



Higher Education Reforms Project (P147010)

SOUTH ASIA | Nepal | Education Global Practice |
IBRD/IDA | Investment Project Financing | FY 2015 | Seq No: 6 | ARCHIVED on 07-Dec-2017 | ISR29998 |

Implementing Agencies: NEPAL, University Grants Commission

Key Dates

Key Project Dates

Bank Approval Date:19-Feb-2015

Effectiveness Date:22-May-2015

Planned Mid Term Review Date:11-Dec-2017

Actual Mid-Term Review Date:--

Original Closing Date:30-Jun-2020

Revised Closing Date:30-Jun-2020

Project Development Objectives

Project Development Objective (from Project Appraisal Document)

To support reforms in selected institutions for improving quality, relevance, and efficiency of higher education; and to assist under-privileged students for equitable access.

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

No

Components

Name

Component 1: Implementation of Reforms:(Cost \$60.00 M)

Component 2: Capacity Building and Project Management:(Cost \$5.00 M)

Overall Ratings

Name	Previous Rating	Current Rating
Progress towards achievement of PDO	● Satisfactory	● Satisfactory
Overall Implementation Progress (IP)	● Moderately Satisfactory	● Moderately Satisfactory
Overall Risk Rating	● Substantial	● Substantial

Implementation Status and Key Decisions



1 . The progress of the project is being monitored through achievement of yearly targets for seven DLIs corresponding to systemic reforms, five KPIs measuring outcomes, and eight IRIs. DLIs 2 through 7 for year-zero (July 17, 2014 –July 16, 2015) have been achieved. DLI 1 target for year-zero is expected to be achieved by the end of Mid-term review: Cabinet has approved the Rule and appointment of key experts to meet the requirement is in progress. The targets for DLI 2, DLI 4 and DLI 7 (a) for year-one and year-two (July 15, 2017) have been over achieved; DLI 6: 100% of year-one and 75% of year-two targets achieved. Progress of DLI 1, DLI 3, DLI 5 and DLI 7 (b) lagging behind.

2 . KPIs for year-one and year-two have been partially achieved: (i) six new HEIs have been accredited against the year one target of eight and year two target of twenty; (ii) percentage of students enrolled in identified priority areas at Bachelor's and Master's levels reached 17.07 percent and 18.15 percent against the year-two target of 14 percent and 18.5 percent respectively; (iii) 778 underprivileged students (from bottom two poorest welfare quintiles) at the higher secondary level (HSL) science stream, and 4,563 students at the Bachelor's level have received scholarship against the year-one and year-two (cumulative) target of 1,000 and 5,000 respectively. In year-one, the share of girls who have received the pro-poor scholarship at the HSL was 25.4 percent against the target of 45 percent, and at the Bachelor's level 61.1 percent against the target of 40 percent; girl's share in year-one and year-two (cumulative) will be reported in the next ISR after the MTR; (iv) the average time taken for announcement of results of the first, second and third years of TU centralized under-graduate programs in Humanities and Social Sciences, Management, and Education faculties has been reduced to 5 months and 13 days compared to the year-one target of 7 months and year-two target of 6 months; and (v) there are 12 publications in refereed journals by UGC research grants recipients in 2016-17 under the National Program for Higher Education Reform and Development HERP has been supporting. Year two publication details will be further reviewed and the total number will be updated in the next ISR. Based on the progress made in year-one and progress made to date, the rating for likelihood of achieving the PDO is retained as 'Satisfactory'. This will be reviewed in the Mid-term review.

Risks

Systematic Operations Risk-rating Tool

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

Results

Project Development Objective Indicators



► Number of Accredited HEIs (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	12.00	17.00	18.00	125.00
Date	01-Aug-2014	25-Apr-2017	14-Nov-2017	30-Jun-2020

► Percentage of students enrolled in identified priority areas (Text, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	Under Graduates: 12.6; Post-graduates: 16.7	Under Graduates: 17.07; Post-graduates: 17.04	Under Graduates: 17.07; Post-graduates: 18.15	Under Graduates: 17.0; Post-graduates: 23.0
Date	01-Aug-2014	25-Apr-2017	14-Nov-2017	30-Jun-2020

