
GPEF GRANT NUMBER TF0C0143

Global Partnership for Education Fund
Grant Agreement

(Strengthening Primary Education System Program)

between

REPUBLIC OF CÔTE D'IVOIRE

and

INTERNATIONAL BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT

Acting as administrator of the Global Partnership for Education Fund

GPEF GRANT NUMBER TF0C0143

GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP FOR EDUCATION FUND GRANT AGREEMENT

AGREEMENT dated as of the Signature Date between REPUBLIC OF CÔTE D'IVOIRE ("Recipient") and INTERNATIONAL BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT ("Bank"), acting as administrator of Global Partnership for Education Fund.

WHEREAS (A) the Recipient has requested financing to contribute to the financing of the activities listed in Schedule 1 to this Agreement.

(B) The Bank has agreed to contribute to such financing using:

- (i) a credit, to be provided by the Bank pursuant to the Financing Agreement for the financing of the Project (as such term is defined in the Financing Agreement) and a portion of the Program; and
- (ii) a grant, provided by the Global Partnership for Education pursuant to this Agreement between the Recipient and the Bank acting as an administrator for the Global Partnership for Education Fund; whose funds are to be allocated to the financing of a portion of the Program.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Recipient and the Bank hereby agree as follows:

**Article I
Standard Conditions; Definitions**

- 1.01. The Standard Conditions (as defined in the Appendix to this Agreement) apply to and form part of this Agreement.
- 1.02. Unless the context requires otherwise, the capitalized terms used in this Agreement have the meanings ascribed to them in the Standard Conditions or in the Appendix to this Agreement.

**Article II
The Program**

- 2.01. The Recipient declares its commitment to the objectives of the program described in Schedule 1 to this Agreement. ("Program"). To this end, the Recipient shall carry out the Program in accordance with the provisions of Article II of the Standard Conditions and Schedule 2 to this Agreement.

**Article III
The Grant**

- 3.01. The Bank agrees to extend to the Recipient a grant in an amount not to exceed fourteen million seven hundred thousand United States Dollars (\$14,700,000) ("Grant") to assist in financing the Program.
- 3.02. The Recipient may withdraw the proceeds of the Grant in accordance with Section IV of Schedule 2 to this Agreement.
- 3.03. The Grant is funded out of the abovementioned trust fund for which the Bank receives periodic contributions from the donors to the trust fund. In accordance with Section 3.02 of the Standard Conditions, the Bank's payment obligations in connection with this Agreement are limited to the amount of funds made available to it by the donors under the abovementioned trust fund, and the Recipient's right to withdraw the Grant proceeds is subject to the availability of such funds.

**Article IV
Effectiveness; Termination**

- 4.01. The Agreement shall not become effective until evidence satisfactory to the Bank has been furnished to the Bank that the condition specified below have been satisfied:
 - (a) The execution and delivery of this Agreement on behalf of the Recipient have been duly authorized or ratified by all necessary governmental action.
- 4.02. By signing this Agreement, the Recipient shall be deemed to represent and warrant that on the Signature Date, the Agreement has been duly authorized by, and executed and delivered on behalf of, the Recipient and is legally binding upon the Recipient in accordance with its terms, except where additional action is required to make such Agreement legally binding. Where additional action is required following the Signature Date, the Recipient shall notify the Bank when such additional action has been taken. By providing such notification, the Recipient shall be deemed to represent and warrant that on the date of such notification the Grant Agreement is legally binding upon the Recipient in accordance with its terms.
- 4.03. Except as the Recipient and the Bank shall otherwise agree, this Agreement shall enter into effect on the date upon which the Bank dispatches to the Recipient notice of its acceptance of the evidence required pursuant to Section 4.01 ("Effective Date"). If, before the Effective Date, any event has occurred which would have entitled the Bank to suspend the right of the Recipient to make withdrawals from the Grant Account if this Agreement had been effective, the Bank may postpone the dispatch of the notice referred to in this Section until such event (or events) has (or have) ceased to exist.

