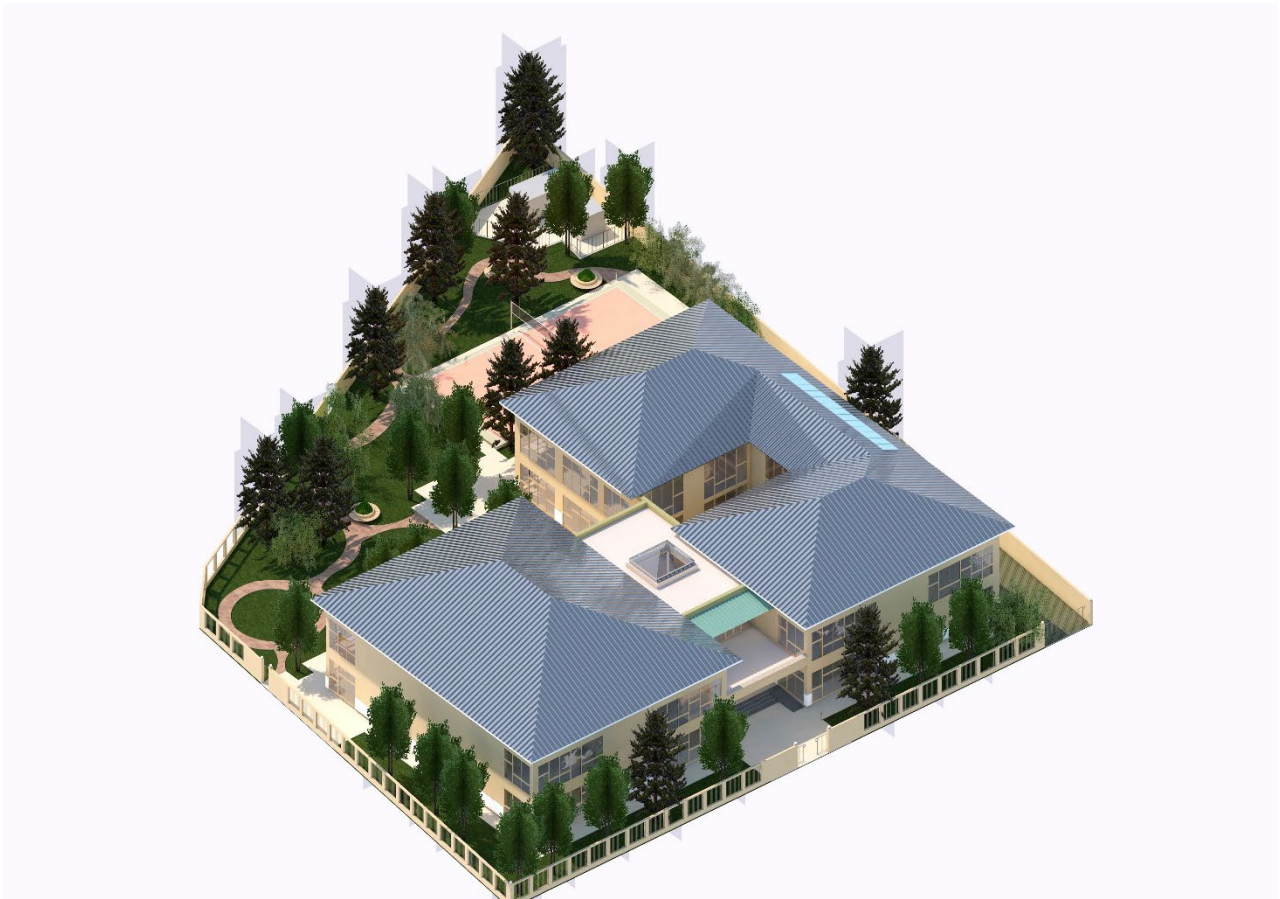


**MINISTRY OF EDUCATION**  
**“Safer, Inclusive and Sustainable Schools” Project**  
**ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL MANAGEMENT PLAN**  
**Secondary School No. 168 Calea Giulești**  
**Demolition and reconstruction**



**January 2024**

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>ABBREVIATIONS</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>1. GENERAL PROJECT AND ESMP INFORMATION</b>	<b>8</b>
1.1 Project overview	8
1.2 Scope and objectives the ESMP	9
<b>2. DESCRIPTION OF SCHOOL NO. 168 CALEA GIULEȘTI SUBPROJECT</b>	<b>11</b>
2.1 Description of area and community affected by the investment	11
2.2 Secondary School No. 168 Calea Giulești	12
2.3. Location and characteristics of the site for investment	13
2.4 Proposed design for new school building	14
2.5 Associated Facilities	20
2.6 Temporary School Relocation Solution	20
2.7. Description of demolition and construction works expected	23
2.8 Temporary facilities required during the demolition and construction phase	24
<b>3. ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES</b>	<b>25</b>
3.1 Key social risks and impacts	25
3.2 Social Impact Screening Process	25
3.3 Key environmental risks and impacts	28
3.4 Environmental and Social Management Plan	32
<b>4. INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS</b>	<b>41</b>
<b>5. THE PLAN FOR MONITORING SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL ASPECTS</b>	<b>45</b>
<b>6. STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION DISCLOSURE</b>	<b>51</b>
<b>7. INVOLVEMENT OF INTERESTED PARTIES</b>	<b>55</b>
<b>8. GRIEVANCES MECHANISM</b>	<b>57</b>
<b>ANNEX 1 - REQUIREMENTS AND MEASURES WHEN HANDLING ASBESTOS</b>	<b>59</b>
<b>ANNEX 2 - PROCEDURE FOR MANAGEMENT OF PHYSICAL CULTURAL RESOURCES – PROTECTION AND CHANCE FIND PROCEDURES</b>	<b>60</b>
<b>ANNEX 3 - FORM FOR SUBMITTING SUGGESTIONS / COMMENTS</b>	<b>61</b>
<b>ANNEX 4 - PLAN OF THE TEMPORARY SCHOOL - DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>62</b>

## ABBREVIATIONS

ACM	Asbestos Containing Materials
CCEAR	County Center for Educational Assistance and Resources
CSI	County School Inspectorate
E&S	Environmental and Social
EA	Environmental Assessment
EC	European Commission
EGO	Emergency Governmental Ordinance
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EP	Environmental Permit
EMP	Environmental Management Plan
ESF	Environmental and Social Framework
ESIA	Environmental Social Impact Assessment
ESMF	Environmental Social Management Framework
ESMP	Environmental Social Management Plan
ESS	Environmental and Social Standards
EU	European Union
GBV	Gender Based Violence
GD	Governmental Decision
GO	Governmental Ordinance
GRS	Grievance Redress Service
LMP	Labor Management Plan
MoE	Ministry of Education
MEWF	Ministry for the Environment, Water and Forests
MoC	Ministry of Culture
OJR	Official Journal of Romania
OP	Operational Policy
SISSP	Safer, Inclusive and Sustainable Schools Project
PMU	Project Management Unit
PMUMSUN	Project Management Unit for the Modernization of the School and University Network
POM	Project Operation Manual

SEP	Stakeholder Engagement Plan
TOR	Terms of reference
WMP	Waste Management Plans
WB	World Bank

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

**Introduction.** The Secondary School No. 168 Calea Giulești has been selected under the „**Safer, Sustainable and Inclusive Schools Project**” (SSISP) and will benefit from investments intended to increase the quality and safety of the educational infrastructure. The Project aims to provide safer and improved learning environments for students and teachers in selected schools, and to increase institutional capacity for investing in sustainable education infrastructure.

The Project has been approved in 2021 and is implemented, over a period of six years, by the Ministry of Education with financial support from the World Bank. It will address challenges related to issues of safety, inclusion and sustainability in the school infrastructure in Romania. The five components under the Project are: i) Demonstrating Integrated Investments in School Infrastructure, ii) Investing in Clever Classrooms; iii) Foundations for Future Investments in Sustainable and Modern Schools Infrastructure; iv) Project Management; and v) Contingent Emergency Response Component. More information about the project can be found at <https://umpmrsu.ro/sissp/descriere/>.

**Secondary School No. 168 Calea Giulești subproject description.** The building of the Secondary School No. 168 in Calea Giulești, Sector 6, Bucharest, is almost 100 years old and is in an advanced state of deterioration. The technical study revealed a seismic risk SR II for this building, which is classified as presenting a major danger to users and public safety, with a high risk of suffering structural damage in case of an earthquake.

The land on which the building stands has an area of 2860 m<sup>2</sup>.

The new school will be aligned with the latest seismic standards, near zero energy building standard, universal access for all children, adapted bathrooms for the needs of teenage girls and people with disabilities, a cafeteria for lunch breaks and school events, among other functions. The investment for the new school, including equipment and furniture, will be covered entirely by Project funding, while some associated investments will be covered by the local authority, such as demolition of the old school and annexes on the area planned for the new construction, playground area, landscaping, courtyard lighting, alleys, utility connections, parking lots. These associated facilities will be performed in parallel with the school construction and will be clearly defined under a Protocol between the Project Management Unit for the Modernization of the School and University Network (PMUMSUN, abbreviated in text as PMU) and Sector 6 City Hall.

**Environmental and Social Framework.** The Project is financed by the World Bank and it is guided by the Environmental and Social Framework of the institution (document available on the project website at <https://umpmrsu.ro/sissp/documente-cadru/>), which supports green, resilient and inclusive development by strengthening protections for people and the environment and making important advances in areas such as labor, inclusion and non-discrimination, gender equity, climate change, biodiversity, community health and safety, and stakeholder engagement. In addition to the design of the new schools which will incorporate these elements, the Project aims at ensuring the protection of the environment and the community during and after the school is being rebuilt. For this purpose, a series of documents, frameworks and plans have been developed at the level of the Project in order to ensure the safety of children, community members, workers, identify and mitigate adverse impacts during works, and engage the local community in the process (Environmental and Social Management Framework, Stakeholder Engagement Plan, Labor Management Plan, etc.). All these documents can be consulted on the Project’s website <https://umpmrsu.ro/sissp/>.

### **Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP)**

The ESMP outlines the main environmental and social risks associated with the investment in **Secondary School No. 168 Calea Giulești**. The overall findings of the ESMP indicate short-term negative impacts on air, soil, water, and acoustic environment during civil works. The environmental issues likely to be associated with the project activities include: noise generation, impact on soil and on water by the

construction run-offs, construction dust and wastes, and workers' safety. However, these adverse impacts will be temporary and site specific and will be mitigated through implementing adequate avoidance and/or mitigation measures such as appropriate fencing, appropriate management of construction waste, H&S monitoring, development of clear procedures on site, site-specific organization of the works.

The project is expected to have a mainly positive social impact at the level of the community by providing a healthy and safe environment for future students and school staff members reducing the risks of collapse and human accidents in case of an earthquake, contributing to the climate change adaptation process, providing gender equity and universal access in the newly built facilities. In relation to potential social risks, the ESMP addresses the children and community health and safety risks, including the risk of accidents, disturbances to the educational activity and for neighboring residents, gender-based violence risks, awareness in relation to disaster risks, exclusion of vulnerable groups from the benefits of the investment, etc.

For this purpose, the ESMP proposes a set of mitigation measures and relies on community outreach and consultations with those directly impacted (school staff, children, parents) and the community at large to manage these risks across the different phases of the Project. A dedicated grievance mechanism will assist the community to reach the Project in relation to any issues observed during Project implementation.

A monitoring plan attached to the ESMP will be the basis for constantly checking compliance with the proposed risk mitigation measures.

### **Institutional Responsibilities**

The overall responsibility for implementing the provisions of the current ESMP lies with the PMU dedicated for this project. The sector 6 City Hall will also need to ensure compliance with the provisions of the ESMP in relation to the works carried with local funding. All other actors involved in the process, such as contractors, the Secondary School No. 168 Calea Giulești representatives, will be informed about their responsibilities and bidding documents, contracts and protocols will define roles, timelines and actions expected from each stakeholder. The ESMF developed by the Project includes guidelines and instructions for contractors to integrate in their own environmental and social management plans, requested under their contracts.

### **Consultations and stakeholder engagement**

Community and individual consultations began early in the project planning phase, aimed at collecting initial views on the school design and allow for changes as needed. These consultations are guided by the Stakeholder Engagement Plan developed for the Project, accessible on the Project's website.

With the design contract signed in December 2023, a first round of consultations was held in Bucharest with representatives of local authorities, schools, teachers, representatives of students and parents and local NGOs working with the school and the community, during which general information about the project, the site plan and the proposed design for the new construction in terms of spaces and functions, and the facilities proposed to make the building safer, sustainable and inclusive were presented. Questions and suggestions from the participants will be recorded and a new consultation on the final design will be held in March 2024.

In relation to the current ESMP, this document will be disclosed and consulted with the community during the March 2024 consultation. The public consultations, as well as individual consultations where needed, enable stakeholders to provide input that will help the implementation team to anticipate the impacts of the project more accurately and design more appropriate and effective measures to manage the risks generated. The consultation will be announced in advance at the level of the community and the grievance mechanism will ensure communication channels before and after the consultations. A community event disclosing the proposed design, as well as the provisions under the current ESMP will

be organized by the school and local authority, with support from the Project during the disclosure of the current ESMP in February 2024.

All Project materials, information and documents can be found at [www.umpmrsu.ro](http://www.umpmrsu.ro).

**Grievance Redress Mechanism.** The GRM provides the community members and a range of other stakeholders with the possibility to communicate their views, complaints, suggestions in relation to the Project. This will give the possibility to mitigate any adverse environmental and social risks that the project may encounter in its implementation as well as to give the community a permanent communication channel with the Project.

The main four channels for receiving grievances are by website form on [www.umpmrsu.ro](http://www.umpmrsu.ro), phone – (+4) 021 310 22 07, email – [petitii@umpmrsu.ro](mailto:petitii@umpmrsu.ro) and mail at the level of the PMU, Str. Spiru Haret, nr. 12, Sector 1, București. This ensures that the PMU has an immediate control over all project related grievances and can address the raised issues immediately.