► Number of under-privileged students supported under the Project (Text, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	(i) Total Higher Sec (HS) : 0 Total Bachelor (B) : 0 (ii) % female(HS): 0 % female(B): 0	Year one (i) Total Higher Sec (HS) : 323 Total Bachelor (B): 2564 (ii) % female(HS): 25.4 % female(B): 61.1 Some additional number of students were supported after the November 2016 Reporting (Second cohort of 5231 students for year two have been selected. Funds will be released by May 31, 2017)	Year two (i) Total Higher Sec (HS) : 455 Total Bachelor (B): 1999 (ii) % female(HS): to be reviewed and updated in MTR % female(B): To be reviewed and confirmed in the MTR	(i) Total (HS) : 2,000 Total (B) : 7,500 (ii) % female(HS): 45 % female(B): 40
Date	01-Oct-2014	25-Apr-2017	14-Nov-2017	30-Jun-2020

► Average time taken for announcement of results of Bachelors programs with centralized examinations at TU (Months, Custom)



	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	7.00	5.43	5.43	3.00
Date	01-Jul-2014	25-Apr-2017	14-Nov-2017	30-Jun-2020

► Number of publications in refereed journals by the research grant recipients. (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	11.00	12.00	85.00
Date	01-Jul-2014	25-Apr-2017	14-Nov-2017	30-Jun-2020

Overall Comments

Except for some recent available data, most of the information are retained from April 2017 Implementation Review and Support Mission. These will be undated in the next ISR to be submitted after the MTR scheduled from December 11-29, 2017.

Intermediate Results Indicators

► Number of institutions undertaking specified reforms (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	15.00	118.00	124.00	135.00
Date	01-Oct-2014	25-Apr-2017	14-Nov-2017	30-Jun-2020

► Number of TU institutions granted autonomy (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	4.00	6.00	7.00	14.00
Date	01-Aug-2014	25-Apr-2017	14-Nov-2017	30-Jun-2020



► Number of academic programs revised (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	26.00	2.00	75.00
Date	01-Aug-2014	25-Apr-2017	14-Nov-2017	30-Jun-2020

► Number of new academic programs introduced in identified priority areas (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	39.00	25.00	65.00
Date	01-Jul-2014	25-Apr-2017	14-Nov-2017	30-Jun-2020

► Computerization of records of all students eligible for appearing in examinations from TU constituent and affiliated campuses (Percentage, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	95.00	95.00	100.00
Date	01-Jul-2014	25-Apr-2017	14-Nov-2017	30-Jun-2020

► Number of Research, Development and Innovation (RDI) projects supported in identified priority areas (Text, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	PhD: 0; Faculty: 0	PhD: 23; Faculty: 50 (40 PhD scholars, 50 faculty research, and 10 collaborative research projects are in final stage of selection for year-two).	PhD: 23; Faculty: 107	PhD: 130 Faculty: 220
Date	01-Aug-2014	25-Apr-2017	14-Nov-2017	30-Jun-2020



► Direct project beneficiaries (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	200,000.00	200,000.00	500,000.00
Date	01-Jul-2014	25-Apr-2017	14-Nov-2017	30-Jun-2020

▲ Female beneficiaries (Percentage, Custom Supplement)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	40.00	40.00	40.00

► DLI 1: National accreditation system established and functioning (Text, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	A QAAA with functional autonomy established at UGC	QAAA Rule submitted for Cabinet approval. UGC will complete the remaining appointments for QAAA by June 30, 2017. 17 HEIs accredited.	Cabinet has approved QAAA Rule. Appointment of some experts by UGC to complete the process is in progress. 18 HEIs accredited.	A total of 125 higher education institutions accredited
Date	30-Jun-2015	25-Apr-2017	14-Nov-2017	30-Jun-2020

► DLI 2: Performance-based financing extended to HEIs (Text, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	1. Guidelines for Performance Based Funding (PBF) of campuses published by UGC 2. Formula Based Funding (FBF) for autonomous campuses adopted by UGC	First group of 66 HEIs selected, MOUs signed and first tranche of performance-based grant released. Second group of 52 HEIs selected and MOU signed. Grant will be released by July 15, 2017. Two constituent campuses that have	Third batch of 34 HEIs selected as per PIM, MOUs signed, and performance based grants released to the first batch (45 HEIs), second batch (45 HEIs) and third batch (Total 124 HEIs). 471 community campuses have received Formula	1. A total of 135 HEIs supported with PBF 2. At least 10 autonomous campuses supported through FBF 3. Criteria for PBF based regular funding



		opted autonomy will receive FBF in FY 2017/18, and 30 community campuses will get PBF by July 15, 2017.	Based Funding (FBF) against the year two target of 30 community campuses. FBF has been released to only one autonomous campus against the year two target of two campuses.	for community campuses adopted by UGC; and PBF based regular funds released to at least 100 community campuses
Date	01-Jun-2015	25-Apr-2017	14-Nov-2017	30-Jun-2020

