

Strengthening civil society participation in education policy dialogue and monitoring: a strategic contribution to GPE and EFA goals

Civil Society Education Fund (CSEF) application to GPE

November 2012

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"The Global Partnership will support greater civil society, teaching profession, and private sector and private foundation involvement in LEGs and in policy dialogue at the country level."

GPE Strategic Plan 2012-2015

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The overall aim of CSEF is…

…to advance the achievement of education goals by ensuring the effective participation of civil society – not just formal civil society organisations, but citizens more broadly – in education debates and sector planning and review.



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Introduction & background

- For 2009-2011 GCE received its first grant for CSEF: US$17.1 million covering just over two years of capacity building and education advocacy of civil society coalitions in 45 GPE countries around the world.
- AUSAID provided bridge funding for CSEF in 2012 to maintain momentum.
- This new proposal for 2013-14 is based on accumulated learning, including from a comprehensive external evaluation.



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CSEF reach June 2012



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What difference did CSEF make to civil society participation?

- Expanded and strengthened civil society presence: 9 new and 36 existing coalitions of civil society organisations (CSOs).
- Enlarged and more diverse participation in civil society coalitions - NGOs, unions, parents groups, community-based organisations, private sector, faith-based organisations, social movements *et al* - with aggregate membership of CSEF-funded coalitions increasing from 975 CSOs to 3375.
- Significant increase in local (district, provincial) presence of coalitions to better ensure grassroots participation, with the number of local structures increasing from 585 to 839.
- Greater participation by women in the governance structures and leadership of coalitions.
- More coalitions engaged in formal spaces with governments and donors, such as technical committees, LEGs; some signing Memoranda of Understanding with governments.

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What difference did civil society make through CSEF support?

Contributed to policy and legislative change, monitored plans and spending, exposed corruption, strengthened grassroots to national to global linkages, increased learning.

- ***Bolivia***: Fought for effective consideration of disabled people in new Education Law
- ***Cambodia***: Investment of domestic resources in education increased, with more funds allocated to teachers in hard to reach areas
- ***Dominican Republic***: Education Watch tactics uncovering government under-spending on education used for advocacy; electoral candidates all pledged to increase spending to 4% of GDP
- ***Kenya***: Influenced major articles on the right to education in the constitutional amendment process
- ***Mozambique***: Influenced Education Sector Plan to incorporate particular programs on education for the vulnerable and neglected
- ***Senegal***: coalition's role recognised by the Minister of Education as crucial in negotiations to resolve disputes between government and unions
- ***Solomon Islands***: Literacy study data brought into discussions on new National Policy

Key changes in CSEF following learning and external evaluation:

- New Supervising/Managing Entity
- Objectives more clearly aligned with the impact sought
- Stronger systems and wider partnerships at the global level
- Greater emphasis on monitoring, evaluation and learning
- Improved communications, south-south learning and collaboration
- Greater emphasis on supporting civil society engagement in GPE processes and Local Education Groups
- Greater emphasis on regional advocacy events, capacity building activities and inter-regional activities and learning
- New proposal for sustainability



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CSEF objectives 2013 – 2014

Objective 1: ***Participation***

Formal civil society participation in education sector policy and review processes and engagement with policy-makers and parliamentarians is strengthened and better recognised



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CSEF objectives 2013 – 2014

Objective 2: ***Public awareness and engagement***

National civil society coalitions are actively strengthening grassroots capacity to access and participate in education sector debates, through building awareness, knowledge and skills, and opening opportunities to participate



to eat without drinking water; wahala in Free City especially Lion Mountain must do all it myself with water issue for feeble humans in the Lion water to quench his thirst. That would be serious oh!

Education for All Coalition urges school authorities to establish nursery schools

By Alhassan Bah

Educations for All Coalition (EFAC-SL) is urging all school authorities to provide nurseries in their respective educational institutions.

