



Benin COVID-19 Education Response GPE Project (P174186)

AFRICA WEST | Benin | Education Global Practice |
 Recipient Executed Activities | Investment Project Financing | FY 2021 | Seq No: 4 | ARCHIVED on 06-Apr-2022 | ISR50753 |

Implementing Agencies: Republic of Benin, Ministry of Pre and Primary Schools

Key Dates**Key Project Dates**

Bank Approval Date: 09-Sep-2020

Effectiveness Date: 24-Sep-2020

Planned Mid Term Review Date: 01-Feb-2022

Actual Mid-Term Review Date: 17-Feb-2022

Original Closing Date: 31-Dec-2021

Revised Closing Date: 30-Jun-2022

Project Development Objectives

Project Development Objective (from Project Appraisal Document)

The objectives of the Project are to: (a) ensure continuity of teaching during and after the COVID-19 pandemic, particularly in deprived communes in the Recipient's territory; and (b) increase the government's preparedness to mitigate the effects of future crises.

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

No

Components Table

Name

Component 1: Ensuring safe reopening of schools and return of students, especially in deprived communes:(Cost \$5.74 M)

Component 2: Improving preparedness to mitigate the effects of future crises:(Cost \$0.72 M)

Component 3: Ensuring monitoring, management and coordination of the project:(Cost \$0.39 M)

Overall Ratings

Name	Previous Rating	Current Rating
Progress towards achievement of PDO	<input type="checkbox"/> Moderately Satisfactory	<input type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory
Overall Implementation Progress (IP)	<input type="checkbox"/> Moderately Satisfactory	<input type="checkbox"/> Satisfactory
Overall Risk Rating	<input type="checkbox"/> Moderate	<input type="checkbox"/> Moderate

Implementation Status and Key Decisions

This is the Mid-Term Implementation Status Report (ISR) for the Benin COVID-19 Education Response GPE Project (P174186). The Project is financed by a Global Partnership for Education (GPE) grant in the amount of US\$ 6.850 million. The Project was approved by the World Bank's West Africa Regional Vice President on September 9, 2020, and the Grant Agreement was signed on September 24, 2020. Since there were no effectiveness conditions, the Project was immediately declared effective when the Grant Agreement was signed. A restructuring, which entailed only an extension of the Project's closing date by 6 months from December 31, 2021, to June 30, 2022, was approved in December 2021 to ensure the successful completion of all project-supported activities. To date, a number of critical activities have been implemented and the Project's overall disbursement currently stands at US\$ 5.41 million, representing approximately 79.0 percent of the total grant amount. Since the supervision mission of December 2021, the pace of the overall implementation of the Project has gained significant momentum ensuring that the operation will complete all activities by the closing date.



Below is a summary of the status of each component:

- a. **Component 1: Ensuring safe reopening of schools and return of students, particularly in deprived communes.** As part of media and community sensitization campaigns aimed at promoting the safe return to school, a communication strategy has been prepared and a communication plan has been implemented. In addition, illustrated educational boards to be displayed in classrooms (186,000 copies) and teachers guide brochures (108,000 copies) have been distributed to targeted schools. To ensure safety in schools, 20,440 hand washing facilities (HWFs) were distributed in July 2021 to 5,743 public schools (915 preschools, 4,334 primary schools and 494 lower secondary schools) representing 57.3 percent of public schools countrywide. With respect to activities initially planned under the Project, the following decrees for provision of school grants have been signed and part of funds transferred to schools: (i) grants for school infirmaries; (ii) grants for remedial programs for students at risk of repetition and dropping out; (iii) grants for compensation of part of incidental costs paid for school canteens in deprived communes; and (iv) grant for the provision of water to schools which do not have access to a water point. To ensure the proper use of grants transferred to schools, prior training was necessary for head teachers as well members of school-based management committees (COGEP and COGES for primary and secondary schools respectively). To this end, a light manual on grant implementation procedures was prepared and the training took place in May 2021, one month before the end of the 2020-2021 SY. Therefore, the implementation of school grants is underway and is scheduled to be completed by the end of June 2022. Regarding school kits delegated to UNICEF, out of 89,000 kits initially planned under the Project, 162,295 kits were distributed to students of deprived communes supported by the Project in September-October 2020 and September-October 2021, including 71,273 kits for grades 1 and 2 students, 85,260 kits for grade 2 students and 5,762 kits for grades 7 and 8 girls' students. In addition, UNICEF also procured—using its own resources—school kits and distributed 10,448 to grades 7 and 8 girls' students in deprived communes.
- a. **Component 2: Improving preparedness to mitigate the effects of future crises.** As part of expanding sustainable remote learning opportunities, activities carried out include: (i) the purchase of electronic tablets; (ii) the design and installation of necessary applications on tablets; (iii) the training of 300 teachers of which 100 lower secondary school teachers in distance teaching methods; and (iv) preparation of digital education content in key disciplines for all grades of primary and lower secondary schools. In addition, the procurement process is underway for the material necessary to reinforce the equipment of the directorate of the National Institute for Training and Research in Education (INFRE) to enable the production of high-quality audio, visual and digital education content. As part of capacity building to anticipate and cope with future shocks in education, a national strategy for education and learning continuity to be used in the event of future shocks, and school closures has been prepared and validated. Moreover, a draft methodology to identify and better target vulnerable and at-risk students has been developed with the objective of more easily identifying and supporting them in the event of future crises. A pilot implementation of this methodology is underway and will allow its finalization by end May 2022.
- a. **Component 3: Ensuring monitoring, management, and coordination of the Project.** Significant progress has been made in the implementation of the Project's work plan and budget, as well as the procurement plan. Statistic data for the 2020 -2021 SY were collected on time, which allowed for the delivery of statistic yearbooks in May 2021. A contract has been signed with the *Coalition Beninoise des Organisations de l'Education pour Tous* (CBO-EPT) to report on citizen feedback on service delivery. The first report shared by the CBO-EPT showed that the project has received wide recognition from beneficiaries, with nine in ten school heads confirming awareness of the Project's activities against COVID-19 pandemic.

Risks

Systematic Operations Risk-rating Tool

Risk Category	Rating at Approval	Previous Rating	Current Rating
Political and Governance	☐ Moderate	☐ Moderate	☐ Moderate
Macroeconomic	☐ Moderate	☐ Moderate	☐ Moderate
Sector Strategies and Policies	☐ Moderate	☐ Moderate	☐ Moderate
Technical Design of Project or Program	☐ Moderate	☐ Moderate	☐ Moderate
Institutional Capacity for Implementation and Sustainability	☐ Moderate	☐ Moderate	☐ Moderate



Fiduciary	<input type="checkbox"/> Moderate	<input type="checkbox"/> Moderate	<input type="checkbox"/> Moderate
Environment and Social	<input type="checkbox"/> Moderate	<input type="checkbox"/> Moderate	<input type="checkbox"/> Moderate
Stakeholders	<input type="checkbox"/> Low	<input type="checkbox"/> Low	<input type="checkbox"/> Low
Other	--	--	--
Overall	<input type="checkbox"/> Moderate	<input type="checkbox"/> Moderate	<input type="checkbox"/> Moderate

Results

PDO Indicators by Objectives / Outcomes

Ensure continuity of teaching during and after the COVID -19 pandemic,				
▶ Children previously enrolled in schools who return to school once the school system is reopened (Number, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	2,935,936.00	2,935,936.00	2,533,000.00
Date	12-May-2020	11-Jun-2021	22-Mar-2022	30-Jun-2022
Comments:	Target exceeded. Data for SY 2020-2021; the collection of data for SY 2021-2022 is underway			
<input type="checkbox"/> Share of children previously enrolled in schools who return to school once the school system is reopened (Percentage, Custom Supplement)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	104.00	104.24	104.24	85.00
<input type="checkbox"/> • Share of girl students previously enrolled in schools who return to school once the school system is reopened (Percentage, Custom Breakdown)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	104.74	104.74	75.00
Date	12-May-2020	11-Jun-2021	22-Mar-2022	30-Jun-2022
<input type="checkbox"/> • Share of children previously enrolled in schools in deprived communes who return to school once the school system is reopened (Percentage, Custom Breakdown)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	103.53	103.53	65.00
Date	12-May-2020	11-Jun-2021	22-Mar-2022	30-Jun-2022
▶ Schools equipped with minimum hygiene standards for prevention of COVID-19 (Percentage, Custom)				