- 4.04. This Agreement and all obligations of the parties under it shall terminate if it has not entered into effect by the date ninety (90) days after the date of this Agreement, unless the Bank, after consideration of the reasons for the delay, establishes a later date for the purpose of this Section. The Bank shall promptly notify the Recipient of such later date.

Article V
Recipient's Representative; Addresses

- 5.01. The Recipient's Representative referred to in Section 7.02 of the Standard Conditions is the Recipient's minister in charge of finance.
- 5.02. For purposes of Section 7.01 of the Standard Conditions: (a) the Recipient's address is:

Ministry of Economy and Finance
Avenue Marchand X Rue Lecoer
Immeuble SCIAM
BP V 163 Abidjan
Côte d'Ivoire; and

- (b) the Recipient's Electronic Address is:

Facsimile:	E-mail:
(+225) 27 20 30 25 28	c.infomef@finances.gouv.ci

- 5.03. For purposes of Section 7.01 of the Standard Conditions: (a) the Bank's address is:

International Bank for Reconstruction and Development
1818 H Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20433
United States of America; and

- (b) the Bank's Electronic Address is:

Telex:	Facsimile:	E-mail
248423 (MCI) or 64145 (MCI)	1-202-477-6391	bureaudirecteur@worldbank.org

AGREED as of the Signature Date.

REPUBLIC OF CÔTE D'IVOIRE

By



[Handwritten signature]

Authorized Representative

Name: Adama COULIBALY

Title: _____

Date: January 20, 2023

INTERNATIONAL BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT
Acting as administrator of Global Partnership for Education Fund

By

[Handwritten signature]

Authorized Representative

Name: Coralie Gevers

Title: Country Director

Date: January 20, 2023

SCHEDULE 1

Program Description

The objectives of the Operation are to improve: (a) equitable access to education and health services in pre- and primary schools, (b) learning outcomes, and (c) performance-based management along the service delivery chain.

Part 1: The Program

Result Area 1: Improving equitable access to preprimary and primary education in a safe environment

- 1.1 Providing support to a health and nutrition campaign in favor of young learners enrolled in preschool and the first two grades of primary school and a family literacy program on nutrition and parental education awareness, including community practices promoting health and nutrition needs of pregnant women and adolescents, child survival, growth and development, cognitive stimulation, social support to young children, hygiene and sanitation, household food diversification, health care-seeking behavior and gender-based violence awareness.
- 1.2 Increasing access to schools by supporting an expanded construction program through an improved planning tool and construction by the government and the communities.
- 1.3 Promoting inclusive education for children by: (a) supporting the integration of Islamic schools into formal education system; and (b) supporting children with sensory disabilities.

Result Area 2: Improving the quality of teaching and classroom practices

- 2.1 Providing support for: (a) the implementation of the PNAPAS; (b) the implementation of the national strategy for initial and in-service teacher training; and (c) learning assessments; through the dissemination of pedagogical materials to teachers and students and the implementation of standardized evaluations.
- 2.2 Validating and implementing the Recipient's new training strategy, by supporting (a) the adjustment of the initial teacher training curriculum; (b) the validation of in-service teacher training strategy; (c) in-service teacher training, with increasing use of technologies; and (d) the reinforcement of tools and mechanism for accompanying and coaching teachers in their new classroom practices.

Result Area 3: Strengthening management capacity and accountability throughout the service delivery chain

- 3.1 Providing support for (a) the institutionalization of a support and coordination unit within MENA; (b) the recruitment of teachers for pre-primary and primary schools based on each regions' specific needs; and (c) the implementation of OPC-DRENAs, and the establishment of a mechanism for monitoring education structures within the framework of OPCs in the Educational Zones.

SCHEDULE 2

Program Execution

Section I. Implementation Arrangements

A. Program Institutions

1. The Recipient shall, no later than two (2) months after the Effective Date, set up and thereafter maintain in MENA throughout the implementation of the Program, a strategic body to technically support and coordinate all initiatives from the Recipient and its financial and technical partners under MENA's authority (the "Technical and Coordination Body"). Once established, the Technical and Coordination Body shall support and coordinate the planning, budgeting and implementation of the activities under the Program.
2. The Recipient shall, not later than three (3) months after the Effective Date, set up under MENA and thereafter maintain throughout the period of implementation of the Operation a committee ("Steering Committee"), which shall be responsible for, *inter alia*, reviewing the Program's progress and its strategic relevance in the context of the relevant government plans; and making recommendations to relevant stakeholders.
3. The Recipient shall maintain throughout the period of implementation of the Program, the Technical Committee, with terms of reference and composition satisfactory to the Bank, including focal points from various structures, relevant to the implementation the Program.