The Project developed a Gender-based Violence Action Plan (part of the Stakeholder Engagement Plan) in order to protect the community and staff from any cases of sexual harassment and exploitation. A separate safe and confidential reporting channel for the incidence of gender-based violence is available by e-mail address at [petitii.vbg@umpmrsu.ro](mailto:petitii.vbg@umpmrsu.ro), or in person, by contacting the Project and requesting a meeting with the social specialist on the team.

## **1. GENERAL PROJECT AND ESMP INFORMATION**

### **1.1 Project overview**

#### ***Context of the Project***

The proposed “Romania Safer, Inclusive and Sustainable Schools” Project addresses development challenges related to issues of safety, inclusion and sustainability in the school infrastructure in Romania. The Project has been approved in 2021 and is implemented, over a period of six years, by the Ministry of Education with financial support from the World Bank<sup>1</sup>.

There is an urgent need to invest in quality and safe school infrastructure in Romania, with a high proportion of school buildings failing to meet basic sanitary and safety standards and which pose a substantial risk to lives in a future earthquake, a future pandemic and as the climate warms.

The Safer, Inclusive and Sustainable Schools Project (SISSP) aims to provide safer and improved learning environments for students and teachers in selected schools, and to increase institutional capacity for investing in sustainable education infrastructure. The investments in the participating schools will serve as a demonstration of the preparation and implementation process of works to modernize and improve school infrastructure. The Project is expected to lay the foundations for future investments through State and European Union (EU) funds in school infrastructure. Secondary School No. 168 Calea Giulești, Bucharest has been selected to be part of the first batch of investments, together with other 22 schools in the country. The technical design phase for Secondary School No. 168 Calea Giulești has commenced in December 2023 and the construction works are estimated to begin around mid 2024. The main criteria for school selection were the results of seismic risk assessments, together with school marginality data. A list of all selection criteria and methodology can be found on the Project’s website.

#### ***Objectives***

The SISSP Project aims to develop safer and better educational environments for students and teachers in selected schools and to strengthen institutional capacity to invest in sustainable school infrastructure.

#### ***Components***

The five components under the Project are: i) Demonstrating Integrated Investments in School Infrastructure, ii) Investing in Clever Classrooms; iii) Foundations for Future Investments in Sustainable and Modern Schools Infrastructure; iv) Project Management; and v) Contingent Emergency Response Component.

The project will include:

- a) Execution of construction works at selected educational units, in order to create a modern infrastructure, resistant to earthquakes and other natural disasters and to increase operational safety;
- b) The endowment with modern and flexible furniture, the endowment with digital equipment of the classrooms in order to improve the quality of the educational process, the endowment with educational materials that will allow the stimulation of the learning capacity;
- c) Teacher training to improve digital skills and understanding modern alternative methods that will encourage active student participation, group work / social learning and will be sensitive to students’ individual motivations and differences;

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<sup>1</sup> The Board of the WB approved on 29th of April 2021 a Loan on the amount of 100 million euros (EUR) (equivalent to USD 121,07 million) to Romania for the implementation of the SISS Project. The Loan Agreement Number 9236-RO was signed between the WB and the GoR, represented by MoF, on 6th of May 2021 and it is in the process of ratification. The SISS Project is to be implemented over a period of six years, between 2021 and 2027.



- d) Providing institutional support to local authorities for accessing European funds that will be available in the financial year 2021-2027 in order to make investments in modernization of school infrastructure;
- e) Training of students, teachers and community awareness by promoting actions that can be taken to build disaster resilience and climate change, disaster preparedness and response, opportunities to increase sustainability (such as zero waste, water harvesting, energy use and conservation, etc.).

### **1.2 Scope and objectives the ESMP**

The Project is supported by the World Bank through an Investment Project Financing Instrument. As a consequence, the Borrower is required to identify and assess the environmental and social risks associated with the Project and to propose an integrated management of these risks throughout the preparation and implementation phases. This process is carried under the World Bank Environmental and Social Framework (ESF) that enables the WB and Borrowers to better manage environmental and social risks of projects and to improve development outcomes.

The Bank believes that the application of these standards, by focusing on the identification and management of environmental and social risks, will support Borrowers in their goal to reduce poverty and increase prosperity in a sustainable manner for the benefit of the environment and their citizens. The standards will: (a) support Borrowers in achieving good international practice relating to environmental and social sustainability; (b) assist Borrowers in fulfilling their national and international environmental and social obligations; (c) enhance nondiscrimination, transparency, participation, accountability and governance; and (d) enhance the sustainable development outcomes of projects through ongoing stakeholder engagement.

The objective of the current ESMP, developed in the specific context of the Secondary School No. 168 Calea Giulești sub-project is to ensure that the social and environmental impacts that may occur in the implementation of the Secondary School No. 168 Calea Giulești sub-project activities are adequately addressed through appropriate mitigation measures, integrated in the processes of implementation and operation of the sub-project, in order to ensure the protection of the environment and human health. This objective is in line with the Environmental and Social Management Framework, a document that was prepared by the Project in 2020, at project design level, and which incorporates all the requirements that are applicable to the project, as well as main risks and mitigation measures to be implemented across all investments.

The development of the current ESMP is based on the provisions of World Bank's Environmental and Social Framework (ESF) that requires Borrowers to assess and manage environmental and social risks of projects supported by the WB. The ESF is built upon the 10 WB's Environmental and Social Standards (ESS), out which, the following six apply to the SISSP and establish the standards that the Borrower and the project will meet through the project life cycle, as follows:

1. ESS1: Assessment and Management of ESS Risks and Impacts;
2. ESS2: Labor and Working Conditions;
3. ESS3: Resource Efficiency and Pollution Prevention;
4. ESS4: Community Health and Safety;
5. ESS8: Cultural Heritage This ESS8; even though not applicable to subproject the standard is relevant to "Chance finds procedure in the ESMF" as the civil work activities are likely to have risks and impacts on cultural heritage;
6. ESS10: Information Disclosure and Stakeholder Engagement.

The ESSs that apply to the project have been analyzed and adapted to the context in Romania and a series of tools and documents have been elaborated in the Project Preparation phase in 2020. These instruments include the Environmental and Social Management Framework, Stakeholder Engagement Plan, Labor Management Plan, Grievance Redress Procedure, Gender Based Violence Action Plan, etc. In addition, two studies carried by the World Bank in the context of the Project, assessing the specific needs

and concerns of different vulnerable categories that might be impacted by the investments in schools, have informed the Project design. All these documents can be consulted on the Project's website.

The Environmental and Social Management Framework also contains a review of applicable Romanian legislation, in addition to an in-depth presentation of the World Bank's standards.

## 2. DESCRIPTION OF SCHOOL NO. 168 CALEA GIULEȘTI SUBPROJECT

### 2.1 Description of area and community affected by the investment

Sector 6 is located in the west of the capital and is the second largest of the six sectors of Bucharest, measuring an area of 38 km<sup>2</sup> (out of a total of 240 km<sup>2</sup> of Bucharest); it includes the districts of Giulești, Drumul Taberei, Ghencea, Crângași, Militari and Regie.

According to the census conducted in 2021, the population of Sector 6 is 325,000 inhabitants, a slight decrease compared to the 2011 census, when 367,760 people were registered. However, data from the website of the National Institute of Statistics shows a 15% increase in the number of children in Bucharest over the last 10 years<sup>2</sup>; the majority of the population of Sector 6 is Romanian (89%), with Roma ethnicity accounting for only 0.48%, but it is possible that part of the percentage of those who have not declared their ethnicity is made up of Roma.

Giulești district is located in the northern part of the Sector, being bordered on the largest part of the perimeter by railways serving Bucharest to the west, north and east, and by Dâmbovița River and the Morii Lake to the south. The district includes two areas, with different urban characteristics: Giulești (the more urbanized part of the district) and Giulești Sârbi - a former rural settlement added in the 1950s; this area of the district has a relatively low degree of urbanization and has a predominantly Roma population,

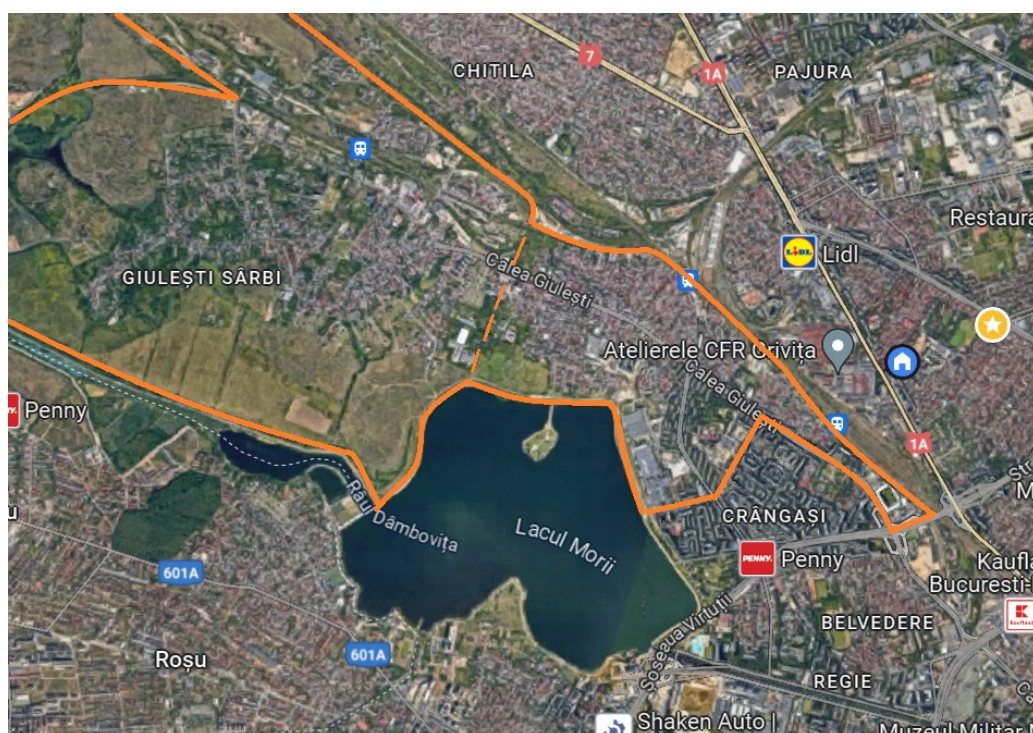


Fig. 1 The two areas of the neighbourhood - Giulești and Giulești sarbi

The school included in the Project is located in Giulești neighborhood, in a predominantly residential area, with vicinities consisting mainly of single-family detached houses. On the South side there is the Giulești Maternity Hospital and on the East side - Calea Giulești, the Ilfov Territorial Labour Inspectorate and other institutional, commercial and industrial buildings.

<sup>2</sup> According to the database available on the website of the National Institute of Statistics <http://statistici.insse.ro:8077/tempo-online/#/pages/tables/insse-table> accessed on 19 December 2023

## 2.2 Secondary School No. 168 Calea Giulești

The building in Calea Giulești of the Secondary School 168 has been selected in the first batch of 22 schools to be invested in the project. It was considered eligible because it is located in an area at seismic risk, is almost 100 years old and has not undergone recent consolidation works. The technical expertise has shown that this building has a seismic risk SR II and recommends its demolition and the construction of a new building.

The existing school infrastructure in Sector 6 consists of 27 secondary schools. In Giulești district there are 4 primary and secondary schools - Secondary School 168 with 320 pupils and Secondary Schools 153, 161 and 163 with a total of 912 children enrolled in 43 primary and secondary classes.

Secondary School 168 operates in two buildings. Both of them are included in the Project and will be subject to demolition and construction works. The main building, with 6 classrooms, is located at 9 Alizeului Street and was inaugurated in 1893. The second building was built in 1925-1926 as a girls' school and currently houses 4 classrooms; this building is located at a distance of about 250 meters from the main building, on Calea Giulești no. 7.

School 168 in Giulești has 320 pupils, most of them (more than 90% according to the school management's estimates) of Roma ethnicity. Of the children enrolled in regular school 42% receive social grants and a large proportion of the pupils come from disadvantaged backgrounds - families where the parents have a low level of education, low-income families or families where one or both parents are temporarily unavailable (working abroad, divorced, etc.), are orphans or in foster care.

The students of the school are attending classes in two shifts, as follows:

- 190 pupils attend the morning program (111 children enrolled in 5 primary classes and 79 in 4 secondary classes). Of these, 105 are enrolled in the School After School Program funded by the Municipality of Sector 6, where they receive lunch and activities with teachers from the school. The "School After School" Program takes place in the school's classrooms between 12.00 and 15.00.

- 130 pupils - 24 in a "part-time" class and 106 in 6 other classes in the Second Chance program learn in the afternoon program starting with 17.00h.

The schedule and the distribution of the classes in the two buildings is presented in the table below:

	Morning	Afternoon
Calea Giulesti 4 classrooms	4 secondary classes - 79 students and School after school program	4 secondary classes in the Second chance program - 72 students
Alizeului 6 classrooms	5 primary classes -111 students and School after school program	2 primary classes in the Second chance program - 34 students 1 secondary class in "Part-time" program - 24 students

In Sector 6 only two schools - School No. 168 in Giulești and School 153 in Giulești Sârbi are regularly organizing classes within the „Second Chance” or similar programs - such as the „Part-time” program. The classes are made up of pupils who can no longer be enrolled in regular classes because they are at least 4 years older than the age corresponding to the level of the class they are attending. School 168 enrolls in the „Second Chance” classes people coming from sector 6 and the close area within Sector 1, but predominantly people living in the close neighborhoods.

Approximately 40% of the school's students are enrolled in „Second Chance” and „Part-time” programs.

Also, the Giulești Day Centre, one of the three day centres for school children managed by the General Directorate of Social Assistance and Child Protection Sector 6, is located in the premises on Alizeului Street. At the Giulești Day Centre, 18 children are enrolled from families where the parents do not have

an income or do not have a constant income, are not literate or have a low level of schooling so that they cannot provide the children with a place to study and often not even adequate support for homework. The day centre provides a hot meal, homework support and recreational activities for enrolled children. All the children enrolled at the Giulești Day Centre are primary school students of School 168.

