



Higher Education Project (P167790)

EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA | Moldova | Education Global Practice |
IBRD/IDA | Investment Project Financing | FY 2020 | Seq No: 4 | ARCHIVED on 23-Dec-2021 | ISR49707 |

Implementing Agencies: Ministry of Education, Culture and Research, Republic of Moldova through the Ministry of Finance

Key Dates

Key Project Dates

Bank Approval Date: 05-Mar-2020

Effectiveness Date: 15-Sep-2020

Planned Mid Term Review Date: 31-Mar-2023

Actual Mid-Term Review Date:

Original Closing Date: 31-Dec-2025

Revised Closing Date: 31-Dec-2025

Project Development Objectives

Project Development Objective (from Project Appraisal Document)

The Project Development Objective is to improve the labor market orientation of selected higher education institutions and the quality assurance mechanisms.

Has the Project Development Objective been changed since Board Approval of the Project Objective?

No

Components Table

Name

1 – Improving the Quality Assurance Mechanisms:(Cost \$10.30 M)

2 – Improving the Labor Market Orientation through Targeted Interventions:(Cost \$27.80 M)

3 – Project Management:(Cost \$1.30 M)

Overall Ratings

Name	Previous Rating	Current Rating
Progress towards achievement of PDO	<input type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory	<input type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory
Overall Implementation Progress (IP)	<input type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory	<input type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory
Overall Risk Rating	<input type="checkbox"/> Substantial	<input type="checkbox"/> Moderate

Implementation Status and Key Decisions

This is the third Implementation Status and Results Report for this Project after declaration of effectiveness on September 15, 2020.

The project is progressing with overall satisfactory implementation despite the COVID-19 pandemic impact and several key staff changes in the Ministry of Education and Research and the change of the structure of the Ministry, which caused initial delays to early activity implementation. Positive progress is now being observed, with the following key activities underway:

1. Launch of the preparation for the Quality Assurance Agency to be registered in the European Quality Assurance Register, which is fundamental for the recognition of diplomas issued by Moldovan universities in Europe;
2. Launch of the Higher Education Improvement Program (component 2). Selection of the first set of universities and pedagogical colleges that will receive funds to raise the labor market relevance of the training is under implementation;
3. Signing of the contract with the National Institute for Economic Research for the Graduate Tracer Study.

The progress towards the achievement of the Project Development Objectives remains Satisfactory.



Risks

Systematic Operations Risk-rating Tool

Risk Category	Rating at Approval	Previous Rating	Current Rating
Political and Governance	High	Moderate	Moderate
Macroeconomic	High	Substantial	Moderate
Sector Strategies and Policies	High	Substantial	Moderate
Technical Design of Project or Program	Substantial	Substantial	Moderate
Institutional Capacity for Implementation and Sustainability	Substantial	Substantial	Substantial
Fiduciary	High	Substantial	Substantial
Environment and Social	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate
Stakeholders	High	High	Substantial
Other	--	Moderate	Moderate
Overall	High	Substantial	Moderate

Results

PDO Indicators by Objectives / Outcomes

To improve the labor market orientation of selected higher education institutions				
► Share of students of selected higher education institutions enrolled in Bachelor and Master's programs of government's priority areas (Percentage, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	15.00
Date	01-Oct-2019	07-Jun-2021	14-Dec-2021	31-Dec-2025
Comments:	The total number of students enrolled in Bachelor's and Master's programs of government priority areas for all Moldovan higher education institutions for 2020/2021 was collected based on the reports submitted by the higher education institutions to MoER. Once the higher education institutions will be selected under Component 2 of the Project, the share of students of selected higher education institutions enrolled in Bachelor's and Master's Programs of Government priority areas will be calculated and included as baseline.			
► Perception of employers about the labor market orientation of selected higher education institutions' programs (Percentage, Custom)				



	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	25.00
Date	01-Oct-2019	07-Jun-2021	14-Dec-2021	31-Dec-2025
Comments:	The selection of the company to measure the indicator is at the final stage.			

