



## CONGO - Rep. Skills Development for Employability Project (P128628)

WESTERN AND CENTRAL AFRICA | Congo, Republic of | Education Global Practice |  
IBRD/IDA | Investment Project Financing | FY 2014 | Seq No: 17 | ARCHIVED on 20-Jun-2022 | ISR49879 |

Implementing Agencies: Government of Republic of Congo, Ministry of Technical and Professional Education

### Key Dates

#### Key Project Dates

Bank Approval Date: 17-Sep-2013

Effectiveness Date: 30-Oct-2014

Planned Mid Term Review Date: 01-Feb-2017

Actual Mid-Term Review Date: 21-Feb-2017

Original Closing Date: 30-Sep-2018

Revised Closing Date: 30-Jun-2023

### Project Development Objectives

Project Development Objective (from Project Appraisal Document)

The objective of the Project is to improve job and entrepreneurship skills for vulnerable urban youth in order to improve their labor market insertion and earnings.

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

No

### Components Table

Name

Component 1: Skills training, job insertion and entrepreneurship support for vulnerable youth and micro-entrepreneurs:(Cost \$23.90 M)

Component 2: Strengthen the technical, planning, implementation, and monitoring and evaluation capacity of METPFQE:(Cost \$6.10 M)

Component 3: Contingent Emergency Response (CERC)

### 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

**Overview.** The *Skills Development for Employability Project (SDEP)* aims at improving job and entrepreneurship skills for vulnerable urban youth in order to improve their labor market insertion and earnings. The Parent project, which was initially jointly financed through an International Development Association (IDA) credit and the Government of the Republic of Congo's counterpart funding, was approved by the World Bank Board of Executive Directors on September 17, 2013, signed on October 11, 2013 and became effective on October 31, 2014, with a closing date of September 30, 2018. Project implementation stalled starting in mid-2016 due to the lack of counterpart fund which accounted for about 69 percent of the total project cost. However, on a letter dated May 30, 2018, the Government requested, and the World Bank agreed, to restructure the project. The Project was restructured to remove the counterpart funding and scale back the Project's targets to reflect the new size of the Project (US\$15 million instead of US\$32 million) and the closing date of the project was extended to March 31, 2021 to enable the implementation



of Project activities prior to project closing. The project has two components, and the progress by component is summarized below. On December 17, 2020 an additional financing (AF) in the amount of US\$15 million equivalent was approved which will support achievement of the PDO. The AF became effective on June 11, 2021. The parent project and the AF will close on June 30, 2023.

This is an interim ISR with an update on progress under the project to be provided following the next mission which will be carried out from June 13 to 20, 2022.

**Progress by Components and Sub-components:**

**Component 1:**

Many of the activities planned under the AF are underway, with the launch of the training under Component 1 undertaken in Brazzaville and Pointe-Noire, respectively, on November 16 and 23, 2021. A total of 4,500 youth were selected to participate in the program as the third cohort of trainees under the project. Each trainee has been assigned to a specific area and training is ongoing.

**Sub-component 1.1: Skills Training, job insertion and entrepreneurship support for vulnerable youth.** The youth training activities for the second cohort were well completed with good results following final assessments of youth skills (nearly 99 percent success rate). To date, in the Parent Project, a total of 1,841 youth has been trained (including 328 youth who participating in training as part of the first cohort). Of the 1,517 youth who completed their training as part of the second cohort in February 2020, 118 youth were employed by a firm at the end of the internship and 67 percent of youth said they were moving toward self-employment, compared to 22 percent for salaried employment. With the AF, the third cohort of youth was launched in November 2021 for the training of 1,659 selected youth in 26 training programs (including 8 in the farming and agri-food sectors, 12 in the industry and construction sectors and 6 in the services sector), for a total duration \*(of training and internship) varying from 9 to 12 months depending on the trade.

**Sub-component 1.2: Skills training for micro-entrepreneurs.** It was agreed in 2019 that this sub-component would be put on hold, in light of the sharp reduction in the available funding, so that activities that were already underway in Sub-component 1.1 and Component 2 would be fully financed. This sub-component is supporting under the AF, continuing training provided under the parent project while also expanding to technical training, support in business development and the development of business development plans as well as life skills training. A total of 497 youth (in the first cohort) benefited from skills training under this subcomponent. Under this sub-component, 1,000 youth have been selected to receive this training.

