
GPE GRANT NUMBER TF0C1484

Global Partnership for Education Grant Agreement

(Education Quality Improvement Project)

between

REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

and

**INTERNATIONAL BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION
AND DEVELOPMENT**

acting as Grant Agent of the Global Partnership for Education

GPE GRANT NUMBER TF0C1484

**GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP FOR EDUCATION
GRANT AGREEMENT**

AGREEMENT dated as of the Signature Date between the REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA ("Recipient") and the INTERNATIONAL BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT ("Bank"), acting as Grant Agent of the Global Partnership for Education. The Recipient and the Bank hereby agree as follows:

WHEREAS, under the Loan Agreement, the Bank has agreed to provide financing to the Recipient in the form of a Loan, consisting of thirty-six million five hundred thousand Euros (€36,500,000) of Non-Concessional Portion of the Loan, and ten million United States Dollars (\$10,000,000) of Concessional Portion of the Loan, to assist in the financing of the project described in Schedule 1 to the Loan Agreement ("Project").

NOW THEREFORE, the Recipient and the Bank hereby agree as follows:

**Article I
Standard Conditions; Definitions**

- 1.01. The Standard Conditions (as defined in the Appendix to this Agreement) apply to and form part of this Agreement.
- 1.02. Unless the context requires otherwise, the capitalized terms used in this Agreement have the meanings ascribed to them in the Standard Conditions or in the Appendix to this Agreement.

**Article II
The Project**

- 2.01. The Recipient declares its commitment to the objectives of the project described in Schedule 1 to this Agreement ("Project"). To this end, the Recipient, through MoER shall carry out Parts 1, 2.1, 3.1, 3.2(a), and 4 of the Project; and cause Parts 2.2, 2.3, and 3.2(b) of the Project to be carried out by NORLD, in accordance with the provisions of Article II of the Standard Conditions and Schedule 2 to this Agreement.

**Article III
The Grant**

- 3.01. The Bank agrees to extend to the Recipient a grant in an amount not to exceed four million eight hundred thousand United States Dollars (\$4,800,000) ("Grant") to assist in financing the Project.
- 3.02. The Recipient may withdraw the proceeds of the Grant in accordance with Section III of Schedule 2 to this Agreement.
- 3.03. The Grant is funded out of the abovementioned trust fund for which the Bank receives periodic contributions from the donors to the trust fund. In accordance with Section 3.02 of the Standard Conditions, the Bank's payment obligations in connection with this Agreement are limited to the amount of funds made available to it by the donors under the abovementioned trust fund, and the Recipient's right to withdraw the Grant proceeds is subject to the availability of such funds.

**Article IV
Effectiveness; Termination**

- 4.01. This Agreement shall not become effective until evidence satisfactory to the Bank has been furnished to the Bank, confirming that: (a) the execution and delivery of this Agreement on behalf of the Recipient has been duly authorized by all necessary governmental action, and (b) the Financing Agreement has been executed, and all conditions precedent to its effectiveness (other than the effectiveness of this Agreement) have been fulfilled.
- 4.02. As part of the evidence to be furnished pursuant to Section 4.01(a), the Recipient shall furnish to the Bank an opinion satisfactory to the Bank, of counsel acceptable to the Bank, or if the Bank so requests, a certificate satisfactory to the Bank of a competent official of the Recipient, showing that this Agreement has been duly authorized and ratified by the Recipient, and that it is legally binding upon the Recipient in accordance with its terms.
- 4.03. Except as the Recipient and the Bank shall otherwise agree, the date on which this Agreement shall enter into effect shall be the date upon which the Bank dispatches to the Recipient notice of its acceptance of the evidence required pursuant to Section 4.01 ("Effective Date"). If, before the Effective Date, any event has occurred which would have entitled the Bank to suspend the right of the Recipient to make withdrawals from the Grant Account if this Agreement had been effective, the Bank may postpone the dispatch of the notice referred to in this Section until such event (or events) has (or have) ceased to exist.

