



Nurturing Excellence in Higher Education Program for Results (P171516)

SOUTH ASIA | Nepal | Education Global Practice | Requesting Unit: SACSN | Responsible Unit: HSAED
IBRD/IDA | Program-for-Results Financing | FY 2021 | Team Leader(s): Mohan Prasad Aryal, Shiro Nakata, Tazeen Fasih

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Program Development Objectives

Program Development Objective (from Program Appraisal Document)

The Program Development Objectives are to strengthen labor market relevance and quality of higher education, boost collaborative research and innovation, and enhance equitable access for underprivileged and disaster affected groups.

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

Implementation Status and Key Decisions

The NEHEP Program strategically supports a sub-set of the Government National Higher Education Program (NHEP) of US\$1.15 billion for six years including the base year (2021). The amount also includes US\$60 million IDA Credit. The IDA Credit has two components: Component 1 (US\$ 57 million) uses the Program for Results approach and Component 2 (US\$3 million) applies the Investment Project Financing (IPF). The PforR boundary is US\$603.04 million, which will be financed by the Government financing of US\$543.04 million and IDA Credit of US\$60 million. The PforR supports through results-based financing (Disbursement Linked Indicators - DLIs) under four Results Areas clustered around six DLIs and 17 Disbursement Linked Results.

The program also covers cross-cutting issues particularly, gender, climate change, and citizen engagement. The program targets on these cross-cutting issues are in-built with the results indicators (PDO indicators, intermediate results indicators, and disbursement linked indicators).

A program action plan (PAP) has been prepared to facilitate the implementation. The PAP includes key activities/actions agreed with the Government to achieve Program objectives and results. The PAP also includes actions to address the issues of gender-based violence, sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA)/sexual harassments (SH), and violence against women (VAW).

The IPF component supports program management and M&E activities and provides key capacity building of the higher education stakeholders.

The UGC is finalizing of the two first year DLRs mapped to Result Area 1. These include standards, operational policies and guidelines for (i) faculty competency development and academic leadership sensitization (DLR 1.1), and (ii) collaborative research and entrepreneurship programs (DLR 2.1).

While the QAA Guideline as a living document is in place, the UGC is also working towards finalization of guidelines/ framework for Quality Enhancement which will be implemented by the selected accredited HEIs. The revised draft of the standards, operational policies and guidelines (SOPG) for higher education digitization, connectivity, and implementation procedure that UGC has prepared is also under finalization.

The first implementation review, support consultation discussed the importance for the SAR countries to exploit the benefits of regional cooperation in higher education. It was recognized that the functional Committee of the Heads of the UGC/equivalent bodies in SAR, and the Governing body of the South Asian University could be the possible platforms to initiate the collaboration. The Nepal UGC Chairperson, also the Chair of both of the existing platforms, has agreed to work towards the "Kathmandu Process" in fostering regional collaboration in association with the World Bank. The consultation agreed to organize a UGC (Nepal) - World Bank joint regional workshop in the second half of February 2022.



Citizen Engagement. UGC has developed Stakeholder Engagement Plan (SEP) to ensure involvement of key stakeholders and beneficiaries. During the program preparation five deep dive stakeholder consultations were carried out in five thematic areas of the Program. The findings from the deep dives are captured in the SEP. After the effectiveness, a half-day program launching event was organized jointly by the MOEST, the UGC and the World Bank where a wide range of stakeholders from the government agencies, universities and academia, business community, students and media presented their views and covered some of the best practices of the World Bank-Nepal partnership in higher education. The key features of the launching were also covered in a joint press release. The Program includes the provision for conducting three Beneficiary Satisfaction Surveys during the Program period: baseline in Year 1, mid-line survey in Year 3 and end-line survey in Year 5. Preparation for the baseline survey is in progress.

