



Romania Secondary Education Project (P148585)

EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA | Romania | Education Global Practice |
IBRD/IDA | Investment Project Financing | FY 2015 | Seq No: 12 | ARCHIVED on 22-Dec-2020 | ISR44997 |

Implementing Agencies: Romania, Ministry of Education and Research, Ministry of Education and Research / Unit for Externally Financed Projects

Key Dates

Key Project Dates

Bank Approval Date: 16-Mar-2015

Effectiveness Date: 14-Oct-2015

Planned Mid Term Review Date: 20-May-2019

Actual Mid-Term Review Date: 27-May-2019

Original Closing Date: 31-Dec-2022

Revised Closing Date: 31-Dec-2022

Project Development Objectives

Project Development Objective (from Project Appraisal Document)

The proposed Project Development Objectives are to improve the transition from upper secondary into tertiary education and increase the retention in the first year of tertiary education in project-supported education institutions.

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

No

Components Table

Name

- 1 - School-based and Systemic Interventions:(Cost \$176.29 M)
- 2 - University-Level Interventions and Bridge Programs:(Cost \$59.90 M)
- 3 - Project Management, Monitoring and Evaluation:(Cost \$7.81 M)

Overall Ratings

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

Implementation Status and Key Decisions

The virtual review undertaken at this time re-confirmed the relevance of the Project Development Objectives. The Project Development Objectives remain highly relevant to Romania, and several project outcome indicators have been surpassed. Despite the financial challenges, in the ROSE high-schools, the average dropout rate in final grade decreased from 6.5 % to 2%, the graduation rate increased from 86.9% to 97.5%, and the Baccalaureate passing rate from 49.6% to 62.9%, all exceeding the final targets agreed for the project. The data are collected from the 728 grants under implementation in the school year 2019/2020. At the university level, the average retention rate in the first year of studies increased from 79.4% to 81.6% as planned target. Also, attendance at Baccalaureate has increased in ROSE high-schools despite the pandemic situation, and their passing Baccalaureate rate remains the same. In contrast, the national rate of passing the 2020's exam was lower in comparison with the ROSE schools.



The project enters its final phase of implementation with many activities at a peak, including the launch of the last rounds of grants for high schools and universities, currently totaling 1,267 grants. It is critical to ensure that funds are secured in full and allocated on time to support ROSE implementation as planned, and completion of all activities by the project closing date on December 31, 2022. The WB strongly recommends that the Ministry of Education and Research, with the Ministry of Public Finance's support, prioritize resources and allocate sufficient budget in 2021 and 2022 to support students' learning recovery on time through the grant-supported activities, especially in the neediest high schools.

It is encouraging that the ROSE project's grant scheme model has been transferred and applied by other projects financed by the Bank within ECA (i.e., Primary Education Improvement Project- North Macedonia) and is also being recognized by the European organization Bologna as best-practice on the grant schemes delivered by Higher Education Institutions (HEIs). The Bologna Follow-Up Group has prepared a report with best-practice examples on innovative and inclusive learning and teaching approaches

(http://www.ehea.info/Upload/AG2_Learning_and_Teaching_Final_Report.pdf). ROSE higher education component includes grant schemes that fund HEIs for setting up Learning centers, deliver tutoring, coaching, and career guidance for students-at-risk and summer bridge programs, which have produced good results. ROSE is one of the very few projects that precisely addresses equity issues in higher education that supports academically or socially vulnerable students in need, including measures to tackle the pandemic. In Romania, the grant scheme is replicated with EU funds under the current Operational Programme (OP) 2014-2020 "Human Capital," and the next OP (2021-2027) the "Education and Employment."

Risks

Systematic Operations Risk-rating Tool

Risk Category	Rating at Approval	Previous Rating	Current Rating
Political and Governance	☐ Substantial	☐ Substantial	☐ Substantial
Macroeconomic	☐ Moderate	☐ Substantial	☐ Substantial
Sector Strategies and Policies	☐ Low	☐ Moderate	☐ Moderate
Technical Design of Project or Program	☐ Low	☐ Low	☐ Low
Institutional Capacity for Implementation and Sustainability	☐ Moderate	☐ Moderate	☐ Moderate
Fiduciary	☐ Substantial	☐ Substantial	☐ Substantial
Environment and Social	☐ Low	☐ Low	☐ Low
Stakeholders	☐ Moderate	☐ Moderate	☐ Moderate
Other	--	☐ Substantial	☐ Substantial
Overall	☐ Moderate	☐ Substantial	☐ Substantial

