



Global and Regional Activities (GRA) Program Meeting to Discuss Partner Roles within the GRA

January 23-24, 2012

World Bank - J Building

Room JB1-075

701 18th Street, N.W.,

Washington, DC 20433

Background

The GRA Program was approved by the Global Partnership for Education (GPE) Board in November of 2010. The GRA Program is aimed at providing knowledge goods, capacity-building, technical coordination, and other technical inputs needed to accelerate progress towards EFA goals. These activities would be provided through workshops, technical collaboration on specialized aspects of countries' Education Sector Plans (both in the planning and in the resulting activities), any needed surveys or analytical work, and other similar activities that can contribute to global or regional knowledge, or bring such new knowledge into countries. The GRA Program supports activities in three thematic areas which are out-of-school children, learning outcomes, and education finance.

The purpose of the GRA Program is to stimulate new work by Partners, or collaboration among Partners when the issues transcend the national level and are best dealt with across countries. This is the added-value of the program. Each Partner, and the Secretariat itself, will ensure that these are demand-led activities for which there is precedent in the Partner countries' Education Sector Plans and other key policy documents that are country-based.

In 2011, the GPE completed two rounds of consultations and received extensive and thoughtful comments and expressions of interest from more than 20 Partners. These interests have been expressed in various aspects of the GRA agenda, based on the various Partners' work histories and comparative advantage. This is particularly important for Partners who have a large variety of interests that may intersect with each other. Encouraging partnership coordination and discussion of roles in the GRA Program is the main purpose of this meeting.

Partner Meeting

On January 23rd and 24th, GPE will host a two day meeting for GPE Partners to meet face to face to talk to each other about their interest sets within the three thematic areas and to coordinate among each other who is best fit to be a Supervising Entity to carry out proposed GRA activities.

Primary objectives of the meeting are (1) Discuss and finalize partner roles within the GRA, (2) Discuss and finalize method for ensuring GRA activities are demand driven at the country level, and (3) map out which Partner(s) is best fit to carry out proposed GRA activities and to submit a Request for Results Partnership proposal for financing (*subject to an External Quality Review and GPE Financial Advisory Committee approval). **Outcomes: (1) Draft Partner strategy and (2) Summary report of the Meeting**



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Agenda

Day 1: Monday, January 23, 2012

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| 8:00-9:00 am | Breakfast |
| 9:00-9:30 am | Welcome from Moderator Alexis Bonnell, Chief of Engagement, USAID Welcome, Changes in Partnership, Review of Agenda, and Outcomes and Introductions Robert Prouty, Head, GPE <ul style="list-style-type: none">• GPE Name and Compact Structure• Review of Agenda, Meeting Objectives and Expected Outcomes• Introductions of Participants |
| 9:30-10:15am | GPE Fund Structure Nancy Pinto, Coordinator, Finance, Administrator and Board Services <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Evolution of the GPE Funding Structure and GRA Program• Brief Replenishment Update and Role of Financial Advisory Committee• Eligible Agencies for GRA Funding• Transfer Agreements• Questions and Answers |
| 10:15-10:45 am | GRA Background Luis Crouch, Coordinator, Global Good Practices Team <ul style="list-style-type: none">• GRA Development Objectives & Principles• GRA Implementation Process• Partnering Process |

- 10:45-11:00 am **Coffee break**
- 11:00-12:00 pm **Results of GRA Stakeholder Consultations**
- GRA Thematic Leads (Laurent Cortese, Luis Crouch, & Margarita Focas Licht) will present the results from Partners' expression of interests.
 - Questions and Answers
- 12:00-1:00 pm **Requests for Results Partnerships (RRPs)**
Luis Crouch & Koli Banik
- RRP Application Process
 - External Quality Review
 - Ways to Ensure Activities are Demand Driven
 - Monitoring GRA Results
 - Disseminating GRA Results
 - GRA Program Management
 - Key Roles and Responsibilities
 - Questions and Answers
- 1:00-2:00 pm **LUNCH**
- 2:00-3:45 pm **Discussion of Partner Roles within GRA's Thematic Areas**
Luis Crouch, Chair
- Presentations by Partners (informal)
- 3:45-4:00 pm **Coffee break**
- 4:00-5:30 pm **On-going discussion**
- Continued Presentations
 - Suggested Tasks for Group Work Day 2
- 5:30-6:00 pm **Initial Meeting of Groups**
- Self organization and Preparation for Break-out Sessions Day 2

Day 2: Tuesday, January 24, 2012

8:00-9:00 am **Breakfast**

9:00-12:30 pm **Break-out Sessions (1 per thematic area)**

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|------------------|--|
| 9:00 – 11:00 am | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partners will have the opportunity to discuss their roles and where they have added value to fill gaps which were described in the thematic papers. In preparing for this work, it will be helpful for Partners to go through the homework assignment shown at the end of this note and to pre-sketch the matrix shown below. Identify potential partnerships/collaboration as implementers. Secretariat will help broker agreement between Partners and map out a plan of action. |
| 11:00 – 11:15 am | Coffee Break |
| 11:15 – 12:30 pm | Sketch out strategy for each Partner (filled matrix) |

12:30-1:30 pm **LUNCH**

1:30-2:30 pm **Report Back in Plenary of Outstanding Issues**
Luis Crouch, Chair

2:30-3:00 pm **Summary and Next Steps**
Luis Crouch, Chair



“Homework” Assignment: Partner Strategy Matrix for the GRA

We think the meetings will be more productive if most partners have thought pretty explicitly about the issues below, so we are asking you to pre-think and fill the cells of this matrix. At the end of the meeting, we want to have advanced in filling out these matrices for the key Partners and have a draft Partner strategy.

Partner Name: _____

| (1*) Thematic Area | (2*) Specific Theme | (3*) Description | (4*) Supervising Entity (SE) | (5*) Technical Lead | (6*) Other SE Partner | (7*) NGO or Think Tank Partners | Timeline for Activities |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|---|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--|
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***Key:**

(1*)=See GRA documentation

(2*)=See each thematic paper

(3*)=Describe the specifics of the activity your organization is interested in, in a sentence or two

(4*)=Do you see your organization as an SE?

(5*)=Do you see your organization taking a strong technical lead in this activity, even though it cannot be an SE, or, on the other hand, do you see your organization working under some other organization’s overall technical lead? (Example: GCE most likely would see itself as having a true technical lead, needing an SE mostly because only official agencies can be SEs. On the other hand, some other CSO may wish to work in a fairly limited technical area that has big overlaps with what an official SE is doing, and thus sees a need to work with that SE both because the SE is an official agency, but also because it makes sense technically.)

(6*)=If your organization can be an SE, which other SEs will you need to coordinate with? If you cannot be an SE, which SE would be “sponsoring” your organization?

(7*)=Do you see your organization making grants or contracts to NGOs, Think Tanks, etc, and, if so, to which organizations (if you already have a sense of this)?