	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	17.00	57.30	35.00
Date	12-May-2020	17-Jun-2021	22-Mar-2022	30-Jun-2022
Comments:	Target exceeded			
<input type="checkbox"/> Schools equipped with minimum hygiene standards for prevention of COVID-19 (Number, Custom Supplement)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	1,750.00	5,743.00	3,620.00
► Schools offering remediation programs in deprived communes once the school system is reopened (Total) (Number, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	179.00	1,326.00	1,870.00
Date	12-May-2020	11-Jun-2021	22-Mar-2022	30-Jun-2022
Comments:	These are provisional data based on a first survey carried out in November 2021 which showed that 66.7 % and 97.77% of primary and lower secondary schools, respectively, have started remediation programs in deprived communes in this school year 2021-2022. A collection of new data is underway and will help to update report progress against this indicator and its sub-indicators			
<input type="checkbox"/> Schools offering remediation programs in deprived communes once the school system is reopened (Total) (Percentage, Custom Supplement)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	9.20	69.77	60.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Primary schools offering remediation programs in deprived communes once the school system is reopened (Number, Custom Supplement)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	1,151.00	1,700.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Lower secondary schools offering remediation programs in deprived communes once the school system is reopened (Number, Custom Supplement)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	179.00	175.00	170.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Primary schools offering remediation programs in deprived communes once the school system is reopened (Percentage, Custom Supplement)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	66.70	58.00



<input type="checkbox"/> Lower secondary schools offering remediation programs in deprived communes once the school system is reopened (Percentage, Custom Supplement)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	100.00	97.77	90.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Students benefiting from direct interventions to enhance learning (Number, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	46,289.00	239,038.00	224,000.00
Date	30-Jun-2020	11-Jun-2021	22-Mar-2022	30-Jun-2022
Comments:	Target exceeded. These are provisional data based on a first survey carried out in November 2021 which showed that 66.7 % and 97.77% of primary and lower secondary schools, respectively, have started remediation programs in deprived communes in this school year 2021-2022. A collection of new data is underway and will help to update this indicator and its sub-indicators			
<input type="checkbox"/> Students benefiting from direct interventions to enhance learning in primary education (Number, Custom Breakdown)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	31,379.00	226,078.00	214,300.00
Date	30-Jun-2020	11-Jun-2021	22-Mar-2022	30-Jun-2022
<input type="checkbox"/> Students benefiting from direct interventions to enhance learning in lower secondary education (Number, Custom Breakdown)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	14,910.00	13,010.00	9,700.00
Date	30-Jun-2020	11-Jun-2021	22-Mar-2022	30-Jun-2022
<input type="checkbox"/> Students benefiting from direct interventions to enhance learning – Female (Number, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	20,498.00	114,024.00	89,600.00
Date	30-Jun-2020	11-Jun-2021	22-Mar-2022	30-Jun-2022
Comments:	Target exceeded			
<input type="checkbox"/> Students benefiting from direct interventions to enhance learning – Female in primary schools (Number, Custom Breakdown)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	14,495.00	108,706.00	85,720.00
Date	30-Jun-2020	11-Jun-2021	22-Mar-2022	30-Jun-2022



<input type="checkbox"/> Girl students benefiting from direct interventions to enhance learning in the 20 targeted communes in lower secondary education (Number, Custom Breakdown)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	6,003.00	5,318.00	3,880.00
Date	30-Jun-2020	11-Jun-2021	22-Mar-2022	30-Jun-2022

