



## Promoting Early Childhood Development Project (P165737)

EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA | Uzbekistan | Education Global Practice |  
IBRD/IDA | Investment Project Financing | FY 2019 | Seq No: 4 | ARCHIVED on 25-Jan-2021 | ISR44617 |

Implementing Agencies: Republic of Uzbekistan through the Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Preschool Education

### Key Dates

#### Key Project Dates

Bank Approval Date: 29-May-2019

Effectiveness Date: 13-Dec-2019

Planned Mid Term Review Date: 06-Jun-2022

Actual Mid-Term Review Date:

Original Closing Date: 31-Dec-2024

Revised Closing Date: 31-Dec-2024

### Project Development Objectives

Project Development Objective (from Project Appraisal Document)

The project development objectives are to increase access to early childhood education, improve the quality of learning environments in selected public preschools, and enable a systematic measurement of education quality for informed decision-making.

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

No

### Components Table

Name

- 1 - Improving Quality of Preschool Education:(Cost \$5.30 M)
- 2 - Increasing Access to Quality Early Learning Environments:(Cost \$50.10 M)
- 3 - Partnering with the Private Sector through a Social Impact Bond:(Cost \$11.35 M)
- 4 - Establishing an Education Quality Measurement System:(Cost \$5.90 M)
- 5 - Supporting Project Management:(Cost \$1.20 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"/> Substantial	<input type="checkbox"/> Substantial

### Implementation Status and Key Decisions

This ISR reports on the progress of implementation of the Project over the past five months. Component 1 has seen the most progress, with key preparation activities underway to support the Ministry of Preschool Education's (MPSE's) COVID-19 Response Plan. However, the project is experiencing several shortcomings that have been affecting the implementation pace across all components, including delays in the Cabinet of Minister's Resolution of the Project, and COVID-related delays (illness and travel restrictions). Several key actions have been agreed to be taken by the MPSE in the next 30 days to move key activities forward, particularly related to the purchase of equipment, furniture and teaching and learning materials for public preschools. The four COVID-19 related procurement processes under Component 1 are expected to be completed in January 2021. In addition, the teams of the World Bank and the MPSE also agreed upon holding weekly or bi-weekly meetings to discuss issues related to the SIB during the next 3-4 months.



With increased support agreed to be provided by the World Bank team to the MPSE and the Project Implementation Unit during the coming months, the implementation shortcomings should be addressed and more progress should be observed over the next six months.

## Risks

### Systematic Operations Risk-rating Tool

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

## Results

### PDO Indicators by Objectives / Outcomes

To increase access to early childhood education				
▶ Enrollment of children ages 3-7 in preschools (Percentage, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	30.00	30.00	54.00	40.00
Date	01-Aug-2018	24-Jun-2020	13-Nov-2020	31-Oct-2024
Comments:	This indicator has surpassed the end target. The enrolment rate has nearly doubled bringing it to 54 percent. Such spike is explained by the ongoing education reforms, and in this context, GoU's commitment to expand ECD service provision and increase preschool enrollment. In 2019 alone, 5,722 preschools were established – that's an average of 15 new preschools a day.			

To improve quality of learning environments in selected public preschools



► Public preschools with high-quality learning environments (Percentage, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	30.00
Date	01-Aug-2018	24-Jun-2020	13-Nov-2020	31-Oct-2024
Comments:	In process. Submission of the bidding document for the purchase of furniture, equipment and teaching and learning materials is delayed.			

To enable a systematic education quality measurement for informed decision-making

► Preschool education quality measurement system (Text, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	A system to measure preschool education quality does not exist	A system to measure preschool education quality does not exist	A system to measure preschool education quality does not exist	Systematic measurements of preschool education quality produced by the new quality assessment system are used to inform plans or policies
Date	01-Aug-2018	24-Jun-2020	13-Nov-2020	31-Oct-2024
Comments:	Three selection processes, which are fundamental for the establishment of a system to measure the quality of education in Uzbekistan are expected to be completed by January 31, 2021.			