To improve the quality assurance mechanisms

► New Master's programs accredited based on the revised curriculum (Percentage, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	10.00
Date	01-Oct-2019	07-Jun-2021	14-Dec-2021	31-Dec-2025
Comments:	This indicator measures the increase in the share of new Master's programs accredited based on the revised curriculum.			

► Registration of NAQAER in EQAR (Text, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	NAQAER is not registered in EQAR	NAQAER is not registered in EQAR	NAQAER is not registered in EQAR	NAQAER is registered in EQAR
Date	01-Oct-2019	07-Jun-2021	14-Dec-2021	31-Dec-2025
Comments:	This indicator measures the status of the registration of the NAQAER in EQAR. The registration of NAQAER in EQAR is fundamental for the recognition of diplomas issued by Moldovan universities in Europe. Thus, this indicator captures a quintessential feature of the quality assurance mechanisms applicable to higher education in Moldova.			

Intermediate Results Indicators by Components

1 - Improving the Quality Assurance Mechanisms

► Higher education qualification standards developed and revised (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	29.00	300.00
Date	01-Oct-2019	07-Jun-2021	14-Dec-2021	31-Dec-2025
Comments:	The qualification standards for 4 fields are under development			

► Bachelor and Master's programs updated in accordance with the qualification standards developed and revised through the Project (Percentage, Custom)



	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	30.00
Date	01-Oct-2019	07-Jun-2021	14-Dec-2021	31-Dec-2025
Comments:	Currently, there are 370 Bachelor's programs and 400 Master's programs. The percentage of Bachelor's and Master's programs updated in accordance with the qualification standards developed and revised will be calculated starting from the second semester of 2023.			
► Higher education students benefiting from systemic interventions in quality, information systems and financing (Number, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	47,287.00	91,000.00
Date	01-Oct-2019	07-Jun-2021	14-Dec-2021	31-Dec-2025
Comments:	Data was collected from documents submitted by the Higher Education Department of the MoER. The developed financing formula is being implemented in 14 higher education institutions, according to the Government Decision 343/2020 dated June 10, 2020 on approval of the Methodology for budgetary financing of higher education institutions. The total number of students in the 14 higher education institutions is 47,287 of which 20,948 students are financed from the budget.			
<input type="checkbox"/> of which are female students (Number, Custom Supplement)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	28,372.00	53,000.00
► Staff of MoECR, NAQAER and higher education institutions trained in higher education quality assurance through the Project (Number, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	230.00
Date	01-Oct-2019	07-Jun-2021	14-Dec-2021	31-Dec-2025
Comments:	This indicator measures the number of staff of the MoECR, NAQAER and higher education institutions trained in higher education quality assurance through the Project.			
► New financial model (Text, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	New financial model has been developed, but has not been piloted yet	New financial model has been developed, and is under pilot	New financial model has been developed, and is under pilot	New financial model is implemented system-wide
Date	01-Oct-2019	07-Jun-2021	14-Dec-2021	31-Dec-2025
Comments:	This indicator measures the progress with the implementation of the new higher education financial model			
► Higher Education Management Information System (HEMIS) (Text, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target



Value	HEMIS does not exist	HEMIS does not exist	HEMIS does not exist	HEMIS is operational and its data is used for planning or decision-making
Date	01-Oct-2019	07-Jun-2021	14-Dec-2021	31-Dec-2025
Comments:	This indicator measures the status of the development and implementation of the HEMIS. The measurement of the implementation of the HEMIS includes the utilization of its data for planning or decision-making.			