B. Operation Manual

1. The Recipient shall prepare and adopt no later than one (1) month after the Effective Date, a manual for the Program ("Operation Manual"), in a manner and substance satisfactory to the Bank, and thereafter ensure the Program is carried out in accordance with such manual. The Operation Manual shall set forth the institutional, administrative, financial, technical and operational guidelines and procedures for the implementation of the Program including: (a) the definition of the contours of the Program, including results framework, overall budget and detailed Program Expenditures; (b) detailed environmental and social risk mitigation measures and documents; (c) financial management protocols and standards; (d) detailed guidelines for the administration and flow of funds; (e) procurement arrangements; (f) the verification protocol agreed with the Bank for evaluating the achievement of the DLIs and their respective DLRs; and (g) monitoring and evaluation requirements, including independent verification systems for the Program.

2. The Recipient shall refrain from materially and/or substantially amending, revising, waiving, voiding abrogating or suspending any provision of the Operation Manual, whether in whole or in part, without the prior written concurrence of the Bank.
3. In the event of any inconsistency between a provision of the Operation Manual and those of this Agreement, the provisions of this Agreement shall prevail.

C. Additional Program Implementation Arrangements

1. Without limitation upon the generality of Part A of this Section I, the Recipient shall carry out the Program Action Plan agreed with the Bank, in accordance with the schedule set out in the said Program Action Plan, and in a manner satisfactory to the Bank.
2. Except as the Bank shall otherwise agree, the Recipient shall not amend, abrogate, waive, suspend or fail to enforce any provision of the PAP without the prior written agreement of the Bank.
3. In case of any conflict between the terms of the PAP and this Agreement, the terms of this Agreement shall prevail.

D. Independent Verification Agents for the Program

1. The Recipient shall:
 - (a) appoint by not later than three (3) months after the Effective date, and thereafter maintain at all time during the implementation of the Program, one or more independent verification agents, each with experience and qualifications and under terms of reference acceptable to the Bank (the "Verification Agents"), to: (i) verify the data and other evidence supporting the achievement of the DLIs/DLRs, as set forth in the verification protocol included in the Operation Manual ("Verification Protocol"); and (ii) recommend corresponding disbursements to be made, as applicable, pursuant to Section IV hereinbelow; and
 - (b) (i) ensure that the Verification Agents carry out the DLIs/DLRs' verification process(es) in accordance with the Verification Protocol; and (ii) submit to the Bank the corresponding verification reports in a timely manner (at least once a year), and in form and substance satisfactory to the Bank.

Section II. Excluded Activities

The Recipient shall ensure that the Program excludes any activities which:

- A. in the opinion of the Bank, are likely to have significant adverse impacts that are sensitive, diverse, or unprecedented on the environment and/or affected people; or
- B. involve the procurement of: (1) works, estimated to cost seventy-five million Dollars (USD 75,000,000) equivalent or more per contract; (2) goods, estimated to cost fifty million Dollars (USD 50,000,000) equivalent or more per contract; (3) non-consulting services, estimated to cost fifty million Dollars (USD 50,000,000) equivalent or more per contract; or (4) consulting services, estimated to cost twenty million Dollars (USD 20,000,000) equivalent or more per contract.

Section III. Program Monitoring, Reporting and Evaluation

A. Program Reports

The Recipient shall ensure that each Program Report is furnished to the Bank not later than forty-five (45) days after the end of each calendar semester, covering the calendar semester.