Data on Financial Performance

Disbursements (by loan)

Project	Loan/Credit/TF	Status	Currency	Original	Revised	Cancelled	Disbursed	Undisbursed	% Disbursed
P171516	IDA-68840	Effective	USD	60.00	60.00	0.00	0.00	59.03	0%

Key Dates (by loan)

Project	Loan/Credit/TF	Status	Approval Date	Signing Date	Effectiveness Date	Orig. Closing Date	Rev. Closing Date
P171516	IDA-68840	Effective	11-Jun-2021	19-Aug-2021	16-Sep-2021	15-Jul-2026	15-Jul-2026

Program Action Plan

Action Description	1.Develop and improve accounting policies, internal control guidelines, improved financial administration rules, updated audit arrears, internal audit, FMIS (b) Hire FM consultant/ Procurement staffs				
Source	DLI#	Responsibility	Timing	Timing Value	Status
Fiduciary Systems		UGC/ TU	Due Date	20-Sep-2021	In Progress
Completion Measurement	(a) Both the UGC, TU shall share these documents; (b) An FM Consultant hired at the UGC Secretariat; (c) Procurement staff hired at UGC and TU and retained				
Comments	Draft documents on accounting policies and others as noted in the PAP are under preparation and will be shared with the Bank. Hiring of FM consultant is nearly completed and the successful candidate is expected to join by December 2021.				

Action Description	2. Use e-GP for procurement and upload approved annual procurement plan in the websites				
Source	DLI#	Responsibility	Timing	Timing Value	Status
Fiduciary Systems		UGC, TU	Recurrent	Yearly	In Progress
Completion Measurement	e-GP implemented and procurement plan uploaded in the UGC and respective HEIs websites				



Comments	While the Component 2 (Project) related procurement plan including its updated version are being published and updated in the STEP, the procurement activities of Component 2 (Program) are yet to be initiated.
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Action Description	3. (a) Establish a dedicated unit/sub-unit at UGC; (b) develop strategy for strengthening capacity of beneficiary institutions for mainstreaming E&S aspects				
Source	DLI#	Responsibility	Timing	Timing Value	Status
Environmental and Social Systems		UGC	Due Date	20-Sep-2021	Completed
Completion Measurement	a) The unit/ subunit will include two specialists (E&S) and adequate budget; (b UGC shares the strategy; and maintains the the above throughout Program implementation				
Comments	A unit/ sub-unit has been established at the UGC with two specialist and one coordinator. The UGC has prepared the draft strategy.				

Action Description	4. Prepare/ approve/ publish Guidelines for universities QAA				
Source	DLI#	Responsibility	Timing	Timing Value	Status
Technical	DLI 3	UGC	Due Date	20-Sep-2021	In Progress
Completion Measurement	UGC prepares the universities QAA Guidelines				
Comments	A team of experts is working on the document to finalize				

Action Description	5. Upgrade/ strengthen UGC networking for online system support				
Source	DLI#	Responsibility	Timing	Timing Value	Status
Technical	DLI 6	UGC	Due Date	16-Aug-2021	In Progress
Completion Measurement	A Video Conferencing system and Learning Portal is functional at UGC				
Comments	Learning Portal is functional at UGC. An ICT technical team at UGC is working to prepare relevant materials to upload in the Portal.				

Action Description	6. Hire an independent DLI Verification Agency				
Source	DLI#	Responsibility	Timing	Timing Value	Status
Technical		UGC	Due Date	20-Sep-2021	In Progress
Completion Measurement	UGC hires the IVA as per the agreed TOR				
Comments	The Terms of Reference for the IVA approved, three potential candidate agencies identified. The UGC is negotiating to hire one of them				

Action Description	7. Develop/ implement a guideline / framework for managing E&S risks in HE program				
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Source	DLI#	Responsibility	Timing	Timing Value	Status
Environmental and Social Systems		UGC	Due Date	30-Sep-2022	In Progress
Completion Measurement	UGC-wide guideline/ framework developed and approved				
Comments	The E&S unit/ sub-unit with 2 experts and one coordinator have been working to finalize the document.				

