



**PROJECT NAME: SECOND AFRICA HIGHER EDUCATION CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE FOR
DEVELOPMENT IMPACT PROJECT**

PROJECT ID: P169064

INTERIM FINANCIAL REPORT

June 2023

ABREVIATION AND ACRONYMS

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1. Project Background Information

1.1. Objectives

To improve quality, quantity and development impact of postgraduate education in selected universities through regional specialization and collaboration.

1.2. Components and Costs

Project Cost and Financing	Project Cost (US\$ million)	IDA Financing (SDP million)
Establishing new and scaled up well-performing existing ACEs for development impact	4.0	3.0
Fostering regional partnership and scholarships	5.0	3.7
Enhancing National and regional level facilitation and M&E	1.50	1.1
Unallocated	1.50	1.1
Total Financing Required	12.0	8.9

Progress Report January to June 2023:

During this reporting period, STEE admitted the third cohort of students in BSc Programmes (Mechanical, Electrical/Electronic, and Civil engineering). This consisted of 11 Mechanical Engineering students, 27 Civil Engineering students, and 15 Electrical/Electronic Engineering students for a total of 53 students. Twenty-eight percent (28%) of this new enrolment are females with 72% males. These students represent the first cohort of actual USET students since the previous cohorts are under the umbrella of Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology. Lecturers for the third cohort of students have been recruited from local sources. The first and second cohort completed the first semester of the academic year and also completed their internship placements to various institutions. Staff from DMU started the delivery of the entrepreneurship curriculum with a bootcamp and innovation activities such as a visit to the Bakoteh Dumpsite to discuss recycling/recovery opportunities. The procurement process for the acquisition of laboratory equipment was completed and the contract for the procurement issued. Delivery has been planned in phases and expected between July and September of this year.

Regarding the first cohort of BSc students, 36 students successfully completed the second year and are returning for the third year. For the second cohort, 44 of them successfully completed the first year and are embarking on the second year. The first-year students started in January 2023. The enrollment on the three (3) programmes brought the number of students to 80.

The Center has performed very well in terms of the number of students enrolled (DLI 3) with respect to professional short courses, BSc student enrollment and internships. Over the period under review, starting from the 1st of July and ending on the 31st of December, 2022, STEE operating under the auspices of the University of Applied Science, Engineering and Technology (USET) developed and offered a series of Profession Short Courses on Standards Training

Certification and Watchkeeping for the International Maritime Organization (IMO). Over a thousand students benefitted from the training consisting of six (6) modules on: (1) Personal Safety and social responsibilities, (2) Elementary First Aid, (3) Fire prevention and Fire Fighting, (4) Personal Survival Techniques, (5) Maritime Security awareness, and (6) Crowd Management.

The Project Implementation Unit (PIU):

The Project Implementation Unit (PIU) is being constituted. The Monitoring and Evaluation Officer joined the project team in March 2023. However, the Procurement Officer resigned in April, 2023 after a tenure of only six months to join the Catholic Relief Services (CRS), an American NGO. A replacement is being sought for the position. The recruitment of the Project Accountant has stalled. Only two (2) of the shortlisted candidates attended the interview. One was considered unfit for purpose and the salary expectations of the successful candidate were above what the project can offer.

The Signing of the Contract for the Laboratory Equipment:

The contract for the laboratory equipment has been signed with the PENTA machine company in the Netherlands and the first consignment of equipment is expected in The Gambia during the first week of August 2023. When delivered and installed, the equipment will go a long way in enhancing the students' learning experiences in engineering. The lab equipment will enable De Montfort University to put in place a destructive lab to equip the students with the skills to innovate.

External Revenue Generation:

The Center also performed well in terms of revenue generation. Several activities are in progress but are yet to deliver the allocated revenues. Contract negotiations are also at an advanced stage with different business entities

Recruitment of Heads of Departments:

Disbursement Linked Indicator 7 on Institutional Impact requires STEE to adopt a merit-based selection of Department Heads for the College of Engineering during the first year. In January, 2023, STEE advertised the positions of Heads of Mechanical Engineering, Civil Engineering, and Electrical/Electronic Engineering. For the position of mechanical engineering, four (4) applicants considered to have met the requirements outlined in the terms of reference were shortlisted for interview. There was no applicant for the civil engineering position and only one candidate for the position of electrical/electronic engineering. After a successful recruitment process, the Head of Department for Mechanical Engineering, Professor Sunnu was appointed effective 1st of May, 2023. Subsequently, the positions of (1) Head of Departments for Civil Engineering and (2) Head of Department for Electrical/Electronic Engineering were re-advertised in the various local newspapers (in The Gambia) and on international platforms such as the Community of Gambian Scholars, the MoHERST Website and the website of the African Jobs Board of the Association of African Universities (AAU) from the 15th of March through the 14th of April, 2023 in an effort to

attract candidates with the requisite qualifications and experience for the positions.

After a successful interview process, Professor Cajethan Maduabuchi Nwosu from Nigeria was identified to head the Department of Electrical/Electronic Engineering and Professor Sampson Oduro-Kwarteng of Ghana to head the Department of Civil Engineering. The former will be available in September and the latter in October, 2023.