► General secondary education quality measurement system (Text, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	A system to measure general secondary education quality under a systematic approach does not exist	A system to measure general secondary education quality under a systematic approach does not exist	A system to measure general secondary education quality under a systematic approach does not exist	Systematic measurements of general secondary education quality produced by the new quality assessment system are used to inform plans or policies
Date	01-Aug-2018	24-Jun-2020	13-Nov-2020	31-Oct-2024
Comments:	This indicator describes the status of the general secondary education quality measurement system			

**Overall Comments**

One of the PDO indicators has surpassed the end target and several of the Intermediate results indicators show good progress. However, there are delays with purchase of equipment, furniture, and teaching learning materials, as well as identification of lead contractor. The Bank team and the MPSE agreed to hold bi-weekly meetings to closely monitor the implementation of respective components.



### Intermediate Results Indicators by Components

Improving Quality in Preschool Education				
► Preschool teachers trained in child-centered approaches and other ECD-related topics through the Project (Number, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	14,000.00
Date	01-Aug-2018	24-Jun-2020	13-Nov-2020	31-Oct-2024
Comments:	This indicator is on track. An international consultant for the development of requirements and teachers' competencies for child-centered approaches to teaching has been hired.			
► Policy framework for professional development in preschool education (Text, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	Policy framework for professional development in preschool education does not exist	Policy framework for professional development in preschool education does not exist	Policy framework for professional development in preschool education does not exist	Policy framework for professional development in preschool education is approved by the Government of Uzbekistan
Date	01-Aug-2018	24-Jun-2020	13-Nov-2020	31-Oct-2024
Comments:	This indicator is on track. An international consultant has been hired for the preparation of a framework for professional development of preschool education staff, including the development of models for expanding the offer of training programs.			
► Staff of central, regional and local level preschool education institutions trained through the Project (Number, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	5,600.00
Date	01-Aug-2018	24-Jun-2020	13-Nov-2020	31-Oct-2024
Comments:	Number of staff of central, regional and local level preschool education institutions trained through the Project [end target TBD, and type of indicator to change to number, at appraisal]			
► Families' awareness about the importance of early childhood development (Percentage, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	50.00
Date	01-Aug-2018	24-Jun-2020	13-Nov-2020	31-Oct-2024
Comments:	This indicator measures the increase in the awareness of families about the importance of early childhood development			



► Stakeholder forums conducted in support of cross-sectoral coordination for holistic ECD initiatives (Number, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	4.00
Date	01-Aug-2018	24-Jun-2020	13-Nov-2020	31-Oct-2024
Comments:	This indicator measures the number of project supported stakeholder forums conducted in support of cross-sectoral coordination for holistic ECD initiatives			

Increasing Access to Quality Early Learning Environments				
► New children aged 3-7 enrolled in better equipped preschools (Number, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,080,000.00
Date	01-Aug-2018	24-Jun-2020	13-Nov-2020	31-Oct-2024
Comments:	This indicator measure the number of new children aged 3-7 enrolled in better equipped preschools. Better equipped preschools are those that benefited from modern and child-friendly equipment, furniture, and teaching and learning materials procured with project funds. New children enrolled are those enrolled after the effectiveness of the Project.			
► New female children aged 3-7 enrolled in better equipped preschools (Number, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	540,000.00
Date	01-Aug-2018	24-Jun-2020	13-Nov-2020	31-Oct-2024
Comments:	This indicator measure the number of new female children aged 3-7 enrolled in better equipped preschools. Better equipped preschools are those that benefited from modern and child-friendly equipment, furniture, and teaching and learning materials procured with project funds. New female children enrolled are those enrolled after the effectiveness of the Project.			
► Better equipped preschool classrooms (Number, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	10,800.00
Date	01-Aug-2018	24-Jun-2020	13-Nov-2020	31-Oct-2024
Comments:	This indicator measures the number of better equipped preschool classrooms. Better equipped preschool classrooms are those that benefited from modern and child-friendly equipment, furniture, and teaching and learning materials procured with project funds.			
► Families benefitting from home visits supported by the Project (Number, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	800.00