► DLI 3: Autonomy extended to additional campuses/schools (Text, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	1. TU autonomy campus rules for constituent campuses revised by TU Senate 2. TU adopts rules for academic autonomy of affiliated campuses by TU Senate	1. Autonomy granted to six constituent campuses. 2. Two accredited campuses have started new programs under academic autonomy, three others are at advance stage of finalizing curricula.	1. Autonomy granted to seven constituent campuses. 2. Three accredited campuses have started new programs under academic autonomy, two others are at advance stage of finalizing curricula.	1. Autonomy granted to 14 constituent campuses/schools of TU 2. Eight autonomous/accredited campuses or schools exercise academic autonomy
Date	02-Jun-2015	25-Apr-2017	25-Apr-2017	30-Jun-2020

► DLI 4: Examination reforms implemented and academic calendar enforced in TU (Text, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	(i) Academic rules of TU revised and approved by TU Academic Council for completing academic calendar within one academic year; and (ii) a plan for examination reforms approved by TU (with especial focus on centralized examinations)	Academic calendar of seven centralized Master program-year of TU adhered to compared to year-one target of three and cumulative year-one and year-two target of six. The average time taken for announcement of results of centralized undergraduate programs in three faculties of TU is 5.4 months compared to	Academic calendar of seven centralized Master program-year of TU adhered to compared to year-one target of three and cumulative year-one and year-two target of six. The average time taken for announcement of results of centralized undergraduate programs in three faculties of TU is 5.4 months compared to year-one target of 7 months and year-two	1. Academic calendar of 15 program years of centralized Master's programs adhered to 2. Results for regular centralized Bachelors programs published within three months on average



		year-one target of 7 months and year-two target of 6 months.	target of 6 months.	
Date	02-Jun-2015	25-Apr-2017	14-Nov-2017	30-Jun-2020

► DLI 5: Academic reforms introduced: Revision of existing and introduction of new programs at undergraduate and graduate levels (Text, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	Areas of priority for new programs approved by UGC; and guidelines for selection of programs and institutions approved by UGC	Five new programs were supported in year one. Additional 60 programs (34 new programs and 26 programs revision) are being processed for support in year two	Five new programs were supported in year one. Additional 60 programs (34 new programs and 26 programs revision) were processed for support in year two. The approved number of revised programs: two, and new programs: 25.	A total of 140 programs revised or introduced and implemented (new programs: 40-50 percent)
Date	01-Jun-2015	25-Apr-2017	25-Apr-2017	30-Jun-2020

► DLI 6: Poverty-targeted financial support for under-privileged students (Text, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	PMT processes for selection of students revised by SFAFDB; and database and process computerized	First cohort (2,887 students) selected through PMT and fund released to 2,887 students. Second cohort of 5231 students selected for support. Grant will be released to 3000 students by May 31, 2017	First cohort (2,887 students) selected through PMT and fund released to 2,887 students. Second cohort of 2,454 selected and fund released.	1. Funds released to at least 9,500 students selected through PMT 2. A plan for sustainability of poverty targeted scheme approved
Date	15-Jun-2015	25-Apr-2017	25-Apr-2017	30-Jun-2020



► DLI 7: Institutions supported for academic excellence in priority areas through RDI awards (Text, Custom)


	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	(a) (i) Existing research guidelines reviewed and revised by UGC; and (ii) Priority areas for support approved by UGC (b) Parallel recruitment and promotion rules adopted by TU Executive Council	First batch of 303 research projects selected and funds released. Second batch of 399 research projects are at the advance stage of selection. TU Service Commission (TUSC) has completed the first round of evaluation of the candidates advertised for academic excellence based recruitment/promotion. TUSC plans to select 18 faculty members from among 66 applicants against the year-one and year-two cumulative target of 20 by July 15, 2017 (end of year-two).	First batch of 305 research projects selected and funds released. Second batch of 227 research projects selected and funds released. TUSC plans to select 18 faculty members from among 66 applicants against the year-one and year-two cumulative target of 20 by July 15, 2017 still pending.	1. About 500 research projects supported 2. A plan for sustainability of research funding approved 3. At least 50 faculty members recruited and/or promoted based on excellence
Date	15-May-2015	25-Apr-2017	14-Nov-2017	30-Jun-2020

Overall Comments

Based on April 2017 review additional 60 programs (34 new programs and 26 programs revision) were processed for support in year two. However, after UGC technical team's rigorous scrutiny of applications against the requirements the approved numbers revised - revised academic programs: two; new academic programs: 25. These will be further reviewed and updated in the next ISR.