According to the Chairman of the occasion, Moses Ogende, during a programme that was witnessed by a cross-section of primary school children; this year's theme was titled "Early Childhood Care and

towards the fulfillment of dignified childhood and positive unfolding of children's abilities.

"Our campaign will target many more young people than has ever been previously done," he noted. He went further to say that this year, they are looking at parents and primary care givers as well as the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology as key actors involved in early childhood care and education, and that action is an integral

instruments. "As this underscores the importance attached to promoting and protecting the rights of the child, and that the gesture should accede to the legal instruments is a laudable move.

Also speaking was Dr. Dale Sannoh, head of Educational Studies at Fourah Bay College (FBC), University of Sierra Leone. He encouraged school aunts and uncles to be very patient with their wards in the classroom; adding that it is a difficult job indeed.

She used the opportunity to encourage women to eat more

School pupils at the occasion

One of the aunties of Tower Hill Municipal Primary and Kindergarten School, Mrs. Josephine Koroma advocated

She maintain facing man especially classroom children a

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CSEF objectives 2013 – 2014

Objective 3: ***High quality contributions***

Civil society research and analysis effectively contributes to national government plans, policies, financing and practices that better achieve the right to quality education for all and the six EFA goals



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CSEF objectives 2013 – 2014

Objective 4: ***Knowledge and networks***

The CSEF project builds the quality and impact of civil society engagement in the education sector through promoting partnerships, strengthening South-South collaboration, sharing learning, and facilitating impact on global policy processes



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Budget

The project seeks $14.5m for 2013 and 2014

- $6.67m for Africa
- $ 3.72m for the Asia-Pacific
- $1.12m for Latin America
- $1.33m for Middle East, Europe and Central Asia
- $1.65m for global management, activities and inter-regional learning

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Accountability structure

Global:

- UNESCO: Managing Entity
- GCE Board Sub-Group: non-beneficiary members only
- International Advisory Committee –including ActionAid, Education International, Open Society, Oxfam, Plan, Save the Children, VSO
- GCE Secretariat: global coordination, monitoring and evaluation against the results matrix and knowledge sharing
- Regular reports to GPE Board and Secretariat

Regional:

- Independent Funding Committee decides on allocation of grants in each region, comprising regionally-experienced organisations and experts
- Regional Financial Management Agency in each region (Africa - Oxfam, Asia Pacific - Education International, Latin America - ActionAid, Middle East, North Africa and Europe – tbc)
- Regional Secretariat in each region to support capacity development and oversee progress

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Accountability structure

National:

- Coalition secretariats report to democratically-elected boards
- Regular meetings and reports to full membership/membership fora and other stakeholders
- Independent external audits

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GPE Board Decision Sought: Decision 1

1. The Board of Directors allocates US$14.5 million (plus costs for UNESCO as Managing Entity) from the Global Partnership for Education Fund (the "GPE Fund"), for an implementation period of two years commencing in 2013, in order to support the work of national civil society education coalitions in countries eligible for program implementation grants from the GPE Fund, as set out in the proposal presented by civil society at the meeting of the Board of Directors on 19-20 November 2012.

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GPE Board Decision Sought: Decision 1 (cont.)

This allocation is not subject to the procedures approved in the Global and Regional Activities (GRA) Operational Manual and shall be considered as:

Option 1: additional to the US$60 million currently projected for GRA program purposes over the 2012-2014 period; or

Option 2: part of the US$60 million that is currently projected for GRA program purposes over the 2012-2014 period.

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GPE Board Decision Sought: Decision 2

2. The Board of Directors agrees that continuing support for strategic civil society engagement shall be built into future replenishment of the GPE Fund, with an indicative amount of 1% of future funds being allocated for a civil society education fund.

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Final thoughts: civil society in GPE processes

"The meaningful inclusion of civil society... will require greater and more timely participation of those partners in developing national education plans, program implementation grant applications, and joint sector reviews."

GPE Strategic Plan 2012-2015



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Thank you

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