



Concept Environmental and Social Review Summary

Concept Stage

(ESRS Concept Stage)

Date Prepared/Updated: 02/20/2024 | Report No: ESRSC04106

**I. BASIC INFORMATION****A. Basic Operation Data**

Operation ID	Product	Operation Acronym	Approval Fiscal Year
P504171	Program-for-Results Financing (PforR)	LEARN	2025
Operation Name	Lifting Education Access and Resilience in times of Need in Ukraine		
Country/Region Code	Beneficiary country/countries (borrower, recipient)	Region	Practice Area (Lead)
Ukraine	Ukraine	EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA	Education
Borrower(s)	Implementing Agency(ies)	Estimated Appraisal Date	Estimated Board Date
Ukraine	Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine	01-May-2024	16-Aug-2024
Estimated Concept Review Date	Total Project Cost		
09-Feb-2024	8,372,000,000.00		

Proposed Development Objective

To (i) increase access to in-person learning and (ii) improve teaching and learning conditions in Ukraine.

B. Is the operation being prepared in a Situation of Urgent Need of Assistance or Capacity Constraints, as per Bank IPF Policy, para. 12?

No

C. Summary Description of Proposed Project Activities

[Description imported from the Concept Data Sheet in the Portal providing information about the key aspects and components/sub-components of the project]

This program will support two key priority results areas in Ukraine's basic education sector: (1) the New Ukrainian School (NUS) Reform of compulsory school education and (2) early childhood and preschool education. Within each of these key results areas, there are four strategic goals which are relevant to the Government program's theory of change and which will underlie the design of the PforR: (i) access to safe, modern and inclusive learning environments; (ii) quality of curricula and alignment with learner-centered and competency-based approaches to teaching and learning;



(iii) skills, knowledge and motivation of teachers and school directors; and (iv) coordination, management, and financing in a decentralized context.

D. Environmental and Social Overview

D.1 Overview of Environmental and Social Project Settings

[Description of key features relevant to the operation's environmental and social risks and opportunities (e.g., whether the project is nationwide or regional in scope, urban/rural, in an FCV context, presence of Indigenous Peoples or other minorities, involves associated facilities, high-biodiversity settings, etc.) – Max. character limit 2,000]

The project is nationwide in scope and takes place within the context of the Russian invasion of Ukraine. Since 2022, Russia's invasion of Ukraine has disrupted education due to damage to educational institutions and has deteriorated the quality of instruction due to teacher shortages and psychological pressure. As of November 2023, nearly 3,800 educational institutions (12 percent of the total) have been damaged or destroyed. Also, 43 percent of schools and 31 percent of preschools stopped providing in-person education due to the war. This represents a decline of 22 percent in the number of operating institutions and a 34 percent decrease in enrolled children since the beginning of the invasion in February 2022. Schools and preschools in oblasts under attack, such as Kharkivska or Khersonska oblasts, are solely providing online classes. This decrease is a loss for the children and their parents, especially mothers, who must care for them. The project is an IPF component of a broader Program for Results operation. The IPF component will support the improvement of learning conditions in schools, as part of the NUS reform, and preschools, and will create transparency and efficiency in monitoring subsidies.

D.2 Overview of Borrower's Institutional Capacity for Managing Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts

[Description of Borrower's capacity (i.e., prior performance under the Safeguard Policies or ESF, experience applying E&S policies of IFIs, Environmental and social unit/staff already in place) and willingness to manage risks and impacts and of provisions planned or required to have capabilities in place, along with the needs for enhanced support to the Borrower – Max. character limit 2,000]

Ministry of Education has an on-going project with fully staffed PIU with experience implementing projects under ESF.

II. SCREENING OF POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RISKS AND IMPACTS

A. Environmental and Social Risk Classification (ESRC)

Moderate

A.1 Environmental Risk Rating

Low

[Summary of key factors contributing to risk rating, in accordance with the ES Directive and the Technical Note on Screening and Risk Classification under the ESF – Max. character limit 2,000]

The project environmental risks are considered to be Low as the proposed project will not support any activities including civil works which can generate direct or indirect environmental impacts. Trainings will be implemented with all necessary emergency preparedness procedures to minimize war-related risks for participants.

A.2 Social Risk Rating

Moderate



[Summary of key factors contributing to risk rating, in accordance with the ES Directive and the Technical Note on Screening and Risk Classification under the ESF – Max. character limit 2,000]

The IPF component is comprised of technical assistance activities for capacity building, with minimal social impacts in themselves. The main risks are related to delivering in-person training activities in the context of the conflict. Other risks are related to ensuring that gender and social inclusion aspects are well incorporated into the training materials financed under the project, and that training for teachers is conducted in a safe and accessible environment.