Action Description					
8. Prepare capacity building plan (CBP) of UGC with budget allocation					
Source	DLI#	Responsibility	Timing	Timing Value	Status
Technical		UGC	Due Date	30-Sep-2021	In Progress
Completion Measurement	UGC prepares/ updates the CBP in the AWPB annually starting FY 2021/ 22				
Comments	UGC team is working in preparation of the plan				

Action Description					
9. Prepare various guidelines for the NEHEP Operations					
Source	DLI#	Responsibility	Timing	Timing Value	Status
Technical		UGC	Due Date	30-Sep-2021	In Progress
Completion Measurement	Guidelines: PBG, Digital Development; PMT based support; Equity Grants to HEIs				
Comments	Various technical teams at UGC are working in preparation of the guidelines				

Action Description					
10. Upgrade and Implement Web-based EMIS software					
Source	DLI#	Responsibility	Timing	Timing Value	Status
Technical	DLI 6	UGC	Due Date	31-Dec-2021	In Progress
Completion Measurement	Web-based EMIS operational at UGC				
Comments	The UGC ICT technical team along with the EMIS and Monitoring units are working in strengthening the EMIS system with additional modules such as research, accreditation, scholarship and so on and in making the UGC EMIS system fully online.				

Action Description					
11. Prepare/ publish a framework/ guidelines of QE					
Source	DLI#	Responsibility	Timing	Timing Value	Status
Technical	DLI 3	UGC	Due Date	31-Dec-2021	In Progress
Completion Measurement	UGC prepares the list and implementation framework/ guidelines of QE activities and implementation arrangement				



Comments	The UGC Quality Assurance and Accreditation Division along with the Bank technical support is working in the preparation of the higher education institutions Quality Enhance framework/guidelines.
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Action Description	12. Develop and implement programs to address grievance redressal mechanism (GRM) and SEA/SH risk mitigation				
Source	DLI#	Responsibility	Timing	Timing Value	Status
Environmental and Social Systems		UGC	Due Date	31-Dec-2021	In Progress
Completion Measurement	UGC develops/ shares: sensitization/ awareness programs, code of conducts for UGC/ HEIs, GRM, and SEA/ SH risk mitigation measures, and prepares implementation progress every June/ December thereafter				
Comments	The UGC safeguard unit/ sub-unit with the support of technical experts (environmental and social safeguard specialists) are working in developing and implementing the program to address grievance redressal mechanism (GRM) and SEA/SH risk mitigation.				

Action Description	13. Conduct stakeholder consultation (SC) and feedback activities on key reforms				
Source	DLI#	Responsibility	Timing	Timing Value	Status
Technical		UGC	Other	June and December every year	Not Yet Due
Completion Measurement	SC with policy makers, academics, employers and students. UGCV publishes SC report semi-annually review meetings (SARM)				
Comments	The UGC will carry out the consultations as per the Stakeholder Engagement Plan UGC has developed and approved by the World Bank.				

Action Description	14. Revise and implement the UGC M&E plan annually				
Source	DLI#	Responsibility	Timing	Timing Value	Status
Technical		UGC	Other	June and December every year	Not Yet Due
Completion Measurement	UGC prepares M&E flash report in SARM and a consolidated M&E report annually				
Comments	The UGC M&E section has been working on this front as a regular activity.				

Action Description	15. Prepare the NHEP climate resilient framework (CRF)				
Source	DLI#	Responsibility	Timing	Timing Value	Status
Technical		UGC	Due Date	31-Mar-2022	Not Yet Due
Completion Measurement	The CRF with with implementation arrangement in place				
Comments					



Action Description	16. Complete fiduciary reviews in FYs 2022, 2024 and 2026				
Source	DLI#	Responsibility	Timing	Timing Value	Status
Fiduciary Systems		UGC/ TU	Other	December 2022, 2024 and July 2026	Not Yet Due
Completion Measurement	UGC shares the Report				
Comments	The UGC FM consultant-expert will take this responsibility soon after they are hired. The hiring process is in progress.				