**Sub-component 1.3: Apprenticeship and functional literacy training for out-of-school adolescent youth.** To date, a total of 3088 youth (955 in the first cohort) have been trained under this subcomponent under the Parent Project. Of the 2,367 young apprentices in the second cohort, 2,133 youth were able to complete their apprenticeships with a 97 percent satisfaction rate. Under the AF, 2,500 vulnerable youth have been selected and have been placed in apprenticeships with 500 Master Craftsmen.

**Sub-component 1.4: Competitive Fund.** The Competitive Fund has been established under the project. This fund aims to directly support and finance entrepreneurial initiatives (business plans) presented by youth already trained under the parent project and youth who will be trained under the AF. The project is finalizing the process of recruiting technical assistance to support the Fund's activities.

**Component 2. Strengthen the technical, planning, implementation, and monitoring and evaluation capacity of the Ministry of Vocational Technical Education (METP)**

Progress on the remaining activities supported under the parent project are as follows:

**Certification process for short-term qualifying courses:** The National Framework for Professional Certification was validated and is in the process of being operationalized.

**The impact evaluation survey of the second cohort.** The end-line survey data has been collected and data are currently available.

**Risks**

**Systematic Operations Risk-rating Tool**

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

## Results

### PDO Indicators by Objectives / Outcomes

Improve job and entrepreneurship skills for vulnerable urban youth				
▶ Youth who complete the training supported by the project (%) (Percentage, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	54.60	54.60	54.60	80.00
Date	09-Mar-2020	10-Nov-2021	06-Jun-2022	30-Jun-2023
Comments:	Target surpassed.			
□ Percentage female (Percentage, Custom Supplement)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	43.00	43.00	43.00	50.00
▶ Training providers reaching performance benchmarks (%) (Percentage, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	69.00	69.00	69.00	70.00
Date	09-Mar-2020	10-Nov-2021	06-Jun-2022	30-Jun-2023
Comments:	Target exceeded. The level of achievement for this indicator will be updated at the end of the training programs based on job search and self-employment.			

Improve urban youth labor market insertion and earnings



► Increase in trained youth who are employed or self-employed one year after completing training (%) (Percentage, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	7.50
Date	09-Mar-2020	10-Nov-2021	06-Jun-2022	30-Jun-2023
Comments:	This indicator will be updated with data from the impact evaluation in the next ISR.			
► Increase in average earnings of youth after completing training (%) (Percentage, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	5.00
Date	09-Mar-2020	10-Nov-2021	06-Jun-2022	30-Jun-2023
Comments:	This indicator will be updated with data from the impact evaluation in the next ISR.			

### Intermediate Results Indicators by Components

Component 1: Skills training, job insertion and entrepreneurship support for vulnerable youth and micro-entrepreneurs				
► Students benefiting from direct interventions to enhance learning (Number, Corporate)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	6,108.00	6,108.00	6,108.00	10,000.00
Date	24-Sep-2020	10-Nov-2021	06-Jun-2022	30-Jun-2023
□ Students benefiting from direct interventions to enhance learning - Female (Number, Corporate Supplement)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	42.90	42.90	42.90	50.00
► Youth enrolled in school-based skills training supported by the project (Number, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	2,153.00	2,153.00	2,153.00	3,500.00
Date	24-Sep-2020	10-Nov-2021	06-Jun-2022	30-Jun-2023
Comments:	The number of training providers has increased from 4 private providers in the first phase to 17 public and private providers for the second cohort. This has helped the significant increase in the number of beneficiaries. The difference between the previous value and the actual one is explained by the fact that during the mission, the project database had to be updated on the basis of the final data of the training			



centers and master craftsmen, in order to also take into account youth who dropped out during and at the end of the training (did not participate in the final assessment of skills).