### 2.3. Location and characteristics of the site for investment

Given that the two buildings of the school are situated in different locations, a site specific ESMP was elaborated for each of them, the current one addressing the building in Calea Giulesti.

The building that is the object of the investment is located on a 2860 sqm plot of land, registered as public land of the local authority, located on Calea Giulești No 7.

The results of the technical documentation revealed the need to demolish the existing building and build a new one on the same land plot.

#### Description of the current school building proposed for demolition and reconstruction:

Year of Construction	It was built in 1925-1926 with the destination of school;
Area and functions	The building has an area of 561 sqm, 4 classrooms, and housed the teaching activity for the secondary classes of the school;
Seismic risk category	The technical expertise indicated the highest seismic risk, class II;
Current access to utilities:	The building is connected to water/sewerage; The building is connected to the electrical network; The heating is provided by the heat supply network;
Current universal access situation	Currently the building does not provide facilities for universal access;
Conclusion of the technical expertise	The conclusion of the technical expertise indicates the risk of significant structural damage and argues the financial efforts to consolidate the existing building are not justified, with the proposal to demolish and construct a new building.

The land houses the building belonging to the secondary school, a sports field and another building that was originally used as a service house for the school principal and in recent years has been used by the Giulești Maternity Hospital as a warehouse. This building has been vacated and is ready for demolition.



Fig. 2 The buildings on the school’s site and the vicinities



The school is located on Calea Giulești no 7, in a mixed area, where a residential neighborhood of single-family homes adjoins an area of institutional buildings: Giulești Obstetrics and Gynaecology Hospital, the Ilfov Territorial Labor Inspectorate and several commercial and industrial buildings. Access to the school is from Nicolae Mateescu Street. In the vicinity there is also a private kindergarten.

The land does not include historical buildings and is not located in the protection area of any historical monument.

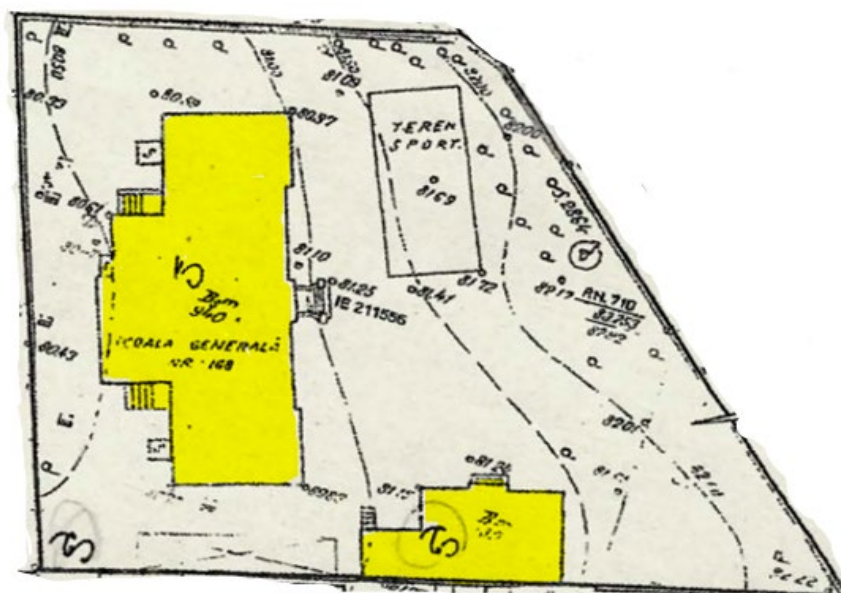


Fig. 3. The buildings proposed for demolition

The figure above indicates the constructions on site:

C1 - The main school building, built in 1925 and now used for educational activities;

C2 - Building used as a service house for the school director and later by the Giulești Maternity Hospital as storage space; this building is also to be demolished as part of the project.

## 2.4 Proposed design for new school building

### *Key features of design as provided by the architect team*

The new school project aims to integrate and bring to life the latest best practice in contemporary school design:

- Integration of technology
- Safety and security
- Transparency
- Multi-purpose space
- Outdoor learning

The basic principle of the project is the safe and efficient operation of the spaces, based on sustainability principles. The designed systems aim at producing energy from renewable sources, limiting consumption, environmental control and ease of maintenance, reducing operating and maintenance costs, protecting the environment and increasing operational safety, with the main objective of implementing the NZEB concept as efficiently as possible.

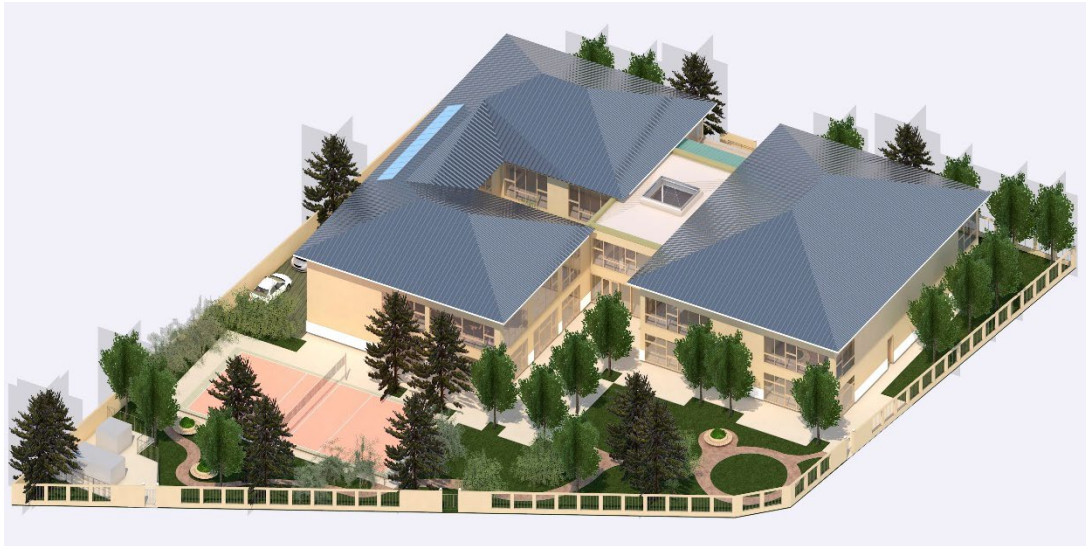


Fig. 4 Designer renderings of the of the new building

The proposed new building will have a built area of 923 sqm and a developed area of 1846 sqm. The new school will be able to host the 151 children currently enrolled and will have a maximum capacity of 182 students. The school will be aligned with the latest seismic standards, near zero energy building technology, universal access for all children, adapted bathrooms for the needs of teenage girls, a cafeteria for lunch breaks and school events.

The spatial-functional organization of the proposed building includes the following spaces:

**Main Function:** The primary function of the project is for educational purposes, including seven classrooms and two laboratories.

**Secondary Functions:** There are designated spaces for:

- Teachers room
- Medical office
- Psychological counseling office
- Workspace for children with special educational needs (CES)
- Library with a reading area and multimedia space
- Dining area with a serving counter

**Related Functions:** There are sanitary facilities separated by gender for students, sanitary facilities for individuals with disabilities, sanitary facilities for teaching staff, distribution halls, interior staircases, windfang (vestibule), technical spaces for Electrical Panel, Heating station, server room, central fire alarm, and storage areas. In order to prevent school absenteeism and health issues related to poor or lack of access to a safe, clean, and private space to manage monthly menses with dignity, dedicated facilities for teenage girls are provided (larger toilet cabin to ease changing and washing shower-head amenities along with pads dispenser and disposer, toilet seat cover dispenser/ cleaner and overall safe environment).

**Distribution of Spaces:**

**Ground Floor:**

- 3 classrooms
- 1 hall for extra curriculum activities
- Dining area with a serving counter
- Teachers room
- Psychological counseling office with workspace for children with CES

- Medical office
- Technical spaces and storage
- Restrooms

**First Floor:**

- 4 classrooms
- 2 laboratories
- Library with a reading area and multimedia space
- Restrooms

The complex will also undergo extensive exterior landscaping work to ensure access and to create a sports field and recreational areas for students. Existing trees on the property will be preserved, and new vegetation will be planted, including trees, shrubs, and small perennial plants.

**Functional Description:**

To ensure the appropriate level of quality for the educational process and to provide the necessary space to bring the new school up to current standards for the educational activities it will host, as well as to meet the specific needs of students and staff who will use the new school building, and to implement the Nearly Zero Energy Building (NZEB) standard, the following functional resolution is proposed.

The proposed building is characterized through the succession of build and open spaces, full and empty sequence, colour – noncolour, light – darkness.

The light, the sun, the vegetation will engulf our house through the courtyards of light, LIGHT of LIFE, just like the nature will retake its natural place.

We have imagined a modular building articulated around an internal courtyard and a lobby for reception and distribution. The building will be developed on two levels, ground floor and first floor.

The courtyard will have a glass wall along its entire height. Large glazed surfaces, spread over the entire height of the building will ensure the connection throughout the built space and the open one, letting the LIGHT of LIFE in.

The building has an "L" shape in plan and is aligned with Mateescu Nicolae Street, with a setback of at least 5 meters from the property line on the sides. Access is provided through the school's central axis, via a generous distribution hall, with a wide staircase and two ramps for disabled individuals. On the opposite side, there's an exit to the school's courtyard for outdoor activities or during break times. Lunch will be served in a dedicated dining area in three shifts. Meals will be provided through a catering system, with a designated area for reception, service, and dishwashing. Additionally, there is a furniture storage area directly connected to the dining hall, allowing for various other activities by changing the furniture or freeing up space. The dining hall will be entirely open to the inner courtyard, enabling extracurricular activities to take place both outdoors and indoors. Above the dining hall, a library with a reading room will be located. Classrooms and laboratories are designed to be organized in modules of two, each with its own restroom. Access to the upper floor is provided through two generous staircases in two ramps. The building will provide sanitary facilities (sinks, upward jet faucets, and toilets) for students and teachers in accordance with the current legislation, as well as storage spaces for cleaning materials. The proposed building is designed to accommodate individuals with disabilities, with access points, horizontal and vertical connections, space dimensions and furniture designed in accordance with the provisions of applicable regulations. All level differences, ramps, and stairs are properly marked, and vertical accessibility for individuals with mobility impairments is ensured through the use of an elevator. Both levels of the building are equipped with specially sized and equipped restroom facilities to meet the needs of these individuals.

From a volumetric perspective, the building is spread over two levels and will be centered around a central area with a terrace-style roof equipped with a skylight. The two functional modules on the sides will have pitched roofs with four slopes.



Existing pedestrian access points will be preserved, in alignment with the building's axis on Mateescu Nicolae Street and Calea Giulesti. Vehicle access will be from Mateescu Nicolae Street, at the southern end of the site, near the Giulesti Maternity Hospital. This vehicle access will ensure the supply of the dining hall and provide access for the emergency services vehicle. Also there will be arranged 2 parking places. Places for parking bicycles will be provided also in the court yard.





## **2.5 Associated Facilities**

Given the limited resources at the level of the Project and the priority to increase the seismic safety of children in schools at risk across the country, some of the associated elements of the investments will be funded and implemented by local authorities, considering budgetary availability at local level. From an environmental and social perspective, these associated investments will be approached as Associated Facilities of the Investment.

Associated Facilities means facilities or activities that are not funded as part of the Project and, in the judgment of the World Bank, are: (a) directly and significantly related to the project; and (b) carried out, or planned to be carried out, contemporaneously with the project; and (c) necessary for the project to be viable and would not have been constructed, expanded or conducted if the project did not exist.

The E&S standards of the Project, defined under the current ESMP, will apply to these Associated Facilities. In practice, the requirements under the current ESMP will apply to all Contractors, irrespective of the contracted works (demolitions, constructions, landscaping, etc.). The PMU will assist the local authority in implementing and monitoring the measures set out in the current ESMP for the associated facilities.

Description of interventions expected to be carried by the local authorities, to be determined after the finalization of the design phase:

- Demolition of the building that hosted the school;
- Playground area next to the school;
- Alleys, courtyard lighting and benches, and landscaping;
- Parking lots;
- Utility connections for the proposed new building.

## **2.6 Temporary School Relocation Solution**

The subproject will need a mobile classroom solution to accommodate educational and extracurricular activities during demolition and construction. The temporary building will be located on land provided by the local authority. The land is adjoint to the Secondary School 163 courtyard and is located at 54 Calea Giulești, 1.7 kilometres from the current site. The land on which the modular school will be located is situated on the main artery through the quarry and is easily accessible by public transport.

The area allotted for the relocated school will be securely fenced and separate access will be provided for the students and personnel.





Fig. 7 Positioning and vicinities of the relocation school

The shaded area near the relocation site is also in the administration of the local authority and is intended to accommodate a public park. The neighboring area is predominantly residential, with a former market place - currently decommissioned - and a services area (mainly auto workshops) nearby, as shown in the figure above.

The area marked in green in the right figure above hosts a drilling for drinking water. The area is under the administration of the water supply company “Apa Nova”, is securely fenced and provided with separate access from the main street - Calea Giulești.

The school is currently running educational programs and projects whose main beneficiaries are the school's students - School after School, Second Chance, Day Centre for school children. It is important for both children and parents that the temporary premises ensure that these programs can continue while the children are relocated.

Although the area where the school will be relocated is relatively close and easily accessible by public transport, consultation with representatives of NGOs, the City Hall, the School Inspectorate and the school revealed a risk of dropout associated with the temporary relocation of the school, mainly due to the fact that a large number of pupils come from disadvantaged backgrounds (parents with a low level of schooling, low-income families, single-parent families or where at least one parent is not available, parents working abroad, etc.). It is considered that for these children, any additional effort to attend school (such as a longer distance to school or the need to adapt to an unfamiliar area) could lead to a decision to drop out or discontinue school.