Field Visits to Industrial Sites:

Request have emanated from different lecturers, mainly from the Departments of Civil Engineering and Electrical Engineering, to take students on various field trips within the country. Industry partners such as the National Water and Electricity Company (NAWEC) and the National Road Authority (NRA) overseeing major road works in the Greater Banjul Area have been very accommodating, even at short notice. The Kotu and Brikama power stations have been visited by different cohorts of students. Similarly, different segments of the road works have been visited to foster students understanding of techniques, tools and processes involved in engineering. The project site where the construction of the University of Applied Science, Engineering and Technology (USET) is another area of interest where civil engineering students have been going regularly with facilitation by the PIU at STEE.

The Flying Faculty Model - DMU and KNUST Delivery:

Both De Montfort University (DMU) and the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and technology (KNUST) have been flying in lecturers as per the contractual agreement. A Project review meeting is planned with STEE to ensure among other things that the project are mutually reinforcing.

The ACE Impact Workshop (Marrakesh – Morocco)

The Gambia participated in the 9th ACE Impact workshop held in Marrakesh, Morocco from the 29th May through the 3rd of June 2023. The country was represented by Mr. Samba Sowe, the ACE Focal Point (MoHERST); Professor Samuel Ofori, the Senior University Consultant; Mr, Edward Mansal, the ACE Centre Leader; Mr. Ansumana Demba, Deputy Project Manager (MoBSE); Mr. Omar Jobe, the Project Manager (STEE); Mr. Abdoulie Jadama, M&E Officer; Mrs Eudorat Ashcroft; Mrs Maimuna Sallah (Safeguards) and Mrs. Anna Njie (Safeguards). The Gambian delegation was represented in all the sessions, from the Project Steering Committee meeting attended by the delegation leader, Mr. Samba Sowe from the Ministry of Higher Education, Research Science and Technology (MoHERST), the delegates attended the meeting relevant to their respective roles. Without doubt, the STEE delegates derived significant value from the workshop, particularly in the area of networking with likeminded institutions.

The Civil Works (Practical Site Progress at a Glance):

The progress of works at the USET site in Brikama is ongoing. The sub-structure work is completed. Currently the contractor and team are working on the superstructure, with the erection

of the skeletal framework of the pillars in all the three buildings. The buildings are about 25% completed. The specific progress that has been registered thus far is outlined below:

General Works (Site Setup and Preliminaries)

- ✚ Prior to the completion of the Substructure, the Ground Floor Columns and other related works has been coordinated with a prolific team work on and out of the site by our management to see the completion of the project.
- ✚ The hoarding (temporal fencing) is now at 100% Completion with installation of gates and security posts.
- ✚ All the reinforcement caging to the Ground Floor Superstructure columns is now at 100% completion for all the Four (4) Blocks.
- ✚ ALL SUPERSTRUCTURE COLUMNS WORKS ARE AT 100% COMPLETE.
- ✚ The Samples for the Beams were done and approval given to proceed with the actual caging on Site. All the materials for the beams are all on site (reinforcements, shuttering etc).
- ✚ Superstructure Beams works have already commenced with a 100% Progress on the bottoms to Blocks A, B & C.
- ✚ Block moulding has been on a continuous production with the quality (mix ratio, moulding and curing) under proper supervision.
- ✚ Safety on site has been a top priority and all measures are been deployed and employed to ensure that not only are the safety gears provided, but are also used accordingly. ALL RELATED SAFETY ISSUES ARE BEEN PROPERLY MONITORED BY THE SAFETY OFFICER ON A REGULAR BASIS.
- ✚ A huge stock pile of Consumables and Non-consumables have been deposited both on and off site. These also includes equipment's such as Accro-jacks, Scaffoldings, Clamps, etc, are been flowing in (imported) regularly.
- ✚ Security has always been provided on the site and is still an important player in ensuring proper control of uninvited personnel and the maintenance of safety 24/7.



Project Site Visit by MoHERST, PCU – MoBSE and STEE (USET)

Date: 16th May 2023

Acting on the concerns raised by the World Bank's Senior Social Development Specialist (Gina Consentino) during the zoom-based meeting held on Thursday, the 11th May, 2023 (after the submission of the first report), STEE, MoHERST and PCU – MoBSE undertook a visit to the project site on Tuesday, 16th of May, 2023 to take stock of the implementation of the recommendations outlined on the left-hand column with regards to the Social and Environmental Safeguards issues linked to the project. The team comprised of the Senior University Administrator – Professor Samuel Ofori; Mr. Samba Sowe – the ACE Focal Point; Mr. Musa Jassey – the Deputy Project Construction Manager – PCU MoBSE); Mr. Edward Mansal – ACE Centre Leader; Professor Sunnu – the newly appointed Head of Mechanical Engineering – USET; Mr. Omar Jobe – the ACE Project Manager; the Project Consultant – Baboucarr Semega-Janneh and Team (FENTA); the Contractor – Mr. Cherno Krubally and team, Krubally Construction. The Social and Environmental Safeguards team were unavoidably absent owing to other competing assignments.