Section IV. Withdrawal of Grant Proceeds

A. General

- 1. The Recipient may withdraw the proceeds of the Grant in accordance with the provisions of Article III of the Standard Conditions, this Section, and such additional instructions as the Bank may specify from time to time by notice to the Recipient to finance Program Expenditures (inclusive of Taxes), on the basis of the results (“Disbursement Linked Results” or “DLRs”) achieved by the Recipient, as measured against specific indicators (“Disbursement Linked Indicators” or “DLIs”); all as set forth in the table in paragraph 2 of this Part A.
- 2. The following table specifies each category of withdrawal of the proceeds of the Grant (“Category”), the Disbursement Linked Results for each Category (as applicable), and the allocation of the amounts of the Grant to each Category:

Category (including Disbursement Linked Indicator as applicable) (*)	Disbursement Linked Result (as applicable)	Formula for the determination of the Amount of the Financing Available (expressed in USD)	Amount of the Financing Allocated (expressed in USD)
(1) DLI #3: MENA has supported children as part	3.1: By Year 1, MENA has validated its national inclusive education strategy.	N/A	700,000

of its national inclusive education strategy	3.2: In Year 3, MENA provided specific learning materials to visually/hard of hearing students enrolled in school	100,000 for each percentage point above 10% of visually impaired / hearing impaired students enrolled in school who have received the specific equipment; up to a maximum aggregate amount of 5,000,000	5,000,000
	3.3: In Year 4, MENA provided specific learning materials to visually/hard of hearing students enrolled in school.	N/A	1,000,000
(2) DLI #4. PNAPAS is implemented throughout Côte d'Ivoire	4.2: In Year 2, MENA has delivered to preprimary, CP1 and CP2 classes pedagogical package no later than two months after the start of the school year.	1,250,000 when 60% preprimary, CP1 and CP2 classes have received pedagogical package, plus 250,000 for each additional 10 %, up to a maximum aggregate amount of 2,000,000	2,000,000
	4.3 In Year 3, MENA has delivered to preprimary, CP1, CP2 and CE1 classes pedagogical package no later than two months after the start of the school year	1,250,000 when 60% preprimary, CP1, CP2 and CE1 classes have received the pedagogical package, plus 250,000 for each additional 10 % up to a maximum aggregate amount of 2,000,000	2,000,000
	4.4 In Year 4, MENA has delivered to preprimary, CP1, CP2, CE1 and CE2 classes the pedagogical package no later than two	1,250,000 when 60% preprimary, CP1, CP2, CE1 and CE2 classes have received the pedagogical package, plus 250,000 for each	2,000,000

	months after the start of the school year	additional 10 % up to a maximum aggregate amount of 2,000,000	
(3) DLI #6: Learning outcomes are improved for grade 3 students in reading/writing and mathematical skills	6.4 In Year 4, CE1 graders meet the minimum reading/writing threshold of competency	500,000 when 40% of CE1 graders meet the minimum reading/writing threshold, plus 25,000 for each additional 1 % up to a maximum aggregate amount of 1,000,000	1,000,000
	6.5: In Year 4, CE1 graders meet the minimum threshold of competency in mathematics	500,000 when 70% of CE1 graders meet the minimum math threshold, plus 50,000 for each additional 1% up to a maximum aggregate amount of 1,000,000	1,000,000
TOTAL AMOUNT			14,700,000

(*) some DLI and DLR numbers are intentionally omitted to ensure consistency in the numbering of DLIs and DLRs between this Agreement and the Financing Agreement.

B. Withdrawal Conditions; Withdrawal Period

1. Notwithstanding the provisions of Part A of this Section, no withdrawal shall be made:
 - (a) on the basis of DLRs achieved prior to the Signature Date; and
 - (b) for any DLR under Category (1), (2) or (3), until and unless the Recipient has furnished evidence satisfactory to the Bank that said DLR has been achieved.

2. Notwithstanding the provisions of Part B.1(b) of this Section, if any of the DLRs has not been achieved by the date by which the said DLR is set to be achieved (or such later date as the Bank has established by notice to the Recipient), the Bank may, by notice to the Recipient: (a) reallocate all or a portion of the proceeds of the Grant then allocated to said DLR to any other DLR ; and/or (b) cancel all or a portion of the proceeds of the Grant then allocated to said DLR.

