JULY 26, 2023

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE

MEETING REPORT

INTRODUCTION

This report presents a high-level summary of decisions and key discussion points. The agenda and documents for the Board meeting can be found on the GPE website. The list of participants is included in Annex 1.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 26, 2023

1. Opening of the Meeting

1.1 The Board Vice-Chair called the meeting to order at 08:00am Washington time.

1.2 In her opening remarks, the Board Vice-Chair presented the agenda for the meeting. The Board Vice-Chair gave the floor to the Chair of the Performance, Impact, and Learning Committee (PILC) to provide a brief overview on the discussions held at the Committee meeting and the recommendations submitted for Board approval.

1.3 The Board Vice-Chair and members thanked the PILC Chair, Committee members and the Secretariat for their work on the proposed adaptations.

1.4 Board members welcomed the proposed adaptations. The need to communicate the adaptations immediately and the importance of outreach was highlighted.

1.5 The key points raised during this session are summarized below.

2. Adaptations to GPE's Operating Model

Proposal 1 - Phasing out the variable part

- It was noted that some members considered the removal of the results-based financing as problematic, and therefore, supported the recommendation that expected countries to include results-based financing components, and provide an explanation should they not choose to implement it. Members appreciated the

flexibility offered through this proposal.

Proposal 2 - Results-based financing through top-up triggers

- Members expressed their support for the proposal to allow partner countries to apply for 100% of their indicative allocation for a system transformation grant under GPE 2025 and offering the option of reprogramming the top-up funds.

Proposal 3- Use of Mid-Term Review

- The Secretariat was requested to provide information on how the mid-term review would be integrated in the existing sectorial processes.

Proposal 4 - ITAP Review

- Members expressed support for the PILC recommendation. Some members noted that the ITAP adds value in supporting countries' own assessment of the enabling factors during the compact preparation process/s but that it is nonetheless time and resource consuming. Some members indicated the need for an external evaluation of ITAP.

Proposal 5- System Capacity Funding

- Members expressed support for the PILC recommendation. Some members requested an update on the financing options before the next PILC meeting in 2024 and the need to avoid duplication in terms of donor efforts. It was underlined that consultants hired to support countries developing the compact have local and regional expertise and experience. A member expressed that GPE should work on simplifying the process instead of hiring consultants to help partner countries. The Secretariat noted that the Board achieved the right balance between the need for a more simplified operating model and the need to maintain the model's central characteristics. It further noted that lessons learned would be incorporated to continue simplifying the operating model and maintaining high standards.
- The Vice-Chair informed the Board that the Executive Committee would review the mandate of each of the Committees and the Secretariat would seek members' comments.

The Board Vice-Chair declared consensus on the following decision:

BOD/2023/07-01 — Adaptations to GPEs Operating Model: The Board of Directors:

1. Recalls its decision BOD/2020/12-03 on the GPE 2025 operating model and the importance of ongoing learning and adapting,

2. Endorses the principle of adaptive learning for continuous improvement as GPE transitions from one strategy period to the next,

3. Approves the following recommended changes as set out in BOD/2023/07 DOC 02 to further optimize GPE country level engagement and operations and reduce transaction costs:

   i. **Phase out the variable part.** Emphasizing the important role of context appropriate results-based financing in GPE grants, determines that a mandatory variable part is not required for any system transformation or multiplier grant approved under GPE2025. Countries are expected to include results-based financing components within grants that are aligned with grant agent procedures. Countries that choose not to implement results-based financing, must provide an explanation in their grant application.

   ii. **Results-based financing through top-up triggers**. Partner countries may apply for 100% of their indicative allocation for a system transformation grant under GPE 2025 with the understanding that any top up funds would only be released upon the achievement of the approved triggers at mid-term review. Partner countries that do not apply upfront for 100% of their indicative allocation but achieve the top up triggers, may continue to program the top up funds: (1) as additional financing or (2) as top up funds to any 2030 system transformation grant allocation, submitting a single application that includes the 2025 top up in addition to the 2030 allocation. A top up would not be required for system transformation grants of USD 10 million or less.

   iii. **Use of the Mid-Term Review.** The mid-term review of the partnership compact shall to the extent practicable be integrated within existing sector processes and serve as the basis for the strategic parameters for the subsequent funding round for the 2026-2030 financing period. The Secretariat is requested to develop and communicate the necessary guidelines to support the mid-term review.

   iv. **Independent Technical Advisory Panel (ITAP) Review.** Maintain the ITAP requirement while requesting the GPE Secretariat to implement targeted measures to improve the relevance of recommendations and ensure timely report completion. All partner countries eligible for multiplier only grants, as well as those with a system transformation grant allocation of $10 million or less, may forgo an ITAP review of the enabling factors.

   v. **System Capacity Funding**. Allocates US$ 2 million of System Capacity Funding to provide additional support for partnership compact development and review to be approved by the Secretariat as either grant financing from the GPE Fund and/or as

administrative expenses. Requests the Secretariat to report on progress to the Performance Impact and Learning Committee at its first regular meeting in 2024.

4. Requests the GPE Secretariat, upon Board approval, to operationalize these changes, including communicating transition arrangement for those countries who are already advanced in developing partnership compacts and grant applications.

Annex 1:

List of Board Meeting Participants

	Name	Constituency	Role
	Board Members		
1	Tumisang Thabela	Africa 1	Representing Board Member
2	Saed Guled	Africa 1	Representing Alternate Board Member
3	Emmanuel Barakpete	Africa 2	Representing Board Member
4	Moussa Kadam	Africa 2	Alternate Board Member
5	Emmanuel Allie	Africa 3	Representing Board Member
6	David Adejo Andrew	Africa 3	Alternate Board Member
7	Suresh Adhikari	Asia and Pacific	Board Member
8	Aishath Hassan	Asia and Pacific	Representing Alternate Board Member
9	Usman Sharifkhodjaev	EEMECA	Board Member
10	Saidzoda Rahim	EEMECA	Alternate Board Member
11	Didacus Jules	Latin America and Caribbean	Board Member
12	Daniel Esponda	Latin America and Carribbean	Alternate Board Member
13	Frederic Depetris	Donor 1	Board Member
14	Martina Ramming	Donor 1	Alternate Board Member
15	Judith Herbertson	Donor 3	Board Member
16	Rashid Al Shamsi	Donor 4	Alternate Board Member
17	Heike Kuhn	Donor 5	Alternate Board Member
18	LeAnna Marr	Donor 6	Board Member
19	Aedan Whyatt	Donor 6	Alternate Board Member
20	Kira Boe	CSO 1	Board Member
21	Yona Nestel	CSO 1	Alternate Board Member
22	Solange Akpo-Gnandi	CSO 2	Board Member
23	Haldis Holst	CSO 3	Board Member
24	Dennis Sinyolo	CSO 3	Alternate Board Member
25	Astrid Gillet	MLA 1	Representing Board Member
26	Robert Jenkins	MLA 2	Board Member
27	Rebecca Telford	MLA 2	Alternate Board Member

28	Luis Benveniste	MLA 3	Board Member
29	Syed Husain Quadri	MLA 3	Alternate Board Member
30	Christopher Thomas	Private Foundations	Board Member
31	Carolyne Ngeny	Private Foundations	Alternate Board Member
32	David Boutcher	Private Sector	Board Member
33	Emily Friedman	Private Sector	Alternate Board Member
	Board and Committee Chairs		
34	Susan Liautaud	Board	Vice-Chair
35	Marie Soulié	PILC	Chair