Early Warning System

# WB-P175694

# Support to Tertiary Education Project



# **Quick Facts**

Countries	Iraq
Financial Institutions	World Bank (WB)
Status	Approved
Bank Risk Rating	U
Voting Date	2022-02-16
Borrower	Government of Iraq
Sectors	Education and Health, Law and Government
Investment Type(s)	Advisory Services
Project Cost (USD)	\$ 5.00 million



# **Project Description**

According to bank documents, the project objective is to develop institutional capacity for improving employability of university students in national development priority areas.

- 1. Component 1: Developing institutional capacity in disciplinary areas that support the national development priority sectors (proposed allocation US\$3.0m). Among the reasons for skill-mismatches in the labor market which have led to high unemployment rate of tertiary education graduates in Iraq is that programs and training offered at TEIs are less relevant and of poor quality. While the labor market is saturated with graduates from traditional, long-established programs (e.g., humanities specialization), graduates with skills from disciplinary areas that can serve the needs of national development priority sectors are difficult to find. Learning from international experiences (e.g., Africa Centers of Excellence) and after having consulted the Ministry of Planning and other relevant ministries, MoHESR plans to address the issue by piloting the center of excellence (CoE) concept in three national development priority areas agriculture, health and renewable energy. The proposed project therefore will support MoHESR's effort in establishing a CoE in each of these three priority areas. Although the Project will not be able to finance fully the establishment of these CoEs due to its very limited funding, it will focus more on some critical aspects of CoE (see below) with the introduction and application of international good practices, supporting MoHESR and these centers to build a solid foundation which will enable them to mobilize additional resources for further development.
- 2. Component 2: Strengthening institutional capacity and partnerships with the private sector and international institutions to improve graduates' employability (proposed allocation US\$1.5m). Besides the less-diversified economy and limited job opportunities, many tertiary education graduates have difficulty finding a job due to that fact their skills do not match what employers are looking for. Addressing this issue requires efforts being made at both the institutional and the individual levels, but none of them can yield a satisfactory outcome without engaging the private sector and learning from good practices elsewhere. The proposed project plans to support MoHESR in developing an incentive mechanism through competitive fund to foster partnerships between TEIs and the private sector and international institutions, equipping students with 21st century skills and market-relevant skills such as digital skills for future jobs. It is also expected that institutional capacity will be further strengthened through piloting competitive fund (see below) and that the sense of social responsibility among business communities can be improved through their established partnerships with TEIs.

# **Investment Description**

• World Bank (WB)



# **Contact Information**

#### World Bank:

Contact : Xiaonan Cao Title : Senior Education Specialist Telephone No : 473-8917

#### **Borrower:**

Borrower : Ministry of Finance Contact : Salah Hadeethi Title : Minister Advisor Telephone No : 9647901915000 Email : hadeethi.saladin@gmail.com

#### Implementing Agencies:

Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research Contact : Ehab Abbas Title : Director General of Studies, Planning, and Follow-up Telephone No : 9647901915250 Email : ehab19722002@gmail.com

#### ACCESS TO INFORMATION

To submit an information request for project information, you will have to create an account to access the Access to Information request form. You can learn more about this process at: https://www.worldbank.org/en/access-toinformation/request-submission

### ACCOUNTABILITY MECHANISM OF THE WORLD BANK

The World Bank Inspection Panel is the independent complaint mechanism and fact-finding body for people who believe they are likely to be, or have been, adversely affected by a World Bank-financed project. If you submit a complaint to the Inspection Panel, they may investigate to assess whether the World Bank is following its own policies and procedures for preventing harm to people or the environment. You can contact the Inspection Panel or submit a complaint by emailing ipanel@worldbank.org. Information on how to file a complaint and a complaint request form are available at: https://www.inspectionpanel.org/how-to-file-complaint



# Early Warning System Support to Tertiary Education Project

# **Bank Documents**

- Concept Environmental and Social Review Summary (ESRS) Support to Tertiary Education Project P17 [Original Source]
- Project Information Document (PID) Support to Tertiary Education Project P175694 [Original Source]