(Meeting Chaired by FENTA Consultants):

After reviewing the queries outlined in the report, point by point, the team was quick to observe that there was another meeting held on 17th of April to address the issues and that the contractor has since then been making deliberate efforts to address the concerns raised, some of which have not been captured in the report tabled for discussion on 11th of May, 2023. Undoubtedly, things have improved remarkably since Gina Cosentino's visit. As at 16th of May, 2023 – the team indicated above, after a thorough review of all the concerns raised submits as follows:

- That all the workers have now been trained and have signed the code of conduct. Henceforth, the contractor will ensure that new workers are trained as they come and will accordingly also sign the code of conduct. The contractor will keep the records/copies
- The issue of the under-age driver has been addressed. Suppliers have been strictly warned to refrain from using drivers or apprentices below the age of 18 and they have been complying.
- All the workers on site are hired by the contractor. There is no sub-contractor operating on site.
- There is no sub-contractor on site! All the workers presently on site have now been trained. It was recommended that a site diary be used to capture visitors, those looking for jobs etc.
- Food vendors have been banned from entering the site which is now hoarded. There is a shed dedicated to that purpose outside the hoarded area. A security officer/gate keeper is ensuring that vendors don't enter the site
- There are proper protocols on site to ensure health and safety of job seekers
- There are improvements in the storage of materials on site. Also, with the hoarding of the site, things have improved significantly.
- The number of water points has increased remarkably. There are six (6) water points/taps at different locations on site. There are also water tanks and boreholes for ease of access to water for all needs.
- There are signages all over the site clearly indicating what the project is all about, the segregated areas, etc.
- Deliberate efforts have been made to improve the conditions of the workers. The maximum number of workers per room is five (5). More and more workers are opting to live off-site/in neighbouring communities as accommodation facilities become available.

- The issue of the safety officer has been addressed. One has been appointed and posted on site.
- The contractor has subscribed to an all-risk policy that covers all the workers employed by him.
- Brikama Area Council has provided a skip and the waste is collected from the site once a week
- The site office building is now completed.
- With the hoarding of the site, the issue of dust pollution has improved significantly. The contractor is observing the situation post-hoarding and will put in place mitigating measures if necessary. The rainy season has now resolved the issue of dust pollution.
- With support from the Health and Safety Officer who has just been employed, the Contractor is working to ensure that those who sell food around the site are medically certified.
- A Gender Focal Point has been hired for the project

DLI Earnings:

The Centre earned DLI funds in the areas of Short Course Students (DLR 3.3) valued at USD 323,550, Infrastructure (DLI 4.3) valued at USD 440,000; Timely Fiduciary Reporting (DLI 6.1) worth USD 5,500; Financial Online Transparency (DLI 6.3) worth USD11,000; Regional Strategy (DLI 7.1) worth USD 100,000 and PASET Benchmarking-Digital Intervention Plan (DLI 7.4) worth USD 100,000. The amount approved at the time of compiling this report stands at 45% of the total Project Funds.

Key Challenges at the National Level:

- The STEE Full Project Team is not yet in place. It has been a challenge getting people to accept the proposed remuneration. Retaining those hired is also a challenge. Furthermore, another key challenge is that the earned DLI funds are not enough to cover major expenditures such as paying the building contractor, the consultant, lab equipment supplier, and the services of the partnering Universities.
- Insufficient classroom, office and laboratory space. A new classroom block at the Kanifing Campus is being constructed to temporarily create more classroom and office space. The Ministry recently allocated D1.5 million for the completion of the building and the USET management has already started the procurement process to ensure that the building is completed by September 2023.
- The construction of the USET campus in Brikama is slightly behind schedule.
- Enrolled Third Cohort of New BSc Students. A total of fifty-seven students enrolled in the three BSc Engineering Programmes. Fifty-two of these students are still in the program and are in the second semester of their studies.
- Initiated Two Professional Short Courses in Standards Training Certification and Watchkeeping (STCW)
- Completed all purchasing processes for Civil Engineering, Electrical/Electronic Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, and Innovation Labs.
- Made significant progress in the recruiting of Heads of Department for Civil Engineering, Electrical/Electronic Engineering, Mechanical Engineering. The process is near completion.
- Challenges in retaining newly recruited engineering students due to the availability of other international scholarship opportunities.

- The absence of an effective administrative and organizational structure has a direct impact on the performance of the STEE Centre.
- Unstable STEE Project Implementation Unit due to the resignation of the procurement officer and the inability to recruit a project accountant.
- Space is in short supply to accommodate the activities of STEE. These include classrooms, laboratories, and offices for heads of departments and lecturers.
- Once the three heads of departments are in place, initiate the process of submitting the three curricula to NAQAA for local accreditation.
- Need to develop a plan to install the initial set of laboratory equipment at the Kanifing Campus while the Engineering Campus at Brikama is being constructed.
- The 2023/2024 academic year is scheduled to start in October 2023. The College of Engineering will have all four levels (cohorts) of students. There will be the need for the provision of additional classrooms to accommodate all classes.
- Innovation Lab Equipment will be installed at the Kanifing campus immediately upon delivery.