- 4.04. *Termination for Failure to Become Effective.* This Agreement and all obligations of the Parties under it shall terminate if it has not entered into effect by the date ninety (90) days after the date of this Agreement, unless the Bank, after consideration of the reasons for the delay, establishes a later date for the purpose of this Section. The Bank shall promptly notify the Recipient of such later date.

Article V Amendments

- 5.01. Without limitation to Section 7.01(b) of the Standard Conditions, any modification to this Agreement shall be executed by written instrument agreed by the Parties hereto. Such amendment shall become effective once the Recipient has furnished evidence satisfactory to the Bank that the amendment has been duly authorized and ratified by all necessary governmental action, and any other condition specified in the amending agreement has been fulfilled.

Article VI Recipient's Representative; Addresses

- 6.01. The Recipient's Representative referred to in Section 7.02 of the Standard Conditions is its Minister of Finance.
- 6.02. For purposes of Section 7.01 of the Standard Conditions:
- (a) the Recipient's address is:
- Ministry of Finance
Constantin Tanase Street, 7
MD-2005 Chisinau
Republic of Moldova; and
- (b) the Recipient's Electronic Address is:
- | | |
|-----------------|----------------------|
| Telex: | E-mail: |
| (373 22) 262661 | cancelaria@mf.gov.md |
- 6.03. For purposes of Section 7.01 of the Standard Conditions:
- (a) the Bank's address is:

International Bank for Reconstruction and Development
1818 H Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20433
United States of America; and

(b) the Bank's Electronic Address is:

Telex:

248423 (MCI) or
64145 (MCI)

Facsimile:

1-202-477-6391

E-mail:

abanerji@worldbank.org

AGREED as of the Signature Date.

REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

By



Authorized Representative

Name: Anatolie Topală

Title: Minister of Education and Research

Date: June 30, 2023

**INTERNATIONAL BANK FOR
RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT**
acting as Grant Agent of GPE

By



Authorized Representative

Name: Inguna Dobraja

Title: Country Manager

Date: June 30, 2023

SCHEDULE 1

Project Description

The objectives of the Project are to: (i) improve the learning environment in Participating Institutions, with an emphasis on supporting Disadvantaged Students; and (ii) strengthen the capacity of the Ministry of Education and Research for sector management and refugee response.

The Project consists of the following parts:

Part 1. Improve Quality of Teaching Practices

Improving the quality of teaching through, *inter alia*:

- 1.1. (a) the development and implementation of: (i) in-service training for Selected Teachers and Managers on the Professional Standards for Teachers and School Managers; and (ii) scale-up of the assessment of the quality of teaching practices; and
- (b) the development and implementation of in-service training for Selected ECE Teachers and Educators on the ECE Curriculum, including indoor, outdoor, and play-based teaching and learning, and provision of related materials; and carrying out quality assessments of Selected ECEC Service Providers.
- 1.2. Development, piloting, and implementation of: (a) a rapid formative assessment in Key Subject Areas for the identification of students and students' learning challenges; (b) a Learning Recovery Program; and (c) supplemental tutoring for Disadvantaged Students performing in the bottom 20 percent.
- 1.3. Development of School Subprojects through the provision of School Grants to support in-service teacher professional development opportunities, including the set-up of a professional learning network among Moldovan teachers, as well as teachers from other countries; and school projects promoting innovative pedagogical practices.

Part 2. Improve the Quality of Learning Environment in Participating Institutions

Improving the learning environment of Participating Institutions through, *inter alia*:

- 2.1. *Equipping Participating Institutions*
 - (a) equipping the Participating Institutions with furniture, IT and STEM equipment, and teaching and learning materials for students with disabilities;
 - (b) providing training to teachers and managers of the Participating Institutions, including through user guides and demonstration videos on operating and

maintaining IT and STEM equipment, and the use of such equipment with modern teaching methodologies and digital learning materials in the classrooms; and

- (c) equipping the new constructed high schools under Part 2.3(a) with furniture and equipment for classrooms, canteens, and sport facilities, and any other provisions required to ensure full functionality of such high schools.