In order to reduce the risk of dropout associated with the relocation to which the school pupils are exposed, The PMU and the local authority will collaborate to ensure that the transport of children from the old location to the temporary school is provided. Also, after the installation of the modular building, before the children relocate, the school will organise activities with the pupils in the new temporary building to facilitate the transfer and adaptation of the children to the new location.

The temporary building will have ground floor and first and will host 10 classrooms and the administrative spaces and facilities necessary for the functioning of the school - principal office, secretariat, chancellery, toilets, etc.



## **2.7. Description of demolition and construction works expected**

The demolition will be contracted by the local authority. The works are expected to take two months and will be carried under strict guidance outlined in the technical design documentation associated with the demolition process, prepared under the responsibility of the City Hall in Sector 6. The process will involve the disconnection of the current buildings from utilities, the set-up of the construction site within the premises (offices, toilets, changing rooms for staff) and temporary connection to utilities, the fencing and restrictions of accessing the site, equipping the site with health and safety equipment, providing training to workers on site, set-up of environmental protection measures (vehicles washing, transport of debris, protection of green spaces on the construction site).

The technological process of demolition will involve the use of vehicles and machinery specific to construction works such as bulldozers, excavators, jackhammers and dump trucks. The trucks that will go in and out of the site will undergo a wheel washing process and will be covered to avoid the overspill of debris on public roads. A project information board and a grievance system board and letter box will assure that both community members and site workers will be able to communicate any grievances and suggestions to the project team, in relation to the demolition process.

The construction of the new building will most probably last between 12 and 18 months. The first period will be allocated to the site preparation for the construction of the new building and the installation of the necessary equipment for the construction works (site organisation).

The new building will have a built area of 923 sqm and a developed area of 1846 sqm. The infrastructure of the building is made of insulated reinforced concrete foundations with compensation beams under the superstructure of reinforced concrete frame structure with masonry diaphragms. A general excavation will be carried out on the whole surface of the building for the foundations. A layer of sand and gravel is placed under the slab above ground level to break the capillarity. Thermal insulation of the above ground slab will be made with 20 cm thick extruded polystyrene. Horizontal waterproofing will be provided under the ground floor walls to prevent damp.

The superstructure of the building consists of reinforced concrete frame structure with masonry diaphragms and reinforced concrete slabs. Access to the first floor will be via two reinforced concrete staircases.

The roof will be of non-circulating terrace type, with heat-sealing membrane on the central distribution area, and a wooden roof structure on three functional sides. On the main access area, an awning will be built by removing the cantilever slab over the floor, with reinforced concrete structure, continuing the non-circulating terrace roofing.

The external enclosures will be made of 30 cm thick BCA masonry, thermally insulated with a ventilated facade system with a 15 cm thick basalt plaster thermos-system. The interior partitions will be made of 30 cm thick BCA masonry for the teaching areas and 15 cm thick for the other areas, or gypsum board, or MAX panels as appropriate, following the architectural plans.

The proposed exterior carpentry will be laminated wood with medium R-value (1.1-1.4 W/m<sup>2</sup>K) triplex insulating glass; the access carpentry to the central heating unit will be made of painted metal profiles in the same shade as the rest of the carpentry, featuring single glazing and vents for natural air circulation between the interior and exterior.

The interior joinery will be laminated wood with frames and panels, in white or RAL colors, as specified in the joinery table. The interior floors will be made with heavy-duty PVC carpet with silicon backing will be used, with hot-welded seams in the same color as the flooring to prevent water infiltration from

washing and the accumulation of bacteria due to the lifting of carpet edges. The color of the flooring will vary according to the function of the spaces. In wet areas (sanitary), non-slip ceramic tiles will be used. In the library the flooring will be of solid lamellar parquet. Walls and ceilings will be plastered, sanded and painted with super washable paint. The food service office and the restrooms will have perimeter tile work at a height of 1,50/ 1,80 m. The ceilings will be made of plasterboard with 60x120 cm sound-absorbing panels. It will incorporate ventilation equipment and electrical conduits.

### **2.8 Temporary facilities required during the demolition and construction phase**

Demolition and construction activities will require temporary installations on site. The installation of these facilities will allow the performance of various functions of the site, including the storage of building materials, waste management, the arrangement of offices, dedicated spaces for workers and the provision of health and safety on the site.

All the temporary facilities will be installed inside the site subject to works. The construction site will be installed on the ground and will include the placement of modular containers to serve as offices, changing rooms for site workers and as a warehouse for equipment. Ecological toilets will be installed on the site, and their contents will be constantly emptied by the supplier. Separated toilets for women will be installed, if necessary. A truck washing platform will be provided to clean the wheels of trucks leaving the site during demolition and construction work.

At the entrance to the site, a panel dedicated to the mechanism for receiving petitions/complaints with a related grievance box will be installed. Construction workers will be informed about the possibility of contacting the PMU or of submitting an anonymous complaint about the working conditions and the health and safety provisions on the spot, in addition to the grievance mechanism that is expected to function at the level of the Contractors.

The temporary facilities required during the construction works will take into account the designation of spaces for the storage of materials, washing and decontamination facilities for vehicles, contamination control points, ecological toilets, wastewater treatment services, offices and night lighting. Special attention will be given to the security of the site. Appropriate fencing and controlled access to the site will be ensured and the works related traffic will be organized in a manner that will not put at risk the activities and persons in the vicinity (educational activities, children playing in the school playground, neighbors, passers-by). The noise and dust levels will be constantly monitored and appropriate measures will be taken to keep them under the legally admitted maximum, as indicated in the sections below. All these measures will be captured in the Project detailed design documentation, the bidding documents and the contracts signed with designated construction companies.



### **3. ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES**

#### **3.1 Key social risks and impacts**

The project is expected to have a considerable positive impact at the level of the Giulești neighborhood community, children and teachers. This project aims that teachers and students have access to schools that are safe from earthquake, fire and other disaster and climate risks, meet minimum standards for sanitation, heating, ventilation, are energy efficient, can safely resume during health pandemics, such as Covid-19, and provide universal access to students with disabilities.

By providing a comprehensive solution, through a single investment, the community can reduce dropout or early school leaving, increase educational outcomes and provide safe learning environments. Strengthening disaster resilience and emergency infrastructure in severely damaged buildings at the level of selected units across Romania, will increase the chances of communities to be safely assisted in the event of disasters and will also provide improved and standardized working conditions for the employees and users of these facilities.

In relation to the WB's ESF, the social development and inclusion under the Project aims at empowering all people to participate in, and benefit from, the development process. Inclusion encompasses policies to promote equality and nondiscrimination by improving the access of all people, including the poor and disadvantaged, to the educational services that will result from the investment. It also embraces action to remove barriers against those who are often excluded from the development process, such as women, children, persons with disabilities, youth and minorities, and to ensure that the voice of all can be heard.

#### **3.2 Social Impact Screening Process**

Regarding the vulnerable categories that might be impacted by the Project, two research studies carried by the World Bank in 2020 in the context of the Project preparation, namely, a Community Vulnerability Assessment and a Roma Children Learning Experiences Assessment revealed several aspects that contribute to the objectives of the planned investments. The two studies carried interviews with children and parents coming from vulnerable and marginalized communities, and concluded several interventions that can be addressed by the project in order to improve the experience of vulnerable children in the newly built schools (e.g. adding cafeterias for hot meal programs, adapting to the needs of children with disabilities, addressing the lack of access to modern technologies for children from poor environments, etc.).

An environmental and social checklist was developed at project design stage, including elements related to the social and environmental context of the investments. Several site visits and consultations with relevant stakeholders have also informed the social risk assessment related to the Secondary School no. 168 sub-project. The specific aspects that informed the risk analysis are:

- No land acquisition is involved in the process, as all work will be carried on the same public land that hosts the present building and that is in the property of the local authority. Also, the land on which the temporary school will be located is owned by the Local Council Sector 6 in Bucharest, in the immediate vicinity of Secondary School no. 163 Giulesti;
- The land plot that hosts the current building serves other buildings and functions, such as a sports field, a building used for storing garbage bins and a building used in the past as the headmaster's house, which in recent years has been used as warehouse by the Giulești Maternity Hospital; this building is currently being vacated and is ready to be demolished;
- The area is mixed residential and institutional. The land is bordered by Calea Giulești, Maternitatea Giulești, Nicolae Mateescu Street and Țibleș Alley; in the vicinity there is also a private kindergarten and buildings housing institutions or commercial and industrial activities;
- The current building is not a cultural heritage building and is not located in a protection area of a historic monument;

- During the demolition and construction activities the pupils will be relocated to a modular school, provided by the Project, which will be located on land owned by the local authority;
- More than 90% of the pupils enrolled in the school are of Roma ethnicity; A large part of the school students is coming from disadvantaged backgrounds - 42% are receiving social scholarship.
- The relocation of the school activities generates a risk of dropout or discontinuing the school for the vulnerable children. Transportation to the new location will be provided by the Project together with the Sector 6 City Hall and the school will carry out activities at the temporary premises prior to relocation to facilitate the adaptation of the children to the new location.
- The school runs educational programs and projects whose main beneficiaries are the pupils of the school. It is important for both children and parents that these programs can continue while the children are relocated.

### ***Social risks identified under Project Activities:***

The social risks identified at this stage are based on data collected at the level of Secondary School no. 168 in Giulești, through checklists, observational site visits, consultations, and similar civil works projects. The categorization of the social risk listed below addresses the demolition and reconstruction works that will be involved in the project, organized under three stages (1) pre-construction, (2) demolition and construction works, (3) post-construction.

#### Project preparation

- **Reduced access of vulnerable categories** in consultations and project information related to the Secondary School no. 168 investment. By vulnerable groups, the Project understands: children and families living in poverty, elderly, children and persons with disabilities, women, Roma children and adults, children with special educational needs. The project not only aims at avoiding or mitigating adverse impacts on these categories, that could potentially be more impacted by the Project, but seeks to create development opportunities for the marginalized. In the case of the community of Giulești, vulnerable groups are considered to be children and families living in poverty, children with disabilities and special educational needs, Roma children and their families.
- **Lack of specific measures to accommodate the needs of students/teachers with disabilities and children with special educational needs** in the sub-project design. The inclusion component of the Project enhances universal access design so that people with health conditions or impairments can enjoy all the benefits provided by the new school, including adapted furniture, dedicated spaces for counseling and inclusive technology solutions.
- **Increased dropout** or discontinuing the school due to the relocation of the in another area of the neighborhood. A large number of the students are coming from vulnerable backgrounds : families with low income, families where parents have a low educational level, families where one or both parents are not present (working abroad, separated parents etc). It is considered that any supplementary effort to attend school - like an increase distance to the school or an unfamiliar neighborhood could result in a decision to abandon or interrupt school.

#### Construction of the new school:

- **General discomfort generated by dust and noise pollution** for the people living in the vicinity and for the personnel and beneficiaries of the neighboring institutions - Giulesti Obstetrics and Gynecology Hospital, Labor Inspectorate, commercial buildings across the street.
- **Community health and safety risks** generated by the construction site, in the form of possible accidents, in situations involving lack of fencing and security measures to restrict access on the

construction site, Risk of road accidents for pedestrians in general, and for children, generated by temporary heavy transport during the construction process.

- **Disruptions in utility services** due to accidents or planned interventions (water, sewerage, electricity, gas).
- **Occupational accidents on the construction site**, especially in relation to migrant workers, if the case; the construction sector in Romania continues to be the sector with the highest rates of work-related accidents and fatalities, due to the lack of compliance with health and safety rules on site. In relation to the increased number of foreign workers, these persons are likely to be more exposed to occupational accidents due to language barriers.
- **Social tensions, increased risks of sexual harassment, abuse and violence, misconduct** during works, potentially perpetuated by construction workers. This impact will likely be greater in the event of installing temporary accommodation for construction staff; the risk is related to a gender-based violence risks. The screening process that concluded the need to protect the local community, especially children and women, from such situations that might be generated by the presence of contracted workers in the construction site area.

#### Post-construction phase

- **Lack of opportunities for vulnerable groups** to benefit from the investment, such as Roma, in particular Roma children, community at large. The risk considers the demographic decrease of school aged children in Giulești. The school will also have the potential to become a community asset that can be used by various groups outside of the educational activities, irrespective of their status within the community. Other risks related to vulnerable categories are the lack of specific equipment to accommodate the needs of children with disabilities and special educational needs, or the misuse of the menstrual hygiene units for teenage girls.
- **Reduced disaster awareness** in relation to the role the new school can play in the event of a natural disaster, as well as the process of protecting the life of children and other community members in the event of an earthquake or other natural disaster. Beyond the infrastructural component, the project aims at addressing the lack of disaster preventive actions at the level of the school and the community at large.
- **Limited availability of the newly built school and facilities** due to lack of local funds to cover associated facilities that do not fall under the investment as well as day to day operational and maintenance expenses of the new school; the proposed designs are aiming to create energy efficient buildings that are likely to reduce the current operational expenses of local budgets. Associated investments that will be carried by the local authority (fencing, alleys, public lighting, landscaping, playgrounds) will be captured in the proposed design and will be planned in advance so that the new school building is ready to use at the end of Project investments.

#### **Social risks identified under Associated Facilities:**

Given the focus of the project on enhancing the safety of children learning in schools with considerable seismic risk, some of the associated investments, such as alleys, parking lots, public lighting, playground area, landscaping at the site of the new school, will be carried technically and financially by the local authorities.

The risks that pertain from this activity are similar in nature as those described above, under the new construction works, and will be addressed by local authorities:

- **Community health and safety risks** for the personnel and beneficiaries of the neighboring institutions as well as neighbors and passers-by during the demolition and construction activities.

Securing the perimeter of the site and managing the heavy traffic are considered essential in keeping the safety of children and adults intact during the process.

