FEBRUARY 26, 2024

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

VIA AFFIRMATIVE VOTE

FINAL DECISION

BOD/AV/2024/02-10 – STRATEGIC PARAMETERS FOR SYSTEM TRANSFORMATION GRANT AND GIRLS' EDUCATION ACCELERATOR GRANT TO PAKISTAN (BALOCHISTAN)

The Board of Directors:

1. Notes the assessment of the Independent Technical Advisory Panel (ITAP) on enabling factors for system transformation in Pakistan (Balochistan), including those considered high priority, as set out in Annex 3 of document BOD/AV/2024/02 DOC 03.
2. Notes the Secretariat's assessment set out in Annex 2, of the strategic parameters of the Pakistan (Balochistan) Partnership Compact in Annex 4.
3. Invites Pakistan (Balochistan) to submit an application for a system transformation grant (US$14.956 million), in reference to FRC/2021/09-01, and in accordance with the strategic parameters for GPE support as set out in Table 1, with the option to include an additional US$3.739 million, the release of which is conditioned on GPE Board decision that top-up triggers have been achieved.
4. Approves Pakistan (Balochistan)'s proposed top-up triggers (actions and targets as well as the associated amounts) for accessing part of the allocation.

Table 1 Summary of Strategic Parameters and Secretariat Allocation Recommendations (all amounts in US$)

a.	System Transformation Grant (STG) Indicative Allocation	18.695 million
b.	STG Allocation conditioned on achievement of triggers – 20% of Total STG	3.739 million
c.	Conditional Girls' Education Accelerator Grant Indicative Allocation (currently unavailable)	3.781 million
d.	**High Priority Enabling Factors and Conditions for Accessing Additional Allocation*** ▪ Volume, Equity, and Efficiency of Domestic Public Expenditure on Education Trigger 1: Standards established for the size of school clusters to facilitate school cluster rationalization for effective governance and management (US$1,869,500) Trigger 2: Criteria developed and implemented for formula-based funding to schools to ensure cluster funds by considering gender and other disparities to ensure equal and equitable opportunities for all children (US$1,869,500)	

e.	**Focus Area for GPE Funding:** Increase access to early childhood education (ECE) and primary education; Improve quality of ECE; Up-scale the primary level foundational literacy and numeracy (FLN) model; Enhance decentralized governance in education; Increase use of evidence provided by data systems to inform gender-sensitive policy and strategy development.

* Summarized from the partnership compact. See Annex 4 for full details.