► Unified electronic higher education admission system (e-Admission) (Text, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	There is no unified electronic higher education admission information system	There is no unified electronic higher education admission information system	There is no unified electronic higher education admission information system	e-Admission system is operational
Date	01-Oct-2019	07-Jun-2021	14-Dec-2021	31-Dec-2025
Comments:	This indicator measures the status of the development of the unified electronic higher education admission (e-Admission) system			

► Labor Market Information System (LMIS) (Text, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	LMIS does not exist	LMIS does not exist	LMIS does not exist	LMIS is operational and its data is used for planning and decision-making
Date	01-Oct-2019	07-Jun-2021	14-Dec-2021	31-Dec-2025
Comments:	This indicator measures the status of the development and implementation of the LMIS. The measurement of the implementation of the LMIS includes the verification of the utilization of its data for planning or decision-making.			

2 - Improving the Labor Market Orientation through Targeted Interventions

► Laboratories of selected higher education institutions equipped (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	9.00
Date	01-Oct-2019	07-Jun-2021	14-Dec-2021	31-Dec-2025
Comments:	The call for Higher Education Improvement Programs (HEIP) has been launched and applications were expected by December 13, 2021. This indicator measures the number of laboratories of selected higher education institutions equipped through the HEIP.			

► Higher Education Improvement Programs approved in accordance with the criteria established in the Project Operations Manual (Percentage, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
--	----------	-------------------	------------------	------------



Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	90.00
Date	01-Oct-2019	07-Jun-2021	14-Dec-2021	31-Dec-2025
Comments:	The call for Higher Education Improvement Programs (HEIP) has been launched and applications were expected by December 13, 2021. This indicator measures the share of Higher Education Improvement Programs approved in accordance with the criteria established in the HEIPOM.			
► Students benefiting from direct interventions to enhance learning (Number, Corporate)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	49,000.00
Date	01-Oct-2019	07-Jun-2021	14-Dec-2021	31-Dec-2025
Comments:	The call for Higher Education Improvement Programs (HEIP) has been launched and applications were expected by December 13, 2021.			
□ Students benefiting from direct interventions to enhance learning - Female (Number, Corporate Supplement)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	29,000.00
► Partnerships between universities, pedagogical colleges and employers established through the HEIP (Number, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	15.00
Date	01-Oct-2019	07-Jun-2021	14-Dec-2021	31-Dec-2025
Comments:	The call for Higher Education Improvement Programs (HEIP) has been launched and applications were expected by December 13, 2021. This indicator measures the number of partnerships between universities, pedagogical and employers that are established through the HEIP.			
► Share of women enrolled in STEM programs developed or improved through the HEIP (Percentage, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	20.00
Date	01-Oct-2019	07-Jun-2021	14-Dec-2021	31-Dec-2025
Comments:	The call for Higher Education Improvement Programs (HEIP) has been launched and applications were expected by December 13, 2021. This indicator measures the increase in the share of women enrolled in STEM programs developed or improved through the HEIP.			
► Research or academic programs contributing to climate change adaptation or mitigation developed or improved through the HEIP (Number, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target



Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	4.00
Date	01-Oct-2019	07-Jun-2021	14-Dec-2021	31-Dec-2025
Comments:	The call for Higher Education Improvement Programs (HEIP) has been launched and applications were expected by December 13, 2021. This indicator measures the number of research or academic programs in technologies, processes or policies contributing to climate change adaptation or mitigation, which are developed or revised through the HEIP.			

3 - Project Management				
▶ Project beneficiaries reporting that effective engagement processes have been established (Percentage, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	30.00
Date	01-Oct-2019	07-Jun-2021	14-Dec-2021	31-Dec-2025
Comments:	This indicator measures the increase in the share of project beneficiaries who report that effective engagement processes have been established through the Project. The selection process of the company to conduct the survey is at the final stage.			