[Summary of key factors contributing to risk rating. This attribute is only for the internal version of the download document and not a part of the disclosable version – Max. character limit 2,000]

B. Relevance of Standards and Policies at Concept Stage

B.1 Relevance of Environmental and Social Standards

ESS1 - Assessment and Management of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts

Relevant

[Optional Explanation - Max. character limit 1,000]

This project comprises the IPF component of a Program for Results operation and is comprised of capacity building activities with minimal environmental and social impacts in themselves. Activities under the IPF support technical assistance for piloting and rollout of established educational curriculum, as well as purchase of classroom equipment. At concept stage, the social and environmental risks are rated moderate given the risks of delivering in-person training activities in the context of the conflict. An Environmental and Social Commitment Plan (ESCP) will be prepared and disclosed before appraisal, specifying any appropriate ESF requirements to be incorporated into training and consultant contracts (e.g. labor and working conditions consistent with ESS2, SEA/SH Code of Conduct) as well as for managing procurement, use and disposal of digital equipment.

ESS10 - Stakeholder Engagement and Information Disclosure

Relevant

[Optional Explanation - Max. character limit 1,000]

Due to the implications of martial law, limited in-person consultations are possible; on-line consultations will be the consultation modality.

ESS2 - Labor and Working Conditions

Relevant

[Optional Explanation - Max. character limit 1,000]

The project will have direct and contacted workers with the possibility to engage seconded government staff across the existing education programs that may be engaged to conduct the trainings and hence, can be considered direct workers. These workers will have a grievance mechanism and code of conduct, which are reflected in the ESCP.

ESS3 - Resource Efficiency and Pollution Prevention and Management

Not Currently Relevant

[Optional Explanation - Max. character limit 1,000]



ESS4 - Community Health and Safety

Relevant

[Optional Explanation - Max. character limit 1,000]

An Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan in response to community health and safety risks associated with the operating context, including measures to promote community awareness, will be prepared as part of the POM.

ESS5 - Land Acquisition, Restrictions on Land Use and Involuntary Resettlement

Not Currently Relevant

[Optional Explanation - Max. character limit 1,000]

ESS6 - Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Management of Living Natural Resources

Not Currently Relevant

[Optional Explanation - Max. character limit 1,000]

ESS7 - Indigenous Peoples/Sub-Saharan African Historically Underserved Traditional Local Communities

Not Currently Relevant

[Optional Explanation - Max. character limit 1,000]

ESS8 - Cultural Heritage

Not Currently Relevant

[Optional Explanation - Max. character limit 1,000]

ESS9 - Financial Intermediaries

Not Currently Relevant

[Optional Explanation - Max. character limit 1,000]

B.2 Legal Operational Policies that Apply

OP 7.50 Operations on International Waterways

No

OP 7.60 Operations in Disputed Areas

No

B.3 Other Salient Features

Use of Borrower Framework

No

[Optional explanation – Max. character limit 1,000]



Use of Common Approach

No

[Optional Explanation including list of possible financing partners – Max. character limit 1,000]

B.4 Summary of Assessment of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts

[Description provided will not be disclosed but will flow as a one time flow to the Concept Stage PID – Max. character limit 5,000]

At concept stage, the social and environmental risks of the IPF are rated moderate given the relatively low risks of delivering in-person training activities in the context of the conflict.

C. Overview of Required Environmental and Social Risk Management Activities

C.1 What Borrower environmental and social analyses, instruments, plans and/or frameworks are planned or required by Appraisal?

[Description of expectations in terms of documents to be prepared to assess and manage the project's environmental and social risks and by when (i.e., prior to Effectiveness, or during implementation), highlighted features of ESA documents, other project documents where environmental and social measures are to be included, and the related due diligence process planned to be carried out by the World Bank, including sources of information for the due diligence - Max. character limit 3,000]

An Environmental and Social Commitment Plan (ESCP) will be prepared and disclosed before appraisal, specifying any appropriate ESF requirements to be incorporated into training and consultant contracts (e.g. labor and working conditions consistent with ESS2, SEA/SH Code of Conduct) as well as for managing procurement, use and disposal of digital equipment. The ESCP will also specify any specific stakeholder engagement requirements for capacity building, as needed, and will make reference to the GRM for the operation as a whole; no standalone SEP will be prepared.

III. CONTACT POINT

Contact Point

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IV. FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT



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V. APPROVAL

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