



Inclusive Early Childhood Education and Care (P157117)

EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA | Serbia | Education Global Practice |
IBRD/IDA | Investment Project Financing | FY 2017 | Seq No: 10 | ARCHIVED on 21-Dec-2021 | ISR49441 |

Implementing Agencies: Ministry of Finance, Minister of Education, Science and Technological Development

Key Dates

Key Project Dates

Bank Approval Date: 21-Feb-2017

Effectiveness Date: 13-Feb-2018

Planned Mid Term Review Date: 18-Jan-2021

Actual Mid-Term Review Date: 22-Feb-2021

Original Closing Date: 30-Dec-2022

Revised Closing Date: 30-Dec-2022

Project Development Objectives

Project Development Objective (from Project Appraisal Document)

The PDO is to improve access to quality Early Childhood Education and Care (ECEC) services, in particular for children from socially disadvantaged backgrounds.

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

No

Components Table

Name

Expanding the supply of preschool spaces:(Cost \$36.75 M)
Strengthening the quality of preschool services:(Cost \$5.95 M)
Supporting young children and families:(Cost \$5.30 M)
Project management, technical assistance, and monitoring and evaluation:(Cost \$2.00 M)

Overall Ratings

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

Implementation Status and Key Decisions

During the reporting period, progress has been made under all three components of the project. Under Component 1, all three pilot infrastructure projects have been completed on time and within budget. Construction is underway for six new kindergartens based on results from the pilots, and bidding processes are underway or starting shortly for another four. Moreover, 88 new playrooms have been made available for early learning programs to children in rural areas of the country. Under Component 2, implementation of the new Preschool Curriculum Framework has started in about 65 percent of the public preschool institutions in the country, and training and mentoring support for preschool staff are ongoing. The new methodology for quality assurance in preschool education along with the related instruments has been adopted. Under Component 3, the communication campaign including short videos aimed at parents and caregivers to support the holistic development of their children is ongoing, delivered via different channels (TV, radio, social media). In addition, under the Grant Scheme Program, 34 Local Self-Governments have been



awarded grants to improve coordination and cooperation among relevant actors at the local level in providing holistic and high-quality early childhood education and care services to parents and caregivers, and children aged 0 to 6.5 years old, with a focus on the most vulnerable.

Risks

Systematic Operations Risk-rating Tool

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

Results

PDO Indicators by Objectives / Outcomes

Expanding the supply of preschools spaces				
▶ National preschool enrollment rates for children ages 3 and 5.5 years (Percentage, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	52.00	63.90	62.60	62.00
Date	07-Nov-2016	26-May-2021	03-Dec-2021	29-Jul-2022
Comments:	The intermediate target value for the implementation year 4 is 60 percent. The indicator is on track, however, the current value is slightly lower than the previous one due to the restrictions in the protocol enforced to protect the spreading of the COVID -19 in kindergartens. The target for the "National preschool enrollment rates for children ages 3 and 5.5 years within the eligible municipalities" sub-indicator is exceeded due to the 88 new playrooms and 3 new kindergartens in the eligible municipalities resulting from project interventions.			



□ National preschool enrollment rates for children ages 3 and 5.5 years within the eligible municipalities (Percentage, Custom Breakdown)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	19.00	28.60	49.00	25.00
Date	07-Nov-2016	26-May-2021	03-Dec-2021	29-Jul-2022

Strengthening the quality of preschool services				
▶ Preschools that undergo external evaluation and rank 4 (on a scale of 1 to 4) (Percentage, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	44.00	44.00	44.00	55.00
Date	03-Jun-2020	26-May-2021	03-Dec-2021	29-Jul-2022
Comments:	This activity is on track.			

Supporting young children and families				
▶ Children ages 12 to 59 months in the lowest quintile with whom an adult has engaged in early stimulation activities at home (Percentage, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	85.00	92.80	92.80	92.00
Date	07-Nov-2016	26-May-2021	03-Dec-2021	29-Jul-2022
Comments:	The source for this data is the UNICEF MICS survey. The baseline value is taken from MICS 2014, while the actual (current) value is from the most recent MICS 2019. The methodology used has remained the same for both cycles of the survey which makes the data values comparable. The next MICS survey will be conducted after the end of the project (most likely in 2023/2024). The team will discuss possible options with UNICEF to gather data for Roma families in a separate survey close to the end of the project. In addition, the team has requested information from UNICEF to see if they have any explanation to suggest what may be the reason for the decrease in early stimulation among Roma families.			
□ Children ages 12 to 59 months from Roma families with whom an adult has engaged in early stimulation activities at home (Percentage, Custom Supplement)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	68.00	55.33	55.33	75.00

