

Environmental and Social Review Summary (ESRS) University of the West Indies Global Campus – Barbados

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1 Overview of the operation

The University of West Indies (“UWI” or the “Client”) has requested a long-term loan for the establishment of the International School for Development Justice (the “Project”) which sits within the UWI Global Campus. The ISDJ aims to be one of the world’s first postgraduate online learning schools dedicated exclusively to programs around sustainability and social justice.

Under the Project, students will be able to access degrees on sustainability and social justice from anywhere in the world, allowing individuals who may not have had the opportunity to attend a traditional university to pursue higher education. It will also provide programs related to UN Sustainability Goals that currently are not available in the market.

2 Scope of IDB Invest's environmental and social review

The environmental and social analysis of the proposed operation consisted of a documentary review of the Client's environmental and social performance over time, with an emphasis on compliance with the following Performance Standards (“PS”): PS1: Assessment and Management of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts; and PS3: Resource Efficiency and Pollution Prevention.

3 Environmental and social classification and its justification

In accordance with IDB Invest's Environmental and Social Sustainability Policy, the Project has been classified in Category C because the incremental impacts it will generate are low or none and can easily be managed from the perspective of the Project.

4 Environmental and social risks

4.1 Assessment and Management of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts

The Client has policies and procedures to manage environmental and social (“E&S”) risks through several of its administrative support units.

The Project is classified as a special purpose company owned wholly by the Client, with all five campuses of the UWI accredited by national accreditation agencies. The UWI is also a member of the International

Network for Quality Assurance Agencies for Higher Education (“INQAAHE”)¹ and its sub-regional association, the Caribbean Area Network for Quality Assurance in Tertiary Education (“CANQATE”)² which provides oversight for the quality of its operations.

The Project will therefore be adequately guided by existing policies, procedures, and accreditation as it relates to E&S risk management.

4.2 Labor and Working Conditions

There are no material impacts regarding labor and working conditions. The Client and its operations are guided by local labor laws which address key elements such as terms of employment, child and forced labor³, discrimination, and freedom of association of employees.⁴

4.3 Resource Efficiency and Pollution Prevention

The Client has several initiatives and programs to achieve resource efficiency and pollution prevention across its campuses through its Climate Action Portal⁵, along with a *Green Campus Initiative*. The UWI has invested in solar panels, electric vehicle charging stations, cogeneration plants, rooftop gardens, and construction of the Caribbean’s first Net-Zero Building in 2017 at its Mona campus which served as a prototype for similar construction in the region.

In 2019, the university developed *The University of the West Indies Environmental Protection and Sustainability Policy* which outlined five policy goals aligned with the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. These include commitments to i) conserving and reducing the consumption of energy, water and other natural resources; ii) managing the production and disposal of all forms of waste and promoting the principles of a circular economy; iii) save up to 30% in water consumption; iv) promoting the purchase of products, services and resources that have least impact on the environment across their life cycle; and v) encouraging sustainable use and management of its indoor and outdoor facilities and spaces, and integrate the values of sustainable development into its courses, programmes and all educational initiatives.

4.4 Community Health, Safety, and Security

The Project will not have any adverse impacts on community health, safety and security.

5 Proposed management measures

No management measures are required due to the low and immaterial E&S impacts associated with the Project.

¹ <http://www.inqaahe.org/>

² <http://www.canqate.org/>

³ https://www.ituc-csi.org/IMG/pdf/FINAL_Jamaica.pdf

⁴ <https://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/docs/ELECTRONIC/13616/116901/F-735077660/JAM13616.pdf>

⁵ <https://uwi.edu/climateaction/index.php>

6 Additional Information

- For questions about the Project contact The University of the West Indies:

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