should not prevent anyone in the national territory at the time of the census from participating in it, though this will be confirmed during project preparation. Lessons from previously conducted surveys will also be used to identify other possible forms of social exclusion, and appropriate measures to counteract such exclusion will be discussed in the Appraisal Stage ESRS.

INEC has a Special Statistical Commission for the Population and Housing Census, which has been in place since 2019. This Commission has a Technical Working Group for Priority Groups, in which the issues of human mobility, gender, special abilities, intergenerational equality and human rights are being addressed in conjunction with different state entities and civil society organizations. The results of this Technical Working Group's activities will be summarized in a Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) for the project, to be prepared in draft form, disclosed and consulted on prior to appraisal. The draft SEP will describe the SE activities undertaken to date, both for the upcoming census and the project-supported activities, and will comment on how the lessons from the former set of activities have served to shape the project's design. It will also reflect the results of a stakeholder mapping exercise, and specify approaches and methodologies for engagement and communication activities with the full range of project stakeholders, including the above-mentioned vulnerable groups, thereby reducing the barriers for their participation in the census and surveys, and facilitating their inclusion. Finally, the SEP will outline a project-specific Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM). The timing for the finalization of the Plan will be specified in the project's ESCP.

The SEP will incorporate a targeted approach for communication with and participation of indigenous communities, along with the requirement to carry out stakeholder engagement activities with their representative organizations, to ensure data collection actions consider pertinent cultural aspects of these groups, especially on issues like the census/survey questionnaires and the deployment of enumerators in indigenous territories. This can also help identify key areas to include in the training of the census staff. Commitments related to language translation and the use of a culturally accessible GRM will also be included in the SEP to ensure IPs' participation and engagement. At least one dedicated consultation meeting with IP leaders in relation to the project and its objectives has already been held, to discuss protocols and procedures for the use of native languages in field work and the translation of the questionnaires for the census.

INEC recognizes the importance of implementing an inclusive approach for collecting disaggregated data and statistics on vulnerable groups, to reflect their views and interests in policymaking. The dissemination strategies for the population census, labor survey, agriculture survey, and other statistical exercises included in this project will include tools and methodologies to: (i) obtain feedback from beneficiaries (users) and stakeholders; and (ii)



incorporate said feedback in future activities within the purview of the project. Because of the particular way in which activities under the project’s three components are expected to be sequenced, the SEP will initially focus on the population and housing census. As other activities to be supported (e.g., the labor survey) are prepared, the SEP will be revised to reflect the SE needs involved, at which time the Plan will be redisclosed, consulted on and finalized, prior to the implementation of those activities.

The methodology used and approaches taken for census data collection, analysis and storage will be clearly communicated to all the key stakeholders. The project’s communication strategy will be implemented in three moments: (i) before the census--the announcement of the census, general and detailed information to stakeholders and media; (ii) during the census--information for the general public on the execution of the census and frequently asked questions; and (iii) after the census--delivery of partial and final results, thanking internal and external stakeholders for their participation, and promoting the use of the data. The same procedures will be applied opportunely at the time of the execution of the other surveys that are part of the project.

The SEP will also include the GRM requirements for the project, to ensure that it is consistent with ESS10, including the need to have (i) designated qualified personnel to operate the GRM throughout the duration of the project; (ii) adequate budget allocated to implement GRM activities; (iii) procedures for the handling of complaints in a timely manner; and (iv) protocols for handling SEA/SH complaints in coordination with GBV services providers when warranted.

## **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. The project expects to involve direct and contract workers, hiring a significant number of enumerators, supervisors, and administrative staff. The potential involvement of community and primary supply workers will be assessed during project preparation, particularly the latter type given that the project will involve the procurement of a substantial amount of information technology equipment.

Given the large number of people to be hired (including 19,000+ temporarily contracted workers), it is necessary to have solid procedures for managing the workforce. The main risks in this area are related to recruitment and hiring processes, occupational health and safety, and personnel security. SEA/SH risks were also identified, as the enumerators will be in contact with members of communities from different socioeconomic backgrounds and will also be sharing work and resting spaces (transportation and accommodation) with different personnel in the places where they will be working. INEC mentioned that the institution has procedures for hiring personnel, health and safety procedures, and codes of conduct. During the preparation stage, these procedures will be assessed by the Bank to verify their relevance, identify possible gaps and integrate them into the project’s Labor Management Procedures (LMP) document. The LMP will describe how the full range of relevant procedures will be put into place and operationalized within the available timeframe and for such a large number of temporary staff. Its contents will serve to guide the discussion in the Appraisal Stage ESRS of how existing systems for labor management can be built upon and/or adapted.