Results

PDO Indicators by Objectives / Outcomes

Improve the transition from upper secondary into tertiary education



▶ Average dropout rate in the final grade in project-supported high schools (Percentage, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	6.50	3.00	1.98	3.50
Date	30-Jun-2014	10-Jun-2020	15-Dec-2020	31-Dec-2022
Comments:	The average dropout rate is calculated for all the project supported high-schools (public) that have implemented activities under the high school grants scheme, as a percentage of total dropouts from the total enrollment in final grade. The calculation was based on 728 high-school grants under implementation in 2018/2019 from batch one and two.			
□ Percentage of project-supported high schools with dropout rate above 7% (Percentage, Custom Supplement)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	23.10	15.52	5.77	10.00
▶ Average Bacculaureate passing rate in project-supported high schools (Percentage, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	49.60	62.93	62.88	59.00
Date	30-Jun-2014	10-Jun-2020	15-Dec-2020	31-Dec-2022
Comments:	The average Bacculaureate passing rate is calculated for all the project supported high-schools (public) that have implemented activities under the high school grants scheme, as a percentage of students who passed the Bacculaureate exam from the total number of students enrolled at the exam in the current cohort (cumulating all Bacc. sessions). The calculation was based on 728 high-school grants under implementation in 2018/2019 from batch one and two.			
▶ Average graduation rate in project-supported high schools (Percentage, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	86.90	95.57	97.47	93.00
Date	30-Jun-2014	10-Jun-2020	15-Dec-2020	31-Dec-2022
Comments:	The average graduation rate is calculated for all the project supported high schools (public) that have implemented activities under the high school grants scheme, as a percentage of total graduates from the total enrollment in final grade. The calculation was based on 728 high-school grants under implementation in 2018/2019 from batch one and two.			
▶ Students benefiting from direct interventions to enhance learning (Number, Corporate)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	--	330,950.00	450,000.00
Date	20-Oct-2015	--	16-Dec-2020	20-Dec-2022



□ Students benefiting from direct interventions to enhance learning - Female (Number, Corporate Supplement)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	--	180,354.00	225,000.00
► International large-scale assessments (ILSA) (Number, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	--	0.00	2.00
Date	23-Oct-2017	--	16-Dec-2020	20-Dec-2022
Comments:	The number of Bank-supported completed large-scale assessment rounds at the secondary levels			

Increase the retention in the first year of tertiary education				
► Average retention rate in the first year of tertiary education in project-supported faculties (Percentage, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	79.40	81.69	81.64	82.00
Date	30-Jun-2014	10-Jun-2020	15-Dec-2020	31-Oct-2022
Comments:	The calculation is based on the students' outcomes in 202 faculties.			

Intermediate Results Indicators by Components

1 - School-based and Systemic Interventions				
► Percentage of eligible high-schools benefitting from the project grants (Percentage, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	68.29	82.00	82.00
Date	30-Jun-2014	10-Jun-2020	15-Dec-2020	31-Dec-2022
Comments:	728 grants in implementation out of 1066 eligible			
► Percentage of project-supported high schools that implement the grants in compliance with grant performance indicators (Percentage, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Date	11-Dec-2015	10-Jun-2020	15-Dec-2020	31-Dec-2022



Comments:	All grants are compliant with implementation requirements set in the high school grant manual.			
► Percentage of project-supported high schools that implement the grants in compliance with requirements for citizen engagement applicable to the Project (Percentage, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	100.00	100.00	90.00
Date	01-Jan-2016	10-Jun-2020	15-Dec-2020	31-Dec-2022
► Average percentage of students of project-supported high school benefiting from remedial, tutoring or counselling activities (Percentage, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	30.68	30.55	50.00
Date	30-Jun-2014	10-Jun-2020	15-Dec-2020	31-Dec-2022
► Grade 10 assessment developed and administered, and results used to inform policy (Yes/No, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	No	No	No	Yes
Date	01-Jan-2016	10-Jun-2020	15-Dec-2020	31-Dec-2022
Comments:	Not yet due.			

2 - University-Level Interventions and Bridge Programs

► Percentage of eligible faculties benefitting from project grants (Percentage, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	64.74	69.23	75.00
Date	01-Jan-2016	10-Jun-2020	15-Dec-2020	31-Dec-2022

Comments: 216 out of the 312 eligible faculties are benefitting from noncompetitive grants.

► Number of at risk tertiary education students benefitting from remediation and counseling programs (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	15,999.00	30,404.00	50,000.00
Date	11-Dec-2015	10-Jun-2020	15-Dec-2020	31-Dec-2022

Comments: The intermediary targets are revised due to delays in starting grants implementation and lack of funds.



▶ Number of project-supported high school students who participate in bridge programs (Number, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	5,426.00	6,332.00	8,000.00
Date	01-Jan-2016	10-Jun-2020	15-Dec-2020	31-Dec-2022

3 - Project Management, Monitoring and Evaluation				
▶ Report on the analysis of existing demand-side programs for disadvantaged upper secondary education students published with recommendations (Yes/No, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	No	No	No	Yes
Date	01-Jan-2016	10-Jun-2020	15-Dec-2020	31-Dec-2022
Comments:	Not yet done due to lack of funds			
▶ Share of students of project-supported high school attending bridge programs who demonstrate motivation to pursue tertiary education (Percentage, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	30.00
Date	31-Dec-2018	10-Jun-2020	15-Dec-2020	31-Dec-2022
Comments:	Included in the impact evaluation, delayed due to lack of funds.			
▶ Tertiary education students loan scheme revised and used to inform policy makers (Yes/No, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	No	No	No	Yes
Date	01-Sep-2014	10-Jun-2020	15-Dec-2020	31-Dec-2022
Comments:	Not yet due			
▶ Direct project beneficiaries (Number, Custom)				
	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	169,498.00	330,950.00	450,000.00
Date	01-Sep-2014	10-Jun-2020	15-Dec-2020	31-Dec-2022
Comments:	The actual value of the indicator includes only students and teachers.			