Interim Unaudited Financial Report (IUFIR)				
Project Coordination Unit, Ministry of Basic & Secondary Education, The Gambia				
Sources and Uses of funds Statement for the Africa Higher Education Centers of Excellence Impact - IDA D5350.				
Six Months to 30th June 2023				
Description	Current Half year	Previous Half year	Cumulative at Start of current period	Cumulative for life of project
<u>Opening Cash and Bank Balances</u>	USD	USD		
Project Operating Account	3,970.36	96,434.76		
Project Operating Account - DLI	406,057.65	1,599,204.88		
Outstanding Imprests to Implementing Officers	2,186.69	10,448.00		
FX Difference				
	412,214.70	1,706,087.64	-	-
<u>Replenishments of the Project Account from DA</u>	Current Half year	Previous Half year	Cumulative at Start of current period	Cumulative for life of project
DLI Disbursement to DA	1,204,606.75		2,935,990.32	4,140,597.07
Disbursement to DA	235,156.91		687,149.13	922,306.04
Other Income			239.22	239.22
	1,439,763.66	-	3,623,378.67	5,063,142.33
<u>Government Counterpart Contributions</u>	Current Quarter	Previous Quarter	Cumulative at Start of Current Quarter	Cumulative for life of project
Government Counterpart Contributions	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
<u>IDA Direct Payments During Current Quarter</u>	Current Half year	Previous Half year	Cumulative at Start of current period	Cumulative for life of project
IDA Direct Payments (included in Category 1 & Comp 1)	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
<u>Expenditure During the Current Reporting Quarter</u>	Current Half year	Previous Half year	Cumulative at Start of current period	Cumulative for life of project
<u>COMPONENTS:</u>				
1 Establishing new & scaling up well-performing existing AC	1,111,421.53	835,720.05	1,212,034.11	2,323,455.64
2 Fostering regional partnership and Scholarships	495,321.16	355,881.73	1,380,619.26	1,875,940.42
3 Enhancing National and regional level facilitation and M&E	101,443.17	102,271.16	618,512.51	719,955.68
FX Difference	0.83			0.83
	1,708,186.69	1,293,872.94	3,211,165.88	4,919,352.57
<u>CATEGORIES</u>				
1. Eligible expenditure program under part 2 of the project	1,606,742.69	1,191,601.78	2,592,653.37	4,199,396.06
2. Goods, Services, Op. Costs & Training for Part 3.2 of Project	101,443.17	102,271.16	618,512.51	719,955.68
3. FX Difference	0.83			0.83
	1,708,185.86	1,293,872.94	3,211,165.88	4,919,352.57
<u>Closing Cash and Bank Balances</u>				
Project Operating Account- DA	136,391.08	3,970.36	3,970.36	136,391.08
Project Operating Account - DLI	3,955.37	406,057.65	406,057.65	3,955.37
Outstanding Imprests to Implementing Officers	3,445.22	2,186.69	2,186.69	3,445.22
Fx Difference			1.91	1.91
Total Closing Cash	143,791.67	412,214.70	412,212.79	143,789.76
	-	-	-	0.00

2. Disbursement

2.1. Disbursements and Designated Account (DA) Balances

- 1.3.1 As at the quarter ending 30th June 2023, the total amount disbursed was **US\$ 5,062,903.11** (five million sixty-two thousand nine hundred and three US Dollars eleven cents). This represents **42.20%** disbursement rate of the total project funds.
- 1.3.2 There was a disbursement of funds **US\$1,439,763.66** to into the Designated Accounts held at the Central Bank of The Gambia (CBG) for the reporting period. DLI DA an amount of **USD\$1,204,606.75** and Component 3 DA account was **US\$235,156.91**. There was no direct disbursement made for the reporting period.
- 1.3.3 The total closing balances as at 30th June 2023 for the two DA Accounts with CBG are as follows:
Operational Account (Component 3) DA **US\$136,391.08**
DLI DA Account **US\$3,955.37**
As at 30th June 2023, total of **US\$3,445.22** was imprest amounts given to Implementing Officers and their retirement are outstanding.
- 1.3.4 The total expenditure for the reporting period January to June 2023 is **US\$1,708,185.86** and the cumulative total is **US\$4,919,352.57**.

3.2 Cumulative Disbursement of the Period as reported on Client Connection.

(Amount expressed in
(USD Million)

Cat.	Category Description		Allocated	Disbursed	Undisbursed
1	Eligible Expenditure Program PT2 ACE		9,052,571	4,187,245.13	4,865,325.87
	Goods, Works, NCS, CS,OC,TR-Pt, 3.2 Project		1,486,243	875,657.98	610,585.02
2					
	Unallocated		1,486,243		1,486,243
Total			12,025,057	5,062,903.11	6,962,153.89

3.3 Reconciliation of disbursement and explanation of difference, if any

The Table III, below, provides reconciliation of disbursement between Project and Bank's records (ACE 2 IMPACT).

The PIU					IDA			Difference (G-E)
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	

	Disbursement Method SOE	Application Amount	Beneficiary	Amount Received	Amount Approved	Amount Paid	Value Date	
001	DA-A	200,000.00	SECOND AFRICA HIGHER EDUCATION CENTER OF EXCELLENCE	200,000.00	200,000.00	200,000.00	19-JUNE 2020	NIL
003	DA-A	27,433.03	SECOND AFRICA HIGHER EDUCATION CENTER OF EXCELLENCE	27,433.03	27,433.03	27,433.03	28-Dec 2020	NIL
004	DA-A	82,465.24	SECOND AFRICA HIGHER EDUCATION CENTER OF EXCELLENCE	82,465.24	82,465.24	82,465.24	28-Dec 2020	NIL
005	DA-A	105,470.18	SECOND AFRICA HIGHER EDUCATION CENTER OF EXCELLENCE	105,470.18	105,470.18	105,470.18	4-May- 2021	NIL
007	DA-A	34,326.06	SECOND AFRICA HIGHER EDUCATION CENTER OF EXCELLENCE	34,326.06	34,326.06	34,326.06	17-June- 2021	NIL
008	DA-A	46,648.06	SECOND AFRICA HIGHER EDUCATION CENTER OF EXCELLENCE	46,648.06	46,648.06	46,648.06	18-Nov- 2021	NIL
009	DA-A	114,324.36	SECOND AFRICA HIGHER EDUCATION CENTER OF EXCELLENCE	114,324.36	114,324.36	114,324.36	11-Apr-22	NIL
010	DA-A	76,482.20	SECOND AFRICA HIGHER EDUCATION CENTER OF EXCELLENCE	76,482.20	76,482.20	76,482.20	15-Apr-22	NIL
011	DA-A	235,156.91	SECOND AFRICA HIGHER EDUCATION CENTER OF EXCELLENCE	235,156.91	235,156.91	235,156.91	1-Feb-23	NIL
	Total	875,657.98		875,657.98	875,657.98	875,657.98		NIL

The Table III, below, provides reconciliation of disbursement between Project and Bank's record (ACE 2 IMPACT DLI).