Percentage female (Percentage, Custom Supplement)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	34.00	34.00	34.00	50.00

► Youth enrolled in entrepreneurship/job insertion support (subcomponent 1.1) (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	2,122.00	2,122.00	2,122.00	3,000.00
Date	30-Jun-2020	10-Nov-2021	06-Jun-2022	30-Jun-2023

Comments: These are the same youth in sub-components 1.1 and 1.2 who should be inserted in the labor market whether by finding gainful employment, creating their own job/firm, or being in extending internship. This indicator will be updated in the next ISR.

Percentage female (Percentage, Custom Supplement)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	34.00	34.00	34.00	50.00

► Micro-entrepreneurs enrolled in pilot skills training program (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	479.00	479.00	479.00	1,500.00
Date	09-Mar-2020	10-Nov-2021	06-Jun-2022	30-Jun-2023

Percentage female (Percentage, Custom Supplement)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	37.00	37.00	37.00	50.00

► Adolescent youth enrolled in apprenticeships (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	3,245.00	3,245.00	3,245.00	5,000.00
Date	09-Mar-2020	10-Nov-2021	06-Jun-2022	30-Jun-2023

Comments: Target exceeded.

Percentage female (Percentage, Custom Supplement)



	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	52.00	52.00	52.00	55.00
<b>► Business plans financed by the Competitive Fund (cooperatives, individual projects) (Number, Custom)</b>				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
Date	24-Sep-2020	10-Nov-2021	06-Jun-2022	30-Jun-2023
<input type="checkbox"/> Of which business plans developed by female beneficiaries (Number, Custom Breakdown)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	125.00
Date	24-Sep-2020	10-Nov-2021	06-Jun-2022	30-Jun-2023
<b>► Direct jobs created by the Competitive Fund (Number, Custom)</b>				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	250.00
Date	24-Sep-2020	10-Nov-2021	06-Jun-2022	30-Jun-2023
<input type="checkbox"/> Female beneficiaries (Number, Custom Breakdown)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Date	24-Sep-2020	10-Nov-2021	06-Jun-2022	30-Jun-2023
<b>► Beneficiaries who feel that the training programs meet their needs (Percentage, Custom)</b>				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	60.00
Date	24-Sep-2020	10-Nov-2021	06-Jun-2022	30-Jun-2023
<b>► Girls and boys who receive training on the protection from SEA/SH as part of the life skills courses (Percentage, Custom)</b>				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	60.00
Date	24-Sep-2020	10-Nov-2021	06-Jun-2022	30-Jun-2023



► Reported grievances addressed within stipulated time frame (Percentage, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	60.00
Date	24-Sep-2020	10-Nov-2021	06-Jun-2022	30-Jun-2023

Component 2: Strengthen the technical, planning, implementation, and monitoring and evaluation capacity of METPFQE				
► Beneficiary surveys of impact evaluation completed (baseline, mid-line, end-line) (Yes/No, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Date	17-Sep-2013	10-Nov-2021	06-Jun-2022	30-Jun-2023
Comments:	To date, only the baseline of the impact evaluation survey was completed as well as the midline survey. The endline survey will be carried out with preliminary results expected in end January 2022.			
► Data base of TVET provision established (baseline) (Yes/No, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Date	17-Sep-2013	10-Nov-2021	06-Jun-2022	21-Dec-2018
► Global Value Chain Study completed (Yes/No, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Date	17-Sep-2013	10-Nov-2021	06-Jun-2022	30-Jun-2023
Comments:	Target achieved.			
► Skills development strategy document prepared (Yes/No, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Date	17-Sep-2013	10-Nov-2021	06-Jun-2022	30-Jun-2023
Comments:	The skills development strategy will be prepared as the revised education sector strategy is currently being developed. This will allow the strategy to take into account the findings from the study on <i>métiers porteurs</i> (promising trades).			