- **Occupational health and safety.** As mentioned above, occupational accidents in the construction sector continue to be an area of high risk for human health, as enforcement of national legislation tends to be low.
- **General discomfort generated by dust and noise pollution** for the nearby residents, staff and beneficiaries of the institutions near the site.
- **Risk of road accidents** for pedestrians in general, and for children in particular, generated by temporary heavy transport during the construction process.
- **Disruptions in utility services** due to accidents or planned interventions (water, sewerage, electricity).

### 3.3 Key environmental risks and impacts

#### 3.3.1 Screening and permitting processes

An initial screening was performed by the Sector 6 City Hall and afterwards was revised by Environmental and Social Safeguards Specialists of the PMU. Site visits and consultations with the school and local authority representatives further supported the data collection process.

Further environmental impacts will be highlighted in the permitting process the Environmental Impact Assessment procedure which will be conducted by the Bucharest Environmental Protection Agency based on the documents provided by Technical Design Consultant and results will be incorporated into the current Environmental and Social Management Plan, if necessary.

Environmental Screening results:

- Bucharest is situated on the Vlăsiei Plain, within the Dâmbovița River basin;
- The location of the school is in Sector 6 of Bucharest on a 2952 m<sup>2</sup> plot of land, in public ownership of the locality;
- Sector 6 of Bucharest is passed by Dâmbovița River, which has seen periodic flooding in the past. Between 1985 and 1986, riverbed hydrotechnical operations produced a channel for the Dâmbovița River and a reservoir lake measuring more than 246 hectares, called Lacul Morii;
- Plot is outside area with flooding probability (Fig.10) <https://rowater.ro/despre-noi/descrierea-activitatii/managementul-situatiilor-de-urgenta/directiva-inundatii-2007-60-ce/harti-de-hazard-si-risc-la-inundatii/>. No landslide probability was identified;
- There is a suitable amount of space for normal construction areas on the site;
- The planted vegetation is in good condition and should be maintained;
- The building was part of an extended complex including the actual Maternity. Considering the vicinity of the hospital, levels of noise and dust should be kept low;
- The nearby road (Calea Giulești) is a Road with crowded traffic. High hazards to public traffic and pedestrian by transportation vehicles during construction activities are anticipated.



Fig. 10 Flooding hazard map

Additional Environmental Screening results were added for the mobile school:

- The plot is located within an area with flooding probability (Fig. 11) <https://rowater.ro/despre-noi/descrierea-activitatii/managementul-situatiilor-de-urgenta/directiva-inundatii-2007-60-ce/harti-de-hazard-si-risc-la-inundatii/>. There was no landslide probability found;
- A rectangular plot of around 2750 m<sup>2</sup> area, having 25 m opening to the Calea Giulești Boulevard is proposed as the mobile school's location. There is paved parking on the property. The parking space is gated off from the boulevard and has a section of concrete on the former covered market which is now decommissioned. A delineated part belongs to Apa Nova company being the zone of Giulești 2 drilling for drinking water supply. The remaining space is a paved parking area, with grass-filled holms at the end;
- The plot is situated in an urban area and is surrounded by School Nr.163, a green space, the former Giulești Cinema, which has a park in front of it, and Giulești Boulevard, which has a block of apartments with five units on the other site;
- Giulești Boulevard will be the route of access, with heavy traffic from cars and tram lines separated by plastic traffic pilings. For vehicles access to the mobile school Giulești Boulevard will be used from the School nr.163 to the Park direction, passing through Atelierele Noi Street and the alley in the front of former Giulești Cinema.

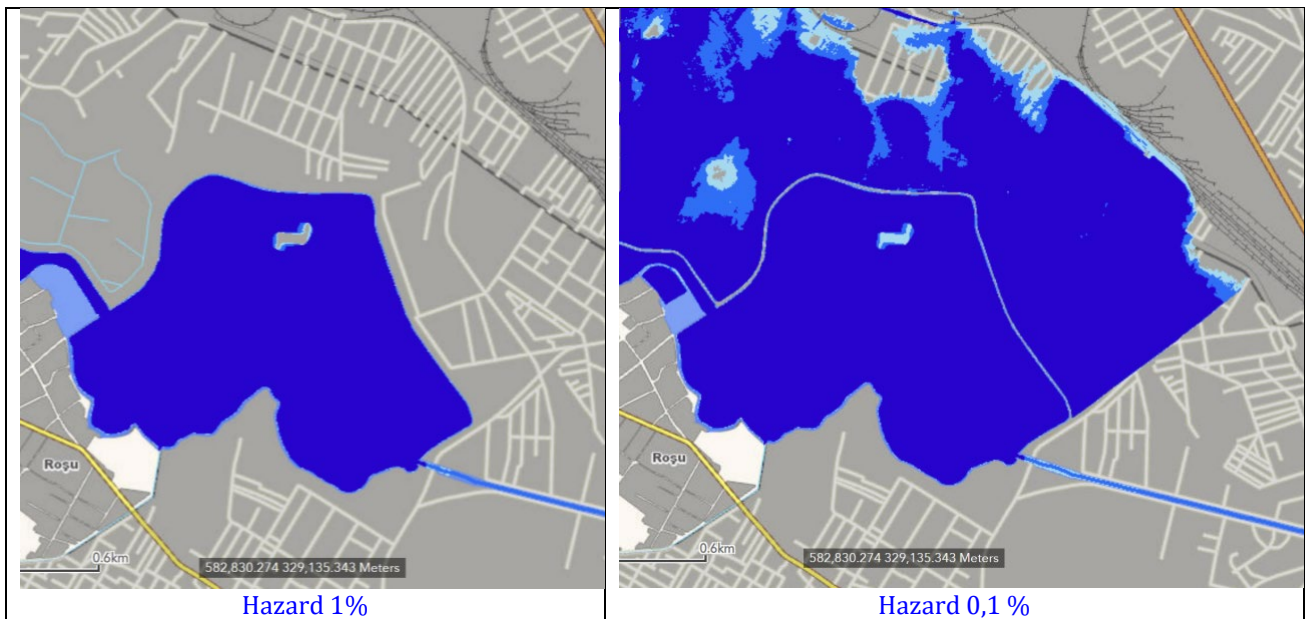


Fig. 11 Flooding hazard map

## Environmental risks identified under Project Activities

### Demolition and construction work:

- Pollution with dust, noise and noxious emissions;
- Transportation and construction vehicles impact on pedestrian and general traffic;
- Improper management of waste resulted from demolition/construction works;
- Asbestos impact during demolition of building (low probability);
- Improper management of Sewage waters from working site and Leakages from equipment used on working site;
- Not following the indicated procedure in case of discovering a physical cultural, historical or archaeological resource during excavation or demolition.

### Operation of mobile school:

- Impact on “Giuleşti 2” drilling for drinking water supply of Apa Nova company in case of infiltration of waste water or liquid pollutants. Also, access to the drilling for the company personnel and equipment should not be blocked.
- Impacts on vehicles and pedestrian traffics during accesses, entrance or exit to mobile school.

### Operation of the new school:

- Improper waste management by not allocating enough recipients for selective collection and storage of waste (household, plastic, glass, metal, paper, electric and electronic waste) - low probability.
- Unsafe practices during operation of the building by improper connections to the sewage network -low probability.

The mitigation measures proposed by the Project with the aim of avoiding or reducing as much as possible the impacts and risks listed above are included in the management plan below, that defines impact areas, mitigation measures and institutional responsibilities associated with the proposed measures.

## **Environmental Guidance**

### **Energy Efficiency, Insulation and Ventilation**

Insulation should be tailored to the seasonal impacts of climate, internal thermal load, and characteristics of exposure. Vapor barriers should prevent moisture intrusion in the roof insulation and outer wall cavities and using damp course.

Window location should be determined on view, ventilation, light, thermal gain, privacy control and interior space functions.

High-efficiency systems for heating domestic water (including solar systems) and for interior space heating should be selected with maintenance and long-term running costs in mind.

Plumbing should be coordinated to minimize plumbing and also water service to toilets and utility rooms. Water-saving faucets, ring mains and other devices also require consideration. Construction materials will conform to national regulations and internationally accepted standards of safety and environmental impacts.

### **Electrical Systems**

Incoming cables should be located underground. Main entrance feed and panel located away from places of work and waiting is prudent in avoidance of electromagnetic fields. Ground faulty wiring near any plumbing fixture is a precaution. Selecting the most energy efficient light fixtures, lamps, appliances and equipment will reduce energy demand but can introduce undesirable electromagnetic fields. Be aware that close proximity to table, floor and desk halogen, fluorescent and other high-efficiency fixtures and lamps can cause an exposure to harmful electromagnetic fields.

### **Selection of Construction Materials and Construction Methods**

Environmentally sound goods and services should be selected. Priority should be given to products meeting standards for recognized international or national symbols. Traditionally well-tried materials and methods should be chosen before new and unknown techniques. Construction sites should be fenced off in order to prevent entry of public, and general safety measures would be imposed. Temporary inconveniences due to construction works should be minimized through planning and coordination with contractors, neighbors and authorities. In densely populated areas, noisy or vibration generating activities should be strictly confined to the daytime.

### **Handling of Waste**

The handling of construction debris will be according to local and national regulations, and as specified in the ESMP, and described above under site considerations. These regulations are developed and enforceable in Romania. Monitoring will be the responsibility of site supervisors working for the MoE. For asbestos and asbestos-containing materials please see Annex 1. In all the specific cases for which contractors should demolish or remove asbestos-containing materials, these categories of works should be done only with qualified personnel and fully in line with the specific legislation related to this specific field. Sufficient area will be allocated for waste management (separate waste collection - household, plastic, paper, glass, metal, electrical and electronic).

### **Occupational Health and Safety At Work**

The contractor has the obligation to ensure all necessary personal protective equipment (PPE) and materials, and the workers have the obligation to use all such protective equipment - helmets, gloves, goggles where appropriate and work uniforms. All these minimum protection rules, doubled by avoiding

over-exhaustion of workers, prevent ergonomic injuries and other work-related accidents resulting from repetitive, excessive and manual handling of building materials.

Recommendations for their prevention and control include knowledge of the most common causes of wounds in construction and decommissioning by:

- Training of workers in the lifting and handling of materials, techniques in construction and decommissioning projects, including placement of weight limits over which mechanical assistance is required;
- Workplace site planning to minimize the need for manual heavy load transfer;
- Selecting tools and designing workstations that reduce the need for strength;
- Implement administrative controls in work processes, such as job rotation and rest breaks.

### **Contractor H&SP and ERP**

Contractor will be required to produce a Health and Safety Plan (H&SP) and an Emergency Response Plan (ERP) to protect his employees during the works he shall undertake. This Plan will be reviewed at the level of the PMU both on Environmental and Social aspects and at the level of the Bank. The Contractor's ESMP (C-ESMP) shall be considered when preparing contractor's H&SP and ERP. Environmental controls and exposure levels associated with worker protection shall be included in the C-ESMP. Work practices required by the ESMP are not intended to compromise health and safety in any way. Each H&SP and ERP will be approved by the Supervising Engineer prior to the contractor commencing works to ensure adequate health and safety controls and procedures have been developed, that are appropriate to the works to be undertaken.

### **3.4 Environmental and Social Management Plan**

The mitigation measures proposed by the Project with the aim of avoiding or reducing as much as possible the impacts and risks listed above are included in the management plan below, that defines impact areas, mitigation measures and institutional responsibilities associated with the proposed measures. The plan will be subject to consultations with stakeholders and to updates during implementation, whenever necessary.



E&S Impact Area and Risks	Proposed mitigation measures	Institutional responsibility for mitigation
<b>Pre-construction phase</b>		
<p><b>General E&amp;S Management</b></p> <p><b>Risks:</b> unsafe and unsustainable practices during demolition and construction works;</p> <p><b>Affected persons:</b> school children and staff, community members, workers;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Contractor shall develop a Contractors ESMP in accordance with the requirements stipulated throughout the ESMP. C-ESMP will include Labor Management Plan, Occupational Health and Safety Plan, Solid Waste Management Plan, Emergency Response Plan;</li> <li>▪ Contractor to provide reports and access to E&amp;S information related to the implementation of this ESMP;</li> </ul>	All Contractors
<p><b>Project Design</b></p> <p><b>Risks:</b> exclusion of community from project design, risks of accidents for children, community and workers, non-compliant plans at the level of site organization;</p> <p><b>Affected persons:</b> vulnerable categories, school children and staff, community members, workers;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Ensure all elements derived from consultations are integrated into the final design, especially universal access features;</li> <li>▪ Provide clear elements for community safety in Site Organization Plan (fencing, restricted access, site surveillance/security system);</li> </ul>	PMU E&S specialists  Design Consultant
<p><b>Safe Relocation of Children</b></p> <p><b>Risks:</b> unsafe conditions for relocated children and staff, exclusion of vulnerable categories from educational activities;</p> <p><b>Affected persons:</b> relocated children and staff, vulnerable categories, such as children coming</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The installation of a modular school where children and school staff will be relocated. The temporary building will be conformed and equipped to be used for educational activities.</li> <li>▪ Evaluate, and if needed, PMU together with the local authority, will facilitate transportation for the students from the old school to the relocation building during the project implementation period.</li> <li>▪ Transfer of materials from the old school to the temporary building</li> <li>▪ Install Grievance Box at the relocated school; Organize activities with children in the temporary building before relocation</li> </ul>	PMU (applying checklist and managing grievances)  Sector 6 City Hall (for transfer actions and installing grievance box) The School