The PIU					IDA			Difference (G-E)
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	
	Disbursement Method REIMBURSEMENT	Application Amount	Beneficiary	Amount Received	Amount Approved	Amount Paid	Value Date	
2 BIS	REIMBURSEMENT	1,398,048.30	SECOND AFRICA HIGHER EDUCATION CENTER OF EXCELLENCE DLI	1,398,048.30	1,398,048.30	1,398,048.30	26-AUG 2020	NIL
006	REIMBURSEMENT	95,648.93	SECOND AFRICA HIGHER EDUCATION CENTER OF EXCELLENCE DLI	95,648.93	95,648.93	95,648.93	3-June- 2021	Nil
011	REIMBURSEMENT	1,442,293.09	SECOND AFRICA HIGHER EDUCATION CENTER OF EXCELLENCE DLI	1,442,293.09	1,442,293.09	1,442,293.09	21-June- 2022	NIL
012	REIMBURSEMENT	1,204,606.75	SECOND AFRICA HIGHER EDUCATION CENTER OF EXCELLENCE DLI	1,204,606.75	1,204,606.75	1,204,606.75	24-May- 23	NIL
	Total	2,935,990.32		2,935,990.32	2,935,990.32	2,935,990.32		NIL

AFRICA HIGHER EDUCATION CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE (ACE II)									
Special Account (SA) Activity Statement									
Year 2023 - Six months to 30/06/2023									
GRANT NUMBER			TF A7053						
IDA FUNDS ONLY									
Designated Account			DA-A and DA-B						
Bank			Central Bank of the Gambia						
Banque account number			1103003088						
1. Cumulative advances to end of current period			5,062,903						
2. Cumulative expenditures to end of last period			4,919,349						
3. Outstanding Advance to be accounted (1-2)			143,554						
Part II									
4. Opening SA Balance at 01/01/2023			410,028						
5. +/-: Cumulative adjustments (see annex 1)									
6. +/-: Advances from WB during the period			1,439,764						
7. (5+6)			1,439,764						
8. Outstanding advances to be accounted (4+7)			1,849,792						
9. Closing SA balance at 30/06/2023			140,346						
10. +/-: Cumulative adjustments									
11. +/-: Expenditures for current period			1,708,187						
12. (10+11)			1,708,187						
13. (09+12)			1,848,533						
14. Difference (08 - 13)			1,259						
Part III									
15. Total forecast amount to be paid by WB			-						
16. Closing SA balance after adjustments			-						
17. Direct payment/SC payments			-						
18. (16 + 17)			-						
19. Cash req. from WB for next 2 periods (15 - 18)			-						
Control: Line3=Line8=Line13			1,259						
Explanation									
Opening Imprest to Implementing Officer			2,187						
Closing imprest to Implementing Officer			3,445						
			(1,259)						

Annex 1					
Quarter	Funds Received	Expenditure (in IFR)	Documented in Client	WDA Ref	IFR not yet doc
		B	C		(B-C)
Q2 , 2023	1,439,763.66	1,708,185.86			
Q2,2022		1,293,872.16	1,293,872.16		
Q4,2021	1,442,293.09	783,070.00	1,442,293.09		
Q2 2021	76,482.20		76,482.20		
			114,324.36		
Q4,2021	114,324.36	441,179.65	46,648.06		
	46,648.06				
Q2 2021	139,796.24	456,838.56	34,326.06		
	95,648.93		95,648.93		
			105,470.18		
Q4 2020	82,465.24	208,769.70			
Q3 2020	27,433.03				
Q2 2020	200,000.00	27,433.03	82,465.24		
			27,433.03		
	1,398,048.30		990,000.00		
SUB TOTAL	5,062,903.11	4,919,348.96	4,308,963.31	-	-

4.1 Commitments

As at 30th June 2023, there are eighteen contracts signed under the project, amounting to **US\$ 10,577,514.48** of which eight are still ongoing and the others closed. There was one new contract signed during the reporting period, which is the contract for the procurement of laboratory equipment.

Africa Higher Education Centers of Excellence Project II - Gambia				
COMMITMENT LIST				
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		Description	Committed Amount	Status
		Audit of Financial statement for the Second higher Edu.Center	16,200.00	open
		Procurement of office Equipment / Appliance for conference Hall etc	14,203.00	close
		Procurement of one Vehicle TOYOTA PRADO VX	57,000.00	close
		Office Partitioning, Maintenance, Elec. Install. & Furn.	47,196.08	close
		Core Engineering Programme for STEE at the GTTI/USET	2,751,257.56	OPEN
		Supply of Fuel	43,149.38	OPEN
		Procure. of Consumable items for the staff of DE Montfort Lot 1 & 2 for Provision	7,039.66	close
		Procurement of Coaster 30 seater Bus for GTTI /USET	70,195.41	close
		Procurement of Vehicle for Moherst	54,000.00	close
		15 Seaters Mini Van for GTTI/USET	39,735.10	Close
		DMU Contract on Quality Assurance Delivery	1,300,000.00	OPEN
		Snr. Consulting University Administrator	144,000.00	Open
		Consultancy Services for consulting Services for Design Review	174,491.93	OPEN
		Procurement of Laboratory Equipment	2,073,785.14	OPEN
		Procurement of 15 Engineering Laptops for GTTI	18,800.92	Close
		Consultancy services for Design Review, etc Brikama GTTI/USET CAMPUS	3,703,860.28	Open
		Provision 30MBPS Constant and Interrupted internet Service PCU	5,711.02	close
		Procurement of 60 laptops for local students on long term training	56,889.00	close
		18 Commitments	10,577,514.48	