Risks

Systematic Operations Risk-rating Tool

Risk Category	Rating at Approval	Previous Rating	Current Rating
Political and Governance	<input type="checkbox"/> High	<input type="checkbox"/> High	<input type="checkbox"/> High
Macroeconomic	<input type="checkbox"/> Substantial	<input type="checkbox"/> Substantial	<input type="checkbox"/> Substantial
Sector Strategies and Policies	<input type="checkbox"/> Moderate	<input type="checkbox"/> Moderate	<input type="checkbox"/> Moderate
Technical Design of Project or Program	<input type="checkbox"/> Moderate	<input type="checkbox"/> Moderate	<input type="checkbox"/> Moderate
Institutional Capacity for Implementation and Sustainability	<input type="checkbox"/> Moderate	<input type="checkbox"/> Moderate	<input type="checkbox"/> Moderate
Fiduciary	<input type="checkbox"/> Substantial	<input type="checkbox"/> Substantial	<input type="checkbox"/> Substantial
Environment and Social	<input type="checkbox"/> Moderate	<input type="checkbox"/> Moderate	<input type="checkbox"/> Moderate
Stakeholders	<input type="checkbox"/> Moderate	<input type="checkbox"/> Moderate	<input type="checkbox"/> Moderate
Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Moderate	<input type="checkbox"/> Moderate	<input type="checkbox"/> Moderate
Overall	<input type="checkbox"/> Substantial	<input type="checkbox"/> Substantial	<input type="checkbox"/> Substantial

Comments

Political and Governance risks are rated as High. Nepal's political situation continues to remain fluid amid periodic elections scheduled for late 2022 and a rapidly evolving COVID-19 situation. The provincial governments could be affected by ramifications at the center, although these do not pose an immediate threat to the overall federalism implementation process. The risks of political uncertainty, jurisdictional overlap between the three tiers of government, and lack of clarity and coherence between policies and devolved powers remain during the interim and in the coming few years. Absence of the Federal Education Acts including in higher education has further compounded the risk. The mitigation measures include the World Bank's sustained dialogue at all levels of government and the continued support to strengthen the federal institutions through the Program.

Macroeconomic risks are Substantial. A slower than expected vaccine rollout or a new COVID-19 variant reducing vaccine effectiveness could derail the nascent economic recovery. Financial risks could increase as borrowers face repayment difficulties, which could be triggered by a slowdown in remittance growth. These factors combined with recurring climate-related natural disasters are likely to result in increased risks to government finances. The mitigation measures include the World Bank's trusted partnership with the Government in different programs and projects in association with other Development Partners.

Fiduciary risk is retained Substantial. The procurement and financial management capacity gaps as identified in the Fiduciary Systems Assessment persists. The actions agreed in the Program Action Plan to mitigate the gaps, especially in finalizing and approval of the NEPSAS-based accounting policies, internal control guidelines, financial administration rules are in progress, but yet to be completed. The Bank team is closely monitoring the progress to finalize the document and its implementation.

The overall Program risk for achieving the PDOs is retained as Substantial.



Results

PDO Indicators by Objectives / Outcomes

Outcome 1: To strengthen labor market relevance and quality of higher education				
► 1. Number of labor-market relevant programs introduced in consultation with employers and industries (cumulative) (Number) (Number, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
Date	31-Dec-2020	31-Aug-2021	19-Nov-2021	15-Jul-2026
Comments	Number of LMRPs introduced in HEIs (cumulative): 5, 25, 70, 90 and 100 programs in Year 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 respectively as per the LMRP Guidelines			
► 2. Number of students completed first year in labor market relevant programs (LMRP) (cumulative) (Number, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	13,500.00
Date	31-Dec-2020	31-Aug-2021	19-Nov-2021	15-Jul-2026
Comments	Number of students completing first year of the Bachelor and or Master levels: 90; 450; 3,600; 9,000; and 13,500 (cumulative) in year 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 respectively as per the LMRP operational guidelines			
□ Average % female (Percentage, Custom Supplement)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	45.00
► 3. Number of HEIs/ Programs Accredited / completed peer review for quality assurance and accreditation (QAA) (cumulative) (Number, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	77.00	77.00	83.00	297.00
Date	31-Dec-2020	31-Aug-2021	19-Nov-2021	15-Jul-2026
Comments	Number of HEIs/ Programs accredited/ completed peer review of QAA (cumulation: 130, 170, 210, 240 and 297 in year 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 respectively as per the QAA Manual			
Outcome 2: To boost collaborative research and innovation				
► 4. Number of collaborative research projects awarded (cumulative) (Number, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	20.00



