FEBRUARY 3, 2025

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

VIA NON-OBJECTION

FINAL DECISIONS

BOD/NO/2025/02-01 - Allocation for system transformation grant to Pakistan Punjab

The Board of Directors:

1. Noting the Secretariat's assessment of the system transformation grant in Annex 4 of BOD/NO/2025/01 DOC 01, the grant program application in Annex 5;
2. Approves an allocation from GPE trust funds for a system transformation grant, in support of the Punjab System Transformation Grant, as described in the application submitted and summarized in Table 1, subject to:
   a. Availability of funds.
   b. Board decision BOD/2012/11-04 on commitment of trust funds for grants in annual installments.
   c. Top-up triggers being achieved for the release of US$9,571,400.
3. Notes that commitment of funds related to the top-up of US$9,571,400 will in addition be contingent on (1) the government and grant agent, with endorsement of the local education group, submitting a revised program document which specifies how the funds will be utilized, and (2) the confirmation by the Secretariat that the top-up funds do not displace domestic financing, and the revised program document meets GPE standards.

Table 1

Application Summary and Secretariat Allocation Recommendations All amounts in US$		
a.	System transformation grant allocation	47,857,000[1]
b.	Allocation requested (100%)	47,857,000
c.	**Allocation Recommended by Secretariat[2]**	**47,857,000**
d.	STG Allocation conditioned on achievement of triggers – 20% of Total STG	9,571,400

[1] The figure in the February 2024 approval of the strategic parameters was US$47,617,000. This figure was based on an incorrect total of $117 million for Pakistan. After correcting this to the full allocation of $117.59 million, the re-adjusted government's sub-allocation for Punjab is $47,857,000.

[2] This amount includes $500,000 for grant agent implementation support costs.

e.	Results based financing	No
f.	Grant Agent	World Bank
g.	Agency Fee % - Amount	1.75% - 837,497.50
h.	Period	4 years
i.	Expected Start Date	5/1/2025
j.	Closing Date	4/30/2029
k.	Funding Source	GPE Fund

BOD/NO/2025/02-02 - Allocation for system transformation grant to Madagascar

The Board of Directors:

1. Noting the Secretariat's assessment of the system transformation grant in Annex 3.1, 3.2 and 3.3 of BOD/NO/2025/01 DOC 02, and the grant program application in Annex 4;
2. Approves an allocation from GPE trust funds for a system transformation grant, in support of the "Programme Intégré pour la Transformation des Apprentissages Fondamentaux" (PITAF), as described in the application submitted and summarized in Table 1, subject to:
   a) Availability of funds.
   b) Board decision BOD/2012/11-04 on commitment of trust funds for grants in annual installments.
   c) Top-up triggers being achieved for the release of US$ 17,888,000.
3. Notes that commitment of funds related to component 1 of US$27,181,451[3] and EUR 9,572,628.89[4] will be contingent on (1) the new teacher policy being finalized and approved by the government, and (2) the confirmation by the Secretariat that the component 1 (the current or an adjusted version), aligned to the teacher policy and endorsed by the local education group (in case of adjustment), meets GPE quality standards.

Table 1

Application Summary and Secretariat Allocation Recommendations				
Grant information		**AFD (in EUR)[5]**	**UNICEF (in US$)**	**World Bank (in US$)**
a.	System transformation grant (STG) allocation[6]	25,970,057.60	25,072,000	35,888,000
b.	Allocation requested (100%)	25,970,057.60	25,072,000	35,888,000

[3] US$27,181,451 is the WB and UNICEF component 1 amount. The UNICEF amount is US$11,823,346 and the WB amount is US$15,358,105.
[4] EUR 9,572,628.89 is the AFD component 1 amount.
[5] In line with Board decision BOD/2018/06-10, AFD decided to receive the grants in euros. The conversion rate is 0.91187 euro per dollar.
[6] Total amount is US$ 89,440,000.

c.	**Allocation Recommended by Secretariat**[7]	25,970,057.60	25,072,000	35,888,000
d.	STG allocation conditioned on achievement of triggers – 20% of total STG	N/A	N/A	17,888,000
e.	STG allocation with condition (Component 1 on teachers)[8]	9,572,628.89	11,823,346	15,358,105
f.	Results based financing	No	No	Yes
g.	Grant Agents	AFD	UNICEF	World Bank
h.	Agency Fee % - Amount[9]	1,817,904.03 (7%)	1,755,040 (7%)	628,040 (1.75%)
i.	Period	4 years		
j.	Expected Start Date	July 1, 2025		
k.	Closing Date	June 30, 2029		
l.	Funding Source	GPE Fund		
m	Co-financing	150,000,000 (World Bank/IDA)		

BOD/NO/2025/02-03 - Allocation for Multiplier grant to Ethiopia

The Board of Directors:

1. Noting the Secretariat's assessment of the Multiplier grant in Annex 4 of BOD/NO/2025/01 DOC 03, the grant program application in Annex 5;
2. Approves an allocation from GPE trust funds for a Multiplier grant, in support of the "Ethiopia Education Transformation Operation for Learning" program as described in the application submitted and summarized in Table 1, subject to:
   a. Availability of funds.
   b. Board decision BOD/2012/11-04 on commitment of trust funds for grants in annual installments.