E&S Impact Area and Risks	Proposed mitigation measures	Institutional responsibility for mitigation
from poor or low education families, disabled children/staff;		
<b>Construction and Demolition Phase</b>		
<p><b>Community Health and Safety</b></p> <p><b>Risks:</b> lack of safety and protective elements resulting in accidents, access of children in restricted areas;</p> <p><b>Affected persons:</b> children, school staff, community living next to construction sites;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Community Safety Elements in place prior to commencement of works and maintained throughout work schedule (fencing, designation of areas with restricted access, separate access routes with ID check-up, clear and visible signaling panels, surveillance/security system);</li> <li>▪ Waste Management Plan, Traffic Management Plan, Worker Management Plan, OHS Plan, Emergency Response Plan approved by the PMU;</li> <li>▪ Record and communicate any accidents involving community members to the PMU;</li> <li>▪ Installation of GRM Board and Box next to Construction site.</li> <li>▪ Information Notes submitted to all neighbors in relation to work schedules and grievance mechanism;</li> <li>▪ Children Safety Awareness Actions developed at the level of the school with support from PMU.</li> </ul>	<p>Contractor</p> <p>PMU Community Engagement Specialist</p> <p>School and Sector 6 City Hall</p>
<p><b>Occupational Health and Safety</b></p> <p><b>Risk:</b> occupational accidents, lack of protective equipment on site, lack of contracts and illegal work, lack of appropriate trainings</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ OHS Plan and Emergency Response Plan approved by site manager and all safety elements in place in accordance with national legislation and site management plan;</li> <li>▪ Provide translation of OHS requirements on site for Contractors employing foreign workers;</li> <li>▪ OHS Training plan included in Labor Management Plan;</li> </ul>	<p>All Contractors</p>





E&S Impact Area and Risks	Proposed mitigation measures	Institutional responsibility for mitigation
<p><b>Waste Management</b></p> <p><b>Risks:</b> pollution;</p> <p><b>Affected parts:</b> air and soil</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Management of waste from demolition/construction in order to be reutilized, recycled and other, for minimum 70% of generated waste;</li> <li>▪ Separated collection of domestic waste in designated areas on working site;</li> <li>▪ Contracting authorized companies for waste transport and management;</li> </ul>	<p>All contractors</p>
<p><b>Sewage waters from working site</b></p> <p><b>Leakages from equipment used on working site</b></p> <p><b>Risks:</b> pollution;</p> <p><b>Affected parts:</b> soil and underground waters;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Supply of working site with mobile toilets for workers and company personnel;</li> <li>▪ Using equipment in good conditions to avoid Leakages;</li> <li>▪ Removing contaminated soil, treating and final deposing;</li> </ul>	<p>All contractors</p>
<p><b>Clearing the site and removal of planted vegetation</b></p> <p><b>Impact on trees vegetation or hedgerows</b></p> <p><b>Risks:</b> damages;</p> <p><b>Affected parts:</b> vegetation;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Any removal of existing trees will be replanted in a suitable area;</li> <li>▪ Restoration of vegetation to the initial state, wherever applicable;</li> </ul>	<p>All contractors</p>
<p><b>Discovering a physical cultural, historical or archaeological resource during excavation or demolition</b></p> <p><b>Risks:</b> damages;</p> <p><b>Affected parts:</b> cultural heritage;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Stop the construction activities in the area of the chance find;</li> <li>▪ Delineate the discovered site or area and Secure the site;</li> <li>▪ Notify the Supervising Engineer who in turn will notify the responsible authorities immediately (within 24 hours or less);</li> <li>▪ Construction works could resume only after permission is granted from the responsible local authorities concerning safeguard of the physical cultural resource;</li> </ul>	<p>All contractors</p>

E&S Impact Area and Risks	Proposed mitigation measures	Institutional responsibility for mitigation
<p><b>Asbestos impact during demolition of building</b></p> <p><b>Risks:</b> pollution;</p> <p><b>Affected persons:</b> workers;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ In case of finding asbestos and asbestos-containing materials during demolition - contract with authorized companies for handling, collection, transportation and disposal;</li> </ul>	<p>Contracted companies for demolition works</p>
<p><b>Impacts in case of incidents or accidents</b></p> <p><b>Risks:</b> injuries, damages, pollution</p> <p><b>Affected parts:</b> people, environment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Stop the activities in the area;</li> <li>▪ Acting for containment of incident or accidents;</li> <li>▪ Use of Safety Aid Kit / Fire Fight Tools / Intervention Kit in case of accidental pollution by incharge people;</li> <li>▪ In case of not solving the incident or accident specialised help is requested by incharge Responsible;</li> </ul>	<p>The responsible for the use of Safety Aid Kit / Fire Fight Tools / Intervention Kit in case of accidental pollution</p> <p>The responsible for requesting specialized help</p>
<b>Operation of Mobile School</b>		
<p><b>Traffic Management</b></p> <p><b>Risks:</b> road accidents and restricted access for emergency services;</p> <p><b>Affected persons:</b> children, elderly, community members, neighbors;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Traffic Management Plan elaborated under the C-ESMP;</li> <li>▪ Separate pedestrian access to the school from vehicles accessing the site;</li> <li>▪ Install fence to the boulevard on the side of pedestrian access and walk;</li> <li>▪ Assure the free access for the Apa Nova personnel and equipment to “Giulești 2” drilling for drinking water supply.</li> <li>▪ Request support from Local Police to assist with children safety during intense transport schedule, if necessary;</li> <li>▪ Children Safety Awareness Actions developed at the level of the school with support from PMU.</li> </ul>	<p>School and Sector 6 City Hall</p>
<p><b>Waste resulted from school activities</b></p> <p><b>Risks:</b> pollution</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Improper waste management due to insufficient allocation of recipients for selective collection and storage of waste (household, plastic, glass, metal, paper, electric and electronic waste);</li> </ul>	<p>Mobile School maintenance staff</p>

E&S Impact Area and Risks	Proposed mitigation measures	Institutional responsibility for mitigation
<b>Affected parts:</b> air and soil		
<b>Leakages of waste waters</b>  <b>Risks:</b> pollution;  <b>Affected parts:</b> soil and underground waters;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Maintenance in good condition of waste water management;</li> </ul>	Mobile School maintenance staff
<b>Post Construction Phase</b>		
<b>Lack of opportunities for vulnerable groups</b>  <b>Risks:</b> lack of adapting the equipment to the needs of vulnerable children, especially children with disabilities and special educational needs, vulnerable girls;  <b>Affected persons:</b> children with disabilities and special educational needs, girls coming from poor families;	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Consult school and parents on inclusive school furniture during acquisition phase;</li> <li>▪ Consult girls on menstrual hygiene practices and provisions in the dedicated spaces in the new buildings;</li> <li>▪ Consult with vulnerable groups if there are instances of exclusion or discrimination in relation to accessing the new school;</li> <li>▪ Ensure acquisition documents reflect community perspectives derived from all consultations;</li> </ul>	PMU's Community Engagement Specialist
<b>Limited functionality of the new building or delays due to lack of local funds for associated facilities assumed under the PMU-Sector 6 City Hall Protocol</b>  <b>Risks:</b> lack of universal accessibility to the new building, lack of safety for children (especially girls) next to the	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Detailed design and associated costs will be consulted with the Sector 6 City Hall and financing options will be identified in the Protocol signed between the parties;</li> <li>▪ Protocol will clearly state the timelines related to the associated facilities related to the functionality, accessibility and safety of the new building and its surroundings;</li> </ul>	PMU Management

E&S Impact Area and Risks	Proposed mitigation measures	Institutional responsibility for mitigation
<p>school area, lack of connection to basic utilities.</p> <p><b>Affected persons:</b> school children and staff, girls, children with disabilities.</p>		
<p><b>Waste resulted from school activities</b></p> <p><b>Risks:</b> pollution</p> <p><b>Affected parts:</b> air and soil</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Improper waste management due to insufficient allocation of recipients for selective collection and storage of waste (household, plastic, glass, metal, paper, electric and electronic waste);</li> </ul>	<p>School maintenance staff</p>
<p><b>Leakages of sewage waters</b></p> <p><b>Risks:</b> pollution;</p> <p><b>Affected parts:</b> soil and underground waters;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Maintenance in good condition of sewage network;</li> </ul>	<p>School maintenance staff</p>



#### 4. INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS

The overall responsibility for implementing the provisions of the current ESMP lies with the PMU dedicated for this project. All other actors involved in the process, such as contractors, the School representatives, Sector 6 City Hall, will be informed about their responsibilities and bidding documents, contracts and protocols will define roles, timelines and actions expected from each stakeholder.

##### **Definition of roles and responsibilities (PIU/local authorities/Contractors/)**

##### **PMU roles and responsibilities in relation with ESMP**

The Project Management Unit for the Modernization of the School and University Network (PMUMSUN) within the Ministry of Education acts as the Project Implementing Agency. The PMU is responsible for all Project implementation activities. PMU will be assisted in the process by a TD & TA Consultant, Contractors for Construction Works, specialized technical verifies (including environmental verifies), site managers, contract managers, who will be contracted in different phases of the Project.

##### **Role of the Technical Design & Technical Assistance Consultant**

At the time of writing this report, PMUMSUN have procured the services of a Consultant who would provide the Technical Design documentation for the demolition and construction works and Technical Assistance during works execution. In more detail, the Consultant will be responsible with the development of the Inception Report, with the delivery of the Documentation for obtaining the Demolition Permit for the existing construction, with the Documentation for obtaining the Building Permit, with the development of the Technical Design and of the Execution Detail Design for the proposed construction, and with providing the Technical Assistance Services for the works execution, as well as preparing the necessary documentations for obtaining the operational permits, and other necessary services in order to achieve the investment objective of the Primary School. In relation to the ESMP, the Consultant will:

- Provide the supervision of the quality of the works, including compliance with Law No. 10/1995 - in terms of requirements:
  - A - Mechanical strength and stability
  - B - Fire safety
  - C - Hygiene, health and environment
  - D - Safety and accessibility in operation
  - E - Noise protection
  - F - Energy saving and thermal insulation
- The worksite organization (including details on waste management, sewerage during works, separate toilets, dining and resting spaces, health and safety signage, grievance board, project information board, fencing, restricted access);
- Provide the specifications for the works, where ESMP provisions should be included.

The PMU E&S experts will be involved in regular meetings with the Consultant, and will participate in site visits together, review the monthly reports submitted by the Consultant in relation to ESMP provisions, and update the ESMP based on details and specifications that will have surfaced during the technical design phase. An initial public consultation was held in January 2024 and a second

consultation is planned while disclosing this document, presenting the proposed final design of the new school, allowing the participation of the public in the design and planning process.

### **Role of the Environmental, Social and Community Engagement Specialists**

Environmental, Social and Community Engagement Specialists within PMUMSUN will be responsible for disclosure, consultation, coordination and supervision of the ESMP and risk mitigation measures undertaken within the project. The Specialists will work in close coordination with supervision project coordination staff and technical staff in courts and will:

- disseminate existing environmental and social management guidelines and develop guidelines in relation to issues not covered by the existing regulations, in line with the Bank and EU standards for implementation, monitoring and evaluation of mitigation measures;
- ensure that procurement processes for construction works and supply of equipment include reference to appropriate guidelines and standards;
- conduct periodic site visits to inspect and approve plans and monitor compliance;
- ensure the uniformity in all activities related to the preparation and implementation of Environmental and Social Management Plans;
- keep permanent contact with Environmental and Social safeguards specialists of the World Bank and ask for advice on any problem that requires guidance regarding the activity in the field.

#### **In particular the Environmental Specialist will:**

- perform activities related to compliance of environmental activities;
- prepare activity plans for Environmental impact mitigation of the construction activity outcomes and the Environmental monitoring plan;
- ensure that the systematic supervision in relation with qualitative and quantitative indicators and perform analysis for underlining the achievements and the evolution of the implementation process is done by Contractors according to the monitoring plan;
- prepare periodical reports for the World Bank and Government Agencies;
- coordinate environmental training for staff, designers and local contractors, related to responsibilities on environmental protection.

#### **In particular the Social Specialist will:**

- ensure that the terms of reference for any design consultancy services incorporate the World Bank safeguards and corporate requirements including public disclosure and public consultation on the results of environmental and social impact assessments, citizen engagement and gender aspects;
- be responsible for carrying out activities related to social safeguards within the framework of component 1 of the project in accordance with the provisions of the loan agreement;
- manage the GRM, and ensures that each complaint is handled in accordance with the procedure; reviews the complaints received and recommends appropriate measures to deal with the issues raised, as appropriate;
- monitor the social impact of the Project and propose measures to properly manage the risks generated by the implementation activities.

### **In particular the Community Engagement Specialist will:**

- identify the stakeholders and organize stakeholder engagement activities that will be targeted at project affected persons as well as at other interested parties;
- be responsible of the communications, consultations and engagement with direct beneficiaries and the wider public;
- ensure outreach to and engagement of disadvantaged and vulnerable groups;
- establish and manage public meetings, training and workshops, media and social media communication, disclosure of written materials, as well as a survey among affected persons to gauge satisfaction with the quality of citizen engagement and share additional concerns.

### **Role of the Contractors**

The contractor shall be responsible for implementing the provisions under the ESMP. The final version of the ESMP, with updated actions based on the technical design and specifications provided by the TD&TA Consultant, will be approved after the contribution of the public, collected during public disclosure and consultations and organized during the technical design phase. Once the contract is signed, with the ESMP acting as an annex, the Contractor can bring contributions to the plan, following negotiations with the E&S experts within the PMU and the TD&TA Consultant.

#### *Contractor ESMP (C-ESMP)*

The demolition and construction contractors will prepare their own ESMP based on the framework of the approved site-specific ESMP. The C-ESMP will be reviewed and approved by the Supervising Engineer and will form part of the contractual obligations. The C-ESMP will be specific to the contracted services but will consider the impact of these services at the level of the construction sites.

#### *Worksite organization*

Constructor will implement all the aspects from the works project design including details on waste management, sewerage during works, separate toilets, dining and resting spaces, health and safety signage, grievance board, project information board, fencing, restricted access.

#### *Occupational Health and Safety at Work*

The contractor has the obligation to ensure all necessary protective equipment and materials, and the workers have the obligation to use all such protective equipment - helmets, gloves, goggles where appropriate and work uniforms. All these minimum protection rules, doubled by avoiding over-exhaustion of workers, prevent ergonomic injuries and other work-related accidents resulting from repetitive, excessive and manual handling of building materials.