Date	31-Dec-2020	31-Aug-2021	19-Nov-2021	15-Jul-2026
Comments	Number of awarded collaborative research projects: 8; 18; 20; and 20 projects in Year 2, 3, 4 and 5 respectively as per the Guidelines with 20% climate adaptation/mitigation.			
Outcome 3: To enhance equitable access for underprivileged and disaster affected groups				
► 5. Number of higher education students supported from bottom quintiles (Cumulative) (Number, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	20,000.00
Date	31-Dec-2020	31-Aug-2021	19-Nov-2021	15-Jul-2026
Comments	Number of HE students supported from bottom quintiles using poverty targeted or similar schemes (cumulative): 5,000; 10,000; 15,000; 20,000 and 20,000 students in year 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 respectively (Male up to two and female up to three poorest quintiles) as per guidelines			
□ % female (Percentage, Custom Supplement)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	50.00
► 6. Share of students registered in online/blended learning (Percentage, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	20.00	20.00	20.00	50.00
Date	31-Dec-2020	31-Aug-2021	19-Nov-2021	15-Jul-2026
Comments	Percentage of HE students attending the online/ blended learning: 25, 30, 35, 40 and 50 in Year 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 respectively) as per the guidelines			
□ % female of the total (Percentage, Custom Supplement)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	45.00	45.00	45.00	45.00

Intermediate Results Indicators by Results Areas

Results Area 1 - Improved Labor-market relevance, Entrepreneurship, and Collaborative Research				
► 1. Number of HEIs which have published graduate tracking reports (cumulative) (Number, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	200.00
Date	15-Jul-2021	31-Aug-2021	19-Nov-2021	15-Jul-2026
Comments	Number of HEIs which have published their graduate tracking reports on their website periodically (no double counting): 10, 50, 140, 180 and 200 HEIs in Year 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 respectively			



► 2. Number of students enrolled in labor market relevant programs (cumulative) (Number, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	15,000.00
Date	15-Jul-2021	31-Aug-2021	19-Nov-2021	15-Jul-2026
Comments	Number of students enrolled in the LMRP (cumulative): 100; 500; 4,000; 10,000 and 15,000 in Year 1; 2; 3; 4 and 5 respectively as per the Guidelines			
► 3. Share of female enrollment in STEM programs (Percentage, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	8.00	8.00	8.00	14.00
Date	31-Dec-2020	31-Aug-2021	19-Nov-2021	15-Jul-2026
Comments	Percentage of female from the total students enrolled in STEM (cumulative): 9, 10, 12, 14 and 14 in Year 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 respectively			
► 4. Number of faculty members trained and academic leaders sensitized (cumulative) (Number, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,600.00
Date	31-Dec-2020	31-Aug-2021	19-Nov-2021	15-Jul-2026
Comments	Number of faculties trained and academic leaders sensitized (cumulative): 230; 380; 1,000; 1,550; 1,600 in Year 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 respectively as per the Guidelines			
□ 4.a. Number of faculty members trained, including all the eligible female faculty members (Number, Custom Breakdown)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,400.00
Date	31-Dec-2020	31-Aug-2021	19-Nov-2021	15-Jul-2026
□ 4.b. Number of academic leaders sensitized, including all the eligible female academic leaders (Number, Custom Breakdown)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	200.00
Date	31-Dec-2020	31-Aug-2021	19-Nov-2021	15-Jul-2026
► 5. Number of students/graduates participated in entrepreneurship training (cumulative) (Number, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	500.00
Date	31-Dec-2020	31-Aug-2021	19-Nov-2021	15-Jul-2026