Country:

Project Title:

Implementing Agency:

Project ID NO: P169064

Grant No:

Total Credit in US:

Table 1: Contracts in the pipeline (Procurement under Process) Planning of next steps in the process

Contract			Proc. Meth.	Post / Prior	(Where are we standing?) Activity already achieved	Next step (What to do now, by who and When?)			Duration of the procurement process	
Ref. in the PP	Title of the contract	Estimated amount in US\$				Description of the activity	Main responsible	Deadline	Ongoing activity	Whole process
Works										
MOHERST/STEE/ACEI MPACT/WS/005	Construction of Faculties for the Emerging Center and Laboratories	2,500,000.00	RFB	Post	The activity is Pending	Contraction of faculties and Laboratories	MoHERST / PCU Construction	February 2022	Pending	180 days
Goods & Services										
MOHERST/GTTI/ACEIMPA CT/GS/003	Development of ACE Impact Website	25,000.00	RFQ	Post	The activity is pending	Development of Website	MoHERST/PCU	January 2021	Pending	180 days
MOHERST/STEE/ACEIMP ACT/GS/006	Procurement of equipment for classrooms and Laboratories (SMART)	2,000,000.00	RFQ	Post	The activity is pending	Procurement of Classroom &Lab equipment	MoHERST/PCU	July 2022	Pending	180 days
Consulting Services										
MOHERST/STEE/ACEIMP ACT/CS/010	Curriculum development and review	100,000.00	Consultant Qualification Selection	Post	The activity is pending	Consultancy Services	MoHERST/PCU	April 2023	Pending	180 days

MOHERS T/STEE/A CEIMPAC T/CS/015	Design Review, Preparation Of The Bidding Documents, Assist In The Bid Evaluation And Supervision	Least Cost Selection	183,740.00	Post	20 th January 2022	18 months	February 2022	0%	GMD 9,187000.00	100%	Ongoing	The on-g
MOHERST /STEE/ACE IMPACT/C S/013	Consultancy Services For The KNUST on core Engineering Program	Direction Selection	2,751,257.5 6	Post	1 st May 2021	48 Months	1 st May 2021	%	USD.00	%	June 2024	The on g
MOHERS T/STEE/A CEIMPAC T/CS/014	Individual Consulting Administrator for GTTI/USET	ICS	288,000.00	Prior	1 st September 2021	20 Months	Septembe r 2021	%	USD.	%	August 2022	The ong
MOHERS T/STEE/A CEIMPAC T/CS/012	De Montfort University (DMU) And Emerging Centre On Science, Technology And Engineering For Entrepreneurship (STEE) Partnership	DC	1,300,000.00	Prior	6 th August 2021	42 Months	Septembe r 2021	%	USD	%	December 2024	The ong

3. Budget Implementation.

During the reporting period, the project planned to disburse **US\$ 2,764,535.38** mainly to finance activities on Component One – Establishment of the USET Centre, Laboratory Equipment for USET, Component 2 (Mentoring and Delivering of Curricula by KNUST and DMU, Consultancy service for the USET Administrator). The actual expenditure for the reporting period amounts to **US\$1,708,195.48** representing 28% budget execution for the six months.

The low budget execution rate of 28% is mainly cause of cashflow in the DLI designated account. The project was able to earned US\$1,204,606.75 during this reporting period and our account was credited to that effect. The PCU has outstanding bills especially for Demon fort University

Explanation of Budget Variances

Component 1- Establishing new and scaling up well perform existing ACE centres. A budget of US\$1,956,392.50 was made and the actual expenditure for the period was US\$1,114,215.53.

The contract for the Establishment of the USET Centre was concluded and awarded to Krubally Construction Company. Interim payments were made to the Contractors but the works

An advance payment of US\$ The budget for the Equipping of ACE centre of US\$414,757 was paid. The contract was signed within the reporting period

Component 2- Fostering Regional partnership and scholarship. The budget execution for the period January to June 2023 was 73%. The budget amount was US\$680,000 and the actual expenditure for the period was US\$495,321.

The low execution of the budget is mainly because there was no payment made to De-Montford University. The project is experiencing low cash flow into the DLI designated account. The project was only able to make a part payment US\$100,000 towards the total invoice amount of US\$499,320.

Component 3- Enhance National & Regional level project facilitation, M &E and PCU operations. A budget execution rate for the period of 79%. The budget amount of US\$12,500 for the Short-term training was not utilized. The planned MoHERST M & E visit activity of US\$12,500 was not done and no cost was incurred during the period under review.