Female beneficiaries (Percentage, Custom Supplement)



	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	54.00	54.00	50.00

Performance-Based Conditions

Data on Financial Performance

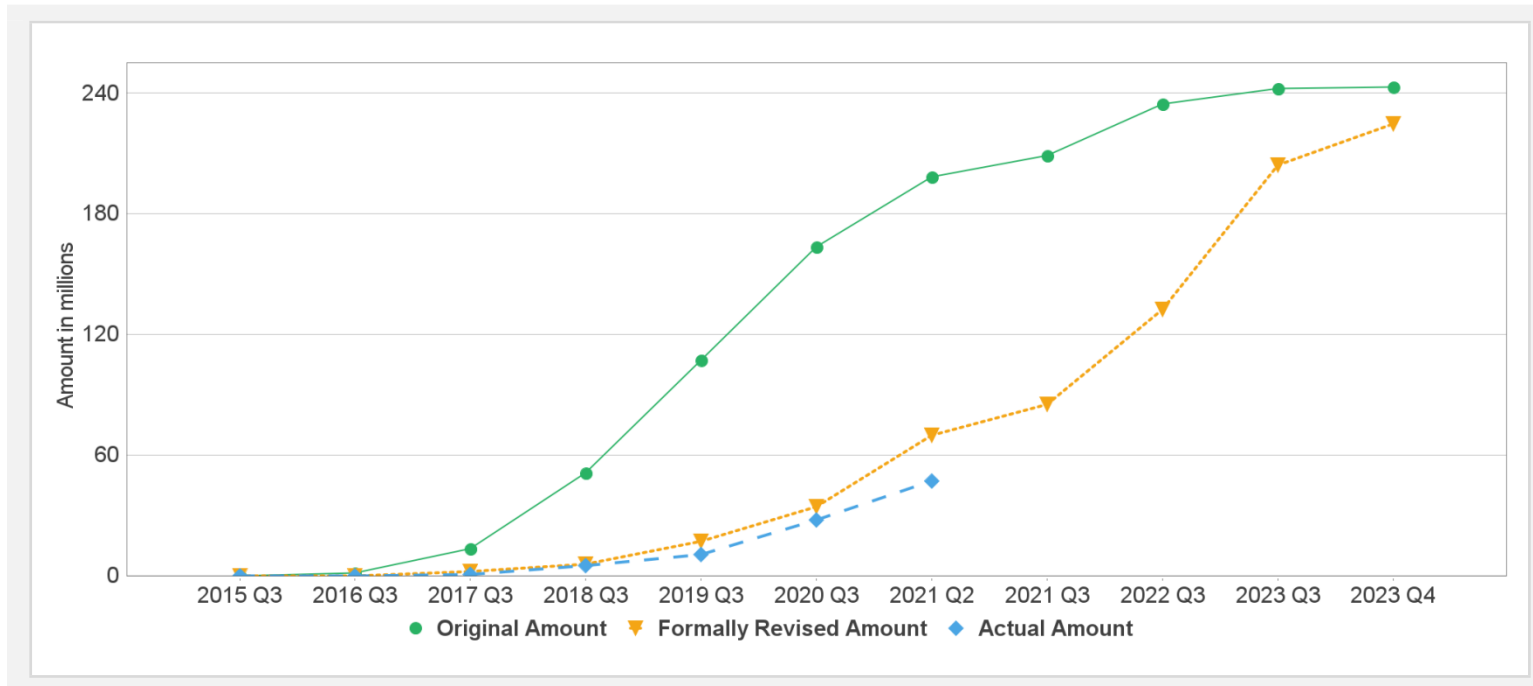
Disbursements (by loan)

Project	Loan/Credit/TF	Status	Currency	Original	Revised	Cancelled	Disbursed	Undisbursed	% Disbursed
P148585	IBRD-84810	Effective	USD	243.10	243.10	0.00	46.89	192.74	20%

Key Dates (by loan)

Project	Loan/Credit/TF	Status	Approval Date	Signing Date	Effectiveness Date	Orig. Closing Date	Rev. Closing Date
P148585	IBRD-84810	Effective	16-Mar-2015	17-Apr-2015	14-Oct-2015	31-Dec-2022	31-Dec-2022

Cumulative Disbursements





PBC Disbursement

PBC ID	PBC Type	Description	Coc	PBC Amount	Achievement Status	Disbursed amount in Coc	Disbursement % for PBC
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Restructuring History

Level 2 Approved on 07-Dec-2017 ,Level 2 Approved on 29-Jul-2020

Related Project(s)

There are no related projects.
