Public Disclosure Authorized

Higher Education Research for Innovation and Competitiveness Project (P122785)

EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA | Montenegro | Education Global Practice |
IBRD/IDA | Investment Project Financing | FY 2012 | Seq No: 13 | ARCHIVED on 21-Dec-2018 | ISR34587 |

Implementing Agencies: Montenegro, HERIC PMU

Key Dates

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Bank Approval Date: 24-Jan-2012
Effectiveness Date: 21-May-2012
Planned Mid Term Review Date: 08-Jun-2015
Actual Mid-Term Review Date: 24-May-2015
Original Closing Date: 30-Mar-2017
Revised Closing Date: 30-Jun-2019

Project Development Objectives

Project Development Objective (from Project Appraisal Document)

The Project development objective is to strengthen the quality and relevance of higher education and research in Montenegro throughreforming the higher education finance and quality assurance systems and by strengthening research and development capabilities.

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

No

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Components

Name
Higher Education Finance Reforms and Implementation of Quality Assurance Norms:(Cost $3.73 M)
Human Capital Development through Internationalization Initiatives:(Cost $2.81 M)
Establishing a Competitive Research Environment:(Cost $7.94 M)
Project Management and Monitoring and Evaluation:(Cost $1.26 M)

Overall Ratings

Name	Previous Rating	Current Rating
Progress towards achievement of PDO	Satisfactory	Satisfactory
Overall Implementation Progress (IP)	Satisfactory	Satisfactory
Overall Risk Rating	Moderate	Low

Implementation Status and Key Decisions

The project is implementing as planned and with progress in all areas leading toward achievement of the development objective by the close of the project (30 June 2019).
Within the higher education activities, all components are near or have achieved the expected results related to higher education finance reforms, reforms to the quality assurance processes and agencies, and internationalization.
The Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education has been established and is undergoing trainings both in country and via opportunities in the region. The higher education institutional grants provided to institutions to promote local, targeted reforms, all awarded grants have been fully utilized, with implementation report nearing completion for all recipients.

In regard to the efforts to support human capital development through internationalization of higher education: A facilitation office, with dedicated staff, is operational within the Ministry of Education, to create a central point for supporting Montenegrin students and scholars engaging in international agreements and programs.
Finally, related to the component on Research and Innovation for Competitiveness, six (6) out of eight (8) collaborative research grants have been completed. A decision was taken (January 2018) by the Board of the University of Montenegro to establish the Center of Excellence (CoE) for Research and Innovation as an independent entity within the university, based on the experience of the HERIC-funded pilot Center of Education project "BIO-ICT". The new CoE entity within the university is established and operational.

Risks

Systematic Operations Risk-rating Tool

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

Results

PDO Indicators by Objectives / Outcomes

Strengthen the quality and relevance of higher education and research in Montenegro

▸Complete external evaluation of 3 main universities, utilizing new quality assurance and accreditation measures developed in accordance with Bologna-defined EU norms and practices. (Text, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	3.00	3.00	3.00
Date	20-Dec-2011	20-Mar-2018	12-Dec-2018	30-Jun-2019

▸Increase in the perception of relevance of higher education programs and degrees (Percentage, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	86.00	86.00	86.00	88.80
Date	31-Jan-2013	20-Mar-2018	12-Dec-2018	30-Jun-2019

▸Establish one pilot Center of Excellence (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Date	20-Dec-2011	20-Mar-2018	12-Dec-2018	30-Jun-2019

▸Establish 10 public/private or international R&D partnerships and/or business start-ups with research institutes or university faculties. (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	10.00	10.00	10.00
Date	20-Dec-2011	20-Mar-2018	12-Dec-2018	30-Jun-2019

Overall Comments

Three of the four PDO indicators have been achieved. The last, the relevance indicator, relies on a follow-up survey, which is to be completed nearer to the closure of the project.

Intermediate Results Indicators by Components

Higher Education Finance Reforms and Implementation of Quality Assurance Norms

▸Implementation of new higher education funding model. (Text, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	Funding model not developed	The new financing model of the University of Montenegro was adopted by the Government and the new funding model will be enforced for the academic year 2018/19.	New funding model implemented	New funding model implemented
Date	20-Dec-2011	20-Mar-2018	12-Dec-2018	30-Jun-2019

▸Number of grants awarded to faculties, programs, and institutions. (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	16.00	20.00	20.00
Date	20-Dec-2011	20-Mar-2018	12-Dec-2018	30-Jun-2019

▸National Qualifications Framework developed and adopted for 180 programs (Text, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	Baseline competencies not developed for any program	NQF is being implemented via support outside the HERIC project.	NQF is being implemented via support outside the HERIC project.	Baseline competencies developed and

				adopted for 180 programs
Date	20-Dec-2011	20-Mar-2018	12-Dec-2018	30-Jun-2019

Human Capital Development through Internationalization Initiatives

▸Establishment of an Office within the MoE to coordinate bilateral and multilateral agreement programs available to Montenegrin students and academic staff (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	--	1.00	1.00
Date	20-Dec-2011	--	12-Dec-2018	30-Jun-2019

▸Number of students receiving scholarships for master's, doctoral and postdoctoral studies abroad. (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	--	132.00	60.00
Date	20-Dec-2011	--	12-Dec-2018	30-Jun-2019
Comments:	132 scholarship contracts signed-first and second call.Completed 112 scholarships(68 Masters,31 PHD,13 PostDoc.)			