The Table below, shows the budget execution of the period and cumulative:

Africa Higher Education Centers of Excellence Project II - Gambia										
Intial Budget - Budget analysis by Component, Activities : Period From 01/01/2023 To 31/12/2023 - DCC : 01 PMU										
Without commitment										
Page 1/1										
All Financing agreement			Activity : ALL			From period 01/01/2023 to 30/06/2023				
Location : Inactive			Item : ALL			Currency : 1 USD = 50 GMD				
			GI Account : Inactive			Budget Type : D				
Without commitment		For Period Ending At 30/06/2023						For All Fin. Year		
		(1)	(2)	(3)=(1) + (2)	(4)	(5)=(4) - (3)	(3)/(4)	(7)	(8)=(7) - (3)	(3) / (7)
Code	Description	Actual	Commitments	Total of Account	Budget	Available	Exec (%)	Budget	Available	Exec (%)
1	Establishing new & scaling-up well-perfo	1,111,421.53		1,111,421.53	1,956,392.50	844,970.97	56.81	3,937,785.00	2,826,363.47	28.22
1102	Establishment of the USET Centre	594,863.72		594,863.72	875,000.00	280,136.28	67.98	1,750,000.00	1,155,136.28	33.99
1103	Equpping the ACE Centre	414,757.03		414,757.03	936,892.50	522,135.47	44.27	1,873,785.00	1,459,027.97	22.13
1106	Fuel for Coordination				6,000.00	6,000.00		12,000.00	12,000.00	
1109	Supervision of the Works	23,760.78		23,760.78	54,000.00	30,239.22	44.00	108,000.00	84,239.22	22.00
1111	USET Adminstrator	72,040.00		72,040.00	72,000.00	-40.00	100.06	144,000.00	71,960.00	50.03
1112	Consultancy- Head of Department USE	6,000.00		6,000.00	12,500.00	6,500.00	48.00	50,000.00	44,000.00	12.00
2	Fostering Regional Partnerships and Sch	495,321.16		495,321.16	680,000.00	184,678.84	72.84	1,960,000.00	1,464,678.84	25.27
2101	Mentoring and delivering of curricula in t	309,878.34		309,878.34	367,500.00	57,621.66	84.32	735,000.00	425,121.66	42.16
2102	Mentoring & delivering of curricula in qu	100,000.00		100,000.00	200,000.00	100,000.00	50.00	800,000.00	700,000.00	12.50
2103	Long term training- International	69,469.46		69,469.46	112,500.00	43,030.54	61.75	225,000.00	155,530.54	30.88
2106	ACE Regional Workshops	15,973.36		15,973.36		-15,973.36			-15,973.36	
2108	Equipment for the Distrutive Lap					0.00		200,000.00	200,000.00	
3	Enhance National & Regional Level Proje	101,452.79		101,452.79	128,142.88	26,690.09	79.17	316,500.00	215,047.21	32.05
3101	Annual Data Collection					0.00		10,000.00	10,000.00	
3102	Shortterm training (M & E, data analytics & Mgt, graudate				12,500.00	12,500.00		25,000.00	25,000.00	
3103	MoHERST M & E Devepment of M & E framework and Reports				12,500.00	12,500.00		25,000.00	25,000.00	
3104	Suport to NAQAA					0.00		5,000.00	5,000.00	
3206	PCU Staff Salary	32,544.41		32,544.41	40,000.02	7,455.61	81.36	80,000.00	47,455.59	40.68
3207	Operating Cost (meeting expenses, etc)	30,075.96		30,075.96	5,000.00	-25,075.96	601.52	10,000.00	-20,075.96	300.76
3209	Regional ACE Workshop	25,235.44		25,235.44	25,000.00	-235.44	100.94	50,000.00	24,764.56	50.47
3210	Semi-annual National Steering Committee (NSC) meetings				3,000.00	3,000.00		6,000.00	6,000.00	
3214	Annual Project Review					0.00		4,000.00	4,000.00	
3215	Office Supplies				2,000.00	2,000.00		4,000.00	4,000.00	
3216	Consumables				4,000.00	4,000.00		8,000.00	8,000.00	
3219	Communication and Internet	5,866.20		5,866.20	8,500.00	2,633.80	69.01	17,000.00	11,133.80	34.51
3221	Fuel, Insurance and maintenance	5,296.20		5,296.20	4,500.00	-796.20	117.69	9,000.00	3,703.80	58.85
3222	Auditor					0.00		5,500.00	5,500.00	
3227	Environment and Social Safeguard Mgt.				4,000.00	4,000.00		8,000.00	8,000.00	
3228	Partnership and Networking Visits	2,434.58		2,434.58	7,142.86	4,708.28	34.08	50,000.00	47,565.42	4.87
	Total	1,708,195.48	0.00	1,708,195.48	2,764,535.38	1,056,339.90	61.79	6,214,285.00	4,506,089.52	27.49

Africa Higher Education Centers of Excellence Project II - Gambia

USES OF FUNDS BY PROJECT ACTIVITIES (MODEL I)

Model : 1

Year 2023

Six months finishing at 30/06/2023

Dollars US (USD)

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Africa Higher Education Centers of Excellence Project II - Gambia

USES OF FUNDS BY PROJECT ACTIVITIES (MODEL I)

Model : 1

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USES OF FUNDS BY PROJECT ACTIVITIES (MODEL I)

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Africa Higher Education Centers of Excellence Project II - Gambia

USES OF FUNDS BY PROJECT ACTIVITIES (MODEL I)

Model : 1

Year 2023

Six months finishing at 30/06/2023

Dollars US (USD)

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[illegible]