The minimum age for project workers will be 18 years old, and forced labor is considered not be a risk in the project. It should be noted that INEC reported that it has developed procedures to prevent the spread of COVID-19 among its workers and the community members they come in contact with, which will help to manage this risk in the project. The handling of labor-related complaints in the project will be assessed during project preparation. On a related note, with respect to not only labor management but also a range of other social issues, the nationwide scope of many project-supported activities will require the PIU to engage with a number of entities at the sub-national level. These will be listed out in the Appraisal Stage ESRS, and in the SEP.

### **ESS3 Resource Efficiency and Pollution Prevention and Management**

This standard is relevant. Under C1, activity 1.3, and under C3, activity 3.4, the project includes the purchase of information technology equipment (likely 18,000 tablets and one physical server). As there is a potential for this equipment to be mishandled or disposed of, possible environmental impacts are expected; particularly, it is possible that these devices or some of their components could convert to e-waste during the project's implementation, after which they should be adequately treated, recycled, reused and/or disposed of. To manage this type of waste, INEC will design and implement a procedure which will cover the requirements set forth in local regulation, manufacturer guidelines, and the ESF and will define measures to minimize any pollution generated from an inadequate handling, transportation, reuse, or disposal of the e-waste. In addition to this, the e-waste procedure will also consider the availability of e-waste recycling providers, the cost of such service, who will bear the cost, and provisions to prevent that these devices (particularly the ones with batteries) are discarded as regular trash.

Under C3, activity 3.4, minor physical upgrades to laboratory facilities would be required. The information available to date does not identify the scope of this activity; however, it should be noted that in the event that the handling or disposal of asbestos or other hazardous materials is required, it must be done in accordance with local regulations and the WBG's General Environmental and Health Guidelines.

Procedures for handling and disposal of e-waste, asbestos, and other hazardous materials will be outlined as part of the Project Operational Manual. Additionally, the ESCP will establish a specific commitment related to adequate e-waste management.

The relevance of this ESS will be further assessed when more information about these technology equipment matters becomes available during project preparation.

### **ESS4 Community Health and Safety**

This standard is relevant. There are risks related to SEA/SH, visits of enumerators to households, the use of security forces to accompany the data collection in the field, as well as risks related to the incidence of crime and violence.

The risk of SEA/SH has been identified in relation with this standard, since the members of the participating communities will be in close (if brief) contact with the enumerators (male and female), which may present risks of abuse/harassment and sexual exploitation. Mitigation measures to address any possible risk regarding SEA/SH will be managed by integrating a Code of Conduct for enumerators into the LMP, as well as by measures for SEA/SH prevention and response in the MOP.



Good practice for PPE use and specific guidelines to establish secure interactions with the surveyed people will be also developed and included in the LMP.

As with any national census unfolding at the household level, enumerators will sooner or later be required to venture into unsafe areas. On these occasions, specially trained personnel (most likely military, but possibly also police) will accompany the enumerators, to help ensure their safety. Specific protocols regarding the project's use of security personnel and their interaction with community members participating in the census will be committed to in the ESCP and be prepared by INEC as the implementing agency before the census is undertaken. Any relevant SE and/or communications actions related to the use of security personnel will also be described further in Appraisal Stage ESRS and incorporated into the SEP.

It should be noted that INEC reported that it has developed procedures to prevent the spread of COVID-19 among its workers and community members they come in contact with, which will help to manage this risk in the project.

#### **ESS5 Land Acquisition, Restrictions on Land Use and Involuntary Resettlement**

This standard is not relevant. Improvements to the existing information laboratory will take place entirely within the existing footprint of INEC headquarters and will not require any land acquisition leading to physical and/or economic displacement.

#### **ESS6 Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Management of Living Natural Resources**

This standard is not relevant.

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

This standard is relevant. The ethnic and racial minorities to be involved in this project (encompassing indigenous peoples, Afro-Ecuadorians and Montubios, or IPAMs) will find it relevant to have access to the census itself, both physically and in terms of the use of languages by enumerators and their supervisors that that can be adequately understood. They will also want to see themselves represented in the results of the census, just like the rest of society, and to be able to use those results. Since the 2010 census, several improvements have been identified and adopted to promote the inclusion of these peoples and ensure that their responses can be recorded based on self-identification according to their own cultural criteria, overcoming the old practice of the enumerator assigning an ethnicity to people based on his or her subjective assessment of their physical traits or living conditions.