Intermediate Results Indicators by Components

Expanding the supply of preschool spaces				
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▶ Preschool construction and rehabilitation projects preceded by a community stakeholder consultation (Percentage, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Date	07-Nov-2016	18-May-2021	03-Dec-2021	29-Jul-2022
Comments:	The consultation summaries are being incorporated in the respective sub-project ESMP and are, therefore, disclosed as per provisions for Environmental and Social safeguard instruments. Furthermore, the summaries are being publically disseminated and consulted during public consultations for the ESMPs.			
□ Number of sub-projects with civil works for which consultation summaries are produced and disseminated (Number, Custom Supplement)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	11.00	12.00	20.00
▶ Additional classrooms built or rehabilitated at the preschool level resulting from project interventions (Number, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	10.00	98.00	779.00
Date	07-Nov-2016	18-May-2021	03-Dec-2021	29-Jul-2022
Comments:	The end target will be modified based on the cost per meter square from the pilot infrastructure projects.			
□ Additional classrooms built at the preschool level resulting from project interventions (Number, Custom Breakdown)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	8.00	10.00	193.00
Date	07-Nov-2016	18-May-2021	03-Dec-2021	29-Jul-2022
□ Additional classrooms rehabilitated or re-purposed at the preschool level resulting from project interventions (Number, Custom Breakdown)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	48.00	88.00	586.00
Date	07-Nov-2016	18-May-2021	03-Dec-2021	29-Jul-2022
▶ Students benefiting from direct interventions to enhance learning (Number, Corporate)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	78,100.00	140,126.00	100,000.00
Date	15-Feb-2017	04-Jun-2021	03-Dec-2021	30-Dec-2022



Comments:	The target was exceeded due to the extension of the number of preschool institutions receiving training and support in the implementation of the new Preschool Curriculum Framework and 98 additional classrooms built or rehabilitated at the preschool level resulting from project interventions.			
<input type="checkbox"/> Students benefiting from direct interventions to enhance learning - Female (Number, Corporate Supplement)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	37,488.00	67,261.00	50,000.00

Strengthening the quality of preschool services				
▶ Additional qualified preschool teachers resulting from project interventions (Number, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	5,000.00	9,400.00	12,000.00
Date	07-Nov-2016	18-May-2021	03-Dec-2021	29-Jul-2022
▶ Pre-service training institutions that reformed their study programs based on the new preschool curriculum, and core competences required for preschool teachers (Number, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	10.00
Date	07-Nov-2016	26-May-2021	03-Dec-2021	29-Jul-2022
Comments:	The MoESTD has formed the Working Group and initiated the activities for improving the initial education of preschool and school teachers, the change of study programs, accreditation, and innovation criteria. The working group inter alia suggested revision/ reduction of the number of higher education institutions which may require modification of target values. This activity is on track.			
▶ Primary school pedagogical staff trained in new preschool curriculum (Number, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	650.00	1,300.00
Date	07-Nov-2016	26-May-2021	03-Dec-2021	29-Jul-2022
▶ Preschools with self-evaluations completed using updated instrument. (Percentage, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	50.00
Date	07-Nov-2016	26-May-2021	03-Dec-2021	29-Jul-2022
Comments:	The quality standards for preschools were developed and adopted. The guide for self-evaluation based on the revised quality framework along with self-evaluation tools are developed and made available to preschool institutions. The training for implementation of the tools is planned for the first half of 2022.			



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Supporting young children and families				
► Communication campaign developed and rolled out (Text, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	No campaign	The communication campaign was rolled out in October 2019.	The communication campaign was rolled out in October 2019.	Campaign rolled out nationally
Date	07-Nov-2016	18-May-2021	03-Dec-2021	29-Jul-2022
Comments:	This target is achieved, though the campaigning (divided in three themes: 'Acceptance', 'Inclusions' and 'Enrollment') was not completed for all parents, caregivers and families for the entire duration of the project.			
► Grants awarded to eligible municipalities (Number, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	34.00	34.00	30.00
Date	07-Nov-2016	18-May-2021	03-Dec-2021	29-Jul-2022
► Male participants (among benefiting families) in grant activities (Percentage, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	38.57	41.50	20.00
Date	07-Nov-2016	18-May-2021	03-Dec-2021	29-Jul-2022

Project management, technical assistance, and monitoring and evaluation				
► Evaluation of first phase of grant program completed and lessons incorporated into the second phase of the program (Text, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	No report	Audit report completed	2nd round of the grant program incorporates lessons from the evaluation. The Grant Operations Manual was updated and adopted.	2nd round of grant program incorporates lessons from evaluation
Date	07-Nov-2016	03-Jun-2021	03-Dec-2021	29-Jul-2022
Comments:	Per the Loan Agreement, the Project Management Unit has undertaken an independent performance and operational audit for the first round of the Grant Scheme which was completed in January 2021. The			



report assessed the relevance and effectiveness of local projects as highly positive. The sustainability of interventions was also positively assessed. The audit report further noted that the design of the Grant Scheme projects has been consistently followed during implementation. The MOESTD carried out a follow-up evaluation. The report is expected in January 2022.