2.2. Carrying out civil works for the rehabilitation of:

- (a) Participating Institutions; and
- (b) Selected ECEC Facilities.

2.3. *Building Modern High Schools*

- (a) construction of three (3) high schools in Priority Areas of the Borrower's territory; and
- (b) preparing and carrying out training modules and adopting manuals on schools' maintenance, including operation and maintenance of clean technologies, in the new constructed high schools.

Part 3. Strengthening the Capacity for Education Sector Management and Refugee Response

3.1. Improving planning, management, and evaluation of education reforms through, *inter alia*:

- (a) upgrading and expanding the existing EMIS for making better use of data to support management decisions at all levels;
- (b) strengthening the national capacity for administration, data analysis, and dissemination, of the national and international student assessments;
- (c) upgrading the teacher and managers professional standards;
- (d) revising the nationwide education infrastructure investments planning, including climate change adaptation of the education sector;
- (e) supporting national and subnational capacity building to lead upper secondary sector reforms and ECEC expansion; and
- (f) conducting an impact evaluation of the Learning Recovery Program and the ECCE expansion.

3.2. *Project Management*

(a) Supporting the PMT with management, monitoring, and evaluation activities, including, *inter alia*: (i) project supervision and implementation; (ii) compliance with Project requirements, such as financial management, procurement, environmental and social, and other required technical areas; and (iii) implementing outreach activities related to the Project; and

(b) Supporting NORLD's Team with management, monitoring, and evaluation activities, including, *inter alia*: (i) project supervision and implementation; (ii) compliance with Project requirements, such as financial management, procurement, environmental and social, and other required technical areas; and (iii) implementing outreach activities related to the Project.

Part 4. Contingent Emergency Response

Provision of immediate response to an Eligible Crisis or Emergency, as needed.

SCHEDULE 2

Project Execution

Section I. Institutional and Other Arrangements

A. Institutional Arrangements.

1. The Recipient, through MoER, shall no later than thirty (30) days after the Effective Date, establish and thereafter maintain throughout Project implementation, a PMT, with core staffing, functions, and resources as set forth in the Project Operations Manual.
2. The Recipient, through MoER, shall cause NORLD, no later than thirty (30) days after the Effective Date, to establish and thereafter maintain throughout Project Implementation, the NORLD's Team, with core staffing, functions, and resources as set forth in the Project Operations Manual.
3. The Recipient, through MoER, shall, no later than twelve (12) months after the Effective Date, establish and thereafter maintain throughout Project implementation, as applicable, the School Grants Selection Committee, to facilitate the carrying out of Part 1.3 of the Project, with core staffing, functions, and resources as set forth in the School Grants Operations Manual.

B. Operations Manual.

1. The Recipient, through MoER, shall no later than thirty (30) days after the Effective Date, adopt, and thereafter carry out the Project, and cause the Project to be carried out by NORLD, in accordance with the provisions of a manual (the Project Operations Manual) satisfactory to the Bank, which shall include, *inter alia*:
 - (a) the detailed description of Project activities;
 - (b) institutional arrangements for the oversight, coordination, management, and day-to-day implementation of the Project;
 - (c) functions, responsibilities and composition of the PMT and NORLD's Team;
 - (d) the Project's administrative, accounting, auditing, reporting, financial (including cash flow aspects in relation thereto), procurement and disbursement procedures;

- (e) arrangements for preventing, detecting, reporting, investigating, remediating and otherwise addressing fraud and corruption, including compliance with the Anti-Corruption Guidelines;
 - (f) environmental and social management systems, including the grievance redress mechanism, gender-based violence and sexual exploitation, and abuse ("GBV/SEA"); and
 - (g) the selection criteria for Teachers and Managers, ECE Teachers and Educators, ECEC Service Providers, Priority Areas, Schools, and Participating Institutions.
2. Except as the Bank may otherwise agree in writing, the Recipient, through MoER, shall not amend, waive, suspend, or abrogate, or otherwise fail to enforce the Project Operations Manual, or any provisions thereof.
3. In case of any conflict between the terms of the Project Operations Manual, and this Agreement, the provisions of this Agreement shall prevail.