Data on Financial Performance

Disbursements (by loan)

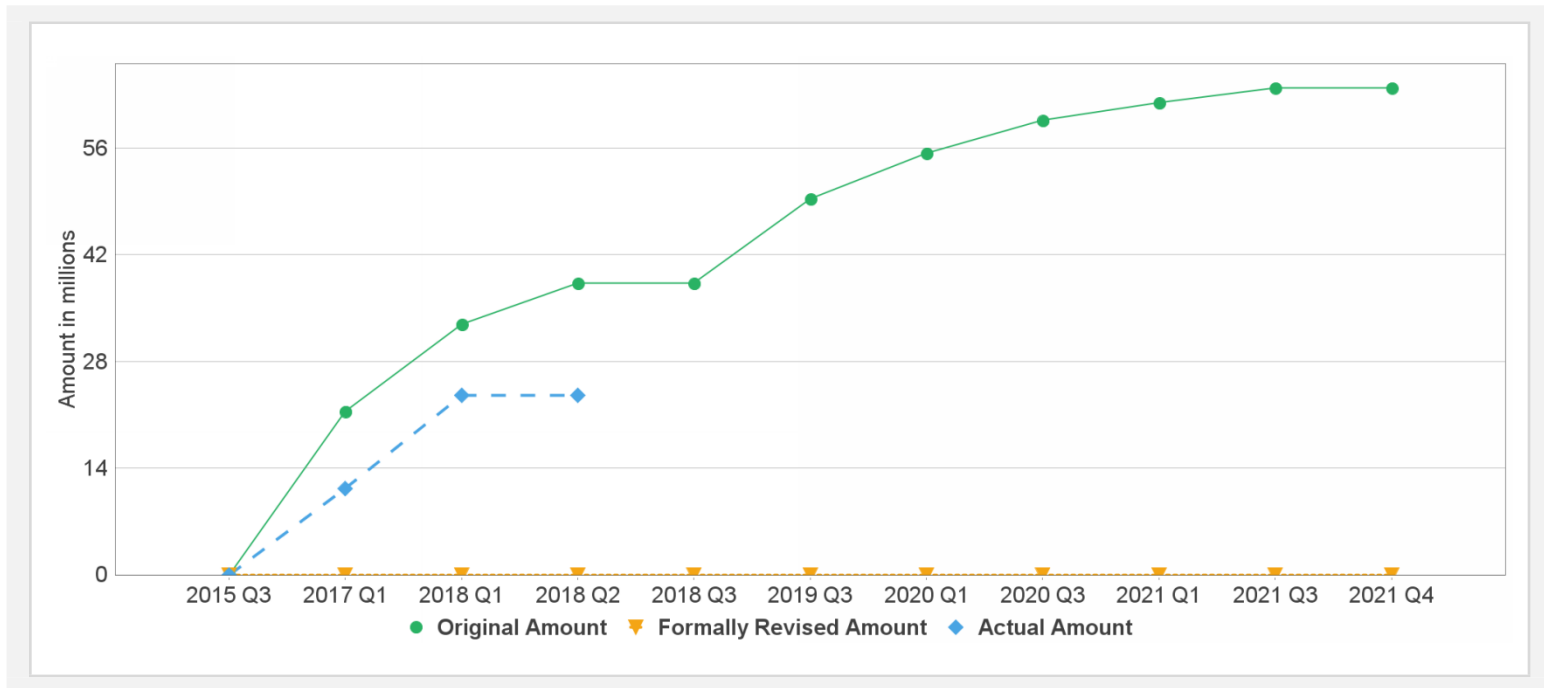
Project	Loan/Credit/TF	Status	Currency	Original	Revised	Cancelled	Disbursed	Undisbursed	Disbursed
P147010	IDA-55860	Effective	USD	65.00	65.00	0.00	23.55	39.83	 36%

Key Dates (by loan)

Project	Loan/Credit/TF	Status	Approval Date	Signing Date	Effectiveness Date	Orig. Closing Date	Rev. Closing Date
P147010	IDA-55860	Effective	19-Feb-2015	06-Apr-2015	22-May-2015	30-Jun-2020	30-Jun-2020



Cumulative Disbursements



Restructuring History

There has been no restructuring to date.

Related Project(s)

There are no related projects.