Establishing a Competitive Research Environment

▸Number of research and development subprojects implemented. (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	12.00	12.00	12.00
Date	20-Dec-2011	20-Mar-2018	12-Dec-2018	30-Jun-2019

▸Increase in the number of Montenegrin researchers who participate in international R&D projects. (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	200.00	235.00	235.00	235.00
Date	20-Dec-2011	20-Mar-2018	12-Dec-2018	30-Jun-2019

▸Development of framework for future CoE. (Text, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	Framework for future CoE not developed	On target	For future CoE developed	Framework for future CoE developed
Date	20-Dec-2011	20-Mar-2018	12-Dec-2018	30-Jun-2019

Overall Comments

Aside from the indicator related to the National Qualifications Framework--which was ultimately supported by complementary partner funds and not HERIC funds--all intermediate indicators have been achieved or exceeded.

Data on Financial Performance

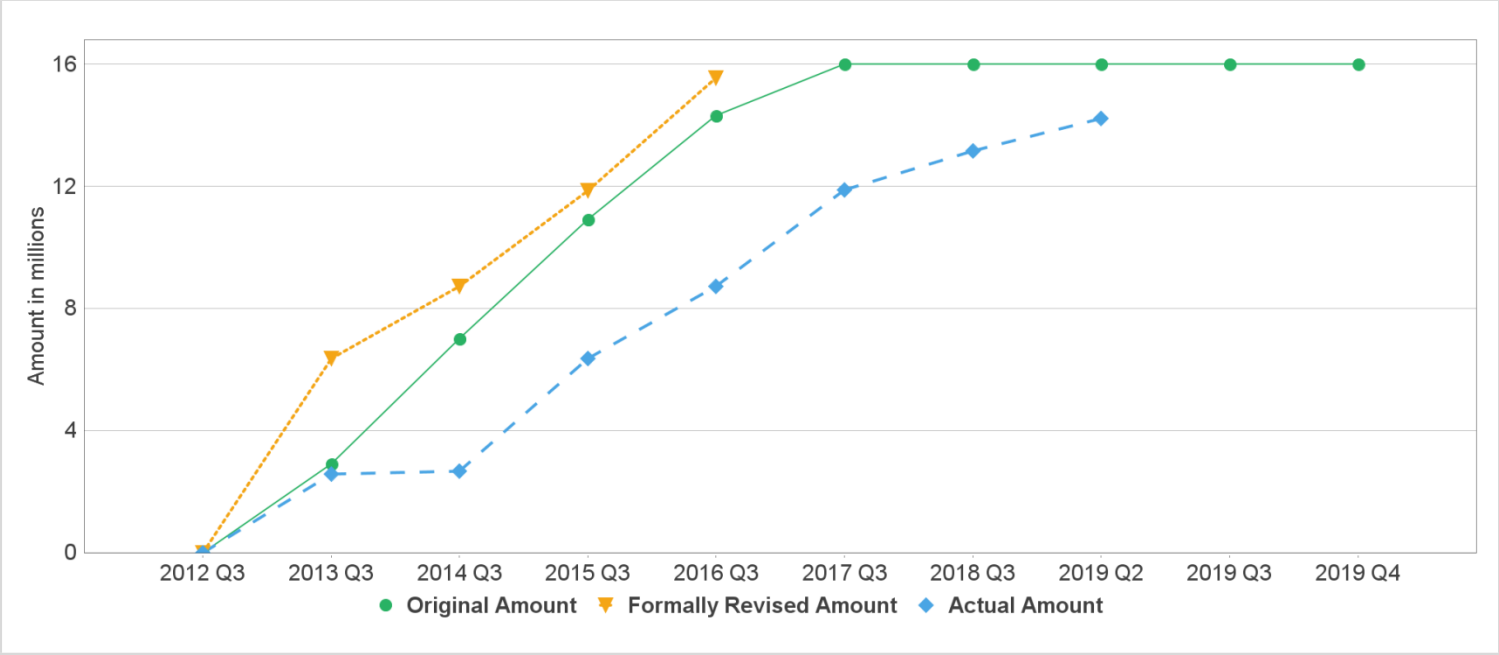
Disbursements (by loan)

Project	Loan/Credit/TF	Status	Currency	Original	Revised	Cancelled	Disbursed	Undisbursed	% Disbursed
P122785	IBRD-81180	Effective	USD	15.98	15.98	0.00	14.26	0.00	100%

Key Dates (by loan)

Project	Loan/Credit/TF	Status	Approval Date	Signing Date	Effectiveness Date	Orig. Closing Date	Rev. Closing Date
P122785	IBRD-81180	Effective	24-Jan-2012	22-Feb-2012	21-May-2012	30-Mar-2017	30-Jun-2019

Cumulative Disbursements



Restructuring History

Level 2 Approved on 30-Jun-2016 ,Level 2 Approved on 22-Oct-2018

Related Project(s)

There are no related projects.