C. Schools Grants Operations Manual

1. The Recipient, through MoER, shall adopt, and thereafter carry out Part 1.3 of the Project, in accordance with the provisions of a manual (the School Grants Operations Manual) satisfactory to the Bank, which shall include, *inter alia*:
- (a) the detailed description of activities to be carried out under Part 1.3 of the Project;
 - (b) the detailed description of the institutional arrangements for the implementation of Part 1.3 of the Project;
 - (c) the administrative, accounting, auditing, reporting, financial (including cash flow aspects in relation thereto), procurement and disbursement procedures for Part 1.3 of the Project;
 - (d) arrangements for preventing, detecting, reporting, investigating, remediating and otherwise addressing fraud and corruption, including compliance with the Anti-Corruption Guidelines;
 - (e) environmental and social management systems, including the grievance redress mechanism, gender-based violence and sexual exploitation, and abuse ("GBV/SEA");
 - (f) the eligibility criteria, requirements, and procedures for the selection of Schools;

- (g) the School Grants evaluation grid; and
 - (h) the model form of the School Grant Agreement.
2. Except as the Bank may otherwise agree in writing, the Recipient, through MoER, shall not amend, waive, suspend, or abrogate, or otherwise fail to enforce the School Grants Operations Manual, or any provisions thereof.
 3. In case of any conflict between the terms of the School Grants Operations Manual, and this Agreement, the provisions of this Agreement shall prevail.

D. School Subprojects.

1. For the purposes of carrying out School Subprojects under Part 1.3 of the Project, the Recipient, through MoER, will provide School Grants of up to thirty six thousand United States Dollars (\$36,000) to each School, as said amount may be revised from time to time by mutual agreement between the Recipient, through MoER, and the Bank and reflected in the School Grants Operations Manual; all according to the terms, conditions, eligibility criteria, and procedures acceptable to the Bank as further detailed in the School Grants Operations Manual.
2. To facilitate the carrying out of Part 1.3 of the Project, and prior to the provision of any School Grant, the Recipient, through MoER, shall enter into a School Grant Agreement with each School, such agreement to be made in accordance with terms and conditions acceptable to the Bank and as set forth in the School Grants Operations Manual, including *inter alia*:
 - (a) the obligation of the Recipient, through MoER, to transfer part of the proceeds of the Grant to Schools on a grant basis;
 - (b) the School's obligation to carry out its respective School Subproject in accordance with the Anti-Corruption Guidelines, the relevant provisions of the School Grants Operations Manual, the Procurement Regulations, the ESS, the ESCP, and all the pertinent provisions of this Agreement;
 - (c) the School's obligation to use goods and services to be financed out of the proceeds of the corresponding grant exclusively to carry out the School Subproject activities;
 - (d) the right of the Recipient to suspend and terminate the right of the School to use the proceeds of the School Grant upon failure of the School to perform any of its obligations under the School Grant Agreement;

- (e) the ability of the Recipient to inspect, by itself or jointly with representatives of the Bank, if the Bank so requests, the School, and any relevant records and documents; and
 - (f) the obligation of the School to provide all such information as the Bank and the Recipient shall reasonably request related to the School Subproject.
3. The Recipient shall exercise its rights and carry out its obligations under each School Grant Agreement in such manner as to protect the interests of the Recipient and the Bank and to accomplish the purposes of the Project.
 4. Except as the Bank shall otherwise agree, the Recipient shall not assign, amend, abrogate, terminate or waive any School Grant Agreement or any of its provisions.