Recommendations for their prevention and control include knowledge of the most common causes of wounds in construction and decommissioning by:

- Training of workers in the lifting and handling of materials, techniques in construction and decommissioning projects, including placement of weight limits over which mechanical assistance is required;
- Workplace site planning to minimize the need for manual heavy load transfer;
- Selecting tools and designing workstations that reduce the need for strength;
- Implement administrative controls in work processes, such as job rotation and rest breaks.

#### **Contractor H&SP and ERP**

Contractor will be required to produce a Health and Safety Plan (H&SP) and an Emergency Response Plan (ERP) to protect his employees during the works he shall undertake. The C-ESMP shall be

considered when preparing contractor's H&SP and ERP. Environmental controls and exposure levels associated with worker protection shall be included in the contractor's ESMP. Work practices required by the ESMP are not intended to compromise health and safety in any way. Each H&SP and ERP will be approved by the Supervising Engineer prior to the contractor commencing works to ensure adequate health and safety controls and procedures have been developed, that are appropriate to the works to be undertaken.

The bidding documents will include requirements related to all plans, strategies and resources allocated for the current ESMP compliance. The ESMF that informs the current ESMP contains detailed information about legal obligations, World Bank requirements and specific guidelines for Contractors to develop all necessary documents.

### **Role of the Site Manager**

The site manager will facilitate the monitoring visits and will need to be organized in accordance with the ESMP provisions. The bidding documents for the procurement of the site managers will include revisions from the E&S experts within the PMU.

### **Role of the Sector 6 City Hall**

The Sector 6 City Hall will be responsible with contracting and monitoring the E&S performance of demolition and construction works carried for the Associated Facilities. This responsibility will be subject to the Protocol signed between the PMU and the Sector 6 City Hall. Trainings will be provided to ensure that compliance of this ESMP are reflected in bidding documents. Monitoring of E&S aspects will be carried by the Sector 6 City Hall, with support and supervision from the PMU.

### **Role of the School**

The School will assist the PMU with the implementation of awareness campaigns aimed at preparing children and staff in relation to safety next to the construction site, disaster risk campaigns, gender based violence risks and the grievance mechanism at the level of the Project.

## **5. THE PLAN FOR MONITORING SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL ASPECTS**

### **Monitoring plan for risks/mitigation measures**

The mitigation measures proposed under the social and environmental management plan (ESMP) will be monitored by the responsible entities during the implementation of the sub-project, as described in the Monitoring Plan below.

Monitoring activities aim at:

- monitoring and reporting on the effectiveness of the mitigation measures and responsibilities identified and achieved;
- informing about the need to extend, intensify or adjust mitigation measures;
- identifying any new areas potentially exposed to the environmental and social impact that have not been taken into account in the ESMP.

Monitoring will begin with the construction work and will be implemented at all stages of the project. A presentation of the social and environmental monitoring plan is presented below.

The monitoring plan will be updated, if needed, once all permitting is obtained or during implementation, if unexpected impacts generate new mitigation measures in the management plan.

## Environmental and Social Monitoring Plan

E&S Measures/ Parameters	Monitoring Actions	Monitoring Frequency	Institutional responsibility for monitoring
Pre-Construction			
General E&S Management	C-ESMP has been developed and approved;	Once (prior to construction works)	PMU's E&S Specialists
Project Design	Detailed design incorporates community perspectives from consultations and specific safety features for community safety;	Once (finalization of detailed design)	PMU's E&S Specialists
Relocated School's Safety	Health and safety Checklist completed and remediation actions (if necessary) implemented;  GRM Box installed at relocated school.	Once (as soon as practical)	Sector 6 City Hall with technical support from the PMU
Construction/Demolition Works			
Community Health and Safety	Community Safety Elements in place at construction/demolition sites;	Once (prior to commencement of works) and during site visits	PMU's E&S Specialists
	Recorded Grievances on site/other channels and recorded accidents and their resolution;	Weekly	PMU
	Report on community health and safety;	Monthly	Contractors
	Children Safety Awareness Actions implemented;	Once (prior to construction works) and according to agreed plans	PMU Community Engagement Specialist

<b>E&amp;S Measures/ Parameters</b>	<b>Monitoring Actions</b>	<b>Monitoring Frequency</b>	<b>Institutional responsibility for monitoring</b>
	Information Notes on Work Schedule distributed to affected stakeholders;	Once (prior to construction works)	PMU Community engagement Specialist
Occupational Health and Safety	Occupational H&S elements in place (PPE, first aid, training list, H&S responsible, signaling, code of conduct, etc.) assessed during site visits;	Once (prior to works commencement) and during site visits  Daily	PMU E&S Specialists and Area Coordinator  Contractors' H&S expert
	Reports on occupational health and safety;	Monthly	Contractors' H&S expert
General discomfort generated by dust and noise pollution at the level of school/neighboring area	Construction and demolition works carried in accordance within agreed timelines and hours;	Daily	Contractors
	Recorded Grievances on site/other channels and recorded accidents and their resolution;	During Site Visits and when grievances are recorded	PMU's Social and Community Engagement Specialist
	Compliance with noise and dust mitigations measures;	Daily  During site visits	Contractor  PMU's Environmental Specialist
Traffic Management	Separated access, signaling and driver's safety training in place;	Once (prior to construction works)	Contractor
	Compliance of traffic measures;	During site visits	PMU
Influx of Labor	Trainings on Code of Conduct (including GBV) and Contractor's Grievance Mechanism for Workers performed for all workers on site;	Once (prior to construction works)	Contractor

E&S Measures/ Parameters	Monitoring Actions	Monitoring Frequency	Institutional responsibility for monitoring
	Resolution of grievances related to conduct of workers (including GBV) in the school area/community;	Whenever grievances are recorded	PMU's Social and Community engagement specialists
	Compliance with Labor Management Plan attached to contract;	During site visits	PMU's Social Specialist
Collection and transport of demolition or hazardous waste (including asbestos)	Review the transportation list and conditions at the storage facility;	Before the transportation of the hazardous waste	Environmental Specialist of <u>Contracted company for demolition and construction works</u> Environmental Safeguards Specialist of PMU
Dust, noise and noxious emission	Visual checks and according with the procedure for demolition;	During the demolition phase and clean-up activities	Environmental Specialist of <u>Contracted company for demolition works / Constructor</u> Consultant Environmental Safeguards Specialist of PMU
Good functioning of construction machinery	Visual checks and according with the procedure for demolition;	During the demolition phase and clean-up activities	Environmental Specialist of <u>Contracted company for demolition works / Constructor</u> Consultant Environmental Safeguards Specialist of PMU
The safety protection measures applied for the workers	Visual checks	At the beginning of each working day during the project activities During site visits	Contractors' H&S expert  Area coordinator of the PMU
Discovering a physical cultural resource, such as (but not limited to)	Reported discoveries during demolition/excavation;	During demolition and excavations	Contractor Environmental Safeguards Specialist of PMU



<b>E&amp;S Measures/ Parameters</b>	<b>Monitoring Actions</b>	<b>Monitoring Frequency</b>	<b>Institutional responsibility for monitoring</b>
archeological sites, historical sites, remains and objects, or a cemetery and/or individual graves during excavation or construction			
Asbestos impact during demolition of building	Records of quantity of asbestos materials discovered;	Whenever such discoveries are made	Contractor Environmental Safeguards Specialist of PMU
Incidents or accidents impact	Record of event and reporting of incident to legal entitled authorities and PMU;  Corrective Action Plan after incident	Whenever such event is occurring	Contractor, Site Manager, School staff, Local Authority;  PMU
<b>Operation of Mobile School</b>			
Traffic Management	Separated access, signaling and driver's safety training in place;  Compliance of traffic measures;	Once (prior to mobile school opening)  During site visits	Transport company  PMU
Waste resulted from school activities	Verification of Separated collection of waste and e-waste in designated area;	Monthly	School administrative staff
Leakage of Sewage waters	Checking the sewage collection systems	Monthly	School administrative staff
<b>Post-Construction</b>			
Lack of opportunities for vulnerable groups	Consultations with vulnerable groups implemented;	Once (prior to acquisition of equipment)	PMU's Community Engagement Expert

<b>E&amp;S Measures/ Parameters</b>	<b>Monitoring Actions</b>	<b>Monitoring Frequency</b>	<b>Institutional responsibility for monitoring</b>
Reduced awareness in relation to the role that the newly/rehabilitated school can play in the event of a natural disaster	Completed trainings at the level of the school;	Once (at the roll-out of the trainings)	PMU
	Report on community event and actions carried at the opening of the school;	Once	PMU
Waste resulted from school activities	Verification of Separated collection of waste and e-waste in designated area;	Monthly	School administrative staff
Leakage of Sewage waters	Checking the sewage collection systems	Monthly	School administrative staff

## 6. STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION DISCLOSURE

The project is expected to have a minimal negative impact on neighboring properties. However, the noise and dust from the construction, the process of relocation of students and other inconveniences that can be experienced by the local community in Giulești as a result of demolition and construction work are elements that show that the project affects the lives of others and all necessary measures must be taken to keep in touch with those affected, to understand their fears, discomfort and to consider their suggestions in order to mitigate as much as possible the adverse impact on them.

In earlier stages of the project, consultations were held with representatives of local authorities, schools, teachers and representatives of students and parents, during which general information about the project, the site plan and the proposed construction in terms of spaces and functions, and the facilities proposed to make the building safer, sustainable and inclusive were presented.

The parties interested or affected by the works to be carried out under the School no. 168 Giulești sub-project identified at this stage are listed below.

- Representatives of the Secondary School;
- Student`s and parent`s representatives: The students' council from the School no. 168, the parents' committee representative;
- Representatives of the „Part-time”, ”Second Chance” and „School after school” Programs managers, teachers and students;
- Giulești Maternity Hospital and the Family Planning Centre within the Panait Sârbu Obstetrics and Gynecology Clinical Hospital;
- Representatives of institutions and companies in the vicinity of the site - Public Finance Administration Sector 6, Ilfov Territorial Labor Inspectorate, Autonet Kia, Asko Group Dealer Toyota, MP IFMA - Lift Company;
- People living in the vicinity of the site;
- Citizens potentially affected by utility shortages during works;
- Representatives of School No 163 where the temporary school will be emplaced.

Other Interested Parties:

- The population of Giulești neighborhood;
- Employees of the technical design consultants that will be carrying tasks on site;
- Local NGOs on social development :
  - „Save the Children” Association
  - „European Convergence” Foundation
  - „Estuar” Foundation
  - „Princess” Margareta of Romania Foundation
  - „Joyo” Foundation
- Local authorities of the Sector 6: the city mayor, the compartment for relation with ethnic minorities from the municipality, educational mediators working with Roma , the Local police;
- Media outlets in Bucharest;
- Environmental Agency, Environmental Guard;
- School Inspectorate;
- Bucharest Municipal Center for Educational Assistance and Resources.

### Vulnerable groups

The Community Vulnerability Assessment carried during Project preparation revealed that disadvantaged/vulnerable individuals and groups relevant to the project fall into two broad categories: on one hand, there are vulnerable subgroups among the selected schools' students; on the other, there are vulnerable subgroups within the local communities.

Within the school communities, it appears that the following groups would be particularly vulnerable: children from poor rural areas, children from Roma groups, children from other ethnicities, pregnant girls and young mothers, school dropouts, children with special educational needs, children with physical disabilities, distressed children, bullied kids.

At the level of the community, persons or groups that would be particularly vulnerable include people with visual or hearing impairments, Illiterate community members or members with low education levels, working parents of schoolchildren, etc.

Regarding the School no. 168 Giulești sub-project, the involvement of interested parties and the dissemination of information will be adapted to the specific needs of the Roma community in the neighborhood, children with disabilities and special educational needs and their parents, parents who have difficulties accessing written information, elderly people who live in the vicinity of demolition and construction sites,

Stakeholder engagement activities include establishment and management of a project-wide grievance redress mechanism, public consultations, community events to disclose information and consult wider audiences, trainings and workshops, media and social media communication, disclosure of written materials in the village, individual discussions and focus groups with specific groups, as well as the application of surveys among affected persons to gauge satisfaction with the quality of citizen engagement and to provide the possibility of different groups to share additional concerns.

### **Engagement and communication activities**

The communication and engagement activities include information disclosure, public consultations, media communication and direct interactions with stakeholders as follows:

- Updated information on [www.umpmrsu.ro](http://www.umpmrsu.ro) about the project implementation, ESMP disclosure, timing of consultations, grievance mechanism, relocation of students, etc.;
- Social media posts and engagement on the Project's dedicated Facebook page;
- Public consultations with relevant stakeholders and affected parties related to the design of the new school, ESMP, relocation, equipping the school, and whenever necessary;
- Information disclosure at the level of the community through posters, announcements on the local authority and school webpages and social media accounts, information leaflets made available at school level, use of existing channels for parents and teachers (such as WhatsApp groups or Facebook groups);
- Press releases related to the important stages of the project, including the requirements of the ESMP and the results of the monitoring efforts related to the compliance with the environmental and social requirements (for example, public consultations), as necessary;
- Email updates sent to stakeholders on stages of the Project, invitations to public consultations, results of monitoring activities;
- Face to face meetings, especially with categories that are under-represented or vulnerable in relation to the Project (e.g. Roma community members and representatives, elderly persons affected by the Project, persons having difficulties in accessing written materials or information made available online).

## Consultations carried by the Project

During the project identification and preparation stage in 2020, several consultations took place at the national level involving with the Council of Students, County School Inspectorates, National Federation of Parents' Associations, schools, local councils, other agencies and key stakeholders. In addition, an online survey completed by 480 persons informed the Project about perception of the state of their school building, the availability of modern teaching resources of the school, the existence of a school emergency plan, building safety, accessibility and quality, possible challenges linked to the building's demolition/reconstruction, preferred channels for information and feedback provision, etc.

Regarding the School no. 168 Giulești sub-project the initial public consultation was held at the Secondary School no. 168 on Alizeului Street, sector 6, Bucharest, on January 30, 2024, at 12 p.m., centered around the presentation of the technical project created by the the design firm.