3	Enhance National & Regional Level Project Facilitation, M&E	128,142.88	101,443.17	26,699.71	746,655.39	719,955.68	26,699.71	1,543,500.00	
31	Strengthening Capacity for Data Driven Decision Making	25,000.00		25,000.00	111,481.07	86,481.07	25,000.00	285,000.00	
3101	Annual Data Collection				40,522.44	40,522.44		50,000.00	
3102	Shortterm training (M & E, data analytics & Mgt, graudate	12,500.00		12,500.00	32,625.02	20,125.02	12,500.00	60,000.00	
3103	MoHERST M & E Devepment of M & E framework and Reports	12,500.00		12,500.00	12,500.00		12,500.00	100,000.00	
3104	Suport to NAQAA				25,833.61	25,833.61		75,000.00	
32	Technical and institutional Support	103,142.88	101,443.17	1,699.71	635,174.32	633,474.61	1,699.71	1,258,500.00	
3201	Annual Data Collection								
3202	Support to the Intergraded EMIS								
3203	Short term training (M&E, data analytics & Mngt)				15,567.38	15,567.38			
3204	Sector (MOHERST) Monitoring and Evaluation								
3205	Support to NAQAA								
3206	PCU Staff Salary	40,000.02	32,536.59	7,463.43	130,967.22	123,503.79	7,463.43	375,000.00	
3207	Operating Cost (meeting expenses, etc)	5,000.00	30,074.16	-25,074.16	44,383.65	69,457.81	-25,074.16	20,000.00	
3208	M & E visit				25,903.47	25,903.47		100,000.00	
3209	Regional ACE Workshop	25,000.00	25,235.44	-235.44	108,763.26	108,998.70	-235.44	50,000.00	
3210	Semi-annual National Steering Committee (NSC) meetings	3,000.00		3,000.00	13,111.83	10,111.83	3,000.00	30,000.00	
3211	Project launch workshop							15,000.00	
3212	Hosting of ACE Impact workshop							40,000.00	
3213	Implementation support visits				25,599.15	25,599.15		9,000.00	
3214	Annual Project Review				9,954.78	9,954.78		15,000.00	
3215	Office Supplies	2,000.00		2,000.00	14,941.67	12,941.67	2,000.00	100,000.00	
3216	Consumables	4,000.00		4,000.00	4,000.00		4,000.00	22,000.00	
3217	Equipment and Fittings (Computers, Photocopier/Printers AC				13,706.81	13,706.81		30,000.00	
3218	Furnitures				26,794.92	26,794.92		60,000.00	
3219	Communication and Internet	8,500.00	5,866.20	2,633.80	30,653.39	28,019.59	2,633.80	17,500.00	
3220	Vehicle (4 x 4 wheel drive)				55,434.14	55,434.14		60,000.00	
3221	Fuel, Insurance and maintenance	4,500.00	5,296.20	-796.20	38,065.23	38,861.43	-796.20	37,500.00	
3222	Auditor				10,325.00	10,325.00		50,000.00	
3223	Accounting Software				27,433.03	27,433.03		30,000.00	
3224	Data Base							10,000.00	
3225	Partnership and Networking visit								
3227	Environment and Social Safeguard Mgt.	4,000.00		4,000.00	6,745.06	2,745.06	4,000.00	42,500.00	

3228	Partnership and Networking Visits	7,142.86	2,434.58	4,708.28	32,824.33	28,116.05	4,708.28	145,000.00	
	Grand Total	2,764,535.38	1,708,185.86	1,056,349.52	5,975,701.26	4,919,351.74	1,056,349.52	12,043,500.00	

Africa Higher Education Centers of Excellence Project II - Gambia

SOURCES AND USES OF FUNDS (MODEL I)

Model : 1

Year 2023

Six months finishing at 30/06/2023

Dollars US (USD)

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Designation	Six months		Cumulative		6 Months Planned
RECEIPTS					
IDA Contribution received for ACE	1,439,763.66		5,062,903.11		
IDA Direct Payment					
Other Income			239.22		
Total RECEIPTS		1,439,763.66		5,063,142.33	
Total Financing		1,439,763.66		5,063,142.33	
EXPENDITURE BY COMPONENT					
Establishing new & scaling-up well-performing existing ACE	1,111,421.53		2,323,455.64		
Fostering Regional Partnerships and Scholarships	495,321.16		1,875,940.42		
Enhance National & Regional Level Project Facilitation, M&E	101,443.17		719,955.68		
Total EXPENDITURE BY COMPONENT		1,708,185.86		4,919,351.74	
Total Expenditures		1,708,185.86		4,919,351.74	

Receipts Less Expenditures		-268,422.20		143,790.59	
Foreign Exchange Differences		-0.83		1.08	
Encashment Evolution		-268,423.03		143,791.67	
Opening Cash Balances					143,791.67
IDA Designated a/c No.	3,970.36				
IDA DLI Designated a/c No.	406,057.65				
Bank GLF A/C No.					
Petty Cash Fund					
Imprest to IO	2,186.69				
Cash in Transit					
Total Opening Cash		412,214.70			
Net Cash Available		143,791.67		143,791.67	143,791.67
Closing Cash Balances					
IDA Designated a/c No.	136,391.08		136,391.08		
IDA DLI Designated a/c No.	3,955.37		3,955.37		
Bank GLF A/C No.					
Petty Cash Fund					
Imprest to IO	3,445.22		3,445.22		
Cash in Transit					
Total Closing Cash Balances		143,791.67		143,791.67	143,791.67