E. Environmental and Social Standards.

1. The Recipient, through MoER shall, and shall cause NORLD to, ensure that the Project is carried out in accordance with the Environmental and Social Standards, in a manner acceptable to the Bank.
2. Without limitation upon paragraph 1 above, the Recipient, through MoER shall, and shall cause NORLD to, ensure that the Project is implemented in accordance with the Environmental and Social Commitment Plan ("ESCP"), in a manner acceptable to the Bank. To this end, the Recipient, through MoER shall, and shall cause NORLD to, ensure that:
 - (a) the measures and actions specified in the ESCP are implemented with due diligence and efficiency, as provided in the ESCP;
 - (b) sufficient funds are available to cover the costs of implementing the ESCP;
 - (c) policies and procedures are maintained, and qualified and experienced staff in adequate numbers are retained to implement the ESCP, as provided in the ESCP; and
 - (d) the ESCP, or any provision thereof, is not amended, repealed, suspended or waived, except as the Bank shall otherwise agree in writing, as specified in the ESCP, and ensure that the revised ESCP is disclosed promptly thereafter.
3. In case of any inconsistencies between the ESCP and the provisions of this Agreement, the provisions of this Agreement shall prevail.
4. The Recipient, through MoER shall, and shall cause NORLD to, ensure that:

- (a) all measures necessary are taken to collect, compile, and furnish to the Bank through regular reports, with the frequency specified in the ESCP, and promptly in a separate report or reports, if so requested by the Bank, information on the status of compliance with the ESCP and the environmental and social instruments referred to therein, all such reports in form and substance acceptable to the Bank, setting out, *inter alia*: (i) the status of implementation of the ESCP; (ii) conditions, if any, which interfere or threaten to interfere with the implementation of the ESCP; and (iii) corrective and preventive measures taken or required to be taken to address such conditions; and
 - (b) the Bank is promptly notified of any incident or accident related to or having an impact on the Project which has, or is likely to have, a significant adverse effect on the environment, the affected communities, the public or workers, in accordance with the ESCP, the environmental and social instruments referenced therein and the Environmental and Social Standards.
5. The Recipient, through MoER, shall, and shall NORLD to, establish, publicize, maintain and operate an accessible grievance mechanism, to receive and facilitate resolution of concerns and grievances of Project-affected people, and take all measures necessary and appropriate to resolve, or facilitate the resolution of, such concerns and grievances, in a manner acceptable to the Bank.
6. The Recipient, through MoER shall, and shall cause NORLD to, ensure that all bidding documents and contracts for civil works under the Project include the obligation of contractors and subcontractors to: (a) comply with the relevant aspects of ESCP and the environmental and social instruments referred to therein; and (b) adopt and enforce codes of conduct that should be provided to and signed by all workers, detailing measures to address environmental, social, health and safety risks, and the risks of sexual exploitation and abuse, sexual harassment and violence against children, all as applicable to such civil works commissioned or carried out pursuant to said contracts.

Section II. Project Monitoring, Reporting and Evaluation

A. Project Reports

The Recipient, through MoER, shall ensure that each Project Report is furnished to the Bank not forty-five (45) days after the end of each calendar quarter, covering the calendar quarter.

Section III. Withdrawal of Grant Proceeds

A. General

1. The Recipient may withdraw the proceeds of the Grant in accordance with the provisions of: (a) Article III of the Standard Conditions; and (b) this Section; to finance Eligible Expenditures in the amount allocated and, if applicable, up to the percentage set forth against each Category of the following table:

Category	Amount of the Grant Allocated (expressed in USD)	Percentage of Expenditures to be Financed (inclusive of Taxes except for VAT and custom duties)
(1) School Grants, Non-consulting services, and consulting services, Training and Operating Costs under Part 1.3 of the Project	4,800,000	100%
TOTAL AMOUNT	4,800,000	

B. Withdrawal Conditions; Withdrawal Period

1. Notwithstanding the provisions of Part A of this Section no withdrawal shall be made:
 - (a) for payments made prior to the Signature Date; and
 - (b) under Category 1 unless the Recipient, through MoER, has prepared and adopted the School Grants Operations Manual, as approved by the Bank, pursuant to Section I.C. of Schedule 2 to this Agreement.
2. The Closing Date is December 31, 2027.