Comments	Number of participation in entrepreneurship training (cumulative): 300, 500, 500, 500 in year 2, 3, 4 and 5 respectively as per Manual			
□% female (Percentage, Custom Supplement)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	45.00
▶6. Number of trained entrepreneurs received seed fund (cumulative) (Number, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	50.00
Date	31-Dec-2020	31-Aug-2021	19-Nov-2021	15-Jul-2026
Comments	Number of competitively selected entrepreneurs among the trained ones supported with seed fund (cumulative): 15, 30, 50 and 50 in Year 2, 3, 4 and 5 respectively as per Manual			
▶7. Number of Publications in refereed journals (cumulative) (Number, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	120.00
Date	31-Dec-2020	31-Aug-2021	19-Nov-2021	15-Jul-2026
Comments	Number of publications in refereed journals with impact factors as defined in the Research Guidelines (cumulative): 10, 30, 50, 80 and 120 in Year 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 respectively			

Results Area 2 - Strengthening Governance and Financing of Higher Education for Quality Enhancement

▶8. Number of HEIs reconstituted as Deemed Universities (cumulative) (Number, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	5.00
Date	31-Dec-2020	31-Aug-2021	19-Nov-2021	15-Jul-2026
Comments	Number of HEIs transformed into Deemed universities: 2, 3, 4 and 5 in Year 2, 3, 4 and 5 respectively as per their Acts/ Regulations			
▶9. Number of universities completed peer review for QAA (cumulative) (Number, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	5.00
Date	31-Dec-2020	31-Aug-2021	19-Nov-2021	15-Jul-2026
Comments	Universities completed QAA peer review: 2, 3, 4 and 5 universities in Year 2, 3, 4 and 5 respectively as per QAA Guidelines			



► 10. Number of accredited HEIs undertook QE activities (Number, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	50.00
Date	31-Dec-2020	31-Aug-2021	19-Nov-2021	15-Jul-2026
Comments	Accredited HEIs undertook at least three QE activities including one in climate response as per QE Guidelines (cumulative, no double counting): 20, 30, 40 and 50 HEIs in Year 2, 3, 4 and 5 respectively			
► 11. Number of HEIs received Performance Based Grants (PBG) (Number, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	400.00
Date	31-Dec-2020	31-Aug-2021	19-Nov-2021	15-Jul-2026
Comments	HEIs receive PBG as per the Guideline (cumulative, double counting): 50, 150, 250, 350 and 400 in year 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 respectively			

Results Area 3 - Widening Access to Quality Higher Education for Disadvantaged Students

► 12. Improved Student GER disaggregated by gender in Lagging Provinces (Text, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	Province 2: Total (T) - 4.75%, Female (F) - 4.05%; Karnali: T -8.84%; F- 7.04% Sudurpaschim:T- 9.38%; F- 9.83%	Province 2: Total (T) - 4.75%, Female (F) - 4.05%; Karnali: T - 8.84%; F- 7.04% Sudurpaschim:T- 9.38%; F- 9.83%	Province 2: Total (T) - 4.75%, Female (F) - 4.05%; Karnali: T - 8.84%; F- 7.04% Sudurpaschim:T- 9.38%; F- 9.83%	Province 2: T-12.00%; F-12.00%; Karnali: T- 14.00%; F-14.00% ; Sudurpaschim: T- 15.00%; F-15.00%
Date	31-Dec-2020	31-Aug-2021	19-Nov-2021	15-Jul-2026
Comments	GER (%) disaggregated by gender in lagging provinces increased: P2 (Total-T/ Female-F): 5, 7, 8, 10, 12); Karnali (T/ F): 9, 10, 11, 13, 14); Sudurpaschim (T/ F): 10, 11, 12, 14, 15) in year 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 respectively			
► 13. Number of HEIs supported with equity grants in lagging and/or disaster affected provinces/ remote regions (cumulative) (Number, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
Date	31-Dec-2020	31-Aug-2021	19-Nov-2021	15-Jul-2026
Comments	HEIs supported with equity grants as per Manual: 15, 50, 75, 100, 100 in Year 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 respectively (no double counting)			

Results Area 4 – Extending Digitization of Higher Education

► 14. Share of HEIs participating in online data feeding (cumulative) (Percentage, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target