Date	01-Aug-2018	24-Jun-2020	13-Nov-2020	31-Oct-2024
Comments:	This indicator measures the number of families benefiting from the home visiting program supported by the Project.			
<b>► Early learning playgroups implemented through the Project (Number, Custom)</b>				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	80.00
Date	01-Aug-2018	24-Jun-2020	13-Nov-2020	31-Oct-2024
Comments:	This indicator measures the number of early learning playgroups implemented through the Project.			
<b>► Evaluation of alternative models of ECD service provision (Text, Custom)</b>				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	Evaluation of alternative models has not been carried out	Evaluation of alternative models has not been carried out	Evaluation of alternative models has not been carried out	Results from an evaluation of alternative models are used to inform decisions
Date	01-Aug-2018	24-Jun-2020	13-Nov-2020	31-Oct-2024
Comments:	This indicator is on track. An international consultant has been hired to provide technical assistance for the design and implementation of the envisioned alternative models.			
<b>► Perception of change in gender norms of parents benefiting from the community-based program (Percentage, Custom)</b>				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	30.00
Date	01-Aug-2018	24-Jun-2020	13-Nov-2020	31-Oct-2024
Comments:	This indicator measures the perception of change in shared parental (of both fathers and mothers) engagement in the community-based program (early learning playgroups), including the role of men in this type of program			
<b>► Beneficiary feedback managed through the Engaged ECD Pilot (Text, Custom)</b>				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	Engaged ECD Pilot does not exist and does not manage beneficiary feedback	Engaged ECD Pilot does not exist and does not manage beneficiary feedback	Engaged ECD Pilot does not exist and does not manage beneficiary feedback	Beneficiary feedback collected through Engaged ECD Pilot is used to inform decisions
Date	01-Aug-2018	24-Jun-2020	13-Nov-2020	31-Oct-2024
Comments:	This indicator describes the status of the management of beneficiary feedback collected through the project-supported Engaged ECD Pilot			



Partnering with the Private Sector through a Social Impact Bond				
▶ Lead contractor and independent evaluator (Text, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	Lead contractor and independent evaluator are not identified	Lead contractor and independent evaluator are not identified	Lead contractor and independent evaluator are not identified	Lead contractor and independent evaluator are hired and playing their roles as defined in the SIB Operations Manual
Date	01-Aug-2018	24-Jun-2020	13-Nov-2020	31-Jan-2020
Comments:	This indicator describes the operational status of two key SIB players: the lead contractor and the independent evaluator			
▶ Operating SIB preschools (Number, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	140.00
Date	01-Aug-2018	24-Jun-2020	13-Nov-2020	31-Oct-2024
Comments:	This indicator measures the number of operating SIB preschools			

Students benefiting from direct interventions to enhance learning				
▶ Students benefiting from direct interventions to enhance learning (Number, Corporate)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	741,943.00	--	1,400,000.00	2,200,000.00
Date	02-Jan-2018	--	13-Jan-2021	02-Jan-2024
□ Students benefiting from direct interventions to enhance learning - Female (Number, Corporate Supplement)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	370,971.00	--	700,000.00	1,100,000.00

Establishing an Education Quality Measurement System				
▶ National center for education quality monitoring and measuring (Text, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	A national center for education quality monitoring and measuring does not exist	A national center for education quality monitoring and measuring does not exist	A national center for education quality monitoring and measuring is	A national center for education quality monitoring and measuring is



			established and operational.	established and operational
Date	01-Aug-2018	24-Jun-2020	13-Nov-2020	31-Dec-2020
Comments:	This indicator describes the status of the national center for education quality monitoring and measuring			
► Existing national assessments of student learning outcomes (Text, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	Existing national assessments of student learning outcomes are not aligned with international good practices, are not standardized, and are not used under a systematic approach	Existing national assessments of student learning outcomes are not aligned with international good practices, are not standardized, and are not used under a systematic approach	Existing national assessments of student learning outcomes are not aligned with international good practices, are not standardized, and are not used under a systematic approach	Completion of an action plan for reviewing and modernizing existing national assessments of student learning outcomes
Date	01-Aug-2018	24-Jun-2020	13-Nov-2020	30-Jun-2021
Comments:	This indicator describes the status of existing national assessments of student learning outcomes			

Large-scale primary/secondary learning assessments completed				
► Large-scale primary/secondary learning assessments completed (Yes/No, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	No	--	No	Yes
Date	01-Dec-2020	--	13-Jan-2021	02-Jan-2024

### Performance-Based Conditions

#### Data on Financial Performance

##### Disbursements (by loan)

Project	Loan/Credit/TF	Status	Currency	Original	Revised	Cancelled	Disbursed	Undisbursed	% Disbursed
P165737	IDA-64180	Effective	USD	59.50	59.50	0.00	1.15	58.35	1.9%
P165737	TF-B0057	Effective	USD	9.50	9.50	0.00	0.64	8.86	6.7%
P165737	TF-B0058	Effective	USD	4.85	4.85	0.00	0.00	4.85	0%