3. The Closing Date is May 31, 2027.

APPENDIX

Definitions

1. "Anti-Corruption Guidelines" means, for purposes of paragraph 2 of the Appendix to the Standard Conditions, the "Guidelines on Preventing and Combating Fraud and Corruption in Program-for-Results Financing", dated February 1, 2012, and revised July 10, 2015.
2. "Category" means a category set forth in the table in Section IV.A.2 of Schedule 2 to this Agreement.
3. "CE1" means *Cours Élémentaire Première Année*, the Recipient's third grade in school.
4. "CE2" means *Cours Élémentaire Deuxième Année*, the Recipient's fourth grade in school.
5. "Côte d'Ivoire" means the Recipient's territory.
6. "CP1" means *Cours Préparatoire Première Année*, the Recipient's first grade in school.
7. "CP2" means *Cours Préparatoire Deuxième Année*, the Recipient's second grade in school.
8. "Disbursement Linked Indicator" or "DLI" means in respect of a given Category, the indicator related to said Category as set forth in the table in Section IV.A.2 of Schedule 2 to this Agreement.
9. "Disbursement Linked Result" or "DLR" means in respect of a given Category, the result under said Category as set forth in the table in Section IV.A.2 of Schedule 2 to this Agreement, on the basis of the achievement of which, the amount of the Grant allocated to said result may be withdrawn in accordance with the provisions of said Section IV.
10. "Educational Zone" means a geographic area that represents at least two DRENA and describes the scope of coordination activities of MENA's general inspectorate for a local management in the region.
11. "Financing Agreement" means the agreement entered into between the Recipient and the International Development Association (Credit No. 72560-CI) on the Signature Date, referred to in Paragraph (B)(i) of the Preamble to this Agreement.

12. “MENA” means *Ministère De l’Education Nationale Et De l’Alphabétisation*; the Recipient’s ministry in charge of national education and literacy; or any successor thereto.
13. “OPC” means objective and performance contract.
14. “OPC-DRENA” means an objective and performance contract signed between MENA and a DRENA which applies to such DRENA.
15. “Operation Manual” means the manual to be prepared by the Recipient in accordance with the provisions of Section I.B of Schedule 2 to this Agreement.
16. “PNAPAS” means *Programme National d’Appui Aux Premiers Apprentissages* the Recipient’s national early learning program.
17. “Program Action Plan” or “PAP” means the Recipient’s plan dated November 16, 2022 containing steps and timelines for the strengthening of its systems to support the implementation of the Program and referred to in Section I.C.1 of Schedule 2 to this Agreement, as may be amended from time to time with the agreement of the Bank.
18. “Signature Date” means the later of the two dates on which the Recipient and the Bank signed this Agreement and such definition applies to all references to “the date of the Grant Agreement” in the Standard Conditions.
19. “Standard Conditions” means the “International Bank for Reconstruction and Development and International Development Association Standard Conditions for Program-for-Results Financing Made by the Bank out of Trust Funds”, dated December 14, 2019.
20. “Steering Committee” means the committee to be established by the Recipient in accordance with Section I.A.2 of Schedule 2 to this Agreement.
21. “Technical and Coordination Body” means the unit to be established by the Recipient in accordance with Section I.A.1 of Schedule 2 to this Agreement.
22. “Technical Committee” means the committee established by the Recipient in accordance with Section I.A.3 of Schedule 2 to this Agreement.
23. “Verification Agents” means one or more external independent auditor recruited through a competitive selection process by the Recipient in accordance with Section I.D.1(a) of Schedule 2 to this Agreement.
24. “Verification Protocol” means the Recipient’s protocol included in the Operation Manual, acceptable to the Bank, setting forth the means by which the achievement

of DLRs will be verified under the Program, as such Verification Protocol may be amended from time to time with the prior written agreement of the Bank.

25. "Year" means a calendar year from January 1 to December 31, with Year 1 starting on January 1, 2023, Year 2 on January 1, 2024, Year 3 on January 1, 2025, Year 4 on January 1, 2026, and Year 5 on January 1, 2027.