

 Early Warning System

ADB-58335-001

Equitable Access to Quality Education Project



Quick Facts

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| Countries | Kiribati |
| Financial Institutions | Asian Development Bank (ADB) |
| Status | Approved |
| Bank Risk Rating | B |
| Voting Date | 2025-10-28 |
| Borrower | Government of Kiribati - Ministry of Education; Ministry of Finance and Economic Development |
| Sectors | Education and Health, Technical Cooperation |
| Investment Type(s) | Grant |
| Investment Amount (USD) | \$ 35.80 million |
| Project Cost (USD) | \$ 35.80 million |



Project Description

According to the Bank's website, the Equitable Access to Quality Education Project in Kiribati seeks to address disparities in access, quality, and equity within the education system, particularly for students residing in the outer Gilbert Islands. The project is aligned with national and regional frameworks, including the Education Sector Strategic Plan 2024-2027 and the Kiribati Partnership Compact. The project has three outputs. Output 1 focuses on expanding gender-responsive, climate-resilient education infrastructure. This includes replacing vulnerable, temporary classrooms with disability-accessible, climate-resilient facilities across nine outer island primary schools. Upgrades also extend to student dormitories at King George V School and the Kiribati Teachers College (KTC), improving access for boys and encouraging more male teachers from outer islands. Additional interventions include the provision of light trucks for student transport, piloting inclusive safety and maintenance protocols, and training transport operators on gender and child safety. Trained maintenance officers will be deployed and supported for two years to ensure sustainability.

Output 2 aims to strengthen curriculum, assessments, and delivery systems by addressing student retention (push and pull factors). It includes upgrading the digital technology curriculum, establishing digital technology resources or computer labs in junior secondary schools, and enhancing family-life education. Interactive and age-appropriate content will support students' understanding of gender equality, violence prevention, and reproductive health. Output 3 expands teacher training and community engagement. Teachers will receive in-service training on updated curricula, digital skills, gender-responsive teaching methods, and strategies to engage boys. Community-based activities will promote positive social norms and student retention. A dropout prevention pilot and a new attendance tracking system will be implemented in project schools.



Early Warning System Project Analysis

Environment: category B. Environmental impacts are expected to be site-specific and localized, with no significant or irreversible effects.

Involuntary Resettlement: category C. Project activities will take place on government-owned or leased land, as confirmed in the social due diligence report. The project is not expected to involve involuntary resettlement, but if any economic or social impacts arise, a resettlement plan will be developed as needed.

Indigenous Peoples: category C. The project is not expected to impact Indigenous Peoples, as defined under ADB's Safeguard Policy Statement, since Kiribati's population is predominately Micronesian.



Investment Description

- Asian Development Bank (ADB)

Grant (Asian Development Fund): US\$ 30.00 million

Grant (Global Partnership for Education Fund): US\$ 5.00 million

Grant (Technical Assistance Special Fund): US\$ 0.80 million



Contact Information

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ACCESS TO INFORMATION

You can submit an information request for project information at: <https://www.adb.org/forms/request-information-form>

ADB has a two-stage appeals process for requesters who believe that ADB has denied their request for information in violation of its Access to Information Policy. You can learn more about filing an appeal at: <https://www.adb.org/site/disclosure/appeals>

ACCOUNTABILITY MECHANISM OF ADB

The Accountability Mechanism is an independent complaint mechanism and fact-finding body for people who believe they are likely to be, or have been, adversely affected by an Asian Development Bank-financed project. If you submit a complaint to the Accountability Mechanism, they may investigate to assess whether the Asian Development Bank is following its own policies and procedures for preventing harm to people or the environment. You can learn more about the Accountability Mechanism and how to file a complaint at: <http://www.adb.org/site/accountability-mechanism/main>.



Bank Documents

- [Equitable Access to Quality Education Project: Gender Assessment and Action Plan](#)
- [Equitable Access to Quality Education Project: Initial Environmental Examination](#)
- [Equitable Access to Quality Education Project: Procurement Plan](#)
- [Equitable Access to Quality Education Project: Project Administration Manual](#)
- [Equitable Access to Quality Education Project: Report and Recommendation of the President](#)
- [Equitable Access to Quality Education Project: Safeguards Due Diligence Report](#)
- [Grant Agreement \(Externally Financed - Global Partnership for Education Fund\) for Grant 1057-KIR: Eq](#)
- [Grant Agreement \(Special Operations\) for Grant 1056-KIR: Equitable Access to Quality Education Proje](#)
- [Supporting Construction Skills and Project Implementation: Technical Assistance Report](#)

Media

- [ADB Approves \\$30 Million Grant to Transform Education Access in Kiribati](#)



Other Related Projects

- ADB-58335-002 Supporting Construction Skills and Project Implementation