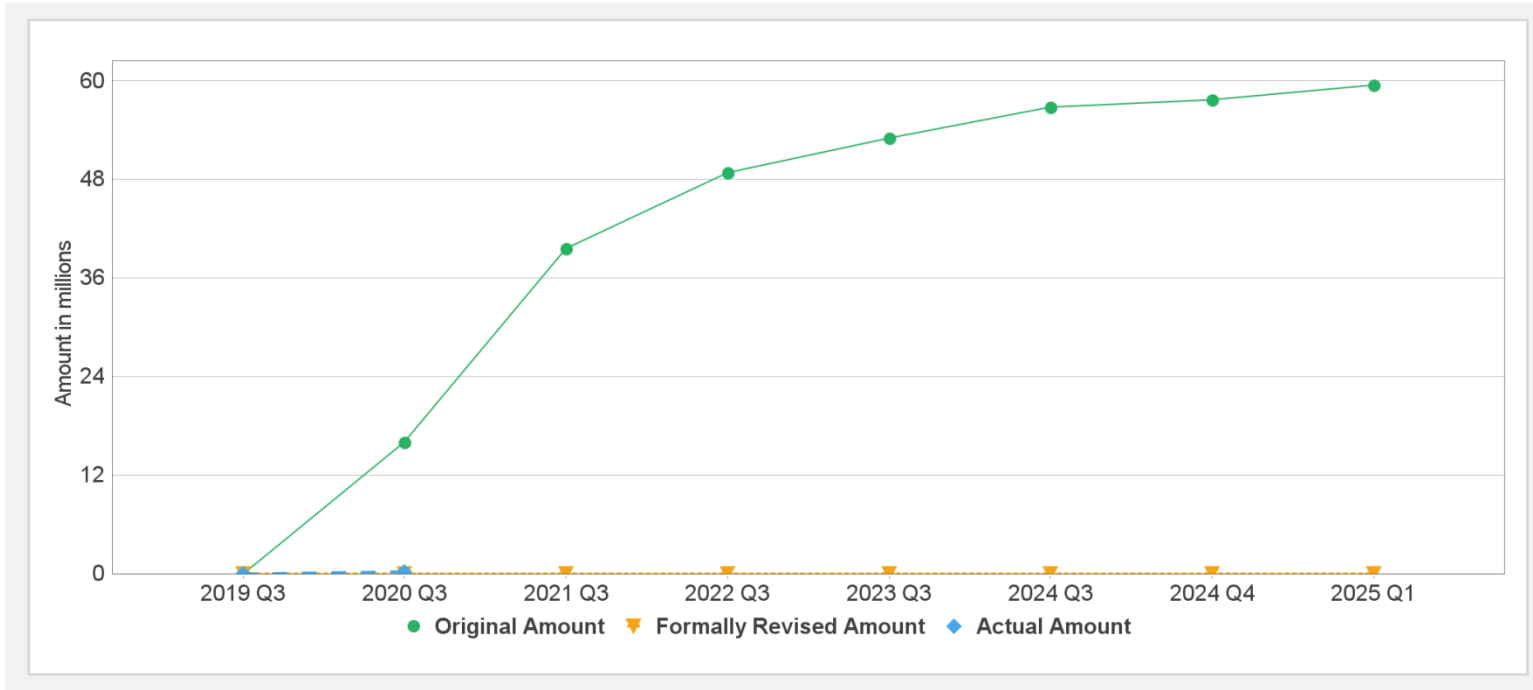
##### Key Dates (by loan)





Project	Loan/Credit/TF	Status	Approval Date	Signing Date	Effectiveness Date	Orig. Closing Date	Rev. Closing Date
P165737	IDA-64180	Effective	29-May-2019	19-Jul-2019	13-Dec-2019	31-Dec-2024	31-Dec-2024
P165737	TF-B0057	Effective	19-Jul-2019	19-Jul-2019	13-Dec-2019	31-Dec-2024	31-Dec-2024
P165737	TF-B0058	Effective	19-Jul-2019	19-Jul-2019	13-Dec-2019	30-Jun-2024	30-Jun-2024

**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**

There has been no restructuring to date.

**Related Project(s)**

There are no related projects.