GPE Pledging Conference - 26th June at 0935 - Aquarium Room, The Egg, Brussels

Domestic Resource Mobilisation

Whilst much of the focus of the GPE Replenishment events are on securing $3.5 billion in donor contributions, the ambitions rightly go beyond this, with pledges also sought from developing country governments of $16 billion over the replenishment period. In the 2011 replenishment in Copenhagen, developing country pledges were a significant part of the event and it can be expected that this will be repeated in Brussels. In its new funding model, GPE proposes to track domestic financing more closely and there is wide consensus that in the long term, increased domestic financing is the key to sustaining progress on education. Mobilising sufficient funds requires attention both to overall resources available to governments (e.g. looking at tax to GDP ratio) and the relative priority attached to education financing (% of GDP or % of budgets allocated and spent).

The current financing gap for achieving education for all is calculated by the GMR 2013/4 as $38 billion per year for basic and lower secondary education. Filling this gap is a particular challenge in the wake of the global financial and economic crisis, with low-income countries struggling to find the resources to expand their education budgets, while aid to basic education from rich countries is rapidly decreasing. Yet there are untapped resources available to governments, which could make a significant difference to their ability to ensure the sustainable funding of quality public education systems. The potential revenue from closing tax loopholes, making tax systems more progressive and better capture of natural resource revenues, if linked to prioritizing investment in education, could make a huge impact in the struggle to achieve the right to education for all. This event will involve a range of perspectives on how GPE can help to ensure progressive domestic revenue collection, progressive allocation and equitable spending. It will culminate in a call to action for GPE over the coming replenishment period.

Opening Words: Gordon Brown, UN Special Envoy

Chair / Moderator: David Archer – ActionAid / GCE / GPE Board

Panel (*5 Minutes each maximum*)

1. Naana Opoko-Ayemang - Minister or Education, Ghana (tbc)
2. Manos Antoninis - EFA Global Monitoring Report, UNESCO
3. Marième Sakho Dansokho - Education International, Senegal / GPE Board
4. Henrik Harboe - Director of Development Policy, Ministry of Foreign Affairs A, Government of Norway
5. Tove Wang - CEO, Save the Children Fund, Norway
6. Grace Manyonga - Coordinator, Zambian education coalition, ZANEC

Respondents (*speaking from the floor, 3 minutes each maximum*)

1. Sanne Muller – Ibis – Denmark
2. Paul Coustere – GPE secretariat
3. Angela Corbalan Oxfam Brussels
4. Samiuddin Ahmed - youth delegate Bangladesh
5. Hugh McLean – Open Society Foundation