Improving preparedness to mitigate the effects of future crises				
▶ National strategy for continuity of learning for all children developed and disseminated (Yes/No, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	No	No	Yes	Yes
Date	12-May-2020	11-Jun-2021	22-Mar-2022	30-Jun-2022
Comments:	Target achieved			

Overall Comments

Most of current values of indicators are based on the 2020-2021 SY. A collection of data for the 2021-2022 SY is underway and will help to update these data

Intermediate Results Indicators by Components

Ensuring safe reopening of schools and return of students, particularly in deprived communes				
▶ Children provided access to sensitization campaigns that aim at minimizing the negative impacts of school closure (Number, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	2,508,646.00	2,400,000.00
Date	12-May-2020	11-Jun-2021	22-Mar-2022	30-Jun-2022
Comments:	Target exceeded			
<input type="checkbox"/> Percentage of children provided access to sensitization campaigns that aim at minimizing the negative impacts of school closure (Percentage, Custom Supplement)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	85.60	85.00
▶ Grades 1 to 5 students whose learning was assessed to evaluate loss of learning during school closure in deprived communes (Number, Custom)				



	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	246,783.00	246,783.00	208,000.00
Date	12-May-2020	11-Jun-2021	22-Mar-2022	30-Jun-2022
Comments:	Target exceeded			
<input type="checkbox"/> Grades 1 to 5 students whose learning was assessed to evaluate loss of learning during school closure in deprived communes (Percentage, Custom Supplement)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	79.63	79.63	70.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Grades 1 to 5 girl students whose learning was assessed to evaluate loss of learning during school closure in deprived communes (Percentage, Custom Breakdown)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	80.56	80.56	30.00
Date	12-May-2020	11-Jun-2021	22-Mar-2022	30-Jun-2022
► Children of deprived communes provided with learning kits (Number, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	87,483.00	162,295.00	89,000.00
Date	12-May-2020	11-Jun-2021	22-Mar-2022	30-Jun-2022
Comments:	Target exceeded			
<input type="checkbox"/> Grades 1 and 2 girls of deprived communes provided with learning kits in primary education (Percentage, Custom Supplement)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	100.00	100.00	80.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Grades 7 and 8 girls of deprived communes provided with learning kits in lower secondary education (Percentage, Custom Supplement)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	94.26	100.00	80.00
Component 2: Strengthening education system resilience in the medium and long term				
► Guidelines for re-opening of schools in the events of floods or over natural disasters/shocks is developed and disseminated (Yes/No, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	No	No	No	Yes



Date	12-May-2020	11-Jun-2021	11-Jun-2021	30-Jun-2022
Comments:	Guidelines are under preparation and are expected to be finalized by end May 2022			
► Teachers trained in using distance learning methods and/or provided with materials to support distance learning, resulting from project intervention (Number, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	300.00	300.00
Date	12-May-2020	11-Jun-2021	22-Mar-2022	30-Jun-2022
Comments:	.			
□ Female teachers trained in using distance learning methods and/or provided with materials to support distance learning, resulting from project intervention (Percentage, Custom Supplement)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	40.33	30.00

Component 3. Ensuring monitoring, management and coordination of the project				
► Citizen feedback on service delivery is collected (Yes/No, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	No	No	Yes	Yes
Date	12-May-2020	11-Jun-2021	22-Mar-2022	30-Jun-2022
Comments:	A first collection of information on citizen feedback was delivered in December 2022. The second one is expected by June 30, 2022.			
► Percentage of total grievances received through the GRM established under the project which are addressed (Percentage, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	90.00
Date	25-Sep-2020	11-Jun-2021	22-Mar-2022	30-Jun-2022
Comments:	There are no grievances received through the GRM established under the project.			

