JUNE 2026

TECHNOLOGY FOR EDUCATION



Teacher Eric Orrego supports student Wilder, 14, to use a computer at the Virtual Learning Environment in Huehuetenango, Guatemala.
GPE/Kelley Lynch

Technology is a powerful tool to enhance learning with the potential to remove barriers to education for all children. When supporting countries' use of technology for education (Tech4Ed), the Global Partnership for Education (GPE) maintains a focus on equity and bridging the digital divide so that all children can develop skills for a digital world.

THE CHALLENGE

- The **fast pace of change** in technology is straining how education systems prepare students for an increasingly digital world. Only 7% of Tech4Ed interventions have been evaluated for their impact on learning, leaving policy makers without rigorous evidence for what works at scale. When evidence is available, only 11% of policy makers use it when making decisions on digital education solutions.
- There is a **global digital divide** in terms of access to technology and the opportunities it can bring, threatening equity. This divide is especially challenging for learners who are girls, living in rural areas and/or with disabilities.
- New technologies such as artificial intelligence (AI) can improve educational access and learning outcomes. However, the use of AI can **risk increasing learning inequality, harming student well-being and reducing teacher agency** without regulatory frameworks, research evidence and teacher support.
- Two-thirds of **teachers feel they do not have the skills** to teach with technology.
- Technology is often brought in without considering its **total or long-term costs** for national budgets or safeguards to ensure equitable access. Providing technology **hardware alone** (such as computers or tablets) to schools **does not improve learning**.

GPE RESULTS

US$200 MILLION

across 168 grants since 2021 to support the use of technology for quality learning.

OVER $12 MILLION

invested through the GPE Knowledge and Innovation Exchange (KIX) toward Tech4Ed innovations to improve learning quality and equitable access including a gaming technology-based learning system for children living as refugees and who are displaced.

$7 MILLION

to the **Tech4Ed technical assistance initiative** to use technology to make education systems more efficient and to improve learning.

GPE Transforming Education

MULTIPLY POSSIBILITY FUND EDUCATION

For all sources visit: www.globalpartnership.org/data.

WHY TECHNOLOGY FOR EDUCATION MATTERS

With the right teacher support and considerations for accessibility, technology can accelerate transforming education systems to be more efficient, resilient and able to equip learners with the skills they need for a rapidly changing, digitalized world. Technology can also increase equity in education so that the learning needs of all children are met, supporting their confidence and well-being.

Tech4Ed:

- Allows for learning that uses different modes of instruction (such as a video combining music, speech and text) and low-tech solutions (including radios, SMS messaging and television) for students who are disadvantaged, especially those living in rural areas or who are vulnerable.
- Offers the option of personalized content to match specific student learning needs and backgrounds.
- Provides an alternative means of communication for learners with disabilities, access to educational resources in a more convenient way and enhances motivation to learn.
- Ensures continued learning during emergency school closures, in contexts affected by fragility and conflict, and in response to climate shocks.

GPE APPROACH

Education interventions that use technology should be designed so that they can **reach all children** and meet their learning needs, address **local** education goals and be used **at scale**. GPE uses the more encompassing concept of Tech4Ed that speaks to the responsible and informed use of technology and AI tools as well as their strategic deployment in education. As AI continues to transform the educational landscape, GPE reaffirms the irreplaceable role of teachers and the importance of human connection in classrooms.

GPE's publication "Making Technology Work for Education Transformation Goals" outlines the partnership approach to delivering quality Tech4Ed interventions that are: led by country context, driven by evidence, designed for all children to ensure equity and inclusion, safe and secure to prevent harmful behaviors online and protect children, and ensure sustainability and cost-effectiveness.

TECH4ED IN PARTNER COUNTRIES

In **Ukraine**, GPE's partnership with Microsoft, Google, UNESCO, UNICEF and the Ministry of Education delivered over $53 million in funding and equipment to ensure continued access to education by setting up digital learning centers as well as psychosocial support for children by financing teacher training. Over 5,300 teachers have also been trained through hybrid programs supported by GPE and UNESCO to foster communities of practice for digital pedagogy.

In **Zambia**, a $10-million GPE grant was used to distribute solar radios to vulnerable students, including girls and children from low-income households so that they could access distance learning. Teachers were also trained in using different technologies to monitor student performance, identifying children who may be at risk of dropping out of school and promoting engagement during distance learning.

Malawi is becoming one of the first nations to scale a personalized foundational learning solution country wide. The government used a $15.2-million GPE Multiplier grant that leveraged an additional $15.2 million in cofinancing from private partners to scale a tablet-based education program (BEFIT) to all public primary schools to improve foundational learning and numeracy skills. The tablets do not require any connectivity, allowing for continued learning for children living in low-income households with limited access to electricity. So far, the program is active in 500 schools and has reached over half-a-million children, including close to 28,000 learners with special needs, and trained 10,000 teachers.



A 9-year-old student presents his math exercise completed on a tablet at Methodist Buxton Infant School in Freetown, Sierra Leone.
GPE/Trans.Lieu

GPE Transforming Education

MULTIPLY POSSIBILITY FUND EDUCATION

information@globalpartnership.org
GPforEducation
GPforEducation
GlobalPartnership
globalpartnership.org