The consultation was attended by about 45 people. These included representatives from the Ministry of Education (PMU), representatives from the design firm, representatives from the school, including the principal and deputy principal, parents, grandparents, students, coordinators from non-governmental organizations that collaborate with the school, the Mayor of Sector 6, representatives from the Administration of Schools in Sector 6 and a school inspector from minority groups.

Participants in the consultation received leaflets on the school proposal as well as drawings and sketches created by the architects.



Fig. 12 Public consultation held on 30 January 2024 in Bucharest

Discussions were held based on the presentation of the project and the sketches/model made for the future school. Both the facade of the building as well as new partitioning, which has more classrooms than the original, were displayed.

The project was warmly accepted by both students and teachers. There were several questions about partitioning and the number of classrooms.

One mother expressed disappointment since she did not see a gym, but it was informed that the main objective of the project is to increase the resilience, energy efficiency, and learning environment of the selected schools and that gym funding is not included in the project.

During the discussions, the interested parties requested information about the project's stages, the duration required for obtaining permits, the start date for demolishing the existing building, the date for relocating the children, and the start date for building the new school.

The PMU staff provided all the information that was known at this point in the project and addressed all questions.

The Sector 6 Mayor congratulated the proposal for the new buildings and expressed the support of the institution he coordinates in obtaining all necessary authorizations to proceed with the project as soon as possible.

The final conclusion was a positive one on the new technical project presented, with all those present being extremely pleased and satisfied with the new school to be built in the neighborhood, but also eager to see all of the data presented on paper come to life and that they will soon have a new school. The main disappointment was related to the fact that even in the new project the Secondary School 168 does not have a gym.

## **7. INVOLVEMENT OF INTERESTED PARTIES**

The current ESMP is subject to a consultation process. The document is disclosed on the Project's website starting March 2024, for a duration of 10 days. During this period, any interested stakeholders can provide feedback to the document, identified risks and proposed mitigation and monitoring actions, through the various channels provided by the Project.

The document, once published on the website, was disseminated locally by the school and local authority, especially to teachers and parents of children who will be affected by the investment of the school.

The final public consultation took place on April 9, 2024, at 1 p.m. at Secondary School no. 168 on Alizeului Street, sector 6, Bucharest, focused on the presentation of the Environmental and Social Management Plan, as well as a brief presentation of the final version of the technical project and the mobile classrooms.

The consultation was attended by about 21 persons. These included representatives from the Ministry of Education (PMU), the design firm, the school, including the principal and deputy principal, parents, students, deputy director of School no.163, and one representative from the Administration of Schools in Sector 6.

Participants in the consultation received sketches of the technical project and the printed presentation of the Environmental and Social Management Plan.

The consultation was initiated by the PMU's social consultant who presented some issues related to the Environmental and Social Management Plan: components of the project, detailing the social risks, their impact and the measures to reduce them, relocation - risk of abandonment for disadvantaged children. The participants were invited to ask questions and offer suggestions during the consultation and anytime during the project's implementation.

The PMU's environmental consultant followed by presenting some environmental informations: Risks and impacts; identification and assessment; mitigation measures.

The presentation followed with a brief overview of the final technical project and the school relocation. Since school no. 168 needs authorizations from the Bucharest City Hall, according to the capital's chief architect, some minor changes can be made to the technical project, but the partitioning will remain the same. The capital city hall indicated that there is no sports field at the Alizeului subproject, and that the kindergarten in the courtyard will most likely be demolished and relocated.



Fig. 13 Public consultation held on 9 April 2024 at School no. 168 in Bucharest

The Deputy Principal of School 163 presented some current school issues that may cause problems when the mobile school appears in the area: School 163 has 600 students learning in one shift and it's very crowded in the mornings when the children come in and at noon when they leave school. They also have a nursery and kindergarten. The school now has no security because both guards are on sick leave and it is unclear whether this problem will be solved by then.

The PMU asked about the coexistence of the two schools and whether she anticipated tensions. She believes that there won't be conflicts between students, but something needs to be done to improve traffic flow in the area and she suggests that the local police be involved.

She also asked some questions, which were answered by the PMU and the school administration representative: will the mobile school have a sewer system, water supply, heating? What involvement will have the School 163?

There was some discussion on student transportation from the current school to the relocation site, and several suggestions were made, such as Tram 44 could be supplemented or a special tram from Basarab to Giulesti at specific arrival and departure times or maybe a special RATB ride.

During the discussions, the interested parties also inquired information about the project's stages, the time required to secure permissions, the start date for demolishing the existing building, the date for relocating the students, and the start date for building the new school. The PMU staff gave all the information that was available at this point in the project and addressed all questions.



## 8. GRIEVANCES MECHANISM

Within the project, a notification management and resolution system was developed, with the aim of allowing the implementation team to receive information from the people affected by the project and to be able to respond to their requests, thus managing, in an efficient way, the impact the project during its implementation. On the project's website, there is a procedure on the complaint resolution mechanism, which details the process at the PMU level.

Grievances related to the project can be submitted via several channels, as follows:

**PMU level:** The main four channels for receiving grievances are by website form, phone, e-mail and mail at the level of the PMU. This ensures that the PMU has an immediate control over all project related grievances and can address the raised issues immediately. The phone number of the secretariat will be available on working hours.

- Website form: [www.umpmrsu.ro](http://www.umpmrsu.ro)
- Email: [petitii@umpmrsu.ro](mailto:petitii@umpmrsu.ro)
- GBV Email\*: [petitii.vbg@umpmrsu.ro](mailto:petitii.vbg@umpmrsu.ro)
- Phone Number: +(4)(021) 310 22 07
- Address: UMPMRSU, Spiru Haret, nr. 12, Sector 1, București

\*In the case of complaints related to gender-based violence, additional attention will be paid to the confidentiality and sensitivity of this type of petition. In order to ensure a fair and objective resolution of the issues complained of by the complainant, the Project has established the use of a dedicated email address, as well as a clear procedure for referring victims to specialized services provided by public and private entities.

**School Level:** Stakeholders, affected persons, including students or parents, can submit their grievances/suggestions at the school level through the grievance box that will be made available on both the location of the construction site and the relocation site. These grievance boxes will be installed at the time of relocation and beginning of works, and will be accompanied by a board describing the Project and the current GRM and presenting all the channels that are available for the public to submit their grievances.

**In person:** To ensure that the GRM is accessible to persons, that have no digital equipment or that have low literacy levels, the Project provides the option to report complaint/feedback to the regional coordinator or the PMU's social specialist based on special dedicated feedback/grievance sessions organized at local level. This option will be explored during public consultations and will be enacted only when the scale of the impacts and the socio-economic conditions require for such an approach. Such sessions will be announced in a timely manner and will be organized in an accessible location for the affected persons.

The citizens will also have the option to address directly to PMUMSUN headquarters by planning a visit with the social specialist or project manager in person.

Grievance mailboxes will be installed next to the school investment board before the commencement of works at the level of each school site. The mailbox will be verified weekly by the area coordinator and any grievances submitted by this channel will be sent immediately to the PMUMSUN by internal post.

### World Bank GRS

The GRS ensures that complaints received are promptly reviewed in order to address project-related concerns. The project affected communities and individuals may submit their complaint to the WB's

independent Inspection Panel which determines whether harm occurred, or could occur, as a result of WB non-compliance with its policies and procedures. Complaints may be submitted at any time after concerns have been brought directly to the World Bank's attention, and Bank Management has been given an opportunity to respond.

For information on how to submit complaints to the World Bank's corporate Grievance Redress Service (GRS), please visit <http://www.worldbank.org/GRS>. For information on how to submit complaints to the World Bank Inspection Panel, please visit [www.inspectionpanel.org](http://www.inspectionpanel.org).

## **ANNEX 1 - REQUIREMENTS AND MEASURES WHEN HANDLING ASBESTOS**

Asbestos is a group of naturally occurring fibrous silicate minerals. It was once used widely in the production of many industrial and household products because of its useful properties, including fire retardation, electrical and thermal insulation, chemical and thermal stability, and high tensile strength.

Today, however, asbestos is recognized as a cause of various diseases and cancers and is considered a health hazard if inhaled. Because the health risks associated with exposure to asbestos are now widely recognized, global health and worker organizations, research institutes, and some governments have enacted bans on the commercial use of asbestos.

In the European Union the use of asbestos is banned since January 1, 2005, and in Romania through a Governmental Decision no. 734/2006 this was banned only for new materials. Products containing asbestos and which have been installed or were in operation before the date 1 January 2005 can be used until the end of their lifecycle.

Good practice is to minimize the health risks associated with ACM by avoiding their use in new construction and renovation, and, if installed asbestos-containing materials are encountered, by using internationally recognized standards and best practices to mitigate their impact. In all cases, the World Bank expects borrowers and other clients to use alternative materials wherever feasible. ACM must be avoided in new construction.

In reconstruction, demolition, and removal of damaged infrastructure, asbestos hazards must be identified and a risk management plan adopted that includes disposal techniques and end-of-life sites. Asbestos-containing (AC) products include flat panels, corrugated panels used for roofing, water storage tanks, water, and sewer pipes etc.. Thermal insulation containing asbestos and sprayed asbestos for insulation and acoustic damping were widely used through the 1970s and should be looked for in any project involving boilers and insulated pipes.

As asbestos is often used in construction (mainly for roofing) in many countries including Romania, it can present a risk for the health of workers and population, who live near buildings that need capital repair with replacement of roofing or demolition.

PMU specialists must inform beneficiaries on potential risk for their health and instruct not using asbestos as construction material during construction/rehabilitation works.

Any asbestos product or material that is ready for disposal is defined as asbestos waste. Asbestos waste also includes contaminated building materials, tools that cannot be decontaminated, personal protective equipment and damp rags used for cleaning. Always this type of waste must be treated as 'Hazardous Waste'.

In this regards, ACM and asbestos waste must be properly removed, stored in a separate closed area and disposed (with the consent of local administration and environmental inspectors) on a landfill on the special area for disposal of that type of waste.

PMU must require the contractors that the removal, repair, and disposal of ACM shall be carried out in a way that minimizes worker and community asbestos exposure. During reconstruction works, workers must avoid destroying asbestos sheets and properly dispose them at construction sites until final disposal happens. Workers must wear protective over garment, gloves and respirators during work with asbestos sheets. Proper disposal of ACM is important not only to protect the community and environment but also to prevent scavenging and reuse of removed material. ACM must be transported in leak tight containers to a secure landfill operated in a manner that precludes air and water contamination that could result from ruptured containers. The removal and disposal of ACM and asbestos waste as well as all other ESMP measures have to be included in both the technical specifications and bill of quantities (BoQs). Contractor shall develop site-specific ESMP where requirements to ACM and asbestos waste will be contained.

## **ANNEX 2 - PROCEDURE FOR MANAGEMENT OF PHYSICAL CULTURAL RESOURCES – PROTECTION AND CHANCE FIND PROCEDURES**

Project construction activities have the potential to result in negative impacts on both tangible and nontangible cultural heritage, which can be held as highly valuable within local communities and often also at a regional level. Some cultural heritage sites may also be tourist attractions that help support local economies. The Project and ESMF seeks to proactively manage, avoid or limit any negative impacts on cultural heritage and to this effect has included specific obligations regarding cultural heritage in the tender documents issued to potential Contractors.

Activities, such as trenching that may result in psychical impacts on culturally significant structures or artifacts, including currently unknown artifacts, or construction could cause disruption to cultural practices due to obstruction of access to cultural sites.

If any person discovers a physical cultural resource, such as (but not limited to) archeological sites, historical sites, remains and objects, or a cemetery and/or individual graves during excavation or construction, the Contractor shall:

1. Stop the construction activities in the area of the chance find;
2. Delineate the discovered site or area;
3. Secure the site to prevent any damage or loss of removable objects. In cases of removable antiquities or sensitive remains, a night guard shall be arranged until the responsible authorities take over;
4. Notify the Supervising Engineer who in turn will notify the responsible authorities immediately (within 24 hours or less);
5. Responsible authorities are in charge of protecting and preserving the site before deciding on subsequent appropriate procedures. This would require a preliminary evaluation of the findings to be performed by archeologists. The significance and importance of the findings should be assessed according to the various criteria relevant to cultural heritage; those include the aesthetic, historic, scientific or research, social and economic values;
6. Decisions on how to handle the finding shall be taken by the responsible authorities. This could include changes in the layout (such as when finding an irremovable remain of cultural or archeological importance) conservation, preservation, restoration and salvage;
7. Implementation for the authority decision concerning the management of the finding shall be communicated in writing by relevant local authorities; and
8. Construction works could resume only after permission is granted from the responsible local authorities concerning safeguard of the physical cultural resource.

The provisions presented above should always be included in ESMPs as a precautionary measure regardless of a site having known or unknown cultural heritage or physical cultural resource



## ANNEX 4 - PLAN OF THE TEMPORARY SCHOOL - DESCRIPTION

The proposed building will have a built area of 501.8 sq.m, a floor area of 1003.6 sq.m, developed on a ground floor and first floor height, with a rectangular shape, 34.4 m long and 14.6 m wide, including 10 classrooms. The level height is +3.30 m for both floors. The superstructure of the proposed construction is made of a spatial system of modules made of cold-rolled metal frames arranged along 2 main orthogonal directions. The dimensions and the way of construction and reinforcement of the frame elements that make up the modules, columns and beams (stringers), and roof have resulted from the dimensioning of the structure in accordance with the norms, standards and regulations in force. The spatial system was calculated, dimensioned and designed in such a way as to be able to take the stresses that occur in the structure during normal operation or during the action of exceptional loads (in Romania the most common is the earthquake) with a certain degree of safety and wind loads.

The steel structure and enclosures shall have characteristics in accordance with the specifications of the Fire Safety Scenario.

The external enclosures will be made of 10 cm Isopan type metal panels with mineral wool core for the opaque surface, and PVC thermal break glazing and double glazed insulating glass for the glazed surface.

The cladding will be made of Isopan panels with mineral wool core - 8 cm for the roof, electrostatically painted.

The finishes will be modern and of high quality.

