



## Higher Education Project (P167790)

EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA | Moldova | Education Global Practice |  
IBRD/IDA | Investment Project Financing | FY 2020 | Seq No: 5 | ARCHIVED on 23-Jun-2022 | ISR51768 |

Implementing Agencies: Ministry of Education 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"/> Moderate	<input type="checkbox"/> Moderate

### Implementation Status and Key Decisions

The project is progressing satisfactorily despite delays at the onset of implementation, the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic challenges, and the new ones imposed by the war in Ukraine. Positive progress is now being observed, with the following key activities underway:

1. Preparation for the Quality Assurance Agency to be registered in the European Quality Assurance Register (Component 1), which is fundamental for the recognition of diplomas issued by Moldovan universities in Europe;
2. Contract signing with the selected institutions under the Higher Education Improvement Program (Component 2) to raise the labor market relevance of the trainings in the selected areas of Pedagogy, Engineering, IT and Medicine; and
3. Initiation of a Graduate Tracer Study by the National Institute for Economic Research.

The project remains on track towards achievement of the Project Development Objectives.



## Risks

### Systematic Operations Risk-rating Tool

Risk Category	Rating at Approval	Previous Rating	Current Rating
Political and Governance	High	Moderate	Moderate
Macroeconomic	High	Moderate	Moderate
Sector Strategies and Policies	High	Moderate	Moderate
Technical Design of Project or Program	Substantial	Moderate	Moderate
Institutional Capacity for Implementation and Sustainability	Substantial	Substantial	Substantial
Fiduciary	High	Substantial	Substantial
Environment and Social	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate
Stakeholders	High	Substantial	Substantial
Other	--	Moderate	Substantial
Overall	High	Moderate	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	14-Dec-2021	06-May-2022	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	14-Dec-2021	06-May-2022	31-Dec-2025
Comments:	On March 28, 2022, the contract was signed with the firm to conduct the survey to calculate the baseline for this indicator.			

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	14-Dec-2021	06-May-2022	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	14-Dec-2021	06-May-2022	31-Dec-2025
Comments:	On May 6, 2022, the application was sent to ENQA and EQAR.			

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	29.00	55.00	300.00
Date	01-Oct-2019	14-Dec-2021	06-May-2022	31-Dec-2025
Comments:	Currently, 55 qualification standards are developed in 4 fields of study (administrative sciences - 3 standards, economic sciences - 26 standards, law - 4 standards, manufacturing and processing technologies - 23 standards). On March 25, 2022, the procurement process has been launched to hire institutions/companies to develop qualification standards in 14 fields of study.			

► 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	14-Dec-2021	06-May-2022	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.			
<b>► Higher education students benefiting from systemic interventions in quality, information systems and financing (Number, Custom)</b>				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	47,287.00	47,287.00	91,000.00
Date	01-Oct-2019	14-Dec-2021	06-May-2022	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 Government Decision no.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	28,372.00	28,372.00	53,000.00
<b>► Staff of MoECR, NAQAER and higher education institutions trained in higher education quality assurance through the Project (Number, Custom)</b>				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	230.00
Date	01-Oct-2019	14-Dec-2021	06-May-2022	31-Dec-2025
Comments:	An international consultant has been hired and will provide training to 200 specialists of higher education intuitions in quality assurance from June 21 to June 25, 2022.			
<b>► New financial model (Text, Custom)</b>				
	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	14-Dec-2021	06-May-2022	31-Dec-2025
Comments:	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.			



► 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	14-Dec-2021	06-May-2022	31-Dec-2025
Comments:	On November 15, 2021, an IT specialist has been hired who currently is developing the ToRs for the development of HEMIS. The ToR for HEMIS development is to be ready in July 2022.			
► 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	14-Dec-2021	06-May-2022	31-Dec-2025
Comments:	On November 22, 2021, an IT specialist has been hired who currently is developing the ToRs for the development of the e-Admission system. The ToR is to be ready in July 2022.			
► 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	14-Dec-2021	06-May-2022	31-Dec-2025
Comments:	In March 2022, an international and local consultant have been hired who currently are analyzing and working on the ToR for LMIS system development.			

## 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	14-Dec-2021	06-May-2022	31-Dec-2025
Comments:	Currently, the project proposals have been evaluated and the selected institutions are to be announced.			
► 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	14-Dec-2021	06-May-2022	31-Dec-2025
Comments:	Currently, the project proposals are evaluated. After the selection of the institutions, it will be calculated the percentage of higher education improvement programs approved in accordance with the criteria established in the HEIPOM.			
<b>► Students benefiting from direct interventions to enhance learning (Number, Corporate)</b>				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	49,000.00
Date	01-Oct-2019	14-Dec-2021	06-May-2022	31-Dec-2025
Comments:	Currently, the project proposals are evaluated. After the selection of the institutions, it will be calculated the number of students benefiting from direct interventions to enhance learning, based on the HEIP's beneficiaries data.			
<b>□ Students benefiting from direct interventions to enhance learning - Female (Number, Corporate Supplement)</b>				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	29,000.00
<b>► Partnerships between universities, pedagogical colleges and employers established through the HEIP (Number, Custom)</b>				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	15.00
Date	01-Oct-2019	14-Dec-2021	06-May-2022	31-Dec-2025
Comments:	Currently, the project proposals are evaluated.			
<b>► Share of women enrolled in STEM programs developed or improved through the HEIP (Percentage, Custom)</b>				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	20.00
Date	01-Oct-2019	14-Dec-2021	06-May-2022	31-Dec-2025
Comments:	Currently, the project proposals are evaluated.			
<b>► Research or academic programs contributing to climate change adaptation or mitigation developed or improved through the HEIP (Number, Custom)</b>				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	4.00