APPENDIX

Section I. Definitions

1. "Anti-Corruption Guidelines" means, for purposes of paragraph 2 of the Appendix to the Standard Conditions, the "Guidelines on Preventing and Combating Fraud and Corruption in Projects Financed by IBRD Loans and IDA Credits and Grants", dated October 15, 2006, and revised in January, 2011, and as of July 1, 2016.
2. "Borrower" means the Republic of Moldova.
3. "Category" means a category set forth in the table in Section III.A of Schedule 2 to this Agreement.
4. "Concessional Portion of the Loan" means the amount of the Loan referred to in Section 2.01(b) of the Loan Agreement, which has been contributed for the Project from the GCFF on grant basis.
5. "COVID-19" means the coronavirus disease caused by the 2019 novel coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2).
6. "Disadvantaged Students" means the students who meet the eligibility criteria, as set forth in the Project Operations Manual.
7. "ECE" means early childhood education.
8. "ECE Curriculum" means the curriculum of the same name approved by MoER through Order № 1699 of November 15, 2018.
9. "ECEC" means early childhood education and care.
10. "Eligible Crisis or Emergency" means an event that has caused, or is likely to imminently cause, a major adverse economic and/or social impact to the Borrower, associated with a natural or man-made crisis or disaster.
11. "EMIS" means the education management information systems.
12. "Environmental and Social Commitment Plan" or "ESCP" means the environmental and social commitment plan for the Project, dated May 2, 2023, as the same may be amended from time to time in accordance with the provisions thereof, which sets out the material measures and actions that the Recipient shall carry out or cause to be carried out to address the potential environmental and social risks and impacts of the Project, including the timeframes of the actions and measures, institutional, staffing, training, monitoring and reporting arrangements, and any environmental and social instruments to be prepared thereunder.

13. "Environmental and Social Standards" or "ESSs" means, collectively: (i) "Environmental and Social Standard 1: Assessment and Management of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts"; (ii) "Environmental and Social Standard 2: Labor and Working Conditions"; (iii) "Environmental and Social Standard 3: Resource Efficiency and Pollution Prevention and Management"; (iv) "Environmental and Social Standard 4: Community Health and Safety"; (v) "Environmental and Social Standard 5: Land Acquisition, Restrictions on Land Use and Involuntary Resettlement"; (vi) "Environmental and Social Standard 6: Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Management of Living Natural Resources"; (vii) "Environmental and Social Standard 7: Indigenous Peoples/Sub-Saharan African Historically Underserved Traditional Local Communities"; (viii) "Environmental and Social Standard 8: Cultural Heritage"; (ix) "Environmental and Social Standard 9: Financial Intermediaries"; (x) "Environmental and Social Standard 10: Stakeholder Engagement and Information Disclosure"; effective on October 1, 2018, as published by the Bank.
14. "GCF" and "Global Concessional Facility" means the financing facility established with a focus on providing concessional financing to middle income countries most affected by the presence of large numbers of refugees, as having contributed the Concessional Portion of the Loan of the Project.
15. "IT" means information technology.
16. "Key Subject Areas" means reading, math, and any other subject area as agreed with the Bank.
17. "Learning Recovery Program" means an educational program designed under the Project to assist students who have fallen behind in their academic progress due to disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, including school closures and extended absences, in order to overcome academic losses, all as set forth in the Project Operations Manual.
18. "Loan Agreement" means the agreement entered into between the Recipient and the Bank for the Project, as the same may be amended from time to time.
19. "Ministry of Education and Research" and "MoER" each means the Recipient's ministry of the same name, or any legal successor or successors thereto acceptable to the Bank.
20. "Non-Concessional Portion of the Loan" means the amount of the Loan referred to in Section 2.01(a) of the Loan Agreement, provided to the Borrower on non-concessional terms.
21. "NORLD" means the Recipient's National Office of Regional and Local Development, or any legal successor or successors thereto acceptable to the Bank.