Performance-Based Conditions

Data on Financial Performance

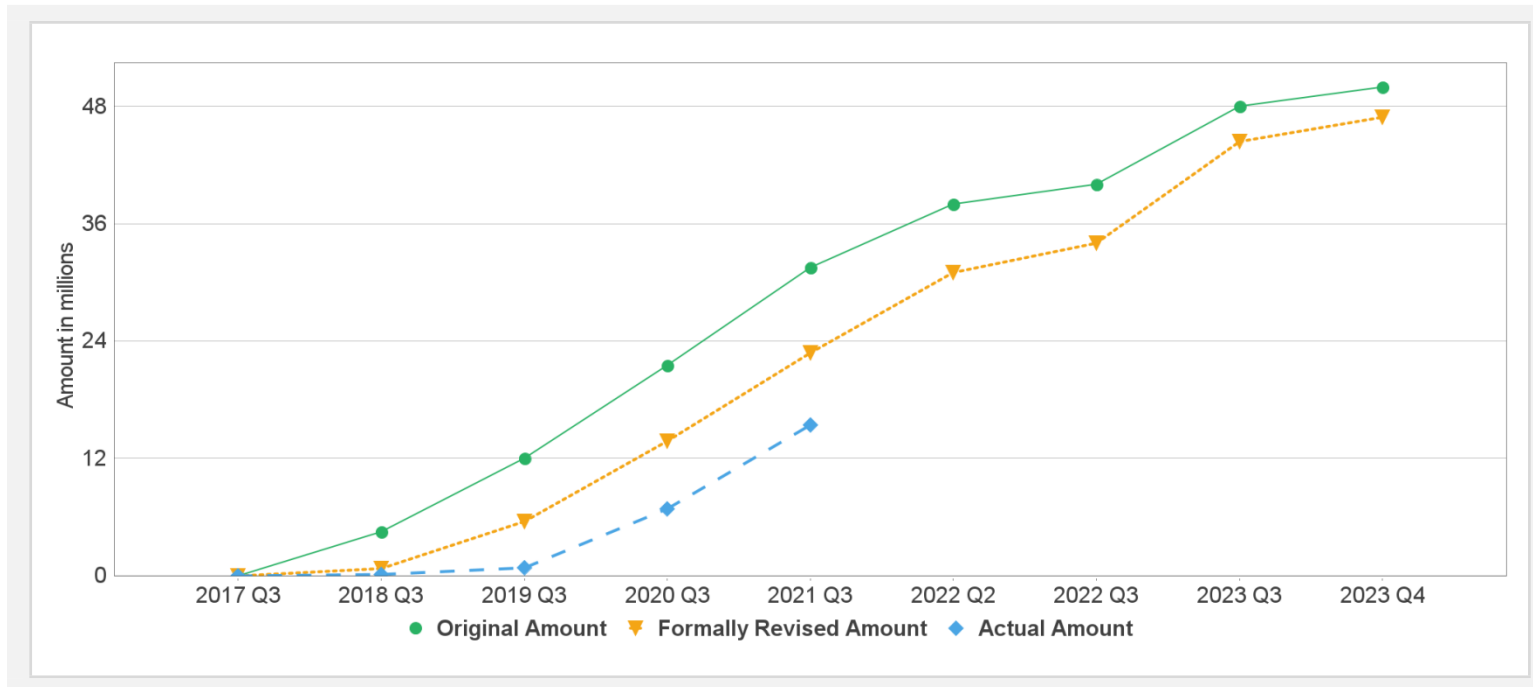
Disbursements (by loan)

Project	Loan/Credit/TF	Status	Currency	Original	Revised	Cancelled	Disbursed	Undisbursed	% Disbursed
P157117	IBRD-86930	Effective	USD	50.00	50.00	0.00	16.91	34.68	33%

Key Dates (by loan)

Project	Loan/Credit/TF	Status	Approval Date	Signing Date	Effectiveness Date	Orig. Closing Date	Rev. Closing Date
P157117	IBRD-86930	Effective	21-Feb-2017	12-May-2017	13-Feb-2018	30-Dec-2022	30-Dec-2022

Cumulative Disbursements





PBC Disbursement

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

Level 2 Approved on 22-Aug-2019

Related Project(s)

There are no related projects.