Date	01-Oct-2019	14-Dec-2021	06-May-2022	31-Dec-2025
Comments:	Currently, the project proposals are evaluated.			

### 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	14-Dec-2021	06-May-2022	31-Dec-2025
Comments:	The procurement process to hire a firm to conduct a survey with Project beneficiaries to determine if effective engagement processes have been established has been launched. Currently, the bids received are being evaluated.			

### Performance-Based Conditions

#### Data on Financial Performance

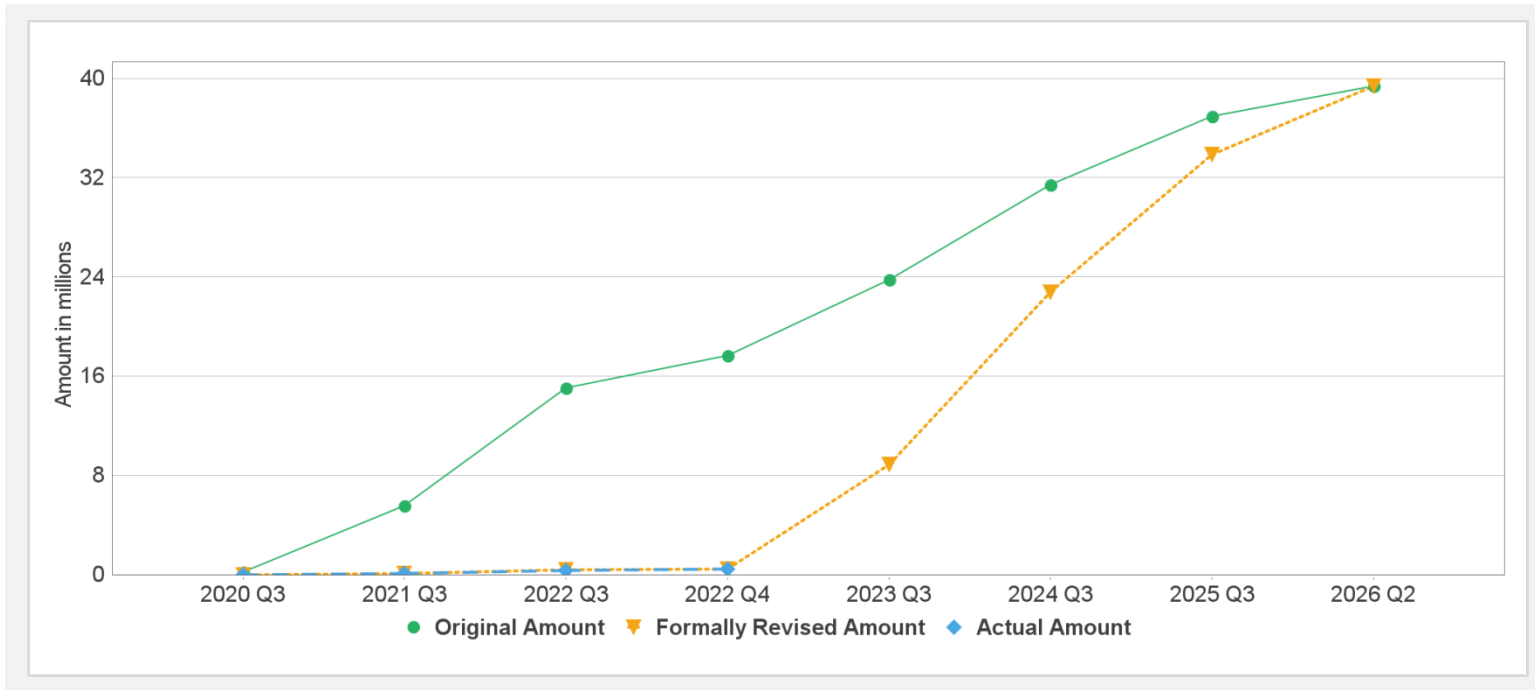
#### Disbursements (by loan)

Project	Loan/Credit/TF	Status	Currency	Original	Revised	Cancelled	Disbursed	Undisbursed	% Disbursed
P167790	IDA-65420	Effective	USD	39.40	39.40	0.00	0.43	37.10	1.1%

#### 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



### Restructuring History

There has been no restructuring to date.

### Related Project(s)

There are no related projects.