Value	25.00	25.00	25.00	70.00
Date	31-Dec-2020	31-Aug-2021	19-Nov-2021	15-Jul-2026
Comments	Percentage of HEIs feeding online data for UGC EMIS from total HEIs of the year (no double counting):30, 40, 50, 60, 70 in year 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 respectively.			
► 15. Number of universities passing Rule for blended mode of course delivery and final examination (cumulative) (Number, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	8.00
Date	31-Dec-2020	31-Aug-2021	19-Nov-2021	15-Jul-2026
Comments	Universities pass the Rule of blended mode of course delivery and examination: 2, 3, 5, 7, 8 universities in Year 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 respectively as per the standards and policies of HE digitization			

Program Management and M&E				
► 16. Conduction of Beneficiary Satisfaction Survey (Text, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	Not Applicable	Preparation in progress	Preparation in progress	End-line survey conducted
Date	31-Dec-2020	31-Aug-2021	19-Nov-2021	15-Jul-2026
Comments	BSS in Year 1, Year 3 and Year 5 conducted			
► Students benefiting from direct interventions to enhance learning (Number, Corporate)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	500,000.00
Date	31-Dec-2020	31-Aug-2021	19-Nov-2021	15-Jul-2026
Comments				
□ Students benefiting from direct interventions to enhance learning - Female (Number, Corporate Supplement)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	250,000.00

Disbursement Linked Indicators

► DLI 1 DLI 1: Labor market-driven autonomous programs, faculty members' training and academic leaders' sensitization (Process, 11,000,000.00, 0%)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	July 16, 2025 - July 15, 2026



Value	Standards, operational policies and guidelines for faculty competency development and academic leadership sensitization have not been prepared	Preparation in progress	Preparation in progress	--
Date	--	31-Aug-2021	19-Nov-2021	--
Comments	A UGC formed technical team has been working to prepare the document			

► DLI 2 DLI 2: Collaborative research and entrepreneurship program (Output, 10,000,000.00, 0%)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	July 16, 2025 - July 15, 2026
Value	No standards, and operational policies and guidelines for collaborative research and entrepreneurship programs	Preparation is in progress	Preparation is in progress	--
Date	--	31-Aug-2021	19-Nov-2021	--
Comments	The UGC Research Division has been working to finalize the document.			

► DLI 3 DLI 3: Quality Assurance and Accreditation (QAA) and Quality Enhancement (QE) (Output, 10,000,000.00, 0%)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	July 16, 2025 - July 15, 2026
Value	77 HEIs/ Programs accredited/ completed peer review for accreditation	77.00	83.00	DLR 3.4: Additional 220 HEIs/ Program Accredited / completed peer review for quality assurance and accreditation (cumulative 297) (Average share of accredited HEIs/ Programs to be 50% or above)
Date	--	31-Aug-2021	19-Nov-2021	--
Comments	Peer reviews of additional institutions are in progress and will be finalized close to the program effectiveness.			

► DLI 4 DLI 4: Performance Based Grants (PBG) (Output, 10,000,000.00, 0%)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	July 16, 2025 - July 15, 2026
Value	No standards, operational policies and guidelines for performance grants	Preparation is in progress	Preparation is in progress	--
Date	--	31-Aug-2021	19-Nov-2021	--
Comments	The UGC has formed a technical team to prepare the draft document.			



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► DLI 5 DLI 5: Enrollment of disadvantaged students in lagging and/ or disaster affected provinces and regions (Output, 10,000,000.00, 0%)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	July 16, 2025 - July 15, 2026
Value	7,443 students supported in HERP	7,443 students supported in HERP	7,443 students supported in HERP	DLR 5.2: Additional 20,000 higher education students supported from bottom quintiles (Cumulative)
Date	--	31-Aug-2021	31-Aug-2021	--
Comments	Revised poverty targeted guideline is in finalization to implement the approach in the federal set up.			

► DLI 6 DLI 6: Online teaching, learning and digitized administration (Process, 6,000,000.00, 0%)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	July 16, 2025 - July 15, 2026
Value	No standards and operational policies for Higher education digitization, connectivity, and implementation procedures	Draft document prepared. A UGC formed technical team is finalizing the document for UGC final review and approval.	Revised draft document prepared. A UGC formed technical team is finalizing the document for UGC final review and approval.	--
Date	--	31-Aug-2021	19-Nov-2021	--
Comments				