



Statement from Private Sector and Private Foundations

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I represent one of the board's newest and most diverse constituencies: private sector and private foundations. We don't give funds directly to the GPE fund, so you may be wondering why we're here.

Here are three reasons why our efforts are central to supporting the Partnership's goal ensuring ALL children go to school AND learn.

First, we can act quickly. For example, foundations have supported assessments of early grade reading and civil society assessments of reading and math that quantified the magnitude of the learning crisis, which in turn provided evidence for others to create strategies, such as GPE's, focused on learning, such as GPE's.

Second, we can take risks. One member of our constituency supported Liberia to get kids in school and improve teaching of critical thinking. These investments demonstrated that fragile states can use external resources effectively.

Third, we can fund innovation. For example, our constituency has funded a number of instructional approaches to improve learning that have created evidence for other larger donors on how to do effective programming at scale.

Hewlett commits to improve reading and math for millions of children through investing at least \$10 million annually in GPE countries. Our grants will support civil society learning assessments; instructional approaches and evaluations to build evidence on how to improve learning; and advocacy to ensure resources improve learning. Together the 10 foundations in our constituency provide \$213 million annually to support GPE priorities in GPE countries.

This amount will increase each year and reach at least \$238 million by 2014, supporting work in at least 27 GPE partner countries that benefits at least 50 million children directly. By capitalizing on the strengths of our flexible funding, we will fund the innovation, take the risks, and help to monitor ALL our commitments to ensure every child is in school and learning well.