GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP for EDUCATION

Board of Directors
Decision Via Affirmative Vote
August 19, 2020

Final Decision

BOD/2020/08-03–Allocation for an Education Sector Program Implementation Grant to Sindh: The Board of Directors with respect to the application submitted in the second round of 2020:

1. Notes compliance with the requirements for accessing the fixed part of the maximum country allocation (MCA) as described in the application and summarized and assessed in Annex B to BOD/2020/07 DOC 03.
2. Notes compliance with meeting the requirements for accessing the variable part of the MCA and approves the indicators on Equity, Efficiency, and Learning and their means of verification as described in the application and assessed in Annex B to BOD/2020/07 DOC 03.
3. Approves an allocation from GPE trust funds for an ESPIG, as described in the application submitted and summarized in Table 1 in BOD/2020/08-03 3 (c), subject to:
   a. Availability of funds.
   b. Board decision BOD/2012/11-04 on commitment of trust funds for ESPIGs in annual installments.
   c. GPC recommendations for funding, including (all amounts in US$):

Table 1: Sindh		
a.	ESPIG Maximum Country Allocation	31,112,500 [1]
b.	Fixed Part	21,778,750
c.	Variable Part	9,333,750
d.	Allocation Requested (100%)	31,112,500 [2]
e.	**Allocation Recommended by GPC**	**31,112,500**
f.	Grant Agent	World Bank
g.	Agency Fee % - Amount	1.75% - 544,468.75
h.	Period	5 years
i.	Expected Start Date	August 31, 2020
j.	Variable Part Disbursement Modality	Ex-Post
k.	Funding Source	GPE Fund

4. Requests the Secretariat to:
   a. Include in its notification of grant approval to Sindh the observations and requests for report-

back as recommended by the Grants and Performance Committee and set out in Annex A to BOD/2020/07 DOC 03.

b. Include an update on the issues listed as report back in the annual Grant Performance Report in accordance with the specified timeline.

[1] Pakistan's total MCA is US$125 million. Pakistan has decided to divide the MCA between four provinces: Sindh received US$31,112,500. The remainder is divided between the provinces of Punjab, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, and Balochistan.
[2] Includes US$1.125 million for the cost of the grant agent to perform its roles and responsibilities.

ANNEX A – GPC OBSERVATIONS AND REQUESTS FOR REPORT-BACKS

Pakistan-Sindh	
Observations	The process was determined as inclusive with the participation of province-level partners as well as national-level CSO representatives, and with a reported increase in engagement of the local education group (LEG). The Committee commends the province on the strong participation and engagement from all stakeholders intel development of the grant application and hopes that this inclusive approach will continue to define the LEG dynamics and be used for conducting the joint sector review as part of overall monitoring of the education sector plan (ESP). The Committee acknowledges the direct support that the Sindh Early Learning Enhancement through Classroom Transformation (SELECT) program provides to addressing the main challenges identified in the Sindh ESP and Roadmap (SESP&R 2019-2024) for improving learning outcomes, attention to girls' education, and inclusion of socio-emotional support as part of continuous teacher professional development. The Committee notes the impact of the pandemic on education systems. The Committee invites the government and the grant agent, in consultation with the LEG, to consider adapting the proposed program to emerging issues, notably impact on children learning as a result of school closures, as needed. Other adaptations to consider could relate to mitigation measures on potential delays or other constraints that the pandemic may have on program implementation including, if necessary, a modification of indicator targets.
Report-Backs	*For the government of Sindh* The Committee notes the limited progress on the issue of out-of-school children since approval of the previous ESPIG as well as the significant challenge of teacher shortage in Sindh and invites the government and partners to address these issues in the sector dialogue, and report back via the next joint sector review report. The Committee also requests an annual report-back from the government via the joint sector review report on the use of data generated by Sindh School Monitoring System (SSMS) and Human Resource Management Information System(HRMIS) in policy dialogue and decision-making, and that the SSMS include data on children with disabilities, accompanied by child protection rules in the access and use of such data. The Committee also requests the government to report back, in Year 5, on: ▪ The extent to which the student attendance redress system is implemented beyond the SELECT target districts. ▪ The dissemination of the province wide EGRA and plans to further institutionalize the assessment. *For the local education group via the coordinating agency:* The Committee requests an annual report back by the LEG, through the coordinating agency, on the conduct and results of the annual joint sector

	reviews which should include participation of the LEG, the Planning and Development Department, the Finance Department, and representatives of teacher organizations and civil society. *For the grant agent:* The Committee requests the grant agent via its regular grant progress reports to provide updates on the use of technology in monitoring student attendance and on the redress system, including information on sustainability of the system, on the monitoring and evaluation of the use of biometric data, and on how issues regarding privacy, security and data protection are being addressed.