Table 1

Application Summary and Secretariat Allocation Recommendations All amounts in US$		
a.	Multiplier grant allocation	50,000,000
b.	Allocation requested (94.6%)	47,300,000
c.	**Allocation Recommended by Secretariat**[10]	**47,300,000**
d.	Results based financing	Yes

[7] Total amount is US$ 89,440,000. This amount includes US$ 3,957,740 (AFD: EUR 1,657,323.73; UNICEF: US$ 1,640,240; WB: US$ 500,000) for grant agent implementation support costs.
[8] Total amount is US$ 37,679,251.
[9] Total amount is US$ 4,376,680 (4.89%).
[10] This amount includes US$932,500 for grant agent implementation support costs.

e.	Grant Agent	World Bank
f.	Agency Fee % - Amount	827,750 (1.75%)
g.	Period	~4 years 11 months
h.	Expected Start Date	2/3/2025
i.	Closing Date	12/31/2029
j.	Funding Source	GPE Fund Co-financiers ($180.05 million) World Bank ($50 million), FCDO ($110 million), UNICEF ($4.85 million), Finland: Ministry of Foreign Affairs ($10 million), Norway: Ministry of Foreign Affairs ($5.2 million)

BOD/NO/2025/02-04 - Allocation for System Transformation Grant and Girls' Education Accelerator Grant to South Sudan

The Board of Directors:

1. Noting the Secretariat's assessment of the system transformation grant and Girls' Education Accelerator grant in Annex 4 of BOD/NO/2025/01 DOC 04, the grant program application in Annex 5;
2. Approves an allocation from GPE trust funds for a system transformation grant and Girls' Education Accelerator grant, in support of the Transforming Education in South Sudan (GPE-TESS) program, as described in the application submitted and summarized in Table 1, subject to:
    a. Availability of funds.
    b. Board decision BOD/2012/11-04 on commitment of trust funds for grants in annual installments.
    c. Top-up triggers being achieved for the release of the US$9,200,000.

Table 1

Application Summary and Secretariat Allocation Recommendations All amounts in US$		
a.	System transformation grant (STG) allocation[11]	46,430,000 (UNICEF)
b.	Girls' Education Accelerator (GEA)	10,000,000 (Save the Children Norway)

[11] South Sudan's full STG allocation is $56.43 million, of which $10 million has been accessed as accelerated funding, leaving $46.43 million STG funds available on allocation.

c.	Allocation requested (100%)	56,430,000
d.	**Allocation Recommended by Secretariat**	**56,430,000**
e.	STG Allocation conditioned on achievement of top-up triggers – 20% of total STG	9,200,000[12]
f.	Results based financing	No
g.	Grant Agent	UNICEF (STG), Save the Children Norway (GEA)
i.	Agency Fee % - Amount	7% - 3,250,100 (UNICEF), 700,000 (Save the Children Norway)
j.	Period	STG - 4 years GEA - 3 years
k.	Expected Start Date	5/1/2025 (STG & GEA)
l.	Closing Date	4/30/2029 (STG) 4/30/2028 (GEA)
m.	Funding Source	GPE Fund

BOD/NO/2025/02-05 - Extension of Validity of System Transformation Grant Allocations and Delegation to the CEO

The Board of Directors:

1. Approves an extension of the validity of the system transformation grant allocation for these two countries from December 31, 2024, to March 31, 2025, as outlined in BOD/NO/2025/01 DOC 05.
2. Noting the projections in Annex 5 of BOD/NO/2025/01 DOC 05 which show that most countries are on track to access their system transformation grant allocation during this fiscal year, approves a delegation to the CEO to approve, on an individual basis, similar requests for the extension of the validity of existing system transformation grant allocations

BOD/NO/2025/02-06 - Allocation for a Multiplier grant to Nepal

The Board of Directors:

1. Noting the Secretariat's assessment of the Multiplier grant in Annex 4 of BOD/NO/2025/01 DOC 06, the grant program application in Annex 5;
2. Approves an allocation from GPE trust funds for a Multiplier grant, in support of the School Education Sector Plan program, as described in the application submitted and summarized in Table 1, subject to:
   a. Availability of funds.
   b. Board decision BOD/2012/11-04 on commitment of trust funds for grants in annual installments.

[12] Per the Board decision of the strategic parameters for a system transformation grant to South Sudan (BOD/AV/2024/02-16), footnote 2: "While 20% of the remaining STG allocation of $46,430,000 would be equal to $9,286,000, the Secretariat accepts the proposed $9,200,000."

Table 1

Application Summary and Secretariat Allocation Recommendations All amounts in US$		
a.	Multiplier grant allocation	40,000,000
b.	Allocation requested (70.4%)	28,166,666 UNICEF - 17,166,666 World Bank - 11,000,000
c.	**Allocation Recommended by Secretariat**[13]	**28,166,666*[14]**
d.	Results based financing	Yes
e.	Grant Agents	UNICEF & World Bank
f.	Agency Fee % - Amount	UNICEF: 7% - 1,201,666.62 World Bank: 1.75% - 192,500.00
g.	Period	2 years 6 months
h.	Expected Start Date	2/1/2025
i.	Closing Date	7/31/2027
j.	Funding Source	GPE Fund
k.	Co-financing	International Development Association – 20,000,000 World Food Program – 33,000,000 Foreign Commonwealth Development Office – 15,000,000 United States Agency for International Development – 10,000,000 Private Foundations through United Nations Children's Fund – 2,166,666

[13] This amount includes US$200,000 (World Bank) & US$ 300,416.65 (UNICEF) for grant agent implementation support costs.
[14] * Minor correction regarding a figure (US$ 28,166,000) in the previous document.