Performance-Based Conditions

Data on Financial Performance

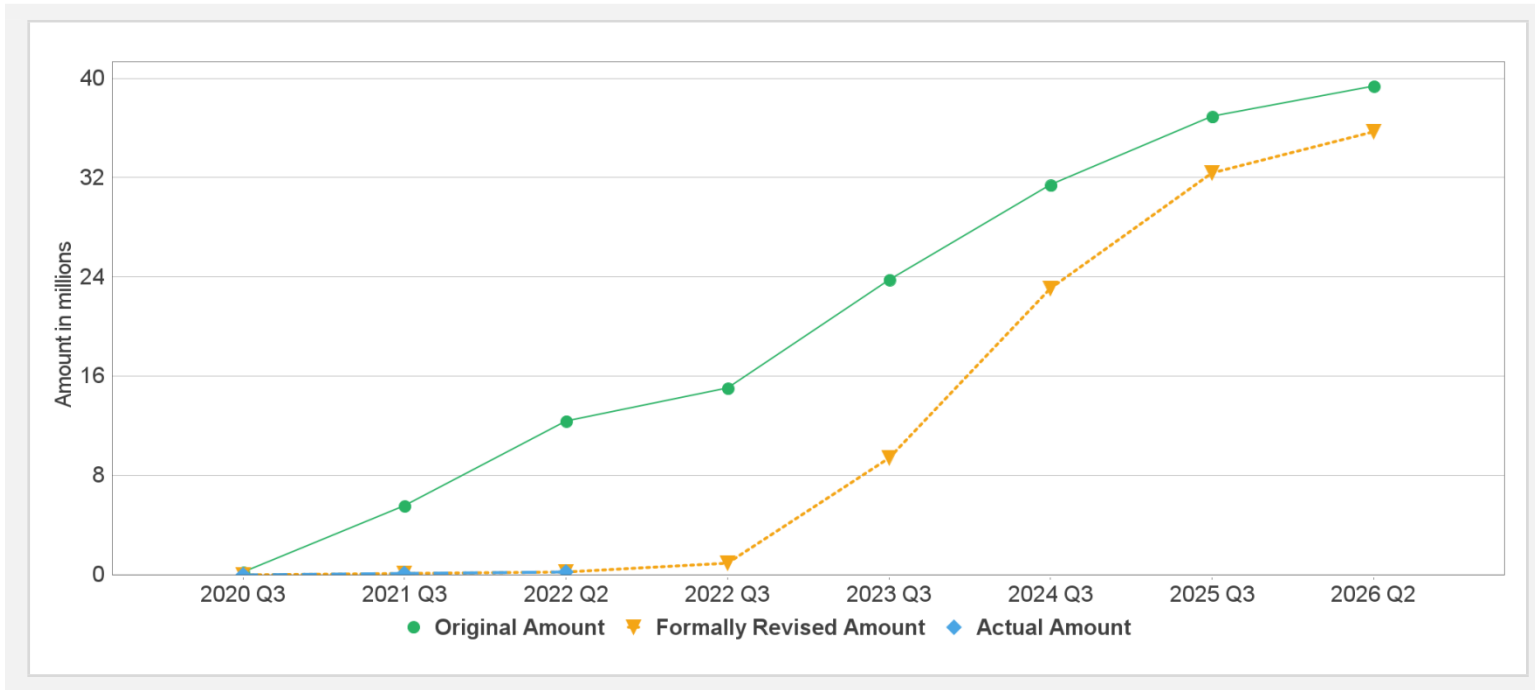
Disbursements (by loan)

Project	Loan/Credit/TF	Status	Currency	Original	Revised	Cancelled	Disbursed	Undisbursed	% Disbursed
P167790	IDA-65420	Effective	USD	39.40	39.40	0.00	0.22	40.09	0.6%

Key Dates (by loan)

Project	Loan/Credit/TF	Status	Approval Date	Signing Date	Effectiveness Date	Orig. Closing Date	Rev. Closing Date
P167790	IDA-65420	Effective	05-Mar-2020	19-May-2020	15-Sep-2020	31-Dec-2025	31-Dec-2025

Cumulative Disbursements



PBC Disbursement

PBC ID	PBC Type	Description	Coc	PBC Amount	Achievement Status	Disbursed amount in Coc	Disbursement % for PBC

Restructuring History

There has been no restructuring to date.

Related Project(s)

There are no related projects.