1. **Implementation Arrangements**

The project’s institutional framework addresses two key issues: a) policy oversight; and b) project implementation and coordination. For overall policy oversight, an Inter-ministerial Project Advisory Council (consisting of the Ministry of Youth and Sports, the Ministry of Labor, Ministry of Gender and Development, the Ministry of Education, and the Ministry of Commerce) will provide policy guidance to ensure that the project’s development objectives are met and are aligned both with national policy on the economic empowerment of adolescent girls and with national employment policy. They will oversee the effective implementation of the policy as designed. In addition, an Employers Advisory Committee will provide guidance to training providers on functional areas in which skills training is needed.

Project management will focus on ensuring the project’s operational effectiveness, agile implementation, and compliance with World Bank operational policies and guidelines. Project management will be handled by a Project Implementation and Coordination Team (PICT) consisting of a Project Coordinator, a Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist, a Procurement Specialist, and an Administrative Support person.

Financial management for the project will be handled by the Project Financial Management Unit (PFMU) of the Ministry of Finance. A memorandum of understanding (MoU) detailing the respective financial management responsibilities of the parties was signed between the PFMU and the MoGD prior to project effectiveness.

In general terms under the MoU the PFMU is tasked with the following responsibilities:

1. Operate an efficient financial management system acceptable to the IDA;
2. Establish effective accounting and transaction processing procedures to support the payment of all eligible expenditures;
3. Provide internal audit services and periodically review the control environment to ensure that policies and procedures are being complied with;
4. Prepare on a timely basis quarterly financial reports and any other financial reports as may be requested by the IDA and the MoGD/EPAG; and
5. Lastly, in consultation with the MoGD/EPAG, ensure that the financial statements of the project are audited and conform to the financial covenants as per the Grant Agreement.

***Figure 1. EPAG Institutional Framework***

**Inter-ministerial Project Advisory Council**

MoGD; MoL; MoE; MoYS; MoC, MoA

**Executing Agency**

(Project Coordination Team); Technical Advisors

**Employers’** **Advisory Committee**

Public/Private sectors, Int. organizations

**Implementing Agencies**

Service providers; impact evaluation experts

**Fiduciary Arrangements**

**Procurement**

Competitive bidding, Contracting (MoGD with EGIRP);

**Financial management**

Disbursement, accounting, auditing (PFMU)

Policy & strategic advice, alignment with PRS

Project management and technical oversight