Performance-Based Conditions

Data on Financial Performance

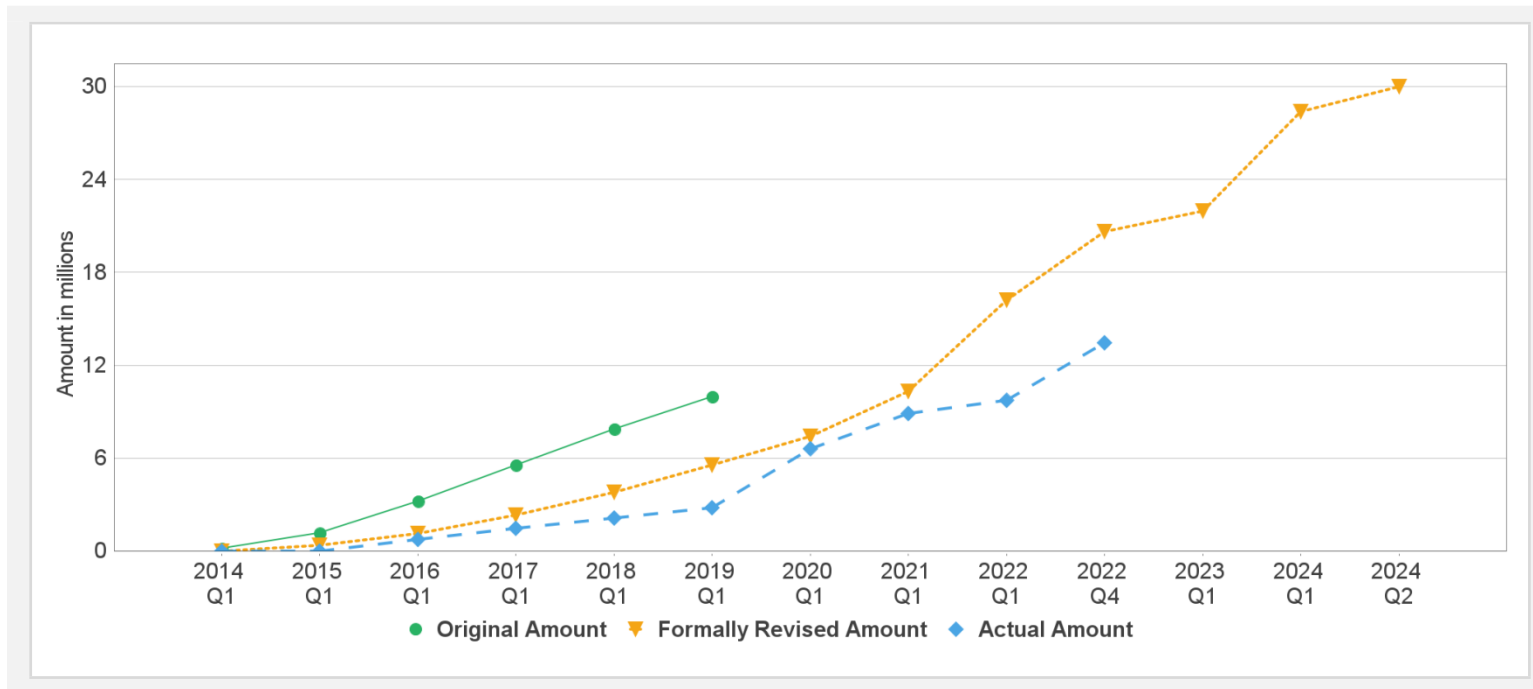
Disbursements (by loan)

Project	Loan/Credit/TF	Status	Currency	Original	Revised	Cancelled	Disbursed	Undisbursed	% Disbursed
P128628	IDA-53020	Effective	USD	10.00	10.00	0.00	9.17	0.18	98%
P128628	IDA-68150	Effective	USD	15.00	15.00	0.00	4.29	9.71	31%

Key Dates (by loan)

Project	Loan/Credit/TF	Status	Approval Date	Signing Date	Effectiveness Date	Orig. Closing Date	Rev. Closing Date
P128628	IDA-53020	Effective	17-Sep-2013	11-Oct-2013	30-Oct-2014	30-Sep-2018	30-Jun-2023
P128628	IDA-68150	Effective	17-Dec-2020	23-Dec-2020	11-Jun-2021	30-Jun-2023	30-Jun-2023

Cumulative Disbursements







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### **Restructuring History**

Level 2 Approved on 28-Jun-2018 ,Level 2 Approved on 13-Feb-2020 ,Level 2 Approved on 05-Jun-2020

### **Related Project(s)**

P171854-Congo Rep. Additional Financing for Skills Development for Employability Project

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