Performance-Based Conditions

Data on Financial Performance

Disbursements (by loan)

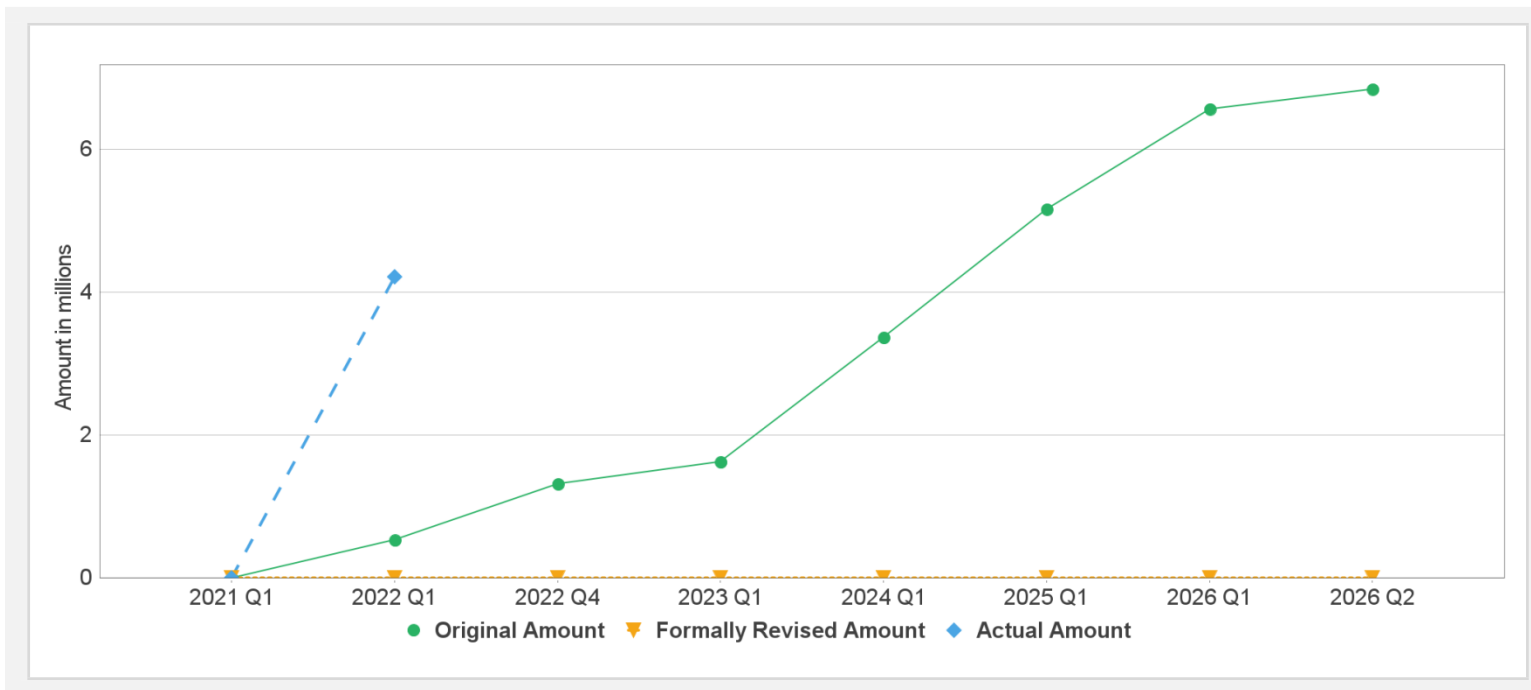


Project	Loan/Credit/TF	Status	Currency	Original	Revised	Cancelled	Disbursed	Undisbursed	% Disbursed
P174186	TF-B3659	Effective	USD	6.85	6.85	0.00	5.41	1.44	79%

Key Dates (by loan)

Project	Loan/Credit/TF	Status	Approval Date	Signing Date	Effectiveness Date	Orig. Closing Date	Rev. Closing Date
P174186	TF-B3659	Effective	09-Sep-2020	24-Sep-2020	24-Sep-2020	31-Dec-2021	30-Jun-2022

Cumulative Disbursements



Restructuring History

Level 2 Approved on 22-Dec-2021

Related Project(s)

There are no related projects.