THE GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP FOR EDUCATION'S CORPORATE ENGAGEMENT PRINCIPLES

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GPE Transforming Education

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Definitions and scope

These principles apply to commercial enterprises and institutions. They do not apply to not-for- profit foundations which are subject to separate GPE principles and policies, including the GPE Charter.

The principles relate to business engagement within the Global Partnership, rather than business engagement in education generally.

The principles should be read in conjunction with the GPE Charter, GPE's conflict of interest policy, GPE's member admission process, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and in the context of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the Convention on the Rights of the Child, and the UN Global Compact.

The Global Partnership for Education's Strategic Plan 2016-2020 establishes the following partnership-wide principles and values for all partners;

1) Education as a public good, a human right and an enabler of other rights. It is essential for peace, tolerance, human fulfilment, and sustainable development.
2) Resources focused on learning, equity, and inclusion of the most marginalized, including those affected by fragility and conflict.
3) Promotion of gender equality.
4) Inclusive, evidence-based policy dialogue that engages civil society, teachers and the private sector.
5) Support linked to country ownership, nationally identified priorities, and country performance in achieving equity and learning.
6) Improved development effectiveness through harmonization and the use of modalities aligned to country systems.
7) Mutual accountability and increased transparency across the partnership.
8) Inclusive partnership as an effective means of achieving development results.

Business engagement with the Global Partnership at a global level differs from engagement at a country level. At a global level, business helps to steer GPE governance via the private sector representative on the GPE Board, to support advocacy efforts, to input on global policy

and potentially to provide financial support. At a national level, business engagement varies according to the particular circumstances in that country. For example, GPE may engage with chambers of commerce, business membership groups or networks e.g. UN Global Compact, Global Business Coalition for Education, which promote the role of business in education. Regional engagement with business, across multiple countries, is also possible.

Guiding Principles

The following are the proposed Corporate Engagement Principles;

Accountability and Equity	Children are the ultimate beneficiaries of all of the Global Partnership's efforts and activities. This brings with it the highest expectations of accountability and commitment to equity of all partners, including the business community. GPE recognizes that cost drivers remain one of the largest drivers of inequity.
Systems Strengthening	GPE supports countries in strengthening their education systems. The business community can contribute to overall sector planning dialogue and help countries understand what capabilities and capacities are available to address specific education system challenges.
Measurable Outcomes	GPE collaborative activities with business will contribute to the achievement of sustainable and measurable outcomes in one or more of the following areas: equity, quality learning and stronger national education systems.
Transparency	GPE operates with transparency in its operations. Information relating to collaborative activities with the business community will be made publicly available on the GPE website. This will be in adherence of GPE's transparency policy and the International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI), of which GPE is a member.
Intellectual Property	Any knowledge, technical activity or research produced as the result of collaboration between GPE and the private sector will be made freely available.
Support to government	Business can play an important part in strengthening the role of governments as custodians of education systems and guarantor of

	services, and in GPE context, especially for the poor. GPE's engagement with business will be towards ensuring private sector activity in education strengthens governments' capacities to ensure quality education for all.
Investment Benefit	Education system financing is a central objective of GPE. Investments in education systems, including business investments, can benefit all sectors of society over the long term. Benefits include raised living standards, reduced uncertainty, a stronger economy and more highly skilled citizens, producers, consumers and employees.
Beyond Philanthropy	Strategic corporate social investment in education presents an opportunity to fundamentally strengthen businesses while contributing to society at the same time. In addition to philanthropy, business can bring to bear, through GPE its technical expertise, voice, innovation, networks, experience and entrepreneurial flair to the complex challenges of delivering education in developing countries.
Shared Bottom Line	Partnerships with the private sector, that draw on the complementary capabilities of business and the Global Partnership to address major education challenges, will be based on the potential for quality educational outcomes for all and not direct business opportunity or benefit.
Corporate Responsibility	As increased and effective use of domestic revenue is essential to ensuring the delivery of quality education to the poorest and most marginalized, the Global Partnership utilizes its convening and advocacy power in part to mobilize domestic resources for education. GPE will encourage corporate responsibility throughout its engagement with the business community.

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