Since 2019, INEC decided to create the Special Statistical Commission for Indigenous, Afro-Ecuadorian and Montubio Peoples and Nationalities (CEE-PIAM), which aims to "promote and mutually leverage capacities and strengths to establish a synergy of interagency coordination and strategic allies in the process of production, analysis and dissemination of statistical information to ensure the visibility of indigenous, Afro-Ecuadorian and Montubio peoples and nationalities; and, other technical and cooperation activities, within the scope of the parties' competences, of high consideration to the VIII Population Census and VII Housing Census in favor of the peoples and nationalities of Ecuador". This Commission is made up of 10 institutions (between ministries and secretariats) of national scope, with



the ability to convene leaders of the IPAMs, and to consult and take decisions. The Commission has already generated and approved a roadmap with activities and products to be implemented during 2022 and 2023, mainly focused on solving technical and articulation needs for the population and housing census.

Among the activities to be carried out by the CEE-PIAM is the planning of the "community census", which will seek to adapt the collection of information to the territory, regulations and customs of the communities and localities. The following activities are planned to be carried out between April and August 2022: (i) Definition of the agenda for the promotion of the national census and sensitization regarding the self-identification of peoples and nationalities (including the approach with leaders of the communes, communities, peoples and nationalities); (ii) Meetings with leaders of the communes, communities, peoples and nationalities for the promotion of the census (census ballot) at the territorial level; (iii) Execution of the awareness campaign for the census with a focus on interculturality and plurinationality in the population. In addition, it is planned to translate the questionnaire into the native languages most widely used in the country (Kichwa and Shuar Chicham).

For this census and the other surveys that are part of this project, it is foreseen that the communication and dissemination component must be inclusive and consider possible barriers in terms of language and access to the census media for indigenous peoples, Afro-Ecuadorians and Montubios. INEC plans to translate the forms of the census and surveys to the most used indigenous languages (Kichwa and Shuar Chicham), and also hire census enumerators belonging to indigenous communities to enumerate in their own areas of residence. In addition, the census enumerators also need to be trained in sociocultural appropriate procedures applicable to each group.

To address the above-mentioned and related risks, INEC as the implementing entity will need to continue to implement the stakeholder engagement activities that have been executed with the representative organizations of these ethnic and racial minorities. These will be included in the SEP, outlining the approach to engagement with these groups, and include consultations with their representative organizations and NGOs, to determine if they have any specific concerns related to data collection that would need to be addressed, identifying potential obstacles to their participation and enabling the conditions for their full inclusion in the census. Moreover, the GRM outlined in the SEP will need to be culturally appropriate and accessible for IPAMs.

**ESS8 Cultural Heritage**

This standard is not relevant.

**ESS9 Financial Intermediaries**

This standard is not relevant.

**C. Legal Operational Policies that Apply**

**OP 7.50 Projects on International Waterways** No

**OP 7.60 Projects in Disputed Areas** No

Public Disclosure



**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:**

1. Environmental and Social Commitment Plan
2. Stakeholder Engagement Plan
3. Labor Management Procedures

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

1. Specific commitments related to adequate e-waste management.
2. Stakeholder engagement commitments, with emphasis on indigenous peoples and other vulnerable groups.
3. Preparation and operation of a project-level GRM, consistent with ESS10.
4. Socio-culturally appropriate communications strategy.
5. Specific measures and protocols for managing risks related to indigenous peoples.
6. Code of Conduct for the direct project workers, including GBV or SEA/SH prevention approach, along with the need for the MOP to include SEA/SH prevention and response measures.
7. Protocol for the interaction of security forces with communities.

**C. Timing**

**Tentative target date for preparing the Appraisal Stage ESRS**

25-Mar-2022

**IV. CONTACT POINTS**

**World Bank**

Contact: Sergio Daniel Olivieri Title: Senior Economist

Telephone No: 5364+612 / 593-2-2943612 Email: solivieri@worldbank.org

Contact: Alejandro Medina Giopp Title: Senior Economist

Telephone No: +1-202-473-4296 Email: amedinagiopp@worldbank.org

**Borrower/Client/Recipient**

Public Disclosure



Borrower: Republic of Ecuador

**Implementing Agency(ies)**

Implementing Agency: Instituto Nacional de Estadística y Censos - INEC

Implementing Agency: Instituto Nacional de Estadística y Censos (INEC)

**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):	Sergio Daniel Olivieri, Alejandro Medina Giopp
Practice Manager (ENR/Social)	Maria Gonzalez de Asis Recommended on 25-Mar-2022 at 10:48:11 GMT-04:00
Safeguards Advisor ESSA	Angela Nyawira Khaminwa (SAESSA) Cleared on 25-Mar-2022 at 15:01:23 GMT-04:00