22. "NORLD's Team" means NORLD's dedicated staff charged with the Project coordination and implementation of Parts 2.2 and 2.3 of the Project and referred to in Section I.A. of Schedule 2 to this Agreement.
23. "Operating Costs" means the reasonable incremental costs incurred by the MoER and NORLD on account of Project implementation, for travel, lodging and per diem, rent of premises and utilities, office supplies, communication and information, office equipment and furniture, bank charges, printing and publications (electronic and/or paper), translation and interpretation, consumables, and salaries including the relevant social charges, but excluding salaries for civil servants, and other expenditures to be agreed upon between the MoER and the Bank.
24. "Participating Institutions" means any educational institution, from preschool to secondary school, that meets the eligibility criteria set forth in the POM.
25. "PMT" means the Project Management Team within MoER charged with the overall project coordination and management and referred to in Section I.A. of Schedule 2 to this Agreement, or any legal successor or successors thereto acceptable to the Bank.
26. "Priority Areas" means the eligible territorial areas in which the new high schools are to be constructed under the Project as referred to in Part 2.3 of Schedule 1 to this Agreement, following the criteria and processes set forth in the POM.
27. "Procurement Regulations" means, for purposes of paragraph 20 of the Appendix to the Standard Conditions, the "World Bank Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers", dated November 2020.
28. "Professional Standards for Teachers and School Managers" means the standards of the same name approved by the MoER Order № 1124 dated July 20, 2018.
29. "Project Operations Manual" and "POM" each means the manual prepared by the Recipient, through MoER, for Project implementation, as such manual may be amended from time to time with the prior written approval of the Bank.
30. "School" means a school in the Recipient's territory, whose School Subproject has been found eligible in accordance with the criteria set forth in the School Grants Operations Manual, has applied for financing, and has received or is to receive a School Grant under a School Grant Agreement to be executed under Part 1.3 of the Project; "Schools" means each of such school.
31. "School Grants" means grants to be made by the Recipient, through MoER, to Schools for the financing of eligible School Subprojects.

32. "School Grant Agreement" means the agreement to be entered into between the Recipient, through MoER, and a School for the carrying out of School Subprojects, School Grant Agreements means more than one such School Grant Agreement.
33. "School Grants Operations Manual" means the manual to be prepared, approved, and adopted by the Recipient, through MoER, to facilitate the carrying out of Part 1.3 of the Project, as the same may be amended from time to time with the prior written approval of the Bank.
34. "School Grants Selection Committee" means the committee of the same name to be established under MoER for the selection of School Subprojects, referred to in Section I.A.3 of Schedule 2 to this Agreement.
35. "School Subprojects" means eligible subprojects for Schools as approved by the Recipient, through MoER, and the Bank in accordance with the provisions of the School Grants Operations Manual.
36. "Selected ECEC Facilities" means the early childhood education and care facilities which meet the eligibility criteria set forth in the POM.
37. "Selected ECEC Service Providers" means the early childhood education service providers which meet the eligibility criteria set forth in the POM.
38. "Selected ECE Teachers and Educators" means the early childhood teachers and educators who meet the eligibility criteria set forth in the POM to receive in-service training as set forth in Part 1.1(b) of Schedule 1 to this Agreement.
39. "Selected Teachers and Managers" means the teachers and school managers who meet the eligibility criteria set forth in the POM to receive in-service training as set forth in Part 1.1(a) of Schedule 1 to this Agreement.
40. "Signature Date" means the later of the two dates on which the Recipient and the Bank signed this Agreement and such definition applies to all references to "the date of the Grant Agreement" in the Standard Conditions.
41. "Standard Conditions" means the "International Bank for Reconstruction and Development and International Development Association Standard Conditions for Grant Financing Made by the Bank out of Trust Funds", dated February 25, 2019.
42. "STEM" means science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.
43. "Training" means expenses incurred for Project-related studies, training courses, seminars, workshops, and other training activities, not included under goods or service providers' contracts, including costs of training materials, space and

equipment rental, travel, accommodation and per diem costs of trainees and trainers and trainers' fees, and other training related miscellaneous costs, all based on an annual budget agreed with the Bank.